



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL PAUL R. PAWLUK

Col. Paul R. Pawluk is the Deputy Commander, 89th Airlift Wing, Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. He is responsible for worldwide special air mission airlift, logistics, aerial port and communications support for the President, Vice President, cabinet members, combatant commanders and other senior military and elected leaders as tasked by the White House, Air Force Chief of Staff and Air Mobility Command. The wing provides 24/7 alert airlift and operates an Executive Airlift Training Center and Government Network Operations Center.

Col. Pawluk received his commission in 2001 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Throughout his career, Col. Pawluk deployed in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM, and as part of the Army's Joint Psychological Operations Task Force.

Col. Pawluk is a command pilot with operational experience in the C-21, C-5, and C-40 aircraft. Col. Pawluk is also a senior Foreign Area Officer (FAO) with proficiency in both Ukrainian and Russian, and served on the U.S. European Command's (EUCOM) J5 directorate as the Lead Contingency Planner for the Russian Problem Set. Following his assignment at EUCOM, he commanded the 22nd Airlift Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, California. Post command, Col. Pawluk was selected as a National Defense Fellow in the International Security Studies Program at the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University focusing on leadership and strategy development.

Prior to his current assignment, Col. Pawluk served as the lead planner for the future force of Ukraine, Joint Planning Group and Deputy Division Chief, Central Europe and Eurasia Division, Deputy Directorate for Politico-Military Affairs – Europe, NATO, Russia (ENR), in the J-5 Plans, Strategy, and Policy directorate of the Joint Staff.

EDUCATION

1999 Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute, 20th Century Ukraine History, Cambridge, Mass.
2001 Bachelor of Arts in International Relations, Political Science, & Russian, Univ of Wisconsin-Madison
2001 Air and Space Basic Course, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
2006 Master of Arts in Diplomacy with a Concentration in International Conflict, Norwich University, Vt.
2007 Top Third Graduate, Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2010 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence
2010 George C. Marshall Center, Leaders Program - Advanced Security Studies, Garmisch, Germany
2012 Honors Graduate, Defense Language Institute, Russian Basic Course, Monterey, Calif.
2013 Distinguished Graduate, Naval Postgraduate School, Security Studies in Europe & Eurasia, Monterey, Calif.
2014 Joint Professional Military Education II, Norfolk, Va.
2020 National Defense Fellow in the International Security Studies Program at the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University in Medford, Mass.





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ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 2001 – December 2001, Second Lieutenant, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.
2. January 2002 – January 2003, Student, Joint Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, Vance Air Force Base, Okla.
3. February 2003 – February 2006, C-21 Instructor Pilot and Chief Executive Officer, 311th Airlift Squadron, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.
4. June 2006 – February 2011, C-5B Evaluator Aircraft Commander, 9th Airlift Squadron, Chief of C-5 Group Stan/Eval, Dover, Del.
5. March 2011 – March 2012, Student, Russian Basic Course, Defense Language Institute, Monterey, Calif.
6. September 2012 – September 2013, Student, Security Studies, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif.
7. November 2013 – September 2016, Lead Contingency Planner, Europe and NATO Branch, USEUCOM J5 Plans, Stuttgart, Deu.
8. October 2016 – May 2018, Operations Officer, 60th Operations Support Squadron, Travis AFB, Calif.
9. May 2018 – May 2020, Commander, 22nd Airlift Squadron, Travis AFB, Calif.
10. June 2020 – June 2021, National Defense Fellow, Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, Mass.
11. July 2021 – May 2023, Lead, Joint Planning Group Ukraine and Deputy Division Chief, Central Europe/Eurasia Division, Deputy Directorate for Europe, NATO, Russia, J5 Strategy, Plans, and Policy, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
12. June 2023 – Present, Deputy Commander, 89th Airlift Wing, JB Andrews, Md.

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. November 2013 – September 2016, Lead Contingency Planner, Europe and NATO Branch, USEUCOM J5 Plans, Stuttgart, Deu. as a major
2. July 2021 – May 2023, Lead, Joint Planning Group Ukraine and Deputy Division Chief, Central Europe/Eurasia Division, Deputy Directorate for Europe, NATO, Russia, J5 Strategy, Plans, and Policy, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Arlington, Va. as a colonel

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: more than 2,800

Aircraft flown: T-37, T-1A, C-21, C-5B/M, C-40B

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Superior Service Medal

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Air Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air and Space Commendation Medal

Air and Space Achievement Medal

Joint Meritorious Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters

PUBLICATIONS

"How do you Define Inspirational Leadership?" Daily Republic, 17 Feb 2019.

"Fully remote and virtual SIMULEX keeps 47-year streak alive at Fletcher", PAXSims War-Gaming Journal, 22 Nov 2020.

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

May 20, 2001 Second Lieutenant

June 18, 2003 First Lieutenant

June 18, 2005 Captain

August 1, 2011 Major

August 1, 2016 Lieutenant Colonel

April 1, 2022 Colonel

(Current as of Oct 2024)

