

Maj. Hairston First 59th. Cmd. Pilot



Major Robert E. Hairston became 59th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron's first rated Command Pilot last month. The distinction he earned is the Air Force's highest aeronautical rating and is granted active senior AF pilots having the required qualifications.

Under current regulations, a Command Pilot earns those wings after completing 15 years of service as an heavier-than-air aircraft pilot and after completing 3,000 hours of flying time as a pilot or co-pilot. He also must hold a green instrument card signifying above-average proficiency in instrument flying.

All of this Major Hairston has done. He also holds two Distinguished Flying Crosses and two Air Medals. The new Command Pilot hails from Crawford, Miss. He and his wife Joy, and two children, reside off base.