



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL BRIAN F. NICHOLAS

Lt Col Brian F. Nicholas currently serves as the commander of Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) Detachment 128 hosted at the University of Delaware. He directs a college-level Air and Space Force officer training program as the Chairman of Aerospace Studies Department and is a Professor of National Security Studies. Detachment 128 comprises cadets from the University of Delaware, Delaware State University, Wilmington University, and Delaware Technical Community College. Before assuming his current position, Lt Col Nicholas was the Chief of the B-21 Raider Program Integration Office, Air Force Global Strike Command, Whiteman AFB, MO.

Lt Col Nicholas received his commission from the University of Pittsburgh AFROTC in 2007. He currently holds both a Navigator and Senior Pilot ratings with over 3000 flying hours in T-43, T-1A, T-38A/C, T-6A, KC-135R/T, C-12C/D, E-11A, and B-52H. He has flown combat missions in operations Inherent Resolve, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, and Unified Protector.



EDUCATION

2007 Bachelors of Science degree in Electrical Engineering, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa.
2008 Air and Space Basic Course, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
2010 Squadron Officer School, in correspondence
2014 Masters of Science in Electrical Engineering, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Ks.
2014 Squadron Officer School, in residence
2018 Air Command and Staff College, in correspondence
2020 Defense Acquisition University, Test & Evaluation Level I Certificate
2023 Air War College, in correspondence
2025 Army War College, Master of National Strategic Studies

ASSIGNMENTS

1. February 2008 - March 2009, Student, Undergraduate Navigator Training, 12th Flying Training Wing, Randolph AFB, Tx.
2. March 2009 - September 2009, Student, KC-135R/T Initial Qualification Training, McConnell AFB, Ks.
3. September 2009 - June 2011, Readiness Flight Officer/Navigator, 349th Air Refueling Squadron, McConnell AFB, Ks.
4. January 2011 – Jun 2012, Tanker Liaison Officer, 609 Air Operations Center, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar
5. June 2011 - June 2012, Training Flight Officer/Instructor Navigator, 349th Air Refueling Squadron, McConnell AFB, Ks.
6. July 2012 - November 2013, Student, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, 80th Flying Training Wing, Sheppard AFB, Tx.
7. November 2013 - January 2015, Student, B-52H Initial Qualification Training, Barksdale AFB, La.
8. January 2015 - January 2017, B-52 Pilot/Flight Commander, 96th Bomb Squadron, Barksdale AFB, La.
9. January 2017 - August 2019, B-52 Instructor Pilot/Wing Datalinks Manager, 2d Operations Support Squadron Barksdale AFB, La.
10. August 2019 – January 2022, Chief of Bomber Test Operations, Detachment 5, Air Force Operational Test & Evaluation Center, Edwards AFB, Ca.
11. January 2022 – September 2023, Director of Plans and Programs, 509 Bomb Wing, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
12. January 2023 – August 2023, Director of Operations/Chief Pilot, 430 Expeditionary Electronic Combat Squadron, Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia
13. September 2023 – July 2024, Chief B-21 Program Integration Office, Air Force Global Strike Command, Whiteman AFB, Mo
14. July 2024 – Present, Commander Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 128, Newark, DE

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Aeronautical Ratings: Senior Pilot and Navigator

Flight hours: over 3000 (1470 Combat)

Aircraft flown: T-43, T-1A, T-38A/C, T-6A, KC-135R/T, C-12C/D, E-11A, and B-52H.

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters

Air Medal with 8 Oak Leaf Clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster

Air and Space Commendation Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters

Air and Space Achievement Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster

Iraq Campaign Medal with 1 Service Star

Afghanistan Campaign Medal 1 Service Star

Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal 1 Oak Leaf Cluster

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with "N" device

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border and 4 Oak Leaf Clusters

PAPERS

Bomber Operations in Multi-Domain Battle, May 2019

Leveraging Short-Term Commercial Solutions to Compliment Long-Term Modernization Goals, October 2017

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant December 27, 2007

First Lieutenant December 27, 2009

Captain December 27, 2011

Major September 1, 2017

Lieutenant Colonel July 1, 2022

(Current as of August 2024)