



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL JOHN D. WILLIAMS

Colonel John D. Williams is the Commander, 155th Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln, Nebraska. He is responsible for organizing, training, and equipping four groups and 10 squadrons executing worldwide aerial refueling, cargo, aeromedical evacuation, and humanitarian relief operations. It is his duty to ensure airmen are prepared and ready to deploy in support of domestic and federal missions.

Colonel Williams earned his commission through Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln before joining the Nebraska Air National Guard. He has held a variety of flying, staff, and command assignments including Headquarters National Guard Bureau acting Director of KC-135 Training, EUCOM J5/8 Bilateral Affairs Officer and EUCOM Deputy Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation – Prague. In Prague, he facilitated multinational cooperation, Foreign Military Sales, and oversaw the International Military Education and Training program. He served as Operations Group Chief of Standards & Evaluations before being selected for squadron command. As Operations Group Council Chairman, Colonel Williams led 19 Air National Guard Air Refueling Groups through deployment and related training issues enhancing fleet readiness and availability to Combatant Commanders.

He has flown numerous homeland defense and domestic operation missions and deployed in support of operations Joint Guard, Joint Forge, Allied Force, Southern and Northern Watch, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and Freedom's Sentinel.



Colonel Williams is a command pilot with more than 5,000 flight hours, including 560 combat hours in the KC-135. Prior to assuming his current position, the colonel was commander of the 155th Operations Group.

EDUCATION

- 1994 Bachelor of Science, Architecture, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 1999 Advanced Instrument School, Randolph AFB, Texas
- 2003 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2007 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2011 Aircraft Mishap Identification Course, Kirtland AFB, N.M.
- 2016 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2016 Mobility Commander Tactics Course, St. Joseph ANG Base, Mo.
- 2016 Master of Business Administration, Global Economic Threat Concentration, Bellevue University, Neb.
- 2018 Air National Guard Commander Development Course, Andrews AFB, Md.
- 2019 Director of Mobility Forces, Class 19B, Hurlburt AFB, Fla.
- 2021 Joint and Combined Warfighting School - JPME Phase II, Norfolk, Va., hybrid

ASSIGNMENTS

1. March 1995 - April 1996, Student Pilot, Joint Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin AFB, Texas
2. April 1996 - August 1996, KC-135R Initial Aircraft Qualification, 97th Air Mobility Wing, Altus AFB, Okla.
3. November 1999 - December 1999, KC-135R Aircraft Commander Course, 97th Air Mobility Wing, Altus AFB, Okla.
4. August 2001 - September 2001, KC-135R Instructor Aircraft Qualification, 97th Air Mobility Wing, Altus AFB, Okla.

5. September 2001 - November 2006, Deputy Chief of Aircrew Training, 155th Operations Group, Lincoln ANGB, Neb.
6. November 2006 - April 2008, Chief of Aircrew Training, 155th Operations Group, Lincoln ANGB, Neb.
7. April 2007 - September 2007, Acting Chief of KC-135 Training, Headquarters NGB/A3T, Arlington, Va.
8. April 2008 - September 2011, Deputy Chief of Wing Plans, 155th Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln ANGB, Neb.
9. September 2011 - July 2014, Bilateral Affairs Officer and Deputy Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation, European Command J5/8, U.S. Embassy-Prague, Czech Republic
10. July 2014 - December 2015, Chief of Standards and Evaluations, 155th Operations Group, Lincoln ANGB, Neb.
11. December 2015 - November 2017, Commander, 155th Operations Support Squadron, Lincoln ANGB, Neb.
12. November 2017 – October 2020, Commander, 155th Operations Group, Lincoln ANGB, Neb.
13. September 2019 – October 2020, KC-135/KC-46 ANG Operations Group Council Chairman
14. October 2020 – present, Commander, 155th Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln ANGB, Neb.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command pilot

Flight Hours: More than 5,000

Aircraft Flown: T-3A, T-37B, T-1A, KC-135R/T/FR

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. September 2011 - July 2014, Bilateral Affairs Officer and Deputy Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation for European Command Strategy and Policy Directorate, U.S. Embassy-Prague, Czech Republic, as a lieutenant colonel

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal

Air Medal with oak leaf cluster

Aerial Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Force Commendation Medal

Joint Service Achievement Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Kosovo Campaign Medal

Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Humanitarian Service Medal

Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with service star

NATO Medal

OTHER AWARDS AND HONORS

1996 54th Air Refueling Squadron, KC-135R Initial Aircraft Qualification Distinguished Graduate

2013 Army of the Czech Republic Chief of Defense, Czech Armed Forces Medal of Merit

2016 USAF Central Command, Aircrew Safety Award of Distinction

PUBLICATION

2016, Yellow Light Deterrence. *Modern Diplomacy*. (Excerpted from *Conflict Resolution of Chinese Territorial Expansion in the South China Sea*, 2015).

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 6, 1994

First Lieutenant Dec. 20, 1996

Captain Oct. 27, 1999

Major Oct. 23, 2005

Lieutenant Colonel Aug. 1, 2012

Colonel Dec. 15, 2017

(Current as of November 2021)