

Space Shot Supported By 11th Weather Det.

An AWS-manned T-33 doing weather recon over the Gulf of Mexico; a B-57 carrying a forecaster upstream from the launch pad; the GPS-9 manned continuously; hourly sectionals and a time distance cross section from Cape Canaveral to Alabama! These and all other available tools were used by Detachment 11, 4th Weather group in their all-out support to Lt. Col. John Glenn's orbital launch from pad 14 at the Cape on February 20.

The Forecast Was "Go"

Although the USWB supports the NASA launch team, Detachment 11 forecasts for these launches in support to the USAF, who control the Cape and the Atlantic Missile Range.

Since it is obviously undesirable for different forecasts to reach the two operating agencies, the AWS and WB forecasters pool their knowledge, data, and resources to produce the best available product.

At 8 a. m. on Monday, F-1 day, the AFMTC commander and his staff were briefed by Staff Meteorologist, Lt. Col. Peter E. Romo. The forecast was "Go," in space terminology, and was a welcome change for the unfavorable conditions which had delayed the launch for almost two weeks.

Outlook Favorable

Later in the day, Capt. William Martin and SSgt William Tugles, both members of Det. 11, flew a T-33 on a weather recon flight over the Gulf of Mexico. Their mission was to observe the weather accompanying a cold front moving toward the Cape from the northwest. Data of their observations was relayed to Maj. Hal Montague, Det. 11's operations officer who coordinated with the US Weather Bureau on a still-favorable outlook for the launch.

Cold Front Moves In

During the night, the cold front moved in and at dawn the Cape was overcast at 1200 feet. Another weather scrub? Here the B-57 proved the value of airborne reconnaissance. Carrying Maj. James Dunn upstream where he verified the extent of the frontal cloud. He notified the controllers that the weather would break before they reached T-0, and the count was continued.

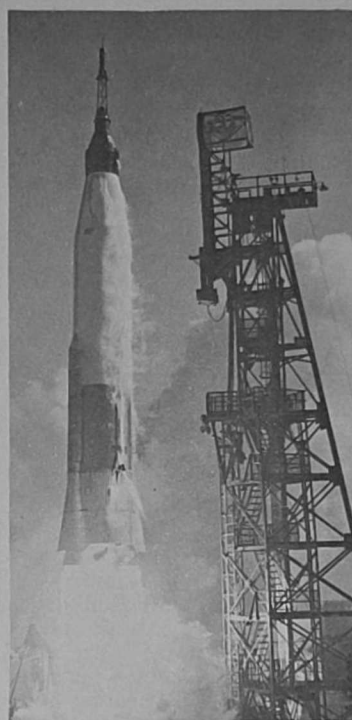
Into Orbit

At T-60 the overcast began to break, at T-30 the sky was clear, and at T-0, Friendship 7 soared into a beautiful cloudless sky. Col. Glenn was on his way into orbit.

A tired but happy, group of forecasters returned to the base at Patrick AFB, Fla., to prepare for the exodus of military and civilian VIP's and to make preparations for support to President Kennedy's visit to the Cape.

Red Letter Week

It's quite likely that many astronauts will follow Col. Glenn into space, but it is doubtful that any subsequent launch will impress Detachment 11 as this one did. And it must be certain that only infrequently will one of the AWS detachments support an 86,000-mile flight; a flight carrying the President of the United States; and another flight carrying the Vice-President, all in one week!



FRIENDSHIP 7 roars upward from its launch pad at Cape Canaveral, Fla., carrying Lt. Col. John Glenn into orbit, marking the first American manned space flight.

136 AWS Officers Promoted in March

Eleven lieutenant colonels have been advanced to the temporary rank of Colonel and 125 majors to temporary Lieutenant Colonel effective March 15.

Thirty-nine additional majors have been named for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel at later dates to be announced by Hq. USAF.

To Colonel

Robert C. Bundgaard, 4th Wea. wg., Harold D. Cooper, 4th Wea. wg., Thomas C. McGuire, Hq. AWS, Carl H. Morales, Hq. AWS, Clifford A. Spohn, 3d Wea. wg., Lowell A. Stiles, 1st Wea. wg., Robert A. Taylor, Hq. AWS, Carl E. Wagner, 8th Wea. gp., Eugene D. Wallace, 9th Wea. Recon. gp., George A. Williamson, 2d Wea. gp., and Stephen W. Fournaras, (now at Hq. USAF).

To Lt. Colonel

Hq. AWS: Louis A. Appleton, Laurel E. Boline, Joseph H. Carpenter, Robert B. Doeker, G. W. Fleischman jr., Richard H. Foote, David E. Gould, Lucian A. Gray jr., Robert A. Jacobs, James B. Jones, Walter A. Keils, Richard A. Lambie, William L. Nesley, Wendell Phillips, Clarence C. Stidson and Eugene C. Wernette, 1210th Weather Sq.

Robert P. Cook and Kenny D. Obryen.

1st Weather Wing

James M. Burkhart, Thomas P. Cody, Marion L. Farmer, William S. Harris, James W. Kenney, William N. Quinn, and Charles

4th Weather Launches Space Probe Rockets

The US Air Force successfully completed 3 space probe launches within two hours at the Air Proving Ground Center on March 1.

Two Arcas-Robin rocketsonde high-altitude weather research vehicles were launched—one at 11:08 a.m. central standard and the other at 1:10 p.m. central standard time. These launches were made primarily to measure atmospheric density between 100,000 and 225,000 feet.

A Nike-Cajun was launched from APC launch facility at 12:07 p.m. to measure atmospheric density by the falling-sphere technique from 400,000 to 100,000 feet over Eglin test range.

The Arcas-Robins were launched by Detachment 10 of the 4th Weather group, Eglin AFB. These were the first to be launched by Det. 10 in support of APGC Aerospace research and development projects.

Lt. Col. Robert Suaraz, detachment commander, has been instrumental in developing this support facility for APGC R&D programs since the Arcas-Robin became operational. Future launches by Det. 10 will supplement the current 3d and 4th phase Arcas-Robin R&D launches.

A seven inch sphere, containing telemetry instruments and a time-flight accelerometer, was ejected from the Nike-Cajun when it reached 200,000 feet. The sphere continued upward through 600,000 feet or 100 miles. As it descended, its relative deceleration caused by atmospheric drag was measured and telemetered to Eglin Gulf Test Range tracking stations, beginning at 400,000 feet.

The office of Aerospace Research, Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories in Mass., is developing the falling-sphere technique as an operational device to extend atmospheric density research by US weather scientists up to 400,000 feet.

At present, meteorological technicians can obtain this data up to 225,000 feet using rawinsonde (ground to 100,000 feet) with the Arcas-Robin rocketsonde (100,000 to 225,000 feet).

The falling-sphere technique was originally developed by the University of Michigan under contract to AFCL. The U of M has conducted 17 launches and AFCL 5 launches in this program. Development in the falling-sphere technique will be important in calculating the re-entry track of aerospace vehicles being developed by USAF.

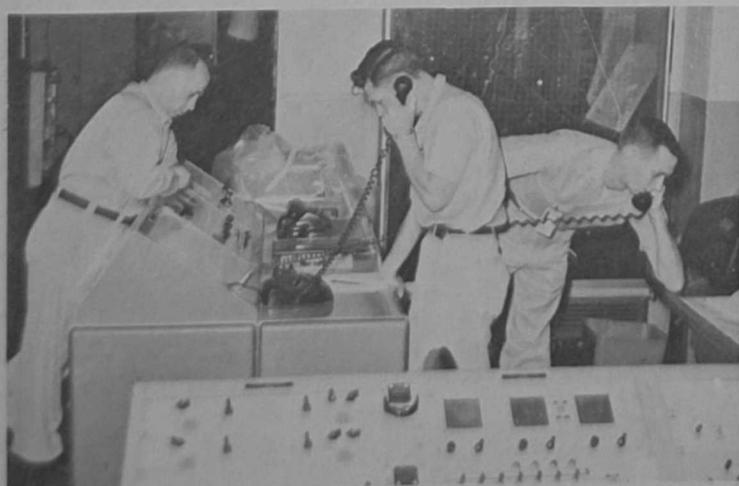
Project officer for the Arcas-Robin launches was Capt. William O. Banks. SSgt Sherman Littel was crew chief, and launch crew members were: MSgt George Woodward, 1st Lt. Donald R. Puddy, and 1st Lt. Martin Patton.

