

AIR WEATHER SERVICE

OBSERVER

Vol. 21, No. 3

Headquarters, Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, IL

March 1974



"I ACCEPT COMMAND" are the words of Col. John W. Collens as he salutes Lt. Gen. Jay T. Robbins, vice commander of the Military Airlift Command during a change-of-command ceremony in the Scott AFB theater. Colonel (Brig. Gen. Sel.) Collens assumed command of the Air Weather

Service Feb. 15 as Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Aldrich relinquished command of the AWS to accept the post as deputy chief of staff for Plans, MAC. General Aldrich has also been selected to be promoted to major general. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

3d WW gets new CO, Vice CO

The 3rd Weather Wing at Offutt AFB, NE has a new commander and a new vice commander as a result of recent command changes throughout the Air Weather Service.

Col. B. W. Rowe assumed command of the wing Feb. 7, and Col. William D. Brockmeyer became the wing vice commander March 3.

Prior to his new assignment, Colonel Rowe was vice commander of the wing, and Colonel Brockmeyer was director of Aerospace Sciences at Headquarters, Air Weather Service before going to Offutt.

Colonel Rowe succeeded Col. James H. Gillard who became commander of the 9th WRS at McClellan AFB, CA last month.

Colonel Rowe is a native of Kanarra, UT and he received his childhood education in Las

Vegas, NE public schools. He served three years as an enlisted man during World War II and then attended Utah State University where he obtained a bachelor of science degree in political science in 1949. He was commissioned second lieutenant in October 1949 in the regular Air Force through the Air Force ROTC program where he was a Distinguished Military Graduate.

Colonel Rowe received his bachelor of science degree in meteorology from Pennsylvania State University. His professional military education includes resident courses at Air Tactical School and Air Command and Staff College.

Some of his prior assignments include Inspector General, Air Weather Service; Commander, 1st Weather Group, Tan Son

Nhut AB, Vietnam, and deputy assistant for Weather, Headquarters USAF.

Colonel Brockmeyer is a native of Baltimore, MD and attended Mt. St. Joseph's High School. He received his bachelor of science degree in secondary education from the University of Maryland in 1951 where he participated in the Air Force ROTC program and was a member of the Pershing Rifles precision drill team. The colonel earned a bachelor of science degree in meteorology in 1952 and a master of science degree in 1957 from Pennsylvania State University.

His assignments throughout his career have been varied throughout the Air Weather Service and the world. Some of those assignments include the 31st Weather Squadron in Germany where he was one of the forecasters who opened the 2nd Weather Wing unit now known as the European Tactical Forecast Center at Kindsbach.

Colonel Brockmeyer also served as chief forecaster for the 1st Weather Wing detachment at Kadena AB, Okinawa, and as deputy chief of staff operations in AWS headquarters. In the late 60s he was staff weather officer to the U.S. Taiwan Defense command, the U.S. Military Advisory and Assistance Group and the USAF 327th Air Division.

The colonel's next assignment was as chief, Aerospace Sciences Division, with the 6th Weather Wing at Andrews AFB, MD where he stayed until his most recent assignment in the Air Weather Service headquarters.

AWS Junior Officers hear General Aldrich

by Capt. Henry A. Chary
Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Aldrich (Maj. Gen. Sel.), met informally with the Headquarters Air Weather Service junior officer to discuss the problems faced by junior officer and to offer career advice.

In his opening remarks General Aldrich told the junior officers to set their goals high. No single factor, be it education, a flying job or whatever, is the key to advancement. Rather, the "Whole-Man" concept is important. To this end self-improvement and career broadening can be most helpful. The general added that career success for the married man is a family affair; for without the support and sacrifice of the wife and children, the road to the top is difficult if not impossible to travel.

Some of the career irritants causing junior officers to leave the Air Force are the same hardships that must be faced by the family of the advancing officer; family separation, frequent moves, undesirable assignments, etc. Another junior officer sore point is the sometimes lack of a match between job and training. General Aldrich noted

that there is no "true" match, but that it is the dynamic officer who adapts his training and himself to his job.

On the perennial question of haircuts, General Aldrich noted that, indeed, we in the Air Force are different from our civilian counterparts. The public we serve expects us to set and live by high standards. We chose to wear the Air Force blue. We should all be proud of it, and we should want everyone to know it by our appearance and conduct.

As to the future, General Aldrich foresees no significant changes in the need for advanced degrees and no great changes in the promotion system. And in the past, so too in the future, it is the dynamic officer who seeks self-improvement and a wide range of experience in demanding jobs who will succeed.

Future meetings of this type with Col. (Brig. Gen. Sel.) John W. Collens III are expected. The benefits both to the commander and to the junior officers will justify the time spent. Questions and comments from the field are welcomed and should be sent to AWS Junior Officer Council, Scott AFB, IL 62225.

'Mother' Gibbs lets Roger Recon join MAC

HQ. MAC, SCOTT AFB, IL (MNS) -- "Everywhere I go people call me 'Roger' and I am sometimes even introduced as his mother." These are the words of Carmen Gibbs talking about her favorite cartoon character, "Roger Recon."

The wife of TSgt. Richard Gibbs of Detachment 19, 15th Weather Squadron, Lajes Field, Azores, Carmen created "Roger" to help promote resources conservation within the Military Airlift Command (MAC). "I decided what we needed was a humorous character who would appeal to everyone on the base, including dependents," she said.

The cartoons were first placed on the back of the Lajes TV schedule to assure that they would get into people's homes. "Roger" was such a hit that he became a TV star and now even does poems on radio.

His most recent contract calls for his appearance in MAC publications which are viewed worldwide. "Roger," who is already a household word at Lajes, may very well become the greatest energy conservationist in history.

Mrs. Gibbs is currently the secretary to the deputy commander for Logistics, Headquarters 1605th Air Base Wing at Lajes. In addition to "Roger," she is also the mother of three children, ages 14, 12 and 10.

Anyone having an energy conservation idea which they would like "Roger" to deal with can forward it to Mrs. Gibbs at the 1605th ABWg/IG, APO New York 09406. In the meantime, watch for the masked marvel as he does his thing for the "energy crunch."



Col. Rowe



Col. Brockmeyer



Maj. Gen. (Sel.)
Thomas A. Aldrich

Command Line



Brig. Gen. (Sel.)
John W. Collens III

I have been your commander for just about half a year, and suddenly its time for me to move on. During my brief stay as commander of the Air Weather Service I have been very much impressed by the positive attitude of our people. This AWS tradition of not only CAN DO but WILL DO, regardless of the difficulties encountered, is unmatched anywhere. I have seen the morale of AWS decline in the face of drawdowns, and rebound with faith in the future.

While I look forward to many new and different challenges in my job at MAC Plans, I still expect to have the opportunity to actively share with you in the bright future of AWS. During my career I have worked in many jobs, served with many people, and experienced the highs and lows of victory and of set-back. My tour at the helm of AWS surely is one of the truly bright spots in my career. For this I thank each and every one of you, for a command is only as good as its people.

I confidently leave AWS in good hands with Colonel (Brig. Gen. sel.) Collens as your commander. I know that you will work as hard for him as you have for me and for my predecessors. To all of you in the great AWS family, my wife and I offer our heart-felt thanks and our best wishes for continued success in the future.

In assuming command of the Air Weather Service, I am fulfilling an ambition. But more importantly, I see this as an opportunity for us to reach still unattained goals.

The future of AWS is bright because we constitute the most diversified meteorological organization in the world. I know that we shall continue to maintain a dedicated corps serving our customers. Let us never forget that providing the finest environmental support to our users is the primary mission. All actions at the various organizational levels must be dedicated to that end.

I am indeed grateful to have been chosen commander of AWS. In the months ahead I will be able to see many of you. Together our goal must be to set new records of excellence. Challenge and opportunity abound. Grab your share of the tougher tasks and let's press on.

Weather Whys??

Weather Whys?? is a regular feature of the Air Weather Observer. The questions come from you and the answers come from the Air Weather Service commander and his staff. If you have a question, send it to Commander, Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, Ill. 62225. Each question will be answered; however, all of the questions and answers may not be published in the Observer because of space limitations.

Question: Why do maintenance men always get stuck with being the unit supply NCO?

