



Biography

United States Air Force

Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20330

MAJOR DOUGLAS J. KENNETT

Major Douglas J. Kennett is an Action Officer, Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Public Affairs, Support Forces Branch (SAF/PAMS), Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

In this position, Major Kennett serves as the primary public affairs advisor to the Secretary of the Air Force and the Air Staff on a variety of subjects including Herbicide Orange; Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs); all experimental electronic, radar, and microwave control systems; The KC-10A Advanced Tanker-Cargo Aircraft; the Air Force Inspector General; Air Force medical and drug related actions and policies; Security Police, Office of Special Investigations, and Judge Advocate General matters; the Air Force Intelligence community; and Air Force logistic and maintenance capabilities.

Major Kennett was born in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on October 30, 1945. A Canadian citizen and British subject until he became a naturalized American citizen in 1965, Major Kennett is the son of Cyril C. Kennett and Christine (Budge) Kennett, natives of Dover, England and Edinburgh, Scotland, respectively.

Emigrating to the United States with his parents in 1952, Major Kennett began his education by entering directly into the second grade in the Closter, N.J. public school system. He graduated from Rutgers Preparatory School, New Brunswick, N.J., in June 1963, entering Rutgers University the following fall. Major Kennett was graduated from Rutgers on May 31, 1967, with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism (Advertising), and was commissioned a second lieutenant through the Reserve Officer Training Corps the same day. Major Kennett did postgraduate work at the University of Oklahoma in 1970, and received a Master of Arts in Counseling (Psychotherapy) from Ball State University through its European Extension Program in 1972. He has also completed both Squadron Officers School and Air Command and Staff College by correspondence.

Entering active duty immediately upon graduation from college, Major Kennett's initial assignment was as the Wing Information Officer, 4780th Air Defense Wing, Perrin Air Force Base, Texas. The wing provided all initial delta wing flying training for the Air Force, preparing pilots for flying duty in the F-102 and follow-on training in either the F-106 or B-58.

While assigned to the Wing, Major Kennett completed the ADC Life Support School, writing and photographing a feature story for Airman Magazine in the process. He also created public affairs guidance for and handled national media interest in the attendance of all NASA astronauts at the same course.

While Major Kennett was at Perrin, the base newspaper received three Air Force level awards for journalistic excellence. Major Kennett attended the Defense Information School's Information Officer Basic Course in January-February 1968, graduating with honors. He received the Air Force Commendation Medal for his accomplishments during his initial active duty assignment at Perrin from June 1967 to July 1969.

Moving to Kimpo Air Base, Korea, in July 1969, Major Kennett served as the Base Information Officer, with additional duties as Kimpo's Disaster Preparedness Officer, Inspector General, and Protocol Officer. Major Kennett's extensive work with the United Nations Command led to a short extension on his remote tour to handle public affairs aspects of the arrival of Vice President Spiro Agnew on an official visit to Korea in August 1970.

While assigned at Kimpo, Major Kennett was selected as an Outstanding Young Man of America, primarily for his community relations efforts with the Korean people and his public affairs support during the hijacking of a Japanese airliner by Red Army terrorists.

Major Kennett left Korea in August 1970 to attend the first Public Communications Short Course sponsored by the Air Force Institute of Technology at the University of Oklahoma. He graduated second in his class, with a 3.8 cumulative average.

Major Kennett moved to RAF Chicksands, England in November 1970 to serve as the Chief of Information for the 6950th Security Group, United States Air Force Security Service (USAFSS). This assignment began a period of 7½ years of duty with USAFSS for Major Kennett. During Major Kennett's tour of duty at Chicksands, the base won three consecutive command-wide first place community

relations awards, and four newspaper awards for journalistic excellence, including the Department of Defense's prestigious Thomas Jefferson Award in 1972. Major Kennett received the Meritorious Service Medal for his management actions while assigned in England.

Major Kennett moved to Headquarters USAFSS, San Antonio, Texas, in September 1974 to serve as Chief of Plans and Programs and Deputy Director of Information. Major Kennett was responsible for planning public affairs guidance for many state-of-the-art intelligence collection systems and successfully handled public affairs problems surrounding classified matters of international significance. He also augmented the USAFSS Inspector General on 10 separate occasions, inspecting USAFSS Information functions at numerous locations around the world. Under Major Kennett's supervision, the USAFSS command-wide magazine won numerous awards for journalistic excellence, including the Thomas Jefferson Award for 1978. Major Kennett received his second Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding service while assigned to HQ USAFSS.

Major Kennett was assigned to his present position on June 16, 1978. In April 1979, Major Kennett was selected as the Outstanding Public Information Officer in the federal government for 1978 by the Aviation and Space Writers Association. This award is given annually to the federal government employee judged to have contributed most to public understanding in the field of aviation or space. Major Kennett received the award for his actions in helping to calm public fears of microwave radiation emanating from the newly developed Pave PAWS radar system. Major Kennett also accepted a Certificate of Excellence from the National Capital Chapter, Public Relations Society of America for Air Force Public Affairs efforts on behalf of Pave PAWS during 1979. He has also been selected to appear in the 1980 edition of Outstanding Young Men of America.

Major Kennett is single and lives in Alexandria, Va. His military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three oak leaf clusters, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Award with one oak leaf cluster, and the Small Arms Marksmanship Ribbon.

PERSONAL FACT SHEET -- Major Douglas J. Kennett

A. Personal Data

1. Born -- 30 October 1945 Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
Father -- Cyril C. Kennett. Mother -- Christine Budgett Kennett
2. Marital Status -- Single

B. Education

1. Graduate, Rutgers Preparatory School, New Brunswick, NJ, 1963.
2. Graduate, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 1967.
3. Graduate, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 1972.
4. Squadron Officers School (correspondence) 1975.
5. Air Command and Staff College (correspondence) 1977.

C. Service

June 67-July 69	Chief, Info 4780 ADWg, Perrin AFB, TX.
July 69-Aug 70	Chief, Info 6167 ABSq, Kimpo AB, Korea
Aug 70-Oct 70	Student, AFIT Short Course, University of Oklahoma.
Nov 70-Aug 74	Chief, Info 6950 SctyGp, RAF Chicksands, England
Sep 74-Jun 78	Chief, Plans and Programs/Dep Dir, HQ USAFSS, Kelly AFB, TX.
Jun 78-Present	SAF/PAMS, Washington, DC.

D. Awards

Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Air Force Commendation Medal
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three oak leaf clusters
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
Air Force Longevity Service Award with one oak leaf cluster

National Defense Service Medal
Small Arms Marksmanship Ribbon

3. Effective Dates of Promotion

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Temporary</u>	<u>Permanent</u>
Second Lieutenant	15 June 1967	15 June 1967
First Lieutenant	15 December 1968	15 June 1970
Captain	15 June 1970	15 June 1972
Major	1 April 1979	1 April 1979