



United States Air Force



JSSAST Small Arms Program Review

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U.S. AIR FORCE

Overview

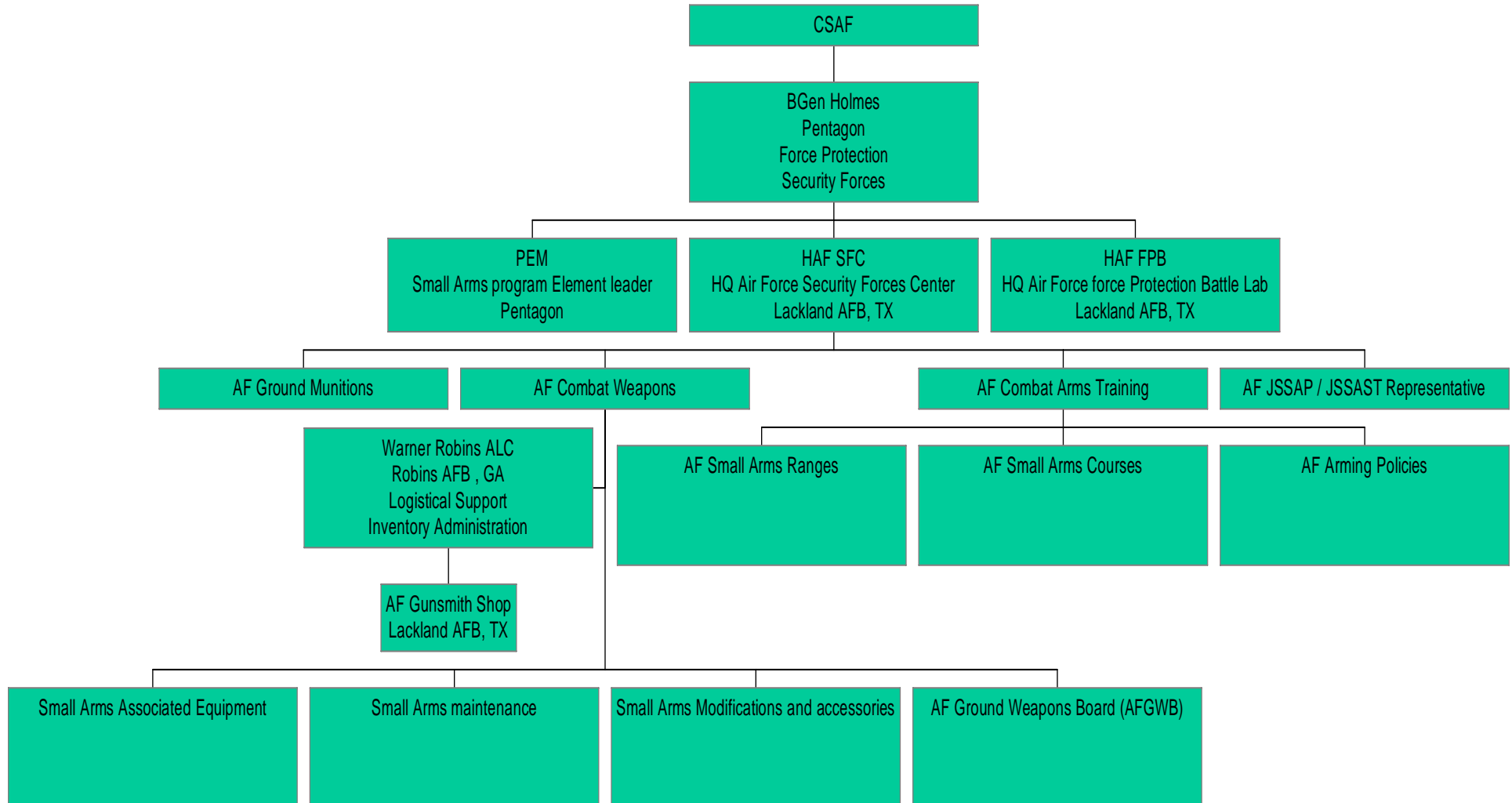


- Organization
- M4 Carbine
- M240B Machine gun
- M870 MCS
- M9 Pistol Replacement
- Emerging Requirements
- Opportunities for Industry
- Air Force Small Arms Top Priorities



USAF

Program Executive Office Small Arms





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M4 Carbine



Description

The M4 Carbine is the newest member of the USAF M16 series of weapons. The Security Forces version will be equipped with an M68 Close Combat Optic (CCO) and a Back-up Iron sight. The CCO is compatible with our night vision equipment.

