



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL TONY ESTEP

Lieutenant Colonel Tony Estep is the Commander and Professor of Aerospace Studies, Detachment 800, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) at The University of Tennessee. He is responsible for recruiting, educating, training, motivating, selecting and commissioning officer candidates through the AFROTC program at the University of Tennessee and its crosstown school. AFROTC provides academic instruction on fundamental Air Force doctrine, practical leadership experience, and extensive field training, emphasizing officership and physical fitness to prepare future officers for active duty in the United States Air and Space Forces.



Lt Col Estep grew up in Blackwater, VA and enlisted in the Air Force in 1992 as a Tactical Aircraft Maintenance Technician. He obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Education from Wayland Baptist University and earned a commission in 2003 through Officer Training School at Maxwell AFB, AL. Additionally, Lt Col Estep completed a Master's of Science degree in Aviation Management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

His operational experience spans the tactical to strategic levels which includes over 700 flight hours on the USSTRATCOM Airborne Command Post as an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Airborne Launch Control Officer and Nuclear Strike Advisor. Additionally, he has served in several different nuclear enterprise assignments at the Wing, MAJCOM, Combatant Command, and Headquarters level, and has deployed in support of Operations INDY-BACKFILL, Kwang-Ju AB, Republic of Korea and ENDURING FREEDOM, Kabul, Afghanistan.

EDUCATION

1997 Airman Leadership School, Elmendorf AFB, AK
2001 Bachelor of Science Degree in Occupational Education, Wayland Baptist University
2004 Aerospace Basic Course, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, in-residence
2008 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, in-residence
2011 Master of Science Degree in Aviation Management, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
2013 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Dec 92 - Feb 93, Student, Aircraft Maintenance Technical School, Sheppard AFB, TX
2. Feb 93 - May 93, Student, F-15E Aircraft Maintenance Field Training, Luke AFB, AZ
3. May 93 - Jun 96, F-15E Apprentice Maintenance Technician, 334th FS, Seymour Johnson AFB, NC
4. Jun 96 - Jan 03, F-15E Craftsman Maintenance Technician, 90th FS, Elmendorf AFB, AK
5. Jan 03 - Apr 03, Student Officer Training School, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
6. Apr 03 - Dec 03, Student Space & Missile Technical School, 392nd TS, Vandenberg AFB, CA
7. Dec 03 - Jun 06, ICBM Deputy Crew Cmdr & Assistant Flight Cmdr, 564th MS, Malmstrom AFB, MT
8. Jun 06 - Dec 07, ICBM Crew Cmdr & Courseware Instructor, 341 OSS, Malmstrom AFB, MT
9. Dec 07 - Jun 08, Chief, ICBM Training Products, 341 OSS, Malmstrom AFB, MT
10. Jun 08 - Apr 09, Wpns & Tactics Instructor & Deputy Assistant OSK, 341 OSS, Malmstrom AFB, MT
11. Apr 09 - Dec 10, ABNCP ALCS Officer & Intelligence Planner, 625th STOS, Offutt AFB, NE
12. Dec 10 - Jun 11, Chief, ALCS Test and Evaluation, 625th STOS, Offutt AFB, NE
13. Jun 11 - Jul 12, Chief, ALCS Training, 625th STOS, Offutt AFB, NE
14. Jul 12 - Jul 13, J7 Deputy Director of Education & Training, 438th AEW, Kabul, Afghanistan

15. Jan 14 - Mar 15, ABNCP Strike Advisor/ALCS Officer, USSTRATCOM J3, Offutt AFB, NE
16. Mar 15 - Apr 16, Executive Officer, Deputy Director Global Ops, USSTRATCOM J3, Offutt, AFB, NE
17. Apr 16 - May 17, Special Assistant to the Commander, USSTRATCOM CAG, Offutt, AFB, NE
18. Jun 17 - Feb 18, Branch Chief, Nuclear Strategy & Wargaming Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
19. Feb 18 - May 19, Branch Chief, Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction - Joint Strategic Capabilities, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
20. May 19 - Jun 20 Senior Executive Officer, Deputy Chief of Staff Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
21. Jul 20- Present, Commander, AFROTC Detachment 800, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Aerial Achievement Medal
Combat Readiness Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Air Force Achievement Medal
Nuclear Deterrence Operations Medal with "N" Device and two oak leaf clusters
Afghanistan Campaign Medal with bronze star
Global War on Terrorism Medal
Korea Defense Service Medal
NATO ISAF Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant April 4, 2003
First Lieutenant April 4, 2005
Captain April 4, 2007
Major February 1, 2013
Lieutenant Colonel January 1, 2018

(Current as of Aug 2020)