Project officer for the Nike-Cajun launch was Dr. Christos G. Sturgis, chief of AFCL photochemistry laboratory. 1st Lt. Donald R. Puddy served as APGC project officer and Andy C. Farre, AFCL field director.

Launch officer was Capt. Forest C. Snell, with SSgt Charles L. Herron as crew chief and SSgt Robert L. Blasius as launch crew member.

Correction Noted

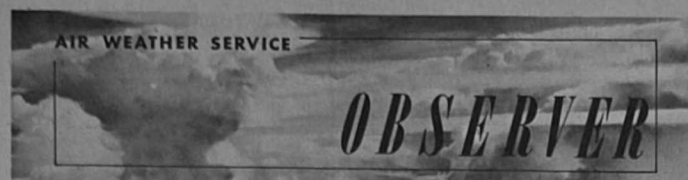
Last month the Observer published a percentage table of AMS memberships under the heading, "AWS-AMS Members Now Over A Hundred." This has been found to be incorrect, due to a typographical error. In Col. 2 (Offs), Line 2 the figure 40% should be corrected to read 69%.



WEATHER SUPPORT for Lt. Col. Glenn's Mercury-Atlas flight MA-6, Friendship Seven was provided by Detachment 11, 4th Wea. gp. At the console (l to r) are: Maj. Hal R. Montague, Lt. Col. Peter E. Romo, and 2d Lt. Browning H. Gorrell.



MOBILE WEATHER STATION is improvised by Detachment 11, 4th Wea. gp., to support arrival and departure flights of President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, during his visit to Cape Canaveral after the Glenn space shot. Presidential plane is shown in background.



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Commander, Air Weather Service

MR. JOHN D. RUGG, Director of Information

SSGT WOODROW W. FITZGERALD, Editor

A3c DeLACY M. WYMAN, Staff Writer

US Air Force — Aerospace Power for Peace

Well Done

FROM: DOD Representative, Project Mercury, Patrick AFB, Fla.

It is with extreme pleasure that I pass along the following message from the Secretary of Defense; Please accept my heartiest congratulations on the excellent support that your command provided for Project Mercury. I would be grateful if you would pass my personal appreciation to all military and civilian personnel as well as contractors and their employees for their splendid achievements, without which the epical flight today would not have been possible.

FROM: AFMTC, Patrick AFB, Fla.

Weather reconnaissance in primary and contingency recovery areas played a major role in the successful completion of our first manned orbital flight, MA-6. Aircraft and crews of your 53 WRS flew 15 missions from Kindley and Lajes during the period 25 January through 19 February and spent many hours on alert for additional missions. The fine work of this unit greatly aided the Atlantic missile range in accomplishment of this mission. Congratulations for a job well done.

FROM: Lt. Gen. Joe W. Kelly, MATS commander.

In its multiple support of NASA's Mercury-Atlas flight MA-6 of Friendship Seven, the Military Air Transport Service has moved into a new dimension with the rest of our aerospace forces. My congratulations to every element of MATS that helped to make America's first manned orbital flight such a remarkable success. Please extend my personal appreciation to all members of your command who participated in this historic achievement.

Commendation Awards

US Air Force Commendation medals for the period of time listed have either been recently awarded or approved for presentation to the following persons:

Maj. Douglas M. Sheehan, 4th Wea. sq., Hamilton AFB, Calif.,

Maj. Reuben R. Belongia, Detachment 5, 29th Weather squadron, Minot AFB, N. D., Oct. 8, 1959 to July 14, 1961.

Maj. Robert A. Jacobs, Detachment 15, 1st Weather wing, Osan AB, Korea, Dec. 4, 1960 to Dec. 12, 1961.

Maj. Albert V. Duffield, Detachment 9, 8th Weather squadron, Westover AFB, Mass., March 5, 1958 to Nov. 30, 1961.

Maj. Paul M. Curtis, Detachment 7, 9th Weather Reconnaissance group, Kindley AFB, Bermuda, Oct. 15, 1958 to Oct. 1, 1961.

Maj. Graham M. St. John,

AWS Hq., Scott AFB, Ill., June 10, 1958 to Nov. 3, 1961.

Capt. John A. Cooper, AWS Hq., Scott AFB, Ill., Feb. 3, 1956 to Rec. 31, 1961.

CMSgt Lucius F. Edenfield, Hq., 4th Weather wing, Ent AFB, Colo., March 24, 1958 to Feb. 1, 1961.

CMSgt Arthur S. Thomas, 56th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, Yokota AB, Japan, Nov. 10, 1958 to June 22, 1961.

Safety Award

The 56th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, Yokota AB, Japan, has been selected for the MATS Ground Safety Award for Calendar Year 1961.

Presentation of the Ground Safety Plaque and a \$300 monetary grant will be presented at a later date.

FRONT & CENTER

Front and Center, a new feature appearing in the Observer, is designed to give recognition to the men behind the scene in major operations throughout AWS. This month we salute the Surface Observers.

Through fair or foul weather, 24 hours a day, more than 4000 surface observers face many problems in giving us the latest weather.

Each surface observer has been given the herculean task of taking, recording, and disseminating an accurate and complete picture of the meteorological situation as it occurs at his station.

Life and property, as well as accurate and complete forecasts, frequently depend on the quality and timeliness of his observations. "Hey Bob! You'd better add a 'RBCNO' to column 13 since you're carrying a measured ceiling with the RBC inoperative."

"Does our revised SOP state that 1200 or 1300 feet is the new criteria for taking a 'Special'?"

This recently-heard conversation indicates that an observer must constantly be alert and keep on his toes.

Our observers must be thoroughly capable of operating such fixed meteorological facilities as the AN/CPS-9, weather radar; AN/GMQ-11 wind set; AN/TMQ-11 temperature - humidity set; AN/GMQ-13 rotating beam ceilometer and AN/GMQ-10 transmissometer. Further, he must quickly and accurately cut tapes for teletype transmission and disseminate information locally via Electrowriter or Tel Autograph.

To insure that an observer has an unobstructed view of the runway and approach zone complex, many military installations have constructed a separate Weather Observation Station Building (WOSB) at a cost of approximately \$20,000 per building.

Becoming familiar with and keeping up with the frequent changes to Circular N, the observer's bible, in itself, takes some doing. For example, there are some 35 separate criteria for taking special observations.

It is for your dedicated and unceasing task of keeping us well informed on weather that the AWS Observer salutes you, the Surface Observers, for a job well done.



SURFACE OBSERVER A2c Robert G. Borchert, Detachment 11, 8th Weather squadron, Hunter AFB, Ga., takes the "Front and Center" spotlight as he mans the Hunter WOSB console, taking a reading from an AM/TMQ-11 temperature-humidity set.



COMMENDATION CERTIFICATE is presented to Maj. Douglas M. Sheehan, 4th Weather squadron, Hamilton AFB, Calif., by Maj. Gen. C. F. Necrason, commander, 28th Air Division (left) as Mrs. Sheehan looks on.

ON THE

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AWS Global Report

From around the world and across the nation come more highlights of AWS personnel at work and at play.

Capt. Don S. Packnett, a radar meteorologist in Scientific Services section 4th Weather wing, Ent AFB, Colo., for the past three years, departed on December 28 for the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

He will enter on a two-year course of study in Graduate Meteorology under the AFIT program leading to a doctorate in Meteorology.

He was assigned to the 4th upon completion of graduate studies at Texas A&M college in January 1959, where he was awarded a master's degree.

He specialized in radar meteorology and influence of weather phenomena on radar propagation and returns.

Packnett is a native of Phoenix, Ariz., and a graduate of Arizona State University.

He took basic meteorology training at the University of Calif., at Los Angeles, completing the study in 1954.

Following this, he served a three year tour at Tachikawa AB, Japan, as a weather officer.

Detachment 24, 26th Weather Squadron, at Bergstown AFB, Texas, claims an unusual distinction. All six of its officers were notified of promotion within one year.

Recent orders making Ronald F. Wachtmann a first lieutenant established the record.

Richard L. Tatum was promoted to lieutenant colonel in March; Edward R. Wacholz was notified in December that he would receive his majority in 1962 and Francis G. Hidalgo pinned on captain's tracks in October.

