

# Happy holidays



## AIR WEATHER SERVICE

## OBSERVER

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Headquarters, Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, IL.

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### 54 from Cuba

by  
Maj. William Hill  
Det. 6, 3WS

HOMESTEAD AFB, FL—Det. 6, 3rd Weather Squadron, here, performed the meteorological watch for a historic repatriation of Americans recently. After months of negotiations and weeks of delay, 31 American citizens and their 23 dependents arrived at Homestead AFB from Havana, Cuba, Sept. 22.

The return to the U.S. was made possible by a program negotiated by Sen. Frank Church D-ID when he visited Cuba and Homestead AFB earlier this year. On hand to greet the refugees were representatives of the President and Department of State, as well as base people. The arrival was by chartered civilian jet.

The repatriates were processed at Base Operations by representatives of Customs and Immigration, and Health, Education

and Welfare. The refugees were then assisted by medical personnel, security police and volunteers from base organizations.

The newly returned citizens expressed their thankfulness for

being in America "breathing free air."

Approximately 40 more Americans and their families are still in Cuba and are being contacted by the State Department for future flights.

### 23 gain silver leaves

RANDOLPH AFB, IL—Officials here said 23 Air Weather Service majors were selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel.

Chosen by the latest board to wear silver oak leaves are, listed alphabetically and by major organization:

AWS: Bruce Ackert, John L. Conley and Walter D. Meyer.

1st Weather Wing (WW): John H. Wylie Jr.

2WW: Henry M. Baddley Jr., Richard P. Breese and Dennis D. Gilchrist.

3WW: George P.P. Emodi, Charles M. Norman and Juan Rivera.

5WW: Jack W. Brown, Ernie R. Dash and Stephen L. Mauldin Jr.

7WW: Ronald R. Brown, Lee V. Fritze, George T. Matteson and Larry N. Young.

Air Force Global Weather Central: Robert E. Black, Clarence B. Givens, Floyd F. Hauth, Thomas D. Murphy, Thomas O. Proffitt and Richard L. Thompson.

WHITE LIGHT photographs of the Oct. 12, 1977 solar eclipse shows the limb of the sun, silhouettes of lunar mountains and a large bipolar sunspot group (in the lower left portion). The photograph was taken at 9 a.m. by members of Det. 6, 1st Weather Wing, Palihua Solar Observatory, HI. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## Harms scores first 'ace' in met course

CHANUTE AFB, IL—AB Dewey E. Harms, a student here, recently proved that hard work and perseverance pay off. He became the first person in the Air Force to "ace" the weather specialist course.

Airman Harms, 23, of Summerdale, AL, took seriously the challenge of TSgt. Lewis E. Whitacre, his supervisor in the first block of the course—that he couldn't get a perfect score on tests.

"Airman Harms really seemed to grasp the material quickly and often was able to help other students in class and off duty. He seems to have a good study technique," said SSgt. Carl D. Parker, student supervisor.

The "ace" weatherman entered the Air Force with an associate degree in mathematics from Falkner State Junior College, Bay Minette, AL, and was an honor graduate in basic training at Lackland AFB, TX.

According to TSgt. Billy McLemore, NCO in charge of Operating Location C (at Chanutte AFB), Headquarters Air Weather Service, Airman Harms was rewarded for his unique accomplishment by receiving his first assignment choice from his list of preferred assignment areas.

## Croughton unit receives ADWS

RAF CROUGHTON, UK—The snip of a ceremonial ribbon put the Automated Digital Weather Switch (ADWS) Center to work here. The ribbon cutting was not done by a weather person, but by Col. Gerald L. Prather, European Communications Area commander, in the presence of Maj. Carl S. Zimmerman, Det. 40, 2nd Weather Wing commander, MSgt. Robert D. Allen, ADWS superintendent; and Col. Harry W. Ingold, 2130th Communications Group commander.

Completion of the computer equipment upgrade here involved replacing UNIVAC 418 computers with larger capacity UNIVAC 1106 computers. The job began last spring.

Officials at RAF Upper Heyford, UK, home of the host 20th Tactical Fighter Wing, said, "While many people in both AWS and the Air Force Communications Service contributed to planning and carrying out the upgrade, special mention should be made of the

weathermen of Det. 40, who made it work.

"Not only was the upgrade completed a month ahead of schedule, but since then, several management indicators have shown the ADWS at Croughton has regularly been the first ranking hub of the Automated Weather Network (AWN)."

The Automation Section of Det. 40, under the leadership of Capt. James O. Hull, saw that programs in the new computer performed all required functions correctly. He was assisted in this by Capt. Michael J. McGlynn and MSgt. Wallace J. Swenson, who was previously the project officer for the first stage of development of the programs at ADWS, Carswell AFB, TX. Others in the section are TSgts. Dennis L. Detar and Nevin C. Swartz. They helped ensure that the Croughton computers consistently had minimum unplanned halts. MSgt. Jerry D. Bates maintained the integrity of the U418 computer programs during the transition period, allowing

other programmers to devote full time to the new system.

In the Data Requirement Section, TSgts. Albert H. Mongeon and Ben Y. Miyaji carefully transferred customer support requirements from the old system to the new.

The Weather Editing Section, under Chief Editor, TSgt. David L. Hammer, faced major changes in its mode of operation. This was partly because of the computer change itself and partly through associated changes in communications circuitry. Through planning and training, the transition was smooth. Other editors taking part included TSgt. John E. Justice; SSgts. William F. Kvederavich and George Ramos; Sgts. Christopher Cantrell, Jon Fueston and Gary L. Kitching; SrA Brian Livingston and A1C Derek F. Frank.

Since the computer upgrade, three Manual Weather Relay Centers in Europe were phased out and their weather circuits routed to the new computers.

## Safety lists some 'common oddities'

by  
Sgt. Jeff Ramey  
a ground safety specialist  
(MNS) Want to be well known

### AWSers try hand at Ally's facility

SOUTH GERMANY—Four forecasters from Det. 3, 7th Weather Squadron, used a different approach for Army weather support during NATO Exercise Carbon Edge.

The support was unique because weather information was provided by using data, equipment and facilities of the German air base at Leipheim.

Advance planning and coordinating by Lt. Col. Charles Warnick, staff weather officer of VII Corps, resulted in integration of Det. 3's forecasting team and its German counterparts. Forecasting methods, analysis problems and briefing techniques were among items discussed. Forecasters MSgts. Joseph Carney, Gary Johnson, Allan Reedy and SSgt. Jerald Olesen took part.

in your unit? One safety office in MAC decided to recognize persons who accomplished "strange" deeds, especially in the process of injuring themselves or others in what is called a safety "believe it or not."

Would you:

\*Show how to clean and sharpen a machete and almost cut off your fingers in the process—while the wing commander and part of an Inspector General team is watching?

\*Shoot yourself with a bow and arrow?

\*Check your mailbox, then drive off with your arm still in the box?

\*Close a car door on your hand and foot?

\*Glue your false eyelashes on with "super" glue—then have to have your eyes opened surgically?

\*Drop your dog tags into a light socket—while you're still wearing them?

\*Try to catch a 200-pound air-conditioner as it falls from a window, while standing under it?

Unlike Ripley's "Believe It or Not," these accidents are not rare.

## Command line

# 'I wish a happy holiday season'

This issue of the OBSERVER will be in your hands about the time everyone begins thinking seriously about the holiday season and the new year soon to be upon us.

It is fitting that I use this opportunity to convey to you, the members of our AWS family, my gratitude for the superlative job you have done for the Air Force and Army in 1977.

### WE SERVE

We made progress toward strengthening our service in many areas that would not have been possible without the strong participation of everyone who makes up our organization. We supported innumerable Air Force and Army readiness exercises within the United States and abroad, routinely serviced transoceanic fighter aircraft rotations, and the farflung operations of

both airlift and strategic forces. Our forecasts and observations (surface and airborne) sustained a multitude of training sorties and the wide variety of other activities which are daily fare at the 250 locations, spanning nearly the entire Northern Hemisphere, where we work and live.

### MADE THE BEST

From the tropics to the Arctic Circle and from the deserts of Iran to the islands of the Pacific, you, the men and women of AWS, made our service the best there is. Your hard work and skill effectively contributed to the security which our nation will enjoy during the holidays; you can and should take pride in that.

