

Vincent G. Heintz enlisted in the New York Army National Guard in 1988. During the summer between college and law school, he attended basic combat training as a Private First Class/Rifleman at the U.S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia. In 1991, he earned a commission as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry at the St. John's University ROTC battalion.

Since then, Major Heintz has executed multiple command and staff assignments in infantry units in the New York Army National Guard from platoon to division levels. He has also completed numerous military training courses and schools, including the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses and the Army Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia; the Army Combat Advisor certification course at Fort Riley, Kansas; and the U.S. Army's Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Major Heintz's service in the Global War on Terror commenced on the morning of September 11, 2001, as he commuted to his place of civilian employment five blocks from the World Trade Center. Minutes after the towers fell, he reported to the NYPD's emergency command post under the Manhattan Bridge on the East River, where he assisted in the coordination of the initial military response on the ground during the first hours of the rescue effort. By nightfall, Major Heintz had led his infantry company to the attack site itself where, for fifteen days and nights, his infantrymen and medics searched for survivors along side of New York City firefighters and police officers, FEMA's Urban Search and Rescue teams and other first-responders.

Immediately after serving at Ground Zero, Major Heintz's infantry company received orders to establish the initial military presence at JFK International Airport, with the mission of supporting civilian law enforcement to deter and defeat terrorist aggression and restore the public's confidence in air travel.

In March 2003, Major Heintz led an infantry company task force during anti-terrorism operations at various critical sites throughout New York City. In partnership with civilian law enforcement, the unit was tasked to deter and defeat potential terrorist attacks launched in retaliation for the Coalition Forces attack against the Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq.

In 2004, Major Heintz deployed his rifle company to Iraq in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. His unit launched hundreds of raids, ambushes and reconnaissance patrols against Ba'athist guerrillas, al Qaeda terrorist cells and Shi'ite militias supported by Iran. The unit killed and captured scores of terrorists and insurgent fighters, and seized tons of cached weapons and explosives. The company administered the construction of schools, courthouses, wells and roads to relieve the suffering of the Iraqi people. Major Heintz's company recruited, trained and conducted joint security operations with a force of 180 Iraqi national guardsmen, many of whom now serve in Iraq's professional army. Finally, the unit's counterinsurgency operations produced evidence of mass murder by the Saddam Hussein regime committed decades earlier in his unit's area of operations. The Iraqi Special Tribunal later credited the unit's intelligence work as contributing directly to the conviction and execution of Saddam Hussein and other members of the Ba'athist regime in an Iraqi court in 2006 for crimes against humanity.

During 2008, Major Heintz commanded a specially-trained 16-man team of officers and NCOs that deployed to Afghanistan in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. The team's counterinsurgency operations focused on protecting the Afghan people from al Qaeda, the Taliban and other destabilizing forces. The team served as embedded combat advisors to Afghan security forces operating against enemy forces in two remote, Taliban-infested districts in Konduz and Baghlan Provinces. The team also administering reconstruction projects in those places to promote security, governance and economic development.

The Army has awarded Major Heintz the Bronze Star Medal for his combat leadership in Iraq in 2004; a second Bronze Star Medal for his combat leadership in Afghanistan in 2008; and many other decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal (Second Award), the Army Commendation Medal (Fifth Award), the Army Achievement Medal (Fourth Award), the Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the NATO Medal with ISAF Device, the National Defense Service Medal, the New York State Defense of Liberty Medal with “World Trade Center” Device, and the Combat Infantryman’s Badge.

Major Heintz has been described as an expert in counterinsurgency warfare. He has briefed staff members of the National Security Council at the White House and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on counterinsurgency operations in Afghanistan. His experiences, insights and writings on counterinsurgency and the Global War on Terror have been covered by and featured in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *CNN International*, *National Review Online*, *Das Spiegel*, the BBC, *Izvestia* and other sources.

In civilian life, Major Heintz practices law in New York City. He has been married to his best friend, Kathryn, for 17 years. They are the parents of Sarah, age 15, and Daniel, age 12. The Heintz family lives in southern Westchester County.