

Headquarters U.S. Air Force

Integrity - Service - Excellence

Strategic Interests and Triad Requirements



U.S. AIR FORCE



**Assistant Chief of Staff for Strategic
Deterrence and Nuclear Integration**

AF/A10



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Engagement and Advocacy



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Nuclear Mandate

“Make no mistake: ***as long as these weapons exist***, the United States ***will maintain a safe, secure and effective arsenal*** to deter any adversary, and guarantee that defense to our allies.”

President Barack Obama
Prague, 5 April 2009



To Deter and Assure

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Deterrence and Assurance

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- **Central Deterrence**
 - Protects US from its only existential threat
- **Extended Deterrence**
 - A critical component to stability and is a demonstrative commitment to security alliances
- **Assurance**
 - Critical to US non-proliferation goals and will likely grow as a national priority

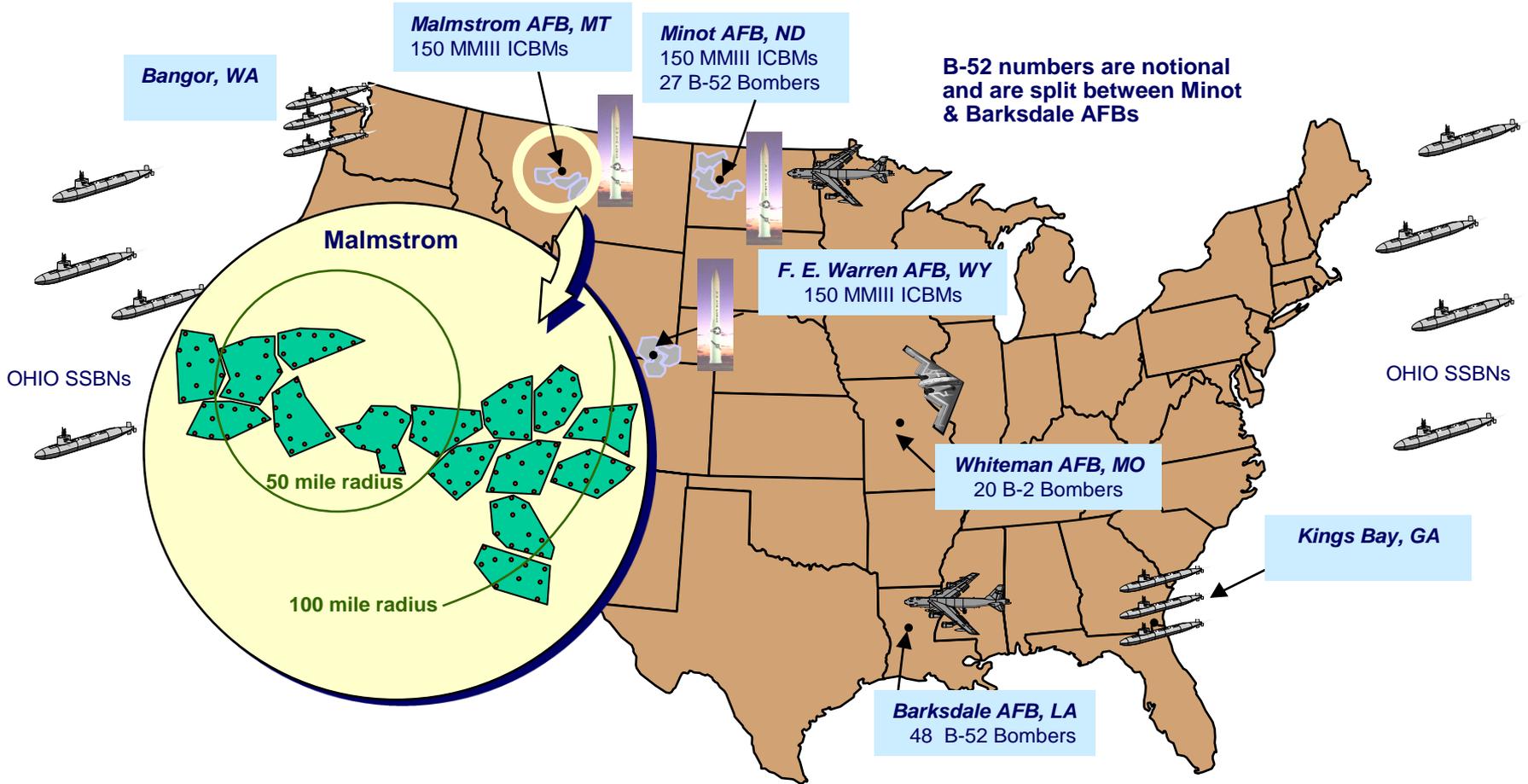
Stability is the Preeminent Objective

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Today's Nuclear Triad

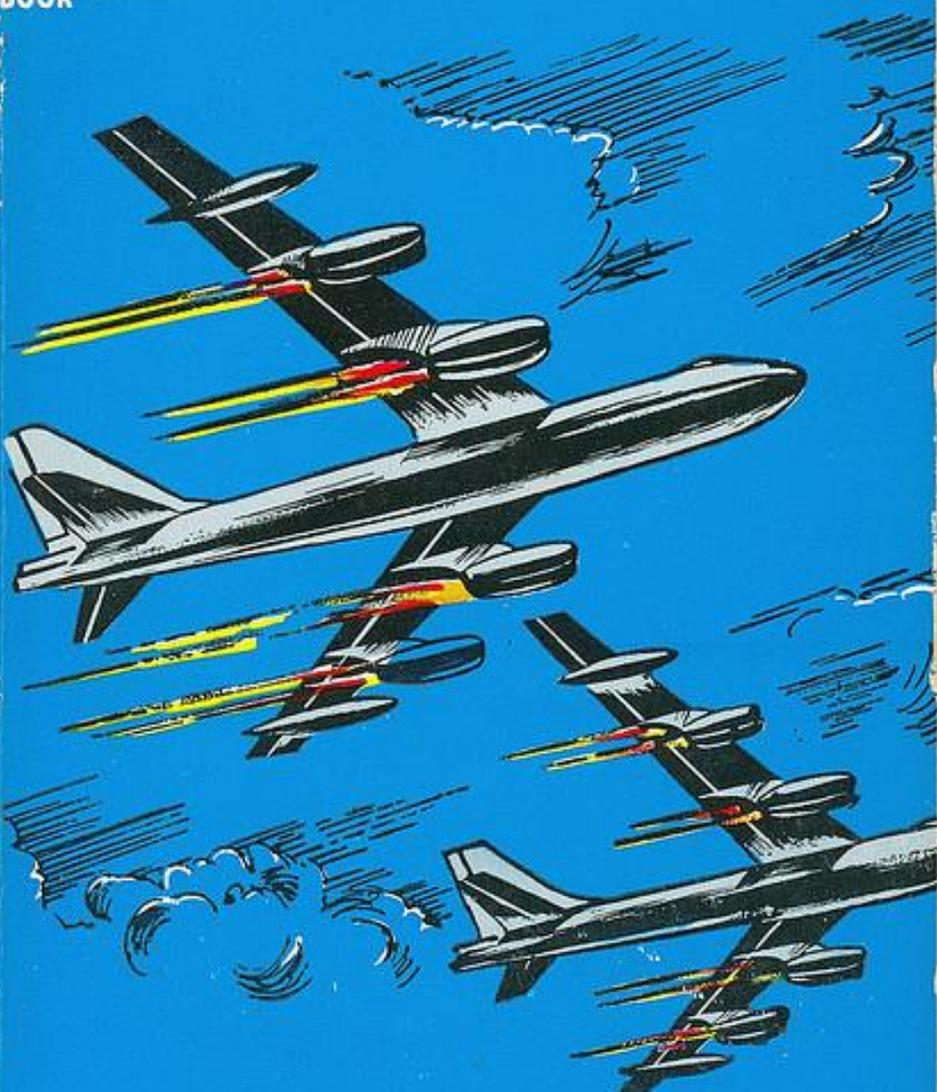


All legs of the Triad are essential to stability

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A NOVEL OF THE FIRST TWO HOURS OF WORLD WAR III

ACE
35¢
BOOK
RED ALERT

Peter Bryant

SAC ATTACK!