Answer: He doesn't! There are many additional duties which must be performed within a unit. But, the maintenance man, being exposed to supply in the areas of bench stock, requisitions for PM materials, and establishing special levels, is a natural for the supply NCO in many cases. However, I am not advocating that all maintenance men be supply NCOs--this is up to each Detco. He is given men and materials to perform a mission and he is responsible for managing these resources. If he wants the maintenance man as his supply NCO, then so be it!

Question: As a senior NCO, what are the outlooks for future responsible jobs in AWS?

Answer: Glad you asked. This very subject was discussed at a Retention Woodshed at HQ AWS on 21 November 73. Some of the recommendations that resulted from the meeting include:
-Making senior NCOs Detachment Commanders for some of our smaller detachments, including senior NCO forecasters in important AWS staff positions, e.g., DOF, and allowing senior NCO maintenance men to be Commanders of selected IMSS.

-Modified AF educational program which would allow the senior NCO to obtain a degree through AFIT and remain in the NCO ranks.

-Recommend use of more senior NCOs in the MAC/IG deputation. This would include the 252, 253, and 302 career fields.

-Establishing a unique job assignments manual aimed at the senior NCO.

These are just some of the recommendations and the discussion on utilization of senior NCOs is continuing. If you have any suggestions/recommendations in this area, pass them along!

Question: When I graduated from Technical School in 1970, I filled out my AF Form 392 and volunteered for an overseas country. Since then I have made two PCSs and I thought the volunteer statement was invalid. However, I recently received an assignment overseas as a volunteer and when I told the CBPO that I wasn't a volunteer, they said I was. Is this correct and what can I do about it?

Answer: Yes, I'm afraid it's true. Once a volunteer you remain a volunteer until you actually sign an AF Form 392 stating otherwise. You should have noticed this during your annual records review and had it changed. While I'm on the subject, I would like to stress the importance of up-to-date records. When you conduct your records review, make sure that all data, i.e., rotation dates, dates of rank, overseas return dates, etc., are current. It is very important and you can be hurt by incorrect entries.

Maj. Fischer receives first Best Award

HICKAM AFB, HI -- Maj. Hans-Joachim E. Fischer was recently presented the AWS Best Award during ceremonies held at the Headquarters, 1st Weather Wing. This was the first year the award was given.

The award is for recognition

of individual excellence in performing environmental service support at staff level and is named in honor of Brigadier General (Ret.) William H. Best, Jr., Commander of the Air Weather Service, from 1970 to 1973.

Major Fischer was selected for this award due to his performance while stationed at Detachment 6, 6th Weather Wing, L. G. Hanscom Field, Bedford, MA. His accomplishments included advice to the COBRA TALON Program Manager concerning tropospheric and ionospheric corrections. He enabled the program manager to save Air Force funds by recommending the use of AWS equipment in lieu of contractor assistance.

Major Fischer is currently assigned as Space Environmental Operations Officer, at Hq., 1st Weather Wing.

Register to vote

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- March 1974 has been designated Military Voter Registration Month and Sept. 24 will be Armed Forces Voter Day, according to Defense Department plans for its 1974 voting assistance program.

The plans also revealed that distribution of Federal post

card applications for absentee ballots will take place in August and September.

Members desiring information in such areas as details about primaries, and the Nov. 5 general election should contact local voting officers or counselors.

Swap List

The following AWS personnel have indicated a desire to swap assignments with another individual in the same AFSC:

25251 - Sgt. Richard A. Skirko at Avon Part Range, FL (Box 1200 OL A, Avon Park, FL 33825) wants Patrick AFB, FL.
25251 - A1C Roberts, Eugene S., at Hurlburt AFB, FL (Rt 1, Box 57G No. 4, Mary Esther, FL 32569) wants Hill AFB, UT.
25251 - Sgt. Daniel W. Y. Woo at March AFB, CA (PSC Box 1003) wants Travis or Hamilton AFB, CA.

25251 - A1C Miles S. Muzio at Ellington AFB, TX (CMR Box 88) wants any AFB in SAUS 2 or 4.

30250 - Sgt. Mike C. Connelly at Ft. Stewart, GA (Det 19, 16 WS) wants Dobbins AFB, GA.

70250 - Sgt. Clifford M. Greene at McClellan AFB, CA (55 WRS) wants Scott AFB, IL.
25251 - A1C John A. Clark at Offutt AFB, NE (PSC No. 2, Box 6297) wants Keesler or Columbus AFB, MS.

Swap List

The Observer Airman Assignment Exchange list is designed to serve Air Weather Service personnel. The eligibility rules for exchanging assignments are contained in AFR 39-11. If you meet the criteria and would like to swap, fill in the coupon and send it to AWS/CMS, Scott AFB, Ill. 62225.

Present Wing: (Circle One)

1 WW 2 WW 3 WW 5 WW 6 WW 9 WW

Name: _____ Rank: _____
(Last, First, MI)

CAFSC: _____

Present Base: _____

Mail Address: _____

Want to go: _____
(Base)

AIR WEATHER SERVICE

OBSERVER

The Air Weather Service OBSERVER is an official Class 5 Air Force newspaper published monthly for personnel of the worldwide Air Weather Service of the Military Airlift Command and under the supervision of the Office of Information, Headquarters, Military Airlift Command, Scott AFB, Ill. 62225. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Air Force.

Material which appears herein may be reprinted without permission, but credit to the Air Weather Service OBSERVER is requested. News, feature, art and photographic material is solicited from readers, but publication depends on the judgment of the OBSERVER staff. No payment will be made for contributions. Paid advertising is not accepted.

COL. (BRIG. GEN. SEL.) JOHN W. COLLENS III
Commander, Air Weather Service

ALBERT H. SWIHART
Editor

Pearls from the Palace

The Rated Supplement

Part IV

Lt. Col. David E. Smart

This is the fourth and final article in a four-part series on the rated supplement. This series has covered the rationale and need for the rated supplement, supplement entry, supplement tour, and now the supplement exit.

Every supplement officer is reviewed for return to rated duties. Those weather officers in the supplement overseas, on stabilized tours (Code 50), or assigned in 25XX duties outside of MAC/AWS must be reassigned by the Air Force Military Personnel Center (AFMPC) at the end of their tours. They receive their supplement review at the start of the reassignment cycle or nine months prior to their tour completion.

The review of officers who are not on stabilized tours or overseas begins earlier. For these officers, the records review begins at AFMPC 12 months prior to their tour completion dates. If selected for rated duty, the major command is notified and instructed to advise the officer to update his AF Form 90 to reflect his rated duty preferences. Nine months prior to his supplement completion date, his records enter the normal nine-month assignment cycle. His assignment is then worked by the rated management team at AFMPC. If an officer is not selected to return to rated duty, his supplement completion date is extended.

The decision logic used during the review to determine if an officer is to return to rated duty is based upon manning

requirements and TOPLINE philosophy. Senior field grade officers are often extended in the supplement if they have qualified for their advanced aeronautical rating, are remote ineligible, and are performing well in their weather officer duties. Except in unusual cases the remaining rated supplement officers will be returned to rated duty if they have been in the supplement three or more years on their completion date. This insures the young rated officer is returned to a flying job to update his operational flying expertise and proficiency as outlined in the TOPLINE guidelines.

Finally, the purpose of the rated supplement must be kept in perspective. Its basic concept is to provide a resource of trained rated personnel to meet increased rated requirements during contingencies. At the same time, it provides the rated officer an opportunity to broaden into nonrated specialties at an early point in his career. To the nonrated officer it offers protection against too many rated personnel in any one career field and thereby affords the nonrated officer continued career opportunities and visibility with the chance to compete equally with the rated officer.

should be available by 15 Feb. 74.

-Many airmen/NCOs are volunteers for overseas and when selected for the country of their choice, they do not want to go? Make sure your AF Form 392 is current and reflects your desires.

-8.0306% of all eligible TSgts were promoted to MSgt and 7.6475% of eligible SSgts were promoted to TSgt during the 74B cycle?

-All first-term airmen with a date of separation on or before 30 Jun 1974 will be involuntarily separated NLT 31 Mar 74 unless he (she) desires to reenlist or unless it will cause an undue personal hardship?

