



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL ERIC C. PAULSON

Col Eric C. Paulson currently serves as Commander, 55th Operations Group, 55th Wing, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. The 55th Operations Group executes global airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, and treaty verification missions directed by the President and Secretary of Defense, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Combatant Commanders, and national intelligence agencies. The group's 11 squadrons and two detachments operate seven separate models of aircraft. The 55th Operations Group is the largest operations group in the United States Air Force.

Col Paulson entered the Air Force in 1995 through Officer Training School and has served in a variety of operational and staff assignments. As an RC-135 Electronic Warfare Officer (EWO), he flew numerous missions in direct support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, DELIBERATE GUARD, NOBIL ANVIL and ALLIED FORCE and deployed world-wide in support of Joint Chiefs of Staff tasked Sensitive Reconnaissance Operations. He then assumed duties as a T-43 Instructor Navigator/EWO where he served as Assistant Director of Operations then EWO evaluator and Executive Officer at the group level. After serving as the RC-135 functional manager at Headquarters Air Force, Pentagon, he returned to operations as Chief, Operations Group Standardization and Evaluations then Director of Operations of a Formal Training Unit. He was then selected to command a reconnaissance squadron in support of European Theater tasking including Operations ODYSSEY DAWN and UNIFIED PROTECTOR. Following command, Col Paulson began duties at US Strategic Command as Airborne Command Post Mission Commander, Deputy Director of the Commander's Action Group and finally Deputy Executive Officer to the Commander. Prior to his current position, the colonel was the Chief, Information Operations at Combined Joint Task Force – Operation INHERENT RESOLVE, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait while assigned to the Air War College, Maxwell AFB.



EDUCATION

1994 Bachelor of Arts, Geography, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmund
1999 Master of Aeronautical Science, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.
2001 Squadron Officer School, Residence/Correspondence, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2005 Air Command and Staff College, Correspondence, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2008 Master of Strategic Intelligence, National Intelligence University, Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.
2010 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
2017 Master of Strategic Studies, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. August 1995-April 1996, Student, Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas
2. April 1996-October 1996, Student, Joint Aviation Electronic Warfare School, Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla.
3. October 1996-October 2001, Evaluator EWO, Crew Commander, 343d Reconnaissance Squadron, Offutt AFB, Neb.
4. October 2001-Jun 2003, Evaluator Navigator and EWO, Flight Commander then Assistant Director of Operations, 563d Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas
5. June 2003-June 2004, Chief, T-43 EWO Branch, Operations Group Stan/Eval, 12th Operations Group, Randolph AFB, Texas
6. June 2004-October 2005, Executive Officer, 12th Operations Group, Randolph AFB, Texas
7. October 2005-June 2007, RC-135 Functional Manager, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
8. July 2007-July 2008, Student, National Defense Intelligence College, Residence, Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.
9. July 2008-March 2009, Student, 338th Combat Training Squadron, Offutt AFB, Neb.

10. March 2009-March 2010, Chief, Operations Group Stan/Eval, 55th Operations Group, Offutt AFB, Neb.
11. March 2010-July 2011, Director of Operations, 338th Combat Training Squadron, Offutt AFB, Neb.
12. July 2011-July 2013, Commander, 95th Reconnaissance Squadron, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, United Kingdom
13. July 2013-May 2014, Mission Commander, USSTRATCOM Airborne Command Post, Offutt AFB, Neb.
14. May 2014-June 2015, Deputy Director, Commander's Action Group, Headquarters US Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb.
15. July 2015-June 2016, Deputy Executive Officer to the Commander, Headquarters US Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb.
16. July 2016-May 2017, Student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
17. July 2017-July 2018, Chief, Information Operations, CJTF-Operation INHERENT RESOLVE, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait
18. July 2018-Present, Commander, 55th Operations Group, Offutt AFB, Neb.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Master Navigator

Flight hours: More than 2,500 including 28 combat hours and 58 combat support hours

Aircraft Flown: RC -135U, RC-135V/W, T-43, E-6B

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal with four oak leaf clusters

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal

Joint Meritorious Unit Award with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters

Combat Readiness Medal with oak leaf cluster

National Defense Service Medal with bronze star

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with bronze star

Kosovo Campaign Medal with two bronze stars

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Armed Forces Service Medal

Air & Space Campaign Medal

Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

NATO Medal (Kosovo, Bosnia, Libya)

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant Aug. 11, 1995

First Lieutenant Aug. 11, 1997

Captain Aug. 1, 1999

Major Jan. 1, 2006

Lieutenant Colonel Oct. 1, 2010

Colonel Feb. 1, 2017

(Current as of July 2018)