Every minute of every hour of every day, there are American bombers in the air, loaded with H-bombs, ready to fly into action at the mere spark of the right radio signal. These are the planes and men of the Strategic Air Command.

What happens once that signal flashes is described vividly in this tensely dramatic novel. The command came to the men of the 843rd Wing, high in the air near the Soviet border. Asking no questions, obeying their standing orders, they headed straight towards their assigned targets.

Had America already been attacked? Or was it the action of a single determined general, and unauthorized by the Pentagon and the president?

RED ALERT is the story of the two tensest hours in human history.

AN ACE BOOK

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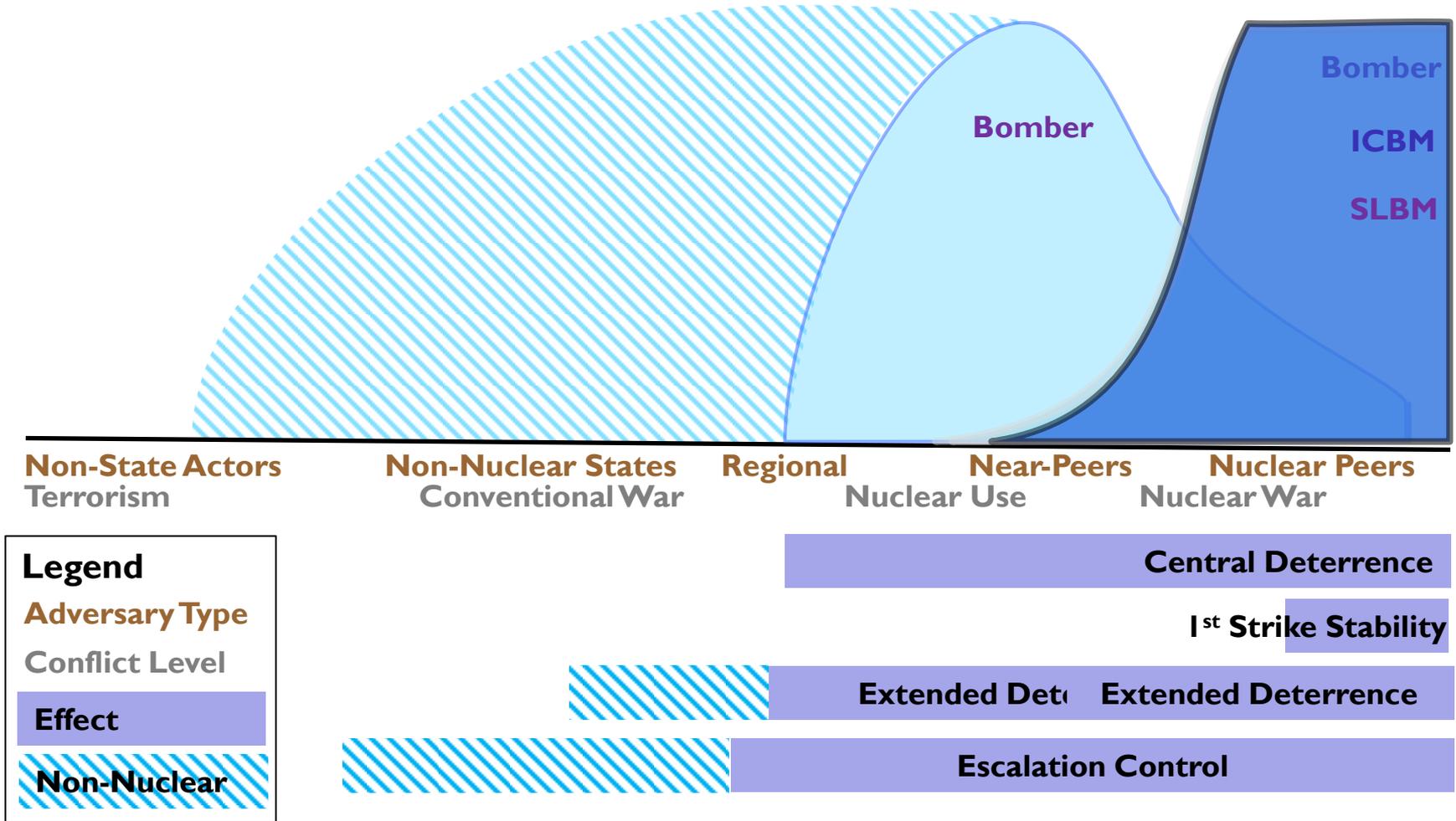
ACE
35¢
BOOK**RED ALERT**