-The AWS EOTNCO is CMSgt Parish and can be contacted at AWS/CMS, Scott AFB, or telephone 638-3802?

-The accompanied overseas tours have been rolled back to 36 months? Those already on an overseas tour of 48 months can have their tour adjusted.

-There is a Palace Flick available at your CBPO which deals with just about every item covered in this column?

The Enlisted Line

Personnel Shorts from the Senior Airman Advisor

Did you know that:

-AWS no longer has a personnel function? So, if you have any questions concerning assignments, contact your local CBPO. If you have problems with an assignment and it cannot be resolved locally, the AWS Senior Airman Advisor may be contacted at Autovon 638-3802.

-MSgts, SMSgts, and CMSgts are authorized direct contact with MAC for information on assignments? The contact is CMSgt Didier at Autovon 638-3145.

-E-4s with over two years' service are authorized dependent travel entitlements?

-ECI offers a non-resident course for the USAF Senior NCO Academy? ECI Course 8.

-If you're a career airman meeting certain criteria you may request voluntary termination of your enlistment contract?

-MAC has revised its selection procedures for the USAF Senior NCO Academy in residence course? The new procedures will work on a quota nomination system. AWS quotas

Ethiopian completes training

MACDILL AFB, FL -- An Imperial Ethiopian Air Force sergeant recently completed his Weather Forecaster Specialist Training here with the 1st Weather Squadron.

SSgt. Birhanu Getachew came to Florida after completing the Weather Technician Course at Chanute AFB, IL. He was the

first foreign student to take the training here.

Sergeant Getachew was a seven year veteran in the Ethiopian Air Force prior to coming to the United States for training. He was a weather forecaster assistant and will be a forecaster technician upon his return to his home duty station.

Before the sergeant departed here, a banquet was held in his honor at the NCO Club where he was presented a jacket as a going-away gift by Col. Earl J. Barrows, commander, 1st WS.

Sergeant Getachew took a delay-en-route leave and spent two weeks sightseeing in New York City.

106 NCOs get promotion

Headquarters AWS extends congratulations to the following NCOs who were selected for promotion during the 74B cycle.

TO TSgt.

Observers - 25271

Dell K. Allison	Det. 11, 6 WW
William R. Bays	Det. 16, 31 WS
Jacob W. Bjorne	Det. 5, 1 WW
Rodger A. Black	6 WS
Thomas C. Cannon	Det. 17, 20 WS
George G. Elbe	Det. 10, 5 WW
Walter S. Gocek	OL F, 11 WS
Wayne Gray	53 WRS
Robert F. Houghes	Det. 2, 11 WS
Leonard C. Hume, Jr.	Det. 23, 3 WW
Charles S. Irby	Det. 75, 5 WW
Donald K. Kugler	3 WW
Harold J. Maille	Det. 2, 11 WS
James B. McClain	54 WS
Ralph D. Moore	11 WS
Jerry E. Morgan	Det. 5, 1 WW
John F. Mullins	31 WS
Raymond H. O'Connor	GWC
Thomas A. Rector	Det. 2, 24 WS
Stanley A. Roubush	OL H, 11 WS
Glenn W. Steward	OL C, Det. 8, 12 WS
Robert E. Thies	Det. 14, 16 WS
Charles H. Tuttle, Jr.	Det. 25, 5 WW
Jesus Vargas, Jr.	Det. 7, 6 WW
Jurgen Verhunc	Det. 21, 3 WW
Jerry Yeager	6 WS

Maintenance - 30270/30271

David L. Turner	1 WS, 5 WW
James M. Goldsmith	Det. 4, 6 WS
Harry A. Woodard	Det. 9, 12 WS
Frederick Cameron	Det. 17, 31 WS
Geoff Bowles	OL A, Det. 30, 6 WW
Charlie Lyons	Det. 1, 2 WW
Richard M. Mills	Det. 3, 3 WW
Ernest L. Moore	Det. 7, 3 WW
Donald R. Petron	Det. 2, 6 WS
William L. Gravell	Det. 2, 5 WW
Johnnie L. Motley	Det. 16, 5 WW
Doyle E. Yeater	Det. 2, 1 WW
Francis W. McCarroll	Det. 10, 5 WW
Boyd C. Owens	Det. 21, 24 WS
George J. Damico	Det. 8, 12 WS

Forecasters - 25370

Rodney W. Gaudreau	Det. 12, 16 WS
Harvey L. Gates	Det. 7, 24 WS
Alan J. Brady	Det. 11, 15 WS
John R. S. Kelley	Det. 10, 15 WS
Dennis A. Pukall	Det. 21, 3 WW
Nevin C. Swartz	AFGWC
Stephen V. Anderson	AFGWC
Gary T. Riley	AFGWC
Charles F. Zaloga	Det. 5, 15 WS
Joseph H. Dehler	Det. 10, 6 WW
William J. Kieffer	1 WW

Larry D. Daane
Robert C. Lacy
Denis J. Gartner
Bert F. Calentine
John J. Slaby, Jr.
Charles F. Newman
Sherrill D. Hutsell

Det. 12, 12 WS
Det. 11, 24 WS
Det. 25, 2 WW
Det. 2, 15 WS
Det. 5, 16 WS
31 WS
Det. 28, 3 WW

TO MSgt.

Observers - 25271

Robert W. Butterbaugh	Det. 25, 5 WW
Kenneth E. Butts	Det. 14, 12 WS
Donald W. Callen	6 WW
Lionel M. Deacon	Det. 3, 15 WS
James F. Gambrell	Det. 11, 31 WS
Louis R. Jones III	6 WS
Joseph P. Kerwin	6 WS
Thomas B. Lancaster, Jr.	31 WS
Edmund J. Loucks	Det. 22, 3 WW
Gilbert E. Mullen	Det. 7, 16 WS
David R. Payne	Det. 10, 15 WS
Larry J. Swaney	Det. 15, 15 WS
Wallace J. Swenson	Det. 40, 2 WW
James Washington	6 WS
Lawrence J. Wojcik	1 WS

Maintenance - 30270/30271

Thomas F. Hepworth	6 WS
John S. Sevy	6 WS
Norman A. Smith	Det. 17, 20 WS
James M. McKnight	Det. 3, 3 WW
John P. Casey	58 WRW
Albert T. Bardush	Chanute AFB
Ronald D. Kingery	16 WS
Frederick Rasgado	Det. 8, 16 WS
Frederick A. Winters	Det. 25, 10 WS
Raymond A. Mueller	24 WS
Alfred C. Gordon	Det. 4, 15 WS
Zeke Honeycutt	Det. 2, 24 WS
Robert O. Jones	11 WS

Forecasters - 25370

Clyde A. Cook	Det. 13, 5 WW
William I. Willis	Det. 9, 16 WS
Wernf J. Heidendahl	AFGWC
George N. Coleman III	Det. 4, 5 WW
James Kilty	2 WW
Douglas R. Lavender	Det. 25, 5 WW
Douglas B. Atkinson	Det. 26, 3 WW
Jon A. Fisher	Det. 10, 6 WW
Carl B. Wilkins	11 WS
Jerry D. Farley	1 WW
Ronald I. Caldwell	Det. 6, 15 WS
Roger A. Bygrave	Det. 30, 6 WW
James M. Risher	2 WW
Robert L. Priddy	Det. 21, 2 WW
John P. Judd	Det. 2, 7 WS
John J. Allen	Det. 13, 15 WS
Creighton L. Bryant	Det. 11, 31 WS
David R. Anderson	Det. 30, 6 WW
Robert D. Arnold	Det. 28, 3 WW

Chanute needs instructors

The weather school at Chanute needs instructors according to MAC personnel.

The requirement exists in the observing and maintenance schools there.

Staff sergeants in AFSC 302XO who have 7-level primary AFSCs are eligible. Master Sergeants and technical sergeants in AFSCs 25271 and 30270 should have completed

at least one short tour and if they have completed two short tours they are preferred.

MAC Personnel says that people who want to volunteer for the instructor duty should submit their applications to Air Training Command in accordance with AFR 39-11, Chapter 8. They request that you send an information copy to MAC/DPRAT9, Scott AFB, IL. 62225.

