



# BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

## COLONEL JON E. YOST

Colonel Jon E. Yost is the Deputy Director, Mission Integration Directorate (MID), National Reconnaissance Office NRO (NRO), Chantilly VA. In this capacity, Col Yost manages NRO relationships with end-users across the Intelligence Community, Department of Defense, civil, and law enforcement communities, and delivers integrated NRO solutions that empower users with timely, actionable intelligence. He also conducts technical, programmatic, and investment assessments across the NRO Enterprise and provides recommendations to the Director, MID and the Director, NRO.

Col Yost previous served as the Director of Staff for the Air Force Research Laboratory. He led the Commander's 122-person staff directing over \$4.6 billion in Science and Technology strategic investment driving the discovery, development, and integration of warfighter's future Air, Space, and Cyberspace technologies.

Col Yost deployed to Iraq where he first served as the Chief of Northern Affairs, leading the team negotiating peace between Arabs and Kurds in Northern Iraq. He then led a team of 13 Joint Colonels advising Iraq's most senior military and civilian leaders in rebuilding their nation. He was the Senior Military Advisor to the Iraqi 4-star Chief of Staff, Iraq's highest ranking military officer.

Col Yost served as Director of the Pentagon Support Office for the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) where he led a team closing warfighters' operational gaps with the NRO's highest-tech capabilities. Dual hatted, he also built, trained and led a launch team for the NRO's top priority multi-billion dollar next-generation spacecraft. He led teams launching and operating our Nation's most important multi-billion dollar next-generation intelligence and communication satellites with a wide variety of the NRO's most precious satellite constellations, including a command tour of 647-person NRO Space Operations Squadron at the nation's premier satellite ground station.

Col Yost has also served in a variety of Joint Staff and International assignments, including strategic advisor to Canadian national leaders regarding U.S. satellite capabilities, three Department of State Technology Security Teams launching and protecting vital commercial satellite technologies on spacecraft launched overseas on Chinese and Russian boosters from XiChung, China, and at the Baikonur Launch Complex (also known as Tyuratam) in Kazakhstan. He started his career as a Minuteman II and III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) Combat Operator before becoming an Academic and Emergency War Order instructor/evaluator at Vandenberg AFB, CA.



### EDUCATION:

- 1989 Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA - BS in Business Management, Psychology minor
- 1990 Officer Training School, Lackland AFB, TX
- 1991 Missile Combat Crew Training, Vandenberg AFB, CA
- 1996 Squadron Officer's School, Maxwell AFB, AL; Distinguished Graduate, top 7 of 740+ students
- 1997 West Coast University, Los Angeles, CA, MS of Information Management
- 2001 Canadian Command and Staff College, Toronto, ON, Canada; Distinguished Graduate
- 2006 Air War College

## **ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. Jun 1990 – Jun 1994, Flight Commander, 490<sup>th</sup> Strategic Missile Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, MT
2. Jun 1994 – Aug 1997, Academic and EWO Instructor, 392<sup>nd</sup> Training Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA
3. Aug 1997 – May 2000, Operations Flight Commander, Joint Tactics Flight Commander and Chief, Launch Operations, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force (Special Projects), Operating Division 4, Onizuka AFS, CA
4. May 2000 – Jul 2001, Exchange Student, Canadian Command and Staff College, Toronto, ON, Canada
5. Jul 2001 – Aug 2003, Program Director, Directorate of Space Development, USAF Exchange Program, Ottawa, ON, Canada
6. Aug 2003 – Dec 2005, Director of Missions, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force (Special Projects), the Pentagon, Washington, DC
7. Dec 2005 – Jul 2009, Squadron Commander, Space Operations Squadron, the Pentagon, Washington, DC
8. Jul 2009 – Mar 2011, Director, Pentagon Support Group, Mission Support Directorate, National Reconnaissance Office, Special Projects, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, the Pentagon, Washington, DC
9. Mar 2011 – Nov 2011, Chief of Northern Affairs, J35, Enduring Operations, United States Forces, Iraq
10. Nov 2011 – Apr 2012, Chief Senior Military Advisor to Iraqi Joint Headquarters 4-star Chief of Staff
11. Apr 2012 – Jul 2016, Director of Staff, Air Force Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
12. Jul 2016 – Present, Deputy Director, Mission Integration Directorate, National Reconnaissance Office, Chantilly, VA

## **BADGES**

Master Space Operations Badge

Master Missile Operations Badge

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:**

Legion of Merit

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal

Joint Service Achievement Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Meritorious Unit Award

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

Iraq Campaign Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Air & Space Campaign Medal

Air Force Overseas Ribbon Short

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border

## **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:**

Second Lieutenant            Dec 22, 1989

First Lieutenant              Dec 22, 1991

Captain                         Dec 22, 1993

Major                          Mar 01, 2001

Lieutenant Colonel          Mar 01, 2006

Colonel                         Jul 01, 2011