

A Quarter Century of Military Weather Service

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Observer and Site Rated Outstanding

The 11th Weather squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, recently selected the outstanding remote site weather observer and outstanding remote site detachment.

A1c Gary G. Skiles, Det. 8, 11th Weather squadron, Northeast Cape AFS, Alaska received outstanding observer honors, and Detachment 9, 11th Weather squadron, Cape Lisburne AFS, Alaska took outstanding remote site honors. Awards were given for the period Oct. 1, 1962 through Mar. 31, 1963.

Selection of Airman Skiles as outstanding observer was based on his airmanship qualities, as well as his job knowledge and performance as a weather observer.

During the six month period, he completed a total of 1,929 weather observations with only two minor recording errors, an average of only one error in 965 observations.

During the six month period, Detachment 9 observers completed 4,715 observations with only two red errors and only 19 blue errors, for an overall error rate of 0.4 errors per 100 observations.

The detachment consistently received excellent ratings on equipment maintenance from the 11th Weather squadron field maintenance shop. Observers kept weather equipment operational despite the difficulties created by exposure to salt water and extremely low temperatures encountered.

(Continued on page 7)



COMMANDER of the 55th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, Lt Col. Robert V. McKibban, discusses with A1c Lynn E. Sweeney, jet flight mechanic, the performance data of the new prototype WB-47 aircraft which was recently delivered to McClellan AFB, Calif.

Missile Badges Authorized For Weathermen at Patrick

The Air Weather Service role in space was emphasized last month when USAF authorized the Missile Badge for staff meteorologists at the AF Missile Test center (AFMTC), Patrick AFB, Fla.

The proud recipients were Lt Col. Peter E. Romo, Lt Col. Hal R. Montague, Maj. J. M. Dunn and Capt. Walter Christensen. Assigned to Det. 11, 4th Weather group, these officers are intimately

involved in the testing program at Cape Canaveral.

Colonel Romo, commander, Det. 11, 4th Weather group, has been the AWS representative at the Missile Test center since 1961, when he came to Patrick after four years in Germany. He is a command pilot and native of Phoenix, Ariz.

Colonel Montague, the unit's operations officer, leaves Patrick this summer, after three years as assistant staff meteorologist. He hails from Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Major Dunn is chief of the Missile Support section and a master navigator who comes from Indianapolis.

The fourth recipient of the Missile Badge, Captain Christensen, lived in Greenfield, Iowa before the war and has been stationed at Patrick since 1961.

The console at the Cape's Central control is the focal point for weather information along the Atlantic Missile range (AMR), which stretches some 9000 miles to the southeast. From this console, these forecasters advise of range-safety conditions, upper-air hazards to structural or guidance components, visibility and cloud restrictions for optical coverage of the missile's flight and weather in the impact areas for recovery operations.

Besides their work in support of tests, they plan and implement improvements to AMR's meteorological network, which is operated under contract by Pan American airways. In both the operational and planning parts of their mission, they are supported by 4th Weather group, which directly supports AF Systems Com-

(Continued on page 5)

Air Weather Service Moves Into Jet Reconnaissance Era

On Mar. 20, 1963, during a ceremony at McClellan AFB, Calif., Lt Col. Robert V. McKibban, commander, 55th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, accepted delivery of the first of the WB-47s, which will become the mainstay of weather reconnaissance operations throughout the world.

In an effort to keep pace with technological advancement of the USAF, it has become necessary to convert from the WB-50 to the WB-47, modified with the latest navigational and weather-observing equipment. Conversion to jet weather reconnaissance

aircraft will result in a complete change of procedures and flying personnel, new crews will be drawn from SAC and observing data will be automatically transmitted at 1,000 characters per minute to a ground receiving site for input to computers.

The swept-wing all-jet aircraft will fly reconnaissance tracks similar to those flown by WB-50s in approximately half the flight time. It will also provide AWS with a reconnaissance vehicle to obtain weather observations up to 40,000 feet, and will be completely configured for atmospheric sampling for the Atomic Energy commission, Defense Atomic Support agency, Public Health service and other interested agencies.

The prototype WB-47 aircraft was flown from Dobbins AFB, Ga., to the 55th WRS by Maj. James E. Thompson Jr., Capt. Donald G. Kidder and 1st Lt Rex E. Polson. Major Thompson's assignment to Air Weather Service dates back to 1957 when the first WB-47 was assigned to AWS.

The automated WB-47 is also equipped to dispense dropsondes which can be ejected at high speeds and flight altitudes up to 40,000 feet. These units sense temperatures, humidity and barometric pressure during their parachute descent to the surface. The transmitted dropsonde data is recorded on tapes within the aircraft for subsequent transmission to ground-receiver sites when atmospheric and communication conditions are favorable.

From a receiver site, weather observations and dropsonde data are fed into a computer and subsequently released via the worldwide teletype network. The automated WB-47 and its three-man crew will replace the WB-50, with eight or nine crew members, and the tedious task of manual recording of weather observations and dropsonde data.

The 55th WRS is only one of several weather reconnaissance squadrons scheduled for conversion to WB-47 aircraft.

Three Receive Safety Honors

Three Air Weather Service officers have recently been selected by the AWS Accident Prevention council to receive MATS Outstanding Safety Achievement awards.

Criteria for presentation of the award is based upon an individual act or achievement which is responsible for successfully coping with an in-flight emergency of a potentially disastrous nature or prevention of an aircraft acci-

The "Hurricane Hunters," who have been operating from Kindley AFB, Bermuda for the past 17 years, are moving to Hunter AFB, Ga. One of the primary reasons for the move, which is expected to be completed by the end of 1963, stems from the fact that AWS is beginning a new era in weather reconnaissance. (See feature on page 3).

dent which averts almost certain loss or serious damage.

Capt. Carl R. Laffoon, 1211th Test squadron (Sampling), received the award for displaying outstanding professional airmanship on Sept. 26, 1962 in saving his own life, a B-57D aircraft and a great deal of valuable government property from destruction during an extremely hazardous in-flight emergency.

On take-off from Johnston Island in the Pacific, just after passing the takeoff refusal point, his number two engine suddenly lost power and he had to use full rudder plus breaking action

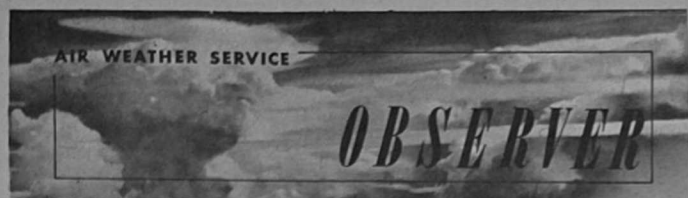
(Continued on page 7)



BRIEFING Capt. Bengt O. Soderberg of the Royal Swedish Air Force Weather Service, on the USAF-AWS mission is Col. William H. Best Jr., deputy commander, 4th Weather group, Andrews AFB, Md. (Story on page 4).



PRESENTING Missile Badge certificates to staff meteorologists at the AF Missile Test center is Brig. Gen. Harry J. Sands Jr., vice commander, AFMTC. Recipients include (l to r), Lt Col. Peter E. Romo, Lt Col. Hal R. Montague, Maj. J. M. Dunn and Capt. Walter Christensen, all of Det. 11, 4th Weather group.



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Commander, Air Weather Service
MR. JOHN D. RUGG, Director of Information
1ST LT CASEY R. LUCZAK, Editor
SSGT ROBERT J. BATTON, Assistant Editor

What Is a Thunderstorm?

by SMSgt Marvin D. Turpen
Det. 1, 3d Weather wing

A thunderstorm is the sun,
The generator of all the complexities of nature,
Beaming down on the oceans, the lakes, and the wastelands,
Beating down on the forests and the farmlands.

A thunderstorm is moisture,
Streaming inland from the Gulf of Mexico,
A shower over the dusty desert,
A hailstorm beating a wheat crop to the ground,
Or a flood in the Mississippi Valley.

A thunderstorm is the wind,
A soft, cool freshness on a hot summer day,
A T-33 "tossed out of the top at 40,000 feet,"
Or a tornado snaking across the high plains.

A thunderstorm is beauty etched against the clear Mohave sky
Or perched majestically on the shoulders of a San Francisco peak;
An ominous beauty, stretched for a hundred miles down the Texas
Panhandle,
A Picasso of color in a Kansas sunset.

