



AWS Observer

Vol. 26, No. 8

Headquarters Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, Ill.

August, 1980

AWS chooses best airmen

Service gives awards in premier presentation

MSgt. Leonard C. Hume Jr., TSgt. Donny Weaver and Sgt. Harald Naestvold have been chosen the top airmen in Air Weather Service in 1979.

It was the first time AWS searched among its elite and chose a Senior NCO, NCO and Airman of the Year.

Sergeant Hume was also chosen as one of the Military Airlift Command's five Airmen of the Year.

A member of Det. 4, AWS, Andersen AFB, Guam, Sergeant Hume is a dropsonde system operator. He entered the Air Force in 1960 and volunteered for weather reconnaissance in 1962.

Most of his career since then has been spent in weather reconnaissance, including two tours each at Andersen, Yokota AB, Japan, and McClellan AFB, Calif.

On his second Yokota tour he flew missions over Southeast Asia to support Arc Light and other special operations.

After a tour at McConnell AFB, Kan., Sergeant Hume attended Forecasters School in 1975 and went to Homestead AFB, Fla.

He missed aerial reconnaissance and again volunteered for duty. By 1977 he was back at Andersen chasing typhoons.

In a field with a high turnover rate, Sergeant Hume in the last year trained many people who had no previous flying or dropsonde experience.

AWS officials say the sergeant's long hours on the job produced innovative training techniques and actually reduced training periods.

Not one to stay behind a desk, Sergeant Hume earned two Air Medals for flying 30 hazardous penetrations into nine fully developed typhoons.

Information from these missions helped pinpoint the storms' locations and intensities, and was critical to forecasting typhoon movements.

Off the job, Sergeant is

actively involved in local community programs such as Christmas Drop and the Boy Scouts.

He helped lead the Christmas Drop '79 project sponsored by the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron. He aided collections of money, used toys, books and clothes. The sergeant also cleaned, repaired and packed the goods for air delivery to small western Pacific islands.

Sergeant Hume is also responsible for recruiting and training Cub Scout pack leaders throughout Guam. He has been a Boy Scout troop committee chairman and Guam commissioner for Cub Scouts.

Top NCO

TSgt. Donny Weaver, Det. 3, 5th Weather Squadron, Fort Bragg, N.C., entered the Air Force in 1967 and spent his first two duty tours at MacDill AFB, Fla., and Albrook AFB, the Canal Zone.

He was later transferred to Howard AFB, the Canal Zone, where he served as chief observer until 1973. He then went to Forecaster School.

After a stay at Robins AFB, Ga., he returned to Howard to support Air Force and Army missions.

Sergeant Weaver arrived at this current Fort Bragg assignment in 1978. Shortly after that, he was chosen assistant staff weather officer to the Army's 82nd Airborne Division.

The highlight of the sergeant's award-winning year came when Hurricane David hit North Carolina. In the 72 hours before landfall, he gave around-the-clock briefings to 12 command posts throughout the airborne division.

The division chief of staff was so impressed with Sergeant Weaver's work that he attached a special letter of evaluation to the sergeant's next airman performance report.

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ON MANEUVERS — TSgt. Donny Weaver transmits tactical weather information over an FM radio during an Army exercise. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Command line...

Two years of rewarding experiences

On Aug. 17, 1978, I had the honor and privilege of becoming Air Weather Service Commander. The two years since that date have been filled with many rewarding experiences which you, the people of AWS, have made possible.

I've made as many trips to our units as time would permit, and I want to share with you some of my observations and perceptions.

First, I see in our observer force young people who are exceptionally talented, eager to learn and completely capable of doing the job that is really the backbone of everything else we do.

In our business, we seem to take the observing function for granted. It's always there and done so well we've come to take it "like breathing out and breathing in" as the song says.

We seem to have focused on forecaster manning, forecaster performance and forecast improvement. It was right to do this, but not at the expense of overlooking the indispensable nature of the work done by our observer force.

Observers are not second class citizens; their work forms the basis for everything else in the weather support

function. So observers, be proud, for you are vital members of our team, and you do your job exceptionally well.

It is these same observers who have accepted the challenge and gone to the Chanute Technical Training Center to enroll in and complete the forecaster course. They have taken on the rigors of a tough, demanding 18.5 week temporary duty course and come out winners.

Their performance in school, the moral support from their parent wings, the support of the CTTC instructional staff and the initiatives of the AWS headquarters staff combined to bring success to the program, increase the number of enlisted forecasters on board and get us solidly underway for the 1980s.

The base weather station (BWS) has responded superbly to the challenge of the return of the 24-hour terminal airdrome forecast responsibility to that organizational element.

Concurrently, BWSs have undertaken an aggressive wing weather officer deployment program to enhance our readiness, further develop our meteorological skills in varying geographic locations and put meaning and

credibility in our wartime capability.

From Incirlik to Alconbury, from Patrick to Eielson, from Hickam to Camp Casey, our very basic weather unit has done an outstanding job.

Our centralized facilities have performed brilliantly in the face of manning shortfalls and drastic reductions in experience levels. The Environmental Technical Applications Center has produced especially creative work in responding to a broad array of tasks.

Carswell and the other automated digital weather switches have handled equipment conversions with no hiccups in operations. The Air Force Global Weather Central has brought the quality of support to special strategic programs to all time highs.

AFGWC and theater centers have been particularly effective in backing-up and supporting BWSs.

AFGWC completed a conversion from three computers to two large UNIVAC 1100-81s: our capability was dramatically increased; the conversion was done with no interruption in operations; and we saw again the technical ingenuity, competence and

professionalism of our centralized facility force.

Our staffmets who provide weather support to all elements of the Air Force Systems Command continue to excel, working at the forefront of technology across a broad range of programs in the development and acquisition process.

Our weather reconnaissance function continues to draw the admiration and respect of both the military and civil communities. Headquarters staffs at all levels have diligently applied themselves to the task of improving our operational effectiveness and furthering our productivity.

Our Reserve and Air National Guard component, too, is more "ready" to do its wartime job than ever before. The strong sense of mission and commitment among our reservists and Guardsmen indicate clearly that we can count on them.

The specialists in the command — programmers, analysts, admin people, solar people, all those who serve in "unique," usually "one-deep" positions, continue to innovate, work hard, and make a vital contribution to the total effort.

