



JSCSC LIBRARY BIBLIOGRAPHY

Research Guide Series

The Future of the RAF

2011 © JSCSC in partnership with

serco

The future of the Royal Air Force

The Royal Air Force has a long and proud record of achievement in both peace and war and is today regarded as one of the most capable and professional air forces in the world. Like any other air arm, it is heavily reliant upon technology, particularly to provide its operational capability. Advances in aerospace and weapon technology have a direct impact on force structure, organization and doctrine, forcing the RAF to constantly evolve in order to employ its aircraft and weapons to the best effect in the projection of air power wherever and whenever needed.

In recent years there have been several significant technological advances that have influenced the RAF and how it operates and looks to the future. Advances in stealth technology; precision-guided munitions; unmanned air vehicles; command, control and communications technologies; together with a whole range of capabilities that now come together under ISTAR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance) are changing the face of the RAF from its outdated Cold War posture.

Continuing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, together with experience in other recent combat or peace support operations are forcing the pace of change as well as benefiting from the results. However, advances in technology are being matched by the changing way of warfare where the enemy is often difficult to identify and target and where asymmetric forces can pose major threats to much larger, conventional forces. The move towards a more expeditionary warfare footing is just one example of how the RAF is adapting its organization, force structure and doctrine to cope with 21st Century operations.

This bibliography has been designed to provide a guide as to where to find information on the Royal Air Force. Please note that the list of references below is a selection of the more relevant titles and information on the subject. The list is not intended to be exhaustive or definitive but is an introductory guide to some of the resources available.

Monographs

Coker, Christopher. **The future of war, the re-enchantment of war in the Twenty-First Century**. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2004, 162 p.

Coker, Christopher. **Waging war without warriors? The changing culture of military conflict**. London: Lynne Rienner, 2002, 223 p.

Director of Defence Studies, Royal Air Force. **Understanding air power: the Royal Air Force's contribution to the defence and security of the United Kingdom**. Shrivenham: DDefS, RAF, 2010, 28 p.

Directorate of Air Staff. **Future air and space operational concept**. With supporting essay. London: Royal Air Force, 2005, 32 p. [Available online:
http://www.raf.mod.uk/rafcms/mediafiles/B59F2D16_1143_EC82_2E7E0EA0529ED1CD.pdf
http://www.raf.mod.uk/rafcms/mediafiles/62873A71_C94D_D318_DC50FF8024A36D04.pdf
]

Dorman, A., *et al* (eds.). **The changing face of military power: joint warfare in an expeditionary era**. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2002, 219 p.

Farrell, Theo, & Terriff, Terry (eds.). **The sources of military change, culture, politics, technology**. London: Lynne Rienner, 2002, 301 p.

Finn, Christopher. **Effects based warfare**. London: Stationery Office, 2004, 122 p.

Gray, C. **Another bloody century: Future Warfare**. London: Weidenfield & Nicolson, 2005, 431 p.

Gray, Peter W. **Air power 21: challenges for the new century**. London: Stationery Office, 2000, 240 p.

Gray, Peter W. **British air power**. London: Stationery Office, 2003, 216 p.

Great Britain, House of Commons. **Future carrier and joint combat aircraft programmes; Second Report of Session 2005-2006**. House of Commons Paper 554. London: The Stationery Office, 2005, 57 p. [Available online: <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200506/cmselect/cmdfence/554/554.pdf>]

Great Britain, House of Commons. **The contribution of unmanned aerial vehicles to ISTAR capability; Thirteenth Report of Session 2007-2008**. House of Commons Paper 535. London: The Stationery Office, 2008, 146 p. [Available online: <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmdfence/535/535.pdf>]

Great Britain, Ministry of Defence. **Future conflict: insights from interviews with senior commanders**. London: The Ministry of Defence, 2006, 53 p.

