



U.S. Army Rock Island Arsenal – Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center



COLONEL KENNETH W. LETCHER - COMMANDER

Colonel Kenneth W. Letcher serves as the 49th commander of the Rock Island Arsenal Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center (RIA-JMTC), a position he has held since June 22, 2017. As Commanding Officer, Colonel Letcher oversees operations of a multi-purpose and vertically integrated metal manufacturer in the Department of Defense, applying the unique technical expertise and equipment to manufacture products high in quality and sustainability.

Colonel Letcher was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Infantry via the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1995 as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. He was branch detailed and became a Transportation Officer in 1998.

His military education includes Infantry Officer Basic, Transportation Officer Transition Officer's Course, Combined Logistics Officer's Advanced Course, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School (CAS3), Command and General Staff Officer Course (CGSC), and the School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS).

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in English from Vanderbilt University, a Masters in Business Administration from American Military University, a Masters in Advanced Military Studies from the Command and General Staff College School of Advanced Military Studies, and a Masters in National Security and Strategic Studies from Kansas State University. Colonel Letcher served as an Army Advanced Strategic Planning and Policy Program (ASP3) Fellow and worked on a PhD in International History at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

His service with Soldiers includes: Commander, 553d Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas and Kandahar, Afghanistan; Commander, B Company, 703d Main Support Battalion, 3d Infantry Division, Iraq, Kuwait, and Fort Stewart, Georgia; and Light Infantry Platoon Leader, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, Fort Drum, New York.

His key staff assignments include: Director, U.S. Army Europe Mission Command Program, Joint Multinational Training Command, Grafenwoehr, Germany; Chief of Plans and Policy, Officer Personnel Management Directorate, Human Resources Command, Fort Knox, Kentucky; Brigade Logistics Officer and Battalion Executive Officer, 82nd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Observer/Controller for the Brigade Support Battalion Support Operations Officer at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California; Battalion Operations Officer, 703d Main Support Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division with service in Iraq and Fort Stewart, Georgia; Movement Control Officer, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York and Tuzla, Bosnia; Aide-de-Camp to the Assistant Division Commander-Support, 10th Mountain Division; and Battalion S1, 4th Battalion 31st Infantry Regiment, Fort Drum, New York.

Colonel Letcher's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (2 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Meritorious Service Medal (1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster), the Combat Action Badge, the Expert Infantryman's Badge, the Ranger Tab, the Army Pathfinder Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Parachutist's Badge.

Colonel Letcher is married to Colonel Michelle M.T. Letcher and they have three boys.

