



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL CHRISTOPHER M. BLOMQUIST

Colonel Christopher M. Blomquist is the Commander, 148th Fighter Wing, Minnesota Air National Guard. He is responsible for organizing, training, equipping and maintaining combat-ready forces that encompass over 1,000 Airmen, 22 Block 50 F-16CM aircraft, a 221 acre installation and a \$65 million budget.

Col Blomquist entered the Minnesota Air National Guard in May 1992 and trained to become an avionics technician. He finished his degree in 1994 and was commissioned as a 2nd Lt in 1996. He graduated Pilot Training from Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas in 1997. After completing Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals (IFF) and F-16 qualification, he returned to the 148th Fighter Wing in 1998. Col Blomquist was assigned as the Wing Weapons Officer in 2001, and became the 148th Fighter Wing's first graduate from U.S. Air Force Weapons School in 2004. He has served as the Fighter Enhancement Program (FEP) Manager, Flight Commander, Chief Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner. In 2010, he was appointed as the 148th Fighter Wing (148 FW) Operations Support Flight Commander and in 2011 assumed command of the 179th Fighter Squadron during an aircraft conversion to F-16 Block 50 Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses (SEAD). In 2012, Col Blomquist commanded the wing's first block 50 combat deployment to Afghanistan; the first fully integrated and combined Air Reserve Component and active duty fighter squadron combat deployment. In 2015 he served as the Deputy Operations Group Commander. In 2016 he became the 148th Fighter Wing Vice Wing Commander and Fighter Wing Commander in 2017. He is a command pilot with more than 3,500 total military flying hours, 3,200 hours in the F-16 of which 369 hours are in combat and 2,182 hours as an Instructor Pilot in the F-16ADF, F-16C and F-16CM.



EDUCATION

- 1994 Bachelor of Science Degree, Business Administration, University of Wisconsin, Superior
- 1995 Associate of Applied Science Degree, Avionics, Community College of the Air Force
- 1996 Academy of Military Science, McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base, Knoxville, Tenn.
- 1997 Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training (ENJJPT), Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas
- 1998 U.S. Air Force F-16C/D Replacement Training Unit, Luke AFB, Ariz.
- 1999 U.S. Air Force High Angle-of-Attack Training, Edwards AFB, Calif.
- 1999 Raytheon Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile School, Tucson, Ariz.
- 2000 Combat Air Platforms Course, Nellis AFB, Nev.
- 2001 F-16 Instructor Pilot School, Tucson ANG, Ariz.
- 2002 U.S. Air Force Fighter Electronic Combat Officers School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
- 2002 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2004 U.S. Air Force Weapons School (04B), Nellis AFB, Nev.
- 2005 Joint Air Commander School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
- 2007 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2012 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2014 Squadron Commander Development Course, ANGRC, Joint Base Andrews, D.C.
- 2015 Commander Development Course, ANGRC, Joint Base Andrews, D.C.
- 2016 Master of Business Administration (MBA), College of Saint Scholastica, Duluth, Minn.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 1996 – August 1997, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Sheppard AFB, Texas
2. September 1997 – November 1997, Intro to Fighter Fundamentals (IFF), Columbus AFB, Miss.
3. December 1997 – September 1998, F-16 Pilot Training, Luke AFB, Ariz.

4. September 1998 – October 2001, 179th Fighter Squadron F-16 Pilot, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
5. October 2001 – June 2004, F-16 Chief of Weapons & Tactics (W&T), Instructor Pilot, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
6. July 2004 – December 2004, USAF Weapons School Course, Nellis AFB, Nev.
7. December 2004 – May 2005, F-16 Chief of W&T, Fighter Enhancement Program Manager, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
8. May 2005 – August 2005, 332 EFS Chief of W&T, Balad Air Base, Iraq
9. August 2005 – December 2006, F-16 Chief of W&T Fighter Enhancement Program Manager, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
10. January 2007 – November 2008, F-16 Chief of W&T, Flight Commander, Instructor Pilot, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
11. November 2008 – February 2009, 332nd EFS Chief of W&T, Balad AB, Iraq
12. February 2009 – October 2010, F-16 Chief of W&T, Flight Commander, Instructor Pilot, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
13. October 2010 – August 2011, Operations Support Flight Commander, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
14. August 2011 – August 2012, 179th Fighter Squadron Commander, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
15. August 2012 – October 2012, 179th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron Commander, 451st AEW, Kandahar, Afghanistan
16. October 2012 – August 2015, 179th Fighter Squadron Commander, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
17. August 2015 – February 2016, Deputy Operations Group Commander, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
18. February 2016 – December 2017, Vice Wing Commander, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.
19. December 2017 – Present, Wing Commander, 148 FW, Duluth ANGB, Minn.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Military

Rating: command pilot, instructor pilot, mission commander, SEAD commander, Weapons School Graduate

Flight hours: more than 3,500 (F-16: 3,200, instructor: 2,182, evaluator: 72, combat: 369)

Aircraft flown: T-3, T-37, T-38, AT-38, F-16ADF, F-16C and F-16CM

Civilian/Commercial

Rating: airline transport pilot

Flight hours: more than 1,000

Aircraft flown: numerous single engine land & sea plus several multi engine land

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with five oak leaf clusters

Combat Readiness Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal

National Defense Service Medal with bronze star

Afghanistan Campaign Medal with bronze star

Iraq Campaign Medal with bronze star

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Air Force Overseas Ribbon- Short Tour

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with gold border and two oak leaf clusters

Arm Forces Reserve Medal with silver hourglass and "M" device

NATO Medal

STATE AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Florida Meritorious Service Ribbon

Minnesota State Service Medal with two gold "X" devices

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

1997 Commanders Trophy, Distinguished Graduate, Top Stick and Flying Excellence Awards, ENJJPT

1997 Top Gun Award, IFF

2000 148th Fighter Wing Pilot of the Year

2016 Graduate Management Certification in Change Leadership

PUBLICATIONS

"Organic Organization Development: Performing an Internal Intervention," ProQuest LLC, January 2017

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant, 23 May 1996

First Lieutenant, 23 May 1998

Captain, 23 May 2000

Major, 24 May 2004

Lieutenant Colonel, 29 May 2008

Colonel, 18 March 2016

(Current as of May 2020)