



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL RICHARD R. DICKENS

Col. Richard R. Dickens is the Commander, 505th Command and Control Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla. The mission of the 505th CCW is to shape the way joint and coalition warfighters execute command and control (C2) of multi-domain operations. As commander, Col. Dickens is responsible for C2 training, exercises, operational test and evaluation, radar evaluation and optimization, experimentation, and tactics development.

Col. Dickens received a Bachelor of Arts in English Education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1994. He entered the Air Force through commission from Officer Training School in 1997 and is a graduate of both Joint Undergraduate Navigator Training at Naval Air Station Pensacola in 1998 and Joint Undergraduate Pilot Training at Vance Air Force Base, Okla., in 2002.

Col. Dickens is a Command Pilot and previous Instructor Pilot (IP) with more than 2,600 hours in the F-15E, including 688 combat hours. He has participated in Operations IRAQI FREEDOM, ENDURING FREEDOM, and FREEDOM'S SENTINEL. Prior to his current position, the colonel was the Director of Operations, 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force-Afghanistan and NATO Air Command-Afghanistan, Headquarters Resolute Support, Kabul, Afghanistan.



EDUCATION

1994 Bachelor of Arts, English Education, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
2004 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2008 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
2010 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2010 Master of Science in Aeronautics, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
2012 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
2016 National War College, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. April 1997 – September 1998, Student Navigator, Joint Undergraduate Navigator Training, NAS Pensacola, Fla.
2. September 1998 – December 1999, Student F-15E Weapons System Officer (WSO), 333rd Fighter Squadron, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.
3. December 1999 – October 2001, Assistant Chief of Mission Planning and F-15E WSO, 336th Fighter Squadron (FS), Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
4. October 2001 – December 2002, Student Pilot, Joint Undergraduate Pilot Training, Vance AFB, Okla.
5. December 2002 – April 2003, Student Pilot, Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals, Moody AFB, Ga.
6. April 2003 – February 2004, Student F-15E Pilot, 333rd FS, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

7. February 2004 – September 2006, Flight Commander, Assistant Director of Operations (ADO), and F-15E Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner, 494th FS, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom
8. September 2006 – June 2007, Student IP, 333rd FS, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
9. June 2007 – October 2008, Special Assistant to the Commander and Formal Training Unit IP, 333rd FS, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
10. October 2008 – June 2009, Director of Staff & FTU IP, 4th Fighter Wing, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
11. July 2009 – June 2010, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
12. June 2010 – July 2011, Student, School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
13. July 2011 – July 2012, Strategy Plans Team Chief, 607th Air Operations Center, Republic of Korea
14. July 2012 – September 2012, Student Pilot, F-15E Transition Course, 334th FS, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
15. September 2012 – May 2013, DO, 366th Operations Support Squadron, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho
16. May 2013 – May 2015, Commander, 391st Fighter Squadron, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho
17. August 2015 – June 2016, Student, National War College, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
18. June 2016 – May 2018, Commander, 4th Operations Group, 4th Fighter Wing, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
19. May 2018 – June 2019, DO, 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force-Afghanistan and NATO Air Command-Afghanistan, Headquarters Resolute Support, Kabul, Afghanistan
20. June 2019 – present, Commander, 505th Command and Control Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: command pilot

Flight hours: more than 2,650

Aircraft flown: F-15E, T-34, T-1, T-39, T-37, T-38, AT-38C

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star

Meritorious Service Medal with five devices

Air Medal with five devices

Air Force Commendation Medal

Meritorious Unit Award with device

AF Outstanding Unit Award with four devices

Combat Readiness Medal with device

National Defense Service Medal

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Afghanistan Campaign Medal with device

Iraq Campaign Medal with device

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Korean Defense Service Medal

AF Overseas Ribbon Short

AF Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border and two devices

AF Longevity Service with three devices

NATO Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant Apr. 18, 1997

First Lieutenant Apr. 18, 1999

Captain Apr. 18, 2001

Major Oct. 1, 2006

Lieutenant Colonel Dec. 1, 2011

Colonel May 1, 2016

(Current as of June 2021)