



# BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE



## BRIGADIER GENERAL LEONARD J. KOSINSKI

Brig. Gen. Leonard J. Kosinski is the Vice Commander, Fifth Air Force, and Director, Joint Air Component Coordination Element-Japan, Yokota Air Base, Japan. Fifth Air Force conducts joint and bilateral planning and engagements to defend Japan and respond to regional contingencies. In addition, the Command coordinates joint and bilateral actions and exercises with U.S. Forces, Japan, U.S. Service components, the Japan Self-Defense Forces, and other Japanese organizations to strengthen bilateral interoperability. Fifth Air Force exercises administrative authority over U.S. Air Force forces in Japan.

Brig. Gen. Kosinski received his commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1993 as a distinguished graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Operations Research. He has served in operational assignments flying the KC-135 Stratotanker, C-5 Galaxy and C-17 Globemaster III. He is a distinguished graduate of the Defense Language Institute and was an Olmsted Scholar in Tokyo, Japan.



Brig. Gen. Kosinski has also served in major operations including Operation Southern Watch, Operation Allied Force, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation United Relief. He also served as the commander of the heavy airlift squadron at Pápa Air Base, Hungary, where he helped stand up a 12-nation Strategic Airlift Capability C-17 consortium in order to provide worldwide C-17 airlift and airdrop in support of the European Union, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, United Nations and other international requirements.

Prior to his current assignment, Brig. Gen. Kosinski was the Director for Logistics, U.S. Africa Command, Stuttgart, Germany.

### EDUCATION

1993 Bachelor of Science, Distinguished Graduate, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo.

1994 Master of Science, Industrial Engineering, Texas A&M University, College Station

1998 Squadron Officer School, Distinguished Graduate, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

2000 Defense Language Institute, Distinguished Graduate, Japanese Course, Monterey, Calif.

2002 Master of Business Administration, International Corporate Strategy, Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo

2003 Master of Arts, International Relations, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, Mass.

2007 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence

2012 Master of Arts, Law and Diplomacy, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, Mass.

2014 Air Force Enterprise Leadership Seminar, University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School, Chapel Hill

2015 Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va.

2016 China, Middle East, and Europe Seminar, Washington, D.C.

2019 Program for Executives in Logistics and Technology, University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School, Chapel Hill  
2020 Capstone, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. August 1993–August 1994, Student, U.S. Air Force Academy Graduate School Program, Texas A&M University
2. September 1994–September 1995, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Vance Air Force Base, Okla.
3. October 1995–July 1999, Assistant Operations Officer, Aircraft Commander, Special Operations Pilot and Standardization/Evaluation Pilot, 344th Air Refueling Squadron, McConnell AFB, Kan. (March 1999 - June 1999, Assistant Operations Officer, Mont-de-Marsan Air Base, France)
4. August 1999–September 2000, Student, Defense Language Institute, Monterey, Calif.
5. October 2000–July 2002, Olmsted Scholar, Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo
6. August 2002–May 2003, Student, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, Mass.
7. June 2003–May 2005, Assistant Operations Officer and Chief, Current Operations, C-17A Globemaster III Aircraft Commander, 16th Airlift Squadron, Charleston AFB, S.C.
8. June 2005–January 2006, Deputy Chief of Current Operations and Instructor Aircraft Commander, 437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, S.C.
9. October 2005–January 2006, Commander, 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, Detachment 2, Southeast Asia
10. February 2006–January 2007, Chief, Wing Aircrew Training, Director of Operations, Instructor Aircraft Commander, 437th Operations Support Squadron, Charleston AFB, S.C.
11. February 2007–December 2008, Chief, Northeast Asia Branch and Japan Country Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
12. January 2009–June 2010, Commander, Heavy Airlift Squadron, Heavy Airlift Wing, Pápa Air Base, Hungary
13. July 2010–May 2013, Chief of Staff of the Air Force Ph.D. Program Fellow and National Defense Fellow, The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, Mass.
14. June 2013–June 2015, Vice Commander, 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis AFB, Calif. (April 2014 - August 2014, Deputy Director of Mobility Forces, Al Udeid AB, Qatar)
15. June 2015–July 2017, Commander, 62nd Airlift Wing, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.
16. July 2017–August 2018, Director, Commander's Action Group, U.S. Africa Command, Stuttgart, Germany
17. August 2018–July 2020, Director for Logistics, U.S. Africa Command, Stuttgart, Germany
18. July 2020–present, Vice Commander, Fifth Air Force, Yokota Air Base, Japan

## **SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS**

1. February 2007–December 2008, Chief, Northeast Asia Branch and Japan Country Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va., as a major and lieutenant colonel
2. July 2017–July 2020, Director, Commander's Action Group and Director for Logistics, U.S. Africa Command, Stuttgart, Germany, as a colonel and a brigadier general

## **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

Rating: command pilot

Flight Hours: more than 3,200

Aircraft Flown: C-5A/B, C-17A, KC-135 R/T/RT, T-38 and T-37

## **AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Defense Superior Service Medal

Legion of Merit Medal with oak leaf cluster

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with oak leaf cluster

Army Commendation Medal

## **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

2005, 2008 U.S.-Japan Leadership Program Fellow, U.S.-Japan Foundation

2011-2012 French American Foundation Young Leader program

**EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant June 2, 1993

First Lieutenant June 2, 1995

Captain June 2, 1997

Major Aug. 1, 2003

Lieutenant Colonel Sept. 1, 2007

Colonel Sept. 1, 2011

Brigadier General July 3, 2018

(Current as of August 2020)