



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM D. BETTS

Brigadier General William D. Betts is the Vice Commander, 1st Air Force and Air Forces Northern Command, Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida. He is the principal advisor to the 1st Air Force Commander and assists in organizing, equipping and operating air defense forces for aerospace warning and control in support of the Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command. As the Deputy Combined Forces Air Component Commander for U.S. Northern Command, he ensures operational readiness of assigned, aligned, or gained forces for homeland defense, defense support to civil authorities, and theater security cooperation missions in North America.



Brigadier General Betts received his commission from the United States Air Force Academy in May 1995. He has served as an F-35 and F-16 Instructor Pilot and an F-16 Weapons Officer. He has operational experience in Far East Asia as well as combat tours in Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, NORTHERN WATCH and IRAQI FREEDOM. He has served as Deputy Chief, Joint Doctrine Division on the Joint Staff and as the Senior Air Defense Officer in the U.K.'s Joint Force Air Component Headquarters. General Betts also served as the Commander, 33rd Operation Support Squadron, Eglin AFB, Florida. Prior to his current position, General Betts served as the Headquarters Air Force A8, Engine Room Chief, Pentagon, Washington D.C.. General Betts is a Command Pilot with over 2,400 flying hours, the majority of which are in the F-16.

EDUCATION

1995, Bachelor of Science, Engineering Science, United States Air Force Academy
2001, Squadron Officer School (Residence)
2009, Advanced Command and Staff College, Shrivenham, U.K. (Residence)
2009, Masters, Political Science, Kings College, London
2014, Air War College (Residence)

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Nov 95 - Mar 97, Student, undergraduate pilot training, Vance AFB, Okla.
2. Mar 97 - Dec 97, Student, F-16 Formal Training Unit, 308th Fighter Squadron, Luke AFB, Ariz.
3. Jan 98 - Oct 00, Electronic Combat Pilot, 77th Fighter Squadron, Shaw AFB, S.C.
4. Oct 00 - Jul 02, Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, 36th Fighter Squadron, Osan AB, Korea
5. Jul 02 - Dec 02, Student, Weapons Instructor Course, 16th Weapons Squadron, Nellis AFB, Nev.
6. Dec 02 - Dec 04, Chief, Weapons and Tactics, 524th Fighter Weapons Squadron, Cannon AFB, N.M.

7. Jan 05 - Jul 08, Director of Operations, 16th Weapons Squadron, Nellis AFB, Nev.
8. Jul 08 - Jul 09, Student, Advanced Command and Staff College, Shrivenham U.K
9. Jul 09 - Jul 10, Senior Air Defense Officer, Joint Force Air Component Headquarters, RAF High Wycombe, United Kingdom
10. Jul10 - May 13, F-35 Initial Cadre, Chief of Safety, 33rd Fighter Wing, Eglin AFB, Fla.
11. May 11 - May 13, Commander, 33rd Operational Support Squadron, Eglin AFB, Fla.
12. May 13 - April 14, Student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
13. May 14 - Jul 16, Deputy Chief, Joint Doctrine Division, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
14. Jul 16 - Jul 17, Commander, 8th Operations Group, Kunsan AB, Korea
15. Jul 17 - Jun 19, Commander, 51st Fighter Wing, Osan AB, Korea
16. Jun 19 - Jun 20, HAF A8, Engine Room Chief, Pentagon, Washington D.C.
17. June 20 - Present, Vice Commander, 1st Air Force and Air Forces Northern Command, Tyndall AFB, Fla.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: 2,400 hours

Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-38, AT-38, F-16, F-18, and F-35

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters Air

Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Army Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster

National Defense Service Medal with bronze service

star Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Korean Defense Service Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 31, 1995

First Lieutenant May 31, 1997

Captain May 31, 1999

Major July 1, 2005

Lieutenant Colonel June 1, 2010

Colonel May 1, 2016

Brigadier General Frocked

(Current as of July 2020)