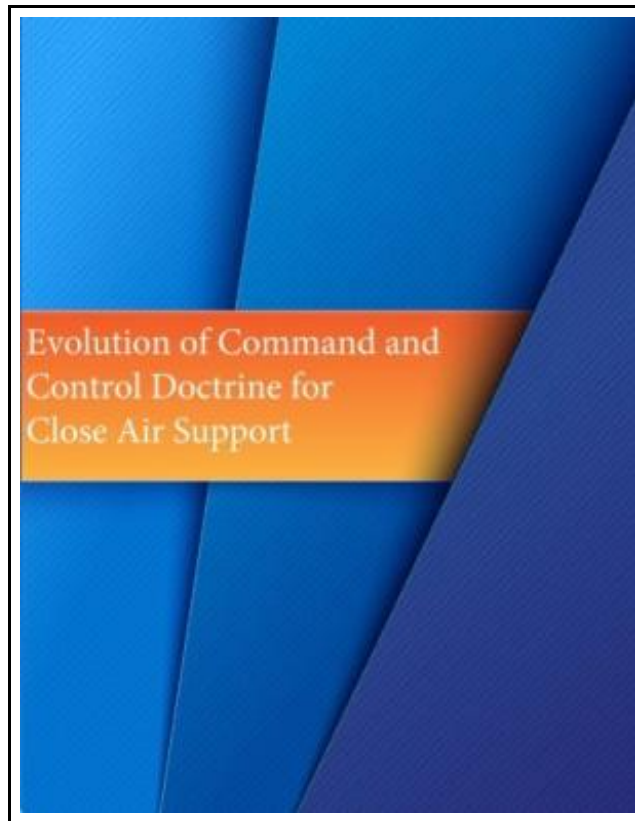


Evolution of Command and Control Doctrine for Close Air Support



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EVOLUTION OF COMMAND AND CONTROL DOCTRINE FOR CLOSE AIR SUPPORT



Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This study was prepared in response to an Air Staff request for a history of command and control procedures used in close air support (CAS). The writer, Mr. Riley Sunderland, is co-author of the official Army history of the China-Burma-India Theater, World War II, and wrote 5 RAND Corp. studies of the Communist insurgency in Malaya. He begins with brief comment on the invention of close air support during World War I, then moves on to the evolution of the modern Tactical Air Control System (TACS) from the late 1930 s to the present. Only major developments are treated to keep the subject manageable. The author, distinguishing between doctrine and procedure, has focused on the former. For official definitions of doctrine and close air support, the reader is referred to Air Force Manual (AFM) 11-1, USAF Glossary of Standardized Terms. Close air support is the third of 3 principal missions of tactical air forces, of which air superiority is first and interdiction second. The classic statement is in War Department Field Manual (FM) 100-20, Command and Employment of Air Power, 21 July 1943, paragraph 16. Close air support may also be provided by strategic air, e.g., St. Lo, France, 1944; Khe Sanh, South Vietnam, 1968. The responsible air commander must weigh the allocation of resources between the 3 basic tactical air missions, lest an injudicious commitment of his forces to any one mission degrades his ability to perform the others. As will be seen in Mr. Sunderland s narrative, this has been a major issue in the handling of tactical air.



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