



GENERAL ROBERT H. FOGLESONG

USAF (retired)

American Chairman

United States-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs



General Robert H. “Doc” Foglesong, United States Air Force (retired), was appointed by President George W. Bush as American Chairman of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on Prisoners of War/Missing in Action (USRJC) on April 26, 2006. The Commission has been working since 1992 to account for American and Soviet/Russian military personnel who are missing from conflicts since the beginning of World War II.

As a four-star general, Foglesong’s last active duty tour (2005-2006) was as Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, a command that also embraces NATO and other multi-national responsibilities. General Foglesong spent much of his career as a command pilot, primarily in F-15 and F-16 fighter aircraft and the A-10 attack aircraft. He has held a large number of command and staff positions with emphasis on political-military affairs, and he has spent a significant portion of the past decade as a national security advisor at Cabinet and Presidential levels. In this capacity, he had opportunities to travel extensively with the most senior officials of the U.S. Government and to directly engage with civilian and military officials of foreign governments around the globe. His jobs required almost daily interface with Members of Congress, the White House, and many governmental interagency offices.



From 2006 to 2008, Foglesong served as president of Mississippi State University, the largest university in the southern U.S. state of Mississippi (more than 20,000 students in 2012). A graduate of West Virginia University (bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees in chemical engineering), Foglesong has authored 57 academic publications on a broad range of engineering technical and leadership topics. He also is the president and executive director of the Appalachian Leadership and Education Foundation, a non-profit organization operating to identify and support the next generation of leaders in the Appalachian Mountain region of the United States, which includes his home state of West Virginia. He also serves on the board of directors of Massey Energy, one of the largest producers of coal in the United States, and on the board of directors of the Michael Baker Corp., an international energy and engineering firm.

General Foglesong is married to Mary Thrasher Foglesong. They have two sons—David and Mark. David and his wife Laura both serve in the United States Air Force. Mark works in the television industry. His hobbies include running marathons, collecting slide rules and potato mashers, and public speaking.