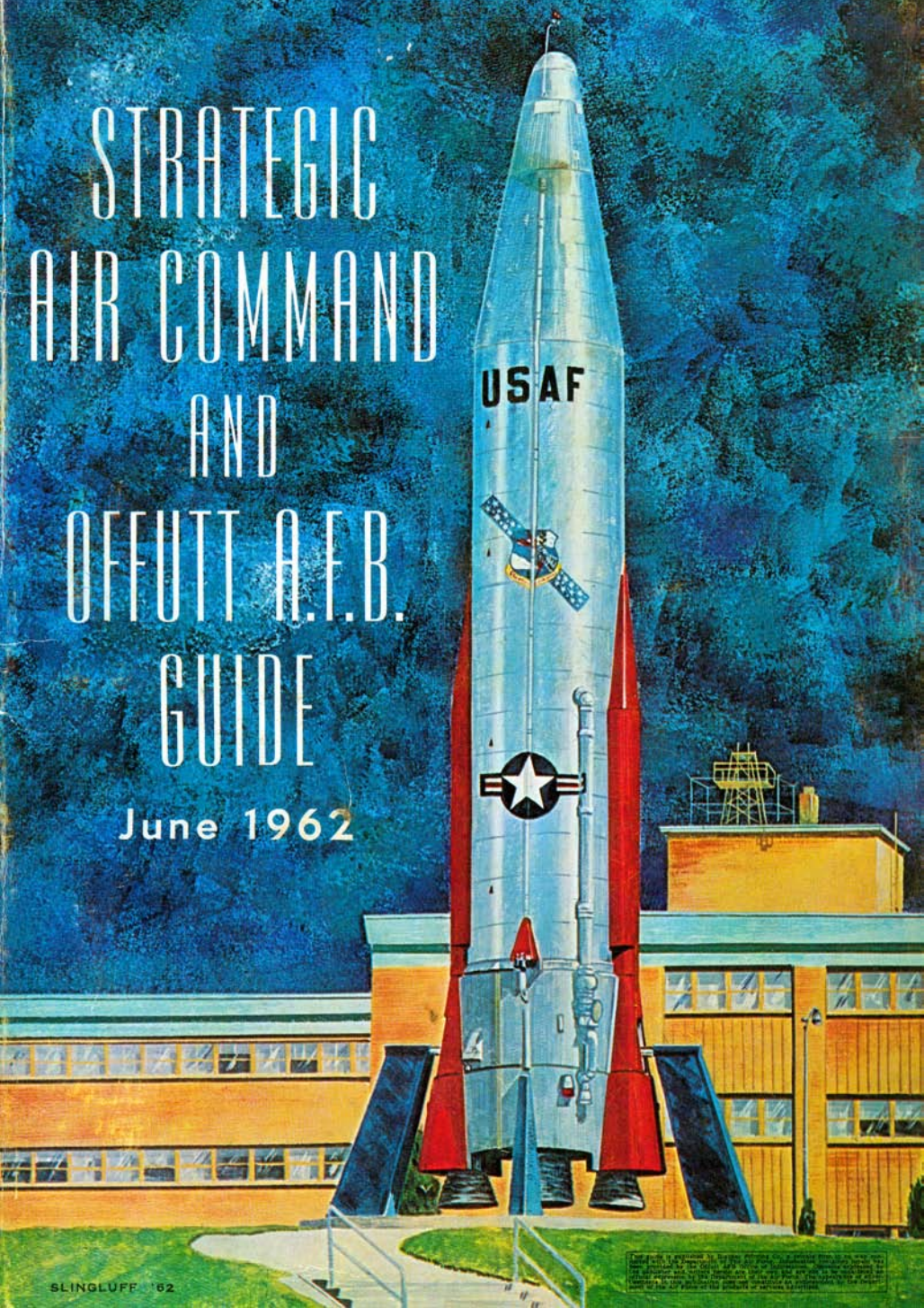


STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND AND OFFUTT A.F.B. GUIDE

June 1962



A Message From . . .



**Colonel
Elkins
Read Jr.**

Base Commander

Welcome to Offutt Air Force Base, home of Headquarters, Strategic Air Command.

This base guide has been developed as an aid to the thousands of Air Force and civilian personnel who come to Offutt each year—many to stay and others for short visits.

If you are being permanently assigned, I hope you will be able to remember your tour at Offutt as a highlight in your military career.

General Power's Message

It is a pleasure to introduce to you through the pages of this booklet the home of Headquarters, Strategic Air Command, the control center of the world's most powerful military force and its best hope for continued peace.

Directly under the control of the President, Secretary of Defense and Joint Chiefs of Staff, SAC possesses 90 per cent of the free world's total striking power, as measured in TNT equivalents. In comparison, the command receives about 20 per cent of our annual defense budget.

Our greatest objective is to assure that this awesome power is never used. SAC's primary job is to prevent war by convincing potential aggressors that attack on this nation would result in their own destruction.

The challenge SAC faces in maintaining its deterrent strength is the most severe ever posed to a military organization. Fantastic advances in technology and the resulting compression of warning time require SAC to be ready for immediate action at any moment.

Today, the command is a true aerospace force combining the mechanical advantages of the finest in bombers and missiles with



General Thomas S. Power
Commander-in-Chief
Strategic Air Command

the professional skill and dedication of the men who operate these systems.

In the years ahead SAC will continue to modernize and expand its force, placing emphasis on both manned and unmanned weapon systems. As science opens the door to space, SAC will be prepared to work in that realm with the same mission as today—keeping the peace.



ABOVE—Atlas Missile and SAC Headquarters — “Trade-marks” of Offutt AFB.

BELOW—Gleaming KC-135 jet tankers of the 34th Air Re-fueling Squadron.





THIS ONE IS NO MONUMENT. Two members of the 549th Strategic Missile Squadron watch carefully as an Atlas Missile is raised into firing position at the Mead site. This is one of nine operational missiles in the Offutt complex.