



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL WAYNE W. STRAW

Col Wayne W. Straw is the Commandant, Squadron Officer School, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. Every year, the School educates over 4,200 USAF captains, civilians, and international officers to think, communicate, cooperate, and lead in the joint environment. The school's team of military and civilian faculty develop and teach the Professional Military Education curriculum that begins a student's preparation to serve as senior Air Force leaders in the future.

Colonel Straw is from Altamonte Springs, Fla. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business from Wake Forest University and a Master of Business Administration from Florida State University before commissioning through Officer Training School in 1993 as a distinguished graduate. Colonel Straw has had multiple flying assignments and has over 2,000 flight hours in the F-15E Strike Eagle, including almost 700 in combat. He completed two combat tours in Afghanistan consisting of a year in command of the Operations Support Squadron at the busiest airfield in the country and a year as an Afghanistan Pakistan Hand working with special operations forces and Afghans at the village, district, provincial, and national levels. His staff experience includes responsibilities at the Numbered Air Force, Component Command, and Geographic Combatant Command levels. Prior to his current position, Colonel Straw was the Director of Student Operations at the Air War College, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala.



EDUCATION

- 1989 Bachelor of Science degree in business, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C.
- 1991 Master of Business Administration degree, Florida State University, Tallahassee
- 1993 Distinguished graduate, Officer Training School, Lackland AFB, Texas
- 1999 Distinguished graduate, Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2000 United States Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
- 2005 Distinguished graduate, Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies, College of Naval Command and Staff, Newport Naval Station, R.I.
- 2006 Master of Airpower Art and Science, School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2008 Air War College, by correspondence
- 2015 Academic Distinction, Master of Strategic Studies, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. March 1993 - November 1994, Security Police flight commander, Kirtland AFB, N.M.
2. December 1994 - July 1995, student, Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training, Randolph AFB, Texas
3. August 1995 - April 1996, student, Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training, Pensacola NAS, Fla.
4. May 1996 - December 1996, student, F-15E Formal Training Unit, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
5. January 1997 - June 2000, mission planning officer, assistant chief of weapons, and instructor weapon systems officer, 336th Fighter Squadron, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
6. July 2000 - December 2000, USAF Fighter Weapons Instructor Course, Nellis AFB, Nev.
7. Jan 2001 - Dec 2001, Chief of the Precision-Engagement Division, Wing Weapons and Tactics, 48th Operational

Support Squadron, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom

8. January 2002 - June 2004, flight commander, assistant director of operations, and Chief of Weapons and Tactics, 494th Fighter Squadron, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom

9. July 2004 - June 2005, student, College of Naval Command and Staff, Newport Naval Station, R.I.

10. July 2005 - June 2006, student, School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

11. July 2006 - July 2007, Chief, Weapons and Tactics, 9th Air Force/United States Central Command Air Forces, Shaw AFB, S.C.

12. August 2007 - April 2008, Chief, Commander's Action Group, 9th Air Force/United States Air Forces Central Command, Shaw AFB, S.C.

13. May 2008 - May 2009, Commander, 455th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, Southwest Asia

14. August 2009 - October 2009, Deputy Commander, 4th Operations Group, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

15. November 2009 - May 2010, Dari student, Afghanistan Pakistan Hands Program, Defense Language Services, Washington D.C.

16. June 2010 - June 2011, Afghanistan Pakistan Hand, Combined Forces Special Operations Component Command, Southwest Asia

17. September 2011 - June 2013, Deputy Division Chief, J5 Plans and later Division Chief, Combined Strategic Analysis Group, United States Central Command, MacDill AFB, Fla.

18. June 2013 - July 2014, Vice Commander, Squadron Officer College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

19. July 2014 - May 2015, Student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

20. May 2015 - July 2016, Director of Student Operations, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

21. July 2016 - present, Commandant, Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 2010 - June 2011, Afghanistan Pakistan Hand, Combined Forces Special Operations Component Command, Southwest Asia

2. September 2011 - June 2013, Deputy Division Chief, J5 Plans, and later Division Chief, Combined Strategic Analysis Group, United States Central Command, MacDill AFB, Fla.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Master Navigator

Flight Hours: More than 2,000

Aircraft: F-15E

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Superior Service Medal

Bronze Star Award with two oak leaf clusters

Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Medal with six oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf cluster

National Defense Service Medal with bronze service star

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with bronze service star

Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two bronze service stars

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border with three oak leaf clusters

Secretary of the Air Force Leadership Award

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant March 31, 1993

First Lieutenant March 31, 1995

Captain March 31, 1997

Major July 1, 2003

Lieutenant Colonel Sept. 1, 2007

Colonel Sept. 1, 2011

(Current as of Apr 2018)