UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL JAMES R. HAMILTON

Colonel James R. Hamilton, DSL, is the 12th Air Force (Air Forces Southern) Director of Communications and Cyber Forces, Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ. He leads a staff of 27 military and civilian personnel that directly support the 612th Air Operations Center, U.S. Southern Command counterdrug operations, Air Combat Command and Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed exercises and contingencies, providing communications and cyber operations support throughout the Caribbean and Latin American theater of operations with its 31 Partner nations and Allied territories.

Colonel Hamilton enlisted in the Air Force in 1992 serving as a mainframe computer electronics technician. He received his commission through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Angelo State University in 1998. He then served as an Aircraft Maintenance Officer supporting B-1B Lancer flightline and backshop maintenance operations. He led initial Air Force efforts on Public Key Infrastructure, Digital European Backbone decommissioning, served as Integrated Network Security and Operations Center-West Director of Operations, joint cyber planner for DISA-Europe supporting EUCOM and AFRICOM, and led cyber operations at the Air Force Technology Application Center to support nuclear treaty monitoring. He then commanded the 317 Recruiting Squadron supporting the National Capitol Region spanning more than 43,000 square miles to access over 1,000 officers and airmen annually. As NATO HQ's International Military Staff's Information and Knowledge Manager and Security Officer he led business process enhancement and advised senior leaders on doctrine, directives and practices for NATO-wide governance adaption. Most recently he served as NATO's J3 for deployable CIS, directly supporting theater-wide operations and exercises for the 29-Nation Alliance.

Additionally, he has served in various roles in United Nations Operations, at both major commands and joint staffs and headquarters. Colonel Hamilton is married to the former Jeanna Wakefield and loves Airmanship, mentoring Airmen, and all things Blue!

EDUCATION:

1996 Associates degree, Applied Science, Community College of the Air Force
1998 Associates degree, Kinesiology, Howard College, San Angelo, TX
1998 Bachelors degree, General Studies, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX
2001 Masters degree, Aerospace Management, Embry-Riddle University, Rapid City, SD
2004 Squadron Officer School, DL & Maxwell AFB, AL
2008 Air Command and Staff College, DL
2010 Joint Professional Military Education Phase II, Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, VA
2011 Post Graduate Certificate, Organizational Leadership, Northcentral University
2012 Cyber 300, Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
2013 Air War College, DL
2014 Cyber 400, National Defense University, Washington D.C.
2022 Doctorate degree, Strategic Leadership, Liberty University, VA

ASSIGNMENTS:

Aug 1992 – Jun 1993; Basic trainee, BMTS, Lackland AFB, TX; Student, Computer and System Switching Electronics School, Keesler AFB, MS
Jun 1993 – Aug 1996; Computer Technician, Goodfellow AFB, TX.
Jun 1998 – Sep 2001; Fabrication Flight Commander; Avionics Flight Commander; Sortie Support Flight Commander; Logistics Group Executive Officer; Plans Flight Officer in Charge, Ellsworth AFB, SD
Sep 2001 – Oct 2004; Air Mobility Squadron Executive Officer, Ramstein AB, GE; Maintenance Flight Commander, Kapaun AB, GE

Oct 2004 – Oct 2006; Secure Systems Branch Chief, Communications Functional Manager, Logistics and Warfighting Integration Executive Officer; 561st NOS Director of Operations, Peterson AFB, CO
Oct 2009 – Aug 2012; DISA Watch Officer; Coalitions Network Lead; Strategic Plans and Programs Officer, Patch Barracks, Stuttgart, GE
Aug 2012 – May 2015; Deputy Cyber Division Chief; Cyber Division Chief, Air Force Technical Applications Center, Patrick AFB, FL
May 2015 – Jun 2017; 317 Recruiting Squadron Commander, Oxon Hill, MD
Aug 2017 – Aug 2019; NATO HQ International Military Staff Information and Knowledge Manager & Security Officer, Brussels, BE
Sep 2019 – Aug 2022; NATO Computer Information Services Group J3 Division Head, Mons, BE
Aug 2022 – Present; 12 Air Force Director of Communications, Davis-Monthan, AZ

DEPLOYMENTS:
United Arab Emirates, Feb - Jun 2001
Communications Element Commander; responsible for base terrestrial and satellite communications, plans, Information Assurance, liaison with host nation telecoms
United Nations Mission to Ethiopia and Eritrea, Jan - Jul 2007
Team Site Operations officer; scheduled reconnaissance missions, tracked troop movement, coord daily U.N. HQ SITREPS, liaison with local Ethiopian military commanders and Governmental Agencies
Iraq, Oct 2008 - Mar 2009
Political Military Officer, coordinated with various governmental agencies supporting plans functions for Commanding General and US Ambassador; liaised with Iraqi Joint Planning Center and Iraqi Deputy National Security Counsel

BADGES:
Basic Space; Basic Maintenance; Master Cyber Operations
German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:
Defense Meritorious Service Medal (three oak leaf clusters)
Air Force Meritorious Service Medal (two oak leaf clusters)
Joint Service Commendation Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal (one oak leaf cluster)
Joint Service Achievement Medal
Air Force Achievement Medal (one oak leaf cluster)
Air & Space Campaign Medal (one device)
United Nations Medal

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS:
USAFE TASC Lance P. Sijan Company Grade Officer - 2003
USAFE TASC Lieutenant General Leo Marquez Company Grade Officer - 2003
DISA-Europe Air Force Cyberspace Outstanding Field Grade Officer - 2011
DISA Tuskegee Field Grade Officer of the Year - 2012
Air Force Technical Applications Center Cyberspace Outstanding Field Grade Officer - 2013
Canaveral AFCEA Cyberspace Outstanding Field Grade Officer - 2013
Air Force Technical Applications Center Field Grade Officer of the Year - 2013
45 Space Wing Field Grade Officer of the Year - 2013
Canaveral AFCEA Cyberspace Outstanding Field Grade Officer - 2014
360 Recruiting Group Cyberspace Outstanding Filed Grade Officer of the Year - 2016
Air Force Recruiting Service Bob Cantu Most Improved Squadron Award - 2016
Air Force Recruiting Service Top Safety Award - 2016
Air Force Recruiting Service Lance P. Sijan Field Grade Officer - 2017

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:
Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association
American Legion
Civil Air Patrol

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second lieutenant	Jun 14, 1998
First lieutenant	Jun 14, 2000
Captain	Jun 14, 2002
Major	Mar 1, 2008
Lieutenant Colonel	Aug 1, 2013
Colonel	Sep 1, 2019