



From Navigator to Combat Pilot: A Journey Through Desert Storm

US Air Force Capt. Thomas Bachman

(SAC B52G Navigator/ KC135R Aircraft Commander, 1984-93)

B-52 Navigator



1984 B-52 Navigator stationed on Guam.



As a Navigator, I was responsible for global navigation and weapons delivery.



Role required immense precision and teamwork,

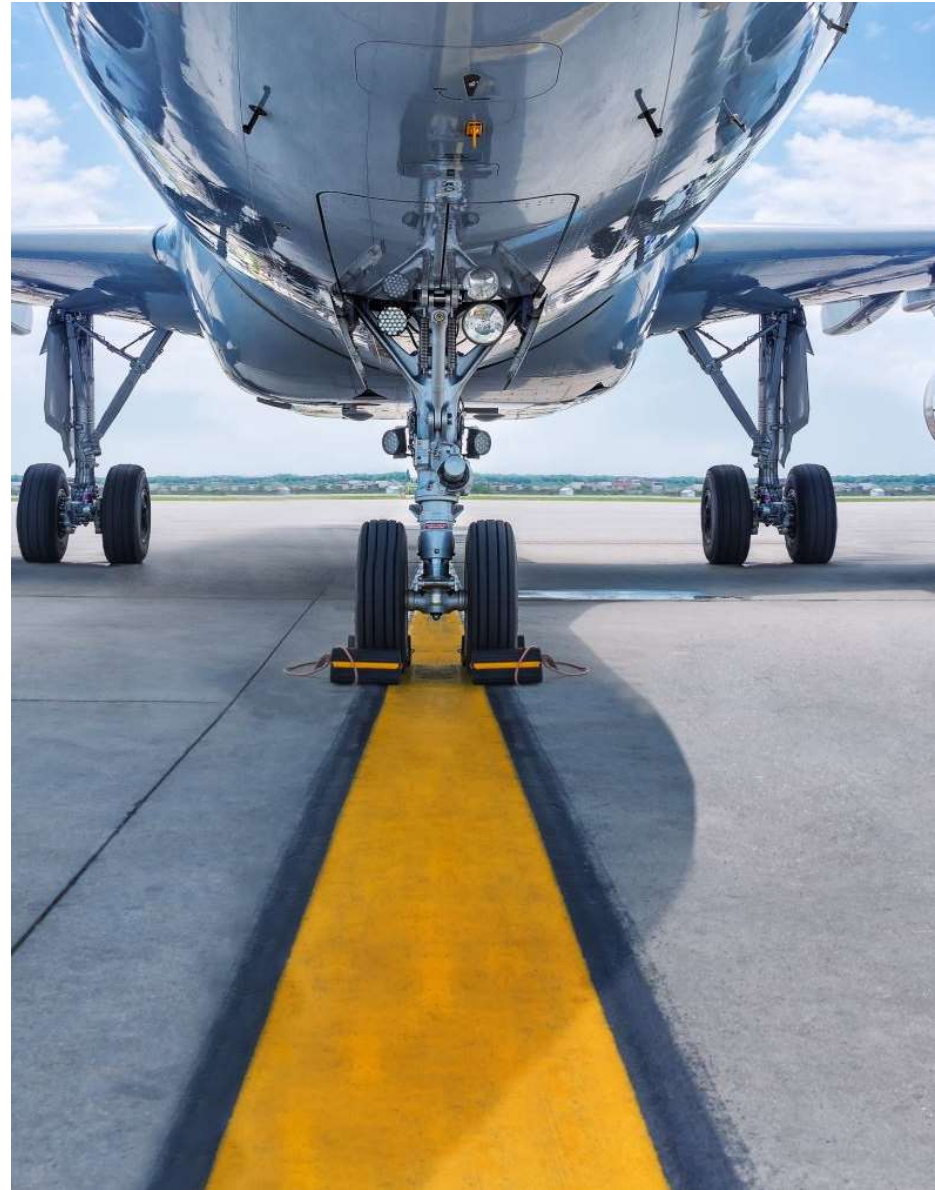
Especially during SAC Conventional and Nuclear missions.



My expertise in these areas contributed to the success of my crew and played a vital role in Nuclear Deterrence.

