

US AIR FORCE SONG

Off we go into the wild blue yonder,
Climbing high into the sun;
Here they come zooming to meet our thunder,
At 'em now, Give 'em the gun!
Down we dive, spouting our flame from under,
Off with one helluva roar!
We live in fame or go down in flame. Hey!
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!



28th Bomb Wing
Friday, 25 July 2025
0928
Dock 33
Ellsworth AFB, SD

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

Major General Jason R. Armagost



Maj Gen Jason R. Armagost is the Commander, Eighth Air Force, and Commander, Joint-Global Strike Operations Center (J-GSOC), Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. "The Mighty Eighth" is responsible for the service's bomber force and airborne nuclear command and control assets, encompassing approximately 24,000 Airmen across six installations, and proudly operating more than 150 E-4, B-1, B-2, B-52 and T-38 aircraft. The J-GSOC serves as the central command and control node for all operations within Air Force Global Strike Command, orchestrating warfighting and readiness activities for the Commander, Air Forces Strategic. Maj Gen Armagost graduated from the United States Air Force Academy and was commissioned in 1992. He has served in multiple operational and training assignments and logged more than 2,900 hours in the B-2A, F-16CJ, F-16CG, B-1B, B-52H and T-38A. His notable educational and staff assignments include a fellowship at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University, California, Chief of Nuclear Operations on the Joint Staff at the Pentagon, and Director of Strategic Plans, Programs, and Requirements at Air Force Global Strike Command. Maj Gen Armagost commanded the 13th Bomb Squadron at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, the 5th Bomb Wing at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, and the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. His operational assignments supported contingency operations during operations Desert Strike, Southern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, Inherent Resolve, Freedom's Sentinel and Deliberate Resolve. He also served as the Deputy Commanding General for Security Assistance Group-Ukraine, where he led coordination of the DoD's historic security assistance support effort to the Ukrainian government. Further, he has flown numerous combat missions in the F-16CJ, B-2A, B-1B and the B-52H.

Colonel Derek C. Oakley



Col Derek Oakley is commander of the 28th Bomb Wing, Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, the largest B-1 combat wing in the United States Air Force, with more than 8,500 active-duty military, civilian employees, and family members. He provides combat-ready aircraft, crews and associated combat support for global engagement taskings. Col. Oakley received his commission from the United States Air Force Officer Training School in May 2000. He graduated from pilot training at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, and was operationally assigned to the B-1B. He has served in a variety of flying squadrons as an instructor and evaluator pilot in the B-1B, T-6, and T-38. He commanded a T-6 squadron at Columbus Air Force Base and served on the Joint Staff as the Director of the Joint Targeting School, Dam Neck Naval Air Station, Virginia. He served as the director of the B-21 Integration and System Management Office where he liaised between Air Force Global Strike Command and the Department of the Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office, supporting development of the B-21 Raider, the Air Force's Top 3 priority acquisition program. Prior to his current assignment, Col Oakley commanded the 28th Operations Group at Ellsworth, the largest operational B-1B group in the U.S. Air Force with one operations support squadron, two bomb squadrons and management of the Powder River Training Complex. Col Oakley is a command pilot with over 3,400 flight hours in the B-1B, T-38, T-6, and T-37, including 991 combat hours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Colonel Erick D. Lord



Col Erick D. Lord recently served as the Deputy Commander, 2d Bomb Wing, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. In that role, he assisted the Commander in leading a total force of more than 9,200 military and civilian personnel, supporting 4,800 family members and 25,000 retirees, while stewarding a \$4 billion, 22,000-acre installation with a \$1 billion annual economic impact. He also shared responsibility for maintaining the combat readiness of 28 B-52H Stratofortress aircraft and the employment of four groups and three operational squadrons in support of United States Strategic Command and geographic combatant commanders. Col Lord commissioned through Officer Training School in 2003 as a Distinguished Graduate. His operational background includes a variety of B-1B flying assignments and command of the 9th Bomb Squadron at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. He has served in headquarters staff positions at the Pentagon, the Joint Staff, and completed fellowships with the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. A master navigator, he has accumulated more than 2,600 flight hours, including combat missions supporting Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, Freedom's Sentinel, and Inherent Resolve.

Sequence of Events

Opening Narration

Arrival of Official Party

Musical Honors

Presentation of Colors

National Anthem

Invocation

*Remarks
Major General Armagost*

Award Presentation

*Remarks
Colonel Oakley*

Last Salute

Change of Command

*Remarks
Colonel Lord*

First Salute

Closing Narration

Air Force Song

Departure of Official Party

Reception