AMS Corner

The American Meteorological Society has announced the election of Brig. Gen. (RET.) William H. Best, Lebanon, IL to its executive committee for a two-year term.

The six-man committee is responsible for managing the affairs of more than 9,000 meteorologists throughout the United States and foreign countries.

General Best is a past commander of the Air Weather Service.

"Bread truck" driver retires after 20,000

by Capt. Nike Murrell

In his five-year stint as a driver for McClellan's 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron (WRS), Tom Sayman logged over 20,000 miles in the squadron's ramshackle old 1965 Metro "bread truck."

The vehicle which has been known for years by weather recon folks as simply "Tom's Truck," continues to be known by that name even though its driver has moved on.

White-topped with faded Air Force blue body, the old truck has a lot of class, and so does Tom. When he tossed the keys to his truck across the squadron's operations counter for the last time on Jan. 18, he noted in his candid, seemingly detached manner, "That truck should be junked."

Tom's analysis was typically accurate. A few hours later during a ceremony in which he received praise for his years of dedicated service to the 55th, Col. O. J. "Mike" Beranek, 55th commander, and Col. Anthony Timmermans, vice commander of the 55th's neighboring parent organization, the 9th WRW, both tried to talk Tom into taking the truck with him. He declined.

A 27-year veteran of various jobs with the civil service, Tom was transferred from the 55th to the Base Mail Room as the result of a reapportionment of funds.

Tom and the truck that has become synonymous with him are separating with no love lost. However, leaving the weather people of both the 55th and the 9th is another story.

"I feel like I'm going PCS and am going to miss you all," he said.

During the ceremony honoring Tom and his wife of 32 years, Dorothy, Colonel Beranek presented the Saymans with letters of commendation, a squadron plaque, charm bracelet and, of course, a toy bread truck decorated in Early Weather Recon.

Over the past five years, Tom has chauffeured generals and Cub Scouts around McClellan. He's shuttled aircrews between operations and airplanes in weather so bad he passed ducks walking en route. Many a flight check ride has started with Tom asking a pilot, "Which airplane?" His truck has carried pachinko machines from Japan, model ships from Spain, pineapples from Hawaii and King Crab from Alaska. Yet his job, through his own initiative, extended beyond chauffeuring.

As an example, he has painted the inside of the 55th's Operations building three times, plastered and repaired its walls, and supervised the installation of ceiling and floor tile.

"I did it out of the good of my heart," he states frankly, "to help the men of the 55th and cut down on the G.I.'s extra work."

According to some of the 55th's old timers, Tom was supervising the squadron's flying activities long before anyone heard of the formalized, full-time Supervisor of Flying (SOF) duty. One squadron pundit commented that there have been a few occasions during the

past five years when it appeared that Tom was supervising the squadron itself.

Tom, an Army man prior to joining the civil service, has sage advice for those in positions of command: "Treat a man like you want to be treated and



Mr. Sayman

he'll do a heck of a lot better job for you." He noted having seen a lot of good commanders pass through the 55th. "And the very best," he added, "all showed interest in their men and got along easily with them."

From under and behind his trademarks of a dilapidated straw hat and half-chewed cigar, Tom said of his departure:

"When people asked me where I worked, I didn't just say 'McClellan Air Force Base,' I said 'the 55th' . . . I was proud of it and the men."

Births in AWS

Middleton, Capt. and Mrs. Allen, M., a daughter, Janet Suzanne Jan. 29. Father is a forecaster with Det. 36, 31st WS, RAF Alconbury, England.

Parker, Sgt. and Mrs. Carl D., a son, Bryce Daniel, Dec. 29. Father is an observer with Det. 19, 3rd WW, Whiteman AFB, MO.

Stoddard, SSgt. and Mrs. Lyle, a son, Shawn Lauer, Sept. 11. Father is assigned to Det. 22, 3rd WW, Carswell AFB, TX.

Kirkland, Sgt. and Mrs. Richard F., a son, Shawn David, Jan. 4. Father is assigned to Det. 22, 3rd WW, Carswell AFB, TX.

Kimbrell, Capt. and Mrs. Roy E., a daughter, Shelley Anne, Dec. 20. Father is assigned to Det. 11, 5th WW, Cannon AFB, NM.

Leavitt, A1C and Mrs. Fred M., a son, David, Dec. 5. Father is assigned to Det. 11, 5th WW, Cannon AFB, NM.

Von Werne, Capt. and Mrs. Warren A., a son, Timothy Allan, Jan. 7. Father is weather officer assigned to Det. 25, 2nd WW, Rhein-Main AB, Germany.

Phillips, Capt. and Mrs. James A., a son, Andrew James, Dec. 14. Father is assigned to 1st WS, MacDill AFB, FL.

Kolczynski, Capt. and Mrs. Edward F., a son, Christopher John, Jan. 18. Father is assigned to OL-A, 6th WW, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH.

Llewellyn, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Arden C. Jr., a son, James Christopher, Jan. 7. Father is assigned as ANG Advisor at Hq. 5th WW, Langley AFB, VA.

Morrison, Sgt. and Mrs. Hadley F., a son, Kevin Hadley, Dec. 19. Father assigned to Det. 14, 5th WW, Holloman AFB, NM.

Chandler, Sgt. and Mrs. John L., a daughter, Laurie Anne, Nov. 14. Father assigned to Det. 14, 5th WW, Holloman AFB, NM.

Meade, SSgt. and Mrs. Danny J., a son, Ryan Lee, Nov. 28. Father is assigned to Det. 14, 5th WW, Holloman AFB, NM.

Noblett, SSgt. and Mrs. Jimmy L., a daughter, Elaine Esther, Dec. 18. Father is chief observer, 15th Weather Support Unit, Det. 7, 3rd WW, March AFB, CA.

Luginbill, A1C and Mrs. Dwight D., a daughter, Kristina Ediko, Jan. 10. Father is assigned to Det. 6, 5th WW, Homestead AFB, FL.

Boyer, Sgt. and Mrs. Richard A., a daughter, Sandra Anne, Jan. 1. Father is assigned to Det. 12, 3rd WW, Plattsburgh AFB, NY.

WAF receives AFC medal

HICKAM AFB, HI -- Sgt. Wanda R. Ha received the Air Force Commendation Medal during a ceremony at Headquarters, 1st Weather Wing, Dec. 18.

Sergeant Ha distinguished herself through meritorious service as administrative specialist, in the Directorate of Management Analysis, Deputy Chief of Staff, Comptroller, Headquarters, Military Airlift Command from Oct. 20, 1970 to Nov. 13, 1973.

Her outstanding technical skill, knowledge, and initiative contributed significantly to the solution of problems related to administrative requirements. She was credited as being largely responsible for the establishment of a comprehensive directorate publications library.

Sergeant Ha is assigned to the Comptroller Branch, Headquarters, 1st Weather Wing.



Sgt. Ha

Col. Palmore presents graduation certificates

CHANUTE AFB, IL -- Four students of the weather equipment repairman course received their certificates of graduation here Jan. 22 when Col. Wilson V. Palmore, AWS deputy chief of staff for logistics, visited the school.

A1C Benita C. Brown became the first WAF to be graduated

from the weather equipment repairman course. She completed the course with a grade average of 77 per cent and she was assigned to Andrews AFB, Washington, D.C., for duty.

Airman Thomas Gorman was graduated from the course and assigned to Ft. Hood, TX, where he is a member of Detachment

14, 16th WS, 5th WW.

Airman Don Partone received a graduation certificate after completing the course with a grade average of 89 per cent. He was assigned to Detachment 11, 16th WS, 5th WW.

The only NCO in the group reported to the Observer was TSgt. Walter R. McKnight Jr., who

completed the course with a grade average of 89 per cent. Sergeant McKnight remained at Chanute where he is assigned to the M & S Squadron.

The graduation ceremony was held in the Weather Equipment Branch at the Technical Training Center here.