Sidney O. Barnard's orders arrived in January 1961, notifying him he had been promoted to first lieutenant effective in December 1960 and Ronald D. LaFerriere was advanced to the same rank in February 1961.

Nine AWS NCOs were recently graduated from class 62-5, MATS NCO Academy at Orlando AFB, Fla.

Finishing among the top ten percent of the graduating class were MSgt Carlton T. Souther, Detachment 37, 8th Weather group, McGuire AFB, N. J., MSgt William G. Montgomery, Hq. 4th Weather group, Andrews AFB, Washington, D. C., and TSgt Donald J. Robarge, 33d Weather squadron, Truxa Field, Wis.

Other AWS graduates were CMSgt Harold L. Dean, Detachment 39, 8th Weather group, Tinker AFB, Okla., MSgt John H. Darby jr., Detachment 5, 4th Weather squadron, Hamilton AFB, Calif., MSgt Rupert C. Jones, Detachment 9, 9th Weather squadron, Schilling AFB, Kansas, MSgt Thomas W. Luker, Detachment 9, 9th Weather squadron, Westover AFB, Mass., MSgt John J. Pappas, 2d Weather group, Langley AFB, Va., and MSgt John W. Thacker, Detachment 22, 26th Weather squadron, Carswell AFB, Texas.

MSgt Zane E. Smith jr., chief observer, Detachment 15, 26th Weather squadron, Laughlin AFB, Tex., was presented the 25-year service pin and commissioner's key for service with the Boy Scouts of America.

Presentation was made by Smith Milton Wyatt, scout executive of the Concho Valley BSA, during the annual Rio Grande district banquet held in the Laughlin officer's club.

Smith earned his awards by work with the district commissioner's stall of the BSA.

Capt. John R. Sheley, 15th Weather squadron, Charleston AFB, S.C., completed the Squadron Officers extension course of the ECI and received his diploma in November.

Sheley, the unit's materiel officer, entered the AF in 1942. His home town is Maywood, Ill.

(Continued on page 8)

The Observer regretfully reports the death of MSgt James E. Tiller, 55th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif., on Feb. 23, at McClellan AFB.

Kindley Unit Supports Operation Long Thrust

A mobility force of one WB-50 aircraft, ten crew members and fifteen maintenance personnel from the 53d Weather Reconnaissance squadron, Kindley AFB, Bermuda, recently provided weather reconnaissance support to Operation Long Thrust Roman II, at Goose AB, Labrador.

Upon leaving Bermuda's sunny 69 degree weather, the crew and maintenance personnel were clad in short sleeves but, a few hours and several hundred miles later they landed at Goose Air Base and were greeted by minus 20 degree weather and snow.

The squadron force, commanded by Maj. James G. Williams, completed four 12-hour reconnaissance missions in support of the project. Each mission was flown from Goose and return, at 18,000 to 30,000 feet altitudes including flights over the Great Greenland Ice Cap.

One problem that hindered maintenance personnel was locating static ground anchors that became covered with snow upon moving the aircraft or when the craft was returning from a mission. They were also hampered by heavy parkas and arctic gear while working on aircraft positioned outside the hangar.

The transplanted hurricane hunters were particularly impressed with the Goose AB snow removal techniques and equipment which employed ten to 15 snow plows simultaneously in a one-sweep operation on the runways.

Weather at Goose remained consistently below zero with a maximum minus 32 degrees during the exercise.

The crew for exercise Long Thrust Roman II, were: Capt. John W. Meek, aircraft commander; Maj. James G. Williams, aircraft commander and instructor pilot; Capt. Stuart T. Murphy, pilot; Capt. Thomas C. Barowski, navigator; CWO Joseph Landa Jr., weather forecaster; SSgt Billy R. Bloomer, flight engineer; MSgt Wilbur E. Decker, flight engineer; SSgt Claude R. Harper, radio operator; and SSgt

William A. Hueller, dropsonde operator.

Maintenance personnel accompanying the mission were under the supervision of MSgt Lawrence E. Pilato, who acted as line chief. They were: SSgt Kenneth D. Brooks, instrument technician; SSgts Jack A. Harrison, Donald W. Stewart and Alc Leslie V. Harrel, engine technicians; Alc Richard M. Holland, propeller repairman; A2c Charles A. Baloga and Trevor J. Worgan, aircraft mechanics; Alc Willie E. Wilkins, accessory repairman; SSgt Clyde M. Ford and Alc Arthur L. Ward, radio-radar technicians; Alc Lewis W. Peer, electrician and SSgt Hunley R. Elmore, crew chief.

Alc William Kitchens, base photographer accompanied the mission for photographic coverage. 55th Weather squadron at McClellan AFB, Calif., also sent an aircraft crew and maintenance personnel to Goose for Long Thrust Roman II.

Two More Don Super Stripes

In the February edition of the *Observer*, the 1961 promotion list to Chief and Senior MSgt was published.

Since that time two other senior graders have been announced. Both are newcomers to AWS and were recommended for advancement by their former organization.

Promoted to Chief Master Sergeant is Douglas A. Kilgore and to Senior Master Sergeant, Alvie E. Myers, both of 9th Weather Reconnaissance group.



SNOW TRACTOR?—No, just a vehicle used to tow a power unit. MSgt Lawrence E. Pilato, NCOIC and SSgt Huntley R. Elmore (behind the power unit), of the Bermuda based 53d Weather Reconnaissance squadron prepare to hook up at Goose AB, Labrador. The sergeants are part of a team which supported Exercise Long Thrust Roman II from that Northern base.

—(USAF) Photo by Alc William Kitchens

Promotions • • • (Continued from Page 1)

seph R. Barron, Richard O. Bomhard, Fra W. Breitling Jr., Robert J. Calvesbert, Alfred J. Capelletti, Albert V. Duffield, Richard P. George, Joseph L. Gulinson, Harold G. Hovey, Grady N. Jones, Marvin E. Key Jr., Robert L. Maynard, Ira C. McKee, James B. Flanck, Everett W. Powell, Douglas D. Shaffner, Clarence P. Talbot and Arthur L. Warren Jr.

3d Weather Wing

Albert Aksomitas, Robert N. Alter, Claude L. Ball, Harold Banks, Edward S. Barrett, Alfonso E. Butera, Allen R. Davis, Ray O. Delahoussaye, Edward R. Dvorak, Russell L. Esposito, Samuel F. Freeland, Newton R. Galligar, James W. Green, Franklin P. Hall Jr., and John J. Harrell.

Dennis E. Hulse sr., Clayton E. Jensen, Eugene J. Justen, Robert L. Kane, Horace M. King, Will J. Landsperger, William Lewis, Russell G. McGrew, Emory A. Mikell, Carl D. Mitchell, Harold A. Oien, Harry P. Pederson, Dan T. Rogers, Marion Towns, Clyde A. Wilson, Merle E. Wilson, and Ralph W. Wilson.

4th Weather Wing

Clarence E. Everson, Lloyd C. Hughes, Harold A. Jacobs, Wayne Leach, George J. Newgarden III, Walter L. Records, Douglas M. Sheehan, Burton A. Stokes, Roger C. Thompson, and Donald J. Wolfe.

2d Weather Group

Cleveland E. Autry, Lloyd T. Belanger, Frank W. Bennett, Evan J. Deemer, Wilfred B. Jones, Joseph F. Lebzcz, Leonard D. McChesney, and Harold E. Robertson Jr.

4th Weather Group

Albert Erlich, Robert L. Miller, Hal R. Montague, William P. Moore, Eugene C. St. Clair, and Brent F. Walker.

8th Weather Group

John E. Baczuk, Willard T. Brannon, Walter D. Castle, Lewis N. Chittock, Edward J. Dowling, Charles R. Hoyle Jr., Henry B. McDaniel Jr., Carl C. Rabe, Harold B. Terhune, James G. Teames Jr., and Howard D. Turner.

9th Weather Recon Group

William R. Elliott, Marino E. Lazzari, Sidney C. Marshall, Fred

V. Masterson, George B. Myers and Robert L. Taylor.

Out of Weather

Harry Learned (USAF), Richard V. Collins (ROTC), William L. Dodge (ROTC), James P. Norwood (JACE), Charles D. Orrison (ESTAF), Thomas R. Owens (ROTC), and William R. White (JACE).

