



# BIOGRAPHY



## DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

### BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL L. CUNNIFF

Brigadier General Michael L. Cuniff is the Adjutant General of New Jersey. General Cuniff commands more than 9,000 Soldiers and Airmen of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard. He directs, controls and manages the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in the execution of federal and state missions. In addition, he manages all state veterans' programs, commissions and facilities in New Jersey. His previous commands included the 108th Wing, New Jersey Air National Guard, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey and the 150th Air Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, 405th Air Expeditionary Wing, Thumrait Air Base, Oman. General Cuniff entered the United States Air Force in July 1982, and was commissioned through the Academy of Military Science in October 1983. He received his pilot's wings at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, in 1983. General Cuniff has served in many operations including Operations Northern Watch, Joint Forge, Allied Force, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.



#### EDUCATION

1981 New Jersey Institute of Technology, Bachelor of Science, Industrial Engineering, Newark, NJ.  
1996 Operational Risk Management Course, Andrews Air Force Base, Camp Springs, MD.  
2002 Air War College, by correspondence.

#### ASSIGNMENTS

1. October 1982 – October 1983, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Columbus AFB, MS
2. June 1984 – April 1988, F-4D Aircraft Commander, 141st Tactical Fighter Squadron, McGuire AFB, NJ
3. April 1987 – April 1988, Range Control Officer, Warren Grove Gunnery Range, 108th Tactical Fighter Wing, McGuire AFB, NJ
4. April 1988 – February 1991, Flying Safety Officer, 108th Tactical Fighter Wing, McGuire AFB, NJ
5. December 1988 – September 1991, F-4E Evaluator/Instructor Pilot, 108th Tactical Fighter Wing, McGuire AFB, NJ
6. February 1991 – September 1993, Chief of Flying Training, 108th Air Refueling Wing, McGuire AFB, NJ
7. February 1991 – Present, KC-135 Evaluator/Instructor Pilot, 108th Air Refueling Wing, McGuire AFB, NJ
8. September 1993 – September 1995, Aircraft Maintenance Officer, 108th Maintenance Squadron, McGuire AFB, NJ
9. September 1995 – September 1997, Aircraft Maintenance Officer, 108th Aircraft Generation Squadron, McGuire AFB, NJ
10. October 1997 – April 1998, Chief of Flying Training, 108th Air Refueling Wing, McGuire AFB, NJ
11. September 1997 – March 2001, Combat Training Team Chief, 108th Air Refueling Wing, McGuire AFB, NJ
12. April 1998 – March 2001, Air Operations Officer, 150th Air Refueling Squadron, McGuire AFB, NJ
13. May 1999 - July 1999, Commander, 385th Air Expeditionary Group, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey
14. September 1999 – September 1999, Commander, 622nd Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, 16 Air Expeditionary Group, Istres, France
15. April 2001 – September 2003, Commander, 108th Operations Group, McGuire AFB, NJ

16. March 2002 – June 2002, Commander, 150th Air Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, 405th Air Expeditionary Wing, Thumrait Air Base, Oman
17. October 2003 – December 2011, Commander, 108th Wing, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ
18. December 2011 – March 2012, Acting Adjutant General of New Jersey, New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Trenton, NJ
19. March 2012 – present, Adjutant General of New Jersey, New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Trenton, NJ

### **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: 6,000 Military

Combat Hours: 336

Combat Support Hours: 147

Combat Sorties: 52

Combat Support Sorties: 37

Military Aircraft Flown: C-32B, F-4D, F-4E, KC-135A, KC-135E, KC-135R, T-37, T-38A, T-38B

### **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Air Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Air Force Commendation Medal (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

Air Force Achievement Medal (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (with V Device and 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

Combat Readiness Medal (with 1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster and 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

National Defense Service Medal (with Bronze Service Star)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (with Bronze Service Star)

Afghanistan Campaign Medal (with Bronze Service Star)

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Armed Forces Service Medal (with Bronze Service Star)

Humanitarian Service Medal

Air and Space Campaign Medal

Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon-Short Tour

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon (with Gold Border)

Air Force Longevity Service Award (with 1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster and 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver Hour Glass, M Device and Numeral 3)

Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon

Air Force Training Ribbon

New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal

New Jersey Ribbon of Honor (with 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

New Jersey Merit Award Ribbon (with 28 Year Device)

New Jersey Desert Storm Support Ribbon

New Jersey Governor's Unit Award Ribbon (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

New Jersey Unit Strength Award Ribbon

### **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant 21 October 1982

First Lieutenant 25 October 1985

Captain 25 March 1988

Major 25 March 1994

Lieutenant Colonel 2 November 1998

Colonel 27 June 2003

Brigadier General 01 August 2007

(Current as of March 2012)