

Colonel Frederick H. Martin's Promotion Ceremony To Brigadier General 2 Oct 07

Colonel Frederick H. Martin recently relinquished command of the 305 Air Mobility Wing, McGuire Air Force Base, N.J. In this position, he was responsible for the combined efforts of all operations and support activities associated with worldwide air mobility missions. The aircraft assigned to the 305 Air Mobility Wing – 13 C-17s and 32 KC-10s – participate in air, land, and aerial refueling tasks that support national security objectives, combat operations, and humanitarian relief efforts worldwide. The colonel was responsible for more than 10,000 active, Guard and Reserve Air Force members, and a civilian force exceeding 1,700, and was the lead Commander for Joint Base McGuire, Fort Dix, and Navy Lakehurst.



Col. Rick Martin, 305th Air Mobility Wing commander, speaks to members of the 305th Communications Squadron during his visit to different squadrons Sept. 28



Col. Rick Martin's children Chris, Heather, Holly and Heidi march in his C-17 Globemaster III following his final-flight.



General Martin is a Command Pilot with 5,000+ hours in over a dozen aircraft and has flown numerous combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Rick hugs his family after he was given the traditional "hosing down" following his final-flights on a KC-10 and C-17. (U.S. Air Force photo/Kenn Mann)

General Martin entered the Air Force in 1981 as a distinguished military graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy with a degree in mathematics. He has master's degrees in International Relations and Public Administration, and has attended numerous professional military education programs, including the Army's Command and General Staff College in 1992-1993, and a National Security Fellowship at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in 1998-1999.

While on the Joint Staff in 1999-2001, he worked closely with the Department of State on Korean affairs and traveled to North Korea in support of remains recovery efforts for service members from the Korean War. He deployed to Afghanistan during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM in 2002 as mission commander for the first C-5 missions to Kandahar. In Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, General Martin led an airfield assessment team into Iraq during initial combat operations in March 2003 to open airfields for fixed wing operations. General Martin also deployed in 2006 as a Deputy Director for Mobility Forces in the Combined Air Operation Center for US Central Command.

He has now assumed duties with Africa Command at Stuttgart, Germany as the Deputy Director for Operations and Logistics.



305 AMW/CC frocking ceremony 10/4/2007. Maj. Gen. James Hawkins, 18th Air Force commander, watches Col. Rick Martin's, former 305th Air Mobility Wing commander, mother Geri Martin, and wife, Barbara, pin on his brigadier general star during his frocking ceremony here Oct. 2. (U.S. Air Force photo/Kenn Mann)



MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster
Bronze Star Medal
Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster
Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Joint Service Commendation Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster
Air Force Achievement Medal
National Defense Service Medal with bronze star

General Martin is married to the former Barbara Chapman, also a 1981 USAF Academy graduate and former USAF pilot. They have lived at 13 different locations over 26 years and have 4 children ages 10 to 18: Christian, Holly, Heidi, and Heather. Rick Martin also lived as a military dependent in Berlin, Germany where he graduated from Berlin American High School. He is now proud to be associated with the Berlin Brats Organization!