



# BIOGRAPHY



**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

## COLONEL DAVID J. BERKLAND

Col David J. Berkland is the Chief of Staff, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. He is responsible for the development of plans, policies, and procedures to ensure efficient operation of the Headquarters PACAF staff and the seamless interface with subordinate commands and agencies.

Col Berkland was commissioned in 1998 from Officer Training School after graduating from Augustana University. He performed duties as an F-16 instructor pilot and weapons officer, and flew combat missions in Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, NORTHERN WATCH, IRAQI FREEDOM, and FREEDOM'S SENTINEL. He has also commanded at the squadron, group, and wing levels as well as instructed at the USAF Weapons School. He completed staff tours on the Air Staff as the Chief of Air Superiority Weapons Requirements, and on the Joint Staff as the Secretary of Defense Orders Book Briefer. Prior to his current position, Col Berkland commanded the 354<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.



Col Berkland is a command pilot with more than 3,800 flying hours, and over 900 combat hours.

## EDUCATION

1997 Bachelor of Arts in Government, Augustana University, Sioux Falls, SD  
2003 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL  
2005 U.S. Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, NV  
2007 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence  
2009 Master of Arts in Military Studies, American Military University, WV  
2011 Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence, National Intelligence University, Washington, DC  
2012 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala, by correspondence  
2017 Master of Arts in National Security Strategy, National War College, Washington, DC  
2023 Joint Force Maritime Component Commander Course, Pearl Harbor, HI

## ASSIGNMENTS

1. August 1998—September 1999, Student, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, Sheppard Air Force Base, TX
2. February 1999—September 2000, Student, F-16 training, 309th Fighter Squadron, Luke AFB, AZ
3. November 2000—September 2003, Instructor Pilot, 78th Fighter Squadron, Shaw AFB, SC
4. September 2003—December 2004, Flight Commander and Examiner, 35th Fighter Squadron, Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea
5. January 2005—June 2005, Student, 16th Weapons Squadron, U.S. Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, NV
6. June 2005—January 2007, Weapons Officer, 4th Fighter Squadron, Hill AFB, UT
7. January 2007—September 2007, Weapons Officer, 388th Fighter Wing, Hill AFB, UT

8. September 2007—July 2010, Flight Commander, Assistant Director of Operations, Deployed Wing Weapons Officer (332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Balad AB, Iraq), 16th Weapons Squadron, U.S. Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, NV
9. August 2010—July 2011, Student, National Intelligence University, Washington, DC
10. July 2011—October 2012, Chief, Air Superiority Weapons Requirements, Headquarters Air Force, the Pentagon, Arlington, VA
11. October 2012—October 2013, Director of Operations, 52d Operations Support Squadron, Spangdahlem AB, Germany
12. October 2013—January 2014, Director of Operations, 480th Fighter Squadron, Spangdahlem AB, Germany
13. January 2014—January 2016, Commander, 480th Fighter Squadron, Spangdahlem AB, Germany
14. January 2016 - June 2016, Director of Staff, 52d Fighter Wing, Spangdahlem AB, Germany
15. July 2016—June 2017, Student, National War College, Fort Lesley McNair, Washington, DC
16. July 2017—July 2019, Secretary of Defense Orders Book Briefer, J-35, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, VA
17. July 2019—June 2020, Commander, 405th Air Expeditionary Group, Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan
18. August 2020—June 2023, Commander, 354th Fighter Wing, Eielson AFB, AK
19. July 2023—January 2024, Special Assistant to the Commander, Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Airfield, HI
20. Jan 2024—Present, Chief of Staff, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Airfield, HI

## **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

Rating: command pilot

Flight hours: more than 3,800, including over 900 combat hours

Aircraft flown: F-16 and F-35

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star Medal

Defense Superior Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with nine oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal

Air and Space Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Force Combat Action Medal

Air Force Gallant Unit Citation

2005 U.S. Air Force Chennault Award Winner

## **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant June 12, 1998

First Lieutenant June 12, 2000

Captain June 12, 2002

Major March 1, 2008

Lieutenant Colonel July 1, 2013

Colonel July 1, 2018

(Current as of Mar 2024)