

CURRICULUM VITAE

(Current as of 1 October 2011)

ROBERT S. EHLERS, Jr., Ph.D.
Colonel, USAF (Ret)

**Director, Center for Security Studies, and Head, Department of Security Studies,
Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas**

1986..... B.A., International Studies (Cum Laude),
Minor in History, The Ohio State University

1987..... Commissioned Second Lieutenant,
United States Air Force (USAF)

1987-1991..... Operational Air Intelligence Assignments, USAF

1991-1992..... M.A. Student, University of Florida

1992..... M.A., African History with Certificate in
African Studies, University of Florida

1992-1995..... Associate Professor of History,
United States Air Force Academy

1995-2001..... Operational Air Intelligence Assignments, USAF

2001-2002..... Student and Distinguished Graduate, Air Command
Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama (awarded
M.S. in Airpower Operational Art and Science)

2002-2005..... Ph.D. Student/Candidate, The Ohio State University

2005..... Ph.D., Military History, The Ohio State University

2005-2008..... Operational Air Intelligence Assignments, USAF

2008-2010..... Professor of Airpower History, School of Advanced
Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

2010-Present..... Director, Center for Security Studies, and Head,
Department of Security Studies, Angelo State
University, San Angelo, Texas

FIELDS OF STUDY FOR THE Ph.D.

Major Field: History

Area of Emphasis: Military History (Airpower History)

Minor Field: Modern European History

Minor Field: African History

PUBLICATIONS

Targeting the Third Reich: Air Intelligence and the Allied Bombing Campaigns, University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, published October 2009.

Contract with University Press of Kansas for *Air War over the Middle Sea: Airpower's Role in the Mediterranean Campaign and Allied Victory*, projected publication date fall 2012.

“Bombers, ‘Butchers,’ and Britain’s Bête Noire: Reappraising R.A.F. Bomber Command’s Operational and Strategic Effectiveness during the Second World War,” *RAF Airpower Review*, summer 2011.

Authored the Foreword for newest release of William “Billy” Mitchell, *Winged Defense: The Development and Possibilities of Modern Airpower—Economic and Military*, University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 2009.

“Retain the Air Force, Abolish Anti-Jointness,” *The Wright Stuff*, Vol. 3, No. 16, 4 September 2008.

“Air Intelligence Training: A Decisive Player in Military Operations,” *Air and Space Power Journal*, Summer 2008.

“Searching for the Silver Bullet: Coercion Mechanisms and Airpower Theory,” Air University Press, Summer 2002.

“Understanding and Teaching Information Warfare: A Primer for the Department of Defense,” Office of the Secretary of Defense, 1995.

“This Land is Ours! Xhosa Resistance to European Expansion on the Cape Colony’s Eastern Frontier,” unpublished thesis, University of Florida, 1992.

PRESENTATIONS

“Clausewitz, Nuanced Analysis, and the Intelligence Profession,” presented to the United States Air Force Advanced Analysis Course, San Angelo, Texas, July 2011.

“Bombers, ‘Butchers,’ and Britain’s Bête-Noire: Reassessing R.A.F. Bomber Command’s Operational Effectiveness during the Second World War,” presented at the Society for Military History Conference, Lexington, Virginia, May 2010.

“Bringing Together Intelligence and Strategy: Maximizing Grand-Strategic, Military-Strategic, and Operational Effectiveness,” presented three times thus far to the Intelligence Master Skills Course, Goodfellow AFB, Texas, 2010.

“Education, Intellectualism, and the Future of the Air Force,” presented at the Air Education and Training Command Symposium, 2010.

“Intelligence, Rationality, and Assessment: Understanding the Interconnections,” presented to 145 senior analysts at the National Air and Space Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, 2009.

“Airpower Theory: Its Meaning and Importance,” presented monthly to over 500 lieutenants at the Air and Space Basic School, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, 2009 – 2010.

“Divining Differently: Anglo-American and German Air Intelligence during World War II,” presented at the Society for Military History Conference, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, April 2009.

“Yom HaShoah, the Holocaust, and Modern Memory,” presented at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, for the Days of Remembrance program and Holocaust survivors’ annual visit, April 2008.

