



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL MICHAEL W. BANK

Col. Bank, Jr., commands the 106th Rescue Wing at F.S. Gabreski Air National Guard base, Westhampton Beach, N.Y. The 106th Rescue Wing consists of four groups with over 1,000 military and civilian personnel. The wing operates HC-130 Hercules tanker aircraft and HH-60 Pavehawk helicopters supporting Air Force Personnel Recovery operations, performs civil search and rescue missions as directed and assists state emergency response and disaster relief as directed by the Governor of New York. Col. Bank also serves as the Commander of the military Joint Task Forces for the Long Island region available to support civil authorities when activated upon order from the Joint Forces Headquarters, N.Y.

Colonel Bank attended Florida Ag & Mech University and received a Bachelor of Computer and Information Systems degree. He entered the four-year ROTC program at Florida State University in 1984 and received his commission May 2, 1988. From 1990 to 1994, Colonel Bank was an Instructor Navigator assigned to the 644th Bomb Squadron at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base. He joined the New York Air National Guard at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in 1994 and has held numerous positions, including Chief of Wing Plans, Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Commander, 136th Air Squadron Commander, and Operations Group Commander. Colonel Bank is a former senior navigator in the B-52H and KC-135R with over 1,800 total flight hours and is currently a command pilot with over 5,000 total flight hours.



EDUCATION

- 1988 Bachelor of Computer and Information Systems, Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University, Tallahassee, Fla.
- 1996 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
- 2002 Air Command Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2006 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2014 Joint and Combined Warfighting School, Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. April 1990 – September 1994, Navigator at 644th Bomb Squadron at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base
2. September 1994 – November 1999, Navigator, 107th Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, Buffalo, N.Y.
3. November 1999 – June 2000, Co-pilot, 107th Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, Buffalo, N.Y.
4. June 2000 – June 2005, Chief of Wing Plans, 107th Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, Buffalo, N.Y.
5. June 2005 – October 2006, 107th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Commander, Buffalo, N.Y.
6. October 2006 – September 2008, 136th Air Squadron Operations Officer
7. September 2008 – January 2013, 107th Operations Group Air Operations Officer & 136th Air Squadron Commander
8. January 2013 – January 2015, 107th Operations Group Commander, Buffalo, N.Y.
9. January 2015 – April 2016, 107th Airlift Wing Vice-Commander, Buffalo, N.Y.
10. April 2016 – Present, 106th Rescue Wing Commander, F.S. Gabreski Air National Guard Base, Westhampton Beach, N.Y.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot - 2014, Senior Navigator - 1989
Flight Hours: More than 5,000

FLIGHT INFORMATION Cont'd

Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-1, B-52, KC-135R, C-130H

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Air Force Air Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Air Force Commendation Medal
Meritorious Unit Award
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device
Combat Readiness Medal with nine oak leaf clusters
National Defense Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Southwest Asia Service Medal
Afghanistan Campaign Medal
Humanitarian Service Medal
Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Air Force Overseas Ribbon Short
Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border and two oak leaf clusters
Air Force Longevity Service with five oak leaf clusters
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with one 'M' device
NATO medal
Mississippi Emergency Service Medal
Defense of Liberty Ribbon

STATE AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

New York Long and Faithful Service Award with four oak leaf clusters

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant, July 15, 1988
First Lieutenant, July 15, 1990
Captain, July 15, 1992
Major, March 21, 1997
Lieutenant Colonel, Jan. 21, 2003
Colonel, Jan 24, 2013

(Current as of June 2017)