



**MAJOR GENERAL MARK McDONALD**  
**Commanding General**  
**United States Army Security Assistance Command**

Major General Mark McDonald assumed command of the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command on June 17, 2014 at Redstone Arsenal, Ala. He most recently served as the Commanding General, Fires Center of Excellence and Fort Sill. Prior to that, he served as the Commanding General, United States Army Cadet Command and Fort Knox.

McDonald was commissioned in the Field Artillery in 1980 through Army ROTC at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. Early assignments include 1/509th Airborne Battalion Combat Team at Vicenza, Italy and Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he commanded two batteries in the 82d Airborne Division. In 1987, McDonald served two years as an Exchange Officer to the Royal Canadian Artillery School then two years with the United States Army Field Artillery School. After graduating from the Command and General Staff College, McDonald served as an Infantry Brigade Fire Support Officer in the 7th Infantry Division and Operations Officer for 2-8 Field Artillery.

His other Artillery commands include 3rd Battalion 321st Field Artillery as well as the 82d Airborne Division Artillery, involving operations in Iraqi Freedom. His staff positions include duty in Germany at the George C. Marshall Center; two tours on the Department of the Army Staff, Pentagon; NATO in Bosnia and Chief of Staff at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

General Officer positions include Assistant Commandant of the Field Artillery School and Deputy Commanding General of Fort Sill. At Fort Hood, he served as the Deputy Commanding General - Fires (Iraqi Freedom) and the Deputy Commanding General of III Corps and Fort Hood. In May 2009, he returned to Iraq as the Deputy Commander of the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq, and later as the Operations Director, J3, United States Forces Iraq.

McDonald's education includes a Bachelor of Science, Master of Military Arts and Science and is a graduate of the United States Army War College. His awards include 2 Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, 4 Legions of Merit, 2 Bronze Star Medals, Combat Action Badge and U.S. Master Parachutist badge as well as parachutist badges from Italy, Canada, and Germany.

