

MATTHEW N. PALADINO

Strategic Advisor

ISR Task Force, Operations and Integration Directorate

Headquarters Department of the Army, G-2 (Intelligence)



Matt currently serves as a strategic advisor to the Director of the Army's ISR Task Force. In this role, he connects concepts to verifiable outcomes to ensure alignment with strategic Army and Department of Defense guidance. His efforts stitch together budgeting, doctrine, training, force design and personnel management into cohesive strategic narratives for program designs.

He began his career as UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter pilot, serving as a platoon leader and staff officer in the storied 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment. He led the Army's testing of the then-brand new UH-60M variant, gaining valuable experience in both digital automated cockpits, as well as acquisition processes.

Matt then attended Military Intelligence professional military education to become dual branch qualified as an All-Source Intelligence officer in the Army. Subsequently, he spent 15 years executing and managing intelligence operations around the world. Leveraging his prior acquisition experience, he led the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command through initial testing and fielding of crewed and uncrewed systems as the operations officer of the first intelligence battalion equipped with these systems.

He gained significant staff experience serving as the Army's first, dedicated assignment officer overseeing all fixed-wing aviator's careers at the U.S. Army Human Resources Command. He also served on the Joint Staff within the Joint Staff J-3's ISR directorate. There, he managed the entirety of DoD's conventional airborne ISR portfolio, providing tailored and risk-informed employment recommendations to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of Defense.

He finished his career in the Headquarters, Department of the Army serving as the branch chief of aerial ISR programs. His combined 15 years of prior aviation and military intelligence knowledge provided the foundation for his design of the HADES program. HADES became the largest transformation of hardware, concepts of operation, and personnel structure in the Army's 115-year history of airborne intelligence collection. He served as the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2's personal representative for all matters related to HADES. Finally, he served as a senior advisor to the Director, ISR Task Force. In this role, he provided recommendations for the entire portfolio of modernization efforts underway across the intelligence enterprise. Matt retired from the United States Army in May 2024 culminating an incredible career executing all aspects of the Army's mission.

He led combat operations within Iraq and Afghanistan, counter-terrorism operations in South America and Africa, and counter-drug/counter-transnational criminal organizations operations in North/South America.

He holds a bachelor's degree in environmental engineering from the United States Military Academy and was an honor graduate of multiple military education and aircraft qualification courses.

His awards and badges include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Air Medal (two awards), Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge and Senior Army Aviator Badge.

Matt was a senior Army aviator with more than 1,500 flight hours in six different rotary and fixed wing aircraft. He is a lifetime member of the Veteran's of Foreign Wars and Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA) organizations. He is a recipient of the Knowlton Award from the Military Intelligence Corps Association, as well as the Silver Medal of the Order of St. Michael from AAAA.

He and his wife Ila have one child, Nicholas 'Knox.'