



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL FRED R. CUNNINGHAM

Colonel Fred R. Cunningham is the Vice Commander of the 71st Flying Training Wing, Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma. The wing consists of more than 2,700 personnel conducting specialized undergraduate pilot training for more than 300 U.S. Air Force and allied student pilots each year. The wing operates more than 200 aircraft, flies more than 49,000 sorties annually, and logs more than 71,000 flying hours each year.

Colonel Cunningham was commissioned in 1994 as a Distinguished Graduate of the United States Air Force Academy. He attended Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training at Reese AFB, Texas, and completed subsequent flying assignments as an Aircraft Commander in the C-5B Galaxy, an Instructor Pilot in the T-1A Jayhawk, and an Evaluator Pilot in the KC-135R Stratotanker.

Prior to this assignment, Colonel Cunningham was a student of National Security Strategy at the National War College, Ft. McNair, Washington, D.C. In addition to flying, Colonel Cunningham has completed assignments as the Deputy Chief, Strategic Plans and Policy Division, Headquarters Air Force; Air Officer Commanding, United States Air Force Academy; and Air Force Intern, Joint Chiefs of Staff Logistics Directorate (J-4) and Air Force Foreign Liaison Division.



Colonel Cunningham has commanded three squadrons and deployed on multiple occasions, most notably as Commander, 22d Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, Transit Center at Manas International Airport, Kyrgyz Republic; Chief, Mobility Operations, Air Mobility Division, 609th Air & Space Operations Center, Al Udeid AB, Qatar; and Chief, Wing Plans & Programs, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing, Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. He is a command pilot with more than 3,300 flight hours.

EDUCATION

- 1994 Bachelor of Science in Management, USAF Academy (Distinguished Graduate)
- 2000 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama
- 2002 Master of Aeronautical Science in Operations, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University (Honor Graduate)
- 2002 Graduate Certificate, Organizational Management, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
- 2004 Air Command & Staff College (Non-Residence)
- 2006 Master of Counseling and Leadership, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- 2008 Air War College (Non-Residence)
- 2015 Master of National Security Strategy, National War College, Ft. McNair, Washington, D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. December 1994 – February 1995, Physical Education Instructor / Scheduler, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado

2. February 1995 – June 1996, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, Reese AFB, Texas, and C-5 Initial Qualification Training, Altus AFB, Oklahoma
3. June 1996 – December 1999, C-5 Aircraft Commander / Pilot Scheduler / Executive Officer, 21st Airlift Squadron, Travis AFB, California
4. December 1999 – June 2001, T-1A Instructor Pilot / Airspace and Procedures Officer, 86th Flying Training Squadron & 47th Operations Support Squadron, Laughlin AFB, Texas
5. June 2001 – October 2002, Air Force Intern, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
6. October 2002 – May 2005, KC-135 Evaluator Pilot / Flight Commander / Senior Group Executive Officer, 99th Air Refueling Squadron & 19th Air Refueling Group, Robins AFB, Georgia
7. May 2005 – June 2006, Student, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Colorado
8. June 2006 – July 2008, Commander, Cadet Squadron 37, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado
9. July 2008 – June 2009, Operations Officer, 93d Air Refueling Sq, Fairchild AFB, Washington
10. June 2009 – October 2010, Commander, 93d Air Refueling Sq, Fairchild AFB, Washington, & 22d Expeditionary Air Refueling Sq, Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyz Republic
11. October 2010 – July 2011, Special Assistant to the Commander, 92d Air Refueling Wing, Fairchild AFB, Washington; and Chief, Mobility Operations, Air Mobility Division, 609th Air and Space Operations Center, Al Udeid AB, Qatar
12. July 2011 – March 2012, Chief, Conventional Arms Control/Foreign Clearance Program, Strategic Plans & Policy Division, Headquarters Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
13. March 2012 – July 2014, Deputy Chief, Strategic Plans & Policy Division, Headquarters Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., and Chief, Wing Plans & Programs, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing, Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan
15. August 2014 – December 2015, Student, National War College, National Defense University, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C., and T-6 Pilot Instructor Training, Randolph AFB, Texas
16. December 2015 – Present, Vice Commander, 71st Flying Training Wing, Vance AFB, Oklahoma

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: More than 3,300

Aircraft Flown: KC-135, C-5, T-1, T-6 and T-37

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with oak leaf cluster

Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Combat Readiness Medal with oak leaf cluster

National Defense Service Medal

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant June 1, 1994

First Lieutenant June 1, 1996

Captain June 1, 1998

Major July 1, 2004

Lieutenant Colonel March 1, 2009

Colonel June 1, 2015

(Current as of December 2015)