



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN R. EDWARDS

Brig Gen John R. Edwards is the Director, Nuclear Enterprise Directorate, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He leads a team responsible for mission assurance, nuclear surety, logistics, education, inspections and contingency operations in support of the nuclear enterprise.

Brig Gen Edwards graduated from the University of Hawaii's Air Force ROTC program in 1995. He later earned his navigator wings and naval flight officer rating from Pensacola Naval Air Station, Florida. He was the commander of the 28th Bomb Wing at Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, 479th Flying Training Group at Pensacola Naval Air Station, Florida, and 96th Bomb Squadron at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. He also served in various key positions including on the Joint Staff J-3 Operations Directorate and J-8 Force Structure, Resources and Assessment Directorate, U.S. Air Force Headquarters Executive Action Group and Checkmate Division, and U.S. Air Forces Central Command. Prior to his current assignment, Brig Gen Edwards was the Director of the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Executive Action Group.



Brig Gen Edwards is a master combat systems officer with more than 2,500 flight hours including 237 combat hours accrued during Operations Allied Force and Enduring Freedom.

EDUCATION

1995 Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii
2000 Weapons Instructor Course (Distinguished Graduate), USAF Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev
2001 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala
2003 Master of Arts in Organizational Science, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
2007 Master of Military Operational Arts & Sciences (Distinguished Graduate), Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala
2008 Master of Airpower Art & Science, School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Ala
2009 Air War College (correspondence), Maxwell AFB, Ala
2013 National Defense Fellow, Stimson Center, Washington, D.C.
2013 Joint and Combined Warfighting School, National Defense University, Norfolk, Va
2015 Leadership Development Program, Center for Creative Leadership, Colorado Springs, CO
2017 Enterprise Perspective Seminar, Capitol Hill, Washington D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. July 1995 – November 1996, student, Joint Specialized Navigator Training, Randolph AFB, Texas
2. December 1996 – May 1997, student, B-52H Formal Training Unit, Barksdale AFB, La
3. June 1997 – December 2000, B-52H Electronic Warfare Officer, Flight Scheduler, Instructor, and then Chief of Flight Scheduling, 20th Bomb Squadron, Barksdale AFB, La
4. January 2001 – June 2002, Weapons Officer, Flight Examiner and Assistant Flight Commander, 96th Bomb Squadron, Barksdale AFB, La
5. July 2002 – May 2003, Air Force Intern Program, rotations on the Joint Staff J-3 Operations Directorate and the Air Staff's Air and Space Operations Checkmate Division, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
6. June 2003 – September 2003, Action Officer, Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff Executive Action Group, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

7. October 2003 – July 2006, Instructor and Flight Commander, 340th Weapons Squadron, USAF Weapons School, 57th Wing, Nellis AFB, Nev
8. August 2006 – June 2007, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala
9. July 2007 – June 2008, student, School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Ala
10. July 2008 – July 2010, Branch Chief, then Deputy Division Chief, Strategy and Plans, 9th Air Force and U.S. Air Forces Central Command, Shaw AFB, SC
11. August 2010 – February 2011, Chief of Safety, 2nd Bomb Wing, Barksdale AFB, La
12. March 2011 – June 2012, Commander, 96th Bomb Squadron, Barksdale AFB, La
13. July 2012 – August 2013, National Defense Visiting Fellow, Stimson Center, Washington, D.C.
14. September 2013 – June 2015, Chief of Future Strategic Concepts, then Director Joint Strategic Innovation Group, J-8 Force Structure, Resources, and Assessment Directorate, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
15. July 2015 – July 2017, Commander, 479th Flying Training Group, Pensacola NAS, Fla
16. August 2017 – May 2019, Commander, 28th Bomb Wing, Ellsworth AFB, SD
17. June 2019 – May 2020, Director, Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Executive Action Group, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
18. June 2020 – present, Director, Nuclear Enterprise Directorate, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Fort Belvoir, VA

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. September 2013 – June 2015, Chief of Future Strategic Concepts, then Director Joint Strategic Innovation Group, J-8 Force Structure, Resources, and Assessment Directorate, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., as a lieutenant colonel and colonel
2. June 2020 – present, Director, Nuclear Enterprise Directorate, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Fort Belvoir, VA, as a brigadier general

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Master Combat Systems Officer
 Flight hours: more than 2,500
 Combat hours: 237
 Aircraft: B-1, B-52, T-1, T-6, T-37, T-39, and T-43

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Superior Service Medal
 Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster
 Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
 Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters
 Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

2011 Operation Linebacker Trophy for best B-52 squadron in USAF
 2018 & 2019 Commander in Chief Installation Excellence Award for best base in Air Force Global Strike Command
 2019 Aviation Week and Space Technology International Laureate Award for Innovation
 2019 Brigadier General Frederick Castle Award for best bomb wing in USAF

PUBLICATIONS

The Role of U.S. Nuclear Weapons in Assuring South Korea, Nuclear Notes, Center for Strategic and International Studies, 2013
David C. Jones, Air Force Magazine, August 2014

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	May 14, 1995
First Lieutenant	May 31, 1997
Captain	May 31, 1999
Major	November 1, 2005
Lieutenant Colonel	March 1, 2009
Colonel	October 1, 2014
Brigadier General	Frooked

(Current as of 29 May 2020)