

AIR FORCE HISTORICAL RESEARCH AGENCY



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

None

Campaign Streamers

None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

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

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

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.



Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 19 Sep 2010

Updated:

Sources

AFHRA