Finally, I would be very



Brig. Gen. A. J. Kaehn Jr.
AWS Commander

remiss if I did not recognize, and express appreciation for, the support AWS has had from the senior corporate leadership of the Military Airlift Command and the air staff.

Our modernization programs are moving forward with funding support and creative management. These actions will give us a 1980s weather support capability compatible technically with the weapons systems we are being asked to support.

Well, that's my report. It must be clear to see that I am very proud of each and every one of you — I believe in you, and what we do for this nation of ours.

You make it exciting for me to wear the uniform every day. You're great! Thanks for these two super years! Keep pitching!

Enlisted line...

Neglect of duties strands some newcomers

A funny thing happened on the way home from my last temporary duty. My luck went flat on a T-39 ride from Maxwell AFB, Ala., to Scott AFB, Ill. and I had to rely on the aeronautical skill and cunning of one of our newer merger-created airlines from Montgomery to St. Louis.

This particular line was wasting its money on schedules, evidenced by the fact that the airplane was more than two hours late into Montgomery.

Thanks to the kindness of our people at Maxwell Weather (especially MSgt. Tom Sutherland, who provided wheels, food, and company — Gunter - Maxwell - Montgomery), all went well despite the airline's best efforts to ruin the day.

We were more than two hours late to St. Louis, where, according to Murphy's Corollary Number 12, no matter how early or late one

arrives at St. Louis, the Scott limousine will have just left.

So, a small group of Scott-bound travellers settled in among the luggage piles to wait for the next limo and fight off the Hare Krishna book salesmen.

About 15 lie exchanges in to the wait, we noticed struggling toward us a young, perplexed and obviously pregnant airman, heavily laden with luggage and child.

Grateful for an offer of help, she admitted to a destination of Scott, but knew little of how to get there except that she'd been told there was a limo stop somewhere around the terminal.

She showed us her "sponsor" letter, written by the officer in charge of her new duty section. It gave the sponsor's name, but no phone number and wasn't a lot of help to someone coming into her first real USAF assignment from technical school.

But it all worked out. The limo showed up at the appointed hour, there was room on board for everyone, we all survived the 50-minute ride through the Illinois night and the airman was finally delivered into the hands of someone who promised to find a place for her and her possessions.

While this particular story seemed to have a happy ending, it made me wonder how often similar stories do not — specifically, stories that involve our people.

I saw one of our own sponsor letters, for example, that was at least from the sponsor, but not a great deal of comfort to the receiver.

Basically, all it said was "Welcome aboard! It's cold here, so be prepared. We work four on and two off, and here's my phone number." The number given was a commercial one, not AUTOVON.

I know we can do better. The USAF sponsorship program lays down the intent, which can be satisfied easily. It's the spirit of the thing I'm concerned about.

It doesn't cost much more for a first-class welcome. If you're the sponsor, be a sponsor. When you find out who and where your charges are, give them a call.

If you can't call, write. Tell them what you would want to know about the new assignment, and ask what they want to know. Send along some stuff they might find helpful — maps, schedules, newspapers, local real estate ads, etc.

Of course, they'll see it all when they get there, but they want to see it now. Give them an AUTOVON contact where they can reach you, with an alternate, if you have one.

Most important, either meet them or make arrangements to have them met when they



CMSgt. G. M. Horn
AWS enlisted advisor

arrive. Have a few things arranged — a bed, a shower, food, transportation — it will definitely put things on the right footing from the start.

No one in AWS — old or new — has to be a stranger in a strange land. We should all have friends at our next duty station even if we haven't met them yet. We're a tight little group and always have been. Let's continue to take care of each other.

Brig. Gen. A. J. Kaehn Jr.
AWS Commander

SSgt. Jim Katzman
Editor

The Air Weather Service OBSERVER is an official Class IIIA Air Force newspaper published monthly for personnel of the worldwide Air Weather Service of the Military Airlift Command, and under the supervision of the Public Affairs Materials Division, Office of Public Affairs, Headquarters MAC, Scott AFB, Ill. 62225. Opinions expressed herein do not

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AWS chooses best airmen

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Such an honor is usually reserved for officers in the ranks of lieutenant colonel and above.

In his off-duty hours, Sergeant Weaver is vice chairman of the county Parent-Teacher Association planning group and is a Cub Scout pack leader.

He is also a member of the Fort Bragg Neighborhood Mayor's Council.

Norway native

Sgt. Harald Naestvold arrived in New York from Trondheim, Norway, in 1969. A holder of several flying licenses, he soon went to work as an instructor and charter pilot.

He enlisted in the Air Force in 1977 and was assigned to the United States Air Force Environmental Technical Ap-

plications Center at Scott AFB, Ill.

His USAFETAC duties include writing, modifying and testing computer programs to solve general and specific environmental problems.

One of the Airman of the Year's projects involved the MX Missile program. He developed information on the frequency and extent of weather constraints at several locations.

In another project he solved problems with electro-optical and precision-guided munitions systems.

Sergeant Naestvold has also taken many computer courses at a local college.

Other additional duty jobs involve the sergeant in the USAFETAC Advisory Council and as USAFETAC representative to the Scott Junior Airman Committee.

The sergeant was promoted to his current grade June 1.



TOP AIRMEN — Sgt. Harald Naestvold (top right) works on a USAFETAC computer program. MSgt. Leonard C. Hume Jr. loads a sonde in a chamber for dropsonde release (above) and releases a package of presents out of an HC-130 (right) during Christmas Drop '79. (U.S. Air Force photos by Sgt. Phil Welty)

AWS salutes...

Information for salutes should be sent by unit public affairs people to MAC/PAM, Scott AFB, IL 62225. Anything received by the 10th of the month is printed in the following month's AWS Observer.

Abbreviations used in this column are AWS — Air Weather Service; HQ — Headquarters; AIN — Army Installation; AAF — Army Airfield; AFS — Air Force Station; CCAF — Community College of the Air Force; WW — Weather Wing; WS — Weather Squadron; AFGWC — Air Force Global Weather Central; USAFETAC — U.S. Air Force Environmental Technical Applications Center; WRS — Weather Reconnaissance Squadron; BTZ — Below the Zone; OL — Operating Location; and OLC — Oak Leaf Cluster.

