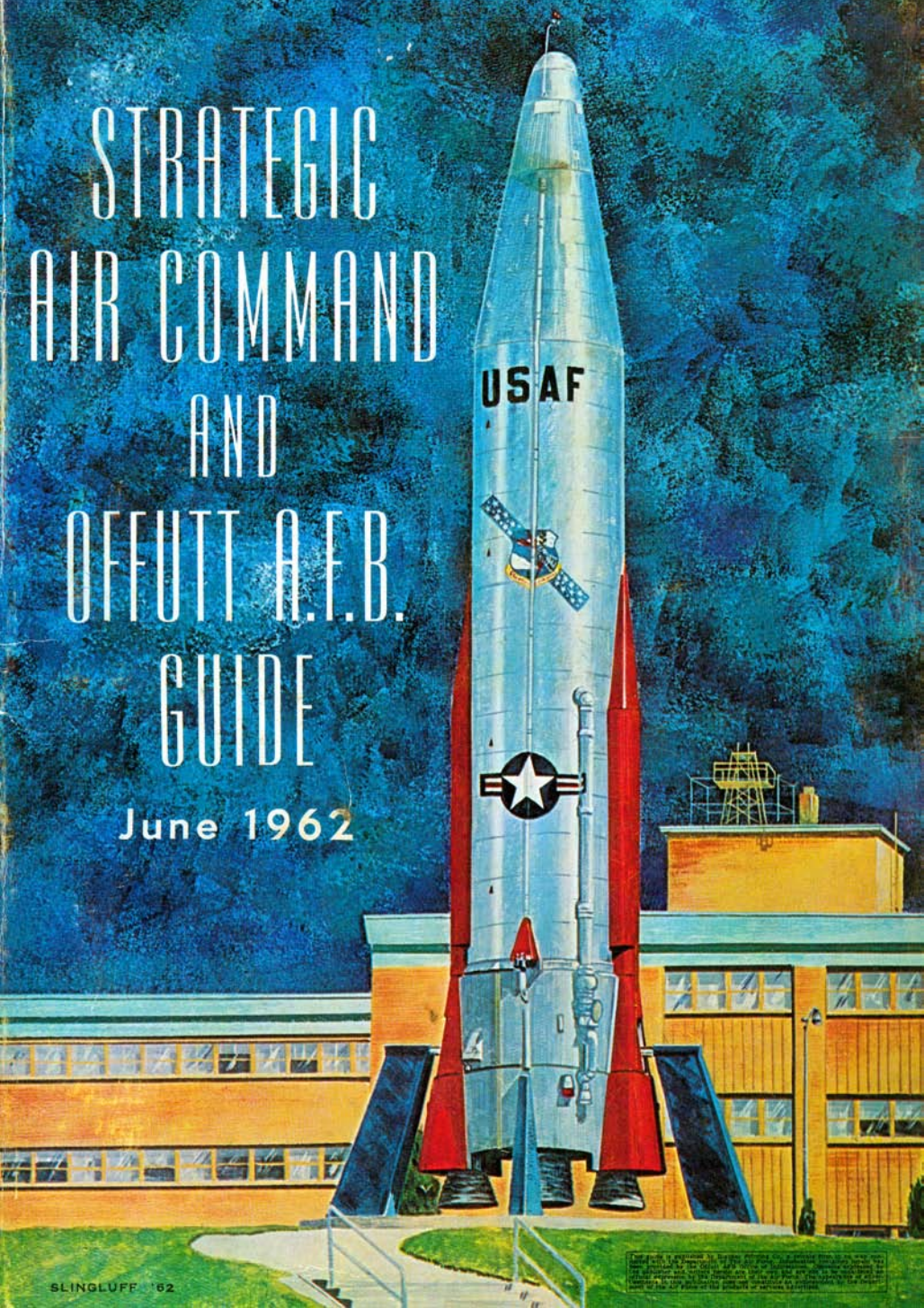


STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND AND OFFUTT A.F.B. GUIDE

June 1962



A Message From . . .



**Colonel
Elkins
Read Jr.**

Base Commander

Welcome to Offutt Air Force Base, home of Headquarters, Strategic Air Command.

