Air Power

The purpose of the Unites States Air Force is to deter war and in the event of war, to win.
-- CMSGTAF Paul W. Airey, During a panel conversation with the Malmstrom AFB, Airman's Leadership Course class, Sept 2000.

Thank God men cannot as yet fly and lay waste the sky as well as the earth!
— Henry David Thoreau

When my brother and I built the first man-carrying flying machine we thought that we were introducing into the world an invention which would make further wars practically impossible.
— Orville Wright, 1917.

Air power may either end war or end civilization.
— Winston Churchill, House of Commons, 14 March 1933.

We're going to bomb them back into the stone Age.
— General Curtis E. LeMay USAF, 1965.

The preponderance of the Republican Guard divisions outside of Baghdad are now dead. I find it interesting when folks say we're softening them up. We're not softening them up, we're killing them.
— Lt. Gen. Michael Moseley, USAF, 5 April 2003.

Once the command of the air is obtained by one of the contended armies, the war must become a conflict between a seeing host and one that is blind.
— H. G. Wells

We were once told that the aeroplane had "abolished frontiers." Actually it is only since the aeroplane became a serious weapon that frontiers have become definitely impassable.
— George Orwell

The cavalry, in particular, were not friendly to the aeroplane, which it was believed, would frighten the horses.
— Sir Walter Alexander Raleigh, 1910. (Note: This is not that other Sir Walter Raleigh, who was beheaded nearly three hundred years earlier!)

Another popular fallacy is to suppose that flying machines could be used to drop dynamite on an enemy in time of war.
— William H. Pickering, 'Aeronautics,' 1908.

To affirm that the aeroplane is going to 'revolutionize' naval warfare of the future is to be guilty of the wildest exaggeration.
— 'Scientific American,' 16 July 1910.

Aviation is fine as a sport. But as an instrument of war, it is worthless.
— General Ferdinand Foch, Professor of Strategy, Ecole Superiure de Guere, 1911.

It is not possible . . . to concentrate enough military planes with military loads over a modern city to destroy that city.
— US Colonel John W. Thomason Jr., US Army, November 1937.

A thing of orchestrated hell -- a terrible symphony of light and flame.
— Edward R. Murrow, part of a 17-minute radio broadcast about his flight in a RAF Lancaster bombing Berlin . The famous broadcast became known as 'orchestrated hell.' 3 December 1943.

We are going to scourge the Third Reich from end to end. We are bombing Germany city by city and ever more terribly in order to make it impossible for her to go in with the war. That is our object, and we shall pursue it relentlessly.
— Arthur "Bomber" Harris, RAF.

As a peace machine, it's value to the world will be beyond computation. Would a declaration of war between Russia and Japan be made, if within an hour there after a swifty gliding aeroplane might take its flight from St Petersburg and drop half a ton of dynamite above the enemy's war offices? Could any nation afford to war upon any other with such hazards in view?
— John Brisane Walker, 'Cosmopolitan,' March 1904.

Not to have an adequate air force in the present state of the world is to compromise the foundations of national freedom and independence.
— Winston Churchill, House of Commons, 14 March 1933.

The development of air power in its broadest sense, and including the development of all means of combating missiles that travel through the air, whether fired or dropped, is the first essential to our survival in war.
— Viscount Hugh M. Trenchard, 1946

War is a nasty, dirty, rotten business. It's all right for the Navy to blockade a city, to starve the inhabitants to death. But there is something wrong, not nice, about bombing that city.
— Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris.

Would not the sight of a single enemy airplane be enough to induce a formidable panic? Normal life would be unable to continue under the constant threat of death and imminent destruction.
— General Giulio Douhet, 'The Command of the Air,' 1921.

The greatest contributor to the feeling of tension and fear of war arose from the power of the bombing aeroplane. If all nations would consent to abolish air bombardment . . . that would mean the greatest possible release from fear.
— Ernest Rutherford

I would attack any squadron blockading a port. Nothing could prevent me from dropping out of the clear blue sky on to a battleship with 400 kilos of explosives in the cockpit. Of course it is true that the pilot would be killed, but everything would blow up, and that's what counts.
— Jules Vedrines, pre-1914.

