



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL WILLIAM P. ROBERTSON

Col. William P. Robertson is the commander of the 182nd Airlift Wing. He is responsible for maintaining the combat readiness of eight C-130 aircraft and more than 1,240 traditional and full-time Illinois Air National Guardsmen, and ensures that all units fulfill their state and federal missions as directed by the appropriate authorities.

Col. Robertson began his military career in 1980 by enlisting in the Illinois Air National Guard as a security policeman while attending Illinois Central College. He was selected for pilot training by the 182nd Tactical Air Support Group, attended the Academy of Military Science in Knoxville, Tennessee, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1983. During his career he has served in roles including forward air controller, air liaison officer and aircraft commander. He was instrumental in the conversion of his unit's flying mission from the OA-37 Dragonfly to the F-16 Fighting Falcon in 1992 and then to the C-130 Hercules in 1995. Col. Robertson has also been involved in the Illinois National Guard's State Partnership Program with the Republic of Poland since the beginning of the alliance in 1993.



Col. Robertson has deployed worldwide in support of Operations DESERT SHIELD, DESERT STORM, SOUTHERN WATCH, JOINT FORGE, ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM. He is a command pilot with more than 4,800 hours of flying various aircraft and is dual-status command qualified. Prior to his current position, the colonel was the commander of the 182nd Operations Group, Peoria, Illinois.

EDUCATION

- 1981 Associates of Science degree in police science technology, Illinois Central College, Peoria, Ill.
- 1983 Bachelors of Science degree in administration of criminal justice, Bradley University, Peoria, Ill.
- 1983 Academy of Military Science, McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tenn.
- 1987 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
- 1996 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2000 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2013 Joint Task Force Commander Course, U.S. Northern Command, Peterson AFB, Colo.
- 2015 Dual Status Commander Orientation Course, U.S. Northern Command, Peterson AFB, Colo.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. August 1983 – August 1984, Undergraduate Pilot Training, 82nd Student Squadron, Williams Air Force Base, Ariz.
2. August 1984 – June 1992, Forward Air Controller, 169th Tactical Air Support Squadron, Peoria, Ill.
3. June 1992 – June 1994, Weapons and Tactics Officer, 169th Fighter Squadron, Peoria, Ill.
4. June 1994 – June 1995, Weapons and Tactics Officer, 169th Airlift Squadron, Peoria, Ill.
5. June 1995 – June 1996, Current Operations Officer, 182nd Operations Support Flight, Peoria, Ill.
6. June 1996 – May 1997, Chief of Current Operations, 182nd Operations Support Flight, Peoria, Ill.
7. June 1997 – August 2004, Operations Group Commander, 182nd Operations Group, Peoria, Ill.
8. August 2004 – Present, Wing Commander, 182nd Airlift Wing, Peoria, Ill.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: More than 4,800

Aircraft flown: T-41, T-37, T-38, OA-37B, C-26, AT-38B, F-16 and C-130

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star Medal

Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal

Army Achievement Medal

STATE AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Illinois Abraham Lincoln Medal of Freedom

Illinois Military Long and Honorable Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters

Illinois Military Attendance Ribbon with '17' device

Illinois State Active Duty Service Ribbon

Louisiana Emergency Service Medal

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Guard Association of the United States (Lifetime Member)

National Guard Association of Illinois (Lifetime Member)

Veterans of Foreign Wars (Lifetime Member)

American Legion

Peoria High School Alumni Association

President, Rotary Club of Peoria

Board member, Goodwill Industries

Board member, YMCA

EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROMOTION

Colonel, March 2001

(Current as of February 2016)