

Bruce Barnes Led Canada's AWACS Crew back to the Iraq War in 2008

Major Bruce Barnes' Bio

In 2007 and 2008, he deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan with the U.S. Air Force and flew 30 combat missions supporting NATO and Coalition stability operations for Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Between 2005 and 2009, he was at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. An Evaluator/Instructor Mission Crew Commander at the 552nd Air Control Wing, Barnes commanded combat crews on E-3 Sentry AWACS.

Barnes was posted to Germany (1997-2001) and flew on NATO AWACS. This tour included over 200 UN and NATO peace support missions over the Former Yugoslavia and 25 combat missions over Kosovo in Operation Allied Force (1999).

As a senior officer in the Canadian Air Force, Barnes is a Command and Control Doctrine Analyst with the Canadian Forces Aerospace Warfare Centre in Trenton, Ontario. He also teaches at the School of International and Area Studies, University of Oklahoma.

Source: University of Oklahoma www.ou.edu/sias/home/audience_navigation/faculty_and_staff/bruce_barnes.html



Mission Crew Commander

There are many people in the 552nd Air Control Wing that aid in each successful E-3 Sentry mission, and every one is an integral piece of the big wing puzzle.

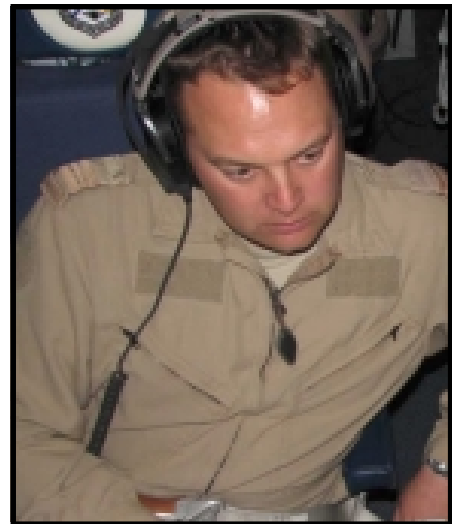
The mission crew commander (MCC), is a key piece that makes the mission run smoothly and safely.

"The hardest part about our job is listening," said Major Bruce Barnes, a Canadian Component MCC with 964th AACCS. "Our job is to communicate and to push people. You're constantly monitoring and managing people," Major Barnes said.

MCC is not a job one is put into after basic training. It is earned with time and experience. "You normally have to start in another position on the airplane," said Major Barnes.

"Most will start out at a weapons controller, learning how to control fighters. Then you will be promoted to positions like senior director, air surveillance operator or system operator."

Source: Sr. Airman Lorraine Amaro, "The E-3 Sentry Puzzle: mission crew commanders," May 18, 2007. www.552acw.acc.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123055211



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Major Bruce Barnes,
Mission Crew Commander

AWACS and GWOT

It's the most powerful airborne radar ever developed, and it's the world's most powerful air force's main aerial command and control weapon. Airmen of the 380th AEW's 964th Expeditionary Airborne Air Control Squadron (EAACS) at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, continue to keep the E-3 flying and fighting in the Global War on Terror. Their mission is to provide global power and vigilance by conducting command and control operations in support of fighter, bomber and combat forces on tactical, strategic and special missions.

"The AWACS is an essential force multiplier for the Global War on Terror," said Lt. Col. Jay Bickley, 964 EAACS Commander. "Its ability to manage the battle space and provide command and control is critical to the synergistic use of airpower."

"Being able to ensure the troops on the ground get the firepower they need from above as soon as they ask for it is extremely rewarding," said [Canadian] Major Bruce Barnes, 964 EAACS Mission Crew Commander.

Source: Sr. Airman Ross Tweten, "Airmen continue to manage GWOT battle space," *Sand Script*, 380 Air Expeditionary Wing, March 21, 2008. www.380aew.afcent.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-080503-005.pdf

Proud of Role in Global War on Terror (GWOT)

Maj. Gen. Kevin Kennedy, participated in an E-3 Sentry mission with the Airmen of the 964th Expeditionary Airborne Air Control Squadron. According to the general, the E-3 Sentry plays an extremely vital role in winning the Global War on Terror. "No single piece of that Air Force can do the mission by itself... The AWACS has a critical part. We use it every time we have a special operation in Afghanistan or Iraq."

According to Maj. Bruce Barnes, 964 EAACS mission crew commander of the Canadian Air Force, the real strength of the AWACS concept is in the team that makes it hap-

pen. "The general commented to me that he was extremely impressed by how the entire team truly cared about their jobs and that they should be proud of the key role they play in the ongoing Global War On Terror," he said.

As for the Airmen of the Desert Phoenix Squadron's Alpha Crew, "General Kennedy can fly with us again, anytime, anywhere," said Major Barnes.

Source: SrA. Ross M. Tweten, "ACCE director takes ride with EAACS Airmen," *Sand Script*, March 7, 2008. www.380aew.afcent.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-080503-007.pdf