

Minot Air Force Base



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COLONEL CHRISTOPHER B. AYRES

Colonel Christopher B. Ayres commands the 91st Missile Wing at Minot Air Force Base, N.D. He leads more than 1,600 Air Force men and women in support of the nation's land-based intercontinental ballistic missile force. The wing operates, maintains and keeps secure 150 Minuteman III ICBMs, 15 missile alert facilities and 150 remote launch facilities covering an 8,500-square mile area in central North Dakota. The wing also maintains eight UH-1N helicopters in support of missile field activities.

Colonel Ayres is a 'tiger' graduate of Clemson University and was commissioned through ROTC in 1985 as a distinguished graduate. He has held key leadership positions in Ground Launch Cruise Missile (GLCM) and Space, and Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) squadrons, wings and theater headquarters staffs. His leadership positions have included GLCM crew commander and senior missile crew; space and missile warning deputy crew commander, crew commander, flight commander, ICBM operations officer, and ICBM squadron commander. Colonel Ayres has also had multiple assignments in joint operations while assigned to Headquarters, United States Space Command; Headquarters, United States European Command; and the Joint Staff. Colonel Ayres is a command space and missile operator with more than 21 years of experience.



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EDUCATION:

1985 Bachelor of Science, Engineering Technology, Clemson University, S.C.

1990 Squadron Officer's School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

1995 Masters of Science, Space Operations, University of Colorado, Colo.

1996 U.S. Air Force Space Tactics School (AFSPC), Falcon Air Force Base, Colo.

2000 Masters of Science, Military Operational Art and Science, USAF Air Command and Staff College, Montgomery, Ala.

2004 Masters of Science, National Security Strategy, National War College, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. November 1985 - February 1986, student, ground launch cruise missile, 868th Tactical Missile Training Squadron, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.
2. February 1986 - January 1988, ground launch cruise missile launch control officer, Senior Instructor Deputy Combat Crew Commander, 71st Tactical Missile Squadron, Florennes Air Base, BE
3. January 1988 - April 1990, ground launch cruise missile operations procedure instructor; operations dispersal instructor, 868th Tactical Missile Training Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.
4. April 1990 - July 1990, student, Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
5. July 1990 - September 1993, Deputy Crew Commander, Space Surveillance Center; Chief, Space Surveillance Center; Deputy Crew Commander, Space Defense Operations Center, Space Control Operations Division, Operations Directorate, Headquarters, U.S. Space Command, Colo.
6. September 1993 - January 1996, Flight Commander; Chief, Operations Plans Flight; Commander, Operations Support Flight, 4th Space Warning Squadron, Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico
7. January 1996 - June 1996, student, U.S. Air Force Space Tactics School, Falcon AFB, Colo.
8. June 1996 - June 1998 space operations officer, Command and Control Division, Operations Directorate J-3, Headquarters, U.S. European Command, Stuttgart, Germany
9. June 1998 - June 1999 Executive Officer, Operations Directorate J-3, Headquarters, U.S. European Command, Stuttgart, Germany
10. June 1999 - June 2000, student, USAF Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
11. June 2000 - October 2000, student, 392nd Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Training Squadron, Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.
12. October 2000 - June 2001, operations officer, 12th Missile Squadron, Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont.
13. June 2001 - June 2003, Commander, 12th Missile Squadron, Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont.
14. June 2003 - June 2004, student, National War College, Fort McNair, Washington DC
15. June 2004 - June 2006, Chief, Space and Missile Defense Operations, Operations Directorate J-3, The Joint Staff, Washington DC
16. June 2006 - May 2008, Commander, 460th Operations Group, Buckley Air Force Base, Colo.
17. May 2008 - present, Commander, 91st Missile Wing, Minot Air Force Base, N.D.

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Legion of Merit
 Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster
 Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster
 Joint Service Commendation Medal
 Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster
 Joint Service Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster
 Combat Readiness Medal with Bronze Star
 National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star
 Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
 1995 USAF Lance P. Sijan Leadership Award

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant August 1985
 First Lieutenant August 1987
 Captain August 1989

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Major August 1997
Lieutenant Colonel May 2001
Colonel March 2006

(Current as of May 2008)

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