This base guide has been developed as an aid to the thousands of Air Force and civilian personnel who come to Offutt each year—many to stay and others for short visits.

If you are being permanently assigned, I hope you will be able to remember your tour at Offutt as a highlight in your military career.

General Power's Message

It is a pleasure to introduce to you through the pages of this booklet the home of Headquarters, Strategic Air Command, the control center of the world's most powerful military force and its best hope for continued peace.

Directly under the control of the President, Secretary of Defense and Joint Chiefs of Staff, SAC possesses 90 per cent of the free world's total striking power, as measured in TNT equivalents. In comparison, the command receives about 20 per cent of our annual defense budget.

Our greatest objective is to assure that this awesome power is never used. SAC's primary job is to prevent war by convincing potential aggressors that attack on this nation would result in their own destruction.

The challenge SAC faces in maintaining its deterrent strength is the most severe ever posed to a military organization. Fantastic advances in technology and the resulting compression of warning time require SAC to be ready for immediate action at any moment.

Today, the command is a true aerospace force combining the mechanical advantages of the finest in bombers and missiles with



General Thomas S. Power
Commander-in-Chief
Strategic Air Command

the professional skill and dedication of the men who operate these systems.

In the years ahead SAC will continue to modernize and expand its force, placing emphasis on both manned and unmanned weapon systems. As science opens the door to space, SAC will be prepared to work in that realm with the same mission as today—keeping the peace.



ABOVE—Atlas Missile and SAC Headquarters — “Trade-marks” of Offutt AFB.

BELOW—Gleaming KC-135 jet tankers of the 34th Air Re-fueling Squadron.





THIS ONE IS NO MONUMENT. Two members of the 549th Strategic Missile Squadron watch carefully as an Atlas Missile is raised into firing position at the Mead site. This is one of nine operational missiles in the Offutt complex.

STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND

and



OFFUTT A.F.B.

Guide





From the Base Commander

3902 AIR BASE WING (SAC)
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

Welcome to Offutt Air Force Base, home of Headquarters, Strategic Air Command.

If you are being permanently assigned, I hope you will be able to remember your tour at Offutt as a highlight in your military career.

If you are visiting our base, I hope that your visit will be a pleasant one. Come back and see us again.

William B. Campbell
WILLIAM B. CAMPBELL
Colonel, USAF
Commander



A Message From

**General Thomas S. Power
Commander-in-Chief
Strategic Air Command**

It is a pleasure to introduce to you, through the pages of this booklet, the home of Headquarters, Strategic Air Command, the control center of America's long range air striking force.

Recognized as the most powerful military force ever created, SAC represents our first-line effort to preserve world peace through full-scale preparedness. Because of the grave responsibility to the United States and to the free world we continually strive to improve the command still further.

SAC trains round-the-clock so that it can be ready to launch an immediate nuclear attack on enemy targets if war should be declared. SAC is prepared to win the air power battle in any war, big or small.

In fact, it is SAC's preparedness for general war—its constant alert status—that fits it so well for any possible local war contingency. Only a force which poses a day-to-day deterrent from its home bases is truly prepared to apply tailored pressure immediately wherever required on the globe. And, because SAC has been developed to pose a threat every minute of every day, it has a flexibility which would allow a portion to be committed to a local situation with a minimum loss of its general war preparedness.

A third world war cannot be like those of the past—it will require instantaneous counterattack,

