



## Major General Tom Thomas

### **Operating in Cyber Space**

This session will focus on what it takes from a civilian and military perspective to operate successfully within Cyberspace, along with the very real risks. This includes a whole of national approach, which includes a civilian, government, and military focus to provide the most effective response to cyber threats.

### **Biography**

Major General Thomas A. Thomas, Jr. assists the Director to organize, direct, and manage the use of National Guard and Reserve forces in support of United States Cyber Command, which is a sub-unified command under United States Strategic Command. General Thomas performs as a catalyst between the National Guard Bureau, Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Adjutants General and field units. He provides advice on the organization, employment and control of Army and Air National Guard gained forces that support the national security objectives of United States Cyber Command. General Thomas advises on plans, assists in coordination and directs the employment policies of forces to meet military objectives, advises the commander in his responsibility to provide specialized planning expertise to the joint warfighter and acts as advocate for missions supporting United States Cyber Command. General Thomas serves as principal advisor to the Commander regarding National Guard Bureau forces and capabilities.

He last served as the Mobilization Assistant to the Director, Defense Information Systems agency / Commander for United States Strategic Command Global Network Operations and Defense. He was also the commander of the 166th Network Warfare Squadron operating out of the National Security Agency in Baltimore, MD, and as the State Joint Force Headquarters Commander (J6) for all statewide communications and computer systems. In his career, he worked as a Communications Officer,

Engineering Officer, and Disaster Preparedness Officer prior to his current assignment, which oversees both Reserve and National Guard units for the United States Strategic Command support to United States Cyber Command.

General Thomas was commissioned in 1983 through the Academy of Military Science at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base. Prior to receiving his commission, General Thomas also served as an enlisted member of the 166th Communications Flight of the Delaware Air National Guard.

Major General Thomas is employed by Bank of America, N.A. as a Senior Vice President in Newark, DE, working as a senior computer systems architect for the Technology Integration management group within the Consumer Bank division.

Major General Thomas has undergraduate degrees in Digital electronics, Liberal arts, and Industrial Engineering, with an M.S. degree and doctoral studies in Computer Science. In his professional military education, he also is a graduate of Squadron Officers School, Air Force Command and Staff College, and Air War College. He lives with his wife, Bonnie, and son, Michael in Newark, DE.

#### **EDUCATION:**

1978 Community College of the Air Force, Associate in Applied Sciences, Digital Electronics

1978 Arkansas State, Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts, Little Rock Arkansas

1979 Southern Illinois University, Bachelor of Science, Industrial Engineering, Carbondale, Illinois

1990 Nova Southeastern University, Master of Science, Computer Science, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

2001 Air War College, by correspondence

2009 Joint Force Commanders Course, United States Northern Command, Colorado Springs, Colorado

#### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. February 1984 - August 1988, Communications Electronics Systems Officer, 166th Mission Support Flight, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware

2. August 1988 - August 1993, Officer in Charge, Disaster Preparedness, 166th Mission Support Flight, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware

3. August 1993 - May 1995, Officer in Charge, Support, 272d Engineering Installation Squadron, Texas Air National Guard, La Porte, Texas

4. May 1995 - June 1995, Director of Command, Control, Communications and Computer, Headquarters, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware

5. June 1995 - June 1996, Officer in Charge, Readiness, 166th Civil Engineering Squadron, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware

6. June 1996 - June 1999, Plans and Programs Officer, Headquarters, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware

7. June 1999 - June 2000, Director Support Division, Headquarters, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware
8. June 2000 - June 2005, Director of Command, Control, Communications and Computer, Headquarters, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware
9. June 2005 - April 2008, Director of Command, Control, Communications and Computer Division, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware
10. April 2008 - January 2010, Commander, 166th Network Warfare Squadron, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware
11. January 2010 - March 2011, Mobilization Assistant to the Director, Defense Information Systems Agency/Commander for Joint Task Force-Global Network Operations/Deputy Commander for United States Strategic Command Global Network Operations and Defense, Headquarters, Delaware Air National Guard, New Castle County Airport, Delaware
12. March 2011 - Present, National Guard Assistant to the Commander, United States Cyber Command, Fort Meade, Maryland

### **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:**

Meritorious Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
Air Force Commendation Medal  
Air Force Achievement Medal  
Joint Meritorious Unit Award  
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
Air Force Organizational Excellence Award  
Air Force Good Conduct Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)  
National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Star)  
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
Air Force Longevity Service Award (with 4 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)  
Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with 1 Bronze Hourglass)  
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon  
Air Force Training Ribbon  
Delaware National Guard Conspicuous Service Cross  
Delaware National Guard Medal for Military Merit (with Bronze Numeral 2)  
Delaware National Guard National Defense Service Ribbon

### **CIVILIAN OCCUPATION:**

Senior Vice President, Analysis and Information Management, Credit Card Division, Bank of America Inc.

### **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:**

Second Lieutenant 16 February 1984  
First Lieutenant 16 February 1987  
Captain 14 April 1989  
Major 15 October 1995  
Lieutenant Colonel 18 May 2000  
Colonel 17 March 2005  
Brigadier General 2 February 2010  
Major General 1 January 2013