What is a thunderstorm?
It is the sun,
The climbing, boiling cloud,
The cool freshness,
The destruction.

It is all of these things and more.
It is the Beauty, the Whim, and the Wrath—of God.

And it's the most unpredictable, frustrating,
cantankerous, misbegotten, son-of-a-
mess of weather ever to be forced upon
a poor pilot or a forgotten weatherman.



POINTING out the direction of a typhoon predicted to strike near Okinawa is Professor Griffith Wang, chief meteorologist for Civil Air Transport, Nationalist Chinese airlines. Maj. Horace W. Meredith, commander, Det 14, 1st Weather wing, listens to Professor Wang's prediction.

AMS Members

Following Air Force personnel, some of them currently assigned outside AWS, have become members of the American Meteorological Society.

They joined the AMS rolls during April.

Capt.

Edward J. Belinski, Clarence H. Bush, Edward B. Hanrahan, Charles L. Hill, William F. Johnson, Richard W. Oestrike, Carl R. Perkins jr., Harold R. Rippey, Richard T. Snell and Roman C. Wilkins.

1st Lt

Jerome P. Ashman and Bobby D. Underwood.

2d Lt

Charles A. Stackhouse.

CWO

Robert E. Houmes.

SMSgt

Joseph H. Danforth.

TSgt

Jerald G. Osborn.

SSgt

Gabriel G. Best, Gordon L. Holland, Vernon L. Patterson, Mitchell V. Sheets and William J. Signer jr.

A2c

Thomas A. Swiderski.

Airman's Design Accepted by Unit

A1c Louis A. Withrow, Det. 50, 25th Weather squadron, Hq 12th Air Force, Waco, Texas, was recently commended by the 12th Air Force Military Suggestion committee for a weather display board he designed for installation in the command post headquarters.



Withrow

Airman Withrow suggested the use of colored lights to indicate the weather at 20 stations, thus permitting flying conditions to be read at a glance.

The suggestion will result in dollar and man-hour savings once the weather display board is completed.

Okinawa Typhoons Predicted for 1963

Professor Griffith Wang, chief meteorologist for Civil Air Transport, Nationalist Chinese airlines and world-famous typhoon authority, has issued predictions as to when typhoons would endanger Okinawa during 1963.

His predictions were made during a recent weatherman's meeting sponsored by Det. 14, 1st Weather wing, Naha AB, Okinawa.

Celebrated for his research in long-range weather prediction, Professor Wang said the first typhoon would occur "between May 22 and 24, and will pass considerably south of the island."

The next one will skirt the island 150 miles to the south on June 22.

And the last long range forecast is for July 4, when a storm will "barrel directly over Northern Taiwan."

President's Crew



BRIEFING the President's crew is Maj. John R. McQuown (right), staff weather officer, Det 2, 4th Weather group. Members include (l to r) Maj. David D. Odor, the President's navigator, Maj. Lewis C. Hanson and Col James B. Swindal, the President's pilots.

Andrews AFB Detachment Supports President's Flight

Air Force "One" is the code name given to flights that carry the President of the United States world-wide. Operation and maintenance of the aircraft is the primary responsibility of the 1254th Air Transport wing, a job it has been doing with distinction since 1943 when it assumed responsibility.

Probably no other aircraft in the world are better maintained and more closely guarded than those assigned to the President.

Air crew personnel are hand-picked to assure that only the finest professional men and aircraft carry the President and other distinguished persons.

Det. 2, 4th Weather group, Andrews AFB, provides primary weather support to the 1254th ATW. The detachment has assigned Maj. John R. McQuown as staff weather officer to the organization.

He maintains close liaison with the commander and staff of the

1254th ATW to provide the highest quality meteorological support to Air Force "One" and other flights carrying distinguished visitors.

Major McQuown briefs the President's crew for all departures from Andrews AFB.

The global facilities of AWS are utilized to furnish meteorological service, Det. 6, 1210th Weather squadron, Ft. Ritchie, Md., is designated the weather central control agency for all Air Force "One" flights within the zone of interior and arranges weather support for the entire route to be flown.

For all Air Force "One" flights and 1254th ATW jet flights outside the ZI, 3d Weather wing's Global Weather central, Offutt AFB is the responsible agency for the overall forecast.

The designated control agency is assisted by such other AWS forecast centers throughout the world as may be required.



SIGNING a report of inspection for federal recognition of a new Air National Guard weather flight at Lambert airport is Brig. Gen. Roy W. Nelson Jr., AWS commander. Looking on are Maj. Gen. Charles H. Dubois Jr. (left), chief of staff of the Missouri Air National Guard, and Maj. Charles K. Reynolds, commander of the new 110th Weather flight. These weather flights, of which there are now 31, including the 110th at Robertson ANG Base, Lambert Municipal airport, St. Louis, Mo., are intended to supplement AWS facilities in wartime. Each flight is authorized three officers and 13 airmen.

AWS Features

Hurricane Hunters Leave Kindley

After 17 years of operating from Bermuda under various squadron designations, the 53d Weather Reconnaissance squadron, known as the USAF "Hurricane Hunters," will transfer from Kindley AFB to Hunter AFB, Ga.

One of the primary reasons for the move, expected to be completed by the end of 1963, is the AWS conversion from WB-50 to WB-47 jet aircraft.

It was determined that conditions will be more favorable for continued operation of WB-47 aircraft at Hunter since the base is already equipped with B-47 operational and maintenance facilities.

Complete hurricane reconnaissance will still be performed by the 53d WRS, flying out of Kindley with four WB-50s which are being retained to support the remainder of the 1963 hurricane reconnaissance mission. Present plans are for the unit to continue hurricane reconnaissance in the South Atlantic after 1963 from Hunter in the new weather aircraft.

Lt Col. Arnold E. Zimmerman, squadron commander, plans to depart Kindley in June to establish an advanced echelon at Hunter. In August and September, members of his staff, including 50 NCOs and airmen now in Bermuda, will leave for the new headquarters.

Conversion

The conversion from WB-50 to WB-47 aircraft will be made concurrently with the organization's move. Beginning in August, all of the unit's WB-50 aircraft, except the four still operational at Kindley, will be returned to the US for storage at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

Nine WB-47 aircraft will be assigned with aircrews and necessary support personnel to Hunter. First of the new WB-47s will arrive Sept. 6, with the remaining eight to be delivered by the end of November 1963.

The 53d WRS is programmed to resume normal operations from Hunter Jan. 1, 1964. During the period of September through January, the unit will be training and making preparations for operational readiness in the WB-47.

The unit's last operational task from Bermuda, as the "Hurricane Hunters," will terminate in December. On Jan. 1, 1964, the rear echelon unit, responsible for weather reconnaissance during the 1963 hurricane season, will



COMMANDING the 53d WRS is Lt Col. Arnold E. Zimmerman. He has held the post since June 1961.

join the 53d WRS at Hunter.

During its 17-year stay in Bermuda, the "Hurricane Hunters" have undergone a series of name changes, but its mission has remained virtually unchanged.

The Kindley unit was born as the 3d Reconnaissance squadron Air Route, Medium, in August 1944, and was stationed at Grenier Field, New Hampshire. Then it was redesignated the 53d Reconnaissance squadron, Very Long Range, Weather.

Florida Move

In January 1946, the unit moved to Morrison Field, Fla., while a segment of it, Flight B, came to Bermuda to become the first "Hurricane Hunters." One year later the squadron headquarters also moved to Kindley.

Since that time, the unit has borne a variety of designations: 373d Reconnaissance squadron, Very Long Range, Weather; 53d Strategic Reconnaissance squadron; 59th Weather Reconnaissance squadron; Det. 3, 55th Weather Reconnaissance squadron; and Det. 7, 9th Weather group.

In 1962, as if to complete the cycle of name changes, the squadron once again became the 53d Weather Reconnaissance squadron.

Most of its operations have been over large geographical areas and almost entirely over water.

Provides Information

Since 1946, the "Hurricane Hunters" have provided the US Weather Bureau with around-the-clock hurricane warning information, and although this is only a portion of their weather-gathering mission, it is for this they are most famous.

The drama of a handful of men pitting their aircraft and skill against the fury of a hurricane and penetrating its very eye to learn its secrets has been the subject of radio and television

programs, movies, books, magazine features and news articles.

