



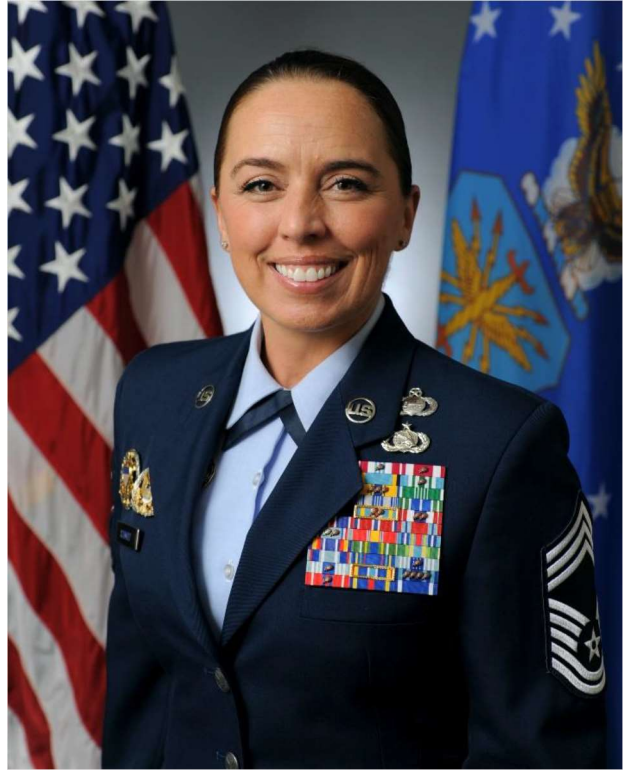
BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT MERISSA K. SCHMIDT

Chief Merissa K. Schmidt is the Senior Enlisted Leader, 36th Operations Group, 36th Wing, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. She advises the Commander on the organization, training, and equipping of 1.3K personnel across 11 assigned & tenant units to sustain all-domain power projection of expeditionary multi-national forces throughout the Second Island Chain for U.S. Indo-Pacific Command's theater strategy. She ensures readiness for safe airfield operations of 18 thousand annual sorties & in preparation to execute the pacing Operations Plan at Pacific Air Forces' largest Bomber Task Force and Agile Combat Employment hub.

Chief Schmidt grew up in Stockton, Missouri, a small lake town in the Ozarks. She enlisted in the Air Force in May 1998 as a Visual Information Specialist and cross-trained as an All-Source Intelligence Analyst in 2008. She operated at levels of leadership on The Joint Staff, Secretary of the Air Force, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command (HQ AETC), Indo-Pacific Command, Strategic Command (STRATCOM), U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE), Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), and Air Combat Command. She enabled legislative affairs, security cooperation, information warfare, line-haul, aerial refueling, and multi-national efforts for Operations IRAQI FREEDOM, ODYSSEY DAWN, UNIFIED PROTECTOR, GALLANT PHOENIX, ALLIES REFUGE, and ALLIES WELCOME.



Prior to her current position, she was the Senior Enlisted Leader, Directorate of Intelligence, Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber), Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, TX.

EDUCATION

- 2002 Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, Wayland Baptist University, San Antonio, TX
- 2002 Airman Leadership School, Hickam Air Force Base (AFB), HI
- 2003 Associate of Applied Science in Audio-Visual, Community College of the Air Force (CCAF), Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2008 Mobility Air Force Intelligence Formal Training Unit, Fort McGuire, NJ
- 2009 AF Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Kapaun Air Station, Germany
- 2009 Advanced Airlift Mobility Intelligence Course, Rosecrans Air National Guard Base, MO
- 2010 Associate of Applied Science in Communications Applications Technology, CCAF, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2010 Basic Combat Convoy Course, Medium, Camp Anderson-Peters, TX
- 2011 Master of Arts in International Relations & Conflict Resolution, American Military University, Charles Town, WV
- 2014 Air Operations Center Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Qualification Course, Hurlburt Field, FL
- 2016 Senior Enlisted Intelligence Master Skills Course, Goodfellow AFB, TX
- 2016 AF Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy (AFSNCOA), Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2016 AFSOC Air Commando Development Course, Hurlburt Field, FL
- 2018 Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education II, Fort McNair, Washington, DC, by correspondence
- 2018 Joint Special Operations Forces Senior Enlisted Academy, MacDill AFB, FL
- 2019 United States Army Sergeants Major Academy, Fort Bliss, TX, by correspondence

