



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL STEVEN P. WHITNEY

Colonel Steve Whitney is the Director of the Global Positioning Systems (GPS) Directorate, Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Space Command, Los Angeles Air Force Base, California. He is responsible for a multiservice, multinational systems directorate which conducts development, acquisition, fielding and sustainment of all GPS space segment, satellite command and control (ground) and military user equipment. The \$38 billion GPS program, with an annual budget over \$1 billion, maintains the largest satellite constellation in the Department of Defense.

Colonel Whitney graduated in 1992 from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and completed the university's Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program as a distinguished graduate. Through the years, he has served in a wide variety of space system acquisition and operations leadership positions within the Air Force, Joint Staff, and the National Reconnaissance Office. His assignments include serving as a Crew Commander, Spacecraft Engineer, Program Office Engineer, Senior Flight Commander, Program Element Monitor, Division Chief, Director of Engineering, Squadron Commander, Staff Officer, and Senior Materiel Leader.



EDUCATION

- 1992 Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, University of Minnesota; Minneapolis, MN.
- 1997 Squadron Officer School (Distinguished Graduate), Maxwell AFB, AL.
- 2000 Master of Arts in Administrative Sciences, George Washington University; Washington, DC.
- 2004 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence
- 2005 Master of Science in Systems Engineering (Distinguished Graduate), Air Force Institute of Technology; Wright-Patterson AFB, OH.
- 2007 Air War College, by correspondence
- 2011 Master of Science in National Security Strategy, National War College, Washington, DC.
- 2013 Program Managers Course (Distinguished Graduate), Defense Acquisition University, Fort Belvoir, VA.
- 2014 Executive Program Managers Course, Defense Acquisition University, Fort Belvoir, VA.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. April 1993 – July 1996, DSP & DMSP Crew Commander and Chief, DSP Spacecraft Engineering; 1st Space Operations Squadron, Schriever AFB, CO.
2. July 1996 – June 1998, Chief, Commanders Action Group and FDS Operations Manager; SBIRS Program Office, Los Angeles AFB, CA.
3. June 1998 – June 2000, Air Force Intern; Directorate of Space and Nuclear Deterrence, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force and Force Management Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense; Pentagon, Washington, DC.
4. June 2000 – May 2004, Senior Flight Commander; Chief, Production Division; and Director of Engineering; Air Force Communications Support Facility, White Sands Missile Range, Las Cruces, NM.

5. May 2004 – June 2005, Student, Air Force Institute of Technology; Wright-Patterson AFB, OH.
6. June 2005 – May 2008, MILSATCOM Program Element Monitor and Chief, Congressional & Media Affairs; Space Acquisition Directorate, Office of the Under Secretary of the Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, DC.
7. June 2008 – July 2010, Commander, Enterprise Operations Squadron; Mission Operations Directorate, National Reconnaissance Office, Chantilly, VA.
8. August 2010 – June 2011, Student, National War College; Ft. McNair, Washington, DC.
9. June 2011 – July 2013, Chief, Space/C4 Branch and Space Lead; Joint Chiefs of Staff (J8), Pentagon, Washington, DC.
10. July 2013 – July 2015, Senior Materiel Leader, Global Positioning System User Equipment Division, Global Positioning Systems Directorate, Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles AFB, CA.
11. July 2015 – present, Director, Global Positioning Systems Directorate, Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles AFB, CA.

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

June 2008 – July 2010, Commander, Enterprise Operations Squadron; National Reconnaissance Office, Chantilly, VA., as a lieutenant colonel

June 2011 – July 2013, Chief, Space/C4 Branch and Space Lead; Joint Chiefs of Staff (J8), Washington, DC., as a lieutenant colonel and colonel

MAJOR MILITARY DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Humanitarian Service Medal

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

Air & Space Campaign Medal

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

1997 Space and Missile Systems Center Company Grade Officer of the Year

1998 Forrest S. McCartney Award for Outstanding Program Management, Air Force Association

2009 National Citation of Honor, Air Force Association

2010 Director's Circle Award for Leadership, National Reconnaissance Office

2010 Medal for Superior Service (Gold), National Reconnaissance Office

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant February 17, 1993

First Lieutenant February 17, 1995

Captain February 17, 1997

Major June 1, 2003

Lieutenant Colonel September 1, 2007

Colonel June 1, 2012