



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC 20330

JUN 15 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION C  
HQ AETC/CC

FROM: HQ USAF/CC  
1670 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330-1670

SUBJECT: Charter for the China Aerospace Studies Institute

The China Aerospace Studies Institute (CASI) is a key-enabler for the Department of the Air Force, improving our ability to be successful in strategic competition. The mission of CASI is to advance understanding of the strategy, doctrine, operating concepts, capabilities, personnel, training, organization, of China's aerospace forces and the civilian and commercial infrastructure that supports them. By studying "everything that flies" in China, we can better understand decision making, limitations, opportunities, and challenges in competition. CASI serves as the Department of Air Force's premiere center for the study of China and its aerospace capabilities.

CASI supports the U.S. Defense Department and the China research community by leveraging publicly available native-language resources and partnerships across the Department of Defense, interagency, academia, and defense-related think tanks to gain insights and to publish world-class research on Chinese activities in the context of great power competition.

CASI will perform the following tasks, in priority order. First, CASI will conduct primary source research and translation on all topics germane to Chinese aerospace, to include air, space, cyber, and missile related fields and civilian-sector work. This research will directly inform a variety of long and short form reports and briefings for a broader audience. Second, CASI will directly enable the warfighter by expanding their understanding of Chinese aerospace and strategic thinking. This will include such actions as working with Red Cells for wargaming or providing background information for large force exercise design. Third, CASI will work to educate the force about Chinese aerospace, to include lectures and direct instruction at multiple levels of Professional Military Education. Fourth, CASI will engage the community of interest outside of the DAF, to include joint and allied partners, think and academic constituents, and other government organizations, as well as the PLA and PRC as applicable.

The work and research CASI provides is, and will be, crucial to improving our understanding of China's Air, Space, and Missile Forces. CASI will provide an annual update to the CSAF and CSO covering your recent research, support to warfighters, and education across the Department. Ultimately, CASI's role is to sharpen our competitive mindset. What you do today will directly impact how we approach tomorrow's challenges.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Q. Brown, Jr.", is positioned above the typed name.

CHARLES Q. BROWN, JR.  
General, USAF  
Chief of Staff

cc:  
USSF/CSO