



STAFF SGT. BYRON K. MITCHELL JR.

Staff Sgt. Byron K. Mitchell Jr. is the NCOIC, Religious Affairs at Department of War Information Activity (DWIA) and the Defense Information School (DINFOS), Fort George G. Meade, Md. He is charged to create spiritually fit staff and students, provide spiritual care, and advise leaders responsible for world-class training of more than 2,600 public affairs, visual information, and broadcast professionals annually. He serves in an embedded Religious Support Team as a key advisor to the Commandant and senior leadership on religious, ethical, and moral issues, ensuring the free exercise of religion for over 300 military, civilian, contractor personnel, and students. He executes the strategic ministry plan across two major sections, providing embedded warrior care for DWIA and DINFOS personnel and their families in support of communication and information services vital to warfighter readiness and national defense.

Sgt. Mitchell enlisted in the United States Air Force in June 2017 after graduating high school. After completing technical training at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, he was stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico. Since then, he has had two additional assignments and completed two deployments, gaining experience in providing spiritual and moral support to Airmen and their families. His most significant deployment was to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, in support of Operation Allied Refuge, where he helped facilitate the evacuation of more than 57,000 Afghan evacuees. During this operation, he provided spiritual care to both the evacuees and the Airmen involved, ensuring religious accommodations, boosting morale, and addressing the needs of those impacted. Prior to his current position, Sgt. Mitchell served as NCOIC, Religious Affairs at 354th Maintenance Group at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.



EDUCATION

- 2017 High School Diploma, New Mexico Military Institute, Roswell, N.M.
- 2017 Chaplain Assistant Apprentice Course, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
- 2024 Airman Leadership School, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.
- 2025 Instructor Training Course, Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Md.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. October 2017–October 2018, Chaplain Assistant, 377th Air Base Wing, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.
2. November 2018–November 2019, Religious Affairs Apprentice, 39th Air Base Wing, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey
3. November 2019–April 2023, Religious Affairs Airman, 354th Fighter Wing, Eielson AFB, Alaska.
(November 2020–April 2021, Religious Affairs Airmen, 435th Air Ground Operation Wing, Africa)
(July 2021–January 2022, Religious Affairs Airmen, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, Southwest Asia)
4. April 2023–October 2025, NCOIC Religious Affairs, 354th Maintenance Group, Eielson AFB, Alaska.
5. October 2025–Present, NCOIC Religious Affairs, Defense of War Information Activity and the Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Md.





BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal, with three oak leaf clusters

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

2018 Richard C. Schneider Awards, Outstanding Religious Affairs Airmen

2019 Below-the-Zone to Senior Airmen

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Airman Basic - June 13, 2017

Airman First Class - Aug. 3, 2017

Senior Airman - June 15, 2019

Staff Sergeant - Sept. 01, 2025

(Current as of February 2026)

