



17TH COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

Assumption of Command Ceremony



20 June 2024

Presiding Officer:
Colonel Damon Dalby
Commander, 17th Mission Support Group

Incoming Commander:
Major Alan Geason

HISTORY OF ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND

THE CEREMONY YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS IS DEEPLY ROOTED IN MILITARY TRADITION AND DATES BACK TO THE TIME OF FREDERICK THE GREAT OF PRUSSIA. DURING THAT PERIOD, MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS DEVELOPED FLAGS BEARING SPECIALIZED COLORS AND DESIGNS UNIQUE TO THEM. WHEN SOLDIERS FOLLOWED THEIR LEADERS INTO BATTLE, THEY KEPT SIGHT OF THESE FLAGS. IF A BANNER STILL WAVED AFTER THE CONFLICT, IT WAS A SIGN THAT THEIR SIDE WAS VICTORIOUS ON THE BATTLEFIELD. BECAUSE OF ITS SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE, THE FLAG WAS INCORPORATED INTO THE ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND CEREMONY. THE ORGANIZATIONAL BANNER WAS EXCHANGED IN PUBLIC FOR ALL TO WITNESS THE NAMING OF THE NEW SOVEREIGN LEADER OF ANY ARMY. THE MODERN CEREMONY IS SIMPLE AND DIRECT, YET CONTINUES TO ANNOUNCE TO ALL... THE AUTHORITY OF THE INCOMING COMMANDER IN THE FINEST OF MILITARY TRADITIONS.

Log On...



Fights On!!!

AIR FORCE SONG

**OFF WE GO INTO THE WILD BLUE YONDER,
CLIMBING HIGH INTO THE SUN;
HERE THEY COME ZOOMING TO MEET OUR
THUNDER,
AT 'EM NOW, GIVE 'EM THE GUN!
(GIVE 'EM THE GUN!)
DOWN WE DIVE, SPOUTING OUR FLAME
FROM UNDER,
OFF WITH ONE HELLUVA ROAR!
WE LIVE IN FAME OR GO DOWN IN FLAME.
HEY!
NOTHING CAN STOP THE U.S. AIR FORCE!**



SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

**OPENING REMARKS
ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL PARTY
NATIONAL ANTHEM
INVOCATION
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
PRESIDING OFFICER'S COMMENTS
ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND
INCOMING COMMANDER'S COMMENTS
SINGING OF THE AIR FORCE SONG
DEPARTURE OF OFFICIAL PARTY
RECEPTION**



COLONEL DAMON DALBY

Colonel Timothy (Damon) Dalby is the Commander of the 17th Mission Support Group, Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas. The Group consists of six squadrons delivering security, communications, logistics, civil engineering, contracting, human resources and community support programs for the base's 14,000 joint service, retirees, and family members. Colonel Dalby oversees

\$1.2 billion in real property, equipment, supplies, \$38 million in government contracts, and an operational budget of \$41 million to facilitate the Department of Defense's premiere joint intelligence schoolhouse and joint firefighter academy. His group sustains the Air Force's largest sensitive compartmented information facility complex, the \$46 million Louis F. Garland Joint Fire Protection Training Academy, 3,600 dormitory rooms, 300 lodging rooms, and a food service program generating over 1 million meals per year. Additionally, his team maintains the largest SIPR network in Air Education and Training Command and the largest fire truck fleet in the Air Force.

Prior to this assignment, he has served in various positions as a Civil Engineer at base, Numbered Air Force, Combatant Command and Air Staff levels, as well as RED HORSE. He served as Squadron Commander two times and deployed five times to Iraq, Afghanistan, Qatar, Kuwait, and the Horn of Africa.

Col Dalby is from Grosse Pointe, Michigan. He was commissioned through the Reserved Officer Training Corps upon graduation from Michigan State University in May 2001. He is married to Alison, and they have a son Nolan.

EDUCATION

2001 Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering, Michigan State University

2002 Aerospace Basic Course

2007 Master of Science degree in Engineering Management, AF Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

2007 Squadron Officer School

2012 Air Command and Staff College (correspondence)

2021 Air War College (correspondence)

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Jun 2001 – May 2005, Environmental Engineer; Chief of Construction Management; then Chief of Simplified Acquisition Base Engineering Requirements (SABER), 7th Civil Engineer Squadron, Dyess AFB, Texas (Deployments: Dec 2002 – Aug 2003, J4 Engineer Plans Officer, Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa, Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti and Sep 2004 – Jan 2005, Chief Maintenance Engineering, 386th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait)