2020 Master's Certificate in Legislative Studies, Government Affairs Institute, Georgetown University, Washington, DC
2021 Chief Master Sergeant Leadership Course, Maxwell-Gunter AFB, AL
2023 Group Command Team Course & Senior Enlisted Legal Orientation, Maxwell AFB, AL

ASSIGNMENTS

1. May 1998 - June 1998, Basic Trainee, Basic Military Training, Lackland AFB, TX
2. June 1998 - October 1998, Student, Defense Information School, Fort George G. Meade, MD
3. October 1998 - March 2002, Visual Information Specialist, HQ AETC, Randolph AFB, TX
4. April 2002 - March 2006, NCOIC, Image Quality & Utility, Joint Intelligence Center-Pacific, NAS Pearl Harbor, HI
5. April 2006 - February 2008, Graphics NCO, National Airborne Operations Center, Offutt AFB, NE
6. March 2008 - September 2008, Student, 315th Training Squadron, Goodfellow AFB, TX
7. October 2008 - December 2011, Flight Chief, Intelligence Flight, 100th Operations Group, RAF Mildenhall, UK
(Deployed February 2010 - September 2010, S2, 424th Medium Truck Detachment, Joint Logistics Task Force)
8. January 2012 - March 2013, Flight Chief, Fusion Team, 11th Intelligence Squadron (11 IS), Hurlburt Field, FL
(September 2012 - December 2012, Superintendent, Detachment 1, 11 IS, Pope Army Airfield, NC)
9. March 2013 - January 2014, Intelligence Superintendent, 720th Operations Support Squadron, Hurlburt Field, FL
10. February 2014 - February 2015, Flight Chief, Analysis, Correlation, & Fusion, 607 AOC, Osan AB, ROK
11. February 2015 - May 2019, Squadron Superintendent, 724th Intelligence Squadron, Pope Army Airfield, NC
(Deployed June 2017 - October 2017, J2 Senior Enlisted Advisor, Combined Joint Interagency Task Force)
12. May 2019 - December 2020, Air Force Legislative Fellow, Secretary of Air Force Legislative Liaison, the Pentagon, Washington, DC
(August 2019 - December 2019, Defense Legislative Fellow, USSOCOM Office of Legislative Affairs, Washington, DC)
(January 2020 - December 2020, Defense Legislative Fellow, Office of Senator Cramer, Capitol Hill, Washington, DC)
13. January 2021 - January 2022, Deputy Legislative Assistant to the CJCS, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Pentagon, Washington, DC
14. January 2022 - May 2023, Senior Enlisted Leader, Directorate for Intelligence, Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber), Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, TX
15. June 2023 - Present, Senior Enlisted Leader, 36th Operations Group, Andersen Air Force Base, GU

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Aerial Achievement Medal
Joint Service Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster
Air & Space Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters
Army Commendation Medal
Air & Space Achievement Medal
Army Achievement Medal

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2000 Senior Airman Below-the-Zone, Randolph AFB, TX
2002 Distinguished Graduate, Airman Leadership School, Hickam AFB, HI
2008 Distinguished Graduate, Operations Intelligence Apprentice Course, Goodfellow AFB, TX
2011 USAFE Intelligence, Surveillance, & Reconnaissance (ISR) Noncommissioned Officer of the Year
2014 Seventh Air Force ISR Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year
2015 724th Special Tactics Group Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year
2015 & 2017 AFSOC ISR Squadron of the Year (as Squadron SEL)
2016 AFSNCOA Chief Master Sergeant Richard L. Etchberger Team Award
2017 AFSOC ISR Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year
2018 Distinguished Honor Graduate, Joint Special Operations Forces Senior Enlisted Academy, MacDill AFB, FL

EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROMOTION

Chief Master Sergeant 1 September 2020

(Current as of April 2024)