



THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC



SEP 16 2016

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force:

On the 69th birthday of our United States Air Force, we salute you - the dedicated Airmen providing unrivaled Airpower for America - as we celebrate the establishment of the United States Air Force as a separate service. We remember our proud heritage and honor those who advocated for an independent Air Force, passing on to us the responsibility for continued innovation and leadership in the air, space, and cyber domains.

Today, our Air Force delivers *Global Vigilance*, *Global Reach*, and *Global Power* with unmatched effectiveness. With tens of thousands of Airmen supporting combatant commanders from deployed locations and many more directly contributing from their home stations, the United States Air Force is absolutely essential to prevailing in every joint fight.

America depends on our remarkable Total Force of Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, and Civilian Airmen who have never failed to answer our Nation's call. We thank you and your family for your service, sacrifice, and commitment to the defense of our Nation. Happy 69th birthday United States Air Force!

Handwritten signature of Deborah Lee James in cursive.

Deborah Lee James  
Secretary of the Air Force

Handwritten signature of Dave Goldfein in cursive.

Dave Goldfein  
General, USAF  
Chief of Staff

Handwritten signature of James A. Cody in cursive.

James A. Cody  
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force