2. Jun 2005 – Mar 2007, Student, Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

3. Mar 2007 – Oct 2010, Chief of Design; Deputy Engineering Flight Commander; then Engineering Flight Commander, 823d RED HORSE Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Florida (Deployments: Mar 2008 – Oct 2008 Site Officer in Charge, 557 Expeditionary RED HORSE Squadron, Forward Operating Base Hammer, Iraq then Ali AB, Iraq and Sep 2009 – Apr 2010, Engineering and Planning Flight Commander, 1st Expeditionary RED HORSE

4. Oct 2010 – Aug 2013, Environmental Program Manager then MILCON Program Manager, Office of the Civil Engineer, Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. (Deployment: Dec 2012 – Jun 2013, Task Force 3-10 Engineer, Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan)

5. Sep 2013 – May 2015, Operations Flight Commander, 28th Civil Engineer Squadron, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota

6. Jun 2015 – Jul 2017, Commander, 336th Training Support Squadron, Fairchild AFB, Washington

7. Jul 2017 – Aug 2019, Commander, 9th Civil Engineer Squadron, Beale AFB, California

8. Aug 2019 – Jul 2022, Chief, Installation Plans, Headquarters U.S. Southern Command, U.S Army Garrison Miami, Florida

9. Jul 2022 – Jul 2023, Command Engineer, Headquarters 7th Air Force, Osan AB, Republic of Korea

10. Jul 2023 – Present, Commander, 17th Mission Support Group, Goodfellow AFB, Texas

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Bronze Star Medal

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal (6 oak leaf clusters)

Air and Space Commendation Medal (oak leaf cluster)

Joint Service Achievement Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant 27 May 2001

First Lieutenant 27 May 2003

Captain 27 May 2005

Major 1 June 2011

Lieutenant Colonel 1 July 2016

Colonel 1 November 2022



MAJOR ALAN GEASON

Major Alan D. Geason is a student graduate of Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. Prior to this assignment, Major Geason served as the Director of Operations for the 707th Communications Squadron, 707th Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Group, 70th Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Wing, Fort Meade, Maryland. He was responsible for coordination of communications and information services to support the 70th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing's cryptologic mission. Additionally, the squadron provided timely and reliable secure communications, conducted cyberspace operations, and provided cyber program management to warfighters and cryptologic operations around the globe.

Major Geason was commissioned as a second lieutenant in May 2011 from Bowling Green State University Detachment 620 Reserve Officer Training Corp and has spent 13 years on Active Duty. Major Geason's past duty locations include Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Tysons Corner, Virginia, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, and Fort Meade, Maryland.

Major Geason is from Sandusky, Ohio. He was commissioned through Reserved Officer Training Corps Detachment 620 upon graduation from the University of Toledo in May 2011. He is married to Aleah and they have three children - Ava, Alan III, and Adalynne.

EDUCATION

2011 Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice, University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio

2011 Undergraduate Cyber Training, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi

2013 Master of Arts in Management and Leadership, Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia

2017 Cyberspace 200 Course, Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

2023 Cyberspace 300 Course, Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

2024 Master of Military Operational Art & Science, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

ASSIGNMENTS

1. May 2011 - November 2011, Student, Undergraduate

Cyber Training, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi

2. January 2012 - October 2012, Deputy Flight Commander, Operations, 694th Intel Support Squadron, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea

3. October 2012 - January 2013, Deputy Flight Commander, Plans, 694th Intel Support Squadron, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea

4. January 2013-September 2013, Crew Commander, 561st Network Ops Squadron Detachment 1, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii

5. October 2013 - February 2015, Deputy Flight Commander, Operations, 561st Network Ops Squadron Detachment 1, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii

6. February 2015 – January 2016, Support Flight Commander, 690th Cyberspace Operations Squadron, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii

7. January 2016 – May 2017, Security Program Management Team Chief, Information Assurance Division, Intelligence Community Chief Information Officer's Office, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Virginia

8. May 2017 – Oct 2018, Cyber Intelligence Analyst, Cyber Threat Intelligence Integration Center (CTIIC), Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Tysons Corner, Virginia

9. Oct 2018 – May 2020, Chief of Command and Control Operations, 354 Fighter Wing Command Post, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska

10. May 2020 – June 2021, Wing Executive Officer, 354 Fighter Wing, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska

11. June 2021 – June 2023, Director of Operations, 707 Communications Squadron, Fort Meade, Maryland

12. July 2023 – May 2024, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Meritorious Unit Award

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 6, 2011

First Lieutenant May 25, 2013

Captain May 25, 2015

Major November 1, 2020