Medals

Meritorious Service Medal: Capt. David G. Whitford, Det. 4, AWS, Andersen AFB, Guam; Maj. Raymond J. Bragaglia, 30th WS, Yongsan AIN, Korea; CMSgt. Charles E. Lee (1st OLC), Capt. Denzil W. Miller and Lt. Col. Charles S. Smith (3rd OLC) HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.; TSgt. Larry M. Means, Det. 3, HQ AWS, Sunnyvale AFS, Calif.; Maj. Delvin G. Simmons, Det. 23, 26th WS, McConnell AFB, Kan.; MSgt. Finis R. Herron, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; and SMSgt. Richard L. Vehrs, Det. 14, 5th WS, Fort Hood, Texas.

Joint Service Commendation Medal: MSgt. Milton L. Cole, 30th WS, Yongsan AIN, Korea.

Air Force Commendation Medal: TSgt. Barry Scheirer, Det. 2, 9th WS, Castle AFB, Calif.; TSgt. Richard Deneka, Det. 5, 1st WW, Clark AB, the Philippines; SSgt. Darlene Parrow, Det. 10, 30th WS, Kunsan AB, Korea; SSgt. Allan C. Weismann, OL-A, 30th WS, Camp Red Cloud, Korea; Capt. Robert D. Prochaska (1st OLC) and SSgt. Wardell Adams, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.; SSgt. Augustine A. Huerta, Det. 17, 24th WS, Williams AFB, Ariz.; SSgt. David N. Runyan (1st OLC), Det. 20, 24th WS, Laughlin AFB, Texas; SSgt. Scot M. Hill, Sgt. Cheryl L. Katz and SSgt. Heidi Berlyak (1st OLC), Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; SSgt. Victoria J. Fuller, Det. 8, 30th WS, Kadena AB, Japan; Sgt. David T. Bradley (1st OLC), Det. 12, 5th WS, Fort Devens, Mass.; Sgt. William L. Bullard, Det. 14, 5th WS, Fort Hood, Texas; and MSgt. Phillip B. Shuttleworth, Det. 5, 5th WS, Fort Knox, Ky.

Army Commendation Medal: SMSgt. David R. Anderson, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.; and MSgt. William A. Hecke (1st OLC), Det. 14, 5th WS, Fort Hood, Texas.

Promotions

To colonel: Quenten L. Wilkes, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.

To lieutenant colonel: William R. Dengate, 3rd WW, Offutt AFB, Neb.; and Gerald J. Dittberner, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.

To major: Allan J. McGlasson, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; and John D. Warburton, Richard F. Picanso and Robert E. Goetz, 2nd WS, Andrews AFB, Md.

To first lieutenant: Johnette Monsay, 15th WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.; Gary A. White, Det. 6, 5th WS, Fort Lewis, Wash.; Robert S. Lilianstrom, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; Dudley J. Foster Jr., Det. 5, 15th WS, Dover AFB, Del.; David M. Joyce, Det. 3, 31st WS, RAF Lakenheath, England; Lorraine Yashinski, Det. 4, 26th WS, Loring AFB, Maine; Susan V. Berry and Bruce D. Flaig, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; Dave Foss and Richard Redman, Det. 11, 9th WS, Beale AFB, Calif.; and Billy G. Davis, Det. 7, 24th WS, Mather AFB, Calif.

To chief master sergeant: John E. Steffen, Det. 12, 31st WS, Torrejon AB, Spain.

To senior master sergeant: Wayne Gray, Det. 6, 17th WS, Hill AFB, Utah.

To master sergeant: William E. Bennett, Det. 15, 25th WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.

To technical sergeant: Steven W. Street, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau AIN, Germany; Michael M. Bricker and

George Dobrick Jr., USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; John W. Essick, Det. 7, 3rd WS, Langley AFB, Va.; Brian L. Sutherland, Det. 24, 26th WS, K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich.; Raymond J. Comiskey and Edmund T. Calvert, Det. 23, 26th WS, McConnell AFB, Kan.

To staff sergeant: Brenda Frazier, Det. 6, 17th WS, Hill AFB, Utah; Stephen Flemke and David Hufines, Det. 6, 9th WS, Peterson AFB, Colo.; Aalt Brouwer Jr., Det. 11, 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Mark McKeown, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; Charles L. Rupert, Det. 24, 26th WS, K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich.; Joseph P. Bowers and Thomas N. Chaffin, Det. 15, 25th WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.; Terry J. Sonnier, Det. 2, 11th WS, Eielson AFB, Alaska; Brian W. Tenney, Det. 3, 31st WS, RAF Lakenheath, England; Rex H. Miller, Det. 3, 7th WS, Heidelberg AAF, Germany; Richard T. Fuller, Det. 8, 30th WS, Kadena AB, Japan; and Daniel Rossilini, Det. 15, 15th WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

To sergeant: Michael Leavitt, Det. 6, 17th WS, Hill AFB, Utah; Michael D. Postell, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau AIN, Germany; Raymond E. O'Brien Jr., Det. 3, 31st WS, RAF Lakenheath, England; Anthony J. Lawson, Det. 20, 17th WS, Little Rock AFB, Ark.; Robert C. Gray and Gregory K. Atwood, Det. 2, 1st WW, Andersen AFB, Guam; Ronald G. Wiles, William T. Seymore, Michael J. Laurel and William L. Bullard, Det. 14, 5th WS, Fort Hood, Texas; Terrence W. Chase and Harald Naestvold, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; and Dale L. Burke, Det. 5, 5th WS, Fort Knox, Ky.

To senior airman (BTZ): Chris Edwards, Det. 6, 9th WS, Peterson AFB, Colo.; Arnold Patillo, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau AIN, Germany; Gerard J. Shea, Det. 24, 26th WS, K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich.; Roberto Gonzalez, Det. 31, 5th WS, Fort Polk, La.; and Rebecca L. Kerr, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.

To senior airman: Michael D. Brittain and Stephen D. Anderson, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau AIN, Germany; David P. and Rita M. Anderson, Det. 1, 11th WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Greg A. Boner, Det. 4, 11th WS, Fort Richardson, Alaska; Andrew E. Parker,

Det. 23, 26th WS, McConnell AFB, Kan.; Gerald E. Reynolds, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; and Dennis C. Kwilinski, Det. 2, 1st WW, Andersen AFB, Guam.

