



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL BIF B. FRENCH

Colonel Bif B. French is the Wing Commander at 147th Attack Wing, Texas Air National Guard, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, Houston, Texas. He is responsible for organizing, training, equipping, and maintaining combat ready forces for rapid deployment and employment on wartime missions with more than 1,085 guardsmen in support of Joint Terminal Attack, MQ-9 Reaper, Surveillance and Reconnaissance and Expeditionary Combat Support.

The Colonel received his commission in the Air Force as a distinguished graduate through Reserve Officers' Training Corps in 2001. In 2003, he completed Undergraduate Pilot Training at Columbus Air Force Base (AFB), Mississippi, and KC-135R Initial Qualification Course at Altus AFB, Oklahoma. In 2005, Colonel French, then only a First Lieutenant, was selected to attend the KC-135R Aircraft Commander course at Altus AFB, Oklahoma, and returned in 2007 to complete the KC-135R Certified Flight Instructor course. In the spring of 2007, he was hand selected to serve as the 92nd Air Refueling Wing's Operations Team Chief for Air Mobility Command's RODEO and was later selected for the Phoenix Horizon program. He was assigned to fly the C-130J at Little Rock AFB. In 2010, he upgraded to C-130J Instructor Pilot and was chosen to attend the Advanced Airlift Tactics and Training Course, St. Joseph, Mo. In 2011, he upgraded to C-130J Evaluator pilot and served as the Director of Staff for the 19th Operations Group. Later that year, he was assigned to the USAF Expeditionary Center, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JBMDL), where he served as both the Mobility and Expeditionary Operations Branch Chief as well as the Chief Executive Officer for the Mobility Operations School. Colonel French separated from active duty in 2013 and joined the Texas Air National Guard, Ellington Field JRB.



Prior to his current position, he served as the Deputy Commander, 147th Attack Wing, Texas Air National Guard, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, Houston, Texas.

EDUCATION

1998 Associates of Science, Western Wyoming Community College, Rock Springs, Wyo.
2001 Bachelor of Arts, Communication, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyo.
2007 Air Mobility Command High Flight Professional Development Program, Scott Air Force Base (AFB), Ill,
2007 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2011 Masters in Aeronautical Science, Aviation/Aerospace Operations, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Worldwide
2012 Academic Instructor Course, USAF Expeditionary Center, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.
2012 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
2019 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
2021 National Security Studies Management Course, Syracuse University, N.Y.
2023 National War College, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington D.C.





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ASSIGNMENTS

1. January 2002-December 2003, Undergraduate Pilot Training, 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus AFB, Miss.
2. January 2004-December 2007, KC-135 Instructor Pilot/Chief Exec Officer, 92d Operations Group, Fairchild AFB, Wash.
3. January 2008-April 2011, C-130J Evaluator Pilot and Dir of Staff, 19th Operations Group, Little Rock AFB, Ark.
4. May 2012-September 2013, Mob/Exp Ops Branch Chief, Chief Exec Officer, USAFEC, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.
5. September 2013-September 2018, Flight Cmdr/MQ-1B Instructor Pilot, 111th Attack Squadron, Ellington Field JRB, Texas
6. September 2018-December 2018, Ops Officer, 147th Operations Support Squadron, Ellington Field JRB, Texas
7. January 2019-April 2019, Commander, 147th Operations Support Squadron, Ellington Field JRB, Texas
8. April 2019-December 2019, Commander, 111th Attack Squadron, Ellington Field JRB, Texas
9. December 2019-October 2020, Dep Commander, 147th Ops Gp/Commander, 111th Attack Squadron, Ellington Field JRB, Texas
10. October 2020-July 2022, Deputy Commander, 147th Operations Group
11. July 2022-June 2023, Student National War College, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington D.C.
12. June 2023-June 2024, Deputy Wing Commander, 147th Attack Wing, Ellington Field JRB, Texas
13. June 2024-Present, Wing Commander, 147th Attack Wing, Ellington Field JRB, Texas

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: More than 4,500, including 1,095 Combat and 1,015 Combat Support

Aircraft flown: T-37B, T-1A, KC-135R/T, C-130J, MQ-1B, MQ-9A, RC-26B

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with ten oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal with twelve oak leaf clusters

Air Force Commendation Medal

Humanitarian Service Medal

Remote Combat Effects Campaign Medal with three service stars

Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal

Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (Pistol)

Texas Medal of Merit

Texas Faithful Service Medal

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Life member, Order of Daedalians

Life member, Military Officers Association of America

Life member, National Guard Association of Texas, and the United States

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant January 5, 2002

First Lieutenant January 5, 2004

Captain January 5, 2006

Major January 1, 2012

Lieutenant Colonel December 1, 2018

Colonel April 4, 2023

(Current as of June 2024)