An example of public recognition for the unit occurred in October 1954, when Edward R. Murrow, presently Director of the US Information Agency, took the television cameras of the CBS "See It Now" program into the eye of hurricane Edna.

He and his cameras rode into the violent storm aboard a WB-29 Superfortress of the "Hurricane Hunters" to record the mission for the American people.

Numerous missions flown by the 53d WRS were not categorized routine or of hurricane reconnaissance. Aircraft were deployed to perform reconnaissance in Saudi Arabia, Newfoundland, Labrador, England, Panama Canal Zone, and the Azores.

Weather support missions have been flown for SAC and TAC aerial refuelings, for aircraft movements, Air Force Missile Test-center shots, and Project Mercury.

Most recent special missions were the twice-daily weather reconnaissance flights flown around Cuba during the crisis.

Past Commanders

Since 1945 until present, the unit has been commanded by Capt. Vinson S. Huegele, Capt. Hugh C. Dunn, 1st Lt. Alva F. Carden, Capt. Robert M. Hoffman, Lt Col. Robert G. David, Lt Col. Clyde Ray, Maj. John N. Hawley, Lt Col. Stanley I. Hand, Lt Col. Richard Stowell, Lt Col. Eager W. Brown, Maj. Joseph Galic, Maj. Garn Harward, Lt Col. Earl F. Dunphy, Lt Col. Fellie F. Robinson, and Lt Col. Arnold E. Zimmerman (present).

In the early days of weather reconnaissance, the 53d WRS used TB-17s and B-25Js. From 1951 to 1955, WB-29s were used and from 1955 until present, WB-50s have performed weather missions. The addition of the WB-47 will revolutionize weather observation techniques and will introduce the "Hurricane Hunters" to the jet age.

Two Squadrons Change Names

Next month, AWS Reconnaissance squadrons will include all numbers 53 through 59.

The 1211th Test squadron (Sampling), Kirtland AFB, N. Mex., and the 1212th Balloon Activities squadron, Goodfellow AFB, Tex., will receive new names effective June 8.

The 1211th will become the 58th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, and the 1212th will be named the 59th WRS.

It was explained that the changes were made to create uniformity in AWS reconnaissance squadrons. Now all weather reconnaissance units are designated by two digit numbers, and have Weather Reconnaissance squadron titles.

A communications satellite placed in a 22,300-mile orbit around the world, could handle the same amount of communications traffic as a cable system costing more than 10 times as much.

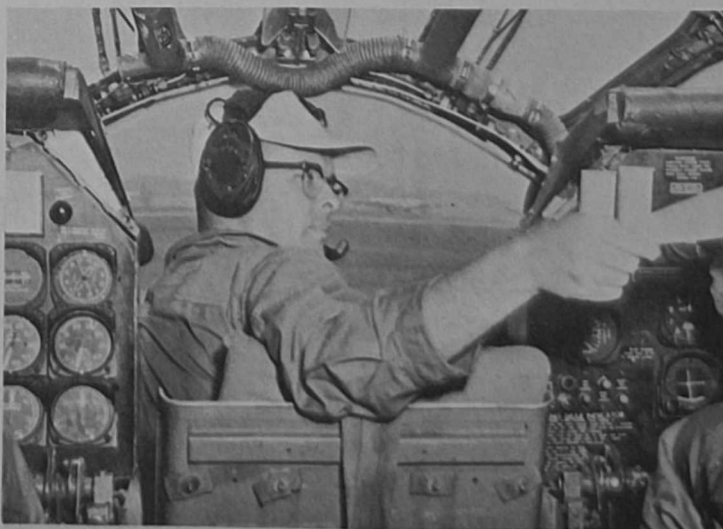
End of an Era



LOADING a dropsonde instrument into the release chamber of a WB-50 is A1c Alfredo Santa Cruz. Due to the automation feature of the WB-47, this operation will no longer be necessary. Dropsondes will be preloaded into release chambers prior to a mission and released automatically as the aircraft nears a storm.



CAMERAS of the Columbia Broadcasting System's "See It Now" television program flew into the eye of Hurricane Edna in October 1954. Veteran commentator, Edward R. Murrow, now Director of the US Information Agency, flew the mission in a WB-29, piloted by Capt. Francis E. Wilson (left), aircraft commander, and Capt. Charles W. Fleischer (second left), pilot. Robert Simpson (second right), US Weather Bureau, was also aboard to conduct hurricane research.



WEATHER DATA is passed from a weather officer to the pilot of a WB-50. In the new WB-47 weather reconnaissance aircraft, weather officers will no longer be needed to observe weather phenomena from the nose of the aircraft. Electronic devices have reduced the number of crew members in each plane from eight to three—aircraft commander, second pilot and navigator.



53d WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

NEWLY adopted unit emblem of the 53d WRS symbolizes its dual mission of hurricane reconnaissance and atmospheric sampling.

Teaching Degree Earned by NCO

SSgt Robert J. Groves, Det. 23, 9th Weather squadron, Glasgow AFB, Mont., has earned his college degree after more than six years of off-duty study, plus six months of final semester TDY under "Operation Bootstrap."

Sergeant Groves recently received a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education from Montana State college where he completed 31 hours in residence during the fall and winter quarters. He majored in social studies and obtained a minor in English.

All of his other degree requirements were earned entirely through off-duty classes conducted overseas at the University of Maryland, and at Glasgow by Northern Montana college, with the exception of one USAFI course and credits he received for schooling in meteorology at Chanute AFB, Ill.

Groves began study with the University of Maryland in October 1956 while stationed at Wheelus Field, Tripoli. Transferred from there to Ramstein AB, Germany, he continued at the university until coming to Glasgow in May 1961.

Before departing Ramstein, he was granted the highest USAFE Education Achievement award in recognition of 60 education points accrued through participation in the Air Force Education Service program. He maintained a "B" average and was on the honor roll at Montana State college.

Since he was preparing for a degree in education, Sergeant Groves had to complete practice teaching requirements for Montana State college. He accomplished this by teaching at Glasgow High School for four hours every day during a six-week period.

Groves estimates that his college education cost less than \$400, with the exception of his Montana State residence, because of tuition assistance offered by the Air Force.

"I couldn't have done it without the cooperation of fellow forecasters in the weather detachments overseas and here in Glasgow," he stated. "They were always willing to trade shifts with me so I could attend classes and complete practice teaching, and I attribute my good fortune to their help."

Simond's Idea Earns Award

SSgt Donald E. Simond, Det. 7, 31st Weather squadron, Laon AB, France, recently received a \$100 savings bond for winning the 66th Tactical Reconnaissance wing quarterly military suggestion contest.

Simond designed a pressure converter which instantaneously furnishes the correct altimeter setting at Laon for every possible pressure reading.

His suggestion was forwarded for consideration in USAF Europe-wide competition.



Simond



SHOWING his newly acquired diploma to Maj. Frank Taylor (left), commander, Det. 23, 9th Weather squadron, and Capt. Kurt Blunck, unit weather officer, is SSgt Robert J. Groves.

5,000 Hour Pins Earned For Accident Free Flying

The following AWS personnel were recently awarded MATS 5,000 Hour Accident-Free Lapel pins. The yellow-gold pin is awarded to personnel who are presently assigned to and have served with MATS, Air Corps Ferrying Command, Air Transport Command, or the Naval Air Transport Service for at least three years and have acquired a total of 5,000 consecutive accident-free flying hours.

Lt Col.
Wendell J. Phillips.
Maj.

Thomas E. Dains and Fern L. Steepleton.

Capt.

Donald W. Roberts, Bruce J. Smith, Frederick W. Kreppert, Charles J. Flanagan, David E. Benson, Michael A. McLean, and Donald G. Kidder.

SMSgt

James M. Ayers.

MSgt

Wilbur E. Decker, Anthony J. Mammolite, Herbert Smith, Gerald N. Vineyard, Milton C. Wil-

Lowry Weatherman To Appear on TV

Maj. Robert M. Preer, commander, Det. 6, 24th Weather squadron, Lowry AFB, Colo., is one of three weather experts from the Denver area invited by KLZ-TV to appear on a special program entitled "Denver Weather."

The half-hour television show was recently taped at KLZ studios for telecast in the near future.

Other guests appearing will be Chester W. Glenn, chief meteorologist of the weather bureau at Stapleton Field, and Loren W. Crow, meteorology consultant and president of the Denver branch of the American Meteorological Society.

