
EDITORIAL

Over the years, since we first started in 1949, the name of our journal has changed with the times. Thus, at this moment, the *Air & Space Power Journal - in Spanish*, becomes the *United States Air Force Journal of the Americas*, reflecting our focus on the entirety of our hemisphere, publishing not only in Spanish, but also in Portuguese and English, the three predominant languages of our continent. However, our essence remains the same, a journal whose mission seeks to stimulate professional dialogue on air and space power among the members of the Armed Forces of the Americas, historians, professors, and the general public.

Our first article, “Changes in the Profile of War and Reflections on the Preparation and Use of Brazilian Air Power,” by Col Alexandre Fernandes Ramos, Brazilian Air Force Reserve, and Dr. Patricia de Oliveira Matos, examines why the aeronautical defense industry must develop and manufacture aircraft that can meet the operational requirements of the current asymmetric environment of war.

Our second article, “Strengthening Alliances: International PME Programs Yield Layers of Strategic Benefit,” by Major John R. Berg, USAF; Maj Allan Buch Sampaio, Brazilian Air Force; and Capt Jorge Alberto Benavides Orellana, Salvadoran Air Force, explains how international military education programs improve confidence, promote cooperation, and strengthen our alliances, especially among our American air forces. This article provides another example of how working together, we can support the mission of the System of Cooperation Among the American Air Forces (SICOFAA): “to promote and strengthen the ties of friendship and the mutual support of its participants through the sharing of common experiences, resources, the training and education of its personnel, and all other activities that facilitate the development of procedures to act in a combined manner when directed by our governments.”

In his article, “Under Attack in the Democratic Republic of Congo,” Lt Col Gerardo Tajés, Uruguayan Air Force (FAU), tells us how his helicopter, in a mission under the mandate of the United Nations (UN), was attacked in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and how the FAU has changed its procedures based on the lessons learned from this event.

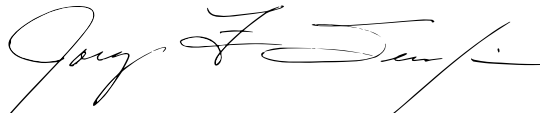
Continuing with the topic of participation in UN operations, our next article is “The Brazilian Air Force in the Stabilization Mission of the United Nations in Haiti: The Dependence on a Strategic Transport Aircraft,” by Dr. Eduardo Sol Oliveira da Silva and Col Nelson Augusto Bacellar Gonçalves, Brazilian Air Force. In this article, they provide us with a comprehensive history of Brazilian troop participation in peace operations since 1957 and Brazil’s need for a new generation of strategic transport aircraft in order to continue participating at the same global scale in the future.

Changing the subject to medicine, in his article, “Aeromedical Transport - Basic Aspects of Aeromedical Transport,” Dr. Nicolás Arrocha Rodríguez, National Aeronaval Service of Panama, explains how, throughout history, air navigation has consolidated its relationship with medicine through aeromedical transport/evacuation.

Finally, the article written by Lt Gen D.T. Thompson, USAF; Col Gregory J. Gagnon, USAF; and Maj Christopher W. McLeod, USAF, “Space as a War-fighting Domain,” relates how, in close collaboration with the National Reconnaissance Office, the US Air Force developed a space architecture and concept of operations, in order to operate successfully in this contested environment.

On behalf of the US Air Force's Air University, my editorial assistant Drina Marmolejo, our collaborating editors, Dr. Ernest Gunasekara Rockwell, Dr. Thomas Stovicek, and Mr. Daniel Jiménez from the Defense Language Institute, and myself, we hope that our new name and format in three languages will be to your liking and pays proper tribute to the history of our journal. Since 1949, our goal has been and remains to strengthen the bonds among our sister American air forces.

We are open to your opinions and recommendations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jorge F. Serafin".

Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Serafin, USAF, Retired
Editor, USAF Journal of the Americas