



Biography

National Guard Bureau

Departments of the Army and the Air Force
General Officer Management Office, Arlington, VA

MAJOR GENERAL MASON C. WHITNEY



Major General Mason C. Whitney is The Adjutant General of Colorado. He is responsible for the command administration of more than 5,000 Colorado Army and Air National Guard members. He also serves as the executive director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and is a member of the Governor's cabinet. He has responsibility for the Colorado National Guard's primary missions of national defense and state emergency response. He is also responsible for supporting the missions of the Civil Air Patrol's Colorado Wing, consisting of over 2,000 volunteers. He oversees the operations of the Division of Veterans Affairs in providing support to over 400,000 Colorado veterans.

The general graduated from Kansas State University in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering. He was commissioned a

Second Lieutenant through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program in June 1968. He entered active duty in August 1968, attended undergraduate pilot training at Laredo AFB, Texas, and earned his pilot wings in August 1969. He served as a forward air controller at Ban Me Thout Special Forces Camp, South Vietnam, where he flew 343 combat missions in the O-2A aircraft throughout Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. After a tour in Air Training Command as an instructor pilot, he served in Tactical Air Command as a flight commander and wing standardization/evaluation officer at England AFB, Louisiana in the A-7D Corsair II aircraft.

The general joined the Colorado Air National Guard in August 1979 where he held the positions of chief of standardization/evaluation, fighter squadron operations officer, fighter squadron commander, deputy commander for maintenance, and wing vice commander. In September of 1990 he was appointed as the 140th Tactical Fighter Wing Commander and Installation Commander for Buckley ANG Base. He served in that position until May 1998. At that time, he was selected for the position of ANG Assistant to the Commander of Air Combat Command at Langley AFB, Virginia and was promoted to Major General. Governor Bill Owens appointed him to the position of The Adjutant General of Colorado in February of 2000.

Major General Whitney is a command pilot with more than 6,000 military flight hours, including 343 combat missions and 758 combat hours. He has flown the O-2A, T-37, T-39, A-7, and F-16 aircraft. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with eight oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm.

General Whitney and his wife Miriam, have two grown children, Michael and Matthew.

EDUCATION:

1968 Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering, Kansas State University
1977 Squadron Officer School
1981 Air Command and Staff College
1985 Air War College

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Command Pilot
Flight Hours: More than 6,000; 343 combat missions and 758 combat hours
Aircraft Flown: O-2A, T-37, T-39, A-7, F-16

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Legion of Merit
Distinguished Flying Cross
Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Air Medal with eight oak leaf clusters
Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze stars
Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant	June 1, 1968
First Lieutenant	February 10, 1970
Captain	August 10, 1971
Major	June 12, 1980
Lieutenant Colonel	June 22, 1984
Colonel	December 11, 1987
Brigadier General	April 8, 1992
Major General	October 10, 1998

(Current as of 1 July 2002)