



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL MICHAEL P. CRUFF

Colonel Michael Cruff is the Vice Commander, 932d Airlift Wing, Scott Air Force Base, IL. The wing, comprised of over 1,100 mission-ready Citizen Airmen, supports our national interests word-wide by providing distinguished visitor airlift, ground and aeromedical patient care and expeditionary combat support.

Colonel Cruff was commissioned in 1995 through the AFROTC program at University of Massachusetts-Lowell and attended Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Upon graduation, he was assigned to McGuire AFB, NJ where he served as a KC-10 Instructor Pilot and Chief Executive Officer. Colonel Cruff transitioned to Andrews AFB, Maryland, where he operated the C-21A and served as a Flight Commander, Chief of STAN/EVAL, Chief of Mobility and Assistant Director of Operations.

Colonel Cruff joined the Air Force Reserve unit program at McGuire AFB, New Jersey in 2005 where he employed the KC-10A. He served the 514th Air Mobility Wing as a Flight Commander, Assistant Chief Pilot and Northeast Tanker Task Force Director of Operations. He was selected for command of the 78th Air Refueling Squadron where his organization was partially-mobilized for his entire tenure in command. Colonel Cruff then served as the Deputy Operations Group Commander, 514th Operations Group, 514th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey.



He has commanded combat and combat support missions in support of operations Allied Force, Desert Fox, Southern Watch, Desert Strike, Phoenix Scorpion, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn. Colonel Cruff has deployed/mobilized twelve times and has served as a deployed Director of Operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom.

Prior to his current assignment Colonel Cruff served as the commander of the 954th Reserve Support Squadron and as Chief, United States Transportation Command Deployment Distribution Operations Center, Scott AFB, IL.

Colonel Cruff is a command pilot with more than 4,400 military flight hours.

EDUCATION

1995 Bachelor of Science, Public Administration, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, Lowell, Massachusetts
2000 Air Mobility Operations Course, US Air Force Expeditionary Center, Fort Dix, NJ
2001 Air Mobility Command High Flight Course, Scott AFB, IL
2002 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL
2010 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL (by correspondence)
2010 Masters of Military Operational Art and Science, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
2011 Advanced Leadership Course, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
2012 Reserve Component National Security Course, National Defense University, Ft. Leslie J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
2013 Headquarters Air Force Reserve Orientation Course, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
2013 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, AL (by correspondence)
2016 Joint Combined Warfighters School - Hybrid, Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, VA

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 1995 – May 1996, Special Assistant to the Commander, AFROTC Det 345, Lowell, MA.
2. May 1996 – June 1997, Student, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, Columbus AFB, MS.
3. June 1997 – September 2001, KC-10 Instructor Pilot and Squadron Executive Officer, 2d Air Refueling Squadron, McGuire AFB, NJ.

4. September 2001 – June 2005, C-21 Evaluator Pilot, Flight Commander, Chief of STAN/EVAL and Assistant Director of Operations, Andrews AFB, MD.
5. June 2005 - June 2012, KC-10 Instructor/Evaluator Pilot, Flight Commander and Assistant Chief Pilot, 78th Air Refueling Squadron, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ.
6. June 2012 – June 2016, Commander, 78th Air Refueling Squadron, 514th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ.
7. June 2016 – April 2017, Deputy Commander, 514th Operations Group, 514th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ.
8. April 2017 – November 2018, Commander, 954th Reserve Support Squadron, Joint Transportation Reserve Unit; and Chief, USTRANSCOM Deployment Distribution Operations Center, Scott AFB, IL.
9. November 2018 – Present, Vice Commander, 932d Airlift Wing, Scott AFB, IL.

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. April 2017 – November 2018, Chief, USTRANSCOM Deployment Distribution Operations Center, Scott AFB, IL, as a colonel

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: more than 4,400

Aircraft flown: T-3, T-37, T-1, C-21A, KC-10A

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters

Air Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Meritorious Unit Award

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device

Air Force Organizational Excellence Award

Combat Readiness Medal with seven oak leaf clusters

National Defense Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Kosovo Campaign Medal with oak leaf cluster

Afghanistan Campaign Medal with oak leaf cluster

Iraq Campaign Medal with oak leaf cluster

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Humanitarian Service Medal

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border

Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with five oak leaf clusters

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 3 "M" Devices

Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Training Ribbon with oak leaf cluster

NATO Medal

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Air Mobility Command Aircrew of the Year

Distinguished Graduate KC-10 Aircraft Commander Upgrade Training

Distinguished Graduate Squadron Officer School

Distinguished Graduate AFROTC

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 1995

First Lieutenant May 1997

Captain May 1999

Major September 2005

Lieutenant Colonel October 2011

Colonel May 2017

(Current as of December 2018)