A1C Brown



Ann. Gorman



Ann. Partone



TSgt. McKnight



K. I. SAWYER AFB, MI -- Sgt. Charles E. Miller holds his newborn daughter, Michele Lynn who was the first baby born in 1974. Michele Lynn reported in at 11:16 p.m. New Year Day and immediately became eligible for a host of gifts from the Marquette County merchants. Besides many gifts for the baby, Sergeant Miller and his wife Joan, received gifts including a car wash, movie passes, flowers, cigars, two hairdos and a shirt. The sergeant is a member of Detachment 24, 3rd Weather Wing. Michele may not have been first in the Air Weather Service in 1974, but she was the first reported to the Observer. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

1973 release 30 Students Visit WW

HICKAM AFB, HI -- A group of approximately 30 undergraduate students from the University of Hawaii visited 1st Weather Wing facilities here Dec. 6.

The group, escorted by Maj. Eldon Schmidt, first attended a one-hour seminar on meteorological satellites presented by Capt. Jerry Mills. The seminar consisted of a brief look at the history of meteorological satellites and then a Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) slide presentation of many of the weather features of the Central Pacific area.

The students were given a tour of the Hickam base weather station and briefed by Lt. Col. Robert Vick, on its operation and mission.



ELLSWORTH AFB, SD -- 1st Lt. Richard B. Rippere (right) commander, Det. 6, 6th WW participated in a tree planting project sponsored by the Ellsworth Junior Officer Council. Lieutenant Rippere, chairman of the ecology committee and treasurer of the council, was named Junior Officer of the Quarter. Assisting him in the project is 1st Lt. Marsha Bridges, council president; 1st Lt. Mike Bruening, vice president; and 2nd Lt. Linda Buckley, recorder. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

USAFETAC offers interesting and rewarding duties

ETAC!! ETAC!! WHAT'S AN ETAC? Maybe you haven't heard it quite like that; nevertheless, many officers and airmen within Air Weather Service are unaware of the existence of USAFETAC. Those who recognize the name are probably not very familiar with its functions. That's certainly not the way it should be, especially for the "weathermen" of AWS who may be overlooking one of the most rewarding and interesting tours of their career.

Generally referred to as ETAC, the USAF Environmental Technical Applications Center (USAFETAC) is located in the Nation's capital with a Data-Processing Branch in Asheville, NC. ETAC, contrary to what many people think it is, is much much more than the AWS place that prepares statistical summations of past weather. As important as these products are, they are routinely cranked out by computers. The excitement of being an ETAC'er is the opportunity to solve environmental related problems for designers, planners, operators or what-have-you in the Air Force community and to realize what you have done is of importance.

Has leeway

The ETAC scientist or technician has all of the leeway his skills, the state of the art, and the time constraints of his customer will allow to apply statistical and other mathematical skills and scientific principles to the world's finest historical data base to achieve a solution.

Although USAFETAC is primarily staffed by meteorologists (officers, airmen, and civilians) whose main purpose is to service the applied meteorological needs of the Defense community, meteorology is but the basic ingredient of the many interrelated disciplines required of the environmental analysts who work there.

Many AWS meteorologists having one or more degrees in other sciences besides meteorology find that many assignments throughout the Air Weather Service offer no opportunity to ever use this hard-earned knowledge in day-to-day job performance. Not so at USAFETAC, where analysts work daily on a wide variety of projects involving numerous disciplines seemingly unrelated to the duties of a "weatherman." All of these projects require the individual to conduct extensive reference searches and to exercise personal ingenuity to develop new techniques while working in the outer limits of many environmental sciences.

Knowledge useful

An analyst with training in agriculture, agronomy, geography, or hydrology will find such knowledge extremely useful as he works with USAFETAC's important soil moisture program, a continuing project of the Current Analysis Section. Another analyst may be involved in conducting a literature search for information on the atmosphere of Venus or be assigned to correlate solar information with its interplanetary, magnetospheric, ionospheric, and even neutral atmospheric effects, if he works in the SESS Development Section. An assignment with the Boundary Layer Section requires the analyst to process numerous air

pollution informational requests.

Air Weather Service has placed on USAFETAC the responsibility for servicing air pollution environmental requests from DoD agencies. This is a new and active field throughout all government agencies and affords the analysts an excellent chance to grow with the science itself. Analysts of the Special Projects and Data Development Sections have been involved for some time in two of the most topical subjects presently being considered within the Air Weather Service, the 3DNEPH and modeling of liquid water content and associated drop-size distribution in the atmosphere.

Detailed report

Many projects involve defining the natural environment which affects aeronautical systems. One recently completed by SMSgt. Luther Cantrell and his associates in the Operational Applications Section concerned icing and turbulence probabilities. Of that project, Sergeant Cantrell said, "It was one of the most interesting studies I have been associated with during my tour here, which has included participation in a great many such investigations." The result was an exceedingly detailed report concerning weather factors in Germany for use by NATO's Advisory Group on Aerospace Research and Development.

The final report included seasonal climatic variations; special weather problems (icing, turbulence, severe weather, etc.); and a discussion of the terrain and climatic controls affecting the area of interest. Numerous charts and graphs were included depicting various ceiling and visibility categories, icing potential for different altitudes, and thunderstorm frequency charts. In Sergeant Cantrell's words, "The feeling of achievement associated with filing the final report was tremendous."

Dollar savings

The projects completed by USAFETAC are not only varied and challenging, but they frequently result in significant dollar savings. All projects are cost-evaluated. The overall USAFETAC cost is compared with both the one-time savings to the customer and any long-range or estimated potential savings. While not all problems solved by USAFETAC show a high dollar pay off, several resulted in thousands of dollars of documented or estimated savings to the Defense community. A crosswind/headwind study for drone aircraft has a potential savings of \$50,000; the cost to USAFETAC was only slightly more than \$1700. An engineering design project completed for Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratory at a total direct cost of \$429.00 to USAFETAC resulted in a one-time savings of \$30,000. A Hydraulic Fluid Cold Temperature Study for Air Force Systems Command (AFSC) was completed at a cost to USAFETAC of \$320. One-time savings of nearly \$100,000 were estimated by AFSC personnel.

The USAFETAC is also a haven to those meteorologists who are computer-oriented. USAFETAC in-house computer resources include an IBM 7044/IBM 1401 computer system. An interface is also available to the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) telecomputer network. A Spectra 70/45 unit is shared

at the Asheville, NC Branch with the National Climatic Center of NOAA. A Data Automation Requirement (DAR) has been approved by the Air Staff to increase USAFETAC's computational horsepower. Initial indications are that this increased capability will be realized with the installation of an IBM 360/44 and a DEC PDP-11/45 to interface the ARPA network.

Resource sharing system

The Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) "telecomputer" network is a DoD resource-sharing system of computer facilities connected by 50 kilobit wide-band leased lines. Some of the more powerful systems on the network include the IBM 360/91 at UCLA-CCN, the CDC-7600 at Berkeley, CA, the ILLIAC-IV (64 parallel Processors) and a trillion-bit laser mass storage device at NASA's Ames Research Center, CA, and DEC PDP-10's at the USC-Information Sciences Institute, CA, and at Bolt, Beranek, and Newman, Inc., Cambridge, MA. USAFETAC is involved in projects which require the use of all these systems. Systems programmers at USAFETAC define and develop the generalized software necessary for our scientists to exploit these powerful systems. Currently, USAFETAC programmers and analysts are involved in data base design and development work for a 10-year environmental data base which will eventually reside on ARPA's laser mass-storage device.

Computer software

Challenging positions are available at USAFETAC for both enlisted and officer programmers proficient in programming machine assembly language or higher level languages such as FORTRAN and COBOL. Assembly language programmers work primarily with vendor-supplied computer software. FORTRAN and COBOL programmers concentrate on data base design and management and develop applications software to solve environmental problems.

Systems programmers for the DEC PDP 11/45 will maintain the software necessary for this system to interface the ARPA network as well as drive local peripherals such as disk, tape, printer, and CRT. This project involves state-of-the-art concepts in networking and resource-sharing and provides the opportunity for USAFETAC programmers to work with advanced hardware and software concepts in an operational mode.

Duty interesting

This article has covered only a few of the many opportunities available to the meteorologist assigned to USAFETAC. Those interested personnel desiring additional information should read the recently published 6WWP 105-3, "Guide to USAF Environmental Technical Applications Center." This 6WWP pamphlet covers in detail the types of requests generally directed to USAFETAC, how such requests reach the Center, the resources available to the Center to answer the requests, and the computer systems accessible to USAFETAC analysts. For AWS personnel, both airmen and officers, duty with the USAFETAC may well offer an interesting and rewarding respite from the normal round-the-clock functions of the "weatherman" in the field.

