



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL NICHOLAS J. LEONELLI

Colonel Nicholas J. Leonelli is the Vice Commander, 305th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. The wing operates a fleet of KC-10 Extender and C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, providing rapid global mobility for national security objectives, combat operations, contingencies and humanitarian relief efforts worldwide through aerial refueling and airlift capabilities. Additionally, the wing is responsible for two of Air Mobility Command's busiest aerial ports, ensuring uninterrupted flow of forces and material in support of ongoing global operations.

Colonel Leonelli graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1997. Prior to assuming this role, Colonel Leonelli was Chief, Strategic Planning Division, Directorate of Strategic Plans, Requirements, and Programs, Headquarters Air Mobility Command. In this role he oversaw long-range planning, doctrine and policy, future concepts, and international affairs. He commanded the 2d Air Refueling Squadron and has served in numerous operational and staff positions at HQ United States Special Operations Command, HQ Air Mobility Command, and the 618th Air Operations Center.

Col Leonelli is a command pilot with over 4,600 hours in the KC-10 and C-5 aircraft and has served as an Examiner and Instructor Pilot in both aircraft.



EDUCATION

- 1997 Bachelor of Science in Biology, United States Air Force Academy, CO
- 2002 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2003 Master of Arts in Managerial Leadership, Webster University, St. Louis, MO
- 2008 Air Command and Staff College (Non-Residence), Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2009 Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Quantico MCS, VA
- 2011 Joint and Combined Warfighting School (JPME II), Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, VA
- 2013 Air War College (Non-residence), Maxwell AFB, AL

ASSIGNMENTS

1. May 1997 – Sep 1998, Student, Joint Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, 85th and 86th Flying Training Squadrons, Laughlin AFB, TX
2. Sep 1998 – May 2003, C-5 Flight Examiner and Squadron Executive Officer, Training Officer, and Readiness Officer, 22d Airlift Squadron, Travis AFB, CA
3. May 2003 – Jul 2005, Chief Aircrew Analysis, Directorate of Operations and MAJCOM Global Operations Director, Tanker/Airlift Control Center, HQ Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, IL
4. Jul 2005 – Jul 2009, Chief Wing Executive Officer, Assistant Operations Officer, Flight Commander and KC-10 Examiner Aircraft Commander, 32d Air Refueling Squadron, 305th Air Mobility Wing, McGuire AFB, NJ
5. Jul 2009 – Jun 2010, Student, Marine Corps Command and Staff College, MCB Quantico, VA
6. Jun 2010 – Jun 2013, Special Project Officer, Commander's Action Group and Readiness Officer, Directorate of Operations, HQ United States Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB, FL
7. Jun 2013 – Jun 2016, Commander, 2d Air Refueling Squadron and Operations Officer, 32d Air Refueling Squadron, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ

(Current as of Jun 2019)

8. Jul 2016 – Jun 2019, Chief, Strategic Planning Division and Chief, Tanker Requirements Branch, Directorate of Strategic Plans, Requirements, and Programs, HQ Air Mobility Command and Deputy Director Global Readiness, 618th Air Operations Center, Scott AFB, IL

9. Jun 2019 – Present, Vice Commander, 305th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. Jun 2010 – Jun 2013, Special Project Officer, Commander's Action Group and Readiness Officer, Directorate of Operations, HQ United States Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB, FL

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: More than 4,600

Aircraft Flown: C-5 and KC-10

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with five oak leaf clusters

Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with one oak leaf cluster

Combat Readiness Medal with one oak leaf cluster

National Defense Service Medal with bronze star

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 28, 1997

First Lieutenant May 28, 1999

Captain May 28, 2001

Major Jan 01, 2007

Lieutenant Colonel Apr 01, 2012

Colonel Sep 01, 2018