

25th Anniversary of SAFSP
5 September 1986

In 1961, history provided this country with tremendous technological challenges. It would take a unique combination of technical expertise, dedication to the mission, and personal integrity to meet these challenges. The Air Force provided them, and is providing now, people with just those qualifications.

In addition to the wonderfully talented people who have been assigned to SAFSP over the years, we have been blessed with their tremendously supportive families. Without this unique confluence of ideas, people, and organization, this country would not have been able to meet the challenges that history provided.

SAFSP was able to take revolutionary technology and, within a streamlined--read that undermanned by most Air Force standards--organization, accomplish what most people believed was either decades in the future or totally impossible.

This Spring, the Packard Commission reported to the President that one of the main hindrances to efficient management of government programs was the myriad of procurement regulations and the multiple levels of management and oversight normally involved in doing business with the government. SAFSP has been a shining example of how the government can do business when it really wants to.

25 years ago SP began with a small cadre of bright, dedicated and determined people assigned to impossible projects of incalculable importance. They succeeded beyond everyone's expectations.

The people in this room tonight have been an important part of this nation's history. You are also a vital part of its future. The alumni have set impossibly high standards that the current cadre is somehow surpassing.

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