Officers selected for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel to be announced at a later date by USAF Hq., are: Ralph L. Elemendorf, AWS Hq., Roger H. Olson, AWS Hq., James R. Smith, AWS Hq., Vernon C. Greene, 1st Wea wg., Clarence C. Hardin, 1st Wea wg., Robert I. Hodson, 1st Wea wg., Stanley J. Kimball, 1st Wea wg., John W. Simms, 1st Wea wg., and Albert R. Vincent, 1st Wea wg.

John C. Fischer, 2d Wea wg., E. W. Holtzscheiter, 2d Wea wg., William R. Menzie, 2d Wea wg., Felix Rodgers, 2d Wea wg., David W. Saxton, 2d Wea wg., Clarence G. Summerline, 2d Wea wg., Marcellus W. Burton, 3d Wea wg., Peter D. Dustman, 3d Wea wg., Frederick S. Eckmann, 3d Wea wg., Woolsey M. Kane, 3d Wea wg., and William R. Maugans, 3d Wea wg.

Joseph W. Stephan, 3d Wea wg., Paul D. Thompson, 9d Wea wg., Walter E. Warner, 3d Wea wg., Sebastian Zappulla, 3d Wea wg., Parnag G. Adamian, 4th Wea wg., Thomas Beauchamp, 4th Wea wg., Lewis R. Hart Jr., 4th Wea wg., Austin E. Pritchard, 4th Wea wg., Leo V. Sayre, 4th Wea wg., Ralph R. Woodiwiss, 4th Wea wg., James W. CcCrary III, 2d Wea gp., and Clarence A. Carpenter, 4th Wea gp.

David J. Eddleman, 4th Wea gp., Robert G. Waechter, 4th Wea gp., Clarence G. Daleke, 8th Wea gp., John A. Eakin, 8th Wea gp., Robert E. Hairston, 8th Wea gp., William B. Thorpe, 8th Wea gp., and Clifford W. Donaho, (out of Weather to ATC).

World's highest surface wind speed was 231 mph, April 12, 1934 at Mt. Washington, New Hampshire.

Greatest US average annual precipitation (excluding Hawaii) is 156 inches at Wynoochee, Washington.

Weathermen Head 1962 Science Fair

Members of the 11th Weather squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, are cooperating with the Anchorage Independent School District in making the 1962 Greater Anchorage Science Fair a success.

Sponsored by the Air Force Association and the Cook Inlet branch of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the fair is being supported by all technical and scientific organizations in the Anchorage area, including the Anchorage branch of the American Meteorological Society.

This year, for the first time in Anchorage, science fair planners have organized a central committee to handle student requests for technical assistance and requests from teachers for speakers on scientific subjects.

Heading this technical assistance committee is CWO John F. Gaillard, of the 11th Weather squadron, and president of the Anchorage branch, AMS.

Four members of the 11th have presented talks on weather to junior high school science classes. Capt. William C. Montgomery of Detachment 13, spoke to a 9th grade class at Central Jr. High School. Capt. Robert F. Woodnall also of Det. 13, Capt. Vernon M. Robbins and CWO John F. Gaillard of 11th WS operations section spoke to 7th and 8th grade classes at Wendler Junior High School. Capt. Oliver E. Schmoker, Det. 13, spoke to a senior class at East Anchorage High School.

Capt. Delmar E. Palmer, ground electronics officer, weather equipment section and SSgt Asa F. Baldwin, observing branch, who is also an amateur radio operator, are serving as advisors to electronic students.

Lt. Col. Eugene A. Carter, 11th WS commander, and Maj. Russell E. Wright of the operations section, will serve as judges of the senior division physical science projects.

Individual school affairs are being held at the eight participating junior and senior high schools early in March while the Greater Anchorage Science Fair will be conducted March 23-25 at Alaska Methodist University in Anchorage.

Joint Conference

Headquarters AFCS recently conducted a Weather-Communications conference at Continental Systems Region, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma.

The 5-day conference was held in order to develop a firm plan for implementation of the new Tinker weather relay facility which is being located there.

Scheduled operational date of the new center is set for June 1. It will introduce new concepts in collection and dissemination of weather traffic in support of AWS and USAF aerospace operations.

As the prime feature of the new center, the 1984th Comm. squadron there will operate an AT&T programmer to provide automatic circuit switching in the primary ZI weather net and automatic collection of weather information from the primary and secondary weather nets.



SNOW SWEEPER A2c Trevor J. Worgan, 53d Weather Recon squadron aircraft mechanic, sweeps snow from the wing of a 53d WB-50 at Goose AB, Labrador. The Bermuda based airman switched from Bermuda shorts to Arctic mukluks to support Exercise Long Thrust Roman II.

—(USAF) Photo by Alc William Kitchens

The OBSERVER Spotlights



Detachment 3 33d Weather Squadron

"Snow Flakes" rather than "Corn Flakes" command the attention of weather and operations people at this SAGE location in the cereal city of Battle Creek, Michigan.

Here in the heart of the Great Lakes region, enclosed in a four-story block-house on Custer Air Force Station, Detachment 3, 33d Weather squadron, provides support to the Detroit NORAD Sector, part of the North American Air Defense Command.

Detroit NORAD Sector controls operational activities of three fighter interceptor squadrons with supersonic F-106 aircraft at Selfridge AFB, Mich., and F-101 aircraft at Lockbourne AFB, Ohio.

Also under sector control are the radar and aircraft control and warning squadrons necessary for detection of hostile aircraft and the NIKE batteries with their deadly missile complex covering the major cities within the sector.

Highly Specialized

Weather support is closely geared to the requirements of the SAGE direction center. This center, with its weapons room—located in a room adjoining the weather station, is responsible for controlling the interceptor aircraft throughout the intercept mission.

Information from radar equipment giving coverage through most of Ohio and Michigan is fed into a giant computer where it is processed for use by direction center personnel.

Winds aloft forecasts and observations with short range terminal forecasts are furnished the computer by weather personnel.

Met Watch Important

The highest priority is given to the continuous met watch functions performed by duty forecasters.

There is very close coordination with officers in the direction center who control the interceptors—in fact, the duty forecaster is considered an active member of the air defense team.

He is kept advised of the air situation at all times and thus is able to anticipate problems and voluntarily provide weather support essential to successful recovery

eries during adverse weather. In addition, he keeps detailed terminal and area met watch of the sector and those bases where routine and emergency recoveries are possible.

Battle Staff Responsibilities

During frequent air defense exercises, the detachment commander serves as weather member to the sector commander's battle staff. He keeps the commander, his director of operations, and the fighter officer continually advised of weather conditions that may affect operations.

To help the weather officer on the battle staff, a teletype drop on the tactical weather circuit is installed at his position. From this circuit he receives almost instantaneous changes in weather conditions at all of the recovery bases normally of interest to the operation. In addition he has a console that displays the air situation and enables him to keep track of the air battle and anticipate problem areas.

When weather conditions are marginal during air defense exercises, a third forecaster works with the recovery directors in the weapons room and feeds them the latest weather reports and forecasts for relay to the fighter pilots.

Observers Role

While the observers do not take observations, they manage to keep busy. The observing section, headed by A1c John Lawler, includes A2c David Slater, Ronald White-myer, Edward Thuning, and A3c Robert Zielepuz.

Top priority is given to their job of converting the airways weather reports received over the tactical weather circuit into a code form suitable for acceptance by the computer. Two one-hour forecasts and runway conditions—also received over the tactical circuit—are included in these reports.

When weather conditions are poor within the area and "specials" roll in every few minutes



SPECIAL OBSERVATION is typed by A2c Edward G. Thuning from an hour trend forecast provided by TSgt John R. Gran.

the observer has his hands full since he must also assist the forecaster by plotting maps, posting facsimile charts and other numerous jobs of an in-station observer.

Other Services

Weather information for military aircrews operating out of nearby Kellogg Field, is also furnished by Detachment 3. This workload is light since only base support aircraft, a National Guard squadron and a few transient aircraft operate from this terminal. However, the B-57 National Guard aircraft with their long-range capability, require forecasts for almost all of the US.

Sector severe weather warning service is critical and is provided to units located all the way from West Virginia and Kentucky to northern lower Michigan. A total of 12 installations in the sector are supported by the detachment.

Recreational Facilities

Detachment 3 personnel have a wide variety of facilities available to them for off-duty relaxation.

