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Exhibit R-2, RDT&E Budget Item Justification: PB 2024 Air Force **Date:** March 2023

Appropriation/Budget Activity 3600: <i>Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Air Force I BA 6: RDT&E Management Support</i>	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605101F / <i>RAND Project Air Force</i>
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COST (\$ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 Base	FY 2024 OCO	FY 2024 Total	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
Total Program Element	-	34.698	32.767	38.398	0.000	38.398	39.650	40.644	41.475	42.976	Continuing	Continuing
661110: <i>Project Air Force</i>	-	34.698	32.767	38.398	0.000	38.398	39.650	40.644	41.475	42.976	Continuing	Continuing
Quantity of RDT&E Articles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

This program provides for continuing analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns. The Project AIR FORCE (PAF) research agenda is focused primarily on mid to long-term problems; in addition, PAF provides quick response assistance for senior Air Force officials on high priority, near term issues. Within these areas, PAF addresses difficult and complex, far-reaching and inter-related questions linked to future strategies, approaches and policies, in order to enhance Air Force senior leadership's deliberations and decisionmaking on major issues. The Air Force Steering Group, chaired by the Vice Chief of Staff, reviews, monitors, and approves PAF annual research efforts. Each project is initiated, processed, and approved in accordance with PAF Sponsoring Agreement which requires General Officer (or SES equivalent) sponsorship and involvement on a continuing basis.

PAF is organized in four primary research program areas: strategy and doctrine; force modernization employment; manpower, personnel and training; and resource management. Integrative research projects are also conducted at the division level with direct support provided through the most applicable program. Research programs address organizational crosscutting issues as defined by specific research themes approved by the Air Force Steering Group. These research themes encompass a wide spectrum of topics including external challenges to national security; terrorism and homeland defense; joint and coalition operations; integrated roadmap for ISR capabilities; enhancing, tailoring and reducing infrastructure to meet new force requirements; potential changes to the Active/Reserve/National Guard/Civilian/Contractor manpower mix; and improved weapon system costing.

The research program will continue to build upon research foundations, examining the evolving security environment, emerging threats, national and military strategy, transformation approaches including investment strategies to provide capabilities within changing Defense budgets, operational concepts to meet evolving and increasingly joint missions, exploiting advanced technologies, increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of combat support, and developing the total force (Active/Reserve/National Guard/Civilian/Contractor). These efforts will continue to inform and support the senior Air Force leadership regarding personnel management and training; improving logistical efficiencies and force sustainment; ongoing conflicts and joint operations; force structure capabilities, limitations, and operational concepts; and making force structure tradeoffs within resource constraints to meet future national security and Air Force needs.

Future research will build upon earlier work to continue to help the Air Force to rapidly and appropriately adapt to the changing world environment and emerging threats; continue to modernize and employ its force structure to provide capabilities within changing DoD budgets; assess lessons learned from recent and ongoing conflicts; develop and utilize its total force; and enhance the support of our aerospace forces, ranging from sustainment of the force structure to agile combat support.

PAF research spans functional and organizational boundaries and is managed in a manner to facilitate independence and freedom from organizational bias thereby providing perspectives and insights to senior Air Force leaders free from parochial influences not necessarily in the best interest of the Air Force at large. Benefits of

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independent non-Department of Defense analysis of complex present day and emerging issues are shared beyond the immediacy of the Air Force. PAF study results are given wide dissemination within the DOD on a routine basis and are deposited with the Defense Technical Information Center available to a broad range of qualified government and commercial-sector individuals and activities.

This program element may include necessary civilian pay expenses required to manage, execute, and deliver weapon system capability. The use of such programs funds would be in addition to the civilian pay expenses budgeted in program element 0605827F, 0605828F, 0605829F, 0605831F, 0605832F, 0605833F, 0605898F, 0606398F. In FY22 \$0M was expended for civilian pay expenses in this program element, and in FY23 \$0M is forecasted for civilian pay expenses in this program element.

This program is in Budget Activity 6, RDT&E Management Support because this budget activity includes research, development, test and evaluation efforts and funds to sustain and/or modernize the installations or operations required for general research, development, test and evaluation.

B. Program Change Summary (\$ in Millions)	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 Base	FY 2024 OCO	FY 2024 Total
Previous President's Budget	36.017	37.921	38.698	0.000	38.698
Current President's Budget	34.698	32.767	38.398	0.000	38.398
Total Adjustments	-1.319	-5.154	-0.300	0.000	-0.300
• Congressional General Reductions	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Directed Reductions	0.000	-5.154			
• Congressional Rescissions	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Adds	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Directed Transfers	0.000	0.000			
• Reprogrammings	0.000	0.000			
• SBIR/STTR Transfer	-1.319	0.000			
• Other Adjustments	0.000	0.000	-0.300	0.000	-0.300

Change Summary Explanation

FY2023 was reduced by \$5.154 million for FFRDC.

C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Title: Strategy & Doctrine	7.295	7.758	9.139
Description: Provides for continuing analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--strategy and doctrine.			
FY 2023 Plans:			

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C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)		FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Will conduct analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--integrative research/direct support FY 2024 Plans: Will conduct analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--integrative research/direct support FY 2023 to FY 2024 Increase/Decrease Statement: Increased for inflation				
Title: Force Development Description: Provides analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--force development employment. FY 2023 Plans: Conducting analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--force development employment. FY 2024 Plans: Will conduct analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--force development employment. FY 2023 to FY 2024 Increase/Decrease Statement: Increased for inflation		8.201	7.444	8.800
Title: Manpower, Personnel & Training Description: Provides analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--manpower, personnel and training. FY 2023 Plans: Conducting analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--manpower, personnel and training. FY 2024 Plans: Will conduct analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--manpower, personnel and training. FY 2023 to FY 2024 Increase/Decrease Statement: Increased for inflation		8.623	7.774	9.364
Title: Resource Management Description: Provides analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--resource management. FY 2023 Plans:		8.580	7.659	8.955

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C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Conducting analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--manpower, personnel and training. FY 2024 Plans: Will conduct analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--manpower, personnel and training. FY 2023 to FY 2024 Increase/Decrease Statement: Increased for inflation			
Title: Integrative Research/Direct Support Description: Provides for continuing analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--integrative research/direct support. FY 2023 Plans: Conducting analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--integrative research/direct support. FY 2024 Plans: Will conduct analytical research across a broad spectrum of aerospace issues and concerns--integrative research/direct support. FY 2023 to FY 2024 Increase/Decrease Statement: Increased for inflation	1.999	2.132	2.140
Accomplishments/Planned Programs Subtotals	34.698	32.767	38.398

D. Other Program Funding Summary (\$ in Millions)

N/A

Remarks

E. Acquisition Strategy

N/A