On behalf of all Air Weather Service men and women, and for Mrs. Rowe and myself, please accept best wishes for a safe holiday season, filled with the



Brig. Gen. Berry W. Rowe  
AWS commander

pleasures and happiness which you and your families so richly deserve.

## Enlisted line

### CMS destroys several misconceptions

Despite all that has been published, some AWS people still are not up on all the facts about the temporary duty (TDY) forecaster course.

#### First

One misconception is, "With no math in the TDY course, there is no need to take the math correspondence or other math courses."

#### WRONG!

Removal of math from the course simply means students have to "know" math when they report to Chanute AFB, IL. Math awareness is needed to understand basic meteorological concepts. To insure success, TDY students must report to Chanute AFB better prepared in math than ever before.

#### Second

Misconception two is, "The way to get out of AWS is to be eliminated from forecaster school, then apply for retraining."

#### WRONG!

Eliminated persons released from AWS were retrainees who had recently entered the command with general airman qualification examination (AQE) score waivers.

When final evaluation indicated that an eliminated person with a waiver probably would never be able to complete the seven-level course, he was returned to his prior (or other less demanding) career field.

People entering AWS from basic training, and long-time AWS folks, generally have the AQE scores and, by performance, have shown they can make it in AWS. Most washouts from this group were eliminated due to failure to prepare. Most of them returned to the field to fill valid observer authorizations.

AWS will have 25150 authorizations for the foreseeable future and 25271/91 slots through early 1981.

People eliminated due to lack of preparation will return to fill valid field slots and prepare for later return to the course.

#### Third

Misconception number three is, "Graduates of the TDY forecaster course will be less skilled than those from the 'long' course."

The rationale is, if you reduce a course from 27 to 18 weeks, you lose quality.

#### WRONG!

The permanent change of station (PCS) course was six hours per day, 840 school hours; the eight-hour-per-day TDY course produces 736 hours. The course was reduced by 104 hours—but 78 hours of math were eliminated. There was no reduction in basic metro content.

Students arriving prepared in math and able to grasp concepts will make as good or better forecasters because other changes were made in the course.

#### Get well

Enlisted forecaster manning is 90 per cent. Reducing eliminations will speed the get-well process.

Preparation at detachments is the answer.

Provide a viable apprentice forecaster program. Insure math preparation. The math correspondence course, properly and honestly completed, will do the job.

Require career development course completion. Urge completion of Naval Educational Training Courses 91664-3B and 91603-1B.

#### Job of all

Detachment commanders, chief forecasters, station chiefs—all supervisors—are responsible to prepare their people for forecaster school. The airman is the answer to "personal" forecaster shortages. Prepare them properly and they will return in less than five months; on the forecaster schedule, return is a few weeks later.

If students are poorly prepared and wash back, it delays their return—and the get-well date.

If you have observers scheduled for school, but not qualified, advise AWS/DOT at least 75 days in advance so it can provide a replacement.



CMSgt. Howard M. Bock  
AWS senior enlisted advisor

Extra preparation increases your people's chances for success. Reduced eliminations lead to earlier get-well dates for AWS and detachments.

Keep in mind that it is a TDY course. If your students wash out, they come directly back to you—just as they left.

Weather Unit information officers should use normal letter envelopes when forwarding news stories without photos to the Observer. Single page, unfold stories in large envelopes cost almost double the postage.

Brig. Gen. Berry W. Rowe  
Commander, Air Weather Service  
David F. Barr  
Editor

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Organic Weather Team (OWT) Expecting a Staff Assistance Visit (SAV)

(by Tom O'Laughlin from an idea submitted by the 2nd Weather Wing.)

## Weather whys???

**Q.** Won't the program allowing chief master sergeants 33 years' active duty slow down promotions to E-9? Will the program include other grades later?

**A.** Promotion impact should be minimal. Extended High Year of Tenure (HYT) will be limited to about 50 chiefs a year, but may vary slightly, depending on the size of the eligible group. AF expects the program to delay promotion to chief no more than one month—and

have even less effect on lower grade promotions. There are no plans to offer extended HYT to other grades.

**Q.** How much college does the average NCO forecaster have? Are promotion chances really helped by having college or Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) evaluation on your records?

**A.** Average college or CCAF statistics are not available for forecasters or observers. AWS NCOs who complete a seven-level course and other normal career education and training could have about two years' credit if evaluated by CCAF. Simply having college or a CCAF evaluation on your records does nothing for promotion prospects up to E-7. Nevertheless, increased knowledge may lead to better specialty knowledge test and promotion fitness examination scores and performance. Increased performance may lead to higher airman performance report and decoration scores. Statistics show college or CCAF evaluation enhances promotion prospects to E-8 and E-9. It is difficult to say if

the enhancement comes from increased weighted airman promotion system scores, the fact that persons who pursue education usually seek opportunities which enhance promotion prospects, or because boards are impressed by college credits. However, as shown in the statistics below, there is a correlation between educational accomplishments and supergrade promotions.

**Q.** When the forecaster course was 27 weeks, graduates had to have two years retainability on its completion. This was increased to three years for the 18-week TDY course. Why?

**A.** Until recently, the requirement was based entirely on course length. In general, students were assessed a month's required retainability for each week of school. AF recently added a cost-of-education factor in an effort to keep people long enough to recoup training costs. Since the TDY course costs more than \$7,000 per student, a three-year controlled duty assignment (CDA) was levied. AWS has asked that AF return the CDA to two years.

| To E-8        | AF Selection rate                      | To E-9        |
|---------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|
| 13.5 per cent | Selection Rate Based on Education Only | 21.5 per cent |
| 7 per cent    | High School                            | 11 per cent   |
| 21 per cent   | Some College                           | 30 per cent   |
| N/A           | *CCAF Associate degree                 | 43 per cent   |
| 24 per cent   | BS Degree                              | 41 per cent   |
| 31 per cent   | Advanced Degree                        | 43 per cent   |

\*Statistics not available for E-8 selectees with Community College of the Air Force degrees. Most E-9 selectees had CCAF degrees in areas closely aligned to their career fields, which may explain why they fared as well or better than their peers with BS or advanced degrees.

## Personnel shorts

Did you know that:

\* CMSgt. Bertram R. Grigsby, 1st Weather Wing (WW) senior enlisted advisor, is the ranking 252XX in AWS?

\* People overseas may now apply for long-to-long inter-theater (as well as intra-theater) consecutive overseas tours?

\* 1WW reenlisted 100 per cent of its career and second-term eligibles and 67 per cent of its first-term eligibles in fiscal year 1977?

\* USAF is staffing proposals to designate E-9s as NCO Academy commandants?

\* AWS enlisted forecaster manning has reached 90 per cent?

\* AWS now has about 45 station chiefs?

\* NCOs attending the NCO Leadership School, Academy or Senior Academy must be within weight limits prescribed in AFR 50-39? Waivers are no longer granted for overweight people even if they "are making satisfactory progress."

\* U.S. Navy time-in-grade requirement for promotion to E-7 is three years and few of its weather people below the grade of E-6 get to attend forecaster school?

# From within . . .

## NCOs to be detcos

SCOTT AFB, IL—Brig. Gen. Berry W. Rowe, AWS commander, recently selected three more NCOs to command detachments. MSgt. Robert F. Walker, now with Det. 4, 7th Weather Wing (WW), Altus AFB, OK, will command Det. 12, 7WW, Richards-Gebaur AFB, MO, on Jan. 1, 1978. SMSgt. William B. Kist Jr., now with Headquarters 2WW, Kapaun, AS, Germany, will command Det. 8, 15th Weather Squadron (WS), McClellan AFB, CA, as of Apr. 1, 1978. MSgt. Alfred W. Griffis, now with AF-GWC, Offutt AFB, NE, will command Det. 4, 7WS, Schwaebisch Hall, Germany, as of July 1, 1978.

## Dean gets award

WPAFB, OH—For his part in providing decision-making background related to Australian mean and extreme temperature standards, Robert E. Dean, Det. 1, 2nd Weather Squadron, here, received a special achievement award.