The program, monitored by Carl Akers and other KLZ staff members, is designed to give viewers an idea of the conditions which govern Denver's weather. It will also give the general public a better understanding of meteorology and problems faced by meteorologists.

liams, and James C. Chittenden.

TSgt

Harold R. Smith, Cyril R. Hacker, Quentin L. Barry, and James A. McKinnon.

SSgt

Roy A. Sale, Floyd H. Simpson, Manuel R. Fierros, Bruce D. Lewis, Louis C. Resler, Horace Bramhill, Harold H. Kallhoff, Joseph G. Hebel, and Glen H. Hagler.

A1c

Dick C. Cook.

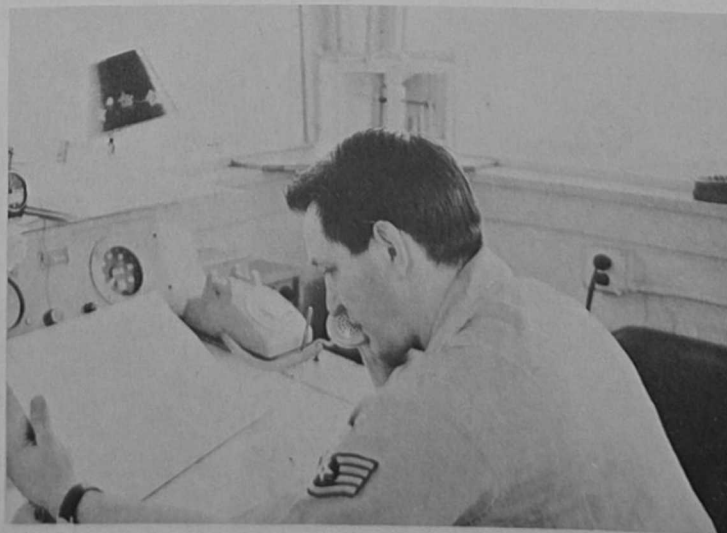
Air College Group Hears Gen. Nelson

Brig. Gen. Roy W. Nelson jr., AWS commander, recently presented a talk to 75 students and faculty members of the Parks Air college of East St. Louis, Ill.

Subject of General Nelson's talk was "The Impact of Meteorology on Aircraft Operations."

During the course of the event, held at Augustine's Restaurant in Belleville, Ill., General Nelson was initiated into the Pi chapter of Alpha Eta Rho, national aviation fraternity.

A week later, General Nelson toured the college campus, and spoke to a student group during a luncheon.



READING a weather summary over the telephone as part of a new service for Elmendorf AFB, Alaska personnel is SSgt Angelo P. Synodis, Det. 8, 11th Weather squadron.

US Installations Toured By Swedish Meteorologist

Capt. Bengt O. Soderberg, of the Royal Swedish Air Force Weather Service, has been visiting the United States during April and May, under the sponsorship of the US Weather Bureau.

While in the Washington D. C., area, Captain Soderberg will visit the National Meteorological center, 4th Weather group, USAF Climatic center, Electronic Computer branch (including Numeri-

cal Flight planning), and the Meteorological Satellite Support detachment.

As head of his weather service's Numerical Weather Prediction unit, Captain Soderberg is interested in the application of electronic computers to meteorological support problems, including automatic data processing.

During visits to Air Force installations he will also be interested in the overall AWS organizational support to USAF and in development activities underway to improve support.

His itinerary schedules visits to the 433L System Program office, L. G. Hanscom Field, Mass.; Travelers Research center, Hartford, Conn.; Staff Meteorological office, Aeronautical System division, Air Force Systems Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; and Hq Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, Ill.

Upon departure from Scott, he will visit 3d Weather wing, Offutt AFB, Nebr.; 4th Weather wing, Colorado Springs, Colo.; National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colo.; and the Navy Numerical Weather Prediction unit, Monterey, Calif.

Captain Soderberg will return to his home in Stockholm upon completion of his visit.

Det. 8 Broadcasts For Local Troops

Weather observers assigned to Det. 8, 11th Weather squadron, Northeast Cape AFS, Alaska, are providing a new service for personnel on the station. Each evening, a weather summary and forecast is presented as part of the "Three Star Final" news program on the local AFRS television station.

SSgt Angelo P. Synodis, NCOIC of the weather detachment, began making weather broadcasts in January, and the program has been well received by Northeast Cape personnel.

The weather summary, including maximum and minimum temperatures, precipitation, and general weather conditions for the previous 24 hours, is prepared by detachment personnel. The forecast is obtained from Det. 13, 11th Weather squadron, Elmendorf AFB, since only weather observers are assigned to Northeast Cape.

Since the weather detachment is located some two miles from the television station, a remote broadcast technique, using a telephone-microphone technique, is used for presentation of the weather program.

During the weather presentation, photographs of weather station personnel are displayed on the television screen. As an added bonus, this has caused increased recognition of the detachment observers, all of whom have become well known on the station.

Weather scientists say that at any given moment some 1,800 thunderstorms are occurring somewhere in the world.

Marriages

CAMPBELL-HOGAN—A1c Donna G. Hogan of Norton AFB, Calif., to A2c Bruce S. Campbell of Det. 6, 4th Weather squadron, on April 16, 1963 in the base chapel at Norton.

Weather Pioneer Tours Facilities

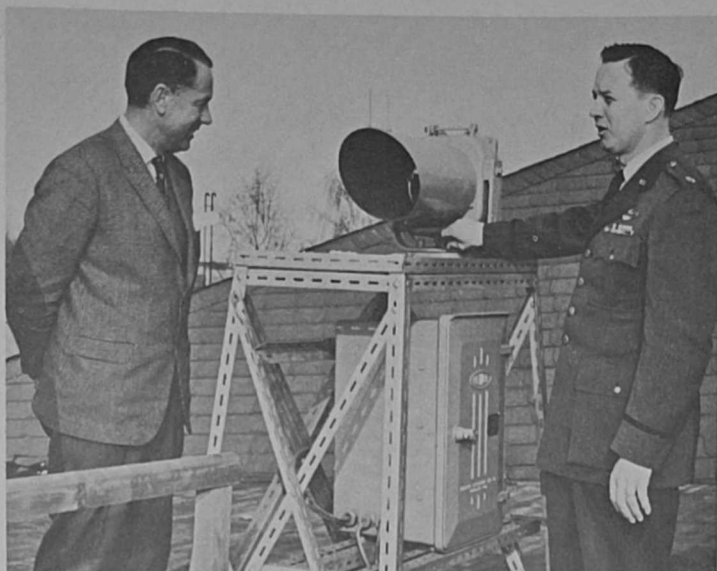
Mr. J. P. Henderson, Director of the British East African Meteorological department at Nairobi, Kenya, recently visited 2d Weather wing, Lindsey AS, Wiesbaden, Germany.

He is one of the foremost authorities on African meteorology, and visited the wing to discuss the exchange of East African data to meet Air Weather Service climatology needs.

Weather support requirements were discussed concerning USAF aircraft operating in East Africa in support of the United Nations.

Tours were made of the wing's field maintenance shop and Det. 26, 31st Weather squadron, where operation of the new, remotely located weather observing facilities were observed.

Mr. Henderson is one of the pioneers in African meteorology, and has spent 25 years in Nairobi. He is chairman of the Telecommunications Work group of the World Meteorology Organization's Regional association number one.



OPERATION of the Transmissometer is explained to Mr. J. P. Henderson (left), Director of the British East Africa Meteorological department by Lt Col William R. Menzie, commander, Det 51, 2d Weather wing.

WB-50 Admirably Fades After Decade of Service

Among the venerable fleet of WB-50 aircraft of the 55th Weather Reconnaissance squadron which are programmed for the "bone yard" at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., is one plane known merely as Number 287.

It, like an old soldier, faded into obscurity after an adventuresome lifetime of service to the nation on May 1, and was only one of the three original 10 to be operational with the 55th WRS. The other two are the 292 and 371.

During its 8,000 hours of flight, which is considered by some maintenance technicians to be a record number for this type of aircraft, this proud, weather-scarred veteran experienced some of the most demanding climatic conditions in a variety of projects and operations around the globe.

Built by the Boeing Aircraft Corporation, Number 287 was accepted by the Air Force on Mar. 31, 1950, assigned to SAC, and for the following three years was used as an operational bomber. Then, after a year and a half in storage, it was extensively modified for weather reconnaissance by Lockheed Aircraft Service, Ontario, Calif., and assigned to the 55th WRS on Dec. 9, 1955. It was the seventh aircraft put into service with AWS after modification by Lockheed. At that time, only 1806 hours of flight time had been logged on her.