To airman first class: William S. Roche, 15th WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.; Raymond E. Miller, Det. 12, 17th WS, Richards-Gebaur AFB, Mo.; Cynthia Grenier, Det. 11, 9th WS, Beale AFB, Calif.; Barbara J. Wallace, Det. 26, 26th WS, Grissom AFB, Ind.; Shelia M. Washington, Det. 14, 17th WS, Norton AFB, Calif.; Starr A. Olson, Det. 20, 17th WS, Little Rock AFB, Ark.; Elizabeth M. Brunner, Det. 1, 31st WS, Bitburg AB, Germany; Donald Fink, Det. 4, 26th WS, Loring AFB, Maine; Steven P. Dickey, Det. 31, 5th WS, Fort Polk, La.; and Terri Oakman, Det. 15, 15th WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

To airman: Jeffrey A. Goldman, 15th WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.

Unit honors

24th WS Senior NCO of the Year: SMSgt. Julian O Sandoval, Det. 1, 24th WS, Randolph AFB, Texas.

24th WS Additional Duty Officer for 1979 and 5th WW Safety Officer: 1st Lt. Alan R. Shaffer, Det. 7, 24th WS, Mather AFB, Calif.

5th WW Outstanding Civilian of the Year: Peter E. Dustman, Det. 7, 24th WS, Mather AFB, Calif.

24th WS Outstanding Additional Duty Safety NCO for 1979: MSgt. Finnis R. Herron, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany.

7th WS and 2nd WW Senior NCO of the Quarter: MSgt. John J. Hewitt, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau AIN, Germany.

7th WS NCO of the Quarter: Sgt. Darryl K. Roth, Det. 1, 7th WS, Feucht AAF, Germany.

2nd WS Airman of the Quarter: A1C Lonnie W. Childers, Det. 11, 2nd WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.

26th WS Airman of the Quarter: A1C Kestuti Vizgirda, Det. 4, 26th WS, Loring AFB, Maine.

Junior Officer of the Quarter: Capt. William

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RETREAT LEADERS — Members of Air Force Global Weather Central, Offutt AFB, Neb., march to the first formal retreat ceremony

of 1980 at Offutt. The flight consisted of almost all ranks from airman to lieutenant colonel. (U.S. Air Force photo)

AWS salutes...

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Agrella, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.

5th WS Airman of the Quarter: SrA. Roberto Gonzalez, Det. 31, 5th WS, Fort Polk, La.

NCO of the Quarter: TSgt. Edward Krautsdorfer, Det. 6, 17th WS, Hill AFB, Utah; SSgt. Randall D. Canter, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; TSgt. Richard S. Silva, Det. 14, 5th WS, Fort Polk, La.

Airman of the Quarter: SrA. Mitchell H. McCollum, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; and A1C Ronald Cunningham, Det. 14, 5th WS, Fort Hood, Texas.

Observer of the Quarter: Sgt. Anthony Northington, Det. 6, 26th WS, Pease AFB, N.H.

Performer of the Quarter: SSgt. Augustine A. Huerta, Det. 17, 24th WS, Williams AFB, Ariz.

Kadena Airman of the Quarter: A1C Elizabeth A. Evans, Det. 8, 30th WS, Kadena AB, Japan.

Special honors

Det. 1, 24th WS, Randolph AFB, Texas, received the 5th WW Commander's Award as the best forecasting unit in the 24th WS in 1979.

SSgt. Paul J. Angel and SSgt. Christine M. Harr, Det. 10, 25th WS, Bergstrom AFB, Texas, received certificates of outstanding performance and letters of appreciation for weather support they provided to Gallant Eagle '80. The certificates of outstanding performance were signed by Brig. Gen. Jack I. Gregory, AFFOR commander, Gallant Eagle '80.

2nd Lt. Vanessa L. Griffin, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany, has been elected vice chairperson of the Rheinland Pfalz Chapter of the American Meteorological Society.

About 57 percent of USAFETAC people eligible have completed the effective writing course at Scott AFB, Ill. Staff sergeants and above as well as civilians with at least a GS-7 rating attend the classes.

Det. 8, 26th WS, Griffiss AFB, N.Y., increased by 125 percent the number of U.S. Savings Bond allotments in the unit during their recent bond drive. 1st Lt. Alan Stein was the unit project officer.

Education

A1C Gary L. Helton, Det. 15, 15th WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, was the class honor graduate from Weather School May 30, at Chanute AFB, Ill.

MSgt. Dennis A. Willman, Det. 4, 11th WS, Fort Richardson, Alaska, received an associate in applied science degree in weather technology from the CCAF. TSgt. Robert L. Dodson also of Det. 4 received an associate in applied science degree in weather forecasting from the CCAF.

SSgt. John J. Escamilla, Det. 4, AWS, Andersen AFB, Guam, was graduated from NCO Leadership School, Class 80-G, at Andersen.

Sgt. Barbara L. Huston, Det. 5, 15th WS, Dover AFB, Del., was graduated from NCO Leadership School at Dover, June 19.

Amn. Lynda S. Fletcher, Det. 26, 26th WS, Grissom AFB, Ind., was graduated from weather specialist school.

SSgt. Glenn E. Van Knowe, Det. 14, 17th WS, Norton AFB, Calif., was graduated from NCO Leadership School and received the Academic Achievement Award. He is now at Forecaster School at Chanute AFB, Ill.

SSgt. Roy A. Rintala, Det. 24, 26th WS, K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich., was the honor graduate of Class 80-4 of NCO Leadership School. Sgt. David A. Becker, also of Det. 24, was a distinguished graduate and Commandant's Award winner of Class 80-5 of NCO Leadership School.

SSgt. Walter L. Coley Jr., Det. 15, 25th WS, was graduated from NCO Leadership School and led the honor squad. SSgt. Thomas N. Chaffin, also of Det. 15, was graduated from Forecaster School June 17.

TSgt. Edmund D. Wallace, Det. 1, 11th WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, was graduated from the Alaskan Air Command NCO Academy.

Sgt. Kenneth H. Edwards, Det. 1, 2nd WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, was graduated from the Military Airlift Command 21st Air Force NCO

Leadership School, Dover AFB, Del., April 10.

SSgt. James Milton, Det. 20, 17th WS, Little Rock AFB, Ark., was graduated with a master's degree in management from Park College May 22.

SSgt. Reynaldo A. Mustafa, Det. 3, 7th WS, Heidelberg AAF, Germany, was the Speech Award winner from the 21st Air Force NCO Leadership School, Rhein-Main AB, Germany.

