

Expansion to Air Power, 1944

Text: Expansion to Air Power...the story of the Army Air Forces from June 1939 to December 1943. Here is that portion of its history which saw the expansion of the Air Forces to meet the strategic, tactical and supply requirements of todays global warfare. This is not intended to be a complete historical and statistical air picture. Rather it is an attempt to show the tremendous growth of the AAF...its problems and their solution...and the recognition of the Air Forces as a mighty arm in war.

Narrator: American airpower has followed the global pattern of modern warfare into virtually every corner of the world. Today, 15 separate Air Forces, supported by equally important service and training commands, are in operation in 10 theaters of war and the continental United States. These Air Forces cover an operating area of some 19 million square miles, about one-tenth of the surface of the globe. In the southwest Pacific area, the Fifth Air Force is playing an important role in softening up the Japanese for the campaigns which are ahead. The personnel [...]