



# Strategic Air Command

**Phillip S. Meilinger**



## **Strategic Air Command:**

Strategic Air Warfare Richard H. Kohn, Joseph P. Harahan, 1988 The ability of the American air forces to wage war independently and to carry the battle to the enemy's heartland has played a critical role in American air doctrine and military strategy since the 1930s Generals LeMay Johnson Burchinal and Catton explain their roles in flying and commanding bombing missions and campaigns during World War II in creating the atomic force in the immediate postwar years and in building the Strategic Air Command in the 1950s The Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War are also discussed

Strategic Air Command Mel Hunter, 1961 *The Strategic Air Command* William S. Borgiasz, 1996-01-09 This work analyzes the evolution of the U S strategic air force from 1945 to 1955 As commander of the Strategic Air Command SAC from 1948 through 1955 Curtis LeMay shaped U S strategic forces to survive the new world He insisted that the Air Force have access to atomic energy information for strategic planning He struggled to find promote and retain the most qualified pilots and support personnel in the Air Force This work describes the evolution of Air Force strategic forces describes the importance of personnel to the SAC mission and how LeMay addressed the problem examines the development of specialized maintenance in SAC traces the transition from the B 47 to the B 52 and explores the importance of intelligence and targeting

**Strategic Air Command** Edward G. Longacre, 1990 SAC 20 United States. Air Force. Strategic Air Command, Don Smith, 1966 **Strategic Air Command** Rita F. Clark, Herman F. Martin, 1988 **Always at War** Melvin G. Deaile, 2018-04-15 Always at War is the story of Strategic Air Command SAC during the early decades of the Cold War More than a simple history it describes how an organization dominated by experienced World War II airmen developed a unique culture that thrives to this day Strategic Air Command was created because of the Air Force's internal beliefs but the organization evolved as it responded to the external environment created by the Cold War In the aftermath of World War II and the creation of an independent air service the Air Force formed SAC because of a belief in the military potential of strategic bombing centralized under one commander As the Cold War intensified so did SAC's mission In order to prepare SAC's warriors to daily fight an enemy they did not see as well as to handle the world's most dangerous arsenal the command led by General Curtis LeMay emphasized security personal responsibility and competition among the command Its resources political influence and manning grew as did its culture until reaching its peak during the Cuban Missile Crisis SAC became synonymous with the Cold War and its culture forever changed the Air Force as well as those who served Combat Crew, 1980 *Winning Armageddon* Trevor Albertson, 2019-05-15 Winning Armageddon provides definition to an all too long misunderstood figure of the Cold War General Curtis E LeMay and tells the story of his advocacy for preemptive nuclear strikes while leading the U S Air Force's Strategic Air Command In telling this story Trevor Albertson builds for the reader a world that while not in the distant past has been forgotten by many the lessons of that past however are as applicable today as they were 65 years ago This work brings to life the challenges fears and responses of a Cold War United States that

grappled with a problem that did not have a clear solution nuclear war LeMay argued for striking first in a potential nuclear conflict but only if and when it was clear that the enemy was preparing to launch their own surprise attack This approach commonly referred to as preemption was designed to catch an attacker off guard and prevent the destruction of one's own nation LeMay hoped that rather than plunging the world into a fruitless nuclear exchange he could diffuse the conflict at its outset

**To Rule the Skies** Brent D Ziarnick, 2021-02-15 To Rule the Skies General Thomas S Power and the Rise of Strategic Air Command in the Cold War fills a critical gap in Cold War and Air Force history by telling the story of General Thomas S Power for the first time Thomas Power was second only to Curtis LeMay in forming the Strategic Air Command SAC one of the premier combat organizations of the twentieth century but he is rarely mentioned today What little is written about Power describes him as LeMay's willing hatchet man uneducated unimaginative autocratic and sadistic Based on extensive archival research General Power seeks to overturn this appraisal Brent D Ziarnick covers the span of both Power's personal and professional life and challenges many of the myths of conventional knowledge about him Denied college because his middle class immigrant family imploded while he was still in school Power worked in New York City construction while studying for the Flying Cadet examination at night in the New York Public Library As a young pilot Power participated in some of the Army Air Corps most storied operations In the interwar years his family connections allowed Power to interact with American Wall Street millionaires and the British aristocracy Confined to training combat aircrews in the United States for most of World War II Power proved his combat leadership as a bombing wing commander by planning and leading the firebombing of Tokyo for Gen Curtis LeMay After the war Power helped LeMay transform the Air Force into the aerospace force America needed during the Cold War A master of strategic air warfare he aided in establishing SAC as the Free World's Big Stick against Soviet aggression Far from being unimaginative Power led the incorporation of the nuclear weapon the intercontinental ballistic missile the airborne alert and the Single Integrated Operational Plan into America's deterrent posture as Air Research and Development Command commander and both the vice commander and commander in chief of SAC Most importantly Power led SAC through the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 Even after retirement Power as a New York Times bestselling author brought his message of deterrence through strength to the nation Ziarnick points out how Power's impact may continue in the future Power's peerless but suppressed vision of the Air Force and the nation in space is recounted in detail placing Power firmly as a forgotten space visionary and role model for both the Air Force and the new Space Force To Rule the Skies is an important contribution to the history of the Cold War and beyond *History of the United States. Air Force. Strategic Air Command, 1958\**

