



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330

Fellow Airmen,

The emerging global environment requires our Air Force to seek new ways of doing business. Challenges persist, and new ones will arise, but the commitment and courage of our Airmen will ensure we are prepared to meet these challenges head-on. As the pace of global change continues to increase, it is you – the American Airman – who will lead the world's greatest Air Force into the future.

The challenges are new, but the processes we use to solve them have not changed. Since 1947 we have relied on an innovative spirit and a relentless pursuit of education and development to fly, fight and win. Education is a primary tool to prepare for tomorrow's challenges and understanding and internalizing the Airman Handbook is foundational to our continued success.

Inside this handbook you'll find important information on our history, doctrine, values, customs and courtesies and more. We encourage each of you to keep a copy close at hand – perhaps even on your cell phone or tablet – as a reference to help you, your peers and your subordinates continue to excel in the profession of arms.

As Airmen, we should never stop learning. To that end, we hope the Airman Handbook will prove an indispensable resource as you continue to learn, grow and propel our Air Force into the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Cody", is positioned above the name and title of the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

JAMES A. CODY
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Welsh III", is positioned above the name and title of the Chief of Staff.

MARK A. WELSH III
General, USAF
Chief of Staff