Transition to Pilot

- After several years as a Navigator, felt the call to take on a new challenge.
- transitioned to become a pilot of the KC-135R, an air refueling tanker aircraft.
- transition required to learn new skills and adapt to a different role within the Air Force.
- Mastering the KC-135R allowed me to contribute to air refueling missions during peacetime and combat.



Combat Role in Iraq Desert Storm War



In 1991, had the honor of serving in the Iraq Desert Storm War.



flew over 250 combat hours

earned two Air Medals for Distinguished Duties.

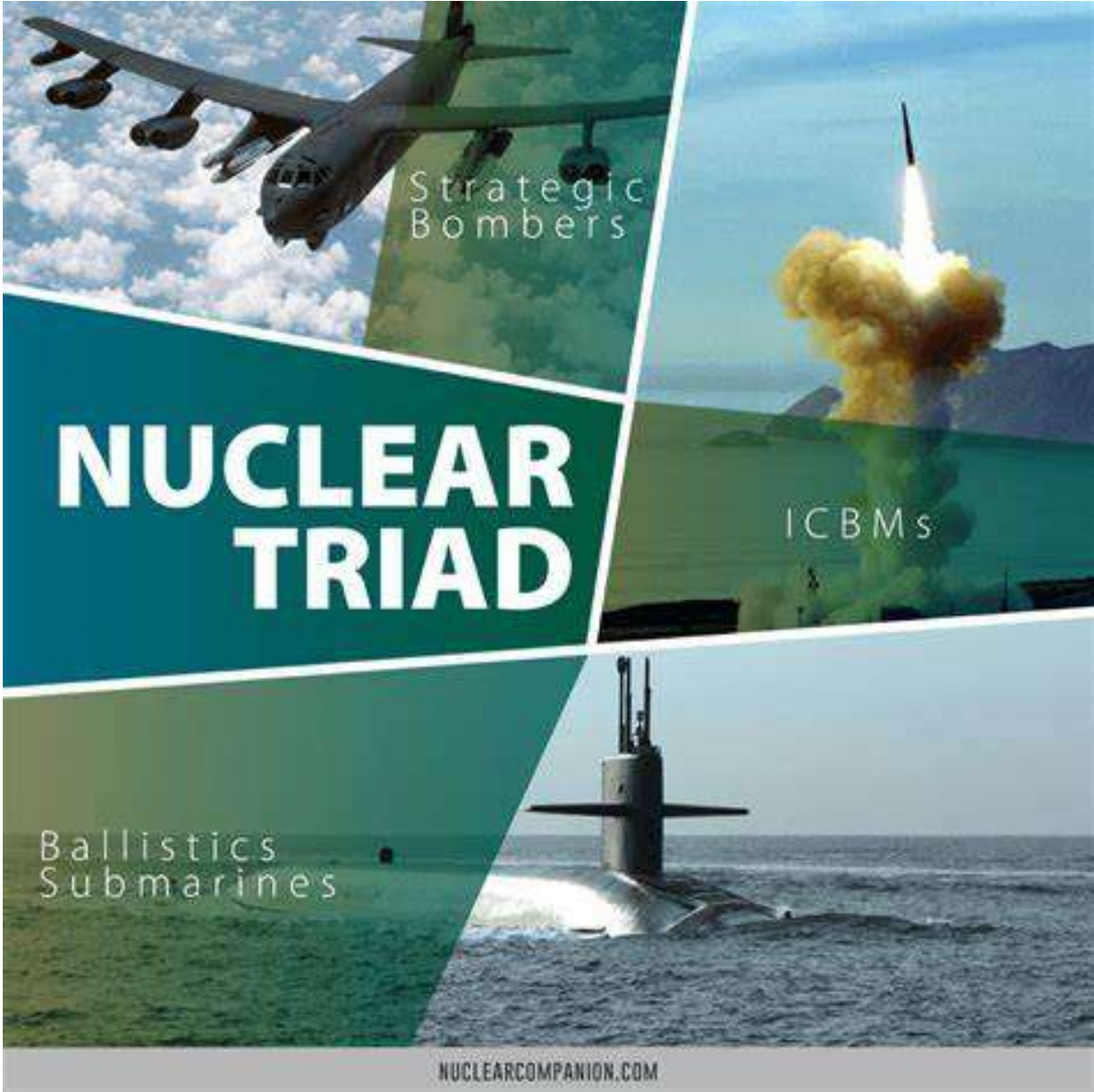


provided critical support to Special Operations and Stealth Fighters, including the F-117,

during the "Shock and Awe" campaign under General N. Schwartzkopf.



