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**USAF**  
**FY 87-91**  
**PROGRAM OBJECTIVE**  
**MEMORANDUM**

10 MAY 1985

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330

May 3, 1985

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE**

**SUBJECT: FY 87-91 Program Objective Memorandum (U)**  
**- INFORMATION MEMORANDUM**

(C) The FY 87-91 Air Force Program Objective Memorandum (POM) reflects Defense Guidance priorities and provides the nation an adequate deterrent posture and a credible warfighting capability. However, progress in our ability to meet and defeat a growing threat will slow appreciably as a result of significant decrements in fiscal guidance. These fiscal changes have made it necessary to reduce force structure, cancel programs, and slow the revitalization of capabilities across the full spectrum of Air Force activities.

(U) Because POM resources are no longer adequate to satisfy Defense Guidance and to fund existing requirements, the Air Force will deactivate 4 flying units, cancel 21 programs contained in the FY 86 President's Budget (PB), delay achieving the DG mid-term objective of 40 tactical fighter wings beyond FY 91, and reduce maintenance and modernization of our aging physical plant. The extent of these and numerous other cuts will reduce the required rate of improvement in Air Force capability.

(U) Our people are the very heart of the Air Force, and our continuing goal is to improve the quality of life for active duty members and Air Force families. The POM provides 52,000 new or modernized dormitory spaces, 5,690 new military family housing units, and 6,387 build/lease housing units. The POM also accelerates from the 86 PB the completion of 123 family support centers. We slow our manpower growth, both military and civilian, to the point that further decrements would disrupt our current capabilities. Potential Congressional limitations on military and civilian end strengths can only further aggravate an already difficult problem.

(U) In adjusting to the revised fiscal guidance, we maintain the DG priorities by modernizing our strategic offense and defense forces, but at a slower rate. Our programmed improvements in readiness and sustainability are scaled down to meet the guidance and remain in balance with the adjusted force structure. We are able to continue modernization and expansion of our mobility forces over the FYDP. While the rate of growth of our tactical

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forces slows, we inject competition into fighter procurement with the introduction of the F-20 in this POM. Our space program continues at a reasonable level, and our C<sup>3</sup> modernization efforts will enhance our warfighting capability.

(U) The Air Force POM has benefitted from increased Unified and Specified Commander-in-Chief participation and greater cross-Service involvement throughout the development process. While the most recent reduction in fiscal guidance seriously limited our ability to fund CINC requirements, we have funded a substantial number of command priority programs and have begun a dialog that will serve us well in this and in future years. The result is an Air Force program more responsive to operational commanders and better harmonized with other Services.

(U) We are concerned with the growing terrorist threat to our people, facilities, and equipment. Accordingly, I have asked for a special focus in this year's POM on Air Force security and antiterrorism programs. These programs total over \$1B across the FYDP and cover a wide range of preventive measures. Taken together, these programs efficiently focus available resources on combating terrorism and protecting valuable DoD assets.

(U) In another special interest area, the Air Force continues to support your NATO Emerging Technologies initiative. We provide approximately 50% of DoD funding for both NATO agreed and U.S. proposed projects.

(U) Throughout the development of our program, we pursued economies and efficiencies Air Force wide. For example, in responding to the revised guidance we cancelled many programs rather than stretch them. Our investments in reliability and maintainability will also yield substantial savings during the FYDP. In a broader sense, we are stepping up our efforts to encourage competition and prevent contractor abuses--Air Force management at all levels is sensitive to cost effective contracting and fair and reasonable pricing.

(U) The summer program review promises to challenge our collective abilities. We look forward to working with you and your staff.

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Air Force POM, FY 87-91 (S)

cc: DepSecDef



E. C. Aldridge, Jr.  
Acting Secretary of the  
Air Force

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