Kainikara, S. **Air power in the 21st Century: a snapshot of emerging roles and future challenges**. Air Power Development Centre Paper 18. Tuggerangong, ACT, Australia: Air Power Development Centre, 2005, 36 p. [Available online: http://www.raaf.gov.au/airpower/html/publications/papers/apdc/apdc_18_air_power_in_the_21st_century.pdf]

Kaldor, Mary. **New and old wars: organised violence in a global era**. Cambridge: Polity, 2006, 231 p.

Parton, Neville (ed.). **Air power: the agile air force**. London: Royal Air Force, 2008, 98 p. [Available online: <http://www.airpowerstudies.co.uk/AgileAirForce.pdf>]

Terriff, Terry, *et al* (eds.). **Global insurgency and the future of armed conflict**. London: Routledge, 2008, 303 p.

Torpy, ACM Sir Glenn. **Royal Air Force strategy: agile, adaptable, capable**. London: Royal Air Force, 2007, 29 p.

Periodical Articles

Air power in an uncertain world: the Royal Air Force's vision. **Military Technology**, Vol. 32, No. 7, July 2008, pp. 13-18.

Burridge, ACM Sir Brian. *Strategic guidance and the context for air power*. **RUSI Journal**, Vol. 149, No. 3, June 2004, pp. 30-33.

Bryant, Simon. *Air, space, and cyber power: strategic choice and operational imperative*. **RUSI Journal**, Vol. 155, No. 5, October/November 2010, pp. 44-49.

Dalton, ACM Sir Stephen. *Dominant air power in the information age: the comparative advantage of air and space power in future conflict*. **Military Technology**, Vol. 34, No. 7, July 2010, pp. 18-30.

Jones, Sqn Ldr S. L. *Are strategic bombers relevant in the 21st Century and have the recent operations in Afghanistan and Iraq supported the case for their future use?* **Royal Air Force Air Power Review**, Vol. 8, No. 1, Spring 2005, pp. 90-113.

Kemsley, Wg Cdr Harry. *Air power in counter-insurgency: a sophisticated language or blunt expression?* **Contemporary Security Policy**, Vol. 28, No. 1, April 2007, pp. 112-126.

Kemsley, Wg Cdr Harry. *Combat air power in irregular warfare: operational utility, the lack of narrative and the risk of strategic failure.* **Royal Air Force Air Power Review**, Vol. 10, No. 2, Summer 2007, pp. 14-49.

Lake, Jon. *Is the RAF broken?* **Air Forces Monthly**, October 2007, pp. 26-31.

Lake, Jon. *RAF at 90: a gathering storm?* **Air International**, Vol. 74, No. 1, January 2008, pp. 20-24 & Vol. 74, No. 2, February 2008, pp. 46-50.

Meiter, Maj John. *Network Enabled Capability: a theory desperately in need of doctrine.* **Royal Air Force Air Power Review**, Vol. 10, No. 3, Autumn 2007, pp. 30-54.

Parton, Gp Capt Neville. *Strategic air power theory in the 21st Century.* **Royal Air Force Air Power Review**, Vol. 7, No. 1, Summer 2004, pp. 13-25.

Walters, Wg Cdr A. J. C. *Air control: past, present, future?* **Royal Air Force Air Power Review**, Vol. 8, No. 4, Winter 2005, pp. 1-19.

Websites

Centre for Air Power Studies
<http://www.airpowerstudies.co.uk/>

Joint Air Power Competence Centre
<http://www.japcc.de/>

Royal Air Force
<http://www.raf.mod.uk/>

Royal Australian Air Force Air Power Development Centre
<http://www.raaf.gov.au/airpower/>

Basic Copyright/Plagiarism Rules:

Please reference all information sources used, in the appropriate manner.
Please note that copyright may apply to the use of material obtained from the web, including images.

Related Research Guides

See also: Future Trends
 Future British Army
 Future Royal Navy
 Counterinsurgency
 Counter-Terrorism
 Effects Based Warfare
 Joint Doctrine
 Asymmetric Warfare
 Military Use of Space

Any Queries

Contact library.jscsc@defenceacademy.mod.uk
Tel: 01793 788237
Mil: 96161 8237

Compiler: Chris Hobson, 2011