



Colonel Adelbert "Buz" Carpenter (2017)

Retired Air Force Colonel Adelbert "Buz" Carpenter earned his pilot wings in the Air Force after graduation from the US Air Force Academy, eventually accruing over 4,400 jet flight hours. He served as a C-141 aircraft commander doing worldwide airlift, an RF-4 instructor pilot in combat in the Vietnam Conflict, an SR-71 instructor pilot earning 777 flight hours while executing global reconnaissance missions, an F-4E squadron commander, and, finally as a pilot of the historic U-2 piloting his aircraft above 70,000 feet. Carpenter served as a Wing Commander in Europe during Desert Storm and as the USAF "Black World" programmer in the Pentagon, involved in programs such as the F-117, B-2 Bomber, and F-22. At the end of his Air Force career he was Vice Commander of 2nd Air Force, which possessed the Air Force's Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance mission aircraft. Following his retirement from the Air Force, he became involved as a volunteer with the Udvar-Hazy Center and has been a key player in the development of their tour information and docent training.