



# BIOGRAPHY



**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

## COLONEL ERIC D. BADGER

Colonel Eric D. Badger is the Director of Public Affairs, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. As director, he is responsible for public affairs counsel and support to the commander and headquarters staff, as well as for more than 60,000 personnel at 25 wings, 11 bases and five geographically separated groups. The public affairs staff develops communication strategies to promote public understanding of the command's missions and activities, as well as those of the United States Air Force.



Col. Badger commissioned in 2000 as a graduate of the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Duke University. He has held assignments at the wing, task force, numbered air force, and joint headquarters levels. His last assignment was Deputy Director of Public Affairs, Headquarters, Air Combat Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA.

## EDUCATION

1998 Basic Military Training, Westover Air Reserve Base, MA  
2000 Bachelor of Arts Degree in English, North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC  
2000 Public Affairs Officer Qualification Course, Defense Information School, Fort Meade, MD  
2001 LEADS program, Leadership Development Course, Randolph AFB, TX  
2003 Master of Arts degree in Human Resources, Webster University, Merritt Island, FL  
2004 Information Warfare Applications Course, Maxwell AFB, AL  
2005 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL, in residence  
2008 Joint Intermediate Public Affairs Course, Fort Meade, MD  
2010 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL, by correspondence  
2012 Space Fundamentals Course, Peterson AFB, CO  
2020 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, AL, by correspondence

## ASSIGNMENTS

1. July 2000 – June 2003, Chief of Internal Information and Media Relations, 45th Space Wing, Patrick AFB, FL
2. June 2003 – June 2006, Deputy Chief of Public Affairs, 3rd Wing, Elmendorf AFB, AK
3. June 2006 – August 2008, Chief of Public Affairs, 96th Air Base Wing, Eglin AFB, FL
4. August 2008 – August 2011, Trainer/Instructor/Observer, Joint Public Affairs Support Element, U.S. Joint Forces Command, Suffolk, VA
5. August 2011 – August 2012, Director of Public Affairs, 7th Air Force, Osan AB, Korea
6. September 2012 – October 2014, Media Operations Officer, Secretary of the Air Force Public

Affairs, Pentagon, Washington, D.C

7. October 2014 – July 2017, Defense Press Officer, Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

8. July 2017 – August 2019, Commander, American Forces Network-Pacific, Yokota AB, Japan

9. August 2019 – June 2022, Deputy Director of Public Affairs, Headquarters, Air Combat Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA

10. June 2022 – Present, Director of Public Affairs, Headquarters, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.

## **DEPLOYMENTS**

1. September 2005 – January 2006, Chief of Public Affairs, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, Operation Enduring Freedom, Al Udeid AB, Qatar

2. October 2007 – March 2008, Media Operations Officer, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Balad AB, Iraq

3. October 2009 – March 2010, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, Joint Task Force 435, Kabul, Afghanistan

4. March – April 2011, Public Affairs Officer, HQ U.S. Africa Command, Operation Odyssey Dawn, Patch Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany, U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Crete, and Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily, Italy

5. October 2020 – April 2021, Executive Officer, Communication Integration Directorate, United States Central Command, MacDill AFB, FL

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Joint Service Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Joint Service Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Joint Meritorious Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster

AF Outstanding Unit Award

National Defense Service Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Korean Defense Service Medal

NATO Medal

## **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant June 12, 2000

First Lieutenant June 12, 2002

Captain June 12, 2004

Major May 1, 2010

Lieutenant Colonel February 1, 2016

Colonel September 1, 2022

(Current as of September 2022)