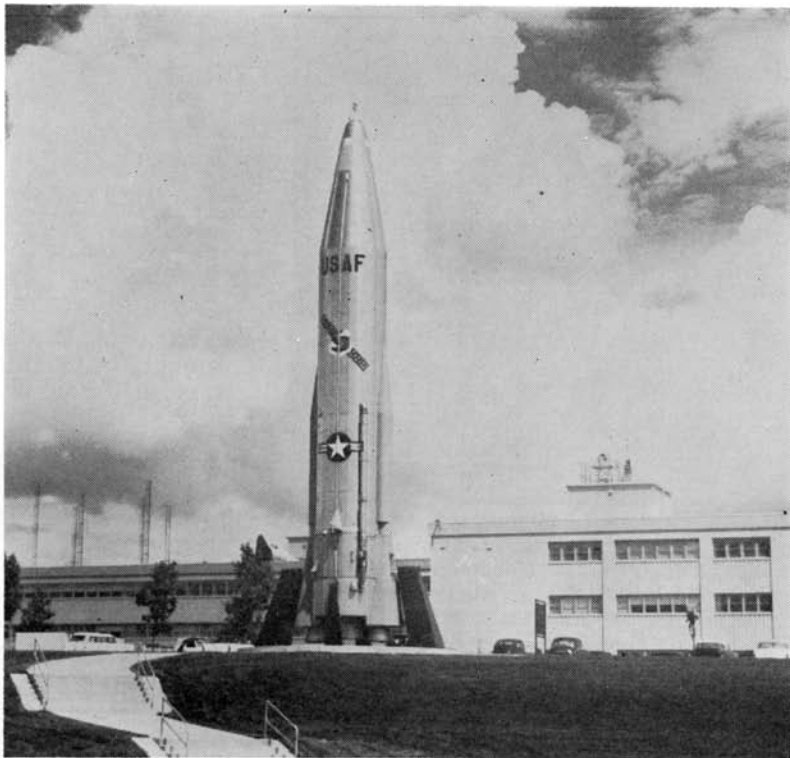
global mobility and weapons of devastating force. Present day strategic air warfare is based on missions by individual bombers, not on the mass formation tactics of World War II. One of SAC's bombers can deliver more destructive power to a target than the combined American and British bomber forces were able to deliver throughout World War II.

Each SAC Squadron has its war plans to carry out, if the orders are issued, and each crew knows its target and alternates-visually and by radar.

More than 50 per cent of SAC's crews were tested in World War II or Korea, where they learned that their jobs demanded business-like efficiency. This efficiency has been steadily enhanced and, to this end, each crew regularly flies missions similar to those it would be called upon to perform in time of war.

Behind the continuing operations and training are the people of SAC and their understanding that world peace is the Command's primary mission. They are the heart of the deterrent force which is our best hope of preventing war while we continue to work toward a peaceful solution to world problems.

This is the basis on which SAC was formed and the principle by which we in the Command work and live.



The majestic Atlas missile stands at the main entrance to Strategic Air Command's Control Center which contains all facilities necessary for the direction of its world-wide operations. A six-story structure, three of which are below ground level, the building has complete air conditioning, closed circuit color TV facilities, air purification system, and complete messing and billeting facilities.

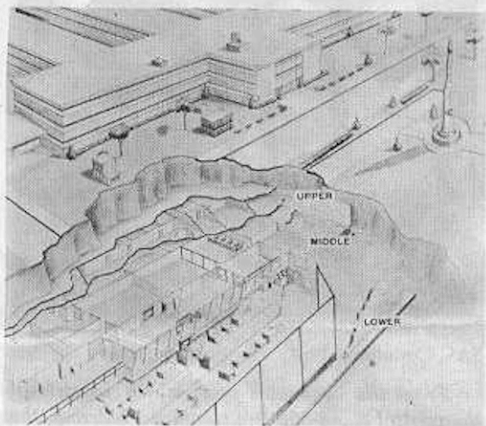
This particular missile, similar to those included in SAC's mixed bomber-missile force, has been retired from active duty, having been used by the manufacturer for stress tests and experimental purposes.

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Welcome to

Strategic Air Command Headquarters

Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska



Underground Command Post, SAC Headquarters

The SAC headquarters structure consists of seven floors — three above ground, a basement and the three-story underground portion. The underground is a limited access area, and only individuals having a definite requirement are allowed to enter.

The underground has a 15-bed dispensary which would be manned by medical personnel during times of emergency. There are sufficient emergency rations stored here to feed approximately 800 people for two weeks. Storage tanks in the underground hold enough fuel to operate for two weeks at 24-hour full-load duty.

Exterior and ramp walls are 24 inches thick, constructed of steel reinforced concrete.

SAC's control room, communications status center, trajectory center, global weather central and portions of the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff, intelligence, materiel and operations directorates are all located in the underground.



SAC Command Post

From the command post, which consists of the control room and the command balcony, the SAC aerospace force of aircraft and missiles would be ordered launched at the direction of the President in time of war.