During the ensuing years, the big superfortress was used in hurricanes and typhoon penetration, in nuclear test support, in atmospheric sampling programs and in extensive weather collection projects in the Arctic.

Weather developments around the world were scanned and recorded by trained observers through her plexiglass nose. During flights to far off places, more than 4,200,000 gallons of gasoline flowed through her engines and thousands of man-hours were

expended to maintain her intricate mechanisms. In comparison, one of today's modern automobiles could drive from earth to the moon (238,000 miles away) on the same amount of gasoline.

In her brief existence, more than 2,000,000 miles were covered. Recording instruments, called dropsondes, were released hundreds of times from her belly as she continued on her relentless path over the world's remote areas in search of the ever-changing weather.

Now old Number 287, and soon her sister ships, after a decade of dedicated service to the nation, will be moth-balled and possibly scrapped, perhaps emerging anew in another form.

In their place will be sleek, all-jet WB-47s which will carry complex electronic devices to record and transmit weather data quicker to forecasting agencies. A glorious era in aerial weather reconnaissance is nearing the twilight zone.



COMPLETING another flight weather briefing with Capt. John W. McKinney (left), who was returning to his home station, Continental Army Headquarters, Ft Monroe, Va., is TSgt Clive E. Buchan Jr., a forecaster with Det. 2, 16th Weather squadron, Ft Belvoir, Va.

Two Third Wing Weathermen Boast Togetherness Record

Togetherness might well be the term used by Lt Col. Edward G. Dvorak and Maj. Robert W. Wininger, both of 3d Weather wing, Offutt AFB, Nebr., in describing the fact they probably set a new record for the number of times they have been assigned together.

Since 1940, they have worked, usually in the same office, at eight different bases, compiling

an approximate total of six and a half years of joint assignment time.

Their history includes: Weather Observers' school, Scott AFB, Ill., April to June, 1940; Weather Forecasters' school, Chanute AFB, Ill., April to October, 1941; Officers Candidate school, Miami, Fla., June to November, 1943; Hq AWS Operations, Langley AFB, Va., March to June, 1946; and Hq AWS Operations, Gravelly Point, Washington D. C., 1946 to 1947.

Other assignments included Communications and Intelligence division, 2105th Air Weather group, Wiesbaden, Germany, January 1948 to December 1949; 1st Weather wing operations, December 1954 to August 1955; and 3d Weather wing operations, August 1962 until the present.

However, their joint tour spree will soon end. Colonel Dvorak is scheduled to leave 3d wing for an overseas assignment in July while Major Wininger, after 26 years service, ironically plans to retire during the same month.

Missile Badges...

(Continued from page 1) mand, and by AWS resources in manpower, technical skills and logistics.

At present, meteorological planning is accelerating as the missile-testing program goes into high gear. A new weather station will become operational at the Cape in 1964, devoted entirely to missiles, space vehicles and their related problems. The advantages of electronic computers will be used to a degree unknown in the present weather stations, and the most modern weather instruments are programmed to gather the sophisticated data needed on the range.

In particular, Detachment 11 will be asked for observations and forecasts of parameters which have never before been provided by weathermen, such as solar winds, meteoroid densities, ionospheric values and magnetic flux.

But even as the science of meteorology moves toward these exotic parameters, there is an ever-growing need for data on clouds, visibility and wind, since even the most advanced vehicles of the Space Age must be supported by aircraft, surface transport and recovery forces on the broad ocean areas where payloads and manned capsules return to earth.

In short, the weatherman's complexity while "progress" is the order of the day.

Retirees

The following AWS personnel retired on dates indicated. The listing is by rank and month of retirement.

April 30, 1963

Lt Col. Charles E. Archambault, Det. 1, 2d Weather group, McDill AFB, Fla.

Lt Col. Robert E. Beck, 26th Weather squadron, Barksdale AFB, La.

Lt Col. William P. Mellen, 4th Weather group, Andrews AFB, Washington, D. C.

Lt Col. Leo V. Sayre, Det. 11, 12th Weather squadron, Stewart AFB, N. Y.

Lt. Col. Thomas R. Wiser, Hq AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.

Maj. William K. Byle, Det. 14, 24th Weather squadron, Travis AFB, Calif.

Maj. Belton O. Evans, Det. 9, 26th Weather squadron, Chennault AFB, La.

Maj. Chester D. Evans, Det. 19, 21st Weather squadron, APO 289, New York, N. Y.

Maj. Stanley W. Gest, Det. 32, 3d Weather squadron, MacDill AFB, Fla.

Maj. Edward A. Pedycord, Det. 20, 15th Weather squadron, Donaldson AFB, S. C.

Maj. Edward G. Pfeiffer, 26th Weather squadron, Barksdale AFB, La.

Maj. Frank M. Poole, Det. 32, 3d Weather squadron, MacDill AFB, Fla.

Maj. Victor H. Whittier, 55th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif.

Maj. Daniel A. Wypeszynski, Det. 5, 4th Weather squadron, Hamilton AFB, Calif.

CWO W-3 Thomas F. Barber, Det. 12, 12th Weather squadron, Otis AFB, Mass.

CMSgt John W. Galt, 2d Weather group, Langley AFB, Va.

MSgt James A. McCall, Det. 15, 15th Weather squadron, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

MSgt Robert W. Pennock, 56th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, APO 328, San Francisco, Calif.

MSgt Douglas R. Stuckey, Det. 8, 8th Weather squadron, Turner AFB, Ga.

TSgt Roy C. Andersen, 55th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif.

TSgt Guy L. Lappie, 6th Weather squadron, Tinker AFB, Okla.

A1c John E. Morrison, 4th Weather group, Andrews AFB, Washington, D.C.

AWS

in print

"Weather is a literary specialty and no untrained hand can turn out a good article on it." — Mark Twain

Appearing in the April issue of *Aircoop*, the USAF safety magazine, is an article entitled, "What's the Viz?" It was written by CMSgt Keith A. Wilkins, Det. 5, 31st Weather squadron, who has written previous articles for *Aircoop* and for several civilian aviation magazines.

CWO Glass Flies Near Red Border

During a recent visit to Det. 2-3, 7th Weather squadron, Fulda AAF, Germany to survey sites for programming fixed meteorological equipment, CWO Glenn R. Glass, 2d Weather wing, Wiesbaden, Germany, was given an opportunity to participate in an East German border patrol.

CWO Glass had completed field work at Fulda when he was informed that a US Army helicopter was departing for a patrol of the East German border. After a discussion with the aircraft commander, he was invited to accompany the Army team.

Upon completion of the patrol, the 14th Armored Cavalry regiment presented a scroll to CWO Glass which reads in part "... after having undergone the hazards of a trip to the border of the communist world in Germany, thus manifesting a willingness to share in the rigorous life of the cavalry soldier, you are hereby appointed an Honorary Member of the Border Legion."



Glass

Agnostic Chart—A prognostic chart that no one believes.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration buys its rocket boosters from the Air Force.

ON THE

skew-T

Highlights of Air Weather Service personnel at work and play.

AWS Global Report

TSgt Kenneth L. Williams, weather equipment technician with Det. 20, 3d Weather squadron, Pope AFB, N. C., received a \$75 check recently for his suggestion judged best in TAC for the first half of fiscal year 1963. The award was presented by Col. E. H. McCarter, base commander.

Sergeant Williams also won \$25 for a suggestion he submitted while assigned to Myrtle Beach AFB, S. C.

Five petite and charming exchange students from the Republic of Honduras were recently given a tour of Patrick AFB, Fla.

Ranging from ages 15 to 17, the five girls were home guests at Stuart, Fla., where they are attending school.

Lt Col. Peter E. Romo, Det. 11, 4th Weather group commander, was project officer for the tour, while Lt Col. R. Montague, 4th Weather group operations officer, presented a briefing.

The girls and their friends were luncheon guests of the Officers Wives club and in the afternoon inspected a C-131 and C-130 aircraft on the flightline.

Maj. Clarence E. Vicroy jr., commander, Det. 10, 16th Weather squadron, Ft Benning, Ga., recently received the badge of a military parachutist upon his graduation from the airborne course.