My role ensured that Allied Forces had the fuel and support they needed to operate effectively and achieve victory.



Strategic Bombers

NUCLEAR TRIAD

ICBMs

Ballistics Submarines

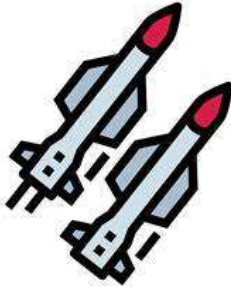


B-52 STRATOFORTRESS

**THE TRIAD REFERS
TO THE 3 CATEGORIES OF
NUCLEAR DELIVERY VEHICLES**



NUCLEAR TRIAD



NUCLEAR
MISSILES



STRATEGIC
AIRCRAFTS



SSBN
SUBMARINES

The Cold War Triad

ICBMs



BOMBERS

SLBMs



The New Triad

**Non-Nuclear and Nuclear
Strike Capabilities**



**C2, Intelligence,
Planning**

**Active and
Passive Defenses**

**Responsive
Infrastructure**





**DOOMSDAY PLANE COMMANDS AND
CONTROLS US MILITARY ARSENAL**



MISSILE SUBMARINES



AIR FORCE BOMBERS



ICBM MISSILE CREWS

Allied armada brought to bear

TOMAHAWK CRUISE MISSILE
 U.S. Navy's newest air-launched cruise missile - fastest accuracy of within 300 yards - distance of up to 1,000 miles

Tomahawk's infrared guidance and global positioning systems allow crews the missile to begin to search area land



Inertial navigation

Tomahawk wings

Air intake

Jet fuel

1,000s of pounds

shuffled in quarters to launch and ready. Crews monitor, identify's and reference to full capability once target

NAVY POWER

USS Zumwalt
 Destroyer class aircraft carrier and 17 other warships already in action. 1,000 crew members and eight missile launchers. By end of week



AIR POWER



B-52

Heavy bomber. 20,000 lbs. of bombs. 12,000 sq. ft. of wings. 100,000 sq. ft. of fuselage. 100,000 sq. ft. of tail.