There are a lot of people who say that bombing cannot win the war. My reply to that is that it has never been tried. . . and we shall see. — Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris, 1942.

Hitler built a fortress around Europe, but he forgot to put a roof on it.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt

Above all, I shall see to it that the enemy will not be able to drop any bombs.
— Hermann Goering, German Air Force Minister.

No enemy bomber can reach the Ruhr. If one reaches the Ruhr, my name is not Goering. You may call me Meyer.
— Herman Goering, German Air Force Minister, addressing the German Air force, September 1939.

The bomber will always get through. The only defence is in offence, which means that you have to kill more women and children more quickly than the enemy if you want to save yourselves.
— Stanley Baldwin, British Prime Minister, House of Commons speech 10 November 1932.

Since the day of the air, the old frontiers are gone. When you think of the defence of England you no longer think of the chalk cliffs of Dover; you think of the Rhine. That is where our frontier lies.
— Stanley Baldwin, House of Commons speech 30 July 1934.

I wish for many reasons flying had never been invented. — Stanley Baldwin, on learning that Germany had secretly built an air force in defiance of the Treaty of Versailles, 1935.

. . . when I look round to see how we can win the war I see that there is only one sure path . . . and that is absolutely devastating, exterminating attack by very heavy bombers from this country upon the Nazi homeland. We must be able to overwhelm them by this means, without which I do not see a way through.
-- British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in a letter to Minister of Aircraft Production Lord Beaverbrook, July 1940.

Victory, speedy and complete, awaits the side which first employs air power as it should be employed. Germany, entangled in the meshes of vast land campaigns, cannot now disengage her air power for a strategically proper application. She missed victory through air power by a hair's breadth in 1940. . . . We ourselves are now at the crossroads.
— Air Marshal Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris, opening of letter to Winston Churchill, 17 June 1942.

The air fleet of an enemy will never get within striking distance of our coast as long as our aircraft carriers are able to carry the preponderance of air power to sea.
— Real Admiral W. A. Moffet, Chief of the US Bureau of Aeronautics, October 1922.

Space in which to maneuver in the air, unlike fighting on land or sea, is practically unlimited, and . . . any number of airplanes operating defensively would seldom stop a determined enemy from getting through. Therefore the airplane was, and is, essentially an instrument of attack, not defence.
— Air Vice-Marshal J. E. 'Johnnie' Johnson, RAF.

Only air power can defeat air power. The actual elimination or even stalemating of an attacking air force can be achieved only by a superior air force.
— Major Alexander P. de Seversky, USAAF.

The Navy can lose us the war, but only the Air Force can win it. The fighters are our salvation, but the bombers alone provide the means of victory.
— Prime Minister Winston Churchill

The best defence of the country is the fear of the fighter. If we are strong in fighters we should probably never be attacked in force. If we are moderately strong we shall probably be attacked and the attacks will gradually be bought to a standstill. . . . If we are weak in fighter strength, the attacks will not be bought to a standstill and the productive capacity of the country will be virtually destroyed.
— Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding

For good or for ill, air mastery is today the supreme expression of military power and fleets and armies, however vital and important, must accept a subordinate rank.
— Prime Minister Winston Churchill

The time will come, when thou shalt lift thine eyes
To watch a long-drawn battle in the skies.
While aged peasants, too amazed for words,
Stare at the flying fleets of wondrous birds.

England, so long mistress of the sea,
Where winds and waves confess her sovereignty,
Her ancient triumphs yet on high shall bear
And reign the sovereign of the conquered air.
— Thomas Gray, 1737

What General Weygand called the Battle of France is over. I expect the Battle of Britain is about to begin . . Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties, and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will still say, "This was their finest hour."
— Prime Minster Winston Churchill, 18 June 1940.

Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.
— Prime Minster Winston Churchill, House of Commons 20 August 1940.

And where is the Prince who can afford to so cover his country with troops for its defense, as that ten thousand men descending from the clouds, might not in many places do an infinite deal of mischief, before a force could be brought together to repel them?
— Benjamin Franklin

Offense is the essence of air power.
— General H. H. 'Hap' Arnold, USAAF.

