

LTG Thomas L. James (Ret.)

LTG Thomas L. James served 43 years in the U.S. Army in enlisted and officer assignments and retired from active duty in 2025. His last duty assignment was as the Deputy Commander of the United States Space Command at Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado. United States Space Command is the Unified Combatant Command responsible for conducting operations in, from, and to space to deter conflict, and if necessary, defeat aggression, deliver space combat power to the Joint/Combined force, and defend U.S. vital interests with allies and partners.



LTG James' previous General Officer assignments included Deputy Commander, Combined/Joint Force Space Component Command; Commander, Combined Joint Task Force-Space Operations; Commander, Joint Task Force-Space Defense; Director of Operations (J3), USSPACECOM; Director, Operations, Plans, and Exercises (J3/5/7), Joint Force Space Component Command; and Deputy Commander, Joint Functional Component Command for Space.

LTG James enlisted in the Mississippi National Guard, serving in medical and Special Forces units. He was commissioned through ROTC while obtaining a Bachelor of Science Degree in Molecular Biology from the University of Southern Mississippi and entered active duty as a U.S. Army aviator.

LTG James' assignments include Team Medic, then Team Executive Officer, A Company, 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Camp Shelby, Miss.; Battalion Liaison Officer, then Aeroscout Platoon Leader, then Assistant Battalion S-3, then Battalion S-1 and then S-2, 2-227th Attack Helicopter Battalion (AH-64), 4th Aviation Brigade, 3rd Armored Division, Federal Republic of Germany (served in Operation Desert Storm); Attack/Assault Helicopter Platoon Leader, then Company Executive Officer, and then Liaison Officer, 1st Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), Fort Campbell, Ky.; Assault Company Commander, B Company (UH-60), 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 4th Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea.

LTG James' assignments since becoming an Army Space Operations Officer in 1999 include Corps Plans Officer and Space and Information Operations Officer, Headquarters, III Corps, Fort Hood, Texas; Space and Information Operations Officer, Combined Joint Task Force-180 (XVIII Airborne Corps), Bagram, Afghanistan; Space Operations Officer, Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force – Bagram, Afghanistan; Future Operations Planner and Space and Information Operations Officer, Combined Joint Task Force – 7 (III Armored Corps), Baghdad, Iraq; Chief, Space Capabilities Branch, Directorate of Combat Developments, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.; Deputy Director of Space Forces, Central Command Combined Air Operations Center (Arabian Gulf); Army Liaison Element, National Security Space Institute, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Commander, 1st Space Battalion, 1st Space Brigade,

Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.; Chief of Space, Third Army/Army Central, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait /Shaw Air Force Base, S. Car; Deputy Director of USASMDC/ARSTRAT's Future Warfare Center, Redstone Arsenal, Ala.; Commander, 1st Space Brigade, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo; and the Director of Space Policy Implementation, Office of the Under Secretary for Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Pentagon, Va.

His military education includes the U.S. Army Aviation Officer Basic and Advanced Courses; three master's degrees from the United States Air Force's Air University while attending the Air Command and Staff College, the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, and the Air, Space and Cyber War College; and various Army and Air Force advanced space courses. Additionally, he holds a Master of International Relations degree from Auburn University at Montgomery and completed the Harvard Senior Executive Fellowship Program. He is currently pursuing a post-master's certification in space systems engineering from Johns Hopkins University.