Bombardier B-52D

20,000 lbs. of bombs

NAVY POWER

10,000 lbs. of bombs

10,000 sq. ft. of wings

10,000 sq. ft. of fuselage

10,000 sq. ft. of tail

10,000 sq. ft. of deck

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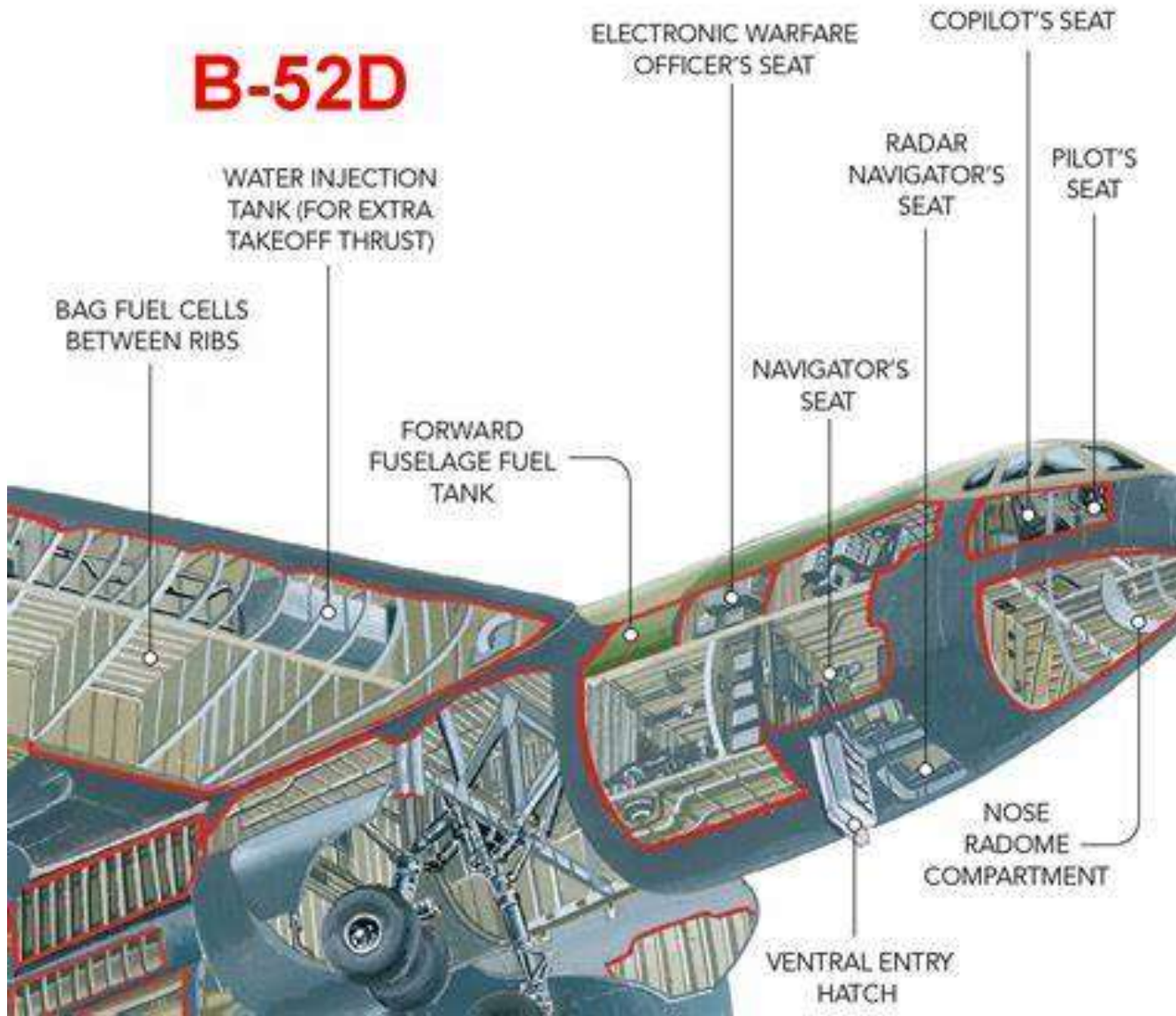




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B-52D













**United & American Airlines Announced
New, Non-Stop Service to Afghanistan**





THE LIBERATION OF KUWAIT

1991 - 2024

OPERATION DESERT STORM

33RD ANNIVERSARY



1990 **Desert Shield** 1991
AND
Desert Storm Memorial
HONORING THE SERVICE AND THE SACRIFICE



SERIOUS



BIZNESS

U.S. AIR FORCE KC-35R
A.F. SERIAL NO. 633564
SERIES 001 SERIAL
NO. 00001 P2 001
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

3564











































THE AGM-181A

- Can avoid threats and communicate with launcher
- Cost: \$1billion

- Includes a W80 thermonuclear warhead

**B-21 Raider
stealth bomber**



B-52 Stratofortress

- Launch platforms

- Plane can drop missile 1,500 miles from target



NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Even though the Cold War has been over for decades and the world's superpower countries have stopped production of nuclear weapons, there are still massive amounts of nuclear warheads that are active or stockpiled. With the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty ending in December of 2009, will the nuclear countries continue disarmament? Here are a few numbers as of January 2010.



Impact and Legacy

- proud of the impact I've made on air operations throughout my career.
- My adaptability, leadership, and dedication allowed me to excel in both the Navigator and Pilot roles.
- contributed to Nuclear Deterrence, supported combat operations, and played a vital role in ensuring the success of countless missions.



Conclusion



journey from Navigator to Pilot has been a testament to the power of adaptability, leadership, and service.



been an honor to serve my country and contribute to the Air Force's mission.



hope my story inspires you to embrace challenges, strive for excellence, and always put service above self.