



BIOGRAPHY

Ohio Air National Guard

Colonel Richard L. Lohnes

Colonel Richard L. Lohnes is the Commander of the 178th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, located at Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport, Springfield, Ohio. In his role as a full time Air Technician, he serves in the capacity as an F-16 Flying Training Instructor Pilot. He is responsible for all 178th FW staff direction to include support for the 251st Combat Communication Group, 269th Combat Communication Squadron and the 123rd Air Control Squadron.

Colonel Lohnes was born June 9, 1952 in Springfield, Ohio where he graduated from Shawnee High School in 1970. He graduated from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio as a Distinguished Military Graduate (Cum Laude), and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant through the Air Force ROTC program in 1974.



Following graduation, then Lieutenant Lohnes was placed in an inactive reserve status while he waited for an Undergraduate Pilot Training course date. During this period, he served as an assistant coach for the 1975 National Champion Wittenberg University Football team in Springfield, Ohio. In 1975, he attended USAF Undergraduate Pilot Training at Craig AFB, Alabama. In 1976, he was transferred to the 162nd Tactical Fighter Squadron, Ohio Air National Guard, through the Palace Chase program where he was an F-100D/F pilot. As the unit converted to the A-7D aircraft, he continued to fly while also performing duties such as Safety Officer, Instructor Pilot and Stan Eval Flight Evaluator. In 1981, he was named as Chief of Stan Eval. In 1990, Colonel Lohnes served as the Chief of Safety where he remained until selected as the Logistics Group Commander in 1995. Colonel Lohnes was appointed Commander of the 178th Operations Group on July 1, 1999, and has over 4400 hours in jet fighters including combat missions over Iraq. In August 2001 he became the 178 FW Vice Commander and then the 178 FW Commander in August 2003.

Education:

- 1976 United States Air Force Undergraduate Pilot Training
- 1977 F-100 Combat Crew Training School
- 1978 A-7D Combat Crew Training School
- 1981 A-7D IP Upgrade Course
- 1983 Air Command and Staff College (Seminar)
- 1985 A-7D Tactical Leadership Course
- 1992 Air War College (Seminar)
- 1992 Chief of Safety Course
- 1993 F-16 Replacement Training Unit and Instructor Pilot Upgrade
- 1998 Logistics Group Commander's Course

Assignments:

1. June 1974 - December 1975, Inactive United States Air Force Reserve
2. December 1975 - November 1976, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Craig AFB, Alabama
3. December 1976 - January 1978, 162nd Tactical Fighter Squadron Pilot (F-100D/F), Springfield ANGB, Ohio
4. February 1978 - January 1981, 162nd Tactical Fighter Squadron Pilot (A-7D)
5. February 1981 - January 1990, 178th Tactical Fighter Group, Flying Training Instructor, Springfield, ANGB, Ohio
6. February 1990 - August 1995, 178th Fighter Wing, Chief of Safety
7. September 1995 - July 1999, 178th Logistics Group Commander
8. August 1996 – September 1996, Operation Southern Watch and Operation Desert Strike, Detachment Commander
9. May 1997, Operation Northern Watch Pilot and Mission Commander
10. July 1999 – August 2001, 178th Fighter Wing, Operations Group Commander
11. August 2001 – August 2003, 178th Fighter Wing, Vice Wing Commander
12. August 2003 – present, 178th Fighter Wing, Commander

Flight Information:

Rating: Command Pilot

Flying Hours: 4400 +

Aircraft Flown: F-100 D/F, A-7 D/K, F-16 C/D

Major Awards and Decorations:

Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with 2 Devices

United States Air Force Air Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

Combat Readiness Medal with 1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

National Defense Services Medal

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Air Force Longevity Service Award with one Silver Oak Leaf Cluster

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with one Silver Oak Leaf Cluster

Small Arms Expert Medal

Air Force Training Ribbon

Ohio Faithful Service Ribbon with three Oak Leaf Clusters

Effective Dates of Promotion:

Second Lieutenant	June 1974
First Lieutenant	July 1977
Captain	May 1980
Major	May 1984
Lieutenant Colonel	August 1990
Colonel	October 2000

Current as of Aug. 2004