WOULD YOU BELIEVE . . .

SMSgt. Robert E. King was graduated from the USAF Senior NCO Academy Class 73-E Dec. 20. He is assigned to Det. 36, 31st WS, RAF Alconbury, United Kingdom.

MSgt. Leslie F. Farkas was awarded the 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster to the AF Commendation Medal for outstanding work as a forecaster at Det. 17, 20th WS from February 1971 to February 1973. He is presently assigned to Makhon Phnom Airport, Thailand.

TSgt. Frederick A. Winters received the 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster to the AF Commendation Medal for superior performance at Hq., AWS from May 1971 to July 1972. He is assigned to Nakhon Phnom Airport, Thailand.

SMSgt. Gerald E. Daugherty was graduated from the USAF Senior NCO Academy Class 73-E, Dec. 20. He is assigned to Hq. AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.

Capt. Douglas A. Abbott, forecasting services officer at Udorn RTAFB, Thailand, was recently awarded the AF Commendation Medal. He received the award for "his significant contributions to the state of the art of military application of numerical weather prediction" while assigned to the Advanced Models Projects of the Systems Analysis and Design Branch at AFGWC.

Sgt. Gregory A. Saville, a weather maintenance technician with Det. 2, 16th WS at Ft. Belvoir, VA, was named distinguished graduate of the 21st Air Force NCO Leadership School, Class 74-6 at McGuire AFB, NJ.

SSgt. James M. Cash, Det. 7, Grafenwohr AAF, Germany, was named 7th WS Senior NCO of the Quarter and **Sgt. William D. Hutchinson**, USAREUR Forecast Center, Heidelberg AI, Germany, was named 7th WS NCO of the Quarter.

SSgt. Arturo Mesa, Det. 6, 5th WW was named Academic Achievement Award winner of Class 74-5 of the Twenty First Air Force NCO Leadership School, Dover AFB, DE.

Sgt. Peter P. Brecker, Det. 25, 2nd WW received two complimentary meal tickets at Rhein-Main NCO Club from Brig. Gen. Thomas Sadler, commander, 322nd Tactical Airlift Wing. He received the award because he was wearing a seatbelt when the Rhein-Main security police stopped him in a traffic safety spotcheck.

Capt. Leon I. Zimmerman received the AF Commendation Medal for his work at the Environmental Technical Applications Center from December 1969 to May 1973. The captain was a systems analyst and worked with applied climatology and computer simulations. He is assigned with Det. 25, 10th WS at Nakhon Phnom Airport, Thailand.

Capt. Terry L. Cherne received the AF Commendation Medal for his work at Air Force Global Weather Central from January 1969 to July 1973. The captain's work involved computer program development to effectively utilize the GWC meteorological data base. He is assigned with Det. 25, 10th WS at Nakhon Phnom Airport, Thailand.

Det. 16, 3d WW TSgt. named PRIDE AOY for 1973

DYESS AFB, TX -- TSgt. Garay D. Holland, Detachment 16, 3rd Weather Wing, has been selected as the 96th Bombardment Wing (Heavy) PRIDE Airman of the Year for 1973 here. Sergeant Holland is non-commissioned officer in charge of the detachment's maintenance section. This award comes in addition to PRIDE Airman of the Month for November and Airman of the Quarter for the last quarter of 73.

Sergeant Holland is responsible for the proper operation and maintenance of the meteorological equipment, preventive maintenance routines and equipment modifications, and the supervision and training of three equipment repairmen.

In making the recommendation, Lt. Col. Duane H. Matters, commander of Detachment 16, praised Sergeant Holland's accomplishments over a wide

range of activities from outstanding job performance, through involvement with personnel, to working in the civilian community to improve the image of the Air Force.

Colonel Matters went on to list some of Sergeant Holland's other accomplishments, which include acquiring and developing a recognized weather equipment maintenance shop in the Air Weather Service, an outstanding preventive maintenance program, a new method of scheduling work on equipment, performance of the duties of a first sergeant for his detachment, and inspiring the men under him.

Sergeant Holland has completed 76 hours of college courses, majoring in Physics.

He is a member of the Education Committee at the Brookhollow Christian Church, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the South Taylor County Lion's Club.

Sergeant Holland initiated a program for the Lion's Club to host Iranian Officers and enlisted men training at Dyess. His program included showing the guests the social life in the ranch country surrounding the base and comparing the farming between the two countries.

An accomplished amateur photographer, Sergeant Holland has two photographs, which won in the 15th Air Force photo competition, entered in the Strategic Air Command.

Sergeant Holland and his wife Patricia have four children.

Capt. Robert G. Curry

3d WW air pollution expert aids Omaha during chemical fire

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article was taken in part from the Air Pulse, an unofficial paper published in the interests of personnel at Offutt AFB, NE and a telephone interview with Capt. Robert G. Curry, Aerospace Sciences Division, 3rd Weather Wing, Offutt AFB.

In the early morning hours of Feb. 6, fire gutted the plant of the Lorenze Chemical Company in Omaha, NE. Billowing smoke and flames could be seen for miles, but the real hazards of the fire were the chemicals contained in the building. More than 500 persons, coughing and choking from fumes, were evacuated from the area downwind of the flames.

"I heard about the fire that morning after I got up," said Capt. Curry, air pollution meteorologist with the 3rd Weather Wing. "When I heard that potentially dangerous chemicals were involved, I felt perhaps I could be of some help to Omaha officials in determining the actual danger involved."

The burning building contained 30 to 50 55-gallon drums of toxaphene, one 1,500-gallon tank of malathion plus 40 drums of the same chemical, 30 30-gallon drums of chlorodane and 12 tanks of chlorine.

"The greatest hazard that was involved was the 12 tanks of chlorine gas," said Captain Curry.

After calling the Omaha Police and Fire Departments to offer help, Curry was contacted by Robert Timmerman, chief of the Omaha Air Quality Control Section. Timmerman asked Captain Curry to come to the scene of the fire and give technical assistance as a backup to his own people.

"I stopped by the Bioenvironmental Engineering Office here and picked up some equipment that they had, then I went into Omaha to the scene of the fire. What I tried to do was point out to Mr. Timmerman what distances would be involved if the chlorine tanks did explode," Curry said.

The captain also offered to provide him with information that would aid the Fire Department in diffusion forecasting, accurately predicting the path and strength of various gas clouds and their effects on the population involved. Curry started to work with diffusion analysis in his college days in Oregon where he earned his degree in chemistry. The work continued after he entered the Air Force nine years ago. After gaining his masters degree in meteorology he worked at Edwards AFB, CA with the missile program in exhaust evaluation.

At present, Captain Curry serves as a technical consultant to the 3rd Weather Wing as the wing's pollution meteorologist. He also serves on the Strategic Air Command's Environmental Protection Committee.

"There are very few of us (diffusion analysts) in the Air Force," said Captain Curry, "perhaps five or ten of us with toxic gas experience." Curry also sees a growing need for expertise in the field of diffusion forecasting.

"Think that we will play a very important part in giving information to people so that they know the facts about toxic gases, or non-toxic gases also. One of the projects I've worked on in the last year involved

doing research on the effects the new power plant at Plattsmouth, NE will have on visibility in the Offutt area."

Research by the Air Force has played an important part in diffusion forecasting. Three different projects in the early 1960's resulted in the mathematical equation now used in cases of toxic liquid spills. Known as the Ocean Breeze-Dry Gulch Equation, (after effects of the projects) it provides a means of determining the extent and effects of dangerous gases in an uncontrolled environment.

Since the fire and following investigation, Captain Curry has volunteered to assist in training people of the Omaha Air Quality Control Branch and other emergency services in diffusion forecasting in similar situations.

Omaha Mayor Edward Zorinsky wrote a letter to Captain Curry saying that, "This dedication and community interest on the part of your organization (3rd WW) makes it evident that our people care about each other and are ready to react to any crisis situation. I am very proud of everyone who helped during this emergency and I know you can be counted on should any other emergency arise."

