

Biography

Lieutenant Colonel Jose Enrique Meléndez

Commander

U.S. Army Parachute Team, "Golden Knights"



Personal Statistics

Hometown:

School Attended: University of Florida

Biographical Sketch

Lt. Colonel Jose Enrique Meléndez, a graduate of the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Statistics, was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program in December 1994.

LTC Melendez's assignments include Company Fire Support Officer for B Company 3/325 Airborne Battalion Combat Team (ABCT); Fire Direction Officer and Battery Executive Officer for D Battery 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment (AFAR); and Executive Officer for the Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) 1/508th ABCT, Vicenza, Italy. After returning from Italy, LTC Meléndez was assigned to Fort Benning, Georgia, where he served as the Battalion Fire Support Officer for 1-15th Infantry Regiment and Targeting Officer for the 75th Ranger Regiment. It was during his assignment with the Ranger Regiment that he first contributed to the efforts on the Global War on Terrorism. He then Commanded C Battery, 1/319th AFAR at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

During his tenure as C Battery Commander, he deployed twice into combat in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan, and



Operation Iraqi Freedom, Iraq. Following his Command, with C Battery, LTC Meléndez took Command of the HHC, Airborne and Special Operations Test Directorate. After graduating from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and completing a Masters in Business Management, LTC Meléndez was selected for assignment to the Asymmetric Warfare Group, where he served as a Squadron S-3, Troop Commander, and Group Executive Officer.

LTC Meléndez's awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star Medal (2 OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (1 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (2 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (1 OLC), Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, NATO Medal, Over Seas Ribbon and Army Service Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Military Free-Fall Badge, Ranger Tab, and Army Staff Identification Badge. He has also earned the German Parachutist Badge.

LTC Meléndez is married to the former Rosimar Rosario of Ponce, Puerto Rico. They have one daughter, Lyanne Marie.

www.armygoldenknights.com

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