SSgts. Richard L. and Deborah A. Ellison, Det. 17, 24th WS, Williams AFB, Ariz., were graduated from NCO Leadership School June 6. The latter NCO was also a distinguished graduate of the school. Amn. Larry D. Curtis, also of Det. 17, was graduated from Observing School March 8.

2nd Lt. Joseph R. Pineau, Det. 11, 2nd WS, Patrick AFB, Fla., received a bachelor of science degree in meteorology from the University of Hawaii. Sgt. Mark E. Minard, also of Det. 11, was an honor graduate from Observer School, Chanute AFB, Ill.

TSgt. Roger Johnson, Det. 4, 26th WS, Loring AFB, Maine, received an associate degree in meteorology from the CCAF.

Capt. John F. Boyd, Det. 14, 5th WS, Fort Hood, Texas, completed Squadron Officer School April 21 at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

SMSgt. John E. Steffen, Det. 12, 31st WS, Torrejon, AB, Spain, was graduated summa cum laude from Troy State University May 10 with a bachelor degree in applied science in resources management.

Maj. John D. Warburton, 2nd WS, Andrews AFB, Md., received a doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Oklahoma. Maj. Richard F. Picanso, also of 2nd WS, completed Air Command and Staff College.

SMSgt. William R. Newberry, Det. 8, 26th WS, Griffiss AFB, N.Y., was graduated from the NCO Academy in residence.

Civilian honors

Cheryl A. Hill, Det. 6, 17th WS, Hill AFB, Utah, was given an outstanding performance rating June 30.

Sandra L. Wesselkamper, Det. 1, 2nd WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, received an outstanding performance rating from the Air Force Logistics Command. It marked her first year as Det. 1 clerical assistant.

Det. 14 receives Williams Award

History was recently made in Air Weather Service. Det. 14, 7th Weather Wing (now Det. 14, 7th Weather Squadron) Norton AFB, Calif., was presented the 1979 Williams Award by Brig. Gen. Albert J. Kaehn Jr., AWS commander.

CMSgt. Earl W. Langhorne, Det. 14 detachment chief, accepted the award from General Kaehn and said this is the first all-enlisted unit to receive the Williams Award and the only unit to have received it twice. Norton Weather won the 1969 Williams Award as Det. 3, 17th WS.

Before the Williams Award ceremony, General Kaehn presented two awards to Det. 14 people. Amn. Shelia M. Washington received a certificate of achievement in recognition of her excellent duty performance. She was the Det. 14 February Airman of the Month.

TSgt. Ben Y. Miyaji received the Meritorious Service Medal upon separation from the Air Force and Air Weather Service after 14 years of active duty.

Major accomplishments of the detachment which culminated in the Williams Award included a high rating during the Norton ORI; superb GO-NO-GO forecasts to 63rd Military Airlift Wing combat airlift missions; a wing weather officer training program; and realistic, hands-on training to the Ontario Air National Guard Weather Flight which resulted in a highly trained, combat-ready weather flight.

Retirements

Maj. John P. Huddle, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill., retired July 1 after 22 years' service. Major Huddle, his wife Helga and their two children will live in South St. Louis County, Mo.

TSgt. Larry M. Means, Det. 3, HQ AWS, Sunnyvale AFS, Calif., retired May 12.

MSgt. Joseph R. Carney, Det. 3, 7th WS, Heidelberg AAF, Germany, retired to Massachusetts.

SMSgt. Richard L. Vehrs, Det. 14, 5th WS, Fort Hood, Texas, retired June 1. TSgt. George C. Hehr, also of Det. 14, retired May 1.

SMSgt. Clyde A. Cook, Det. 15, 15th WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, retired June 1 after 23 years' service. He will live in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Births

March: TSgt. and Mrs. Gay P. Libby, Det. 36, 31st WS, RAF Alconbury, England, a daughter, Carrie Ann, March 30.

April: 1st Lt. and Mrs. Carl C. Wyatt, Det. 7, 3rd WS, Langley AFB, Va., a daughter, Ebony Chevon, April 11.

May: Capt. and Mrs. Charles B. Stanfield, Det. 4, AWS, Andersen AFB, Guam, a son, Brenton Michael, May 3. SSGT. and Mrs. Gordon L. Patton, Det. 23, 26th WS, McConnell AFB, Kan., a daughter, Kellee Dianne, May 29. 1st Lt. and Mrs. Dale Perry, Det. 1, 12th WS, Cheyenne Mountain Complex, Colo., a son, Geoffrey Dale, May 8. Amn. and Mrs. Charles O. Collins, Det. 14, 5th WS, Fort Hood, Texas, a daughter, Maria Elizabeth, May 27. 2nd Lt. and Mrs. Jack Brown, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill., a son, Michael, May 19. MSgt. and Mrs. Phillip B. Shuttleworth, Det. 5, 5th WS, Fort Knox, Ky., a daughter, Mendi Lyn, May 29.

June: Capt. and Mrs. Patrick W. Giese, Det. 4, AWS, Andersen AFB, Guam, a son, Sean Patrick, June 19. SrA. and Mrs. Thomas W. Porter, Det. 23, 26th WS, McConnell AFB, Kan., a daughter, Kasey Lynette, June 17. SSgt. and Mrs. John Beaton, Det. 6, 26th WS, Pease AFB, N.H., a son, June 2.

July: A1C Terri S. Oakman, Det. 15, 15th WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, a daughter, July 1.



GOOD-BYE TO SERGEANT — SMSgt. Clyde A. Cook, Det. 15, 15th Weather Squadron, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, retired May 30 and received a memento of his Air Force career from Maj. James K. Broyles, Det. 15 commander. Also at the ceremony was Sergeant Cook's wife, Margit. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Weathermen help Army's tacticians

To some Air Weather Service people, Army weather support is observing and forecasting from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday at an airfield.

To others it's deploying to various locations around the world, living in the field, eating combat rations, operating army owned vehicles and communication equipment, carrying protective mask and M-16, operating gasoline powered generators, performing maintenance on Army vehicles and erecting tents.

Army tactical weather support is that and more.

These activities are not taught at Lackland AFB, Texas, or Chanute AFB, Ill. They must be learned after a person is assigned to an army support detachment.

Army technical manuals and films are excellent sources of training materials for Army support weather units.

