

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Col Timothy Kaufman, USAF, retired (BA, Duquesne University; MPA, University of Oklahoma), is an associate with Booz Allen Hamilton, providing on-site support to the Air Force Quadrennial Defense Review, Headquarters US Air Force, Washington, D.C. He previously served as the vice wing commander of the 82d Training Wing, Sheppard AFB, Texas. Prior to that he worked in the Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs as a deputy director of the Office of International Security and Peacekeeping Operations. Other assignments included serving as commander of the 436th Operations Group, Dover AFB, Delaware, and commander of the 305th Air Refueling Squadron, Grissom AFB, Indiana. He is a graduate of Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and Industrial College of the Armed Forces.



Capt Troy S. Thomas (USFA; MA, University of Texas; MA, George Washington University) is an assistant professor of political science at the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado. He previously served in the 607th Air Intelligence Squadron, Osan AB, Republic of Korea; the Air Force Intern Program, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.; and both the 55th Fighter Squadron and 609th Air Intelligence Squadron, Shaw AFB, South Carolina. Captain Thomas is a graduate of Squadron Officer School.



Dr. Robin Higham (AB, Harvard University; MA, Claremont Graduate School; PhD, Harvard University) is professor emeritus of military history at Kansas State University and editor emeritus of *Military Affairs* and *Aerospace Historian*. He is the current editor of *Journal of the West*. He previously served on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts and the University of North Carolina. Dr. Higham is the author of 16 monographs, including *Air Power: A Concise History*. His *Bases of Air Strategy: Building Airfields for the RAF, 1914-1945* was recently published in Shrewsbury, England, by AirLife Publishing Ltd. He was the recipient of the Kansas Governor's 2000 Aviation Honors Award and the Samuel Eliot Morison Prize of the American Military Institute for his significant contributions in the field of military history.



Dik Alan Daso (USFA; MA, PhD, University of South Carolina) is curator of modern military aircraft at the Smithsonian Institution, National Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C. During his career in the Air Force, his assignments included T-38 pilot instructor training at Randolph AFB, Texas; RF-4C instructor pilot; F-15 pilot; and chief of Air Force doctrine at Headquarters Air Force, the Pentagon. Daso is the author of *Architects of American Air Supremacy: Gen. Hap Arnold and Dr. Theodore von Kármán* (Maxwell AFB, Ala.: Air University Press, 1997) and *Hap Arnold and the Evolution of American Airpower* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 2000), winner of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Manuscript Award in 2001.



Col Richard Szafranski, USAF, retired (BA, Florida State University; MA, Central Michigan University), is a partner and managing director of Toffler Associates®, Alvin and Heidi Toffler's strategic planning and business-advising firm. Prior to his Air Force retirement in 1996, he served as the national military strategy chair at the Air War College and the study director for *Air Force 2025*, an inquiry into the capabilities required for air, space, and information power in the next century. Colonel Szafranski commanded the 7th Bomb Wing at Carswell AFB, Texas; served as base commander at Peterson AFB, Colorado; commanded a bomb squadron; and served on the staffs of Strategic Air Command, NORAD, and Air Force Space Command. He is the author of many writings on military strategy and the operational art, and continues to lecture at the intermediate and senior levels of national and international educational institutions for civilian, government, and military professionals. He is a graduate of Air Command and Staff College and Air War College.



Dr. David R. Mets (USNA; MA, Columbia University; PhD, University of Denver) is a professor at Air University's School of Advanced Airpower Studies. He studied naval history at the US Naval Academy and taught the history of airpower at both the Air Force Academy and West Point. During his 30-year career in the Navy and Air Force, he served as a tanker pilot, an instructor navigator in strategic airlift, and a commander of an AC-130 squadron in Southeast Asia. On another tour there, he was an aircraft commander for more than 900 tactical airlift sorties. A former editor of *Air University Review*, Dr. Mets is the author of *Master of Airpower: General Carl A. Spaatz* (Presidio, 1988) and three other books.



Maj Mark A. Ruse (USFA; ME, Cornell University) is operations flight commander, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron, Travis AFB, California. He has previously served in positions at Langley AFB, Virginia; Hickam AFB, Hawaii; and Moody AFB, Georgia. A distinguished graduate of Air Command and Staff College, Major Ruse studied for two years at Freiburg University, Germany, as an Olmsted Scholar.



Lt Col Donald H. Leathem (BSEE, Duke University; MSE, Boston University) is a staff officer in the Programming and Budgeting Division, Air Force Quadrennial Defense Review, Headquarters US Air Force, Washington, D.C. He previously served as the program manager for Sensor Systems at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Prior to that he was the Sacramento Air Logistics Center's chief of systems integration in Colorado Springs, Colorado, for the CINC Mobile Alternate Headquarters supporting USCINSPACE/CINCNOAD and USCINSTRAT's survivable command and control missions. Other assignments include serving as the command lead for USCINSPACE's Space Command Center; test manager for the Space Defense Operations Center in Cheyenne Mountain, Colorado; program manager for the Antiradiation Missile Decoy program; and test engineer for the Peace Sentinel program that provided AWACS and KE-3 tankers to Saudi Arabia. He is a graduate of Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and Defense Systems Management College.



Lt Col Steven M. Rinaldi (BS, University of Oklahoma; MS, School of Advanced Airpower Studies; MS and PhD, Air Force Institute of Technology) is chief, Modernization and Technology Issues Branch, Joint Issues Division, Air Force Quadrennial Defense Review, Headquarters US Air Force, Washington, D.C. He previously served as the military liaison officer in the White House Office of Science and Technology. Prior to that he managed international cooperative research programs with France, Italy, and Russia at Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command; served as an exchange engineering officer at Ecole Polytechnique, Palaiseau, France; and as the chief of the Advanced Resonator Section at the Air Force Weapons Laboratory. He is a graduate of Squadron Officer School, Defense Language Institute, Air Command and Staff College, and Air War College.



Dr. Mark P. Parillo (BA, University of Notre Dame; MA and PhD, Ohio State University) is an associate professor of history at Kansas State University and a faculty member of its Institute of Military History and 20th Century Studies. He previously served as a visiting assistant professor at the University of Alabama, Ohio State University, and Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Parillo is the author of *The Japanese Merchant Marine in World War II* and the editor of *We Were in the Big One: Experiences of the World War II Generation*, which was recently published. He also serves as an editor of *H-War*, a moderated electronic discussion group for scholarly dialogue on matters of world military history at <http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/~war>.



Lt Col Steven C. Suddarth (USFA; MS and PhD, University of Washington) is chief of the Commander's Action Group, Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. He previously served as program manager for the Air Force Office of Scientific Research at Wright-Patterson and the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (now the Missile Defense Agency), Washington, D.C., and as exchange engineer to the French national aerospace laboratories. Colonel Suddarth is a graduate of the Brazilian Air Command and Staff College and the US Air War College.