Air power is indivisible. If you split it up into compartments, you merely pull it to pieces and destroy its greatest asset - its flexibility.
— Field Marshall Bernard Mongomery

Against this pale, duck-egg blue and greyish mauve were silhouetted a number of small black shapes: all of them bombers, and all of them moving the same way. One hundred and thirty-four miles ahead, and directly in their path, stretched a crimson-red glow; cologne was on fire. Already, only twenty-three minutes after the attack had started, Cologne was ablaze from end to end, and the main force of the attack was still to come.
— Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC, DSO

How could they possibly be Japanese planes?
— Admiral Husband E. Kimmel

Believe me, Germany is unable to wage war.
— Former British Prime Minister David LLoyd George, 1 August 1934.

But I have seen the science I worshiped, and the airplane I loved, destroying the civilization I expected them to serve.
— Charles A. Lindbergh, 'Time,' 26 May 1967.

Because of its independence of surface limitations and its superior speed the airplane is the offensive weapon par excellence.
— General Giulio Douhet

I have a mathematical certainty that the future will confirm my assertion that aerial warfare will be the most important element in future wars, and that in consequence not only will the importance of the Independent Air Force rapidly increase, but the importance of the army and navy will decrease in proportion.
— General Giulio Douhet, 'Command of the Air,' 1921.

The future battle on the ground will be preceded by battle in the air. This will determine which of the contestants has to suffer operational and tactical disadvantages and be forced throughout the battle into adopting compromise solutions.
— General Erwin Rommel

A modern, autonomous, and thoroughly trained Air Force in being at all times will not alone be sufficient, but without it there can be no national security.
— General H. H. 'Hap' Arnold, USAAF.

The most important branch of aviation is pursuit, which fights for and gains control of the air.
— Brigadier General William 'Billy' Mitchell, USAS.

During the Battle of Britain the question "fighter or fighter-bomber?" had been decided once and for all: The fighter can only be used as a bomb carrier with lasting effect when sufficient air superiority has been won.
— General Adolf Galland, Luftwaffe, 'The First and the Last,' 1954.

In the development of air power, one has to look ahead and not backward and figure out what is going to happen, not too much what has happened.
— Brigadier General William 'Billy' Mitchell, USAS.

The advent of air power, which can go straight to the vital centers and either neutralize or destroy them, has put a completely new complexion on the old system of making war. It is now realized that the hostile main army in the field is a false objective, and the real objectives are the vital centers.
— Brigadier General William 'Billy' Mitchell, 'Skyways: A Book on Modern Aeronautics,' 1930.

[In World War I] air raids on both sides caused interruptions to production and transportation out of all proportion to the weight of bombs dropped.
— Edward Meade Earle

From now on we shall bomb Germany on an ever-increasing scale, month by month, year by year, until the Nazi regime has either been exterminated by us or — better still — torn to pieces by the German people themselves.
— Prime Minster Winston Churchill, 14 July 1941.
Strategic air assault is wasted if it is dissipated piecemeal in sporadic attacks between which the enemy has an opportunity to readjust defenses or recuperate.
— General H. H. 'Hap' Arnold, USAAF.

If we lose the war in the air we lose the war and lose it quickly.
— Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery

Air power is like poker. A second-best hand is like none at all — it will cost you dough and win you nothing.
— George Kenney

Air power alone does not guarantee America's security, but I believe it best exploits the nation's greatest asset — our technical skill.
— General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, second AF Chief of Staff.

If we had these rockets in 1939, we should never have had this war.
— Adolf Hitler, regards the V-1 rocket.

Air battle is not decided in a few great clashes but over a long period of time when attrition and discouragement eventually cause one side to avoid the invading air force.
— Dale O. Smith

The best way to defend the bombers is to catch the enemy before it his in position to attack. Catch them when they are taking off, or when they are climbing, or when they are forming up. Don't think you can defend the bomber by circling around him. It's good for the bombers morale, and bad for tactics.
— Brigadier General Robin Olds, USAF.

Bombing is often called 'strategic' when we hit the enemy, and 'tactical' when he hits us, and is often difficult to know where one finishes and the other begins.
— Air Vice-Marshal J. E. 'Johnnie' Johnson, RAF.

