

11 MAY1995



AIR FORCE HISTORY SUPPORT OFFICE

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Pages: 2

Distribution: F

This mission directive states the mission and assigned duties of the Air Force History Support Office (AFHSO), a field operating agency (FOA) reporting directly to the Air Force Historian (HQ USAF/HO).

1. Mission. The Air Force History Support Office conducts research, analysis, and records and preserves the history of the United States Air Force. It publishes various classified and unclassified histories, including books, monographs, and special studies for dissemination to government agencies as well as the general public. It provides ongoing historical information, analysis, and perspective to principal leaders and their staffs at Headquarters Air Force in support of planning, policy development, and decision making. It promotes the study of air power history on a national and international level and US Air Force history in particular.

2. Assigned Duties:

- 2.1. Research, analyze, write, and publish books, monographs, studies, pamphlets, articles, and reports pertaining to air power and the history of the Air Force, thereby preserving the history of the Air Force in accordance with the best scholarly standards.
- 2.2. Provide historical information, analysis, and perspective to the Air Staff and the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force in support of planning, policy development, and decision making.
- 2.3. Promote the appreciation and study of Air Force and air power history on a national and international level through seminars, symposia, exhibits, journals, the media, and other outreach efforts.
- 2.4. Answer requests for historical information and research from other governmental sources and the public.
- 2.5. Maintain a repository of classified and unclassified Air Force documents.
- 2.6. Advise the Air Force, the National Archives and Records Administration, and other agencies on declassification matters.

- 2.7. Annually instruct for the History of Air Power course.
- 2.8. Administer the Dissertation Fellowship program.
- 2.9. Supervise and administer the Contract Histories Program.
- 2.10. Maintain an Air Force field library available to researchers in the Washington DC area.

3. Special Responsibilities and Instructions:

- 3.1. The AFHSO Commander makes policy and is responsible for the overall operations of the Air Force History Support Office.
- 3.2. The Chief of Executive Services, AF/HO, serves as Executive Officer of the organization.

4. Relationship to Headquarters USAF, Other Commands, and Agencies:

- 4.1. The AFHSO commander receives policy, guidance, and technical direction from and reports to HQ USAF/HO, and is responsible for AFHSO operations as specified in AFPD 84-1, AFI 84-101, and this directive.
- 4.2. AFHSO receives support from the 11th Wing, Washington DC, in the functional areas of information management, safety, physical security, data automation, manpower, personnel, procurement, intelligence, supply, transportation, training, and budget support.
- 4.3. HQ USAF Security Police provides information and personnel security and performs an annual Staff Assistance Visit to ensure compliance.
- 4.4. The AFHSO must be located in the Washington DC area with ready access to the Pentagon, the National Archives and Records Administration, the other service historical centers, the Government Printing Office, and other customers and sources of information.

5. Direct Communications. On matters for which the AFHSO is responsible, it is authorized direct communications with other government agencies, Office of the Secretary of Defense, and military departments; the Secretariat and the Air Staff; major and intermediate Air Force commands, bases, and installations; industry; the general public; universities and libraries; and foreign governments and citizens.

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Air Force Historian