



United States National Military Representative

Colonel Philip M. Forbes

Colonel Philip M. Forbes is the United States National Military Representative to Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE). He leads a diverse, joint team responsible for ensuring national policies are incorporated into SHAPE planning and operations; force generation for NATO operations; and supporting US manpower and strength management across SACEUR's AOR. Prior to this assignment he was the Director of Research Programs at US European Command's Russia Strategic Initiative (RSI). He also recently served as the Aviation Advisor at the US Delegation to the NATO Military Committee in Brussels, Belgium.

Colonel Forbes graduated from Virginia Tech and received his commission through ROTC in 1998. During his 23 years of service, he has been an instructor navigator, Chief of Current Operations, Chief of Plans and Exercises, Squadron Weapons Officer, Strike Air Division Chief, Chief of Wing Plans, Squadron Commander (garrison and combat), Operations Group Commander (combat) and executive officer to the Principle Deputy Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD/CAPE).

He is a graduate of the US College of Naval Command and Staff, the Maritime Advanced Warfighting School (MAWS), the Eisenhower School of National Security and Resource Strategy, and was the top graduate of the U.S. Air Force Weapons School. He has been married to his wife Lauren for 18 years; together they have two awesome kids, Douglas and Amelia "Minnie".

EDUCATION:

1998 Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management, Virginia Tech

2006 Squadron Officer's School, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL.

2007 US Air Force Weapons School, Hurlburt Field, FL and Nellis Air Force Base, NV.

2009 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence

2010 Masters of Business Administration, Touro University International, Cypress, CA.

2012 Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies, US Naval War College, RI.

2012 Maritime Advanced Warfighting School (MAWS), Newport, RI.

2013 Air War College, by correspondence

2018 Master of Arts in National Security and Resource Strategy, Eisenhower School (ICAF), Washington, D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. June 1998 – May 1999, Student, Undergraduate Navigator Training, Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL.
2. June 1999 – July 2000, Student, Joint Undergraduate Navigator Training, Randolph Air Force Base, TX.
3. August 2000 – November 2004, Instructor Navigator, Assistant Chief of Plans and Exercises, 43rd ECS, Davis- Monthan Air Force Base, AZ.
4. December 2004 – June 2009, Chief of Current Operations, Flight Commander, Chief of Plans and Exercises, Assistant Operations Officer, 16th SOS, Hurlburt Field, FL.
5. June 2009 – June 2011, Chief of Strike Air Division, Aviation Tactics Evaluation Group (JSOC), Ft. Bragg, NC.
6. July 2011 – July 2011, Student, U.S. Naval War College, Newport, RI.
7. August 2011 – September 2012, Student, Maritime Advanced Warfighting School, Newport, RI.
8. September 2012 – August 2013, Chief of Assessments and Policy Analysis, HQ AFSOC, Hurlburt Field, FL.
9. August 2013 – October 2013, Chief Wing Plans & Programs, 1 SOW, Hurlburt Field, FL.
10. November 2013 – July 2015, Commander, 1st Special Operations Air Operations Squadron, Hurlburt Field, FL.
11. July 2015 – September 2016, Deputy Panel Chair, Rapid Global Mobility & Special Ops, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
12. September 2016 – July 2017, Executive Officer to the Principle Deputy Director, OSD/CAPE, Pentagon.
13. August 2017 – July 2018, Student, Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy, Washington, D.C.
14. July 2018 – August 2019, U.S. Military Delegation to the NATO Military Committee, NATO HQ, Brussels, Belgium
15. August 2019 – June 2021, Director of Research Programs, Russia Strategic Initiative, HQ EUCOM, Stuttgart, Germany
16. June 2021 – Present, United States National Military Representative to SHAPE, SHAPE HQ, Belgium

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS:

1. June 2009 – June 2011, Chief, Strike Air Division, Aviation Tactics Evaluation Group (AVTEG), Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC), Fort Bragg, NC as a Major.
2. July 2019 – August 2019, Aviation Planner at the U.S. Military Delegation to the NATO Military Committee, NATO HQ, Brussels Belgium as a Lieutenant Colonel
3. August 2019 – June 2021, Director of Research Programs, US European Command, Stuttgart, Germany as a Colonel
4. June 2021 – Present, United States National Military Representative to SHAPE, SHAPE HQ, Belgium as a Colonel

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Senior Navigator

Flight Hours: 2,246, including over 340 combat and combat support hours

Aircraft Flown: T-34, T-43, C-130E, EC-130H, AC-130H

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Bronze Star with one oak leaf cluster

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters

USAF Weapons School Robbie Risner Award

USAF Weapons School Best Paper & AC-130 Distinguished Graduate Awards

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant 1998

First Lieutenant 2000

Captain 2002

Major 2008

Lieutenant Colonel 2013

Colonel 2019