

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with LTC Lawrence H. Pickett

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Veterans' Remember Oral History project

Interview # VRT-A-L-2012-018

Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence H. Pickett, a Civil Affairs officer with extensive deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan during the War on Terror, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Veterans Remember—War on Terror* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: May 10, 2012 Location: Macomb, IL (Western Illinois University)

Date: Nov 21, 2012 Location: Macomb, IL (Western Illinois University)

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Robert H. Deveraux, ALPL contract employee

Transcription by: Patty Maynor, ALPL volunteer

Edited by: Patty Maynor and Jan Culp, ALPL volunteers

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The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Lawrence H. Pickett, *Veterans Remember*, VRT-A-L-2012-018

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Lieutenant Colonel (LTC)

Lawrence H. Pickett was born in Berlin, Germany on December 16th, 1962 and spent his youth as an Army brat. His father was a Vietnam veteran and active duty Army officer. Pickett attended Western Kentucky University where he joined the ROTC program and attended airborne school. Commissioned in the infantry, he served his first overseas tour in Germany with the 8th Infantry Division (Mechanized). As part of the 101st Airborne Division, he participated in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990-1991. After leaving active duty in 1994, he joined a Civil Affairs Brigade, a U.S. Reserve unit in Homewood, Illinois, and later became an ROTC instructor at Western Illinois University. He deployed with the 308th Civil Affairs Brigade in the immediate aftermath of the invasion of Iraq in 2003. He volunteered to deploy again to Iraq in 2006, working again in Civil Affairs in Baghdad. In 2008-2009 LTC Pickett went to Nuristan Province in Afghanistan as part of a Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT). In 2010 LTC Pickett began serving as an Assistant Professor of Military Science for the ROTC program at Western Illinois University.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Reserve Officer Training Corps, Kentucky Army National Guard, U.S. Army Airborne training, service in post-Cold War Germany; 8th Infantry Division; service with the 101st Airborne Division; Desert Shield/Desert Storm; Saudi Arabia during the First Gulf War; 9/11; Civil Affairs operations in Kuwait and Iraq; Civil Affairs in Balad, Iraq; Civil Affairs in Baghdad, Iraq; Green Zone, Baghdad, Iraq; Media coverage of Iraq and Afghanistan; Iraqi Governance; Counterinsurgency in the War on Terror; General David Petraeus; Nuristan Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT); Shura (council meeting); Tribalism and Taliban

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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