However, the most effective means to obtain technical expertise needed for quality weather support is to practice. A recent local training exercise conducted by Det. 31, 5th Weather Squadron, Fort Polk, La., is typical.

Det. 31, deployed to the field with a gamma goat, jeep, two-

and - one - half - ton van, two radio teletype sets, two 10 kw power generators, observer and forecaster kits and other equipment to operate in a tactical environment.

In less than two hours the team set up living quarters, had all equipment and vehicles camouflaged and began to intercept teletype data and facsimile charts via high frequency radio.

Local training exercises such as this are necessary to keep weather team members proficient in Army tactical weather support.

The experience of A1C Roberto Gonzalez is a good example of what army support is like.

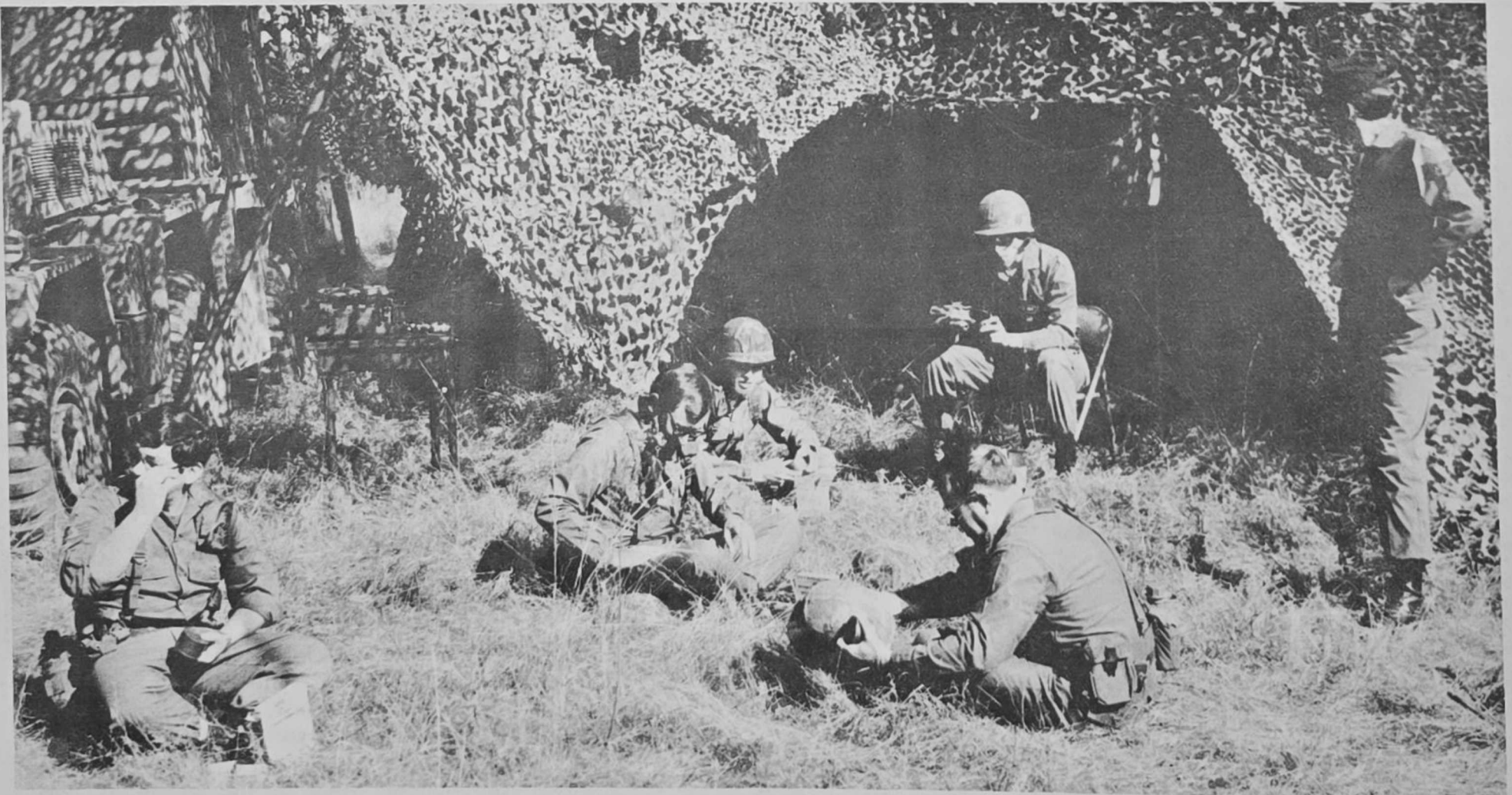
Airman Gonzalez was graduated from observer school in January 1978. Since then he has deployed to Germany for 30 days, to Alaska for three weeks, to Fort Drum New York for 30 days and 12 three - to - 10 - day local exercises at Fort Polk.

"Although I am an observer, and that all ways comes first, we have to know how to live and work in a tactical environment. It's a real challenge" said the airman.

When his tour at Fort Polk is over, he'll have plenty of war stories to tell.



RADIO DEMONSTRATION — SSgt. Ray Saucedo shows Sgt. Chuck Reid how to use an AN-PRC46 radio. (U.S. Air Force photo)



IN THE FIELD — From left, SSgt. Ray Saucedo, Col. J.R. Reames, Sgt. Chuck Reid and SSgt. Charles Beck take out time for a meal of cold, canned rations. (U.S. Air Force photo)

AFDIGS system to revamp mapping

Air Weather Service will soon have new weather information communications equipment that will give sharper, clearer weather maps around the clock.

Air Force Communications Command is providing a new Air Force Digital System, a facsimile network with digital transmission to transmit crisp, clear charts.

Maj. Herbert Breeden, AFCC weather graphics system engineer, says the new equipment is much more reliable than present systems.

Air Force Global Weather Central, Offutt AFB, Neb., provides about 300 weather maps each day to locations around the world. The new AFDIGS will cut transmission time to just a fraction of present needs.

Today's maps are sent from Offutt to more than 160 customers in the continental United States, more than 65 in Europe and more than 20 in the

Pacific and other locations.