Airpower has become predominant, both as a deterrent to war, and—in the eventuality of war—as the devastating force to destroy an enemy's potential and fatally undermine his will to wage war.
— Omar Bradley

Air Power is, above all, a psychological weapon—and only short-sighted soldiers, too battle-minded, underrate the importance of psychological factors in war.
— B. H. Liddell-Hart

Never abandon the possibility of attack. Attack even from a position of inferiority, to disrupt the enemy's plans. This often results in improving one's own position.
— General Adolf Galland, Luftwaffe.

Anyone who has to fight, even with the most modern weapons, against an enemy in complete command of the air, fights like a savage against modern European troops, under the same handicaps and with the same chances of success.
— Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, Rommel Papers, 1953.

The first and absolute requirement of strategic air power in this war was control of the air in order to carry out sustained operations without prohibitive losses.
— General Carl A. 'Tooey' Spaatz

In order to assure an adequate national defense, it is necessary — and sufficient — to be in a position in case of war to conquer the command of the air.
— General Giulio Douhet

Air control can be established by superiority in numbers, by better employment, by better equipment, or by a combination of these factors.
— General Carl A. 'Tooey' Spaatz

A modern state is such a complex and interdependent fabric that it offers a target highly sensitive to a sudden and overwhelming blow from the air.
— B. H. Liddell-Hart

We carried out many trials to try to find the answer to the fast, low-level intruder, but there is no adequate defense.
— Air Vice-Marshal J. E. 'Johnnie' Johnson, RAF.

And even if a semblance of order could be maintained and some work done, would not the sight of a single enemy airplane be enough to induce a formidable panic? Normal life would be unable to continue under the constant threat of death and imminent destruction.
— General Giulio Douhet, 'Il dominio dell'aria,' 1921.

We have the enemy surrounded. We are dug in and have overwhelming numbers. But enemy airpower is mauling us badly. We will have to withdraw.
— a Japanese infantry commander, situation report to headquarters, Burma, WW II.

To have command of the air means to be able to cut an enemy's army and navy off from their bases of operation and nullify their chances of winning the war.
— General Giulio Douhet

The conviction of the justification of using even the most brutal weapons is always dependent on the presence of a fanatical belief in the necessity of the victory of a revolutionary new order on this globe.
— Adolf Hitler, 'Mein Kampf.'

Air warfare is a shot through the brain, not a hacking to pieces of the enemy's body.
— Major General J. F. C. Fuller, British Army.

As the aeroplane is the most mobile weapon we possess, it is destined to become the dominant offensive arm of the future.
— Major General J. F. C. Fuller, British Army.

Air power can either paralyze the enemy's military action or compel him to devote to the defense of his bases and communications a share of his straitened resources far greater that what we need in the attack.
— Prime Minster Winston Churchill

The most important thing is to have a flexible approach. . . . The truth is no one knows exactly what air fighting will be like in the future. We can't say anything will stay as it is, but we also can't be certain the future will conform to particular theories, which so often, between the wars, have proved wrong.
— Brigadier General Robin Olds, USAF.

"He who wants to protect everything, protects nothing," is one of the fundamental rules of defense.
— General Adolf Galland, Luftwaffe.

If we should have to fight, we should be prepared to do so from the neck up instead of from the neck down.
— General James H. Doolittle

To use a fighter as a fighter-bomber when the strength of the fighter arm is inadequate to achieve air superiority is putting the cart before the horse.
— Lt General Adolf Galland, Luftwaffe

Adolf Galland said that the day we took our fighters off the bombers and put them against the German fighters, that is, went from defensive to offsensive, Germany lost the air war. I made that decision and it was my most important decision during World War II. As you can imagine, the bomber crews were upset. The fighter pilots were ecstatic.
— General James H. Doolittle

The only proper defense is offense
-- Air Vice-Marshal J. E. 'Johnnie' Johnson, RAF.

It is not possible to seal an air space hermetically by defensive tactics.
— Air Vice-Marshal J. E. 'Johnnie' Johnson, RAF.

Superior technical achievements — used correctly both strategically and tactically — can beat any quantity numerically many times stronger yet technically inferior.
— General Adolf Galland, Luftwaffe.

Good airplanes are more important than superiority in numbers.
— Air Vice-Marshal J. E. 'Johnnie' Johnson, RAF.