The Air Pulse also said that, "As the use of chemicals grow, so will the danger of inadvertently releasing them into the environment. Through the work done by people like Capt. Robert Curry, a potential disaster may be avoided."

AWS officer serves as lay minister

MILDENHALL, England -- An Air Weather Service officer assisted in and conducted services in a village in England during this past Christmas season and was honored by being asked to be "Father Christmas."

Maj. Richard H. Klodnicki, commander of Detachment 20, 2nd Weather Wing served in the church of Isleham when the village priest was hospitalized and no one was available to conduct Sunday evening services or to assist the visiting priests during the Sunday communion service.

Major Klodnicki, who has been a Lay Reader in the Episcopal Church in the United States, volunteered to read the evening prayer service and to assist in the communion service. The major has been a member of the Cambridgeshire Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary since the summer of 1973. His training and experience in the Guild and in parishes in the states prepared him for his duties as an acolyte and Lay Reader.

Det. 7, 31st WS gets award

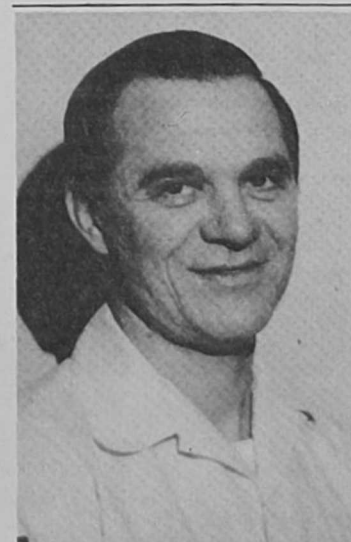
AVIANO, Italy -- Detachment 7, 31st Weather Squadron here recently received the 2nd Weather Wing Excellence in Forecasting award.

The award is given to the weather units that are able to maintain excellent weather forecasting over a six-month period.

The unit received letters of congratulations from Col. J. M. Tyndall, commander 2nd WW, and Col. L. R. Tucker, commander 31st WS.

Capt. Joseph Silva, Det. 7 commander, accepted the award for the unit. This is the fourth consecutive time the detachment has received the award. Captain Silva said in accepting the award that, "Air Weather Service has set very high standards for its people to meet in order to provide only the best in service. Our detachment has demonstrated the ability to meet those standards. The personnel perform as a highly trained and dedicated team."

MSgt. Ray Kowrack, chief forecaster for the detachment, says he is optimistically looking forward to "getting award number 5!" He said "cooperation and teamwork can do it."

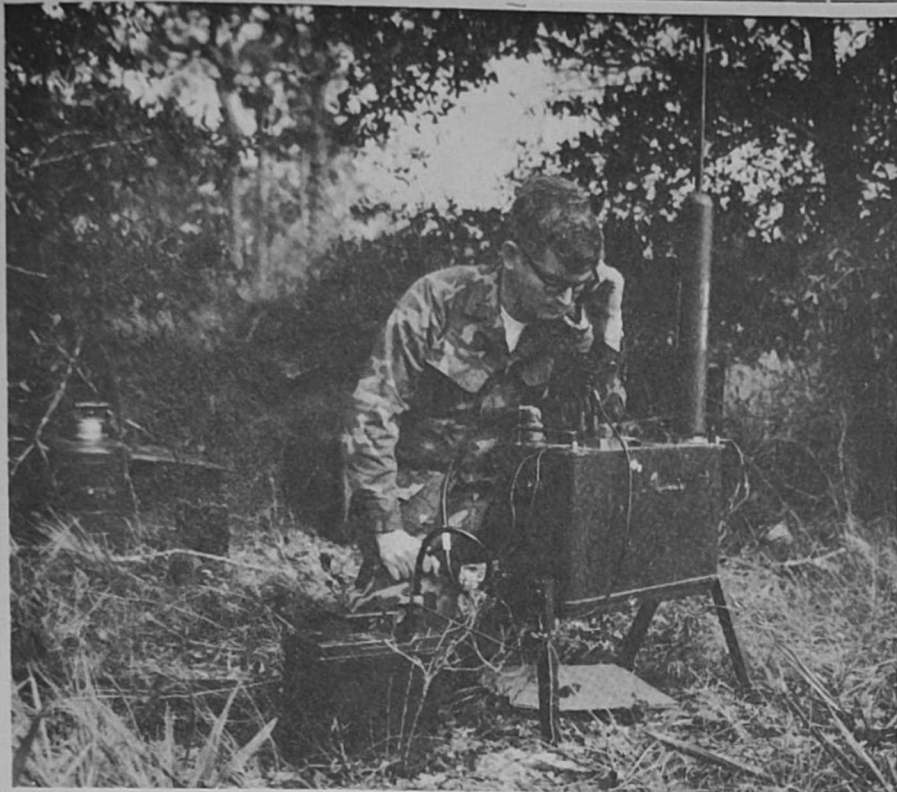


EIELSON AFB, AK -- TSgt. Jimmy L. Smith, a weather forecaster with Det. 2, 11th WS received a check for \$245.00 for his suggestion that improved teletype communications in the base weather station which saved the Air Force \$4,375.00 this year. Maj. William H. Murphy, the detachment commander presented the check. (U. S. Air Force Photo)

Observer is NO. 1

The Air Weather Service Observer takes this space to blow its own horn. In the annual Air Force newspaper contest the Observer was judged first among all Air Force newspapers in its category by Air Force and civilian judges.

The Observer staff wishes to express its gratitude for the support received from all of you who contributed news, feature articles and photographs helping to make the Air Weather Service's newspaper a winner.



1ST LT. Wayne Golding relays weather data via the PRC-47 HF radio. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

Florida Det. supports SOWT

Detachment 75, 5th Weather Wing at Hurlburt Field, FL has a rather unique job. They have a Special Operations Weather Team (SOWT). The detachment provides all the forecasting, observing and maintenance support normally found at a limited duty base weather station. However, the SOWT people must be jump/AFSC qualified.

They participate in the development of concepts, procedures, and equipment requirements for support to Special Operations Forces. When fully trained, SOWT personnel from allied nations in furnishing weather related information to support the diverse TAC mission.

Field exercises, such as the Rio Grande Exercise conducted on the Eglin AFB Reservation and illustrated by the accompanying photos, provide the SOWT an opportunity to train new personnel and to test some of the tactical weather equipment in the Air Weather Service inventory.



SSGT. WILLIAM BUSH instructs MSgt. Juan Jongoria and Lt. Wayne Golding on ML1474 theodolite procedures while SSgt. Charles Irby observes. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



SSGT. CHARLES IRBY gives instruction on taking limited weather observations to Captain Kuzmack, OIC of SOWT and TSgt. Hutchins, 1st SOWG Medic (U.S. Air Force Photo)



A1C STEVEN JOHNSON, SSgt. Richard Walker and A1C Eric Kowalski demonstrate the use of the ML-303 Hydrogen Generator. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



SSGT. CHARLES IRBY, 1st Lt. Wayne Golding, SSgt. William Bush and MSgt. Juan Lon goria watch attentively as A1C Gustav Eulenson explains the capabilities and limitations of the PMQ-10 miniature theodolite. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

SPORTS FRONT



Even losers like recognition

Football has its top ten; music - its top forty; now basketball has its bottom one. Detachment 3, 3rd Weather Wing, Fairchild AFB, WA, finished the intramural basketball season with a 1-17 record. James K. Woessner, team captain and detachment safety officer said, "We obviously aren't all athletes, but we played safely and had fun, which is what it's really all about."

Hole-in-one

Bill Johnson, Detachment 7, 24th Weather Squadron, Mather AFB, CA shot a hole-in-one recently. Johnson aced the 175-yard, 14th hole at El Dorado Hill Sacramento, CA. He used a two iron.

Basketball high scorer

At Nakhon Phanom RTAF, Thailand, John E. George emerged as the top scorer in the 1973 base intramural basketball league. George completed the season with a 24.5 point per game average, which included a high game of 39 points. He is assigned with Detachment 25, 10th Weather Squadron, as a Blue Chip Weather Support Officer at the United States Support Activities Group.