According to 1st Lt. Jackie C. Sims, Det. 1's unit information officer, Mr. Dean was given the award " . . . for his superior performance in responding to an important short-term response request from the Acquisition Logistics Division (ALD) of the Air Force Logistics Command."

Lieutenant Sims explained that the request required Mr. Dean to evaluate and update statements by the Royal Australian Air Force con-

cerning the mean and extreme temperatures at various localities in Australia.

In responding to the request, Mr. Dean prepared a study which concluded that U.S. standards met or passed those of Australia.

## Det. tops CFC goal

LITTLE ROCK AFB, AR—Members of Det. 20, 7th Weather Wing, here, exceeded the unit's Combined Federal Campaign goal by 214 per cent. Next, the unit exceeded its goal in the Arkansas Red Cross Blood Drive Program by 200 per cent.



WEATHER'S ENTRY in Malmstrom AFB, MT's 1977 Ugly Commander Contest is Maj. Michael T. Schwitters, Detachment 3, 12th Weather Squadron. The base's Junior Officers' Council sponsors the contest each year to raise funds for charity. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## Aviano sees last AWS observation

by  
Sgt. Virginia A. Diehl  
Det. 7, 31WS  
Information Officer  
AVIANO AB, ITALY—The observing functions done by Detachment (Det.) 7, 31st Weather Squadron (WS) here now belong to the Italian Air Force Meteorological Services. The shift of responsibility, which is in accordance with an international agreement,

happened last Aug. 31 and marked the end of 23 years of American surface observations here.

For several years Italian weather observers provided around-the-clock surface observations to support U.S. Air Force missions. As this was done, Air Weather Service (AWS) people maintained a close relationship with their Italian counterparts while

providing the same services on a limited schedule. The overlap of functions bridged a gap between the World Meteorological Organization code used by the Italians and AWS mission requirements. In line with the Air Force's economic policies, a full-scale training program was launched and Italian weathermen were soon qualified to fulfill all observing functions here.

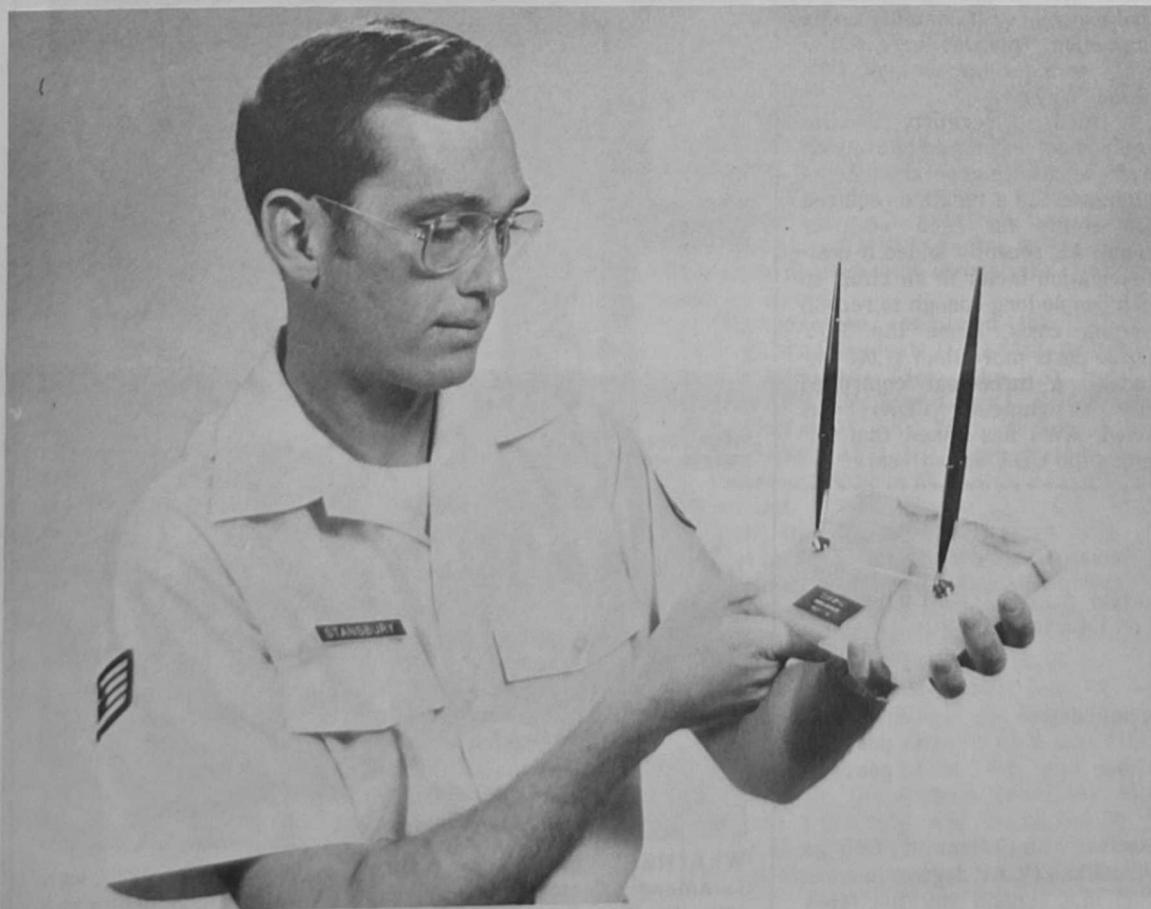
SSgt. John Contarino, now completing his second tour (10 years) at Det. 7, made history by being a "last." He was the last AWS observer to issue an American record observation for Aviano AB in support of our NATO Allies.

On Sept. 1 it was with a sense of achievement that Det. 7, 31WS weathermen watched their mission being carried out by other hands.



AWS' CAPT. John D. Shewchuk, right, Det. 1, 1st Weather Wing, and Navy Lieutenant Carl B. Ihli Jr., won the 1977 Western Pacific Regional All-Navy Talent Contest at Subic Bay, RP, recently. They

work at the Fleet Weather Central/Joint Typhoon Warning Center, Guam. The first place award was presented to them by Rear Admiral Thomas J. Kilcline, (U.S. Navy photo)



IT PAYS to try harder, so testifies the desk set earned by SSgt. Thomas J. Stanbury for having been the honor graduate of his NCO Leadership School

Class. He was tops among 60 other members of the class and is a forecaster with Det. 15, 24th Weather Squadron, Vance AFB, OK. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## Unit stakes claim as 'most visited'

CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN COMPLEX, CO—The men and women of Detachment 1, 12th Weather Squadron claim their unit is the most visited organization in the Air Weather Service. The announced claim was made known by 1st Lt. Neil Wheeler, unit information officer there. Det. 1, which is 1,400 feet underground in Cheyenne Mountain, had more than 8,900 visitors last year.

Visitors to the granite-bound weather station included celebrities such as Michelle Nichol, who played the role of Lieutenant Uhura in the popular television series "Star Trek," congressmen, governors and other civic leaders. Along with these were dignitaries from Germany, Japan, Canada, Iran, Great Britain, Thailand and members of military attaches from 44 foreign countries, including Russia.

The reason for so many visitors is that Det. 1 was included as part of a regular tour of the North American Air Defense (NORAD) Combat Operations Center. The tours are given to acquaint distinguished visitors with the mission and operation of the center. Similar tours are also given to business, educational and military groups.

Since the tours began visiting the weather support unit, several changes were made in the station. Lt. Col. Thomas Damon, commander, converted his office into a mini-theater equipped to seat 20 persons, and each forecaster learned his or her part of the presentation given to guests.

The weather unit's part of the tour begins with a 10-minute slide presentation which explains the how and why weather support is given to NORAD. Guests then move to the operations area to be briefed on current atmospheric and space weather as well as weather conditions in the visitor's home towns.

Det. 1 claims to be the most visited detachment in Air Weather Service and, according to Lieutenant Wheeler, seeks challengers of the claim.

## Recon squadron proud of its women members

KEESLER AFB, MS—Nearly three and a half years ago the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron (WRS) had what is believed to be the first woman to be fully qualified as a crewmember in the U.S. Air Force.

