



# BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

## COLONEL KEITH A. SCHELL

Colonel Keith A. Schell is the Maintenance Group Commander for the 155th Air Refueling Wing, Nebraska Air National Guard. The wing contributes to the Air Force Global Reach mission by supporting U.S. and allied military forces worldwide with aerial refueling and transportation of passengers and cargo.

Col Schell began his career in June of 1981 when he enlisted in the Nebraska Air National Guard as a Photo Processor Specialist working in the 155 Tactical Reconnaissance Group's Photo Processing Interpretation Facility (PPIF). After becoming the Production Control Supervisor in the PPIF he was selected to attend Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT). Col Schell was commissioned in Dec 1986 as a Second Lieutenant at the Air National Guard's Academy of Military Science located at McGhee Tyson ANGB, Knoxville, TN. Following his graduation from UPT he attended RF-4C RTU in Boise, ID. Upon completion of RF-4C RTU Col Schell was assigned as a RF-4C Aircraft Commander in the 173rd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron (TRS). While in the Squadron he served as Intelligence Officer. Following his upgrade to instructor pilot in the RF-4C he was temporarily assigned to Torrejon Air Force Base, Madrid, Spain and later to Choo Won Air Base South Korea where he instructed the Spanish and South Korean RF-4 Pilots on the Navigational Weapons Delivery System. He converted to the KC-135R in June of 1994. Col Schell served in various positions in the 173 Air Refueling Squadron including the Flying Training Officer, Deputy Chief of Current Operations, Evaluator Pilot, Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, and as the Squadron Director of Operations. While in the Squadron Col Schell was appointed to and served as the Air National Guard's lead KC-135R Instructor Pilot in charge of the planning, development, and implementation of the Global Air Transportation Management (GATM) System modification. He participated in the worldwide Operational Testing and Evaluation of the GATM system. He was subsequently assigned as the 155 Air Refueling Wing Executive Officer.



## EDUCATION

1985 BA in Finance and Marketing, University of Nebraska (UNL), Lincoln, NE  
1993 Squadron Officers School, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL  
1997 Masters of Business Administration with emphasis in International Finance, UNL, Lincoln, NE  
2003 Air Command and Staff College (Correspondence)  
2007 Air War College (Correspondence)

## ASSIGNMENTS

1. Jun 1981 – Feb 1985, Photo Processing Specialist, 173rd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Lincoln, NE
2. Mar 1985 – Oct 1985, Production Control Specialist, 173rd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Lincoln, NE
3. Nov 1985 – Oct 1986, Production Control Supervisor, 173rd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Lincoln, NE
4. Nov 1986 – Dec 1986, Student, Academy of Military Science, McGhee Tyson ANGB, Knoxville, TN
5. Jan 1987 – Nov 1987, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Columbus Air Force Base, Columbus, MS
6. Dec 1987 – Feb 1988, Fighter Lead in Flight Training, Holloman Air Force Base, NM

## **ASSIGNMENTS CONT**

7. Mar 1988 – Sep 1988, Student, RF-4C RTU, 189th Tactical Reconnaissance Training Flight, Boise, ID
8. Oct 1988 – Sep 1992, RF-4C Aircraft Commander, 173rd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Lincoln, NE
9. Oct 1992 – Dec 1992, RF-4C Instructor Pilot, Spanish Air Force, Torrejon Air Force Base, Madrid, Spain
10. Jan 1993 – Mar 1993, RF-4C Instructor Pilot, South Korean Air Force, Choo Won Air Base, South Korea
11. Apr 1993 – Oct 1993, RF-4C Instructor Pilot, 173rd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Lincoln, NE
12. Oct 1993 – Dec 1993, Student, Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, AL
13. Jan 1994 – Jun 1994, Student, KC-135R RTU, 93rd Air Refueling Squadron, Castle Air Force Base, CA
14. Jul 1994 – Dec 1995, KC-135R Aircraft Commander, 173rd Air Refueling Squadron, Lincoln, NE
15. Jan 1996 – Feb 1999, Flying Training Officer, 155th Operations Support Flight, Lincoln, NE
16. Mar 1999 – Aug 2002, Deputy Chief Current Operations, 155th Operations Support Flight, Lincoln, NE
17. Sep 2002 – May 2003, KC-135 Standardization and Evaluation Pilot, 155th Operations Group, Lincoln, NE
18. Jun 2003 – May 2004, Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, 155th Operations Group, Lincoln, NE
19. Jun 2004 – Sep 2005, Director of Operations, 173 Air Refueling Squadron, Lincoln, NE
20. Oct 2005 – Mar 2006, Executive Officer, 155 Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln, NE
21. Apr 2006 – Dec 2008, 155 Maintenance Group Commander, Lincoln, NE
22. Jan 2009—Mar 2009, SOFCOM, Balad Iraq
23. Apr 2009—present, 155 Maintenance Group Commander, Lincoln, NE

## **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: Over 4000 hours

Aircraft flown: T-37B, T-38A/B, RF-4C, F-15B, KC-135E/R/T

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Meritorious Service Medal with one device

Aerial Achievement Medal with one device

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with two devices

Air Force Achievement Medal with three devices

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Meritorious Unit Award

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with nine devices

Combat Readiness Medal with seven devices

Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Serve Medal with one device

Air Force Recognition Ribbon

National Defense Service Medal with one device

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Kosovo Campaign Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Korean Defense Service Medal

Armed Forces Service Medal with two devices

Humanitarian Service Medal with two devices

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

Air Force overseas Ribbon Short

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border with one device

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS CONT**

Air Force Longevity Service with five devices  
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with two devices  
Small Arms Expert marksmanship Ribbon (Rifle)  
Air Force Training Ribbon with one device  
NATO Medal

## **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant	19 December 1986
First Lieutenant	19 December 1989
Captain	2 October 1992
Major	15 July 1999
Lieutenant Colonel	1 May 2004
Colonel	29 April 2008

(Current as of Mar 2010)