



COLONEL AARON J. COOPER

Col Aaron James Cooper is the Pacific Air Forces Director of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Hawaii. He advises the Pacific Air Forces Commander on all ISR matters across the Indo-Pacific area of responsibility, the largest in the Defense Department.

Col Cooper was commissioned in 1999 as a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy. He has commanded at the squadron level and served in a variety of ISR roles at both the squadron and group levels. His staff assignments include United States Air Forces in Europe, U.S. Special Operations Command, and Air Force Personnel Center. Prior to his current position, Col Cooper was the U.S. Air Force Attaché to India. He has served on six deployments to locations including the Philippines, Djibouti, Qatar, and Afghanistan.



EDUCATION

1999 Bachelor of Science, Political Science, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo.

2005 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

2009 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence

2010 Intelligence Master Skills Course, Goodfellow AFB, Texas

2011 Master of Science, American Military University

2012 Master of Military Operational Art and Science, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

2017 Air War College, Air University, by correspondence

ASSIGNMENTS

1. October 1999 – August 2000, Student, 315th Technical Training Squadron, Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas

2. August 2000 – June 2001, Intelligence Applications Officer, 353rd Operations Support Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Japan

3. June 2001 – November 2003, Chief Intelligence Officer, 17th Special Operations Squadron, Kadena AB, Japan

4. December 2003 – June 2004, Flight Commander/Cryptologic Mission Crew Commander, 303rd Intelligence Squadron, Osan AB, Republic of Korea

5. June 2004 – December 2004, Chief of Mission Management, 303rd Intelligence Squadron, Osan AB, Republic of Korea

6. February 2005 – June 2005, Chief of Exercise Plans, Headquarters United States Air Forces in Europe/A2, Ramstein AB, Germany

7. June 2005 – May 2006, Chief, Intelligence Force Management, Headquarters United States Air Forces in Europe/A2, Ramstein AB, Germany

8. May 2006 – May 2007, Executive Officer, Headquarters United States Air Forces in Europe/A2, Ramstein AB, Germany

9. May 2007 – July 2009, Director, Air Force Special Operations Command Intelligence Formal Training Unit, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

10. July 2009 – July 2011, Director of Operations, 566th Intelligence Squadron, Buckley AFB, Colo.





BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

11. July 2011 – June 2012, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
12. June 2012 – June 2013, Chief, Intelligence Company Grade Officer Assignments, Air Force Personnel Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas
13. June 2013 – July 2015, Chief, Intelligence Officer Assignments, Air Force Personnel Center, JBSA-Randolph, Texas
14. July 2015 – June 2017, Commander, 31st Intelligence Squadron, Fort Eisenhower, Ga.
15. June 2017 – August 2019, Deputy Commander, 691st Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group, Fort George G. Meade, Md.
16. August 2019 – August 2021, Deputy Director, SOCOM Cryptologic Office, Fort George G. Meade, Md.
17. August 2021 – January 2022, Student, Joint Military Attaché School, Washington, D.C.
18. January 2022 – July 2024, United States Air Attaché to India
19. July 2024 - Present, Director of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (A2), Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. August 2019 – August 2021, Deputy Director, SOCOM Cryptologic Office, Fort George G. Meade, Md., as a lieutenant colonel
2. August 2021 – January 2022, Student, Joint Military Attaché School, Washington, D.C., as a colonel
3. January 2022 – July 2024, United States Air Attaché to India, US Embassy, New Delhi, India, as a colonel

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Bronze Star Medal
Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters
Joint Service Commendation Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Air Force Achievement Medal
Army Achievement Medal
National Defense Service Medal with bronze star
Afghanistan Campaign Medal with bronze star
Global War on Terrorism Medal
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Service Medal
Korean Service Medal
Air Force Expeditionary Ribbon with gold border with two oak leaf clusters
Philippine Presidential Unit Citation
NATO Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant August 6, 1999
First Lieutenant August 6, 2001
Captain August 6, 2003
Major June 1, 2009
Lieutenant Colonel November 1, 2014
Colonel October 1, 2020

(Current as of June 2025)