Nobody kicks ass without tanker gas. Nobody.
— attributed to the special operations KC-135 tanker crews of Plattsburgh and Grissom AFBs in the mid 1980's.

In our victory over Japan, airpower was unquestionably decisive. That the planned invasion of the Japanese Home islands was unnecessary is clear evidence that airpower has evolved into a force in war co-equal with land and sea power, decisive in its own right and worthy of the faith of its prophets.
— General Carl A. 'Tooey' Spaatz, 'Evolution of Air Power,' Military Review, 1947.

Engines of war have long since reached their limits, and I see no further hope of any improvement in the art.
— Frontinus, 90 A.D.

Straying off course is not recognized as a capital crime by civilized nations.
— Jeane Kirkpatrick, in reference to the Soviet destruction of Korean Airways Flight 007

The country will some day pay for the stupidities of those who were in the majority on this commission. They know as much about the future of aviation as they do about the sign writing of the Aztecs.
— James H. Doolittle, at the time an Air Corps Reservist and racing pilot, comments to a reporter regards the presidential committee of inquiry that did not support establishment of an air force separate from the army, 1934.

The function of the Army and Navy in any future war will be to support the dominant air arm.
— General James H. Doolittle, in a speech at Georgetown University, 1949.

There is something more important than any ultimate weapon. That is the ultimate position — the position of total control over Earth that lies somewhere out in space. That is . . . the distant future, though not so distant as we may have thought. Whoever gains that ultimate position gains control, total control, over the Earth, for the purposes of tyranny or for the service of freedom
— Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, 1958.

If we maintain our faith in God, love of freedom, and superior global air power, the future [of the US] looks good.
— General Curtis Lemay

If our airforces are never used, they have achieved their finest goal.
— General Nathan F. Twining

Soldiers and sailors speak solemnly about the years of experience that go into training a surface commander, thus making it impossible for an outsider to understand their arcane calling. Yet, they all feel capable of running an air force.
— General Carl "Tooey" Spaatz

They have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind.
— Hosea 8:7

Loyalty

A nation can survive its fools, and even the ambitious. But it cannot survive treason from within. An enemy at the gates is less formidable, for he is known and carries his banner openly. But the traitor moves amongst those within the gate freely, his sly whispers rustling through all the alleys, heard in the very halls of government itself. For the traitor appears not a traitor; he speaks in accents familiar to his victims, and he wears their face and their arguments, he appeals to the baseness that lies deep in the hearts of all men. He rots the soul of a nation, he works secretly and unknown in the night to undermine the pillars of the city, he infects the body politic so that it can no longer resist. A murder is less to fear.
— Cicero Marcus Tullius, Born on January 3, 106 BC and was murdered on December 7, 43 BC.

History

A generation which ignores history has no past and no future.
— Robert Heinlein

History is the witness that testifies to the passing of time; it illuminates reality, vitalizes memory, provides guidance in daily life and brings us tidings of antiquity.
— Cicero

History is a vast early warning system.
— Norman Cousins

History, although sometimes made up of the few acts of the great, is more often shaped by the many acts of the small.
— Mark Yost

Those who cannot remember the past are condemed to repeat it.
— George Santayana

Most of us spend too much time on the last 24 hours, and too little on the last 6,000 years.
— Will Durant

Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history.
— Abraham Lincoln

History is the ship carrying living memories to the future.
— Stephen Spender

The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew, and act anew.
— Abraham Lincoln, December 1862

Let us turn our eyes to history, in which great men have always a pleasure in contemplating the heroic origin of their house.
— Edmund Burke, Letter To a Noble Lord

Strategy

The United States has a strategy based on arithmetic. They question the computers, add and subtract, extract square roots, and then go into action. But arithmetical strategy doesn't work here. If it did, they would already have exterminated us with their airplanes.
— Gen Vo Nguyen Giap

One of the most significant military lessons of the Vietnam War was that control of the air over an enemy's homeland must be wrested from him by men specifically trained for that purpose. On the face of it, that would

sound like a redundant statement. After all, hasn't the same lesson been learned from all the previous wars of the twentieth century? Of course it has, but recent technological preoccupations somehow seem to have blinded us to the importance of the man in the cockpit, and to the fact that air-to-air combat boils down to the man and his tactics against the other man and his tactics.
— Lou Drendal, And Kill MiGs