SAC's commander in chief and members of his battle staff are stationed on the command balcony, overlooking the control room. The control room is 149 feet long, 39 feet wide and 21 feet high.

Within 30 seconds, vital operational data can be taken from an original printed source and flashed on screens before the entire SAC battle staff.

Each of the six screens is 16-by-16 feet, and six different displays of information can be projected simultaneously to provide a wide range of important operational information to the staff.

Data pertaining to weather, force deployment, aircraft, missiles, etc., is transferred from the original source to plastic transparencies and projected on the screens.

Using transparency film and a dry process copying machine, film and original documents can be reproduced in four seconds and displayed in a matter of minutes. Critical data from electronic computer printouts is also reproduced on transparencies for immediate screening and battle staff evaluation.

Since SAC's emergency war plan can change frequently as new data becomes available, displays are continuously kept up-to-date with information fed from computers.

The command post is also the nerve center of SAC's global communications network.

By picking up a red telephone, the senior SAC controller can speak directly to about 60 subordinate command posts spread across the northern hemisphere. Through this system, each SAC base receives notice of alerts — practice or real — from coded messages.

Another telephone, gold in color, gives the controller a direct line to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington and to other major command headquarters.

Through a radio network called "short order," the command post can contact SAC tactical aircraft in flight over any part of the world. A principal purpose of this system is to pass the execution order — the "go code" — to the bomber force, if specifically ordered by the President.

Through an electronic device known as the "situation display system" in the command post, the controller would receive early warning of missiles or aircraft approaching the U. S. from over the polar regions. This system is connected with the ballistic missile early warning system (BMEWS) and North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) headquarters.

Another display panel would indicate the location of a nuclear detonation in the continental United States.

Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff

A national target list and a single, integrated operational plan (SIOP) for initial response of U. S. strategic forces in case of nuclear war have been developed at SAC headquarters by the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff (JSTPS), an agency of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Directed by the SAC commander in chief, the staff selects wartime strategic targets and the weapons to be used against them.

The JSTPS was created in August 1960, and is composed of more than 175 highly experienced personnel representing all the services — Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines — and several allied countries.



'Looking Glass'

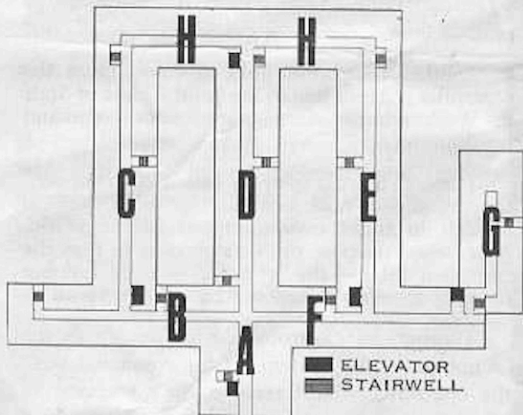
Alternate Command Posts

In case the command post in the SAC underground is knocked out, control of the SAC force would be passed to an alternate command post in another part of the U. S. or to an airborne command post, called "looking glass," maintained in the air 24 hours daily with a SAC general officer on board.

Offutt Air Force Base

Offutt AFB, formerly known as Fort Crook, was for many years the home of the 22nd U. S. Infantry. Construction of the original fort was completed in 1896. In 1924, Fort Crook was renamed "Offutt Field" in honor of 1st Lt. Jarvis J. Offutt, who lost his life in 1918 while flying with the Royal Air Force in France. He was Omaha's first air casualty of World War I. During World War II, principal activities of the base were the operation of a Martin bomber plant and a prisoner-of-war camp for captured Italians. In March 1948, SAC moved to its new headquarters, Offutt AFB.

The total area of the base is 1,887 acres. This is exclusive of the Capehart housing area, which covers 465 acres. The latest population figures for Offutt AFB, including SAC headquarters, lists 2,094 officers, 7,743 airmen and 1,296 civilian employees. The 21,708 dependents residing in Wherry and Capehart housing push the total population figure to 33,341, making it one of the larger communities in the state of Nebraska.



Map of Corridors

Corridor 'H' is not accessible from the basement or first floor



Prepared by

Directorate of Information

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Offutt AFB, Nebraska