



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MATTHEW T. OLSON

Lieutenant Colonel Matthew T. Olson is the commander of the 554th RED HORSE Squadron, Andersen AFB, Guam. He provides leadership for the Pacific Air Force's sole combat engineer unit; a highly mobile squadron 196-person squadron with engineer, logistics, vehicle maintenance, and services capabilities. He ensures the mission readiness of 20 equipment UTCs including 2,000 tons of deployable equipment. The squadron also provides Silver Flag contingency training to 1,400 Pacific Air Force Civil Engineer and Force Support Airmen annually.

Lieutenant Colonel Olson entered the Air Force in 2001, obtaining his commission from Officer Training School at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. He has served in a variety of assignments at the installation and major command levels.

Prior to this assignment, Lieutenant Colonel Olson served as the Deputy Commander of the 820th RED HORSE Squadron at Nellis AFB, NV.



EDUCATION

- 2000 – Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL
- 2007 – Squadron Officers School, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2009 – Master of Science, Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
- 2012 – Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 2001 – June 2004, Programmer and Environmental Flight Deputy Commander, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, Whiteman AFB, MO
2. July 2004 – July 2007, Chief of Maintenance Engineering and Readiness Flight Commander, 4th Civil Engineer Squadron, Seymour Johnson AFB, NC
 - September 2004 – January 2005, Maintenance Engineer, 386th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait
 - March 2006 – September 2006, Project Engineer, 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, Al Udeid AB, Qatar
3. August 2007 – April 2009, Student, Engineering Management Program, Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
4. May 2009 – July 2012, Operations Flight Commander, 627th Civil Engineer Squadron, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA
 - February 2010 – November 2010, Chief Engineer, Provincial Reconstruction Team Paktya, FOB Gardez, Afghanistan
 - January 2012 – July 2012, Operations Division Chief, Installations Directorate, United States Air Forces Central Command, Al Udeid AB, Qatar

5. August 2012 – November 2014, Chief, Strategic Plans Branch and Chief, Emergency Management and Modernization Branch, Directorate of Installations and Mission Support, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA
April 2014 – November 2014, Command Engineer, Logistics Directorate, Special Operations Command Central Forward Headquarters, Al Udeid AB, Qatar
6. December 2014 – June 2016, Chief, Mission Support Inspection Branch, Office of the Inspector General, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA
7. July 2016 – December 2017: Deputy Commander, 820th RED HORSE Squadron, Nellis AFB, NV
8. Jan 2018 – Present: Commander, 554th RED HORSE Squadron, Andersen AFB, GU

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Bronze Star Medal
Defense Meritorious Service Medal
Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters and V-device
Air Force Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster
Army Achievement Medal
Joint Meritorious Unit Award
Army Valorous Unit Award
Meritorious Unit Award with oak leaf cluster
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three oak leaf clusters and V-device
Air Force Organizational Excellence Award
Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one device
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
NATO Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	24 May 2001
First Lieutenant	24 May 2003
Captain	24 May 2005
Major	1 January 2011
Lieutenant Colonel	1 April 2016

(Current as of August 2019)