

2nd BATTALION TAC Officer
LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN W. HUGHES
United States Marine Corps



Lieutenant Colonel John W. Hughes, a 1999 graduate of The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, currently serves as the Reserve Operations Officer and Deputy Program Manager for reserve Marines at the Marine Corps Security Cooperation Group, Fort Story, VA. In these billets he oversees the planning, development and implementation of reserve training plans to support unit operations. He also participates in the training of Security Cooperation Teams before deployment and in the training and assessment of foreign security forces.

Upon graduation from The Citadel, then Lieutenant Hughes reported to The Basic School in Quantico, VA where he was assigned the Air Defense Officer military occupational specialty. He was assigned to Marine Air Control Squadron 4, First Marine Aircraft Wing in Okinawa, Japan. Lieutenant Hughes was then assigned to Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 28 located at MCAS Cherry Point, NC. While assigned to MTACS-28, he served as the Squadron Adjutant, Air Defense Coordinator and Senior Air Coordinator during multiple deployments.

In November 2004, then Captain Hughes transferred to the Marine Corps Reserve where he joined Delta Company, 8th Tank Battalion. While serving as a Platoon Commander and Executive Officer he oversaw the transition of the unit from its designation as a Tank Company to a Light Armored Reconnaissance Company, culminating in a deployment to Iraq in 2008-2009. At the completion of this deployment, then Captain Hughes was selected as the only reserve officer to attend the resident Expeditionary Warfare School (EWS) for the academic year 2009-2010.

After graduating EWS, then Major Hughes was designated the Company Commander of Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment. During this period, he led and trained over 200 Marines and Sailors deploying to Ukraine to participate in foreign security force training exercises. Once he completed command time, then Major Hughes was assigned as a Field Historian to the Marine Corps History Division. While assigned to this billet, he was selected to attend the resident Marine Corps Command and Staff College. Soon after graduation, then Major Hughes joined his current unit as an Operations Officer and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in April 2016.

Lieutenant Colonel Hughes has honorably served with distinguished combat units such as the First Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion and 8th Marine Regiment. He has deployed to Kuwait and Iraq three times in aviation and ground combat units. His awards and decorations include the Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal (2), Iraqi Campaign Medal (3), National Defense Service Medal and the Select Marine Corps Reserve Medal.

Lieutenant Colonel Hughes holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from The Citadel and a Master of Arts in History from George Mason University. He is also a graduate of the Marine Corps Advisor Course, the Expeditionary Warfare School and the Marine Corps Command and Staff College.

He is happily married to the former Heather Yaun of Richmond Hill, GA who is a physician at the Ralph H. Johnson Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Charleston, SC.