



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL ERIC J. WYDRA

Colonel Eric J. Wydra is the commander of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. He is responsible for recruiting and overseeing the preparation of more than 16,000 officer candidates through a comprehensive college program at 145 host universities and nearly 1,000 cross-town universities.

Colonel Wydra was commissioned in 1985 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps upon graduating from the University of Illinois with a degree in computer science. He attained a master's degree in computer resource management from Webster University in 1995.

Colonel Wydra is a command pilot with more than 3,900 hours in airlift and air refueling aircraft. Most recently, he was the commander of Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, Detachment 675, at the University of Oklahoma.



EDUCATION

1985 Bachelor of science degree in computer science, University of Illinois

1991 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

1995 Master's degree in computer resource management, Webster University, Mo.

2000 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

2001 Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va.

2007 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. November 1985 – November 1986, student, undergraduate pilot training, Reese AFB, Texas
2. January 1987 – March 1994, C-141 examiner pilot, Special Operations Low-Level (SOLL II) aircraft commander and deputy chief of 437th Operations Group Standardization and Evaluation, 20th Airlift Squadron and 437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, S.C.
3. March 1994 – January 1997, chief of strategic airlift special operations programs, directorate of operations, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Ill.
4. January 1997 – July 1999, KC-10 instructor pilot, flight commander and chief, command and control division, 6th Air Refueling Squadron and 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis AFB, Calif.
5. July 1999 – May 2000, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
6. May 2000 – April 2002, policy and doctrine officer, U.S. Transportation Command, J-5, Scott AFB, Ill.
7. April 2002 – September 2004, operations officer, then commander, 6th Airlift Squadron, McGuire AFB, N.J.
8. September 2004 – July 2006, director of mobility forces, Aviation Tactics and Evaluation Group, Joint Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, N.C.
9. July 2006 – June 2007, student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
10. June 2007 – June 2009, vice commander, 436th Airlift Wing, Dover AFB, Del.
11. June 2009 – July 2010, chief of staff, 18th Air Force, Scott AFB, Ill.
12. July 2010 – July 2013, commander, AFROTC Detachment 675, University of Oklahoma
13. July 2013 – present, Commander, Air Force ROTC, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command pilot

Flight hours: More than 3,900

Aircraft flown: C-141B, C-17 and KC-10

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star Medal

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Force Commendation Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Humanitarian Service Medal

Southwest Asia Service Medal

Afghanistan Campaign Medal

Iraq Campaign Medal

Kuwait Liberation Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 25, 1985

First Lieutenant Aug. 22, 1987

Captain Aug. 22, 1989

Major Sep. 1, 1997

Lieutenant Colonel Dec. 1, 2001

Colonel Dec. 1, 2006

(Current as of July 2013)