# Leadership in United States Army Air Force

Basically, this letter was written to address the pressing issues that needed to be taken care of in the United States Army Air Force shortly after the Second World War. It is public knowledge that the United States forces finished the war after carrying out the attacks in Japan. The scientific and technical knowledge possessed by the United States enabled the attacks be successful. However, as is mostly the case after emerging victorious in a tough battle, people tend to sit down and relax as they enjoy their victory. That was the case with the United States Army Air Forces. Certain issues were brought up that needed to be addressed, lest the complacency becomes a huge blunder on the United States armies. In a letter addressed to the incoming Commanding General, Army Air Forces, in the year 1945, these issues were brought up as an urgency that needed immediate action.

 Notably, the letter was written after a major Second World War. Majority of these soldiers and troops as well as their commanding generals had never been to an active battlefield, leave alone the World War. The state of the Air Force Army was demanding attention since complacency seemed to creep in. there were emerging issues that included discipline, state of the staff, advisory council, among others that required change as soon as possible. These lessons are still viable and necessary in our current times. Especially now that the United States troops are restoring calm and protecting the weak in other war-torn countries, fighting and eliminating threats posed to our nation’s safety, these lessons can come in handy. Especially the aggressive nature of the troops and the discipline of the forces, these lessons will not only ensure a smooth and success running of operations, but also ensure that the true nature of the troops is upheld at all times. In fact, the letter addressed the issue of soliciting young bright minds for the necessary required scientific developments needed in the army. Today, the Army Air Force is implementing that request to the full benefit of the forces. So we can clearly argue that the lessons and proposals that were in that letter are in full effect helpful and in implementation in our current times.

 It is no secret that the United States Air Forces have invested heavily on the acquisition of young bright minds that are capable of revolutionizing the state of preparedness and weaponry that is currently under the jurisdiction of the Air Force. These innovative students and personnel are taken from reputable colleges and universities across the country with majors in science and technology. Most of these students come from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and California Institute of Technology (Caltech) for the needed manpower. They might not have the physical abilities of being a soldier, but they deliver better work in terms of service delivery. For instance, the United States Air Forces can now boast of having the best air force resources in the whole world all thanks to these scientific developments. The training that these troops also undertake is scientific and helps the body to cope with the necessary pressures of the battlefield (Air University, 1953). Therefore, we can comfortably state that the letter definitely had an impact on the current day USAF programs.

 Personally, I think that this letter might have been the turning point of the United States Air Force programs and operations. After the World War II, the whole force seemed reluctant to proceed with the operations and prepare for the wars to come. General Arnold clearly states that for the future of the Army Air Forces to continue as planned, certain changes needed to be done (Arnold, et al. 2004). The letter addressed the specific issues that were holding the forces back. General Arnold did not waste time going straight to the points and factors that he thought needed immediate change. He clearly elaborates the factors on the ground and even goes as far as providing and proposing solutions for these issues addressed. Of much importance, General Arnold carries out his research and even goes to the staff and asks for their feedback in order to further stress the importance of this letter. In response, the Commanding General, General Spaatz, carries out the changes as proposed. This exchange between these two leaders played a huge role in creating an Air Force to be reckoned with today.

 Essentially, this letter reinforces the leadership philosophies I had. Basically, the letter was addressed in a simple and straight forward manner in which General Arnold states his intent, expectations, and values and in turn, waits for action. With the proper intent made clear, the policies and procedures are implemented accordingly. These two leaders supported each other, which in turn helped the United States Air Force immensely.

## Bibliography

Air University (U.S.). (1953). *Air science III*. Montgomery, Ala.

Arnold, Henry Harley, and John W. Huston. 2004. *American airpower comes of age: General Henry H. "Hap" Arnold's World War II diaries. Vol. 1 Vol. 1*. Homolulu, HI: University Press of the Pacific.

*Partnership and Leadership Building Alliances for a Sustainable Future*. 2002. Dordrecht: Springer Netherlands. http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:1111-201310151004.

Ruggero, Ed, and Dennis F. Haley. 2005. *The leader's compass: a personal leadership philosophy is your key to success*. King of Prussia, PA: Academy Leadership.