



I start this editorial by thanking our very kind hosts in Panama, during the LVIII Conference of the Chiefs of the American Air Forces (CONJEFAMER), which took place this past June. During our stay in Panama, we had the pleasure of interviewing Engineer Ilya Espino de Marotta, who oversaw the Panama Canal Expansion Program, with which we began our new section on interviews.

Our first article is an example of the positive effects of the decisions made by CONJEFAMER, as to what we can do when we come together to help during a disaster. In “The September 2017 Earthquake in Mexico and the Cooperation among the American Air Forces”, Colonel F.A.P.A. D.E.M.A. Gabriel García Jiménez writes about how the member countries of the System of Cooperation among the American Air Forces (SICOFAA) showed their support and solidarity to the people of Mexico.

A controversy that periodically resurfaces has to do with the best organizational structure that a nation’s Air Force should adopt. In his persuasive article, “Win the war before it starts: Why Colombia must integrate its air power in the Colombian Air Force”, Colonel Pedro Arnulfo Sánchez Suárez, Colombian Air Force, compares the integration, capacity for reaction, and combat skills between the multiple service model (as adopted by the US) and the individual service model (as adopted by Israel).

Today, China is at the end of two decades of military expansion in which it has accepted the strategic need to equip itself with aircraft carriers to project its power worldwide, as indicated by Alejandro A. Vilches Alarcón in his brief “The Chinese Aircraft Carrier Program and their influence on the Chinese Naval Strategy”.

In his article “Business Model Contribution to the Unit Commander Management”, Group Commander (AD) Rodrigo Villalobos Chandía, Chilean Air Force, explains how “The modern Commander requires knowledge and tools that allow him to strengthen his management style in the areas of personnel, infrastructure, resources, technology and processes; and provides tools that allow him to deliver the most effective service that the assigned mission demands.

Continuing with the topic of leadership, Colonel Adam J. Stone, US Air Force, in his article “Critical Thinking Skills of Higher and Intermediate Students of Educational Development in the United States Air Force”, introduces a baseline with which the Air Force can assess the current state of critical thinking skills among active duty officers, so that a methodology can be applied to examine the development of these skills over time.

In his article “Lethal Autonomy, what it tells us about modern warfare”, Major Thomas B. Payne, US Air Force, provides us with a comprehensive view of the operational risks, legal factors, and general moral/ethical considerations regarding the development of autonomy in weapons systems.

Finally, in the words of Jorge Agustín Nicolás Ruiz de Santayana y Borrás, since “those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it”, we present an article by Christopher Warren, on “The first battle of Great Britain, the British response to the German strategic bombing during the First World War”, and how the tactic of bombing cities, to damage civilian morale and pressuring enemy civilians to capitulate, that was born during the Great War, matured on the backs of German V-2 rockets in 1944 and reached its terrifying peak over the skies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. ad al pueblo de México.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Jorge Serafin'.

Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Serafin, USAF-Retired
Editor, *Air & Space Power Journal—Español*

La LVIII Conferencia de CONJEFAMER – del 19 al 21 de junio de 2018 Panamá, República de Panamá



Líderes de las Fuerzas Aéreas Americanas. (Foto: Diálogo-Capt. Stephanie Schonberger, USAF)



Personal de la Revista Air and Space Power Journal-en Español, con libros de la Prensa de la Universidad del Aire de EE. UU. (AU Press)



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