



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL MARK K. CIERO

Colonel Ciero is the Commander and Professor of Aerospace, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 867 at Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont. In this capacity, he leads a cadre instructors in recruiting, educating, training, and professionally developing nearly 250 cadets aspiring to commission as officers in the US Air Force and Space Force.

Prior to this assignment, Colonel Ciero was Director, United States Air Forces in Europe-United Kingdom supporting NATO, US European Command, and other government agencies plan and partner operations with the UK. He also deployed as the Vice Wing Commander, 378th Air Expeditionary Wing, Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, supporting US Central Command with tactical air defense, ground attack, aeromedical evacuation, and integrated theater-wide air defense.

Graduating with honors in 1991 from the AF Academy, Colonel Ciero continued his education at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before completing F-15E Weapon Systems Officer training. With more than 2,700 fighter hours, his flying assignments included Wing Chief, Weapons and Tactics and Standardization and Evaluation. He graduated from the School for Advanced Air and Space Studies prior to commanding the 48th Operations Support Squadron. In 2010, he served as deputy commander to 455th Operations Group, Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan and then attended Harvard Kennedy School of Government. During 2011 to 2012, he deployed as the Deputy Command Inspector General, US Forces-Afghanistan. Colonel Ciero returned to serve as Vice Wing Commander, 48th Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath. In 2014, he joined NATO Allied Air Command as Director of Management, Commander AF Element, and US Senior National Representative. In 2017, he became Deputy Director of Operations, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration for USAFE. Where he assisted with oversight of the tactical nuclear enterprise and operational planning and execution at the 603rd and 609th Air Operations Centers. He flew multiple combat deployments over Iraq and Afghanistan.



Mark is married to his best friend, the former Elaine Sabol, and they have two adult sons, Ben and Jonathan.

EDUCATION

- 1991 Bachelors in Aeronautical Engineering and Engineering Mechanics, USAF Academy, Colo.
- 1993 Masters in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, MIT, Cambridge, Mass.
- 1998 Squadron Officer's School (correspondence and residence), Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2003 Air Command and Staff College (correspondence), Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2006 Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.
- 2006 Masters of Airpower Art and Science, School for Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2009 Air War College (correspondence), Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2011 National Security Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, Mass.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. 1991 - 1993 Student, MIT, Air Force Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.
2. 1993 - 1994 Student, Pilot Training, Vance AFB, Okla.
3. 1994 - 1995 Student, Navigator, Randolph AFB, Texas
4. 1995 - 1996 Student, Fighter-Bomber Navigator, NAS Pensacola, Fla.
5. 1996 - 1999 F-15E Instructor Weapon Systems Officer, Seymour Johnson AFB, North N.C.
6. 1999 - 2003 F-15E Evaluator/Instructor Weapon Systems Officer, RAF Lakenheath, England
7. 2003 - 2004 Special Action Officer, Command Action Group, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Randolph AFB, Texas.
8. 2004 - 2005 Student, Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.
9. 2005 - 2006 Student, School for Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
10. 2006 - 2007 Chief, Wing Weapons and Tactics; Assistant Director of Operations, 48th Operations Support Squadron, RAF Lakenheath, England
11. 2007 - 2008 Director of Operations, 494th Fighter Squadron, RAF Lakenheath, England
12. 2008 - 2009 Commander, 48th Operations Support Squadron, RAF Lakenheath, England
13. 2009 - 2010 Deputy Commander, 48th Operations Group, RAF Lakenheath, England and Deputy Commander, 455th Expeditionary Operations Group, Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan
14. 2010 - 2011 National Security Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, Mass.
15. 2011 - 2012 Deputy Command Inspector General and Senior Audit Liaison Officer, US Forces Afghanistan, New Kabul Compound, Afghanistan
16. 2012 - 2014, Vice Commander, 48th Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath, England
17. 2015 - 2017, Director of Staff, Commander, AF Element and US Senior National Representative, Headquarters AIRCOM
18. 2017 - 2019, USAFE/AFAFRICA Deputy Director of Operations, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, Ramstein Air Base, Germany
19. 2019 - 2020, USAFE-UK Director, RAF Mildenhall, England
20. 2020 - 2021, Vice Commander, 378th Air Expeditionary Wing, Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Master Navigator

Flight Hours: 2,733 (1,199 instructor, 488 combat)

Aircraft: F-15E

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Superior Service Medal

Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster

Bronze Star

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Combat Readiness Medal with two oak leaf clusters

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant May 29, 1991

First Lieutenant May 29, 1993

Captain May 29, 1995

Major March 1, 2002

Lieutenant Colonel March 1, 2006

Colonel August 1, 2011

(Current as of 30 June 2021)