



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL RYAN B. NICHOLS

Lieutenant Colonel Ryan B. Nichols graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado in 1993 where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering Sciences. After graduation, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols moved to Columbus AFB, Mississippi where, while awaiting Undergraduate Pilot Training, he worked in the Base Exercise Evaluation Team (BEET) office. After completing Undergraduate Pilot Training, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols attended the Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals (IFF) course, also at Columbus AFB. Following IFF, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols was assigned to the 309th Fighter Training Squadron at Luke AFB, Arizona where he was a student in the F-16 Fighter Training Unit (FTU). After graduating from FTU in the spring of 1996, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols was part of the initial F-16 cadre assigned to the 522nd FS at Cannon AFB, New Mexico. He worked as the air to ground weapons officer and Chief of Training in the 522nd FS. Following Cannon AFB, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols was assigned as an instructor pilot and Chief of Scheduling to the 80th FS, 8th FW, Kunsan AB, Republic of Korea. Following his Kunsan AB assignment, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols attended formal training at Randolph AFB, Texas to become an Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals instructor pilot assigned as initial cadre to the 19th AF, Detachment 1 at Moody AFB, Georgia. While the IFF mission stood up at Moody AFB and during his assignment with the 49th Fighter Training Squadron, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols served as a Flight Commander and Assistant Director of Operations. During this time, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols was also initial cadre and dual qualified for the transition from the AT-38B to the T-38C for the IFF mission. Following Moody AFB, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols attended the F-16 transition course enroute to Spangdahlem AB, Germany. Lieutenant Colonel Nichols flew as an F-16CJ instructor pilot and evaluator at Spangdahlem AB. He worked as an Assistant Director of Operations, Chief of Group Standardization and Evaluation, as well as Chief of Wing Plans, Programs, and Inspections. During this time Lieutenant Colonel Nichols won the USAFE Koren Kolligian award for an emergency he handled while on a Presidential support mission over Europe. Following Spangdahlem AB, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols was assigned to the 603rd Air and Space Operations Center, Ramstein AB, Germany. As part of the 603rd AOC, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols worked as Chief, Master Air Attack Planning (MAAP) cell and Deputy Chief for the Combat Plans Division. In July 2008, he moved to the Strategy Division to work as Chief of the Strategy Guidance Team. After an F-16 transition course at Kelly ANGB, Texas, Lieutenant Colonel Nichols became the Director of Operations for the 57th Operations Support Squadron, Nellis AFB, Nevada where he served until September 2010. Later that month Lieutenant Colonel Nichols took command of the 738th Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron, NATO Air Training Command-Afghanistan, stationed at Kabul International Airport where he commands advisors assisting the development of the Afghan Air Force.

EDUCATION:

- 1993 Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Sciences, United States Air Force Academy
- 1998 Squadron Officers School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
- 2003 Air Command and Staff College (correspondence) Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
- 2006 Master of Aeronautical Science, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Fla.
- 2007 Leadership Program for Advanced Security Studies, George C. Marshall Center for European Security Studies
- 2007 NATO Staff Officer Orientation Course, George C. Marshall Center for European Security Studies
- 2008 Air War College (correspondence) Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Aug 1993 - Jan 1994, Base Exercise Evaluation Team, Columbus AFB, MS.
2. Feb 1994 – Feb 1995, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Columbus AFB, MS.
3. Feb 1995 – Apr 1995, Student, Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals, Columbus AFB, MS.
4. May 1995 – Feb 1996, Student, F-16 Fighter Training Unit, 309th FTS, Luke AFB, AZ.
5. Feb 1996 – Feb 1999, F-16 Pilot, Air to Ground Weapons Officer, Chief of Training, 522nd FS, Cannon AFB, NM.

6. Feb 1999 – Feb 2000, F-16 Instructor Pilot, Chief of Scheduling, 80th FS, Kunsan AB, ROK.
7. Feb 2000 – Jun 2000, Student, Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals Instructor Course, Randolph AFB, TX.
8. Jun 2000 – Oct 2003, AT-38B/T-38C Instructor Pilot, Flight Commander, Assistant Director of Operations, 49th FTS, Moody AFB, GA.
9. Oct 2003 – Jan 2004, Student, F-16 Transition Course, 302nd FS, Luke AFB, AZ.
10. Feb 2004 – Feb 2007, F-16 Instructor Pilot, Assistant Director of Operations, Chief of Group Standardization and Evaluation, Chief of Wing Plans, Programs, and Inspections, 23rd FS, 52nd OG, 52nd FW, Spangdahlem AB, Ger.
11. Feb 2007 – Jun 2009, Chief, Master Air Attack Planning Cell, Deputy Chief of Plans Division, Chief, Strategy Guidance Team, 603rd Air and Space Operations Center, Ramstein AB, Ger.
12. Jun 2009 – Aug 2009, Student, F-16 Transition Course, 182nd FS, Kelly ANGB, TX.
13. Aug 2009 – Sep 2010, Director of Operations, 57th OSS, 64th Aggressor Pilot, Nellis AFB, NV.
14. Sep 2010 – Current, Commander, 738th Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron, 438th AEW, NATO Air Training Command-Afghanistan, Kabul International Airport.

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: More than 2,500

Aircraft flown: F-16C/C+/CG/CJ/CM, AT-38B, T-38C, T-38A, T-37

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters

Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal

Meritorious Unit Award

AF Outstanding Unit Award with two Oak Leaf Clusters

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

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| Second Lieutenant | June 2, 1993 |
| First Lieutenant | June 2, 1995 |
| Captain | June 2, 1997 |
| Major | September 1, 2003 |
| Lieutenant Colonel | September 1, 2008 |

Current as of Oct10