Custer AFS, located on Fort Custer, is a standby Army reservation of over 10,000 acres. Normal base facilities such as library, hobby shops, theater, and bowling alleys are available. In addition, the Fort offers a nine-hole golf course, a lake with boating and swimming, picnic facilities, and several other lakes with good fishing. Other popular spots are a large field house and an excellent indoor swimming pool.

For the hunter, one of the finest herds of deer in the State roam the wooded hills of the Fort.

For those who enjoy the spectator sports, major league baseball is nearby in Detroit and Chicago, with collegiate football at nearby Michigan State University, University of Michigan and Notre Dame University.

Detachment Cited

Detachment 3 was recently awarded the annual 4th Weather wing Award as the outstanding detachment in the 33d weather squadron.

Major Gordon Schmal, detachment commander, is being transferred to Hq. 4th Weather wing this month after more than three years with Det. 3.

An AFPS news release of Dec. 15 pointed out that cancer among AF active duty personnel appeared in one out of 1,179 during 1960, or 85 per 100,000.

Same item stated 279 new cancer cases are expected for 100,000 civilians.

Seagoing Repairmen Serve Texas Towers

Personnel from Detachment 37, 8th Weather group field maintenance shop, McGuire AFB, N. J., were recently called upon to perform maintenance on weather equipment under unique and adverse conditions.

It is more or less common knowledge that the shop renders support to 33 weather activities throughout Northeastern US, and 11 in the North Atlantic area, the Azores and Bermuda, but not so generally known is the fact that they must also provide service and support to Texas Towers number 2-3, and the Dye sites.

Normally, MATS scheduled aircraft are more than adequate to cover the transportation needs of the traveling technicians, however, on occasions they are called upon to provide support to areas far off the beaten path. When this occurs, other means of transportation must be used.

MSgt Vincent G. Condello and A2c Bruce E. Lawrence, provide a perfect example of the lengths to which maintenance teams often go to render service.

This team was dispatched to perform scheduled maintenance at Otis AFB, Mass., and Texas Towers No. 2 and 3. Arriving at Otis by truck they found only two methods of transportation available to the Towers, helicopter and motor launch. Closed skies and high winds left them but one choice—an AKL-type ship.

This vessel, measuring 175 feet from stem to stern and about half as wide across the beam is virtually a floating bath tub.

The trip to Tower No. 2, situated 110 miles off the Cape Cod coast, consumed 15 hours due to heavy seas.

Arriving at the tower, the team was transferred 80 feet to the tower deck by crane hoist (a 4-man basket on a cable).

With only three hours to complete their mission, Condello and Lawrence took off in search of the wind equipment. The wind transmitter was situated on a 75 foot



MSgt Vincent G. Condello

tower perched on the edge of the deck approximately 155 feet above the swelling ocean.

Suspended by safety belts, their position was precarious even in calm weather.

Salt spray had caused considerable damage to the transmitter which had to be replaced with an accurately calibrated unit. The job was completed on schedule and they departed for Tower No. 3.

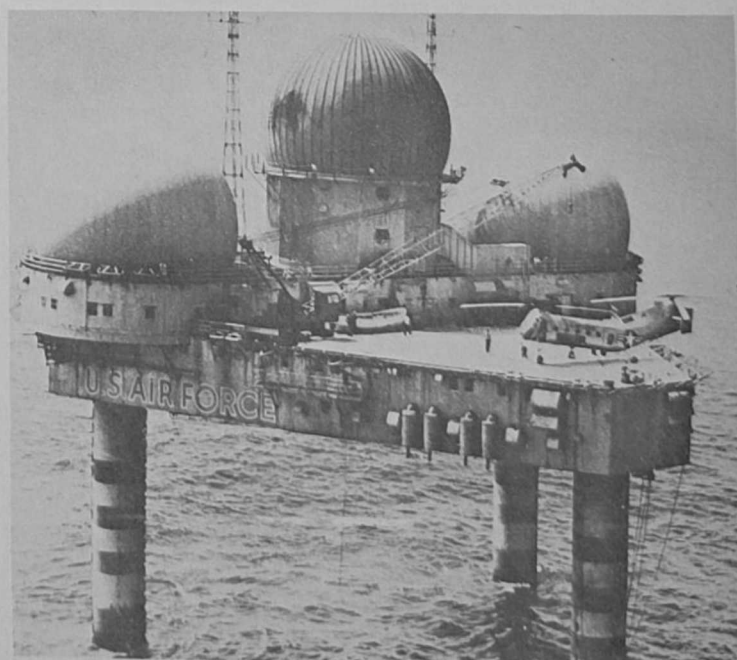
At Tower Three, high seas prevented the ship from making its normal layover which meant that the repairmen would have to remain on the tower a week until the next scheduled trip.

Sgt Condello decided to return to Otis and left airman Lawrence at the tower to complete the assignment. During his stay, Lawrence installed a new wind recorder and checked-out the complete wind equipment system.

After eight days at this lonely outpost, he was finally returned to Otis by helicopter.



CONTINUOUS ANALYSIS hourly weather checks is performed by Capt. Merle D. Miller and A1c John S. Lawler of Detachment 3, 33d Weather squadron.



TEXAS TOWER No. 3, situated 110 miles off the coast of Cape Cod, Mass., is one of the sites serviced by personnel of Detachment 37, 8th Weather group field maintenance shop at McGuire AFB, N. J. Recently two airmen from the shop visited tower three by boat during foul weather and high seas to perform maintenance on the tower's weather equipment.

Nancy Kay Doll Weds Lieutenant Pianalto



MISS Nancy Kay Doll, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin N. Doll, became the bride of 1st Lt. Bernard D. Pianalto, USAF, on January 6. Miss Doll was given in marriage by her father during ceremonies at the St. Francis Cabrini church in Lakewood, Wash. The Reverend Andrew J. Squier, performed the marriage ceremony. A reception was held at the McChord AFB, Officers club and following this the bride and groom left on a honeymoon trip to Canada. Lt. and Mrs. Pianalto will reside at Kingsley AFB, Klamath Falls, Ore., until April when they will depart for assignment in Japan.

Wea. Unit Wins Red Cross Trophy

For the third consecutive time Detachment 4, 35th Weather Squadron, McChord AFB, Wash., has won the McChord Bloodmobile trophy.

The award is presented semi-annually to the base unit which attains the highest percentage of blood donations to the Red Cross.

Detachment 4 has not been topped in the past year and a half and responded with a resounding 667 percent of the base quota for the latter half of 1961, and a total of 40 pints of blood during this period.

Six pints contributed during one month were set aside for newly-born Kent Smith whose life was spared by a complete replacement of blood necessary because of an RH factor.

The Red Cross will accept a maximum of three pints of blood from an individual during any six-month period. For the latter half of 1961, three detachment members donated three pints each. They were TSgt John C. Samples, A2c Franklin D. Moses, and A2c Jovian B. McKinley. Capt. Roddee E. Lord donated the first gallon within the detachment.



Under a new "sponsor" program at the USAF Academy, Maj. Rex K. Monhead, former AWS officer, now an associate professor of mathematics at the Colorado Springs, Colo., school, is working closely with three sons of present or former AWS officers.

Shown at a recent "dining out" are (1 to r) Maj. Monhead, Charles Wood Jr., son of Lt. Col. Charles Wood (Ret) formerly with the Climatic Center; Howell Schuknecht, son of Lt. Col. L. Schuknecht, 2d Weather group scientific services officer and Victor Genez, son of Lt. Col. V. Genez, former AWS officer now with the AF Space Systems Division. All three cadets are fourth classmen in the cadet wing.

Civic Minded Sgt. Is Fire Marshal

Air Force personnel play many roles in the life of the civilian community and no exception is A1c Clyde R. Flatt Jr., an operations clerk with the 25th Weather Squadron, Waco, Tex.

Returning from an overseas tour last year, this civic minded airman volunteered his services to the Elm Mott, Tex., fire department, a unit of the McLennan County, Tex., rural fire protection association.

With no previous experience, Flatt started from scratch and after extensive training in all aspects of equipment and fire fighting techniques emerged a full-fledged fireman.

He presently holds the rank of Captain and Fire Marshal with the Elm Mott department as well as the position of department Secretary-Treasurer. In addition to his fire department activities Flatt is a Deputy Sheriff of McLennan County.

