



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL GREGG J. HESTERMAN

Colonel Gregg J. Hesterman is the dual-hatted as the Director of Cyber Mission Transformation and Director of Recruiting and Retention for Joint Force Headquarters, Ohio. As the Director of Cyber Mission Transformation, Hesterman plans and formulates all aspects of the Ohio Air National Guard's transition to the cyber mission for the Adjutant General and Assistant Adjutant General for Air. In this role, he is responsible for coordinating all aspects of the cyber mission transition to include manning, training, contracting and construction. Additionally, he is responsible for the Ohio Air National Guard's efforts to recruit and retain the Airmen necessary to ensure mission success for all four Air wings and five Geographically Separated Units. In this capacity he ensures the capability and success of the recruiting force, as well as the necessary measures to retain these highly trained Airmen. These Airmen execute missions across the globe as well as stateside while performing Domestic Operations in times of need.

Col Hesterman received his commission as a United States Navy Ensign through the Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps program at Iowa State University in December 1991. From there, he was assigned to Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida to begin training as a naval aviator. In January 1994, he received his Navy wings at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas and was assigned to Fleet Reconnaissance Squadron FOUR (VQ-4), stationed at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma while assigned to VQ-4, Col Hesterman also attained qualifications as an E-6A Mercury Aircraft Commander and Mission Commander. In February 1998, he was transferred to Flying Training Squadron Eight (FTS-8), at Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma to become a T-37A Tweet flight instructor. While assigned to FTS-8, he held multiple positions, attaining the role of Flight Commander prior to leaving the Navy in March 2001.



Upon his separation from the Navy, Col Hesterman joined the Air National Guard and became a member of the 121st Air Refueling Wing (ARW) as a KC-135 Stratotanker pilot. As a member of the 121st, he held multiple positions to include Operations Support Flight Commander, Mission Support Group Commander and Vice Wing Commander. He was then assigned to the 178th Wing as the Vice Wing Commander in April, 2017. In November 2017, he took over command of the 178th where he served as the Wing Commander for two years. In November 2019 he was assigned to the Ohio Joint Force Headquarters as the Director of Staff. During his time as the Director of Staff, he was selected as the first Ohio Air officer to serve as a Joint Task Force Commander in the fight against COVID. He served in this role for six months where he led over 1,000 Soldiers, Airmen, and Militiamen across 14 separate mission-sets. He has over 6,100 flying hours in multiple aircraft and has deployed in support of numerous contingency operations to include IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM. Prior to assuming the role as Director of Staff, he served as Commander, 178th Wing, Springfield, Ohio.

EDUCATION

1991 Bachelor of Science, Community & Regional Planning, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa
1994 E-6A Pilot Initial Qualification Course, Tinker AFB, Okla.
1998 T-37B Pilot Instructor Training Course, Randolph AFB, Okla.
2001 KC-135R Pilot Initial Qualification Course, Altus AFB, Okla.
2002 Squadron Officer School, by correspondence
2003 KC-135 Combat Crew Instructor Course, Altus AFB, Okla.
2007 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence
2008 Air War College, by correspondence

2016 Safety & Accident Investigation Board President Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2016 CJCS Level IV Antiterrorism Executive Training, Washington D.C.
2017 MQ-9 Initial Qualification Course, Syracuse ANGB, N.Y.
2021 Joint Commander's Training Course, Fort Carson, C.O.
2022 Dual Status Commander's Course, Peterson SFB, C.O.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. December 1991-January 1992, Naval ROTC Detachment, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa
2. January 1992-August 1992, Aviation Pre-Indoctrination, Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, Fla.
3. August 1992-May 1993, Primary Flight Training, NAS Whiting Field, Fla.
4. May 1993-March 1994, Intermediate & Advance Flight Training, NAS Corpus Christi, Texas
5. March 1994-September 1994, E-6A Pilot Initial Qualification Course, Tinker Air Force Base (AFB), Okla.
6. September 1994-February 1998, E-6A Aircraft & Mission Commander, Maintenance Officer, Operations Scheduling Officer, Ground Safety Officer, Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron FOUR, Tinker AFB, Okla.
7. February 1998-March 2001, T-37B Instructor, Flight Commander, 8th Flying Training Squadron, Vance AFB, Okla.
8. April 2001 - October 2001, KC-135R Pilot, 166th Air Refueling Squadron, Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base (ANGB), Ohio
9. October 2001-April 2008, KC-135 Pilot, Instructor, Evaluator, 145th Air Refueling Squadron, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio
10. April 2008-November 2010, Standardization & Evaluation Pilot, 121st Operations Group, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio
11. November 2010-May 2013, Commander, 121st Operations Support Flight, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio
12. May 2013-January 2015, Commander, 121st Mission Support Group, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio
13. January 2015-April 2017, Vice Commander, 121st Air Refueling Wing, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio
14. April 2017-November 2017, Vice Commander, 178th Wing, Springfield ANGB, Ohio
15. November 2017-November 2019, Commander, 178th Wing, Springfield ANGB, Ohio
16. November 2019-July 2022, Director of Staff, Joint Forces Headquarters, Beightler Armory, Ohio
17. Feb 2021-August 2021 Commander, Joint Task Force Fox, Defense Supply Center Columbus, Ohio
18. July 2022-Present, Ohio National Guard Director, Cyber Mission Transformation/Director, Recruiting and Retention

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: more than 6,100 including over 220 Combat and 70 Combat Support hours

Aircraft flown: T-34C, T-44A, B707-320, E-6A, T-37B, KC-135R/T & MQ-9

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with oak leaf cluster

Aerial Achievement Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal with gold star

ROTC Naval Distinguished Graduate

STATE AWARDS

Ohio Special Service Medal

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

National Guard Association of the United States, Life Member

Ohio National Guard Association, Life Member

Air Force Association

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Ensign December 21, 1991

Lieutenant, Junior Grade December 21, 1993

Lieutenant December 21, 1995

Major November 1, 2002

Lieutenant Colonel November 1, 2009

Colonel December 20, 2013

(Current as of August 2022)