“Understanding World History: The Kingdoms of Africa’s Western Sahel and China’s Dynasties in Comparative Context,” Rocky Mountain World History Conference, Aspen, Colorado, 1994.

“The ‘New World Order’: Is it Really New or Orderly?,” presented at the United States Air Force Academy, 2003.

“Keeping Air Mobility Operations Secure: Linkages between Operations and Intelligence,” keynote address presented at the annual Air Mobility Command Intelligence Conference, 1995.

“Confronting Emerging Threats to American Air Operations: Looking Towards the New Century,” keynote address presented at the annual Air Force Tactics and Operations Conference, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, 1995.

“Operation Desert Storm: An Operational Analysis,” keynote address presented at the Minot, North Dakota, Chamber of Commerce meeting, March 1991.

“Keeping the Soviet Union Honest: Strategic Air Command’s Deterrent Role in U.S. National Security Strategy,” presented to civic organizations in Minot, North Dakota, 1989.

BOOK, MANUSCRIPT, AND JOURNAL ARTICLE REVIEWS

Rein, Christopher, “*Properly and Profitably Employed*”: *The U.S. Army Air Forces in North Africa, June 1942 to September 1943*. Manuscript review for the University Press of Kansas, completed 16 October 2011.

Olsen, John Andraeas, Ed., *Global Air Power* (Washington, D.C.: Potomac Books, 2011). Reviewed 29 April 2011 for *The Journal of Military History*.

“‘The Weak Link?’ The Perception of the German Working Class by RAF Bomber Command, 1940-1945.” Refereed 14 December 2010 for edited work to be published by the *Labour History Review* in Spring 2011.

Werrell, Kenneth P., *Death from the Heavens: A History of Strategic Bombing* (Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 2009). Reviewed 22 April 2010 for *The Journal of Military History*.

“Air Power, Ethics, and Civilian Immunity during the Great War and its Aftermath.” Refereed 27 January 2010 for *Global War Studies Journal*.

Mann, Robert A., *The B-29 Superfortress: A Comprehensive Registry of the Planes and Their Missions* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland and Company, 2004). Reviewed 28 July 2009 for *Global War Studies Journal*.

Sims, Jennifer E., and Burton Gerber, Eds. *Transforming U.S. Intelligence*. Washington D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2005. Reviewed 21 May 2009 for the International Association for Intelligence Education.

PANELS CHAIRED

“Defiant Failed State: North Korea’s Continuing Threat to Regional and International Security,” Angelo State University, 2010.

“World History in Comparative Contexts,” Rocky Mountain World History Conference, Aspen, Colorado, 1994.

INTERVIEWS

Interviewed by British Broadcasting Corporation as subject-matter expert for documentary on the Allied air intelligence effort in World War II. “Operation Crossbow” aired in July 2011.

COURSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate (Course, Period Covered):

World History, 1500 – 1991: Taught and later served as course director for United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) core course, taught to over 1,000 cadets annually as part of the core curriculum. Developed Syllabi, student study guides, and lesson plans. Taught nine sections during three semesters—a total of over 180 students.

World History (Honors), 1500 – 1991: Served as course director for USAFA honors core course, taught to the top 120 students in the Freshman class annually as part of the core curriculum. Developed Syllabi, student study guides, and lesson plans. Taught a total of four sections over two semesters—a total of over 60 students. Coordinated the visit of several senior historians, including Dr. William McNeill, for faculty workshops.

Military History, 2500 B.C. – 1991: Taught and later served as course director for USAFA core course, taught to over 1,000 Sophomore cadets annually as part of the core curriculum. Developed Syllabi, student study guides, and lesson plans. Taught nine sections during three semesters—a total of over 180 students.

Military History (Honors), 2500 B.C. – 1991: Served as course director for USAFA honors core course, taught to the top 120 students in the Sophomore class annually as part of the core curriculum. Developed Syllabi, student study guides, and lesson plans. Taught four sections over two semesters—a total of over 60 students.

African History, 2500 B.C. – 1994: Served as course director for USAFA's upper-division course in African history. Developed Syllabi, student study guides, and lesson plans. Taught two sections—a total of over 25 students.