Major Vicroy not only serves as detachment commander, but is staff weather officer to the US Army Infantry center, 2d Infantry division, and the newly formed 11th Air Assault division at Ft Benning.

He will use his airborne training by providing direct weather support to the airborne course, Pathfinder operations and the Air Assault division.

Lt Col. Lewis L. Howes, commander, 16th Weather squadron, Ft. Monroe, Va., recently received the Army Commendation medal with first oak leaf cluster from commander, Continental Army Command, General John K. Waters.



Howes

He was cited for distinguished and exceptionally meritorious service.

Fourth Weather group, Andrews AFB, Md., was recently selected from among 19 base units as having the most effective safety program.

Brig. Gen. Clair L. Wood, base commander, presented the Green Cross Safety award to Col. Robert F. Long, group commander.

Selection was based upon accident rate, traffic citations, safe work areas and safety contributions to the base.

TSgt Roscoe Sconyers, communications and training NCO, 11th Weather squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, was recently awarded the Alaskan Air Command Certificate of Appreciation

in recognition of his resourcefulness, devotion to duty, and exemplary service during the period Nov. 1, 1962 to Jan. 10, 1963.

The award was made for a specific management improvement accomplished by him during the two month period.

He developed a map which was to be used during large-scale weather analysis of the Alaskan area. The chart has improved the quality and utility of facsimile products received over the intra-Alaska facsimile network.

A1c Ronald L. McKay has been selected as the 1st Weather wing's airman of the quarter for the first quarter of 1963.

Airman McKay, a seven year service veteran, received the award for his outstanding performance as an administrative specialist in the wing headquarters squadron section.

Two 11th Weather squadron officers have been elected to office in the Polaris Toastmasters club at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

Capt. Loren L. Lorenzen, plans and manpower officer, is new club educational vice president, and Capt. Thomas W. Herndon, Det. 13, 11th Weather squadron, Elmendorf AFB, formerly sergeant-at-arms, is new administrative vice president.

Another weatherman, Maj. William C. Montgomery is the outgoing president of the club, which includes seven members of the squadron in its membership.

A2c John Block jr., was recently chosen airman of the quarter for 8th Weather group, Scott AFB, Ill.

He earned the honor by displaying outstanding devotion to duty during the period Jan. 1 through Mar. 31, 1963.

Block, who hails from Manitowish, Wisc., is assigned to the Equipment Maintenance section, Det. 1, 8th Weather group.

Three members of 7th Weather squadron recently contributed to the success of the European Military Sports Parachute meet held at Coleman Barracks, Mannheim, Germany, April 2-6.

Lt Col. Roy A. Weidman, Det. 50, 7th Weather squadron, Villingen, Germany, presented daily weather briefings to officials of the Parachute Meet.

SSgt K. R. Hammerdorf, Det. 3-4, Mannheim, Germany, and A1c Vellar A. Burke, 7th Weather squadron, Heidelberg, Germany, made daily wind observations for the benefit of both pilots and jumpers.

Mrs. Jennie Kissinger, wife of Maj. Richard B. Kissinger, commander, Det. 7, 7th Weather squadron, Grafenwoehr, Germany has organized a children's choir at Vilsek chapel, Seventh Army Training center, Grafenwoehr.

The choir sings at many Protestant church services in the area. Mrs. Kissinger is an active



Lt Col. and Mrs. Jay T. Treat have announced the engagement of their eldest daughter, Barbara Wesley, to Maurice George Hill, of Fayetteville, Ill. Miss Treat, daughter of AWS Assistant DCS Personnel, is a graduate of Belleville, Ill., Township high school and is now attending Belleville Junior college. Mr. Hill, a member of the Belleville News-Democrat advertising staff, is presently serving as village clerk of Fayetteville and is a member of the Board of Township Auditors. The wedding is planned for July 13 at the base chapel, Scott AFB, Ill.

member of the adult choir and a girl scout leader.

A3c Richard H. Dixon, Det. 7, 16th Weather squadron, Ft Ord, Calif., recently completed 1,000 weather observations without a major error.

In commending Airman Dixon, Maj. Ivan C. Inman, detachment commander, said, "The example you have set for exacting job knowledge, harmony in working with your Army and Air Force co-workers is a challenge to all observers of the detachment."

SSgt Ronald O. Beck has been named 1st Weather wing NCO of the quarter for the first quarter of 1963. He is NCOIC of the unit's Military Assistance and Training section.



Beck

The 28-year-old weather technician, who has been in service since 1955, was selected on the basis of his job knowledge, duty performance, personal conduct and military bearing.

TSgt Walter D. DeHaan, Det. 4, 12th Weather squadron, New York Air Defense sector, McGuire AFB, N. J., recently received the Air Defense Command Commendation certificate from Brig. Gen. Arthur G. Salisbury, sector commander.

Sergeant DeHaan received the award for his initiative, ingenuity, professional ability and devotion to duty which contributed to the success of the Air Defense Command and New York Air Defense sector mission during the period of Nov. 1958 to Mar. 1963.

A1c Richard C. Lewis, weather equipment repairman assigned to the 11th Weather squadron field maintenance shop, has been selected as the Elmendorf AFB, Alaska airman of the month for March 1963.

Airman Lewis is responsible for

AWS Aircraft Support AEC Sampling Project

Six AWS reconnaissance aircraft began providing atmospheric sampling support to the Atomic Energy commission and the Defense Atomic Support agency this month.

Nicknamed "Springfield," the AEC project is attempting to determine the amount of stratospheric nuclear debris which will be deposited on the surface of the earth during the spring and early summer of this year.

AWS aircraft employed by the project include two WB-50 and four B-57 aircraft. The WB-50s will act as pathfinders, searching for general areas of contaminated atmosphere.

When contaminated atmospheric fallout has been discovered, the B-57s will then be directed to obtain samples at specific altitudes.

Dr Edward Danielson, Penn-

sylvania State university, has been appointed technical advisor to insure accurate identification of desired weather phenomena.

At his request AWS will, through the 9th Weather Reconnaissance group, McClellan AFB, Calif., direct appropriate squadrons to accomplish sampling necessary for evaluation of the contaminated atmosphere.

Operation Springfield will require employment of WB-50s for sampling at or below 25,000 feet and of RB-57s for sampling above 25,000 feet. Simultaneous employment of both types of aircraft will provide a thorough analysis of the atmosphere from the earth's surface to 50,000 feet.

After analyzing sampled material, the Defense Atomic Support agency will disseminate the results to AEC and to the Public Health service for subsequent release to the American public.

making scheduled and emergency maintenance visits of 11th Weather squadron detachments and DEW Line stations throughout Alaska.

Maj. Edward T. Badger, Det. 3, 7th Weather squadron, Heidelberg, Germany, has won six out of seven best speaker awards at the Heidelberg Toastmasters club.

As further evidence of his outstanding public speaking ability, he was selected to be the announcer for the European Class A and B high school basketball games held at Heidelberg during March.

Teams included representatives from England, Germany and France.

Lt Col. Felix A. Rogers, director of materiel 2d Weather wing, Wiesbaden, Germany, was recently presented a



Rogers

certificate announcing his selection as an outstanding supply officer for 1962.

The presentation was made by Col. Richard M. Gill, wing commander. The purpose of the special designation is to identify and recognize officers who have demonstrated outstanding proficiency in supply duties.



INSTALLATION of seat belts in the automobile of SSgt Carroll J. Phinney (center) marked Det. 6, 21st Weather squadron, Nouasseur AB, Morocco as the first unit to obtain 100 percent participation in the base seat belt program. Voluntary installation of seat belts was accomplished in all 12 vehicles owned by detachment personnel. Helping Sergeant Phinney with the installation are Maj. Robert E. Walker (left), detachment commander, and TSgt Kirby C. Nickell, ground Safety NCO.

Forecast Section Officially Opens

Det. 8, 7th Weather squadron forecasting section at Brienne-Le-Chateau Army airfield, France, has been officially opened.

Lt Col. Roland V. Jager, commander, US Army Aviation Maintenance activity, Brienne-Le-Chateau, officially opened the section during a tape-cutting ceremony in the forecast briefing section.

Colonel Jager, along with his pilot, Maj. Wellion F. Dobbins, operations officer, received the first weather briefing for a flight to Mannheim, Germany.