On Dec. 1, 1973, SSgt. Vickiann Espisito, then an airman, was assigned to the 53rd as an aerial reconnaissance weather observer. Less than three months later she was a fully qualified crewmember aboard a WC-130 Hercules aircraft.

In May 1976 Sergeant Espisito moved to the 54WRS, Andersen AFB, Guam. Since then two more women were assigned to the Keesler-based 53WRS. Sgt. Martha Kelly and A1C Heather Ford were assigned as dropsonde system operators.

At the same time, the 54th gained more women crewmembers. In addition to Sergeant Espisito, the unit gained 1st Lt. Nancy Holtgard, an aerial reconnaissance weather officer, and Sgts. Carey Bennet and Debbie Whitacre, dropsonde system operators.

One of the first women to graduate from the Air Force's pilot school, 2nd Lt. Carol Scherer, will be assigned to the 54th in January 1978 and plans to be the first woman pilot in the Air Force to fly weather reconnaissance.

Sergeant Espisito said she had always wanted to fly. "I asked for the job, got it, qualified for it and was then accepted by almost everybody. In the last three years I've seen several different reactions from the guys I fly with. Some took a big brother attitude and others just treated me as one of the guys. I have had no unfavorable reactions at all."

Airman Ford, of Weather Service's Det. 5 here, who has only been on the job a few months, said although she has some anxiety about flying into a hurricane, she feels prepared for it. "In fact," she said, "I'm looking forward to it. Despite some good natured horror stories about flying into a hurricane from the guys, mostly because I'm new, I think it will be a great job and I find it kind of exciting."

# Weather families join in Japan's Tanaba (Star) Festival

YOKOTA AB, JAPAN—Weather men and wives from two units took part in Fussa, Japan's annual Tanaba (Star) Festival this year. The people were Capt. and Mrs. Russ Reed, Detachment (Det.) 1, 30th Weather Squadron (WS) and Capt. Henry Jacocks and Mrs. Lyman Kaiser, wife of Lt. Col. Lyman Kaiser, both of Det. 17, 30WS. Det. 1 is at Fuchu AS, Japan and Det. 17 is at Yokota AB.

For three hours, according to Captain Reed, the two men, along with other members of the Yokota AB Junior Officers' Council, helped Japanese members of a local civic organization to carry a portable shrine through the city's streets. Mrs. Kaiser and Mrs. Reed joined other wives from the base to form one of 34 dance units in the parade.

The wives, Captain Reed said, spent nine evenings learning the dances then dressed in red, white and blue yakatas or summer kimonos for the actual dances. The men dressed in white gym shorts and the short, loose-fitting Japanese "happi (hop-ee) coats."

**CAPTS.** Russ Reed and Henry Jacocks, of Detachments 1 and 17, 30th Weather Squadron, respectively, join other members of Yokota AB, Japan's Junior Officers' Council and members of a Japanese civic organization in the carrying of a Japanese shrine through the streets of Fussa, Japan, during the city's 1,700-member parade recently. (Photo provided by MSgt. Dallas Baker, Pacific Stars and Stripes)



## Hurricane Doreen

### Crew challenges storm

by Capt. Scott Cox  
Det. 5, Air Weather Service  
UIO

KEESLER AFB, MS—In August the Eastern Pacific Hurricane Center, San Francisco, upgraded Doreen from a tropical storm to hurricane status. Doreen became the first United States hurricane of 1977 to affect the continental U.S.

Doreen's upgrading came from satellite data analyses and meteorological information from U.S. Air Force airborne people.

Crewmembers from Detachment (Det.) 5, Air Weather Service (AWS) left here for the storm's center. Minutes later they penetrated the storm's eye 300 miles west of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, and 250 miles south of the Baja peninsula. After leaving the storm center the aircraft and its crew circled the storm and reentered it a second time.

Two days after the weathermen had transmitted their on-the-scene information to the hurricane center, as she moved closer to the California coast, Doreen was

redesignated as a tropical storm. The following morning Doreen had lost her momentum and was classed as a tropical depression, then moved inland near Oxnard and Santa Monica, CA.

At least eight deaths were recorded by civil officials, most of which were due to traffic accidents caused by heavy rainfall in the mountain and desert areas.

At least \$14 million of the total \$25 million in damage was to crops. Doreen had dumped an average of four inches of rain in the southern third of California.

AWS crewmembers who flew into the U.S.'s first 1977 killer storm were Capts. Randy Moore and Phillip Bauman, aerial reconnaissance weather officers; and TSgt. Charles Smith, dropsonde systems operator. With them were Maj. James Boles; Capts. Robert Burger, Patrick Kielbasa and Marvin Olsen; 1st Lt. Donald Sedlacek and SSgts. Phillip Bridges and William Dunlap' 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron.

# Korea takes some couples

Korea, long thought of as an isolated tour area, now has opportunities for both officers and enlisted people to serve accompanied tours.

When the 30th Weather Squadron was activated in Korea a different concept in support of U.S. Forces, Korea, began. Mission requirements now dictate more continuity among the headquarters and detachment staffs. As a result,

several positions were designated command sponsored. They are for captain through colonel and staff sergeant through senior master sergeant.

A command sponsored (accompanied) tour in Korea is two years long with extension possibilities.

The opportunities for an accompanied tour of Korea are

greatly increased for weather people.

If you anticipate an overseas assignment, check the Korea options.

If you choose to serve an accompanied tour in Korea, you may be doing yourself a favor while contributing immensely toward mission accomplishment. (Story submitted by Headquarters, 1st Weather Wing)

## Guam weathermen gain AMS chapter

A chapter of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) was recently established on Guam. The executive council consists of three Air Force officers; Capts. Frederick S. Reamer, Detachment (Det.) 4, Air Weather Service, chairman; Frank A. Wells, Det. 1, 1st Weather Wing, vice chairman; and Charles P. Guard, of the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC), secretary-treasurer.

Committee members are from Air Force units, the Navy's Fleet Weather Central, the JTWC, National Weather Service, the local school community and interested non-professionals from the community.

The chapter meets monthly, hosted by different weather units each time.

The most recent guest speaker

was Dr. Gordon Bell, director of the Royal Hong Kong Observatory, who spoke about the typhoon eye while using a time-lapse film loop of the forming of a typhoon eye as seen from the Hong Kong weather radar facility.

The chapter's most significant accomplishment, according to Captain Reamer, was the provision of a meeting ground for all weather persons on Guam.

# AWS salutes . . .

## Medals

**Legion of Merit:** Col. Ramon C. Wilkins, AWS, Scott AFB, IL.

**Meritorious Service Medal** (with one oak leaf cluster (OLC)): Col. Robert F. Woodnal, 12th Weather Squadron (WS), Peterson AFB, CO; Lt. Col. Loranzo D. Smith, Det. 1, 7th Weather Wing (WW), Andrews AFB, MD; Capt. William D. Lester, AWS; CMSgt. Walter P. Mardyla, 24WS, Randolph AFB, TX; and Lt. Col. James A. Degiovanni, Det. 18, 30WS, Yongsan, Korea. (Basic) SMSgt. Arthur O. Johnson, now with Det. 31, 3WS, Dobbins AFB, GA (see "Command assignments"); CMSgt. William E. Nelson, Det. 6, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO; SMSgt. William C. Luce, Det. 14, 5WS, Ft. Hood, TX; Capt. Richard A. Rasmussen, Det. 20, 7WW, Little Rock AFB, AR; Lt. Col. Charles T. Davis Jr., Det. 10, 7WW, McGuire AFB, NJ; Maj. Eldon E. Schmidt and Kenneth W. Craw Jr., AWS; Lt. Col. Richard A. Rinaldi, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO; and Lt. Col. Mikel W. Cohick, Det. 6, 2WW, Stuttgart, Germany.

