

## AIR FORCE HISTORICAL RESEARCH AGENCY



### **MISSION**

The US Air Force Historical Research Center, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, serves as a repository for the US Air Force historical documents. It provides archival and historical services for the Air Force. The center advises General Services Administration on declassification of Air Force records held by the National Archives and Records Service. It conducts a training program for Air Force enlisted historians and maintains a contemporary historical evaluation of current operations teams. The center receives technical guidance from the Office of Air Force History.

### **LINEAGE**

Albert F. Simpson Historical Research Center established and activated as a Direct Reporting Unit, 1 Jul 1979  
Redesignated United States Air Force Historical Research Center, 1 Dec 1983  
Status changed to a field operating agency of the USAF, 5 Feb 1991  
Redesignated Air Force Historical Research Agency, 1 Sep 1991

### **STATIONS**

Maxwell AFB, AL, 1 Jul 1979

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

United States Air Force, 1 Jul 1979

### **COMMANDERS**

Lloyd H. Cornett, Jr., 1978  
Col Robert S. Raushkolb, #1995  
Col William E Mathis, #1997  
Col Carol S. Sikes, #2001

Col Dieter Barnes, #2002  
Col Carol S. Sikes, #2004  
Charles F. O'Connell Jr. #2009

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards

1 Jul 1986-30 Jun 1988

25 Feb 1991-24 Feb 1993

1 Jan 1996-31 Dec 1997

1 Nov 1998-31 Oct 2000

1 Nov 2000-31 Oct 2002

1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005

## **EMBLEM**



## **MOTTO**

### **OPERATIONS**

Albert F. Simpson Historical Research Center, which provides unique and invaluable services to the Air Force, was established as a Direct Reporting Unit on July 1, 1979. It moved from Washington, D. C., to Maxwell AFB, Ala., in 1949 with its collection of 44,000,000 pages of material that document Air Force history from the earliest days. Named for Dr. Albert F. Simpson, Air Force Historian from 1946 to 1969, the Center is collocated with Air University, enabling it to offer its extensive research facilities to Air Force professional military education

students.

More than eighty-five percent of the pre-1955 holdings have been declassified. The collection is recorded on 16-mm microfilm, copies of which are at the National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D. C., and at the Office of Air Force History, Boiling AFB, D. C.

The Center's holdings consist mainly of periodic unit histories prepared regularly by major commands, numbered air forces, and other Air Force organizations. These histories provide complete coverage of Air Force activities since 1942, when a Presidential order initiated the program. Extensive supporting documentation enhances the value of the histories.

The histories are supplemented by special collections, including historical monographs and studies; end-of-tour reports; joint and combined command documents; aircraft record cards; and materials from the US Army, British Air Ministry, and the German Air Force. The Center also maintains the personal papers of key retired Air Force people.

The Center's materials are used in countless ways, ranging from student research for the professional military education program to civilian college students and to the development of official plans, programs, analyses, and evaluations. Material obtained from the Center's records finds its way into orientation and indoctrination programs, public information activities, Air Force responses to Congress and other branches of government, research papers, books, television, movie scripts, and many other products.

There are four divisions at the Center:

Reference: Maintains documents and microfilm, answers inquiries about holdings, produces bibliographies, and provides other services to users.

Research: Writes books, monographs, and research reports; determines lineage of Air Force units; determines combat credits of units and people; and performs other services.

Oral History: Conducts oral history interviews; monitors the worldwide end-of-tour report program; and collects personal papers.

Technical Services: Accessions, catalogs, and indexes documents; develops automatic data-processing and microfilming to support the Center; and coordinates systems applications for the Air Force History Program.

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USAF Unit Histories  
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Sources  
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.