The detachment was activated as an observing unit Dec. 20, 1962, and upon arrival of 1st Lt Baxter E. Hogue, commander, work began to expand the observing section and to install a forecasting capability.

Teletype communications are maintained with Army and Air Force weather stations in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, as well as major European cities in which weather information is exchanged.

Three Officers . . .

(Continued from page 1)
to get the aircraft safely airborne. While analyzing his problem, he overheard other sampler aircraft returning from a mission requesting landing instructions.

Despite his precarious situation, he requested they be given priority to land, realizing that an unsuccessful landing by him coupled with low fuel supply of the other aircraft would jeopardize their landing. A short while later he brought the crippled aircraft in without incident.

Capt. James L. Goodnight, pilot, and Thomas D. Herring, navigator, both of the 54th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, Andersen AFB, Guam, M. I., received awards for their display of outstanding professional airmanship on Aug. 10, 1962.

Using sound judgment and professional skill they made a successful gear-up emergency landing of a B-57 jet reconnaissance aircraft at Andersen.

Due to the night weather condition and being in the vicinity of populous areas of Guam, a gear-up landing was attempted rather than ejection from the aircraft. Prior to landing, the canopy jettison system failed to activate, and the cockpit became filled with smoke.

Both officers became half-blinded by exploding canopy detonators and still managed a successful gear-up landing with absolute minimum damage to the aircraft and no personal injury.

In January, Captain Goodnight was awarded the Air Medal for his meritorious achievement.

The MATS Outstanding Safety Achievement award consists of a plastic plaque, embossed with the recipient's name and the citation, "For Outstanding Achievement in Flight Safety," followed by the appropriate date. It provides tangible evidence of a recognized feat in the field of safety.



CUTTING the tape to officially open the Det. 8, 7th Weather squadron forecasting section is Lt Col. Roland V. Jager, commander, Army Aviation Maintenance activity, Brienne-Le-Chateau, France. Looking on are 1st Lt Baxter E. Hogue (left), detachment commander, and TSgt Nick Haydukovich (center), chief forecaster.

Telephone Facility at Fuchu Provides Weather Forecasts

The telephone weather forecast facility at the Fuchu AS, Japan Weather central has received over one and a quarter million calls since it was installed in 1957.

The facility, "Fuchu 458," provides Tokyo area weather forecasts, placing wind forecasts, temperature and general weather

conditions at the user's finger tips.

Lt Col. James W. Walker, commander, Det. 1, 1st Weather wing, said "I'm continually amazed at the number of calls we get. Last year we received over 150,000 calls. Already this year we have received over 30,000 calls for weather data."

The taped forecasts are brought up to date every three hours during normal operations and immediately when special storm or typhoon warnings are received. Weather Central meteorologists record the forecasts in a closet-sized room on the "jury-rigged," specially wired tape recorders which play back information when ever the phone number is called.

New equipment especially designed for automatic telephone answering use is scheduled to replace the battered machines now operational.

"Battered or not, those machines handled 5,111 calls in one seven day period last June," Colonel Walker said, pointing to figures in a log book, "and that's 730 calls a day."

Next Issue



Burdett Sings In Opera Role

1st Lt. Ronald Burdett, Det. 27, 12th Weather squadron, Hancock Field, recently sang an opera role at Syracuse, N. Y.

A tenor, Lieutenant Burdett sang the role of the Sandman in Humperdinck's fairy tale opera, "Hansel and Gretel." The opera was presented by the Syracuse Inter-City opera workshop.

An active member of the Inter-City workshop, he is a veteran of the St. Louis Municipal opera, having sung there during the summer while studying mechanical engineering.

His latest appearance on stage, before entering the Air Force, was in the title role of "Little Abner." He has had featured roles in "Damn Yankees," "Amahl and the Night Visitors" and "Most Happy Fella."



RECORDING the latest weather forecast information on a specially rigged machine is A1c Kenneth M. Jackson, Det. 1, 1st Weather wing. Tokyo-area weather information is brought up to date every three hours and played back when "Fuchu 458" is dialed on the telephone.

Weather Station Opens At Fort Leonard Wood

Last month Air Force and Army officials participated in the opening of a modern air weather station at Forney airfield, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Attending the dedication of the new facility, which fills a weather forecasting gap between central Missouri and Arkansas, were Brig. Gen. Roy W. Nelson jr., AWS commander, and Maj. Gen. L. E. Seeman, Fort Wood commanding general. Lt Col. Frank Bennett, Fort Leavenworth, Kan., weather station commander, was

also on hand for the event.

The air conditioned Fort Wood weather station consists of a forecaster briefing section, observing section, communications room with four teletype circuits, one facsimile and an ozalid reproduction machine.

Other than the usual equipment for ascertaining pressure, temperature, humidity and wind, the station will have a fixed ceilometer, a device to automatically measure ceiling height. More equipment is planned for the station including weather radar.

Operating the station is Det. 18, 16th Weather squadron. Presently the detachment consists of eight enlisted men and one officer, but full strength will be eleven men.

The station operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Observing is done round-the-clock, while forecasting is done ten hours per day, five days a week, with four hours of forecasting on Saturday. The unit is on call at all other times.

The station will provide timely weather observations of the current weather conditions with observations being disseminated by teletype all over the US. Aircraft within radio range of the airfield can request weather data through the Forney Field tower radio.

The detachment will also provide advance warning of severe weather. From the teletype network, the station will receive advisories of severe weather, analyzing and issuing warnings for the local area.

Detachment 18 is commanded by Capt. Wayne M. Wandland.

Major's Costume Proves Ancestry

A new weekly program at the RAF Station, Upper Heyford, England Officers Open mess, recently brought out the Scottish ancestry in Maj. William E. Woodside, commander, Det. 17, 28th Weather squadron.

The program, "Cozy Cocktail Hour," is held every Friday night from 6 to 7 p. m. for Heyford officers in the cocktail lounge and features refreshments provided by club members.

Wives host the weekly gatherings which are attended by large crowds who enjoy the light entertainment and conversation.

During March, Major Woodside broke tradition and became the first single man to take on the hostess job. To provide the right atmosphere, he wore full Highland dress, complete with kilt.

Commendation Medals

US Air Force Commendation Medals for the period of time listed have been recently awarded or approved for presentation to the following AWS personnel:

Lt Col. Edward R. Dvorak, 3d Weather wing, from July 23, 1959 to April 1, 1963.

Lt Col. Carl H. Helman jr., 4th Weather wing, July 19, 1960 to April 5, 1963.

Lt Col. Reed W. Lutz, Det. 3, 8th Weather squadron, from Sept. 1, 1961 to Apr. 1, 1963.

Lt Col. Bernard Zavos, 1st Weather wing, from Sept. 5, 1961 to Apr. 22, 1963.

Maj. John E. Booth, Hq AWS, from July 15, 1961 to Apr. 19, 1963.

Maj. Everett L. Jasper, 1110th Balloon Activities squadron, from Sept. 28, 1961 to Dec. 31, 1961, and 1212th Balloon Activities squadron, from Jan. 1, 1962 to Mar. 31, 1963.

Maj. Frank M. Poole, Det. 32, 3d Weather squadron, from Oct. 1, 1962 to Jan. 1, 1963.

Capt. Albert B. Hollinden, 1st Weather wing, from July 21, 1961 to Apr. 3, 1963.

Capt. Ray E. Stratton, 56th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, from Mar. 2, 1960 to Mar. 5, 1963.

CMSgt John W. Galt, Det. 2, 2d Weather group, from Nov. 13, 1959 to Apr. 15, 1963.

CMSgt Bobby C. Hughes, 1st Weather wing, from Dec. 1, 1961 to Apr. 1, 1963.

SMSgt Donald M. Garnett, 6th Weather squadron (Mobile), from July 1, 1955 to Apr. 2, 1962.

SMSgt Edgar D. Revis, Det. 2, 2d Weather group, from Aug. 4, 1959 to May 10, 1963.

SSgt Donald R. Jones, 31st Weather squadron, from Sept. 1, 1961 to July 15, 1962.

Observer . . .

(Continued from page 1)
countered at Cape Lisburne.