**Air Force Commendation** (three OLC): MSgt. Henry Deas Jr., 30WS, Yongsan, Korea. (Two OLC): CMSgt. Earl W. Langhorne, Det. 14, 7WW, Norton AFB, CA; TSgt. Ronald L. Rygh, Det. 11, 7WW, McChord AFB, WA; Capt. Robert F. Baker, Det. 13, 15WS, Robins AFB, GA; and Lt. Col. Robert H. Hedenberg, 9WS, March AFB, CA. (One OLC): TSgt. Dale M. Bystedt, Det. 12, 5WS, Ft. Devens, MA; Capt. Earl C. Bogard, Det. 15, 9WS, Grand Forks AFB, ND; Capt. Carl Curatola, 2WW, Kapaun Bks., Germany; and Capt. Paul F. Demmert, 30WS, Yongsan, Korea. (Basic): TSgt. Cecil C. Milam, Det. 18, 30WS, Yongsan, Korea; Capt. James W. Trobaugh, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO; MSgt. Charles T. Christopher, Det. 5, 7WW, Dover AFB, DE; Sgt. Johnnie M. Clark, Det. 14, 5WS, Ft. Hood, TX; Sgt. Ricky G. Kackley, 2WW, Kapaun Bks., Germany; Capt. Michael J. Baran, Det. 20, 7WW, Little Rock AFB, AR; Capt. James E. Young, Det. 5, AWS, Keesler AFB, MS; A1C Dana K. Troutman, Operating Location (OL) F, Det. 18, 30WS, Camp Humphreys, Korea; Capt. Lowell W. Ayers, Det. 1, 7WW, Andrews AFB, MD; Sgt. Teresa M. Kaiser, Det. 41, 12WS, Ft. Lee, VA; Capt. James K. Woessner, OL-E, Det. 18, 30WS, Camp LaGuardia, Korea; 1st Lt. David E. Hodges, TUSLOG Det. 2; Capt. Kenneth E. Parsons, OL-C, Det. 18, 30WS, Camp Casey, Korea; and Capt. Ian D. Cohen, Det. 10, 30WS, Kunsan AB, Korea.

**Army Commendation Medal:** TSgt. Larry L. Baden, Det. 20, 26WS, Barksdale AFB, LA.

**Air Medal:** Capt. Michael D. Patton and Robert B. Palmer, and SSgt. Arnold R. Hansen, Det. 4, AWS, Andersen AFB, Guam.

**Air Force Good Conduct Medal** (five loops (LPS)): TSgt. Richard R. Rizzo, 26WS, Barksdale AFB, LA. (One Lp): SSgts. Floyd M. Parton and Ambrose F. Disori, Det. 20, 7WW, Little Rock AFB, AR; and Sgt. James P. Tilton, an administrative clerk with Det. 5, 3WS, England AFB, LA. (Basic): SrA Cheryl L. Katz, Det. 21, 2WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; Sgt. Arthur D. Ward, Det. 14, 7WW, Norton AFB, DA; SrA Robert C. Goree, Det. 20, 31WS, Sembach AB, Germany; and SSgts. Robert E. Lau and Dwight B. Miller, Det. 20, 26WS, Barksdale AFB, LA.

## Special honors

SrA Dwight O. Allen, Det. 10, 3WS, Kunsan AB, Korea, was chosen the MAC-Pacific Airman of the Quarter (AOQ) for Korea and A1C Wentworth H. Newman, 1WW, Hickam AFB, HI, received the same honor for Hawaii. He is an administrative specialist.

1st Lt. Danny J. Smock, Det. 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, FL, is his base's non-rated Junior Officer of the Quarter for the third quarter.

SSgt. James R. Nedry, Det. 29, 25WS, Buckley ANGB, CO, received a certificate of outstanding achievement for the safety program he conducted.

MSgt. Christopher J. Summerell, Det. 8, 12WS, Duluth IAP, MN, is his base's NCO of the Quarter (NCOQ).

1st Lt. Donald L. Reinke, Det. 11, 2WS, Patrick AFB, FL, received a base certificate of appreciation for his help during a visit by a group of Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets.

Capt. Bruce E. MacKay, Det. 6, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO, received a plaque for his support to the local wing.

A1C Michael J. Lewis, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO, received a letter of appreciation for his part in a "Learn to Swim" program.

Amn. Alfred A. Wohlgemuth, an observer with Det. 21, 9WS, Minot AFB, SD, received a Chanute AFB, IL, Air Training Command Center letter of appreciation for his "exemplary performance while a student" there.

## Education

Maj. James E. Trost, Det. 5, 3WS, England AFB, LA, received a masters degree in management and public administration from Webster College.

1st Lt. James A. Parsons, Det. 21, 2WW, Kapaun AS, Germany, completed Squadron Officer School.

SMSgt. Alfred L. Schwigel and SSgt. Luther J. Miller, Det. 11, 7WS, Coleman Bks., Germany, were named to the University of Maryland's (European Division) Dean's list.

Majs. James E. Sands and Raymond Jojola, 2WW, Kapaun Bks., Germany, completed the Air War College by correspondence.

Capt. Richard L. Holden, Det. 75, 3WS, Hurlburt Field, FL, completed Combat Control School at Little Rock AFB, AR.

Associate degrees in weather forecasting, in October, went to MSgt. Robert F. Walker, Det. 4, 7WW, Altus AFB, OK; MSgt. Francis G. Skidmore, CMSgt. Clarence M. Carter, TSgt. Marvin L. Freimund and SSgt. Johnny J. Jones, Environmental Technical Applications Center (ETAC), Scott AFB, IL; MSgt. Wilbur F. Skelton Jr., Luke AFB, AZ; TSgt. Rodger A. Black, Det. 33, 3WS, Fairchild AFB, WA; MSgt. Benjamin L. Coughran, Det. 9, 7WW, Scott AFB, IL; SMSgt. Marvyn L. Drake Jr., Det. 30, 2WS, Vandenberg AFB, CA; MSgt. Donald L. Fawver, Det. 11, 24WS, Reese AFB, TX; SSgts. George Frew and George M. Palmer, MSgts. Thomas B. Lancaster Jr., Ronald L. Osborne and Thomas P. Sinclair, TSgt. Danny G. McGrew and Sgt. Brian J. Palesch, Air Force Global Weather Central (AFGWC), Offutt AFB, NE; TSgt. Leroy C. Nelson, OL-O, Det. 6, AWS, Lambert AFB, MO; Sgt. Eric B. Gadberry, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, NC; CMSgt. Adam L. Hauck, Det. 11, 2WS, Patrick AFB, FL; TSgt. Terry M. Howard, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, AK; SSgt. Edward F. Hynan, Det. 5, 7WW, Dover AFB, DE; SMSgt. Horace L. Maxwell, 30WS, Yongsan AB, Korea; and TSgt. William F. Roche, Det. 1, 30WS, Fuchu AS, Japan.

Associate degrees in weather observation technology went to MSgt. John M. Perchik Jr., and TSgt. Wade C. Ramsey Jr., Det. 12, 24WS, Sheppard AFB, TX; and SMSgt. Lloyd R. Worster, Det. 11, 24WS, Patrick AFB, FL.

Associate degrees in meteorological equipment technology went to SSgt. James E. Allan Jr., 3362nd Student Squadron, Chanute AFB, IL; TSgt. Michael W. Carter, Det. 12, 7WS, Finthen, Germany; MSgt. Garay D. Holland, AWS; SSgt. Bruce J. Schofield, Det. 4, 7WW, Altus AFB, OK; and TSgt. Doyle E. Yeater, 30WS, Yongsan, Korea. All associate degrees were through the Community College of the Air Force.

Persons who completed the NCO Academy are Distinguished Graduate (DG) SSgt. Arthur R. Green, 6WS, Tinker AFB, OK; TSgt. John R.O. Hart, Det. 8, 26WS, Griffiss AFB, NY; TSgt. Larry L. Hildebrand, Det. 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, AK; TSgt. William J. Kieffer, Det. 4, 1WW, Hickam AFB, HI, TSgts. Eugene B. Hayden, David P. Pigors and William M. Scheib, AFGWC; TSgt. Ronald G. Shaw, Det. 2, 7WW, Travis AFB, CA; TSgt. Anthony G. Sinclair, Det. 26, 26WS, Grissom AFB, IN; and TSgt. George M. Scott, Det. 75, 3WS, Hurlburt Fld., FL.

