



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ESTHER C. SABLAN

Lieutenant Colonel Esther Sablan serves as Chief, Force Planning and Strategic Basing Division, Air National Guard Readiness Center, Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. In this role, she leads Total Force Integration and force structure planning to meet Air National Guard federal and state missions. She also oversees the development and implementation of Air National Guard strategic basing actions for all 50 states, three territories, and the District of Columbia. In her prior assignment, Lt Col Sablan served as Readiness and Family Programs Branch Chief on the National Guard Joint Staff.

Lt Col Sablan was commissioned through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and joined the California Air National Guard in 1997. She also served three years in the Air Force Reserves for Air Force Special Operations Command. As a combat search and rescue helicopter pilot, Lt Col Sablan deployed in support of contingency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. In her civilian career, Lt Col Sablan worked as an aerospace engineer and operations research analyst in the defense industry.



EDUCATION

- 1997 Bachelor of Science, aeronautics and astronautics, MIT, Cambridge, MA
- 1997 Master of Science, aeronautics and astronautics, MIT, Cambridge, MA
- 1998 Distinguished Graduate, Aircraft Maintenance Officers Course, Sheppard AFB, TX
- 2000 Honors Cooperative Program, Stanford University, Stanford, CA
- 2001 Distinguished Graduate, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, Fort Rucker, AL
- 2005 Squadron Officer School, by correspondence
- 2005 Engineering Design Graduate Program, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
- 2012 Maintenance Officer Intermediate Course, Sheppard AFB, TX
- 2012 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence
- 2013 Master of Arts (Highest Academic Distinction), military operational art and science, Air University
- 2014 AF Safety Center, Safety and Accident Investigation Board President Course, Kirtland AFB, NM
- 2016 Master of Science, national resource strategy, National Defense University, Washington, DC

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Aug 1997 – Mar 2000, Maintenance Officer, 129th Maintenance Squadron, Moffett FAF, CA
2. Apr 2000 – Oct 2000, Student, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, Vance AFB, OK
3. Dec 2000 – Jun 2001, Student, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, Fort Rucker, AL
4. Sep 2001 – Apr 2002, Student, HH-60G Mission Qualification Training, Kirtland AFB, NM
5. Apr 2002 – Mar 2004, HH-60G Pilot, 129th Rescue Squadron, Moffett FAF, CA
6. Apr 2004 – Mar 2007, IMA, 21st Special Operations Squadron, RAF Mildenhall, UK
7. Dec 2008 – Dec 2011, Pilot Section Supervisor, 129th Rescue Squadron, Moffett FAF, CA
8. Jan 2012 – Oct 2012, Commander, 129th Maintenance Operations Flight, Moffett FAF, CA
9. Oct 2012 – Nov 2014, Commander, 129th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Moffett FAF, CA
10. Nov 2014 – Jul 2015, Commander, 129th Maintenance Squadron, Moffett FAF, CA
11. Jul 2015 – Jun 2016, Student, Eisenhower School, National Defense University, Washington, DC

12. Jun 2016 – Jun 2017, Branch Chief, Readiness and Family Programs, National Guard, Arlington, VA
13. Jul 2017 – present, Division Chief, Force Planning and Strategic Basing, Air National Guard, Joint Base Andrews, MD

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Meritorious Service Medal
Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Aerial Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters
Air Force Commendation Medal with Valor
Meritorious Unit Award
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor and two oak leaf clusters
Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters
National Defense Service Medal
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
Afghanistan Campaign Medal
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
Air Force Overseas Short Tour
Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border and one oak leaf cluster
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with three 'M' Devices and one bronze hourglass
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship
NATO Medal

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Air Force Association (AFA), Life Member
American Helicopter Society (AHS)
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), Life Member
American Veterans (AMVETS), Life Member
Association of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and Eisenhower School, Life Member
Association of MIT Alumnae, Life Member
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), Life Member
Military Operations Research Society (MORS)
National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA)
National Guard Association of California (NGAC)
National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS)
The Ninety-Nines: International Organization of Women Pilots
USAF Helicopter Pilot Association
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Life Member
Whirly-Girls International
NDIA Women in Defense

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

1997 Distinguished Graduate, MIT Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps
1998 Distinguished Graduate, USAF Aircraft Maintenance Officers Course
1998 Company Grade Officer of the Year, Tennessee Ernie Ford Chapter of the Air Force Association
2001 Distinguished Graduate, USAF Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training
2003 Company Grade Officer of the Year, 129th Rescue Wing
2003 Company Grade Officer of the Year, Tennessee Ernie Ford Chapter of the Air Force Association
2004 Company Grade Officer of the Year, California Air National Guard
2004 Company Grade Officer of the Year, California Air Force Association
2011 Field Grade Officer of the Year, Tennessee Ernie Ford Chapter of the Air Force Association
2012 Field Grade Officer of the Year, 129th Rescue Wing
2013 Field Grade Officer of the Year, Tennessee Ernie Ford Chapter of the Air Force Association

2013 Field Grade Officer of the Year, 129th Rescue Wing
2014 Field Grade Officer of the Year, California Air National Guard
2014 Field Grade Officer of the Year, California Air Force Association
2016 Distinguished Graduate, The Eisenhower School of National Security and Resource Strategy

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant 06 June 1997
First Lieutenant 06 June 1999
Captain 04 August 2001
Major 01 October 2009
Lieutenant Colonel 02 November 2013

(Current as of 30 November 2017)