Observers roll in Showboat Invitational

Marty Schram, a Detachment 16, 5th Weather Wing, Nellis AFB, NV, observer placed 50th out of 195 in the \$100,000 PBA Showboat Invitational. Schram entered the tournament by competing in the PBA eliminations and capturing one of eight house qualifying spots. While qualifying, Schram defeated approximately 290 Las Vegas bowlers with a six game total of 1333. Schram placed in the tournament by scoring an 18-game pinfall of 3702 or 102 pins over a 200 average.

Mountain Ball report

HICKAM AFB, HI -- The final results of the Hickam "Mountain Ball League" became available recently through a highly reliable source.

1st Weather Wing's "Over-The-Hill Gang" finished strong after a very slow start. But the reliable source attributes the slow start to lack of use and compares it to an unused precision machine after sitting idle for a few years.

The season started poorly for the wing's "Over 30 Bunch," as they lost the first four games

(and many fans). They would not tell us the scores.

Then the "Over-The-Hill-Gang" caught on after they received a "few words" from the coach and won the next eight games. According to the reliable source the fans returned and there was standing room only for the last two games.

The gang didn't come in first, or even third, but they all promised to start warming up for the next year.

They ended their season with an 8-4 record.

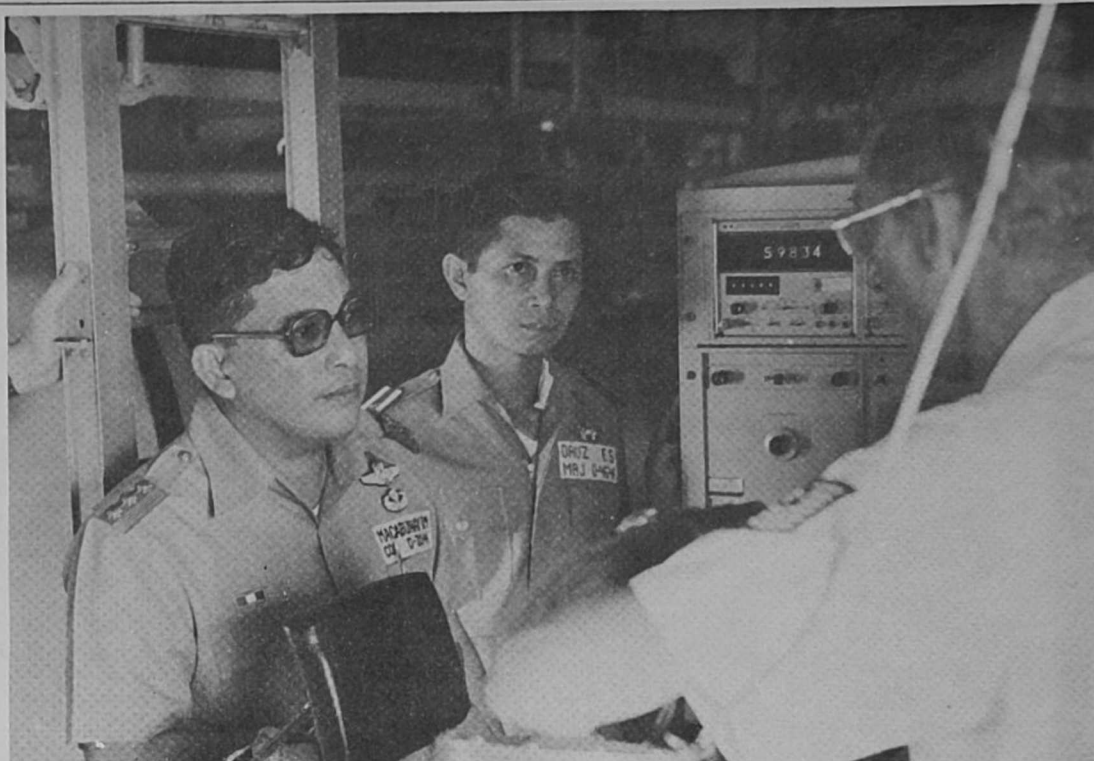
MAC bowlers vie for honors

OFFUTT AFB, NE--At the halfway point of the Offutt AFB SAC Commander's Intramural Bowling League keggers from the Air Force Global Weather (AFGWC) Central and Det. 14, MAC are battling for top honors. AFGWC teams hold 2nd and 6th places in the 18-team American Division of the league. Det. 14, MAC currently is in 3rd place.

AFGWC Team 1 bowlers include Al Savakinas, Rick Davis, Tom Inocenci, Dick Taylor, Don Hagen, Marty Lucas, Mike Fleshood, and Denny Marsh. Team 1 leads in several team categories including high game

scratch 1051, high series scratch 2975, and high series handicap 3191. Savakinas holds 3rd high individual series 645. Members of AFGWC Team 2 include Warren George, Ken Kaiser, Elmo Reddick, Takeo Maruyama, Dave Lang, Rick Norgaard, Bill Young, Jim Klass, and John Brewer.

Bowlers from 3rd WW compete in the National Division of the league. At the end of the season the top two teams in each division compete in the roll-offs for the commander's trophy.



ANDERSEN AFB, GUAM -- Col. Ramon M. Macabuhay, and Maj. Ernesto S. Daz of the Philippine Air Force listen to MSGT. Calvin S. Quattlebaum, a weather observer with the 54th WRS as he explains the dropsonde equipment aboard a WC 130 aircraft during their visit in November. The two Filipino officers were members of an advance party planning for the Typhoon Moderation Task Force's January orientation visit to the 54th. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Christopher T. Senchack).

54th WRS hosts 14 Philippine AF officers during two-day weather recon briefing

ANDERSEN AFB, GUAM-- The 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron "Typhoon Chasers" were host to 14 Philippine meteorologists, weather officers and pilots recently.

The Filipinos are members of a Typhoon Moderation Task Force, a joint group of Philippine Air Force Pilots and Weather officer and meteorologists from Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA). The members were here for familiarization training with the Air Weather Service's 54th WRS and the Joint Typhoon Warning Center at Nimitz Hill on Guam.

The Philippine Air Force will be acquiring several Lockheed L100 aircraft, the commercial version of the C-130 aircraft which the "Typhoon Chasers" use. The members of the Task Force were here to gain knowledge of weather reconnaissance, in particular typhoon reconnaissance, so that they might be better prepared to equip and use their new aircraft for the eventual use of typhoon moderation.

The first day of their visit, the Task Force spent at the Joint Typhoon Warning Center. At the center they were briefed on the general characteristics of tropical cyclones, the problems and techniques of forecasting typhoons and the verification procedures of tropical cyclone forecasting. The Filipinos were also briefed on the use of DMSP data in tropical forecasting.

The Philippine pilots and meteorologists spent two days with the 54th WRS personnel being briefed on the full spectrum of tropical cyclone reconnaissance. Briefings included such topics as pilot and navigation techniques involved

in locating and penetrating the "eye" of typhoons; the instrumentation aboard the WC130 aircraft and its function in tropical cyclones reconnaissance; and the procedures and systems used in inflight, horizontal and vertical observations.

The group was given a tour of the operations scheduling facilities of the squadron as well as a tour of one of the WC130 aircraft.

With this phase complete, plans are being made for this summer during the height of the typhoon activity to have members of the Typhoon Moderation Task Force fly on

the "Typhoon Chasers" aircraft during an actual reconnaissance mission.

The Philippine Air Force hopes to have two aircraft equipped with meteorological equipment by 1975. Their plan is to eventually combine reconnaissance flights with typhoon moderation efforts against typhoons immediately threatening the Philippine Archipelago. The typhoons annually cause this nation of over 7,100 islands extensive property damage and loss of life, even with the invaluable information provided by the help of the "Typhoon Chasers" and the Joint Typhoon Warning Center.



TYNDALL AFB, FL -- Sgt. Marsha O. Miller, Detachment 9, 12th Weather Squadron, received a Green Cross for Safety pen and pencil set from Col. Elwyn A. Mosely, commander, 12th WS. Sergeant Miller received the award for wearing an automobile safety belt when she was stopped during a traffic safety spotcheck. The sergeant is an observer with Det. 9. (U.S. Air Force Photo)