Graduates of the NCO Leadership School are DG SSgt. Ray G. Meador, Det. 5, 5WS, Ft. Knox, KY; DG SSgt. John J. McAleenan, ETAC; SSgt. Charles S. Kelley (Academic Award), Det. 13, 15WS, Robins AFB, GA; SSgt. Steven O. Urbanetti (Academic Award), Det. 17, 24WS, Williams AFB, AZ; SSgt. Michael D. Fett (Instructor Abilities Award), Det. 5, 3WS, England AFB, LA; SSgt. A. Bush, Det. 10, 7WW, McGuire AFB, NJ; and SSgt. Andrew W. Brewington Jr., Det. 8, 12WS, Duluth IAP, MN.

Phase I training was completed by SrA. Beth E. Strader, Det. 20, 31WS, Sembach AB, Germany; and Phase II by Sgt. Sherry A. Medley, Det. 75, 3WS, Hurlburt Fld., FL.

## Unit honors

At Det. 13, 5WS, Ft. Eustis, VA, TSgt. Ken Martin was chosen the July-September NCOQ and A1C John Meadow as the AOQ.

Det. 11, 2WS, Patrick AFB, FL's NCOQ is Sgt. Richard R. Paxton and the AOQ is A1C Charles L. Williams Jr.

At Det. 41, 12WS, Ft. Lee, VA, TSgt. Randolph C. Murphy is the NCOQ and A1C Gary L. Gumm is AOQ.

1st Lt. Jeanette M. Heumann is ETAC's Junior Officer of the Quarter for October-December.

A1C Rosanne Leverette, Det. 23, 7WW, Kirtland AFB, NM is the 2WS' First Term Airman of the second Quarter. Det. 23 was formerly a 2WS unit.

At Det. 10, 2WS, Eglin AFB, FL, Sgt. Stephen D. Patterson is the Outstanding Career NCO and Sgt. Brian M. Hillerby the Outstanding First Term Airman.

Sgt. James P. Callahan, Det. 8, 12WS, Duluth IAP, MN, received a letter of appreciation from his commander for managing the unit's softball team.

TUSLOG Det. 2 received a USAF Safety Certificate for a ground accident-free year in 1976.

Sgt. Lawrence L. Shipp, Det. 14, 7WW, Norton AFB, CA, is his unit's October Observer of the Month.

SSgt. Steven O. Urbanetti, Det. 17, 24WS, Williams AFB, AZ, received the 24th's Executive Support Award.

## Promotions

To colonel: Robert F. Woodnal, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO.

To major: John W. Louer, ETAC (USAF Reserve promotion); Robert L. George, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO.

To captain: Curtis A. Morton, AFGWC.

To first lieutenant: James G. Badour, AFGWC; Richard I. Maynard, Det. 4, 7WW, Altus AFB, OK; Jackie C. Sims, Det. 1, 2WS, WPAFB, OH; and Susan H. Balog, Det. 21, 2WW, Kapaun AS, Germany.

To chief master sergeant: William E. Nelson, Det. 6, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO.

To senior master sergeant: Juan M. Longoria, Det. 75, 3WS, Hurlburt Fld., FL and Alfred L. Schwigel, Det. 11, 7WS, Coleman Bks., Germany.

To master sergeant: Gerald Taufer, Det. 1, 2WS, WPAFB, OH; Christopher J. Summerell, Det. 8, 12WS, Duluth IAP, MN; Thomas W. Hudson, 2WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; Walter P. Woveris, Det. 5, 3WS, England AFB, LA; David J. Kumer and William R. Matley, AFGWC.

To technical sergeant: Joseph Miranda Jr., Det. 21, 2WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; Wayne D. Becker, Det. 20, 3WS, Sembach AB, Germany; Lawrence P. Carnito, Det. 3, 12WS, Malmstrom AFB, MT; Frank J. Sharpe, Det. 11, 2WS, Patrick AFB, FL; Arlen D. Baker, Det. 4, 7WW, Altus AFB, OK; Bernard H. Johnson, ETAC; Kenne R. Eastwood, John V. McBride, J.B. McLeon Jr., Wilbur V. Palmer and Johnny R. Revel, AFGWC.

To staff sergeant: John C. Graham, Det. 3, 12WS, Malmstrom AFB, MT; Benjamin J. Depecol, Det. 5, 7WS, Katterbach, Germany; Ralf Gruhn, Det. 20, 24WS, Laughlin AFB, TX; Jerry W. Spencer, AFGWC; and Donald W. Shelton, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, NC.

To sergeant: John A. Norton, Det. 20, 31WS, Sembach AB, Germany; David R. Hudson, Det. 5, AWS, Keesler AFB, MS; Stephen J. Shiflett, Det. 20, 26WS, Barksdale AFB, LA; Norman R. Edmunds, Det. 21, 5WS, Hunter AAF, GA; and Clifford W. Stevens, Det. 41, 12WS, Ft. Lee, VA.

To senior airman: William A. Sallee, Det. 4, 7WW, Altus AFB, OK; Ronald H. Biser and Jimmy W. Long, Det. 10, 7WW, McGuire AFB, NJ; Howard S. Bailee, Allen S. Lagree and Charles Louis-Jacques, Det. 8, 12WS, Duluth IAP, MN; Edward K. Reed, Det. 14, 31WS, Hahn AB, Germany; Paul M. Dries, Det. 75, 3WS, Hurlburt Fld., FL; David R. Heier, Det. 21, 3WS, MacDill AFB, FL; Douglas R. Baugh, Det. 11, 7WS, Coleman Bks., Germany; Jeffery A. Smith, Det. 21, 2WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; Heather A. Ford and Michael R. Ouellette, Det. 5, AWS, Keesler AFB, MS; Diane Elder, Det. 15, 9WS, Grand Forks AFB, ND; Gary M. Stearns, Det. 5, 5WS, Ft. Knox, KY; Michael J. Lewis, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO; Allen P. Bayone, James D. Hayden, Patrick W. Pryne and Lawrence M. Smith, AFGWC; David M. Mandernack, Det. 10, 2WS, Eglin AFB, FL; Bill D. Zwick, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO; Nancy S. Barnette and Zwemer E. Ingram Jr., Det. 13, 15WS, Robins AFB, GA; and Charles R. Reid, Det. 5, 7WS, Katterbach, Germany.

To airman first class: Richard H. Beckstead II, Johanna S. Carlson, Terry A. Causey, Jack B. Combs Jr.,

(Continued on next page)

## Col. Keith R. Grimes

# Devotes life to special warfare, country

by  
John Fuller  
AWS historian

Last September Col. Keith R. Grimes died in an aircraft accident. He had spent most of his Air Force career in AWS and had some uncommon experiences. He was recognized within the Air Force and Army as an expert in special warfare and its weather support.

Colonel Grimes was born in Houston, TX, May 19, 1935. At 19 he received a bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Texas, was Phi Beta Kappa and the outstanding Reserve Officer Training Corps graduate of that year. He later did graduate study in geology at the University of Nevada and earned a master's degree in business administration from George Washington University. On entering the Air Force, he attended Penn State University to earn a degree in meteorology, graduating tops in his class.

His career took its most important turn in 1963 when, as a captain, he volunteered for the staff weather officer position to the Special Air Warfare Center, Hurlburt Fld., FL. There he became leader of an air commando weather team, later officially designated Det. 75, 5th Weather Wing.

During his four years in command of Det. 75, Captain Grimes completed all of the Air Force's major counterinsurgency and survival courses. Additionally, he graduated from the Air Force's Air-Ground Operations School (He was certified as a forward air

guide—a non-pilot air strike controller), the Special Air Warfare Indoctrination Course and the Army's Ft. Bragg, NC, Unconventional Warfare Course. He later instructed each course.

He became, literally, a jack-of-all-trades: geologist, meteorologist, scholar, master parachutist, marksman and private pilot.

After leading his commando weathermen in numerous stateside and overseas field exercises, Captain Grimes' first test under live fire came during the Dominican Republic crisis in May, 1965.

The following month he went to Laos as the Air Force liaison officer to Meo guerrillas, under Brig. Gen. Vang Pao, then battling North Vietnamese and Pathet Lao forces.

Answering directly to the American ambassador to Laos, Captain Grimes had an undercover and perilous job. His mission was to set up a working air support system in northern Laos and to establish a weather observing network, operated by friendly forces. The weather observing net was needed to reduce the number of close-air-support missions aborting due to weather. It continued in existence until 1973.