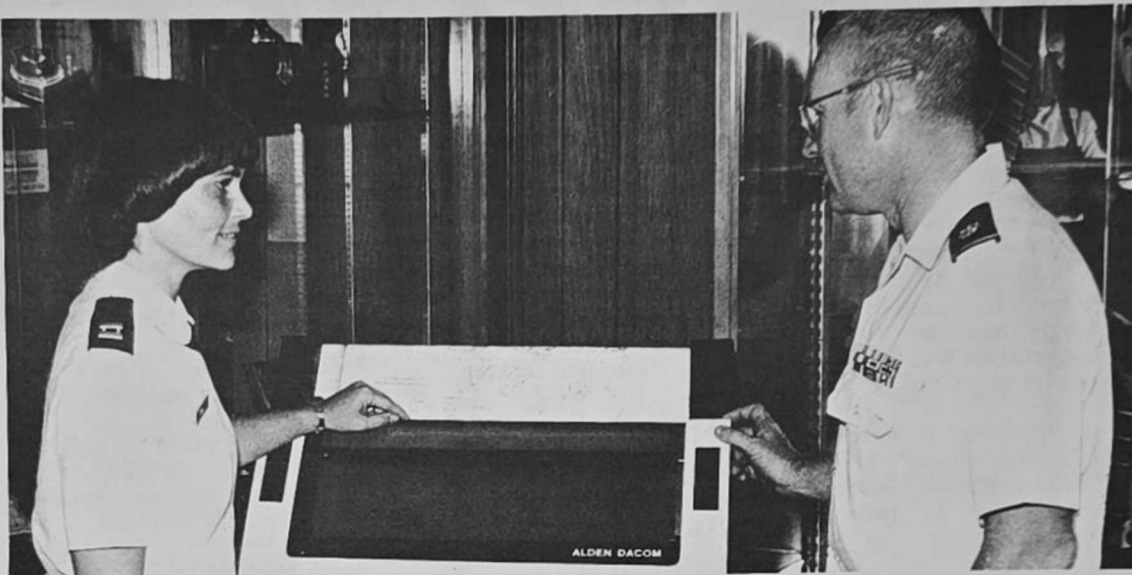
The DL-19W is the primary receiving equipment now in use, and it has a history of maintenance problems, poor map quality and is slow by AFDIGS standards.

AFDIGS will receive digital weather chart transmissions from the Air Force digital graphics network.

MSgt. Rick Stricklin, AFCC weather graphics systems manager, says the new system provides higher-speed operations. Present eight- to 10-minute-per-map transmission times will be cut to two and a half minutes.

The reduction allows elimination of a second transmission circuit from the National Weather Service. NWS maps will now go directly to Offutt to be sent over the single AFDIGS circuit.

Major Breeden says the new equipment is also much more reliable. "The four test units," he said, "only failed twice per



NEWEST EQUIPMENT — Capt. Merrilee Powell and May Eldon Schmidt of AWS Headquarters inspect a new AFDIGS machine on display in the building's lobby. (U.S. Air Force photo)

six-month period as opposed to five failures per month for the DL-19Ws."

The program calls for complete receiver installation at all stateside sites by Oct. 1 and at all overseas locations by the end of the year.

Sergeants pass test for fourth stripe

The following sergeants have been selected for promotion to staff sergeant in Air Weather Service in the August - January promotion cycle.

AWS Headquarters

Jeffrey C. Strong, Operating Location G; and Suzanne Wesselman, Det. 4.

Air Force Global Weather Central

Steven D. Braatz, Det. 10, 2nd WS; Kenneth D. Deoliviera, Det. 10, 2nd WS; Stephen G. Green; Charles E. Hartline, USAFETAC; Donald K. Herren; Ginger L. Holman; Emanuel M. Houston; Kerry L. Joens; Donald L. Land; Michael H. McDonald; Randy L. Metz; Lawrence S. Miller; Harald Naestvold, USAFETAC; Steven L. Parker; Bonney L. Pelas; Stanley A. Pool, USAFETAC; William F.J. Prouse, Guy E. Radar, Det. 11, 2nd WS; Susan J. Ramsay, USAFETAC; Susan M. Reyes, USAFETAC; Chester Richey, Det. 30, 2nd WS; John D. Robinson; Rex A. Underhill; Karen A. Werner; William F. Wheeler; Garret C. Whitlatch Jr.; Thomas Wilcox, Det. 11, 2nd WS; Bruce A. Wood, Det. 7; and Jeffrey D. Woods.

1st Weather Wing

David A. Bennett, Det. 20, 26th WS; Charles M. Brantley, Det. 15, 30th WS; Henry C.

Byrd II, Det. 20, 30th WS; Sandra B. Davidson, Det. 11, 1st WW; Linda L. Dexter, Det. 19, 30th WS; Charles T. Hospodor, Det. 15, 30th WS; Michael A. Matthews, Det. 20, 30th WS; Thomas M. McCarthy, 30th WS; Bert Parham III, Det. 20, 30th WS; Nemencio Quintanilla, Det. 4, 1st WW; Lawrence L. Shipp, Det. 20, 30th WS; Bruce A. Wylie, Det. 20, 30th WS; and Patricia A. Shackelford, Det. 6, 1st WW.

2nd Weather Wing

Pauline D. Bakaysa, Det. 12, 31st WS; Robert G. Crais, Det. 25, 31st WS; Gary L. Fehrman, Det. 12, 7th WS; John D. Gerrish II, 7th WS; Robert L. Hugg, Det. 36, 31st WS; Steven R. Levesque, Det. 10, 7th WS; Charlene L. Ligon, Det. 1, 31st WS; Janet L. Noe, Det. 21, 2nd WW; Arlyn L. Norman, Det. 5, 7th WS; Leslie J. North, Det. 21, 2nd WW; Steven P. Taylor, Det. 4, 31st WS; Deanna J. White, Det. 3, 7th WS; James A. Williams, Det. 4, 31st WS; Douglas A. Wilson, Det. 7, 31st WS.

