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BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL RONALD A. HOPKINS

Colonel Ronald A. Hopkins is the Director of Operations for the National Security Agency-Colorado, where he provides direction and operational guidance to an 1100 member team of Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine, Coast Guard, Allies, civilian and contractor personnel.

Col. Hopkins is from Louisville, Ky. and received his commission from the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Louisville in 1996. He provides 25 years of combat experience working with various combat aircraft and a multitude of intelligence, space, and cyberspace programs and sources. Colonel Hopkins deployed multiple times to the Middle East, Europe, and Central/South America executing combat operations.

His last assignment was as the Deputy Director for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Operations and Plans, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe and U.S. Air Forces Africa (HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA), Ramstein Air Base, Germany.



EDUCATION

- 1993 Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and History, Teaching Eligibility Certificate, Morehead State University, Morehead, Ky.
- 1996 Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky.
- 1997 Fundamentals of Intelligence Course, Goodfellow AFB, Texas
- 1999 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2003 Master of Arts, Public Administration, Florida International University, Miami, Fla.
- 2007 Distinguished Graduate, ISR Operations Course, Goodfellow AFB, Texas
- 2008 Air Force Legislative Fellow, Office of Senator McCaskill (Missouri), Washington, D.C.
- 2012 Air War College, by correspondence
- 2017 Master of Strategic Studies, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 1996-October 1996, Special Assistant to the Commander, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) Detachment 295, Air Education and Training Command, University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky.
2. November 1996-July 1997, Student, 315 Training Squadron (TRS), Goodfellow AFB, Tex.
3. July 1997-May 1999, Combat Intelligence Operations Officer, 317 Operational Support Squadron (OSS), Dyess AFB, Tex.

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4. May 1999-May 2000, Chief of Intelligence, 39 Airlift Squadron (AS), Dyess AFB, Tex.
5. May 2000-August 2003, Collection Planner/Chief Geospatial Information and Services, United States Southern Command, Miami, Fla.
6. August 2003-November 2006, Assistant Director of Operations/Division Chief, 93 Intelligence Squadron (IS), Lackland AFB, Tex.
7. November 2006-June 2007, Chief, Company Grade Officer Assignments, Headquarters (HQ) Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Tex.
8. June 2007-December 2008, Student, Office of Legislative Liaison, Secretary of the Air Force (HAF), Pentagon, Washington D.C.
9. December 2008-May 2009, Chief, Central Command ISR Strategy Branch, Air Force (AF) ISR Agency, Det 1, Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.
10. May 2009-August 2011, Director of Operations, 30 IS, Langley AFB, Va.
11. August 2011-June 2012, Chief of Warfighting Integrations, 480 ISR Wing, Langley AFB, Va.
12. June 2012-July 2014, Commander, 381 IS and Commander, National Security Agency (NSA) Alaska Mission Operations Center (AMOC), Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska
13. July 2014-August 2015: Deputy Commander, 544th ISR Group; Peterson AFB, Colo.
14. August 2015-July 2016; Deputy Division Chief, AFSPC A2/3/6Y Battle Management, Peterson AFB, Colo.
15. July 2016-July 2017, Student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
16. July 2017- Mar 2019, Division Chief, Innovation & Transformation Office, HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A8B, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.
17. March 2019-July 2020, Deputy Director for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Operations and Plans, HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA/A2, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.
18. July 2020-Present, National Security Agency Colorado Director of Operations, Aerospace Data Facility Colorado, Buckley Air Force Base

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit
Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Meritorious Service Medal with one silver oak leaf cluster
Joint Service Commendation
Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 1996
First Lieutenant May 1998
Captain May 2000
Major June 2006
Lieutenant Colonel August 2011
Colonel October 2017

(Current as of June 2021)

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