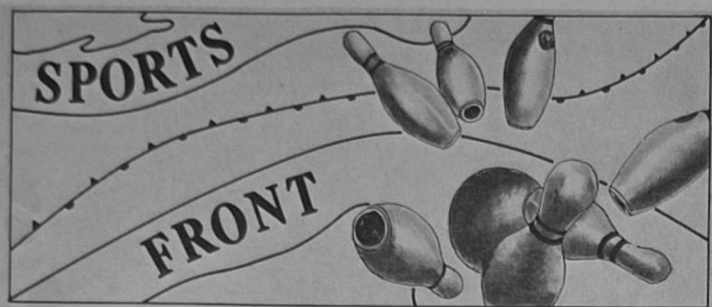
In December 1962, a fire occurred which threatened to involve the weather station building, and observers had to move their equipment to a temporary location near the runway and continue operations without interruption.

The initiative, devotion to duty, and esprit de corps of the observers during this incident enabled them to continue providing high caliber weather support during a critical period of increased air operations.

SSgt Edward J. Martineau, NCO in charge of Detachment 9 during the period, has been awarded the Alaskan Air Command certificate of appreciation in recognition of his superior technical knowledge and leadership ability. He was recently reassigned to Det. 3, 3d Weather squadron, Myrtle Beach AFB, S. C.

Births

MASTERSON, SSgt and Mrs. Richard L., a son, Steven Anthony, born April 23, 1963 at USAF Hospital, Schilling AFB, Kan. Father assigned to Det. 9, 9th Weather squadron, Schilling AFB, Kan.



By SSgt Milton J. Lehart

With spring about to terminate, our weather athletes around the globe are now deeply involved in the yearly "warm weather" sports. Baseball, track, fishing and golf have been dominating the areas of interest, with a few loyal bowlers refusing to trade those pins for a little sunshine.

Take the case of Maj. Robert Preer, Det. 6, 24th Weather squadron, who on May 4th was a member of the 451st Strategic Missile wing team that appeared on the Johnny Haas Challenge Bowl weekly television match in Denver, Colo. Of course with a 195 average who can blame him.

Down by the Riverside (near March AFB, Calif.), Col. Arnold Hull captured first place in the special 22d Bomb wing golf meet totaling 68 strokes.

Base intramural bowling ended at Laughlin AFB, Texas and Det. 20, 24th Weather squadron finished a strong second, after losing a roll-off for the championship to the Medics. Team members included: Maj. H. F. Kunkel, CWO F. B. Haymond, TSgt S. F. Kantor, SSgt D. C. Perryman (team captain), SSgt J. O. Sandoval, A1c E. L. Propps, A2c R. E. Aeschliman, A2c K. G. Bartley and A3c H. A. Arnold.

The end of the intramural volleyball league at Patrick AFB, Fla., last month must have been frustrating for the weather entry, since they failed to win a game. Now they'll have to wait until next season to seek revenge.

A1c Charles J. Andersen, Det. 7, 7th Weather squadron has turned coach. He's using his talents to direct and help train teams in the Seventh Army Babe Ruth League at Grafenwoehr, Germany. And there are a few other weathermen throughout the command who have volunteered to help "youngins" become more proficient in the various spring sports. Hats off to you all.

Both headquarters bowling teams won their respective second half championships in the Scott AFB intramural play, and will roll-off with the first half winners. Who knows? They might even meet each other in the A and B championship finals.

The headquarters softball team has been working diligently thus far in an effort to reach the intramural playoffs this year. And from the looks of things they may just do it. A tough luck last inning loss to last year's champs (AFCS) in the season opener was a sad beginning, but a come-from-behind win in the next encounter evened-up their record to date.

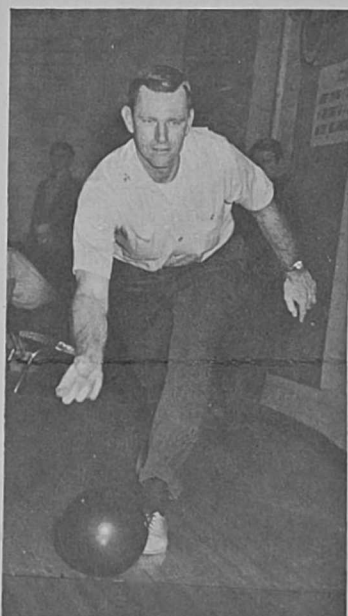
A1c Dennis Schlegel and A1c Thomas Ward also play on the Scott AFB team, while another weatherman, SSgt Raymond Mingo, although ineligible for intramural play due to umpiring duties, is a pitcher on the base squad.

Turning for a split second to major league baseball, what do you think of those St. Louis Cardinals? Although I still like the Giants and Reds, I have to admit the Redbirds may have that outside chance. After all, in the last five seasons the National League has had five different champions. But, time will tell.

As a closing thought, it has become quite apparent throughout the years in all sports, the real champs are those that can win the close ones. Army coach Paul Dietzel put it this way: "In football you don't win, you keep from losing."



THESE are the ones that didn't get away. TSgt William D. Corbett displays a prize catch of black bass and crappies that he and A2c Donald Bachman, both of Det. 1, 9th Weather squadron, caught while fishing in Lake McClure, just 30 miles east of Castle AFB, Calif. Their secret: patience, skill, luck and a few plastic worms.



DISPLAYING the form he used to set a new Australia bowling record is Capt. Lewis A. Elam II, navigator with the 57th WRS, Avalon airfield, Australia.

Third Wing Rolls Past All Opposition

The Early Bird Winter Bowling league at Offutt AFB, Nebr., had their final roll-off last month after a 30 week stint of 90 games. The competition was keen and the victors were not determined until the final evening.

The 3d Weather wing "twisters" took first place. Captained by Lt Col. Edward R. Dvorak, the weather team paced themselves throughout the final round and emerged victorious. Other team members included: Col. Russell K. Pierce, Lt Col. Murel Goodman, Lt Col. Wayne C. Bogard, Lt Col. Merle E. Wilson, Maj. Vernon H. Hahn, Maj. Billie McColeman, Maj. John Ball, Maj. Robert W. Winger, and Maj. William C. Anderson.

An astronaut's aluminized nylon and rubber space suit weighs about 20 pounds and consists of more than 1,600 parts.

Navigator Breaks Bowling Record

Within five months as a navigator with the 57th Weather Reconnaissance squadron, Avalon Airfield, Australia, Capt. Lewis A. Elam II has gained recognition as being one of Australia's outstanding bowlers, averaging 190 pins per game. Recently he established a new Australian record for a six-game tournament by setting pace with a 207 average. In five months of bowling competition Captain Elam has won four trophies and 400 pounds (approximately \$900).

Captain Bags Hole-in-One

Capt. Robert G. Cobb, Det. 10, 24th Weather squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas, recently shot a hole in one.

He used a No. 4 wood on the 180 yard, par three, No. 12 hole at the Randolph AFB golf course to score the perfect shot.

Witnessing the solo shot were CMSgt Jessie Cope, SSgt Gerald Johnson, and CMSgt A. Watkins, all stationed at Randolph.

Vibration and temperature extremes are the main causes of space equipment failures.

A1c Pieper Wins Base Golf Crown

A1c Walter Pieper, Det. 30, 25th Weather squadron, Luke AFB, Ariz., recently captured top honors in the 1963 Luke AFB three day golf tournament.

Pieper won the base championship from a field of 76 linksmen with a 54-hole total of 227.

After taking the lead with a two over par 73 on opening day, he never relinquished the lead and held on to take first place by three strokes.

Airman Pieper and the next four finishers will compose the Luke AFB golf team which will represent the base in the Arizona Interleague championship play this month, and in future tournaments this year.



DISPLAYING trophies he won during a Luke AFB, Ariz. golf tournament is A1c Walter Pieper, Det. 30, 25th Weather squadron, Luke AFB, Ariz.

Unit Weathermen Win Bowling Title

Weathermen of 9th Weather squadron, March AFB, Calif., took first place in the 1962-1963 Hq 15th Air Force Bowling league which ended April 1.

The weather division took 85 points out of a possible 104, while the runner-up team earned 67½ points.

Col. Herman D. Janney, director of personnel, Hq 15th Air Force, presented the first place trophy to team members.

They included Capt. Chester C. Lukasiewicz, Lt Col. Horace M. King, Capt. Milton H. Sipple jr., Maj. Donald K. McGaughey, Maj. Frank P. Purvis, SSgt John A. Maio, and TSgt Robert L. Simpson.



TUSSLING for a mask and the starting catcher's position on the Hq AWS softball team are A1c's Thomas E. Ward (left) and John J. Lohran, both of Hq AWS.

