Colonel Patrick D. Parker entered the Army in 1968 at Fort Lewis, Washington. After Basic Combat Training, he completed Advanced Individual Training and Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Commissioned in 1969, he served in successive positions as a platoon leader, 2d Battalion, 51st Artillery (Nike Hercules) and the Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General, Sixth Region Army Air Defense Command. Subsequently, Colonel Parker was a Company Commander in the Republic of Viet Nam and Battery Commander, Battery C, 2d Battalion, 3d ADA at Union Lake, Michigan. After an assignment at the U.S. Army Air Defense School, he assumed command of Battery A, 2d BT Battalion U.S. Army Training Center at Fort Bliss, when the USATC was reactivated in 1973. After attending the ADA Officer's Advance Course, Colonel Parker assumed command of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2d Battalion, 1st ADA at Wackernheim, Germany. During his tour in Germany, he also was the S3, Operations Officer of the 2d of the 1st ADA. Upon completion of his tour in the FRG, he attended the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Class of 1982. He was then assigned as an Assistant Professor of Military Science at the University of Wyoming. In 1984, he was assigned as the Executive Officer of U.S. Army Field Station-Korea, a unit responsible for strategic intelligence gathering for the Korean Peninsula. After his tour in the Republic of Korea, he was assigned to the Combined Arms and Tactics Department, U.S. Army Air Defense School as the Chief of Tactics and Doctrine Division and the Deputy Director of the Department. He assumed his duties as the Deputy Commander,

USATC Fort Bliss, Texas on 21 March 1988 and as the Commander of the 67th Adjutant General Battalion on 6 April 1988. Colonel Parker also commanded the 56th ADA Brigade, USATC, from October 1988 through January 1989. In June 1989, he assumed command of the Portland Army Recruiting Battalion, Portland, Oregon until June 1991 when he was assigned as the Senior Army Advisor, 102d U.S. Army Reserve Command.

Colonel Parker has a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Webster College. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Viet Nam Cross of Gallantry and the Meritorious Unit Commendation.