



# BIOGRAPHY



## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### LIEUTENANT COLONEL RICHARD K. HARROP

Lieutenant Colonel Richard Kenji Harrop is the Commander of Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) Detachment 290 and Department Chair of Aerospace Studies at the University of Kentucky (UK). Lt Col Harrop is responsible for training and developing cadets in becoming Air and Space Force professionals and leaders dedicated to serving our Nation. He commands, directs, manages and administers a college-level training and commissioning program with a six person cadre and 130 cadet corps. As Department Chair, he collaborates with UK leadership and staff to ensure program success.

Lt Col Harrop graduated from the University of Alaska Anchorage and received his commission as a second lieutenant through AFROTC in 2002. Since then, he has led diverse positions in the nuclear and missile operations career field. He served as a Minuteman III crew commander and evaluator, Numbered Air Force instructor, and Combatant Command nuclear command, control and communications officer. His staff duties include personnel assignments and Higher Headquarters inspections.



Prior to this assignment, Lt Col Harrop was the Director of Operations, 91st Operations Support Squadron.

#### EDUCATION

- 2002 Bachelor of Education, University of Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, Alaska
- 2007 Master of Public Administration, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Ala.
- 2007 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2015 Master of Military Operational Art/Science, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2016 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala. (correspondence)

#### ASSIGNMENTS

1. October 2002 – September 2003, Student, Space and Missile Operations, 392nd Training Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.
2. September 2003 – November 2004, ICBM Combat Crew Commander Deputy, 321st Missile Squadron, Francis E. Warren AFB, Wyo.
3. November 2004 – October 2005, ICBM Combat Crew Evaluator Deputy Commander, 90th Operations Group, Francis E. Warren AFB, Wyo.
4. October 2005 – May 2006, ICBM Combat Crew Commander, 321st Missile Squadron, Francis E. Warren AFB, Wyo.
5. May 2006 – October 2007, Chief, ICBM Evaluations Procedures, 90th Operations Group, Francis E. Warren AFB, Wyo.
6. October 2007 – February 2009, Chief, Operations Training, 620 Missile Operations Flight, Twentieth Air Force, Francis E. Warren AFB, Wyo.
7. February 2009 – February 2012, Emergency Actions Officer, United States Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb.

8. February 2012 – July 2012, Chief, Space and Missile Joint Assignments, Air Force Personnel Center, Joint Base San Antonio – Randolph, Texas
9. July 2012 – July 2014, Chief, Officer Assignment System Management and Training, Air Force Personnel Center, Joint Base San Antonio – Randolph, Texas
10. July 2014 – June 2015, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
11. June 2015 – September 2016, Chief, Nuclear Operations Inspections, Air Force Inspection Agency, Kirtland AFB, N.M.
12. September 2016 – April 2017, Chief, Maintenance Division, Air Force Inspection Agency, Kirtland AFB, N.M.
13. April 2017 – June 2018, Deputy Director, Nuclear Inspections Directorate, Air Force Inspection Agency, Kirtland AFB, N.M.
14. June 2018 – July 2020, Director of Operations, 91st Operations Support Squadron, Minot AFB, N.D.
15. July 2020 – Present, Commander, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 290, University of Kentucky, Lexington, K.Y.

#### **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Army Commendation Medal

Combat Readiness Medal

National Defense Service Medal

Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with 'N' Device

NATO Medal ISAF

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant      May 2002

First Lieutenant        May 2004

Captain                    May 2006

Major                      June 2012

Lieutenant Colonel      April 2017

(Current as of September 2020)