Current Status

M4 has replaced all daily use M16A2s, GAUs and GUUs for Security Forces, AF Special Operations Forces and select Group A/B AFSCs utilizing these weapons

M203, A1 and A2 mounting along with DNS and other enhancements seen in Army RFI and SOPMOD Programs are being fielded.

Delivery Schedule

Deliveries began Dec 02. Currently we have approximately 46,000 M4s in use and new requirements being ordered monthly through FY08.

Approximately 1,300 M4A1 Carbines have been delivered.

Magnified 4x ACOG Day Optical Sights have been fielded for required missions as Designated Marksmen





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M240B Machine Gun



Description

The M240B is the replacement for the M60 medium machine gun.

Current Status

Currently we have issues with receiver separation / breakage... due to hydraulic buffer quality deficiency. Coordinating with USA to get new shorter barrels, improved / collapsible stocks, improved bipods and other changes approved and integrated.

Delivery Schedule

Deliveries began Oct 02. All initial orders have been filled and we are on sustainment for these assets. Approximately 3,200 in use.





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M870 Modular Combat Shotgun



Description

Type: pump-action
Gauge: 12: Capacity 5-7 Rounds
Barrel length: 355 mm (14 in.), 457 mm (18 in.)
Weight: 3-3.5 kg
Remington 870 "Wing master" was introduced 1950
1970s adopted by US Military
Magazines for 7 or 8 rounds
The latest addition is the 870 Modular Combat Shotgun (MCS). The 870 MCS kit consists of the receiver and magazine tube (3 rounds base capacity), plus several detachable components, such as barrels (10", 14" and 18"), -- Receiver Rail can mount new optics

Delivery Schedule

All 8,328 have been delivered and over 4,000 have been fielded. Security Forces have priority. Some PQDR's have been submitted for a crack in the butt stock. Non-critical area affected and still in use.

Current Status

First time AF will have a shotgun able to be rapidly adapted to any mission. Standardized accessories and parts will allow maximum flexibility while maintaining safety





M9 Pistol



Description

Purchased and fielded over 2,200 M92FS (current civilian equivalent to M9) to replace aging small arms that have nearly doubled their service life. M9s are failing in training and possible combat failures due to shot count are becoming a real world concern.

Current Status

Replacing current training assets and filling new requirements due to increased operations. Spare parts are difficult to get. Procurement of any stocked quantities for sustainment has slowed. *USAF is directly involved with Joint Combat Pistol Program and plans to push that effort forward.*

Delivery Schedule

Originally, approximately 30,000 Model 92FS were ordered. Delivery scheduled to continue through Oct 07.

AF has 2,325 M11 pistols fielded and has just acquired approximately 165 through GSA system and is trying to procure more. Increased ops and new requirements for concealed carry pistols.





Emerging requirements for Joint Synchronization



Future programs AF wants involvement

1. Joint Combat/Future Pistol
2. Non-lethal
3. Solutions to Capability gaps identified in JSSACA



Opportunities for Industry



- Fire-control / Tactical Engagement
- Simulators
- IR / Thermal Accessories
- Improved Munitions
- Lubrication / Coatings / Camouflage



USAF Top Issues



1. Replenish decaying handguns and move forward with USA on Joint Combat Pistol.
2. Operational decision on quantity of M4 / M16A2s to acquire or maintain.
3. Adopt a streamlined process for fielding new small arms, accessories and related equipment.



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Future Requirements



- **Air Force role as defenders of Air Bases has changed. We are now fighting the same battles in the same space as other services. Our convoy security operations along with patrols have transformed the Air Force as a whole and will continue to. We will still rely heavily on the other services for small arms lead but we will be assuming a more proactive role.**
- **“Preparing for the future will require us to think differently and develop the kinds of forces and capabilities that can adapt quickly to new challenges and to unexpected circumstances. An ability to adapt will be critical in a world where surprise and uncertainty are the defining characteristics of our new security environment.”**
 - » **Donald Rumsfeld, 21st Century Transformation**
- **“Get outside the wire ... and get out there and begin to think about what’s a threat to this airfield, what do we have to do to defend it so we can operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in a true joint sense, and in a true combatant sense so that there’s no threats to this airfield that we haven’t thought about.”**

**General T. Michael Moseley, AF Chief of Staff
11 Oct 2005
American Enterprise Institute Speech**