Entering the Air Force in December 1954, Flatt received his basic training at Lackland AFB, Tex., and was assigned to Kelly AFB, Tex., upon completion. Later assignments included overseas tours in Germany and England and stateside duty at Langley AFB and Ft. Monroe, La.



A1c Flatt

Births

MAHONEY, Mr. and Mrs. Warren K., a daughter, Gwyneth Ann, born Feb. 7 at USAF hospital Scott AFB, Ill. Father assigned to AWS Hq., Scott AFB, Ill.

RIAL, SSgt and Mrs. Carl W., a son, Roger T., born Feb. 8 at St. Vincent's Infirmary, Little Rock, Ark. Father assigned to Det. 13, 26th Wea. sq., Little Rock AFB, Ark.

WEBSTER, A1c and Mrs. Vern E., a daughter, Charlotte Louise, born Feb. 10 at USAF hospital, Scott AFB, Ill. Father assigned to AWS Hq., Scott AFB, Ill.

VALEZ, Capt. and Mrs. Louis E., a son, Lawrence Richard, born Feb. 27 at USAF hospital, Scott AFB, Ill. Father assigned to AWS Hq., Scott AFB, Ill.

Belated Announcement

CURRIN, Capt. and Mrs. Lynn, a daughter, Leslie, born Dec. 31 at Ireland Army hospital, Ft. Knox, Ky. Father assigned to Det. 5, 16th Wea. sq., Ft. Knox, Ky.

Correction

CRUMLEY, SSgt and Mrs. Larry D., a daughter, Lauri Denise (not Gloria Denise, as listed in the February edition), born Jan. 15 at USAF hospital, Scott AFB, Ill. Father assigned to AWS Hq., Scott AFB, Ill.

Retirees

CMSgt Lucus F. Edenfield, personnel sergeant major, 4th Weather wg., for the past four years, retired on February 28 after completing 20 years of service.

A native of Stillmore, Ga., Sgt Edenfield has been with AWS since November 1956 when he was assigned to the 11th Weather Squadron at Keesler AFB, Miss. He was subsequently assigned to 4th Weather wg., in December 1957 where he has served continuously as personnel sergeant major.

During WW II, Edenfield served with a B-25 Bombardment group in the Southwest Pacific. Following assignments found him at Hq. Command, Bolling AFB, Washington, D. C., and Kirtland AFB, New Mexico.

Again this year, the Air Force Association will honor an outstanding airman from each USAF command at its convention in Las Vegas, Nev., 18-23 September.

AWS will name two airmen for consideration as the MATS representative. Selected airmen, male or female, will be honored guests of AFA, receiving free hotel accommodations and tickets to all official activities of the convention.

Married selectees may be accompanied by their wives with transportation provided by AFA from bases of assignment and return if stationed in the US.

Attendance by wives from overseas must be approved by the major air command concerned.

Full particulars have been forwarded to the field by hq. AWS.

2d Weather Wives Hold Mexican Buffet Dinner

Dressed in traditional Mexican costumes, wives of 2d Weather group at Langley AFB, Va., carried out the theme of a Mexican buffet held recently at the Langley Officers Club.

Decor for the occasion was of an authentic Mexican motif with the tables gaily arrayed with pinatos and flower cones and trimmed with red, yellow, white, blue and pink roses.

Mexican-style music was provided by Pfc Loui Guerrero, of nearby Ft. Monroe, and his Spanish guitar.

Mrs. C. E. Autry, in charge of decorations, was assisted by Mmes. Salvatore Lemole, E. T. Blanton, A. B. Buck, L. M. Grisham, S. M. Godfrey, J. E. Nutt, Richard Clancy, T. A. Prizio, G. E. Blinco, L. A. Schuknecht, J. M. Bird, E. W. Gilbertson and E. G. Meints.



STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND certificates of distinguished educational achievement were recently received by three members of 3d Weather wing's Global Weather Central at Offutt AFB, Neb. CWO Richard A. Biery and TSgt Michael J. Wiegand jr. (left and center) completed 60 hours of undergraduate college work. Both now hold Bachelor of General Education degrees from Omaha university. TSgt Jack M. Metcalf completed 30 credit hours.



OLD MEXICO was the theme for a Mexican buffet conducted by wives of 2d Weather group, Langley AFB, Va., at the Langley Officers Club. Traditional Mexican costumes and authentic Spanish music highlighted the occasion. Standing (1 to r) are Mrs. Joseph M. Bird and Mrs. Gerald E. Blinco. Sitting (1 to r); Mrs. Stephen M. Godfrey, Mrs. Cleveland E. Autry and Mrs. Lowell A. Schuknecht.

55th Ptarmigan Flyers Mark Fifteenth Year

March 17 marks the fifteenth anniversary of Ptarmigan Weather flights over the Arctic. Since the inception of these flights more than 3275 have been recorded.

Flyers of AWS fly some 8½ million miles each year in search of weather data. Flying weather-modified Boeing B-50 bombers (WB-50s) over "desolate and oceanic areas on regular and special routes, they help to fill in the otherwise blank spaces on the world's weather maps. Their regular routes, called tracks, are named for birds native to the track's point of origin.

Oldest Track

Oldest of these tracks, flown continuously over the Arctic since March 17, 1947, is Ptarmigan, named for a far-north bird distinguished for having its feet covered with feathers. Originally flown over the North Pole itself, Ptarmigan is now flown daily almost to the pole by Detachment 1 of the 55th Weather Reconnaissance squadron. From Eielson AFB near Fairbanks, Alaska, Ptarmigan is a five-sided, 12-hour track over 3330 land miles of desolate terrain. The data it collects is vital, since much of North America's weather is born in the atmosphere over the trackless north.

Early Confusion

Early Ptarmigan flights created no end of confusion as noted by the following sidebar items from the past: In the days when flights went directly to the North Pole, early Ptarmigans played havoc with today, yesterday and tomorrow. A flight which left today at 7 a.m. would have crossed the International Dateline into tomorrow, circled the pole through today (which now becomes yesterday to the crew) and then gone back into tomorrow. On the return trip, the flight would have come back into today and, if it touched down after midnight, into tomorrow.

Ptarmigan crews remember one officer, Capt. Cantrell Craig, who lost a whole year somewhere over the Arctic. He took off one morning (Oct. 28, 1952) at 10:20 a.m. from Eielson AFB, bound for Japan. He landed at Yokota AB, Japan, at 1:35 a.m. Japanese time on October 30. He had flown a total of 22 hours and 35 minutes, passing through two calendar days. Arriving in Japan, he found that he had lost October 29, which happened to be his birthday. Was he a year older? He never could be quite sure, although his friends advised him to celebrate twice in 1953.

Famous Firsts

A Ptarmigan crew paid tribute in 1951 to Matthew Henson, noted Negro explorer, who accompanied Admiral Peary on his polar explorations in 1909. Henson was the first man of his race to reach the North Pole. In his honor, a steel canister containing personal mementoes was ceremoniously dropped at the North Pole by a Ptarmigan crew in 1951, four years before Henson's death in 1955.

Two former Southern Illinois University students, Capt. Hubert Riherd and 1st Lt. Alma McKemie, decided before one flight

that the banner of their alma mater would look unique flying over the North Pole. They arranged to drop an SIU flag on a Ptarmigan flight in April 1951 and, so far as is known, it is still there.

First life insurance salesman to fly over the North Pole on a Ptarmigan flight was Capt. C. E. Murphy; first farmer, 1st Lt. J. N. Sokora; first airline pilot, 1st Lt. Noble J. McSwane—all USAF officers and members of a Ptarmigan crew. A New York City patrolman, 1st Lt. John J. Murphy, went from flying a police helicopter over the Big City to flying Boeing WB-29s (used until 1955) over nothing on Ptarmigan weather missions.

Back in 1947, 1st Lt. Edward G. Vrabie distinguished himself as the first man to drink a Coca Cola over the North Pole. To do him one better, Ptarmigan flyers brought back in 1952 a piece of Ice Island T-3 (Fletcher's Ice Island) to concoct the "highball of the centuries" with ice cubes which had been drifting around the Arctic Basin for an estimated 15 thousand years.

First among Ptarmigan firsts, must be reserved for Igloo, Eskimo Husky mascot of the old 58th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, who flew over the North Pole in 1952. He was the only non crew member who didn't care whether his press agent knew about his flight or not.

