

Colonel Karen H. Gibson

Colonel Karen Gibson is a proud native of Bozeman, Montana. She received her commission in 1986 as a Military Intelligence Lieutenant and Distinguished Military Graduate through the Army ROTC program at Purdue University.

Her first duty assignment was with the 6th Infantry Division (Light) at Fort Richardson, Alaska, where she served from 1987 – 1992 as a Platoon Leader, Battalion S2, Battalion S1, Assistant Battalion S3 for Operations, and Chief of the Division's Technical Control and Analysis Element (TCAE). Assigned to the 703rd Military Intelligence Brigade at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, from 1993 – 1996, she commanded Headquarters and Operations Company, 732nd Military Intelligence Battalion. She also served as Assistant Brigade S3 for Training and as a Joint Watch Chief at the Kunia Regional Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) Operations Center. While in Hawaii, she was one of 12 company grade officers from across the Army selected to receive the General Douglas MacArthur Award for Leadership.

She served from 1997 - 1999 in the Joint Staff J2, first as an Operations Officer in the National Military Joint Intelligence Center (NMJIC) then as an Executive Assistant to the Director, Defense Intelligence Agency. She was stationed in the Republic of Korea from 2000 - 2004 as Deputy Chief, Systems Division, U.S. Forces Korea J-2; Battalion XO, 532nd Military Intelligence Battalion; Brigade S-3, 501st Military Intelligence Brigade; and Chief of the Ground Component Command – Combined Analysis and Control Center (GCC-CACC), or Theater ACE. Upon returning to the U.S., she served from 2004-2005 on the Army Staff G-3/5/7 staff as the Military Intelligence Force Manager.

COL Gibson had the honor of commanding the 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion from 2005 – 2007 and the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, the Army's Strategic SIGINT Brigade, from 2010 – 2012, both at Fort Meade, Maryland. Following battalion command, she served as Deputy Corps G-2, XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, then deployed as CJ-2, Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti from 2009-2010. Upon relinquishing brigade command, she deployed as Director of the Combined Joint Intelligence Operations Center – Afghanistan (CJIOC-A), International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Kabul, Afghanistan from 2012-2013. She currently serves as Executive Officer for the Army's G-2.

COL Gibson's military education includes the National War College (Distinguished Graduate), the Army Force Management College, the Command and General Staff College, the Post-Graduate Intelligence Program, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School, and the Military Intelligence Officer's Basic and Advanced Courses. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from Purdue University, a Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence from the Joint Military Intelligence College, and a Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National Defense University.

Her awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2 OLC), the Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLC), the Army Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal (1 OLC), the Army Achievement Medal (2 OLC), the Joint Staff and Army Staff Identification Badges, the Parachutist Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

She is married to Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Kim Chapman, a former infantryman. Their daughter, Kelly, is a Second Lieutenant assigned to the 593rd Sustainment Brigade at Fort Lewis, Washington. Their son, Tom, studies Physics at Towson University in Maryland.