**Strategic Air Command (SAC)** JEFFREY. VALENTINE LT COL USAF (RET ), 2025-08 This book is a history of the Air Force's Strategic Air Command from its inception in 1946 to its disestablishment in 1992 It is written in a historical and personal context in that I discuss American and World history from World War II through the disestablishment of the Soviet Union and how the United States reacted to particular events

through the Air Force and in particular Strategic Air Command The composition of the Command its basing and its changes through the years are covered in detail down to the squadron level along with discussions about nuclear weapons and their deployment SAC aircraft and missile development are discussed as is the personnel assigned through the years from the Generals in charge to the airmen how they were trained assigned and how they did the work The author s personal experiences are included throughout where appropriate to add detail and realistic emphasis The book concludes with a look beyond 1992 to show how the future relies on the past for context

**SAC Time** Thomas E. Alexander,2020-12-11 Thomas E Alexander was among 20 000 military service personnel ordered into the Strategic Air Command formed in 1946 as US military and political leaders began to understand the growing nuclear threat posed by Stalin s USSR Alexander served for a number of years in this elite force designed as a primary deterrent to Soviet military ambitions In this gripping memoir Alexander describes what it was like to occupy a mole hole beside a SAC runway ready to go from full sleep to taxiing for takeoff within seven minutes of the sounding of the klaxon He shares the experience of sitting on the couch with his family and watching President Kennedy s announcement of the discovery of Soviet missiles in Cuba realizing that within hours he would be airborne He tells what it was like to be at a New Year s Eve party on the base only to hear the announcement that his unit had just been activated Less than twenty four hours later he was in Greenland In *SAC Time Navigating the Strategic Air Command* Alexander presents an honest and reflective account of the impact the Cold War had on individuals who were then on the front lines of defense like it or not Coauthor Dan Utley says of Alexander s narrative The story of an ordinary individual in extraordinary times has value These are stories Tom Alexander has waited much of his life to share with others but they are as rich as the day they occurred

*Strategic Air Command and the Alert Program* Henry M. Narducci,1988

Strategic Air Command (SAC) Jeffrey H. Valentine Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.),2025-08-01 This book is a history of the Air Force s Strategic Air Command from its inception in 1946 to its disestablishment in 1992 It is written in a historical and personal context in that I discuss American and World history from World War II through the disestablishment of the Soviet Union and how the United States reacted to particular events through the Air Force and in particular Strategic Air Command The composition of the Command its basing and its changes through the years are covered in detail down to the squadron level along with discussions about nuclear weapons and their deployment SAC aircraft and missile development are discussed as is the personnel assigned through the years from the Generals in charge to the airmen how they were trained assigned and how they did the work The author s personal experiences are included throughout where appropriate to add detail and realistic emphasis The book concludes with a look beyond 1992 to show how the future relies on the past for context

**Building a Strategic Air Force** Walton S. Moody,2019 From the 50s to the 80s the Strategic Air Command was the keystone of the American nuclear deterrent and its primary arm for waging nuclear war This is the official US Air Force history of the SAC covering the years from the end of World War Two to the mid 1950s when the Cold War reached its peak and SAC grew from

a tiny force with just a few nuclear weapons into the most powerful military organization in the world     *Strategic Air Command* United States. Air Force. Strategic Air Command, John T. Bohn, 1974     **Bomber** Phillip S. Meilinger, 2012  
    **Strategic Air Command: Unit Mission and History Summaries** United States. Office of the Historian, 1988  
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