

United States Army Flight School



GRADUATION CEREMONY

MAY 15, 2025
FORT NOVOSEL, ALABAMA



AH-64
APACHE

UH-60
BLACK HAWK



CH-47
CHINOOK

C-12
HURON



*United States Army
Flight School
Graduation Ceremony
Class 25-014*

May 15, 2025

10:00 a. m.

UNITED STATES ARMY
AVIATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
FORT NOVOSHEL, ALABAMA

Order of Ceremony

Welcome.....Master of Ceremony

* Invocation.....Chaplain

* *National Anthem*.....Ceremonial Support Services

Music by John Stafford Smith, 1780

Lyrics by Francis Scott Key, 1814

Adopted as the national anthem of the United States, 1931

Introduction of Guest Speaker.....LTC Brian L. Haas
Commander
1st Battalion
14th Aviation Regiment
Fort Novosel, Alabama

Address.....CW5 Steven D. Bennett
Chief of Standardization and
Senior Warrant Officer
1-14th Aviation Regiment
Fort Novosel, Alabama

Announcement of Graduates.....Master of Ceremony

Presentation of Wings.....LTC Haas

* *Above The Best*, Aviation Branch Song

Music and lyrics by Jo Johnston 1987

* *The Army Goes Rolling Along*, The Army Song

Music by John Phillip Sousa, 1917

Lyrics by Harold W. Arberg, 1956

Conclusion.....Master of Ceremony

* *Please stand. Lyrics on back cover. Gentlemen, remove your headdress for the National Anthem.*

Aviation Center Commanders and Staff

Commanding General

Major General Clair A. Gill

Deputy Commanding General

Brigadier General Kenneth C. Cole

Chief Warrant Officer of the Branch

Chief Warrant Officer Five Michael A. Corsaro

Commander, 1st Aviation Brigade

Colonel Jason T. Woodward

Commander, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Mark A. Axtell

Commander, B Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment

Captain Natalie M. Schorr

Commander, D Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment

Captain Jose C. Ramoslopez

Commander, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Jeffrey P. Gaines

Commander, 110th Aviation Brigade

Colonel Dennis K. Hill

Commander, 1st Battalion, 11th Aviation Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Sean T. Smith

Commander, 1st Battalion, 14th Aviation Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Brian L. Haas

Commander, 1st Battalion, 212th Aviation Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Samuel "Macky" Price III

Commander, 1st Battalion, 223d Aviation Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas J. Menn

Guest Speaker

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FIVE STEVEN D. BENNETT

**CHIEF OF STANDARDIZATION AND SENIOR WARRANT OFFICER
1-14TH AVIATION REGIMENT
FORT NOVOSEL, ALABAMA**

Chief Warrant Officer Five Steven D. Bennett of LaFayette, Georgia, attended Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Georgia, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in International Technical Communication with a minor in International Studies in 2005. That same year he was selected for the Warrant Officer Flight Training program and attended the United States Army Warrant Officer Candidate Course, Warrant Officer Basic Course, Initial Entry Rotary Wing Course, and the AH-64D Qualification Course at Fort Novosel (formerly Fort Rucker), Alabama.

Following flight school, CW5 Bennett was assigned to A Company, 4-2 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion (ARB) at United States Army Garrison (USAG) Humphreys in Korea where he served for 12 months as an AH-64D pilot. In 2008, he was assigned to 1-10 ARB in Savannah, Georgia, and served 12 months forward-deployed at Multinational Division-North in Iraq where he attained Pilot in Command and Air Mission Commander status. In 2009, he was reassigned to Fort Novosel and attended the Instructor Pilot Course for the AH-64D and served as a Flight School XXI Instructor Pilot for three years.

In 2013, CW5 Bennett was reassigned to 1-1 ARB at Fort Riley, Kansas, where he served as the A Co, 1-1 ARB Company Standardization Pilot (SP) and forward-deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan. He served as the Master Gunner for 1-6 Calvary at Fort Riley from 2015 until 2018.

In 2018, CW5 Bennett returned to the 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) as the 4-2 ARB Master Gunner and then served as the 2nd CAB Brigade Master Gunner from August 2018 until June 2020. He served as the 4-2 Attack Battalion (AB) Senior Warrant Officer and Battalion Standardization Instructor Pilot from June 2020 until July 2023. In August 2023, he was assigned to the Office of the Program Manager, Saudi Arabia National Guard (OPM-SANG) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and served as the Attack Aviation Advisor, OPM-SANG SP, and Master Gunner. In November 2024, he was assigned back to Fort Novosel where he currently serves as the Chief of Standards and Senior Warrant Officer for 1-14th Aviation Regiment.

CW5 Bennett is a graduate of the Warrant Officer Advanced Course, Warrant Officer Intermediate Level Education, Warrant Officer Senior Service Education, Instrument Flight Examiner's Course, Attack Weapons Technique Instructor Course, Master Gunner Course, and the Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape - Level C (SERE-C) Course.

He is qualified in the AH-64D, AH-64E, AH-64EV6 and OH-58A/C and holds Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) ratings of Commercial Instrument Rotary Wing, Rotary Wing Instructor Pilot, and Private Pilot Instrument Fixed Wing with High Performance, Complex and Tailwheel endorsements.

CW5 Bennett's awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with Valor, the Army Commendation Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism, Korean Defense Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, National Defense Service Ribbon, Master Gunner Identification Badge, Combat Action Badge, the US Army Master Aviator Badge, Republic of Korea Senior Aviator Badge, and the Saudi Arabia Aviator Badge.

Aviation Commissioned Officers

2LT Tao, Brandon T.

1LT Tomala, Jordan F.

1LT Wiemers, Jace R.

Aviation Warrant Officers

WO1 Brooks, Matthew R.

WO1 Castro, Ronnie G.

WO1 Christiansen, Joshua C.

WO1 Coleman, Jonah D.

WO1 Ewers, Zachary P.

WO1 Hamilton, Henry J.

WO1 Hayward, Michael A.

WO1 Hinkle, Theodore C.

WO1 Johnson, Joseph W.

WO1 Johnson, Kyle E.

WO1 Jordan, Matthew T.

WO1 Nguyen, Lam D.

WO1 Preisler, Jacob W.

WO1 Smith, Alexander J.

WO1 Yiannacopoulos, Peter M.



The engraved Sterling Silver Wings presented to the
Distinguished Graduates are provided by the
Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA).



AVIATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

AVIATION BRANCH SONG
ABOVE THE BEST

High above the best. High above the best.
We are Army Aviation USA.
Proud and strong.
We meet the test.
Skies filled with thunder.
Wearing silver wings upon our chest.
We meet the needs of Ground Command
As we aid the Nation's quest.
Army Aviation, flying high above the best!

Lyrics and Music by Jo Johnston, 1987

Adopted as the official song of Army Aviation, 1987

THE ARMY SONG
THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG

March along, sing our song, with the Army of the free.
Count the brave, count the true, who have fought to victory.
We're the Army and proud of our name!
We're the Army and proudly proclaim:

First to fight for the right,
And to build the Nation's might,
And The Army Goes Rolling Along.
Proud of all we have done,
Fighting till the battle's won,
And The Army Goes Rolling Along.

Music by John Philip Sousa, 1917

Lyrics by Harold W. Arberg, 1956

Adopted as the official song of the Army, 1956