

BIOGRAPHY

United States Air Force

MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND

Office of Public Affairs, Scott Air Force Base

COLONEL PAUL R. PRESCOTT

Colonel Paul R. Prescott is the Director of Command and Control, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, 23rd Air Force, Scott Air Force Base, Ill. As director, he is responsible for the 23rd Air Force Operations Center, which directs and controls all 23rd AF worldwide flying forces.

Raised on a farm near Union City, Indiana, Colonel Prescott entered the Air Force in May 1962. He was commissioned a Second lieutenant after completing the Air Force ROTC program at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind., in August 1961.

After one year of teaching in the Indiana Public School System, Colonel Prescott entered pilot training and received his wings in June 1963. He was then assigned to the 776th Troop Carrier Squadron (776 TCS), Tactical Air Command, where he participated in flying operations in Europe, South and Central America, Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia.

In December 1965, Colonel Prescott and the 776 TCS were reassigned to Tachikawa Air Base, Japan, followed by a move to Ching Chum Chang Air Base, Taiwan three months later. As an instructor in the C-130 aircraft, all his flying time during this period was in support of Southeast Asia operations.

Colonel Prescott moved to McGuire AFB, N.J., in February 1967. There he was a Military Airlift Command flight examiner and was assigned as an instructor at the flight simulator school.

The 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron Hurricane Hunters in Haney AFB, Puerto Rico, was his next assignment. During this tour, he was selected to devise and test flight procedures for Cold Fog dispersal in Germany.

From 1972-1976, Colonel Prescott completed an assignment as an AFROTC instructor. He instructed at Dennison University, Granville, Ohio, until 1974, then moved to Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. In 1976 he was selected as the Arnold Air Society Advisor of the Year. He voluntarily served as assistant football and track coach at Dennison University and assistant track and cross country coach at Miami University.

His next assignment was to Headquarters Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service, Scott AFB, Ill., as coordinator of search and rescue for the Continental United States, Canada and Mexico. In addition, he was chief of Combat Rescue Coordination and helped develop the procedures now used to rescue downed crewmembers from behind enemy lines.

In June 1979, Colonel Prescott assumed command of the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron (Typhoon Chasers), Andersen AFB, Guam. The 54th WRS is responsible for typhoon reconnaissance of 7 million square miles of the Western Pacific.

In July 1981, he became senior airlift controller at the MAC Command Center, and in January 1982, became chief of the MAC Command Center where he managed the execution of MAC's global airlift missions. In May 1983, he moved again to Rescue headquarters, this time as assistant deputy chief of staff for operations. When Rescue Operational forces joined 23rd Air Force in October 1983, Colonel Prescott was selected to direct the command and control center. Twenty-Third Air Force was designated as the controlling Military Airlift Command for the Grenada rescue operations. The 23rd AF Command and Control Center directed and monitored the deployment of air operations during the initial employment activities.

Colonel Prescott has amassed more than 6000 flying hours. His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with eight oak leaf clusters and the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster. He holds a master's degree in education from Inter-American University of Puerto Rico.

Colonel Prescott and his wife, the former Sheridan A. Wigger of Union City, Ind., have three children-- Michael, Richard, and Scott. Michael is a second lieutenant in the Air Force and is attending pilot training at Laughlin AFB, Texas. Richard and Scott are attending Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green Ohio.

Colonel Prescott is an avid sports enthusiast whose hobbies include golf, softball, basketball and bowling. In July 1984 he will move to Miami University, Oxford, Ohio as the Professor of Aerospace Studies for AFROTC Detachment 640.