This is the theory that 'weapons decide everything', which is a mechanistic theory of war...In opposition to this view, we see not only weapons but human beings. Although important, weapons are not the decisive factor in war; it is man and not material things that decide the issue.
— Mao Zedong

Transformation

A hiatus exists between inventors who know what they could invent, if they only knew what was wanted, and the soldiers who know, or ought to know, what they want, and would ask for it if they only knew how much science could do for them. You have never really bridged that gap yet.
— Winston Churchill

Every great revolution brings ruin to the old army.
—Leon Trotsky

I am sorry to think that you do not get a man's most effective criticism until you provoke him. Severe truth is expressed with some bitterness.
—Henry David Thoreau

There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things.
— Machiavelli

We trained hard-but it seemed that every time we were beginning to form teams, we would be reorganized. I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet any new situation by reorganizing. And what a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency and demoralization.
— Gaius Petronius Arbiter, First Century, Satyricon

Information

In order to win victory we must try our best to seal the eyes and the ears of the enemy, making him blind and deaf, and to create confusion in the minds of the enemy commanders, driving them insane.
— Mao Tse-Tung, On The Protracted War (1938)

A popular government without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy, or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance, and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.
— James Madison, from a letter to W.T. Barry, August 4, 1822

The art of war is simple enough. Find out where your enemy is. Get at him as soon as you can. Strike at him as hard as you can and as often as you can, and keep moving on.
— Ulysses S. Grant

The detailed knowledge of a few individual engagements is more useful than the general knowledge of a great many campaigns.
— Clausewitz, Principles of War

I have sworn eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man. — Thomas Jefferson

Kill one, frighten ten thousand.
— Sun Tzu

Owing to past neglect, in the face of the plainest warnings, we have now entered upon a period of danger.... The era of procrastination, of half measures,... of delays, is coming to its close. In its place we are entering a period of consequences.... We cannot avoid this period; we are in it now.... Unless [... management] resolves to find out the truth for itself, it will have committed an act of abdication of duty without parallel.
-- Winston Churchill, Nov. 12, 1936, during a House of Commons debate regarding national defenses.

There has been gross neglect and deficiency in our defenses.... We have sustained a defeat without a war, the consequences of which will travel far with us along our road.... This is only the beginning of the reckoning.
-- Winston Churchill, Oct. 5, 1938, during the debate in the House of Commons regarding the ratification of the Munich Pact.

War

It is not the object of war to annihilate those who have given provocation for it, but to cause them to mend their ways.
— Polybius, Histories (4th cent.)

The art of war owns certain elements and fixed principles. We must acquire that theory, and lodge it in our heads -- otherwise we will never get very far.
— Frederick The Great

People and not things are the fundamental factor determining the outcome of war.
— General Lo Jui-Ching, May, 1965

The arms are fair, when the intent of bearing them is just.
-- Shakespeare

What a society gets in its armed forces is exactly what it asks for, no more and no less. What it asks for tends to be a reflection of what it is. When a country looks at its fighting forces it is looking at a mirror: if the mirror is a true one the face that it sees will be its own.
— General Sir John Hackett, The Profession of Arms

An age builds up cities: an hour can destroy them.
— Seneca

Three men behind the enemy are worth 50 in front of him.
— Frederick The Great

He that will not apply new remedies must expect new evils; for time is the greatest innovator.
— Francis Bacon

Oh Yeah? Well just remember, Custer would be ALIVE today - IF, he had called for Close Air Support.
-- Unknown

You might have to fight a battle more than once to win it
—Margaret Thatcher

Never say or do anything that you don't want to get back to the person you are talking about because it surely will."
--Lt.Gen.Otto J. Glasser, Deputy Chief of Staff Research & Development (AFRDC) circa 1967.

"It is customary in democratic countries to deplore expenditure on armaments as conflicting with the requirements of the social services. There is a tendency to forget that the most important social service that a government can do for its people is to keep them alive and free."
-- John Cotesworth Slessor, 1897-1979, British Air Force Marshall