



MAJ. TAYLOR “FEMA” HIESTER

Commander and Pilot

Maj. Taylor Hiester is the United States Air Force F-16 Demonstration Team Commander and Pilot.

Maj. Hiester leads a team of highly specialized Airmen who are responsible for representing the total capability of the F-16 to America and her partners around the world. He has served as the team’s demonstration pilot since 2024, performing over 200 aerial displays in North America, South America, Europe and Asia.

He is a proud graduate of Penn State University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science and his commission as an Air Force officer in 2015. He was then selected to fly the F-16 upon graduation from USAF pilot training in 2017.

Maj. Hiester has served as an F-16 instructor pilot with the 114th Fighter Wing of the South Dakota Air National Guard and the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw AFB in South Carolina. He specialized in VIP protection and alert operations, serving as the 20th Fighter Wing’s lead planner to prepare for and execute OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE. In 2021, Maj. Hiester was selected to serve as an Air Advisor, completing Air Advisor School of the Air Expeditionary Operations Center in 2022. He is trusted and prepared to assess, advise, train and equip partner nations.



His unique combination of skills as a demonstration pilot, air advisor and strategic communicator have helped him connect millions of Americans to their Department of War and strengthened America’s partnerships around the world.

Maj. Hiester and his wife Jennifer are from Berks County, Pennsylvania. Together, they have a son named John and are grateful for the opportunity to continue serving America.