Contemporary African Studies, 1950 – 1994: Served as course director for special interdisciplinary course in African studies. Developed Syllabi, student study guides, and lesson plans. Taught two sections—a total of over 25 students. Focused on complex, contemporary problems in Africa through the lenses of history, geography, economics, politics, epidemiology, cultural differences, agricultural practices, and a variety of other topics. Led cadet delegation to the Model Organization of African Unity at Howard University. Hosted high-level South African delegation comprised of African National Congress officials and South African military officers to explore the tensions and complex issues surrounding the end of Apartheid and the beginnings of democratic rule.

Graduate (Course, Period Covered):

Airpower History, 1900 – 1945: Served as course director for flagship course at the Air Force's School of Advanced Air and Space Studies (SAASS)—the Air Force's premier graduate-level school and its specialized course for developing strategic thinkers. Developed Syllabi, student study guides, and lesson plans. Employed the Socratic method in small (nine or ten student) seminars to explore key works of airpower theory and history, focusing on early airpower

experiences during World War I and the interwar period, and then delving deeply into the Second World War, comparing Allied and Axis grand strategies, their employment of airpower within those strategies, and their effects and aggregate effectiveness. Taught four seminars—a total of 38 students.

Airpower History, 1945-2005: Named course director for second half of SAASS flagship course. Retired prior to teaching course, but chose books and engaged in significant portions of curriculum development.

Irregular Warfare, 1916 – 2010: Taught vital SAASS course focusing on a very timely topic. Examined irregular warfare from T. E. Lawrence’s campaign on the Arabian Peninsula, to Mao Zedong’s Prolonged War and Che Guevara’s theory of “instant rebellion.” Studied the French experience in Algeria, the French and American wars in Vietnam, the British success in the Malayan Emergency, and then moved into a detailed study of Muslim extremisms and the course and character of the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Taught four seminars—a total of 38 students. Discussed the central roles of context and rationality in developing and executing grand strategy in these kinds of complex armed conflicts.

OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

Awarded Air Force Historical Foundation’s “*Air Power History Best Book Award, 2010*,” for *Targeting the Third Reich: Air Intelligence and the Allied Bombing Campaigns*, University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, published October 2009. An independent panel of judges chose the book from among nearly 150 entries and nine finalists.

Awarded Air Force Association’s General Carl A. “Tooe” Spaatz Award, 2002, for “Searching for the Silver Bullet: Coercion Mechanisms and Airpower Theory,” Air University Press, summer 2002. Award given for the best Air Command and Staff College paper on an airpower topic of importance to United States national security.

Thesis Advisor / Reader for six M.S. students per year at the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies. Of 12 students I advised during this period, five had award-winning theses—a far greater number than any other faculty member.

Advisor to Georgetown Fellow’s program in African Political and Military Systems; advisor to Air War College student’s M.S. in Military and Strategic Studies. Worked with both students to help them understand the interconnections between grand strategy, intelligence, and success or failure in both conventional and irregular wars.

Led effort to republish four classics of airpower history: Giulio Douhet, *Command of the Air*; William “Billy” Mitchell, *Winged Defense*; Sir John Slessor, *Air Power and Armies*; Lord Arthur Tedder, *Air Power in War*. Books are now available in print for the first time in from three to seventy-three years. Revitalized airpower and military theory offerings at SAASS and a multitude of other institutions of higher learning.

Participated in the development of the Air University Ph.D. program, the only one of its kind in the Department of Defense. Allows top SAASS graduates to earn a Ph.D. at a top civilian university after leaving SAASS. This gives the Air Force a growing pool of airmen with intellectual acumen and the ability to engage with and solve complex problems. These airman-scholars represent the next cadre of Air Force senior leaders.

