



# BIOGRAPHY



## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### LIEUTENANT COLONEL MICHAEL J. HOWER

Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Hower is currently the Chief of Squadron Commander Professional Development, and the Community Manager for *Commanders Connection*, the professional forum for Air Force squadron commanders, at Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. Prior to this assignment, he was a student and distinguished graduate of Air Command and Staff College.

Lt Col Hower entered the Air Force after graduation from the Air Force Academy in 1991. He has served at the squadron level in both space & missile operations and developmental engineering assignments across Air Force Space Command, including a one year tour as commander of Detachment 3, 22d Space Operations Squadron, Thule Air Base, Greenland. His staff experience includes a joint assignment with the United States Strategic Command, and internships with the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force and the Director of Developmental Test and Evaluation in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. In 1996, Lt Col Hower was selected for the Air Force Association (Lance P. Sijan chapter) "Operations Excellence" award as the top officer space operator in Air Force Space Command. In 2006, he earned the Frances Hesselbein Leadership Award for advancing the practice of command as the leader of the team creating the first-ever, online professional forum for Air Force squadron commanders.



Lt Col Hower is a command space professional with qualifications in satellite command and control operations, nuclear operations, space control, and developmental engineering.

#### EDUCATION

- 1991 Bachelor of science degree in aeronautical engineering, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.
- 1993 Master of science degree in electrical engineering, Colorado Technical University, Colo.
- 1995 Squadron Officer School, non-resident program, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 1996 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 1999 Master of arts degree in organizational management/business administration, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
- 2002 Air Command and Staff College, non-resident program, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2006 Master of military operational art and science, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Lt Col Hower is a Senior Developmental Education selectee.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. July 1991 – April 1992, Milstar activation officer, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Operating Location Falcon, Falcon AFB, Colo.
2. May 1992 – March 1994, satellite command and control engineer, 4th Space Operations Squadron, Falcon AFB, Colo.
3. March 1994 – July 1994, student, undergraduate missile training, 392d Training Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.
4. July 1994 – June 1997, missile combat crew member (including duties as deputy combat crew commander, combat crew commander, flight commander and instructor) and section commander, 10th Missile Squadron, Malmstrom AFB, Mont.
5. July 1997 – May 1999, student, Air Force Intern Program, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
6. May 1999 – August 1999, student, space control initial qualification training, 533rd Training Squadron, Detachment 1, Schriever AFB, Colo.
7. August 1999 – May 2002, crew commander, chief of operations training, and mission support flight commander, 1st Space Control Squadron, Cheyenne Mountain AFS, Colo.
8. June 2002 – June 2004, executive assistant and command secretariat, Headquarters United States Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb.
9. July 2004 – June 2005, commander, Detachment 3, 22d Space Operations Squadron, Thule Air Base, Greenland.
10. July 2005 – June 2006, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
11. June 2006 – present, Chief, Squadron Commander Professional Development, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

## **MISSILE/SPACE INFORMATION**

Badges: Command Space Badge

Systems: Milstar, Minuteman III, Space Defense Operations Center, Air Force Satellite Control Network

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal

## **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

Honor (Distinguished) Graduate, Undergraduate Missile Training, 1994

Air Force Association (Lance P. Sijan Chapter) "Operations Excellence" Award, 1996

Distinguished Graduate, Space Control Initial Qualification Training, 1999

Air Force Space Command Safety Award of Distinction, 2001

Distinguished Graduate, Air Command and Staff College, 2006

Frances Hesselbein Leadership Award, 2006

Field Grade Officer of the Year, Air Command and Staff College, 2006

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS**

Civil Air Patrol

Professional Association of Diving Instructors

## **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, 2007

(Current as of September 2007)