



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MICHAEL A. BRADFORD

Lieutenant Colonel Michael A. Bradford is the Commander of the 38th Student Squadron at Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. As the Commander, he is responsible for the morale, health, and welfare of 250 active, reserve, guard, sister-service, and international officers in the Intermediate Development Education program. In this position, he provides instruction, professional development, and mentorship to officers in the profession of arms, while fostering a positive environment conducive to lifelong learning.

Lieutenant Colonel Bradford enlisted in the Air Force in 2002. He is a recipient of the Scholarship for Outstanding Airmen to Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). He commissioned through the ROTC program at the University of Oklahoma in 2008. During his career, he has served in various capacities at the squadron, group, Numbered Air Force, and Combatant Command levels. Prior to his current position Lt Colonel Bradford was a Strategic Planner, CENTCOM, MacDill AFB, FL.



EDUCATION

2008 Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, University of Oklahoma
2008 Air and Space Basic Course, Exceptional Performer

2013 Squadron Officer School, in residence and correspondence

2022 Air Command and Staff College, in residence and correspondence

2022 Masters of Military Operational Art and Science, Air University

2024 Masters of Military Strategy, Air University

ASSIGNMENTS

August 02 - July 06, 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus Air Force Base (AFB), MS

July 06 - June 08, Reserve Officer Training Corps, The University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

June 08 - May 09, Student 381st Training Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA

May 09 - October 10, Deputy Missile Combat Crew Commander, 10th Missile Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT

October 10 - January 11, ICBM Deputy Flight Commander, 10th Missile Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT

January 11 - October 11, ICBM Combat Crew Commander, 10th Missile Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT

October 11 - February 12, Instructor, ICBM Combat Crew Commander, 341st Operations Support Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT

February 12 - Mar 12, Chief of ICBM Requirements, 341st Operations Support Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT

June 12 - May 13, Flight Commander 10th Missile Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT

May 13 - November 13, Executive Officer 341st Operations Group, Malmstrom AFB, MT

November 13 - November 14, Emergency War Order Instructor, 341st Operations Support Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT

November 14 - May 15, ICBM Test Operations Officer, 576th Flight Test Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA

May 15 - November 16, ICBM Test Operations Instructor, 576th Flight Test Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA (April 16 – November 16, Deputy of Operations, 9th Air Expeditionary Task Force Afghanistan, Kabul, Afghanistan)





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November 16 - November 17, Chief, ICBM Flight Test Management, 576th Flight Test Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA
November 17 - October 18, Assistant Director of Operations, 576th Flight Test Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA
October 18 - April 19, Assistant Director of Operations, 23d Training Squadron, Maxwell AFB, AL
April 19 - April 20, Director of Operations, 217th Training Squadron, Maxwell AFB, AL
April 20 - June 21, Executive Officer, Jeane M. Holm Center for Officer Accessions & Citizen Development, Maxwell AFB, AL
(October 20 - April 21, Rotational Branch Chief, United States Central Command CCJ-3 Forces, MacDill AFB, FL)
June 21 - June 22, Student Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
June 22 - June 23, Fellow Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
June 23 - June 24, Student School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, AL
June 24 - June 26, Strategic Planner, MacDill, AFB, FL
June 26 – Present, COMMANDER, 38th Student Squadron, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell, AFB, AL

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. April 2016 – November 2016, Deputy of Operations, 9th Air Expeditionary Task Force Afghanistan, Kabul, Afghanistan, as a captain
2. October 2020 – April 2021, Rotational Branch Chief, United States Central Command CCJ-3 Forces, MacDill AFB, FL as a major
3. June 2024 – June 2026 Strategic Planner, MacDill, AFB, FL, as a Lieutenant Colonel

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Joint Service Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Air Force Commendation Medal
Air Force Achievement Medal
Combat Readiness Medal
Afghanistan Campaign Medal
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with four oak leaf clusters
Humanitarian Service Medal
Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with "N" Device
Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Joint Service Achievement Medal
Defense Meritorious Service Medal

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

2005 John L. Levitow Award Title or Description
2006 Distinguished Graduate, Louis F. Garland Fire Academy
2008 Exceptional Performer, Air and Space Basic Course
2012 Staff Officer of the Year, 341 Operations Group
2019 Field Grade Officer of the Year, Officer Training School

OCCUPATIONAL BADGES

Fire Protection
Civil Engineering
Space Operations
Missile Operations

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 28, 2008
First Lieutenant May 28, 2010
Captain May 28, 2012
Major March 1, 2018





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Lieutenant Colonel June 1, 2023

(Current as of July 2026)

