

CSO NOTICE TO GUARDIANS (C-NOTE #12)

DATED: 15 MAY 23

SUBJECT: USSF MISSION STATEMENT

FROM: CSO

TO: ALL PERSONNEL

UNCLASS

Over the last three years, the Space Force has gradually put in place organizational artifacts that define who we are as an institution. Decisions like what our military members are called, our motto, and the values we enshrine shape the purpose and identify of our Service. It's time to address what I think is one of the most important expressions of Service ethos – the Space Force mission statement.

How many Guardians can recite the current mission statement of the Space Force? My guess is very few. According to www.spaceforce.mil, our mission is as follows: *The USSF is responsible for organizing, training, and equipping Guardians to conduct global space operations that enhance the way our joint and coalition forces fight, while also offering decision makers military options to achieve national objectives.*

I believe an exemplary organizational mission statement has four attributes. These are the criteria I use when evaluating our current mission statement.

- *Informative.* Accurately describes the organization's purpose.
- *Memorable.* Easy to remember, understand, and apply.
- *Inclusive.* Accounts for all members and activities in the organization.
- *Buy In.* Resonates with members of the organization.

Based on these criteria, I have some concerns with our current mission statement. My biggest concern is that the mission statement does not reflect why the Nation has a Space Force and the vital functions Guardians perform. Headquarters staffs *organize, train, and equip*. But these staff functions are only a small sample of the many activities Guardians are asked to perform in service to the Nation. Guardians deliver capability. Guardians operate some of the most technologically advanced systems in the world. In doing so, they deter aggression and, should deterrence fail, protect U.S. interests with military force. Additionally, our current mission statement is long and cumbersome. We can do better.

The HQSF staff has begun the process of developing alternatives to the current Space Force mission statement, and we need your help. How do you feel about the current mission statement? Are there additional criteria we should consider when evaluating proposed alternatives? Suggest and debate alternatives with the other members of your unit. You can share your thoughts with HQSF staff at ocso.feedback@spaceforce.mil. We will use this feedback to shape the direction of this effort.

Semper Supra!