When he returned home in late 1965, Captain Grimes was asked to brief the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), the Air Force Secretary and the Air Force chief of staff as well as other high-ranking officials, on the overall Laos military situation. He gave the Laos briefing, in one form or another, more than 100 times to civilian and military

audiences. Although his career accomplishments were in clandestine, unconventional warfare, in 1967 the National Junior Chamber of Commerce recognized him as one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America."

He pinned on major's leaves in



Laos—1965

1967 and entered the Air Command and Staff College where he became a distinguished graduate and a faculty member. Two years later he was promoted to lieutenant colonel—at age 34.

While still on the school's faculty, Colonel Grimes was one of 12 Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps officers secretly summoned to the Pentagon in May, 1970, to study the feasibility of raiding the North Vietnamese prisoner of war (POW) camp at Son Tay, near Hanoi, to free the prisoners there.

After tentative approval was granted by the JCS in July, and by President Richard M. Nixon the following month, the raiders began intensive training at Eglin AFB, FL, in September. Colonel Grimes not only worked on the raid's meticulous plans and acted as weather advisor, but was designated as the Air Force liaison officer to the Army for the raid. He was also identified as the backup ground force commander.

When the raiders deployed to Southeast Asia in November, Colonel Grimes arranged for specialized, in-theater weather support. During the course of the daring raid, the night of Nov. 20-21, he was with the overall raid commander (Brig. Gen. LeRoy J. Manor) in a tactical air control center at Monkey Mountain, near Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam (RV). For his role in the raid, he received the Legion of Merit.

In 1972, following graduation from the Army War College, Colonel Grimes was assigned to Headquarters AWS. Two years

later he became the 10th Weather Squadron (WS) commander in Thailand. Under his leadership, the 10th provided weather support during the evacuation of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and Siagon, RV, in 1975 as well as during the recapture of the S.S. Mayaguez. As a result of its accomplishments, the 10WS won the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award and was nominated by AWS for the Air Force Association's Citation of Honor.

Colonel Grimes returned from Thailand in mid-1975 as a member of the Military Airlift Command's war and readiness plans staff and was promoted to full colonel the next year.

At Scott AFB, IL, I (Mr. Fuller) interviewed\* Colonel Grimes. During several tape-recorded sessions, the detailed story of his military career emerged.

"Our (AWS) ability to achieve, like an individual's ability to achieve, is dependent upon what your vision is of the possible," he said. "If your vision of the possible is small, then your achievements will be." Colonel Grimes' visions and record of achievements were not small.

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Mr. Fuller, on direction of the MAC chief of staff, will soon publish an unclassified, edited transcript of his interview with Colonel Grimes, complete with more than 100 photographs the colonel took in Laos. Persons desiring free copies, after early 1978, should write to: HQ, MAC/HO (c/o Mr. Fuller), Scott AFB, IL 62225.

## AWS salutes . . . . (Continued from last page)

John B. Cook Jr., David J. Edmonds, Keith A. Hermanson, Eric H. Hoehn, Edward C. Miles, Mary E. Nameth, David E. Newberry and Randy D. Teraberry, AFGWC: Gregg Williams, Carol Parker and Tyrone Sandlin, Det. 13, 5WS, Ft. Eustis, VA; Thomas N. Burt, Det. 5, 5WS, Ft. Knox, KY; Aalt Brouwer, Stanley Krenz and Donald Britton, Det. 3, 12WS, Malmstrom AFB, MT; Brian P. Burke, Det. 41, 12WS, Ft. Lee, VA; Jennifer Johnson, Det. 20, 26WS, Barksdale AFB, LA; David Driskell, Det. 20, 24WS, Laughlin AFB, TX; David M. Cooper, Det. 7, 9WS, March AFB, CA; Michael B. McLaughlin and Philip J. Robinson, Det. 11, 2WS, Patrick AFB, FL; Samuel J. Siriano, Det. 26, 26WS, Grissom AFB, IN; Vicki A. Crump, Det. 3, 9WS, Fairchild AFB, WA and Barbara G. Johnson, Det. 8, 12WS, Duluth IAP, MN.

To airman: Daniel Fabela, 12WS, Peterson AFB, CO.

## Civilian honors

Outstanding Performance Awards went to a secretary, Barbara C. Reinhardt, Det. 21, 2WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; and Betty C. Shockley and Frank R. Jackson, Det. 4, 3WS, Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ.

Carol Pukall, wife of TSgt. Dennis A. Pukall, Det. 21, 9WS, Minot AFB, ND, is a beauty and has credentials to prove it. She recently won a runner-up position in the Mrs. Minot Air Force Base pageant. The winner was the base's Kathy Stevens.

Jeanette E. Davis, ETAC, received a pin and certificate for having completed 20 years federal service.

Howard McNeil, Det. 22, 26WS, Carswell AFB, TX, received a plaque with the Air Weather Service shield and the words, "Well Done" on it. (See Retirements).

## Command assignments

Maj. John E. Shaughnessy now commands Det. 1, 7WS, Feucht, Germany.

SMSgt. Arthur O. Johnson now commands Det. 31, 3WS, Dobbins AFB, GA.

SMSgt. Charles T. Melson now commands Det. 23, 7WW, Kirtland AFB, NM.

## Marriages

SrA Reece J. Talley, Det. 3, 12WS, Malmstrom AFB, MT, married Celeste Reed, Sept. 30 in Great Falls, MT.

## Births

Sgt. and Mrs. Keith A. Standifer, son, Eric Andrew, Aug. 30. Father an observer with Det. 21, 2WW, Kapaun AS, Germany.

Late birth announcements received from Det. 8, 12WS, Duluth IAP, MN, are sons born to SrA and Mrs. Allen S. Lagree, Jan. 18; Mr. and Sgt. Ellen S. Garner, Sept. 17; and SrA and Mrs. Charles Louis-Jacques, Mar. 10. A daughter was born to SSgt. and Mrs. Gregory L. Martin, Aug. 25.

Maj. and Mrs. Charles R. Stout, daughter, Jennifer Robin, Sept. 16. Father with Det. 1, 7WW, Andrews AFB, MD.

MSgt. and Mrs. Paul L. Noll, son, Peter Paul Julian, Sept. 24. Father with Det. 1, 7WW, Andrews AFB, MD.

MSgt. and Mrs. Gerald Berth, daughter, Jan, Sept. 1. Father a forecaster with Det. 5, 7WW, Dover AFB, DE.

SrA and Mrs. Wilbert McCrae, daughter, Adia Kamika, Sept. 6. Father with Det. 5, 7WW, Dover AFB, DE.

A1C and Mrs. Roger D. Ritchie, daughter, Jennifer Carol, Sept. 21. Father an observer with Det. 26, 26WS, Grissom AFB, IN.

## Reenlistments

Sgt. Timothy L. Ross, Det. 1, 7WW, Andrews AFB, MD.

Sgt. Craig A. Anderson, an observer with Det. 12, 5WS, Ft. Devens, MA.

Sgt. Craig F. Suprenant and SrA Colin P. Blackburn, observers with Det. 5, 3WS, England AFB, LA.

Sgt. Ernest E. Sweet, Det. 14, 5WS, Ft. Hood, TX.

SrA Richard W. Fincher, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, NC.

SSgt. Michael J. Murphy, Det. 4, 3WS, Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ.

TSgt. Mendel G. Crunkleton, Det. 21, 5WS, Hunter AAF, GA.

SrA Robin G. Post, Det. 17, 24WS, Williams AFB, AZ.

## Retirements

Howard McNeil, Det. 22, 26WS, Carswell AFB, TX, after 21 years of forecasting at the base.

CMSgt. Walter P. Mardyla, 24WS, Randolph AFB, TX, retired after becoming the senior ranking chief observer in AWS. He completed 30 years military service.

## Locator

Former members of Det. 59, 18WS, Chateauroux AB, France, (between 1956 and 1959) are asked to contact John P. Walsh, 421-42nd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11232.



CONWAY Birrell, 1st Weather Wing, and his first saltwater catch, a 200-pound Blue Marlin. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## Weathermen experience 'whale of fish story'

HICKAM AFB, HI—When five weather men go fishing and only catch three fish, most people would consider the venture a "ho-hum trip." When they go out and catch almost 500 pounds of fish—WOW!