Magazine Wants Safety Items

Often small items which can contribute much to safety are devised at bases or within Air Force units or commands. Just as often knowledge of these items is confined to the originating organization, although it may be useful to others.

In order to publicize these items throughout the Air Force so that all may benefit, Aerospace Safety Magazine is considering a new monthly feature which would contain a brief description of these items under the title "What's New" or some other descriptive term.

Success of this feature will depend upon the cooperation of all commands and units in submitting brief descriptions to be incorporated into the feature.

An example is the use of an intercom which is plugged into a receptacle in the nosewheel well of the F-100 for communication between the crew chief and pilot during final preflight checks. It is not known how many F-100 units are using this device, but there are some which probably have never heard of it. If the word were passed along through Aerospace Safety, some other unit might benefit.

Your suggestions or contributions should be sent direct to the magazine, Attn: Editor, Aerospace Safety Magazine, Deputy Inspector General for Safety, Norton AFB, Calif.

Weather Sq Trains Japanese Officer

Captain Hideo Beniura of the Japanese Air Self Defense Force (JASDF) recently completed six months of on-the-job-training with the 4th Weather squadron at Hamilton AFB, Calif.

During this time Capt. Beniura worked under the supervision of CWO Robert W. Becker, who was selected as his advisor because of wide forecasting experience in both the US and Far East.

Despite the language barrier, Capt. Beniura was able to familiarize himself with typical detachment operations through training given him by Detachment 4 personnel.

In expressing his appreciation of the instruction he received, the captain said "I will apply this valuable experience which I have received through on-the-job-training toward the development of the weather service of the Japanese Air Self Defense Force and also toward better cooperation between the Japanese and US Air Forces."



JAPANESE TRAINEE Capt. Hideo Beniura of the Japanese Air Self Defense Force (left) receives instruction from his on-the-job-training advisor CWO Robert W. Becker, 4th Weather squadron, Hamilton AFB, Calif. Capt. Beniura is completing a six-month training tour at Hamilton prior to entry at Texas A&M college where he plans to obtain his master's degree in meteorology.

Gen. Peterson Visits NORAD

Brig. Gen. Norman L. Peterson, AWS commander, recently visited NORAD/ADC and 4th Weather wing at Ent AFB, Colo.

During his visit Gen. Peterson conferred with Air Marshal C. Roy Slemon, RCAF, Vice Commander, NORAD, and Lt. Gen. Robert H. Terrill, Deputy Commander ADC, together with staff officers of both headquarters.

Future weather support and the role of weather in aerospace defense were discussed.

Gen. Peterson also conferred extensively with the commander and staff officers of 4th Weather wing.

4th Weather wing is the organization which furnishes direct functional weather support to NORAD and its USAF elements.

Col. Kenneth A. Linder, Wing commander, invited his squadron commanders to participate in the meetings with Gen. Peterson.

These commanders head units which support NORAD regions, and ADC divisions throughout the continental US, Alaska, the far reaches of the DEW Line and Greenland.

Charleston AMS Installs Officers

Col. Robert F. Neeley, 15th Weather squadron commander, at Charleston AFB, S. C., was elected chairman of the new Coastal Carolina Chapter of the American Meteorological Society at the group's organization meeting on January 26.

Military and civilian meteorologists from Wilmington, N. C., Columbia, Charleston and other South Carolina cities were in attendance.

Lt. Col. Jack A. Bell, 15th WS operations officer was elected treasurer of the new chapter.

John P. Cummings, chief of the Charleston US Weather Bureau office, did the planning and organizational work leading to the award of a Charter from the national society and served as acting chairman during the first meeting.

Primary Objectives

Primary objectives of the society are to promote development and dissemination of knowledge in all phases of meteorology as well as applications and advancement of its professional ideals.

All society officers must be meteorologists of a professional level however, membership is available to all persons interested in meteorology.

Col. Neeley has been a military meteorologist for 21 years. During this time he has served as Meteorological advisor to the military services of Japan, Korea

and China, chief meteorologist for the 1956 Eniwetok-Bikini nuclear test series, commander of the Pacific typhoon warning service on Guam and as director of operations, Pacific Weather service.



Col. Neeley

203d AMS Meeting Slated at Fairbanks

Air Weather Service personnel will play an important role in the 203d National meeting of the American Meteorological Society to be held at Fairbanks, Alaska in June.

The meeting is jointly sponsored by the Anchorage and Fairbanks branches of the AMS, both of which are headed by members of 11th Weather squadron.

CWO John F. Gaillard, 11th WS, communications and training officer, is president of the Anchorage branch, and MSgt William Trigg, a forecaster at Detachment 2, 11th WS, Eielson AFB, is president of the Fairbanks branch.

Devoted largely to high latitude meteorology, the program of the 203d meeting will also include sessions on general meteorology and geophysics of the upper atmosphere.

Three members of the 11th Weather squadron are serving on the program committee: CWO Gaillard, chairman, MSgt Trigg, and Maj. Russell E. Wright, 11th WS forecasting and special projects officer.

Dr. Robert D. Fletcher, AWS director of scientific services and a former president of AMS, will serve as chairman of the session on general meteorology.

Two squadron officers will present papers at the meeting. Capt. William C. Montgomery of Detachment 13, will discuss summer precipitation at Fairbanks, Alaska, and Capt. Eugene R. Hoppe of Detachment 2, will discuss ice fog in the Alaskan interior.



CONFEREES attending the recent 25th NORAD Region Staff Weather conference at Ent AFB, Colo., are (l to r): Lt. Col. Jack H. Pelander, 25th NORAD region; Lt. Col. Louis A. Fecher III, SPADS; Maj. Harold A. Jacobs, POADS and Maj. E. McCree, SEADS.

AWS Wing, Group and Squadron Commanders



Col.
Kenneth A. Linder
4th Weather wing



Lt. Col.
George W. Moxon
1210th Weather sq.



Col. Robert F. Long
4th Weather group



Col.
Anthony T. Shtagren
3d Weather wing



Col.
Nicholas H. Chavasse
2d Weather group



Col. John J. Jones
8th Weather group



Col. Richard M. Gill
2d Weather wing



Col. William S. Barney
1st Weather wing



Col. Harvey P. Hall
9th Wea Recon group



Lt. Col.
Loy E. Watkins
33d Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Elwyn A. Moseley
6th Wea sq



Col. Ralph G. Suggs
8th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Frank S. Savage
3d Wea sq



Col. John C. Scales
24th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Walton L. Hogan sr.
7th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Robert V. McKibban
55th WRS



Lt. Col.
Jack H. Pelander
35th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Eugene A. Carter
11th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Harold D. Cooper
12th Wea sq



Col. Arnold R. Hull
9th Wea sq



Lt. Col. Lewis Howes
16th Wea sq



Col. Robert F. Neeley
15th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Lawrence D. Connolly
21st Wea sq



Maj. Robert L. Ray
1212th Balloon
Activity sq



Col.
Eugene D. Wallace
56th WRS



Lt. Col.
Mark J. Brown jr.
4th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Andrew Paton
29th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Leonard V. Gillespie
32d Wea sq



Col. Robert L. Sorey
26th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
George A. Williamson
25th Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Milton M. Hause
28th Wea sq



Col. Paul E. McAnally
31st Wea sq



Lt. Col.
Arnold E. Zimmerman
53d WRS



Maj. Arthur L. Consta
1211th Test sq
(Sampling)



FLYING ALPHABETS are not so confusing to Col. Nicholas H. Chavasse, 2d Weather Group commander, Langley AFB, Va., as he speculates on an imaginary formation of jumbled letters floating in mid-air in his office. These letters may confuse others, but to him they represent most of the alphabet used to identify the three major commands for which he is staff weather officer—TAC, CONAC and STRICOM. He is also responsible for weather service to the Army's CONARC.

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(Continued)

November NCO of the Month at 3d Weather wing, Offutt AFB, Neb., was CMSgt Lowell A. Tchupp. He received a letter of appreciation from Col. Russell K.



Pierce Jr., wing deputy commander, a \$25 bond and a free "weekend on the town" courtesy of Omaha merchants.

Tschupp, climatological technician for Scientific Services division, has developed many efficient time-saving computer programs for the IBM 7090 located in Global Weather Central.

During a recent United Fund drive at George AFB, Calif., Detachment 23, 25th Weather squadron, set an outstanding example in community relations.

