

James Hoffman - BIO

Major James "Rainman" Hoffman graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Mathematics from Texas Christian University (TCU) in 1989 and was commissioned as an Air Force Officer during the same year. Following his commission, Major Hoffman graduated Air Force pilot training in 1991 and then was assigned to Fort Worth, Texas to fly the KC-135A Stratotanker. Following his assignment in Texas, he then flew the T-38 Talon at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. Early in 1996, Major Hoffman was selected to fly the new Predator Unmanned Aerial System. While at Indian Springs, Nevada, he flew the Predator UAV in numerous training and test missions. Also during that assignment in 1997, Major Hoffman deployed with the Predator weapon system and flew over 100 combat missions in Bosnia/Herzegovina and Kosovo in support of the Dayton Peace Accords. After flying the Predator UAV, he proceeded to Langley Air Force Base, VA., where he became the Chief of the UAV Combat Applications Branch at Air Combat Command Headquarters. During that assignment, Major Hoffman became the lead agent at ACC weaponizing the Predator UAS with the Hellfire missile capability.

Recently, Major Hoffman was assigned to the 609 Combat Operations Squadron, Shaw Air Force Base, SC where Major Hoffman held the position of Chief, Armed Reconnaissance Operations for OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF). Accomplishments during this assignment include training the Italian Special Ops Forces on the new ROVER and Predator systems in OIF, serving as Deputy Commander for the ROVER Team in JTF Katrina in downtown New Orleans, and also deploying as the Recce Duty Officer in the Combined Air Operations Center. Rainman currently serves as the Chief for Small UAS Technology at the headquarters of Air Force Special Operations Command.