Member, Society for Military History

Member, Phi Alpha Theta History Honorary Society

RELATED MILITARY EXPERIENCE

Served in various intelligence operations and planning positions for 16 of my 23 ½ years in the Air Force. During the course of these assignments, developed and delivered over 1,100 briefings on various national-security-related topics to audiences ranging from aircrews to four-star geographic combatant commanders. Authored over 50 classified operations plans and other documents designed to give friendly forces the best available grand strategies, a deep understanding of enemy rationalities and military capabilities, and the broader international implications of engaging in military operations. Relevant experience follows by assignment:

- Chief, Operational Intelligence Branch, Minot AFB, North Dakota, 1988-1991: Led eight intelligence specialists in the development of threat assessments, targeting materials, and tactical plans in support of both nuclear and conventional missions. Briefed wing commander twice a week on key intelligence developments, worked with and briefed aircrews on a daily basis. Authored operations and deception plans in conjunction with other wing mission planners and higher-headquarters personnel. Prepared aircrews for deployment and combat operations during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

- Deputy Chief, Operational Intelligence Flight, HQ Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Illinois, 1995-1998: Led 24 personnel. Responsible for the safety and operational effectiveness of over 1,100 airlift and air refueling sorties daily in over 40 countries on six continents. Lead action officer for Threat Working Group, an interdisciplinary organization charged with delivering the best possible threat assessments for all high-risk missions. Analyzed sociocultural, ideological, political, geographic, epidemiological, and other threat factors in determining the various defensive measures to employ for each mission. Prepared daily threat assessments and briefings for four-star general and staff. Cultural and strategic understanding was indispensable elements of this vital job.

- Chief, Multinational Intelligence Engagement and Interoperability, United States Pacific Command, Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii, 1998-2001: Planned and executed all classified intelligence exchanges between senior intelligence officers from the United States and all major East and South Asian states. Ensured these conferences allowed for maximum insight into security issues of mutual concern. Developed cooperative and information-sharing agreements governing the exchange of intelligence with allied, friendly, and neutralist countries. Led command-wide effort to develop multinational intelligence interoperability tools and techniques, resulting in a \$35 million initiative that allowed American and allied military forces to

communicate on fully interoperable equipment for the first time ever. Both duties involved deep immersion in sociocultural and security-studies attributes and issues within a variety of countries on the Asia-Pacific Rim.

- Commander, 32nd Information Warfare Flight, Ramstein AB, Germany, 2005-2006: Led 32 airmen in the development of operational plans and programs relating to the employment of information warfare (cyber war) techniques against adversaries to include nation-states, rogue states, Muslim extremists, and terrorist organizations. Deployed to Al Udeid AB, Qatar, in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom as Chief of the Information Operations Flight. The mission at home and abroad focused heavily on sociocultural facets of adversary organizations and the most effective means for influencing them. Briefed senior officers weekly on key developments in the information-operations arena, to include threat assessments, analyses of cyber-attacks, and countermeasures employed to secure friendly systems and networks.

- Commander, 17th Training Support Squadron, Goodfellow AFB, Texas, 2006-2007: Led 124 airmen in direct support of every facet of the vital intelligence training mission at this base. Responsible for all manpower, budgetary, facilities, information-technology, and other support functions enabling training for over 10,000 Air Force, Army, Marine, and Navy students annually. Managed \$34 million budget, \$1.2 billion in buildings and other facilities-related infrastructure, faculty-development process, information-technology support and upgrades, advanced wargames for officer and enlisted students, and strategic planning functions.

- Deputy and Acting Commander, 17th Training Group, Goodfellow AFB, Texas, 2007-2008: Responsible for day-to-day operations of the Air Force's second-largest group, comprised of over 1,250 personnel. Responsible for all manpower, budgetary, facilities, information-technology, and other support functions enabling training for over 10,000 Air Force, Army, Marine, and Navy students annually. Managed \$45 million budget, \$1.2 billion in buildings and other facilities-related infrastructure, faculty-development process, information-technology support and upgrades, advanced wargames for officer and enlisted students, and strategic planning functions. Led all intelligence training improvement initiatives, chairing three related and vital working groups comprised of the group's seven squadrons and one detachment. Ensured curricula met requirements for both narrow (intelligence) and broader (sociocultural) professional skills. Ensured all instructors taught at the highest standards and all deploying faculty and staff were prepared for their overseas missions. Ensured that faculty and staff purchased and incorporated key emerging technologies into training and educational efforts.