



BIOGRAPHY



COLONEL WILLIAM J. HARDING

Col William J. Harding is the Vice Commander, Military Satellite Communications System Wing (MCSW), Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC), Los Angeles Air Force Base, California. He directs acquisition planning, programming, budgeting and operational support for a \$46-billion portfolio for military satellite communication systems including the Milstar constellation, the Defense Satellite Communications System, the Wideband Global Satcom Program, the Advanced Extremely High Frequency Program, the Transformational Satellite Communications System Program, the Command and Control System-Consolidated Program, and associated Air Force communication terminals and mission control systems.



Col Harding received his commission in 1982 upon graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy. His first assignment was at the Consolidated Space Operations Center Program Office, Space Division, Los Angeles AFS, CA, where he led the facility development effort until 1986. From 1986 through 1991, he was Chief of Titan Engineering for the 6555th Aerospace Test Group and later, the 45th Operations Group at Cape Canaveral AFS, Florida. He served as Anomaly Team Chief for 10 successful launches of the Titan 34D, Titan II and Titan IV.

From 1991 through 1995, Col Harding was assigned to the Directorate of Requirements at HQ AFSPC, Peterson AFB, Colorado, where he was Command Lead for Titan IV, Atlas II and the Inertial Upper Stage. After attending Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, Alabama, Col Harding was assigned as DoD Space Architect, Alexandria, Virginia in 1996. He served on Space Control Architecture Development Team and led a responsive launch study before leaving the National Security Space Architect Office in 1999.

In 1999, he moved to SAF/AQS, working as Congressional Budget Officer before leading the Plans and Policy Division in an Air Force liaison role with the congressionally-mandated Commission to Assess United States National Security Space Management and Organization. Col Harding left the Pentagon in 2001 to become Chief Engineer for the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle Program at the SMC, Los Angeles AFB, CA. He oversaw mission assurance activities for the inaugural launches of Delta IV and Atlas V. In 2003, he was assigned Chief of SMC's Independent Readiness Review Team and led mission assurance assessments of Delta IV/DSCS B-6, Titan II/DMSP-16, DSP-22 and Delta II/GPS IIR-10 & 11. From June 2004 through March 2005, he served as Director for

SMC's Program Support and Planning where he led the Program Executive Officer for Space staff in executing the space portfolio's \$6B per year budget.

He was appointed as Program Manager in March 2005 for the Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) Satellite System at SMC. He became the Group Commander when AEHF became the Protected Communications Satellite Group, MCSW, in 2006. He became Vice Commander, MCSW in 2008.

Col Harding was born in Novato, California on 4 May 1960. He is married to Lt Col (Ret) Charlene Harding. They have four children: Christina, Austin, Chase and Candace.

EDUCATION

1982 BS in Engineering Sciences, U.S. Air Force Academy, CO
1987 Distinguished Graduate, Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL
1990 Master of Business Administration, University of Central Florida, FL
1996 Distinguished Graduate, Air Command & Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
1998 Program Manager's Course, Defense Systems Management College, VA
2000 Air War College, by Seminar, Pentagon, Washington D.C.
2008 Executive Program Manager's Course, Defense Acquisition University, VA

ASSIGNMENTS

1. 1982-1986 Facility Development Manager, Consolidated Space Ops Center Program Office, Space Division, LAAFS, CA
2. 1988-1991 Chief, Titan Engineering and Anomaly Team Chief, 6555th Aerospace Test Group and 45th Ops Group, Cape Canaveral AFS, FL
3. 1991-1995 Command Lead, Titan IV, Atlas II & Inertial Upper State, Directorate of Requirements, HQ AFSPC, Peterson AFB, CO
4. 1995-1996 Student, Air Command & Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
5. 1996-1999 Space Control Architecture Development Team, National Security Space Architect Office, Alexandria, VA
6. 1999-2001 Congressional Budget Officer, and Chief Plans & Policy Division, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
7. 2001-2003 Chief Engineer, Evolved Expendable LV Program, SMC, LAAFB, CA
8. 2003-2004 Chief, Independent Readiness Review Team, SMC, LAAFB, CA
9. 2004-2005 Director, Program Support and Planning, SMC, LAAFB, CA
10. 2005-2008 Commander, Protected Satellite Control Group, MILSATCOM Systems Wing, SMC, LAAFB, CA
11. 2008-Present Vice Commander, MILSATCOM Systems Wing, SMC, LAAFB, CA

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Meritorious Service Medal
Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters
Air Force Commendation Medal
Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with four oak leaf clusters
National Defense Service Medal with one device
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	1 Jun 1982
First Lieutenant	1 Jun 1984
Captain	1 Jun 1986
Major	1 Jun 1994
Lieutenant Colonel	1 Dec 1998
Colonel	1 Nov 2004

(Current as of April 2008)