Peter Bryant



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Relative Contribution of Triad Across the Conflict Spectrum





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Nuclear Delivery Platforms and Weapons



MMIII



B-2



B-52H



F-15E



ALCM



B61



F16C/D

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Bomber Attributes

- **Versatile**
 - Generates effects at tactical, operational, and strategic levels
 - Covers mission sets across entire spectrum of conflict
- **Flexible**
 - Shifts rapidly and effectively from one objective to another
 - Employs from distance; re-targetable in flight
- **Responsive**
 - Postures for prompt, survivable launch; recallable en route
 - Delivers timely effects with precision
- **Visible**
 - Demonstrates resolve through generation and deployment
 - Encourages restraint by signaling restraint

Bomber attributes required for extended deterrence and assurance



Long Range Strike-Bomber (LRS-B)

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- **The LRS-B program will produce a highly survivable, dual-capable long range penetrating bomber**
- **Initial capability expected in the mid-2020s**
- **Program leverages mature technologies and follows a streamlined acquisition approach**
- **Projected fleet of 80-100 aircraft will provide capacity for sustained operations**
- **Nuclear certification will be conducted after the initial test effort with mature aircraft; within 2 years of conventional variant IOC**

Critical role in US power projection and assurance and deterrence mission

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Long Range Stand-Off (LRSO)

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- LRSO is a missile acquisition program intended to replace the legacy AGM-86B Air-Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM)
- LRSO program will produce a highly survivable long range nuclear cruise missile
- LRSO will be carried on legacy and future bombers
- FY14 National Defense Authorization Act
 - SECAF shall develop an ALCM that:
 - Achieves IOC for nuclear missions prior to retirement of nuclear-armed AGM-86
 - Is capable of internal carriage and employment for both conventional and nuclear missions on next-generation Long Range Strike-Bomber

Complicates enemy defense; force multiplier for LRS-B

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Ground Based Strategic Deterrent (GBSD)

- **Minuteman III follow-on program**
- **Analysis 1, Basing Options:**
 - **Fixed: LFs address capability gaps over time**
 - **Hybrid: Combination of fixed and mobile facilities**
- **Analysis 2, Missile Alternatives:**
 - **Accuracy and range key performance goals**
 - **Two variants estimated to meet requirements**
- **AF and Navy seeking subcomponent commonality**

***Maintain first strike stability that requires full-scale
nuclear attack to eliminate***

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F-35 Dual Capable Aircraft (DCA)

- **F-35 DCA capability will deliver along with Block 4**
 - **US/NATO DCA platforms are reaching their end of service life**
 - **F-35 will replace existing, aging DCA platforms**
 - **Enhances capability of penetrating enemy airspace and executing mission against advanced enemy air defenses**
 - **Full integration of B61-12**
- **F-35 DCA fields in 2024**

F-35 is the DCA platform to support US and NATO assurance and deterrence commitments

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Enduring Mission

“ ... the importance of nuclear deterrence to our national security as well as the security of our allies and partners, remains. Our Nation will rely upon our nuclear forces for decades to come, and we must continue to conduct deterrence operations ... ”

**-- General Mark A. Welsh III
Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force**





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Questions?