

**William K. Lietzau**  
**Lieutenant Colonel, United States Marine Corps**  
**Special Advisor to the General Counsel of the Department of Defense**

Lieutenant Colonel William K. Lietzau is a Special Advisor to the General Counsel of the Department of Defense (DoD) and served as the Office of Military Commissions first Acting Chief Prosecutor until May of 2003. Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau has an extensive background in International Law and was instrumental in DoD's Military Commission preparations.

Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau received a B.S. in Political Science from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland in May 1983. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and attended The Basic School and Infantry Officer Course before his first tour as a Rifle Platoon Commander in Company G, Second Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment in Kaneohe, Hawaii. He subsequently served as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of the unit before being selected for the Funded Legal Education Program.

Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau received a J.D. degree from Yale Law School in 1989 and graduated from Naval Justice School later that year. He then reported to Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina where he served in a number of positions including Chief Trial Counsel and Special Assistant United States Attorney. In August of 1992, Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau was assigned to Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan. He served as Senior Defense Counsel, Military Justice Officer, Japanese Jurisdiction Officer and Deputy Station Judge Advocate. While at Iwakuni, he was selected to attend the Judge Advocate General's School, U.S. Army in Charlottesville, Virginia where he received an L.L.M. in Military Law with an emphasis in International and Operational Law in May of 1996.

In June of 1996, Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau reported to the Judge Advocate General of the Navy for duty as the head of the Law of Armed Conflict Branch in the International and Operational Law Division. A year later he moved to the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff where he served as Deputy Legal Counsel to the Chairman, handling, among other things, arms control and law of war issues. In 1998, Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau presided over criminal cases as the Circuit Judge for the Atlantic Judicial Circuit, Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary. He also served as the Deputy Chief Judge for the Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary. After serving as a military judge, Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau was selected to assume command of the First Recruit Training Battalion at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA. He was serving as commanding officer of that organization when called upon to fill his current role in the Office of the General Counsel of the Department of Defense.

Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau has served on several US delegations in recent multilateral treaty negotiations including those adopting the Terrorist Bombing Convention, the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel landmines, the Second Protocol to the Hague Cultural Property Convention and the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court. He also led the United States negotiating team responsible for drafting elements of crimes for the International Criminal Court. In off-duty hours, Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau has also taught international law as an adjunct professor in Georgetown Law Center's Master of Laws program. He has published several articles on international law, criminal law, and constitutional law subjects.

Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau's personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (w/oak leaf cluster in lieu of 2<sup>nd</sup> award), the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal (w/two oak leaf clusters in lieu of 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> awards) and the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal (w/three gold stars in lieu of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> awards).

Lieutenant Colonel Lietzau will be departing for National War College in the summer of 2003.