



# BIOGRAPHY



## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### COLONEL LEON J. PERKOWSKI

Colonel Leon J. Perkowski is the Vice Commandant of Air Command and Staff College, the world's premier in-residence and distance learning professional military education college for midcareer officers and civilians which focuses on the development of leaders. Graduates go on to provide significant contributions in developing, employing, sustaining and commanding air, space and cyberspace power in joint and combined operations throughout the world.

Col Perkowski graduated from Cornell University as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program in 1993 and entered active duty in 1995 after receiving a Masters of Science degree in environmental pollution control from Pennsylvania State University. He spent the first half of his career as a weather officer supporting fighter wings at Shaw AFB and RAF Lakenheath, managing pollution control R&D projects at Air Force Research Laboratory, and serving as a weather staff officer for Headquarters US Army Europe and NATO's Joint Headquarters, Centre where he deployed in support of Operation JOINT GUARDIAN and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. After receiving a second master's degree from Air Command and Staff College, Col Perkowski served as an instructor in and deputy chairperson of the Department of International Security and Military Studies at Air Command and Staff College, where he oversaw the production of one-third of the college's core course materials and the annual execution of more than 2,400 person-hours of graduate-level instruction provided by 32 faculty members to over 500 rising field grade officers and civilian equivalents. Prior to his current position, Col Perkowski served as the Associate Dean of Distance Learning at the Air War College at Maxwell AFB, AL and as the Associate Dean of Academics at Air University's new eSchool of Graduate PME, which provides non-resident graduate-level professional military education for more than 20,000 military and civilian students. Col Perkowski holds a Ph.D. in history from Kent State and his academic interests include the Cold War, deterrence credibility, national security strategy, the history of US foreign relations, and war and US society.



#### EDUCATION

- 1993 Bachelor of Meteorology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
- 1995 Masters of Science in Environmental Pollution Control, Pennsylvania State University, PA
- 2002 Commandant's Award (top graduate), Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2006 Masters of Operational Art and Science and distinguished graduate, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2015 PhD in History of US Foreign Relations, Kent State University, Kent, OH

#### ASSIGNMENTS

1. 1995-1997: Wing weather officer and weather flight commander, 20<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Shaw AFB, SC
2. 1997-2000: Environmental research and development project manager, Air Force Research Laboratory, Tyndall AFB, FL
3. 2000-2003: Chief, NATO and Joint Operations, 7<sup>th</sup> Weather Squadron, Heidelberg, Germany
4. 2003-2005: Combat weather team flight commander, 48<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath, UK
5. 2005-2006: Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
6. 2006-2008: Instructor and Deputy Course Director, Department of International Security and Military Studies, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
7. 2008-2012: PhD Student, AFIT Civilian Institutions Program, Kent State University, Kent, OH
8. 2012-2013: Director of Instruction, Department of International Security and Military Studies, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
9. 2013-2014: Deputy Chairperson, Department of International Security and Military Studies, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
10. 2014-2015: Associate Dean of Distance Learning, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, AL
11. 2015-2016: Associate Dean of Academics, eSchool of Graduate PME, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
12. 2016-2016: Assistant Professor of Strategy, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, AL
13. 2017-pres: Vice Commandant, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL

#### **MAJOR AWARDS and DECORATIONS**

Meritorious Service Medal, with two oak leaf clusters  
 Joint Service Commendation Medal  
 Air Force Commendation Medal, with one oak leaf cluster  
 Army Commendation Medal  
 Army Achievement Medal

#### **EFFECTIVE DATES of PROMOTION**

First Lieutenant	13 Jun 1996
Captain	13 Jun 1998
Major	01 Nov 2004
Lieutenant Colonel	01 Jun 2008
Colonel	01 Sep 2014