That is exactly what happened here when five members of the 1st Weather Wing ventured out onto the blue Pacific Ocean waters off Oahu (HI) aboard the base's charter fishing boat POHAKU MOKU (Stone Boat).

The men were Conway Birrell, Earl Snipes, Ron

Bound, Jim Pettett and Art Ahrens.

The biggest catch of the day was a 200-pound Blue Marlin reeled in by Birrell after a 45-minute fight. Although he has more than 40-years experience as a fresh-water fisherman, this, his first saltwater fishing trip, was a trip to remember.

The other two fish were 145-pound and 135-pound Ahis (tunas) caught by Birrell and Snipes, respectively.

According to Capt. Rodney N. Yama, unit information officer, "The 1WWers and neighbors are still eating fish."

## Two help save woman's life

ANDERSEN AFB, GUAM—Two weather people became parties to the rescue of a 19-year-old Yap woman recently. It happened when the Guam Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC) tasked a 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron aircraft to move the woman to the Navy Regional Medical Center here.

Capt. Francis W. Naus, aerial reconnaissance weather officer, and SSgt. Vickiann Esposito, both of Det. 14, Air Weather Service, were crew members aboard the WC-130 Hercules which made the rescue.

The Guam JRCC was told the woman on the Pacific island suffered from pulmonary complications. The aircraft was sent to bring the victim back to the hospital. Officials reported her condition to be "stable."

# Sports

## Det. pits youth vs. experience

MATHER AFB, CA—Detachment 7, 24th Weather Squadron here, tried to "decide if the speed of youth could overcome the experience of age (according to Bill Bourland) during a slow-pitch softball game recently. The older team won 12-11.

Members of the winning team were John McCoy, Bill Bourland, Tom Wall, Frank Goodwin, Gil Lopez, Harv Gates, Rod Thacker and Dennis Burns.

The losing team (younger unit members) were Pete DeFelice, Karyn Wall, John Swires, Sue Malacow, Ed Ramsey, Al Shaffer, Nick Hathaway, Sharon Hathaway, Kerry Enebrad, Dave Dunn and Bill Peak. Ken Thomason was the umpire.

## Duo takes meet

KELLY AFB, TX—Robert W. Collins, Det. 7, 15th Weather Squadron, here, teamed with a local woman whose name he doesn't even know, to win first place in the Frost Bank-Kelly AFB Classic Scotch Doubles Golf Tournament recently.

Scotch Doubles is played with each two-person team hitting but a single ball. Each member makes the drive; they choose the best of the two drives and from that point team members alternate putting the ball to each hole.

## Slow-pitch meet goes to Det. 13

ROBINS AFB, GA—Detachment (Det.) 13, 15th Weather Squadron (WS) and Det. 4, 6WS, pooled their softball talent recently to take on the base's top four teams.

When the slow-pitch tourney was over, the combined weather team came in third. Earlier it had won third in its league.

Weather team members were Pete Abt, Ed Cate, Mark Hollman, Mike Keys, Steve Kelley, Tom Lyon, Mike McCathern, Ron Parker, Steve Powers, Carl Pendley, Mike Sepinski, John Tucker, Bill Winkert and Dale Werth.

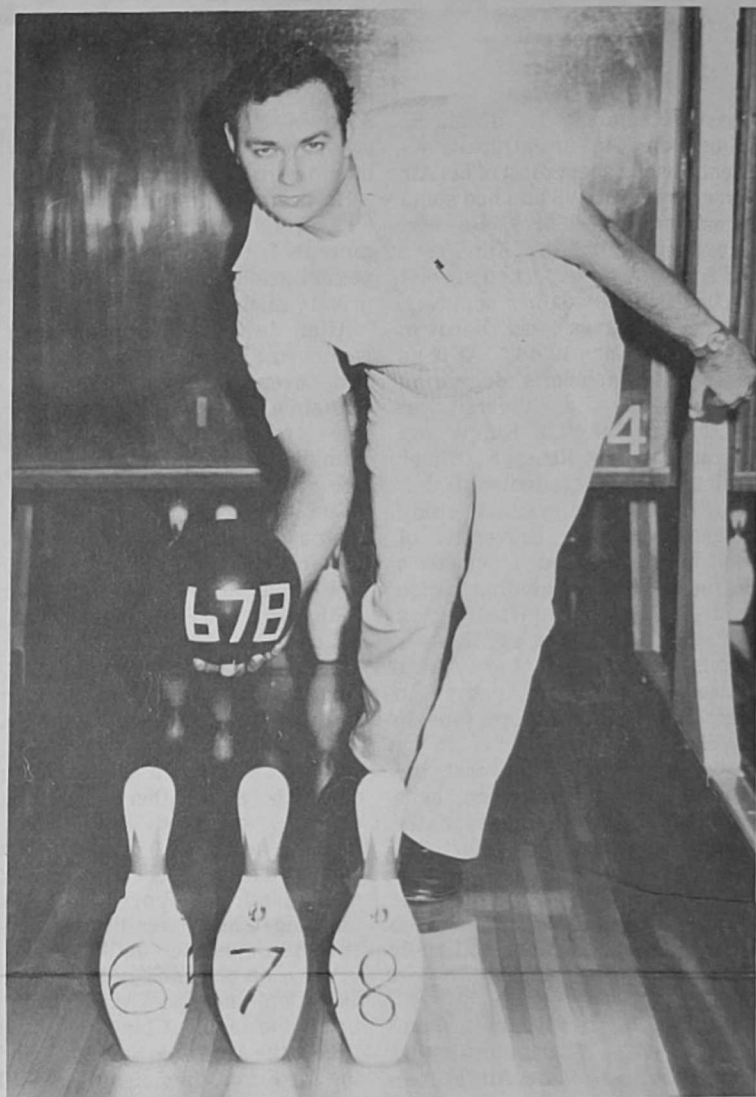
Also Jim Lee, Jim Martin, Jim Nichols and Jim Norris.

On the team, but from non-weather units, were Lou Brock, Scott Crosse, Jim Salvia and Gino Davoll.

## Met men enter golf tournament

by

Capt. William O. Kiser II  
2WS unit information officer  
ANDREWS AFB, MD—In the George King Invitational Golf Tournament, which was made up



WHEN ARCHIE S. Keiper, Det. 4, 5th Weather Squadron, Ft. Meade, MD, stepped up to roll his first ball down the alley, all he had was his reputation—he had once rolled a 300 game at Shemya AFB, AK. Three games later his local league knew his reputation was fact—he is good. In those three games Archie rolled 244, 214 and 220 for a 678 series. His team, at last report, had a 13-3 record, 25 weeks to go and was but one point behind the leading team. (U.S. Air Force photo)

of 27 golfers from the 2nd Weather Squadron (WS), Washington-area people and invited guests, becoming a winner was a scramble.

Doug Forsythe, of USAF Headquarters, had the low net score. Larry Best had closest to the blind net score with 89.

Jim Reilly, 2WS, took home the high net title from among several possible "winners."

Most scores ranged in the 70s and 80s due to a little help from the Calloway Scoring System, which allows adjustment of a score using a sliding table created from the day's score.

Doug Forsythe's low net was 73, and Jackie Kaneshiro, 2WS, and Dennis Potts, Det. 1, 7th Weather Wing, tied for second with 74.

## Winning, real 'racquet(ball)' for weathermen

Racquetball crowns went to AWS

people in America's southland recently.

AVON PARK AF RANGE, FL—Two men of Det. 32, 3rd Weather Squadron's (WS) Operating Location A, here, claimed double wins.

During a recent base meet, Curt Harden won the singles crown, then teamed with Frank Godwin to take the doubles.

Not satisfied to be base champs alone, they entered and won the singles and doubles events (same men in the same events) in Avon Park.

HUNTER AAF, GA—James Troutt, an administrative specialist with Det. 21, 5WS, here, captured the local racquetball singles title for the second time.

An earlier first place in a funnel-challenge tourney made the latest a third consecutive win at Hunter AAF.

Another Det. 21, man, Leonard Wells, teamed with Troutt for the doubles event and the number two spot.

Why only second?

Wells had never played racquetball before.