Every member of the detachment contributed a day's pay and became a member of the "United Fund Day's Pay Club."

Based on a suggested amount that would have been the detachment's expected share, personnel contributed more than three times the expected amount.

At the "Victory Banquet" following completion of the drive, Maj. Wilfred B. Jones, detachment commander, accepted a large plaque for outstanding community relations from Brig. Gen. John A. Dunning, 831st Air Division commander.

Detachment 9, 4th Weather squadron, Oxnard AFB, Calif.,



was recently awarded the 4th Weather squadron annual outstanding Detachment award by Lt. Col. Mark J. Brown, commander. Presentation was made to Maj. William F. Wilkinson, Detachment commander.

Capt. Ernest P. Carriere, a manpower specialist at 3d Weather wing, Offutt AFB, Neb., is a member of the nearby Repertory Group of actors.

Recently, he performed in Anton Chekhov's "A Marriage Proposal" as the Russian farmer who asks for the hand of his neighbor's daughter.

Non-commissioned officer and airman achievement awards for the third quarter of 1961 were presented to outstanding airmen of Detachment 40, 28th Weather squadron, High Wycombe, England on Dec. 3.

The master sergeant award went to MSgt Yearl Barlow, a forecaster of the United Kingdom terminal forecast facility.

NCO award of the quarter was presented to SSgt William A. Lovisz, shift chief observer, "A" team, of the analysis forecasting section.

Airman of the quarter honors went to A1c Warren J. Plantholt, observer, "B" team, analysis and forecasting section.

Achievement certificates and engraved cigarette lighters were presented to the winners by Lt. Col. William J. Norton, detachment commander.

Airman First Class Robert H. Lovelady, 15th Weather squadron, Detachment 1, was recently selected as Outstanding Airman at Brookley AFB, Ala., for the quarter ending in December.

Airman Lovelady, a weather observer, has recorded 844 consecutive error-free weather observations.

In August 1961, he was awarded an outstanding unit award for participation in operation "Deep Freeze."

In making the presentation, Col. R. H. Marshall, base commander stated "Your selection as outstanding airman indicates your attention to duty, intelligence, and high degree of Loyalty."

Alaska Unit Wins Civic Award

A certificate for Outstanding Community Service was recently awarded to the 11th Weather squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, by the city of Anchorage, for participation in the 1961 Community Chest campaign.

Col. K. R. Baile, deputy commander, Elmendorf AFB, and Chairman of the Federal Agencies Campaign, made the presentation to Lt. Col. Eugene A. Carter, squadron commander.

Majors Russel E. Wright and Vernon W. Windel, project officers, were also presented individual certificates for distinguished community service at that time.

One hundred percent participation by the squadron's 79 weathermen resulted in an average donation of more than \$4 per man.

The letter accompanying the certificate, signed by the Mayor of Anchorage, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, and the President of the Board of Trustees of the Community Chest, stated in part: "The splendid manner in which your personnel responded to this important community program is most noteworthy. The heartfelt thanks of a grateful community reach out to those generous, unselfish individuals who have given to their fellow man."

TSgt Clyde N. Lint, Detachment 6, 4th Weather squadron, Norton AFB, Calif., can agree that you sometimes come out money ahead on a permanent change of station.

In October, Lint (then SSgt) departed the 2nd Weather wing, Lindsey AS, Germany, for his new assignment.

At that time he had been selected for promotion to TSgt. Had he been ready for promotion under past procedures, the PCS would have come at an inopportune time.

Under existing policy, AWS units transfer promotion quotas from one unit to another. . . . This practice provides promotion insurance for personnel who depart PCS prior to a promotion cycle.

An outstanding record in the January Skill Knowledge Tests has been established by 6th Weather squadron (Mobile), at Tinker AFB, Okla.

Of 38 personnel tested, only three failed. This failure rate of 8 percent compares most favorably with an AWS average of 18 percent.

Fifteen scored 80 percentile or better with an overall average of 65.

Hq. AWS granted a waiver to the minimum time in OJT for testing to enable the trainees to complete the test before the teams go into the field. Of the 14 taking the test, all passed.

6th Weather squadron has a unique problem. Observers and repairmen spend three-fourths of the year in rawinsonde operations making OJT in surface observing and conventional equipment under these conditions most difficult.

Such an outstanding test record under such a strenuous training program is most praiseworthy.



MODERN WEATHER TECHNIQUES Course graduates, class 49, are pictured with their instructors: Front row (l to r) Capt. William M. Dabrock, (Instructor); CWO Alton A. Beck, Turner AFB, Ga.; Capt. James A. Wilkinson Jr., Ellsworth AFB, S. D. and Howard H. Crombie, (Instructor). Back row (l to r) CWO Ralph I. Sever, Loring AFB, Me.; Maj. Louis W. Zanolli, Altus AFB, Okla.; Capt. Albert E. Devitt Jr., Fort Ritchie, Md.; CWO Freeman R. Smith, Grand Forks AFB, N. D.; Capt. Julio Aponte-Godreau, Syracuse AFB, N. Y.; and Capt. Barry E. Harris sr., (Course supervisor). CWO Smith was honor graduate and Maj. Zanolli and Capt. DeVitt received outstanding awards.

CWO (W-2) Don B. Wigington, a forecaster with Detachment 1, 33d Weather squadron, Duluth, Minn., has earned Master's degrees in the field of Psychology and Education since receiving his BS degree in Mathematics in 1957.

All degrees are from Jackson College, Honolulu, Hawaii. CWO Wigington a graduate of the AWS school of Modern Weather Techniques also has credits from the Department of Tropical Meteorology, University of Hawaii.

These are most significant accomplishments for a man who has completed all but two years of his college work in off-duty study during a time when his normal duties included extensive TDY.

Prior to entering the AF, CWO Wigington served two years as a civilian primary flying instructor with the Aviation Cadet program and as a civilian ferry pilot in the Air Transport Command.

A veteran of the China-Burma-India Theater in WWII, he is accredited with more than 45,000 pilot hours in almost all types of aircraft in service at that time.

In 1947, CWO Wigington enlisted in the Army Air Force in the weather career field and later attended the forecasters school. Since that time he has served in varied positions such as, meteorological staff member supporting the 1958 nuclear tests at Eniwetok.

Five members of 55th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif., have been notified of exceptionally high scores on the Air Force Specialty Knowledge Test.

Percentile scores on the Airborne Operations Technician examination ranged from 75 to 95, although requirements for passing is only 40.

Noted for their proficiency and knowledge of their specialty were: SSgts Horace Bramhill, Clarence Jones, Chauncy F. Paytee, John R. Williams and Bernard F. Wynn.

All of the men noted for their achievement are veteran radio operators with the 55th, which conducts extensive reconnaissance flights in the Pacific and Arctic areas. Radio reception and transmission of weather data in these areas require an exceedingly high degree of skill.

SSgt Larry D. Crumley, Command Section AWS Hq., recently compiled what is believed to be

an all time high score in the 70250 and 70270 AFSC tests for AWS, and possibly Scott AFB.

In April 1960, Crumley scored 188 on the 5-level test and recently made a perfect score of 95 on the 7-level test.

A native of Gainesville, Ga., Crumley entered the Air Force in October 1959. Prior to coming to Scott AFB, he was assigned to the former 18th Weather squadron at Wiesbaden, Germany.



Captain Tollett

VETERAN NAVIGATOR, Capt. Elijah G. Tollett has been appointed group navigator for the 9th Weather Recon. group, McClellan AFB, Calif. Tollett, a former navigator with the 55th Weather Recon. squadron at McClellan has logged in more than 3000 hours of flying. In his new position Capt. Tollett will be responsible for supervising all techniques used by navigators within AWS.

SMSgt Kenneth W. DeMars, a field meteorological consultant in the scientific services section, 4th Weather wing, Ent AFB, Colo., was an honor graduate of the December MATS NCO Academy, Orlando, Fla.

Graduating as number 3 in a class of 125, he received both the distinguished graduate award and special achievement award given by the academy.

Prior to assignment to 4th Weather wing, Sgt DeMars was NCOIC of the operations section, 1st Weather wing headquarters, Fuchu Air Station, Japan.

Before joining the AF, he attended the Merchant Marine academy and made several trips to the Far East with the President steamship lines.