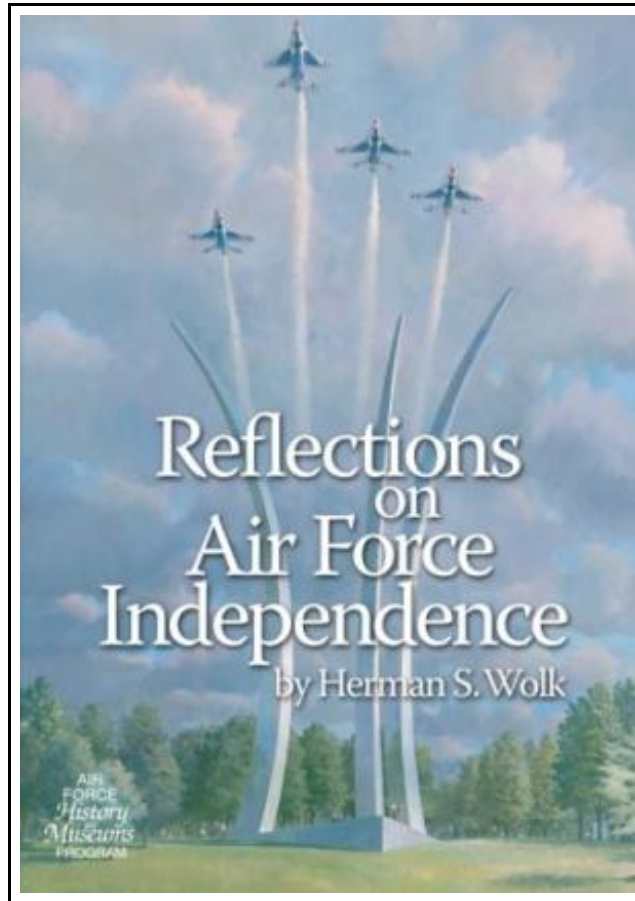


## Reflections on Air Force Independence



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## REFLECTIONS ON AIR FORCE INDEPENDENCE



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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Almost twenty-five years after publishing *Planning and Organizing the Postwar Air Force, 1943-1947*, and a decade after publishing his definitive work, *The Struggle for Air Force Independence, 1943-1947*, Herman S. Wolk, retired Air Force senior historian, returns to the subject that capped his nearly fifty-year career with the Air Force history program. As Wolk explains, this brief work is a reflective analysis. The United States Army's air arm waged a frustrating and uncertain battle during the interwar years to gain greater autonomy from the War Department. For the air arm, the key transition was the establishment in 1935 of the General Headquarters (GHQ) Air Force under Brig. Gen. Frank M. Andrews. The GHQ Air Force was the first American air force that consolidated all striking forces. For several years before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, which triggered U.S. entry into World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt foresaw the major role that air power would play in the conflict, and he called for a massive buildup. The president wanted the major share of aircraft produced to go to the Allies. Consequently, he was sometimes at cross purposes with his Air Corps chief, Maj. Gen. Henry H. Hap Arnold, who was hard at work trying to increase the Army's air capability. The formation in June 1944 of the Twentieth Air Force was a landmark event in the Army air arm's drive for independence. With B-29s to send against the Japanese home islands, the Twentieth gave the Army Air Forces (AAF) what Arnold termed a Global Air Force. Its formation set the precedent for that of the postwar Strategic Air Command, which provided the United States...



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