



Biography

Air Mobility Command

Scott Air Force Base, Illinois 62245

COLONEL MICHAEL A. FERNANDEZ (Retired from AF 1 Feb 2011)



Colonel Michael A. Fernandez is the Director of Operations, 618th Tanker Airlift Control Center, Scott AFB, Illinois. As the Director of Operations, Colonel Fernandez provides leadership and direction for the 18th Air Force Commander's Air Operations Center providing command and control of over 900 missions per day, around the clock, 365 days per year. Missions include tanker, airlift, aeromedical, Presidential and special operations. Colonel Fernandez personally supervised Air Mobility Command's crisis response involving relief efforts supporting the Haitian earthquake, Icelandic volcano eruption, Gulf oil spill, Chilean earthquake, and the Presidential order of 30,000 additional troop buildup to Afghanistan. Colonel Fernandez is a Master Navigator with more than 2,200 hours of flight time, including 126 hours of combat time, primarily in KC-135 aircraft. After completing Air Force navigator training at Mather AFB CA, he served flying tours at Grissom AFB IN, Castle AFB CA, Scott AFB IL, and MacDill AFB, FL. During his aviation service, Colonel Fernandez has served as an Operations Group Deputy Commander,

Expeditionary Ops Group Deputy Commander at Manas Air Base, Republic of Kyrgyzstan during Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM, Operations Officer during Operation DENY FLIGHT and Operation ALLIED FORCE, deployed aircrew member during Operation DESERT SHIELD, Howard Tanker Task Force Assistant Operations Officer, Republic of Panama, and as an Operations Support Squadron Commander. His staff assignments include two tours at Headquarters Air Mobility Command and the standup of the initial cadre for the Tanker Airlift Control Center. Colonel Fernandez' academic credits include two master's degrees and he is a resident graduate of all three Air Force Professional Military Education schools; Squadron Officer School (SOS), Air Command and Staff College (ACSC), and Air War College (AWC). Colonel Fernandez is a 1982 graduate of California State University, Sacramento and is married to the former Cindy Dyer of Rancho Cordova, CA.

EDUCATION:

- 1982 Bachelor of arts degree in Criminal Justice, California State University, Sacramento
- 1986 Squadron Officer School (Correspondence)
- 1986 Master of arts degree in Executive Development, Ball State University
- 1989 Squadron Officer School (Residence)
- 1995 Air Command & Staff College (Residence)
- 2002 Master of arts degree in Strategic Studies, Air War College (Residence)

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. 1982-1983 Undergraduate Navigator Training, Mather AFB CA
2. 1984 KC-135 Initial Qualification, Castle AFB CA
3. 1984-1989 Navigator, Instructor Navigator, Evaluator Navigator, & Current Ops Officer, 305th Air Refueling Squadron & 305th Air Refueling Airlift Wing, Grissom AFB IN

4. 1989-1992 CCTS Instructor Navigator, Chief KC-135 Scheduling, & Faculty Chief, KC-135 Navigator Academics, 93rd AREFS, 330th CFIS, and 93rd Bombardment Wing, Castle AFB CA
5. 1992-1994 Chief, Atlantic Exercises, JCS Exercise and Contingency Division, Tanker Airlift Control Center, Scott AFB IL
6. 1994-1995 Student, Air Command & Staff College, Maxwell AFB AL
7. 1995-1999 Chief, KC-135 Aircrew Training, Executive Officer, Chief, Tanker Training Branch, Operations and Training Division, Directorate of Operations, HQ AMC, Scott AFB IL
8. 1999-2000 Commander, 6th Operations Support Squadron, MacDill AFB FL
9. 2000-2001 Deputy Commander, 6th Operations Group, MacDill AFB FL
10. 2001-2002 Student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB AL
11. 2002-2005 Tanker Requirements Branch Chief, Deputy Chief, Studies and Analysis Division, and Chief, Doctrine and Policy Division, Directorate of Plans and Programs, HQ AMC, Scott AFB IL
12. 2005-2007 Commander, 570th Contingency Response Group, 615th Contingency Response Wing, Travis AFB CA. (Served as AMC/CC's Accident Investigation Board President for C-130 mishap at Al Asad AB, Iraq.)
13. 2007-2009 Deputy Chief, Aircrew Stanardization Evaluation Division, Directorate of Air, Space and Information Operations, HQ AMC, Scott AFB IL
14. 2009-2011 Director of Operations, 618th Air Operations Center, 18th Air Force, Scott AFB IL

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Master Navigator
 Flight hours: 2200; 126 Combat
 Aircraft flown T-37; T-43; C-130; KC-135A/D/R/T, EC-135G/L, KC-10, C-17

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Legion of Merit (OLC)
 Bronze Star
 Air Force Meritorious Service Medal (4 OLC)
 Air Medal
 Air Force Commendation Medal
 Air Force Achievement Medal (3 OLC)
 Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (3 OLC)
 Air Force Organizational Excellence Award (4 OLC)
 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
 Combat Readiness Medal (1 OLC)
 National Defense Service Medal (Bronze Star)
 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
 Afghanistan Campaign Medal
 Global War On Terrorism Service Medal
 Armed Forces Service Medal
 Humanitarian Service Medal
 Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant Oct 82
 First Lieutenant Oct 84
 Captain Oct 86
 Major Oct 94
 Lieutenant Colonel May 99
 Colonel Mar 05