



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL DAVID F. JOHN

Colonel David F. John is the Vice Director of the Joint Personnel Recovery Agency (JPRA), headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. JPRA is a Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Controlled Activity aligned under the Joint Staff Director for Joint Force Development (J7). JPRA leads DoD Personnel Recovery (PR) by providing strategic direction, oversight, operational support, analysis, capability development, training, and education to improve PR interoperability, enabling DoD, the interagency, and multinational partners to prevent, prepare for, and respond to isolating events.

Col John received his commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy in May 2001 and attended Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. He served as an F-15C instructor pilot at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia; an F-22 operational test pilot in the 422d Test and Evaluation Squadron at Nellis AFB, Nevada; an MQ-9 Director of Operations, evaluator pilot, and mission commander at Creech AFB, Nevada; the inaugural Commander of the 50th Attack Squadron at Shaw AFB, South Carolina, and Commander of the 432d Operations Group at Creech AFB. Col John has served as a strategist on both the Headquarters, U.S. Air Force Staff, and the Joint Staff. He has flown more than 2,300 hours, including missions in support of operations Noble Eagle, Northern Guardian, Enduring Freedom, Inherent Resolve, Odyssey Lightning and Freedom's Sentinel.



EDUCATION

2001 Bachelor of Science, History, Distinguished Graduate, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo.

2008 Squadron Officer School, Distinguished Graduate, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

2010 Master of Arts in Military History, Norwich University, Vt.

2013 Master of Military Operational Arts and Sciences, Distinguished Graduate, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

2014 Master of Military Arts and Sciences, School of Advanced Military Studies, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

2020 Master of National Security Strategy, National War College, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. September 2001–April 2003, Student, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training and Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas
2. April 2003–October 2003, Student, F-15C Replacement Training, Kingsley Field, Ore.
3. November 2003–August 2007, F-15C Instructor Pilot and Mission Commander, 1st Fighter Wing, Langley AFB, Va.
4. August 2007–June 2009, F-22A Operational Test Pilot, 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron, Nellis AFB, Nev.
5. June 2009–March 2011, Deputy Director of Operations and Test, Joint Electronic Protection for Air Combat, Nellis AFB, Nev.
6. March 2011–August 2012, Assistant Director of Operations and MQ-1B/MQ-9 Mission Commander, 17th Reconnaissance Squadron, Creech AFB, Nev.
7. August 2012–June 2013, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
8. June 2013–June 2014, Student, School of Advanced Military Studies, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.
9. June 2014–July 2016, Chief, Strategy Development Branch, Headquarters U.S. Air Force/A-5, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.

10. July 2016–June 2017, Director of Operations, 42nd Attack Squadron, Creech AFB, Nev.
11. June 2017–February 2018, Commander, 432nd Operations Group Detachment 1, Creech AFB, Nev. and Shaw AFB, S.C.
12. February 2018–July 2019, Commander, 50th Attack Squadron, Shaw AFB, S.C.
13. July 2019–June 2020, Student, National War College, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.
14. June 2020–June 2022, Chief, Strategy Development Branch and Iran Branch, Joint Staff J-5, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
15. June 2022–June 2024, Commander, 432d Operations Group, Creech AFB, Nev.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: command pilot

Flight hours: more than 2300, including 542 combat hours

Aircraft flown: T-37, T-38, F-15C/D, F-22, MQ-1B and MQ-9

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal with 14 oak leaf clusters

Joint Service Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal

Combat Readiness Medal with oak leaf cluster

National Defense Service Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Remote Combat Effects Campaign Medal with three bronze service stars

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 30, 2001

First Lieutenant May 30, 2003

Captain May 30, 2005

Major Jan. 1, 2011

Lieutenant Colonel Dec. 1, 2015

Colonel Nov. 1, 2021

(Current as of August 2024)