



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL JAMES G. YOUNG

Colonel James G. Young is the Commander, 317th Airlift Wing, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. As commander, Colonel Young leads Mobility Air Force operations on the installation for C-130J tactical airlift. He is responsible for organizing, training, and equipping 1,200 combat-ready personnel who operate, maintain, and sustain 28 C-130J aircraft. He provides for the health and welfare of the wing and its families, ensuring successful engagement in global combat, contingency, and humanitarian aerial delivery operations to meet combatant commander's requirements.

Colonel Young is a native of South Carolina and earned his commission from the United States Air Force Academy in 1998. He completed pilot training at Corpus Christi Naval Air Station, Texas, and has extensive tactical airlift experience, including six operational flying assignments and numerous deployments to Southwest Asia in support of combat operations. Colonel Young has previously served at the Wing, Numbered Air Force, Major Command, and Combatant Command levels. His preceding command was at the 86th Operations Group, Ramstein Air Base, Germany which provided the European and African theaters with airlift and aeromedical evacuation support, to include combat ready air transportation, rapidly-deployable equipment, supplies and people. Colonel Young is a graduate of the USAF Weapons School and the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies (SAASS). He is a command pilot with over 3,000 hours, primarily in the C-130.



EDUCATION

- 1998 Bachelor of Science in History, United States Air Force Academy, Colorado
- 2003 Distinguished Graduate, Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
- 2005 US Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nevada
- 2009 Master of Arts in Airpower History, American Military University, Manassas, Virginia
- 2010 Distinguished Graduated, Master of Arts in Military Operation Arts and Science, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
- 2011 Master of Philosophy in Military Strategy, School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB Alabama

ASSIGNMENTS

1. January 1999 - June 1999, student, undergraduate pilot training, Columbus AFB, Mississippi
2. July 1999 - February 2000, student, undergraduate pilot training, NAS Corpus Christi, Texas
3. March 2000 - August 2003, C-130 copilot and aircraft commander, 50th Airlift Squadron, Little Rock AFB, Arkansas
4. August 2003 - August 2006, instructor pilot, executive officer, USAF Weapons School, and Chief, Weapons and Tactics, 517th Airlift Squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
5. August 2006 - June 2009, Chief, Standardization and Evaluations, 40th Airlift Squadron, and Chief standardization and evaluations pilot, 317th Airlift Group Dyess AFB, Texas
6. July 2009 - June 2010, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
7. July 2010 - June 2011, student, School of Advance Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
8. July 2011 - August 2013, Command building partnership strategist and Chief, Operational and Adaptive Plans branch (Africa), Headquarters US Air Forces Europe, Ramstein AB, Germany
9. September 2013 - May 2014, Director of Operations, 86th Operations Support Squadron, Ramstein AB, Germany
10. June 2014 - June 2015, Commander, 386 Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, Ali al Salem AB, Kuwait
11. June 2015 - July 2016, Executive Officer to the Commander, Eighteenth Air Force
12. July 2016 - June 2017, Command Strategist, United States Transportation Command
13. June 2017 - August 2018, Chief, Commander's Action Group
14. August 2018 - July 2020, Commander, 86th Operations Group, Ramstein AB, Germany
15. July 2020 - Present, Commander, 317 Airlift Wing, Dyess AFB, Texas

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot Flight

hours: More than 3,000

Aircraft flown: C-130E/H, C-130J, T-37 and T-44

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Superior Service Medal

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Force Combat Action Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 27, 1998

First Lieutenant May 27, 2000

Captain May 27, 2002

Major Oct. 01, 2007

Lieutenant Colonel Feb. 01, 2013

Colonel Oct. 01, 2017

(Current as of July 2020)