3rd Weather Wing

Daniel I. Armenta, Det. 3, 9th WS; Marshall W. Baer, Det. 22, 24th WS; David A. Becker, Det. 24, 26th WS; Robert W. Betts, Det. 3, 11th WS; Samuel Carter, Det. 5, 9th WS; David A. Cort, Det. 19, 26th WS; Vicki A. Crump, Det. 3, 9th WS; Phillip B. Eddy,

Det. 3, 3rd WW; Andrew A. Farley III, 3rd WW; Dennis M. George, Det. 12, 26th WS; Anthony J. Jonilas, Det. 4, 26th WS; Reed A. Knudson, Det. 5, 9th WS; Clinton R. Perry, Det. 1, 9th WS; Robin G. Post, Det. 11, 24th WS; Joseph H. Rello, Det. 3, 11th WS; Paul L. Sampang, 3rd WW; Garey D. Simants, Det. 23, 26th WS; Roy E. Spoon, Det. 15, 24th WS; Jack Tones Jr., Det. 11, 24th WS; Leonard E. Warner, Det. 26, 26th WS; Clarence A. Wilder, Det. 20, 24th WS; and Ronald S. Wridge, 11th WS.

5th Weather Wing

Jesus F. Aguinaga, Det. 27, 12th WS; Howard S. Bailey, Det. 58, 5th WS; Robert D. Barnes, Det. 6, 5th WS; Arthur G. Burdick, Det. 13, 5th WS; Clifton E. Butler, Det. 11, 5th WS; James C. Campbell, Det. 13, 25th WS; John J. Fedor, Det. 6, 5th WS; Eric Ferguson II, Det. 12, 25th WS; Gary L. Gumm, Det. 41, 12th WS; Hiram E. Keller, Det. 25, 5th WW; Blake L. Lasher, Det. 32, 3rd WS; Sam Liberto III, Det. 10, 25th WS; Roger L. Lowe, Det. 6, 3rd WS; Pamela A. Mangham, Det. 9, 12th WS; Mark R. Sabastian, Det. 14, 25th WS; Joseph M. Stampley, Det. 9, 12th WS; John W. Talbott, 1st WS; James H. Travis, Det. 14, 5th WS; Robert W. Troastle, Det. 13, 25th WS; Carlos D. Vasquez, Det. 2, 3rd WS; Amos Walker Jr., Det. 6, 3rd WS; and William K. Wyatt, Det. 21, 5th WS.

7th Weather Wing

James R. Blackburn, Det. 20, 17th WS; Penny M. Carbaugh, Det. 15, 15th WS; Levarll Coburn, Det. 7, 17th WS; Elizabeth M. Coffua, 15th WS; Larry R. Daugherty, Det. 8, 17th WS; Garry R. Emerson, Det. 23, 17th WS; Toni D. Humphrey, Det. 2, 17th WS; Dee L. Keough, Det. 9, 7th WW; Allen W. Kirkham, 7th WW; O.C. Lawrence, Det. 21, 15th WS; Ross McIntosh, Det. 31, 15th WS; Ronald G. Miller, Det. 6, 17th WS; Gregory Myles, Det. 12, 17th WS; Larry R. Olson, Det. 20, 17th WS; Robert T. Reid, Det. 10, 15th WS; David P. Rice, Det. 15, 15th WS; Gregory E. Simeton, 7th WW; Terry L. Thrasher, Det. 6, 17th WS; and Bert P. Young, Det. 6, 17th WS.

AWS-gained people

Dennis L. Badger, Stephen W. Beard, Ena G. Bishop,

Andrew E. Chambers, Anthony C. Darrigo, Jeffrey W. Dow, Michael J. Guerette, Robert W. Hiza, Lyle K. In-scho, Alan R. Jarzynka, Wayne G. Jellison, Samuel L. Johnson, Paul E. Lee, Hugh J. Marney Jr., Roger E. Marshall, Michael A. Matthews, Kevin J. Mickunas, Amy L. Neely, Jeffrey R. Odell, Gary L. Parham, Dana A. Rasco, Gordon R. Robinson, Joanne M. Rogers, Carlos L. Sagraves, Thomas M. Shepard, Kurt F. Siebert, Randall Smith, Roger L. Sparks, Stephen C. Spurlin, Edward Thomas, David E. White, James A. Williams and Mark A. Williams.

The September AWS Observer will feature an explanation from CMSgt. George Horn, AWS senior enlisted advisor, on why some sergeants passed their promotion tests and others will have to wait until the next cycles.

Personnel shorts...

Did you know that:

- A 24-hour "retention hotline" is in operation at Randolph AFB, Texas? Dial AUTOVON 487-2012 anytime to get a recorded update on what's new in USAF retention programs. (AFNS)
- Basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas, takes only six weeks?

- The Senate has agreed to extend the GI Bill beyond its Dec. 31, 1989, expiration date? The measure would give all eligibles a two-year grace period after leaving the service to use the benefit. (Air Force Times, Aug. 18, 1980)

- Board cutoff for E-8 and E-9 promotions is Dec. 31, 1980? Update those educational records now!

Det. 18 opens doors

The newest detachment in Air Weather Service opened for business June 30 at RAF Fairford, United Kingdom, and Brig. Gen. Albert J. Kaehn Jr., AWS commander, was on hand to help Capt. Richard Bagby (a major selectee), Det. 18, 28th Weather Squadron commander, cut the ribbon.

The official opening was preceded by considerable challenge because Fairford weather station was built from scratch by the weather people themselves.

The following is extracted from Captain Bagby's briefing for General Kaehn before the ribbon-cutting. It tells the whole story:

Young adult

Det. 18 - Air Weather Service's baby detachment - is at the threshold of adulthood. This story is one of frustration and hardship, but most of all, a story of seven dedicated, professional airmen who overcame every obstacle that stood in their way.

We started with a mission - provide weather support to SAC's 11th Strategic Group and its KC-135s and help protected Fairford meager facilities from adverse weather.

To perform this mission, the Air Force provided Det. 18 with a captain, two forecasters and two observers with no field experience, a station chief from the Air National Guard, a clerk, facilities a half mile from the runway, some British wind and ceiling height indicators, two receive-only teletypes, one fax receiver and a nondial telephone.

Add to this open-bay living conditions, no furniture, no office equipment, no supplies, no base facilities, and dining hall food served on paper

plates and you get an idea of what Fairford was like three weeks before the first KC-135 arrived.

Miracle workers

When our planes did arrive Sept. 13, 1979, MSgt. Rod Gaudreau and his people had established procedures, written instructions, trained the inexperienced, scrounged supplies, made tables and turned wooden crates into chairs.

It took more than 20 minutes to disseminate observations over the archaic telephone system, but the mission never suffered because everyone gave his all.

Every other detachment in the UK willingly pitched in with paper, pencils, slides, pens and, yes, even toilet paper. The 31st Weather Squadron presented us with a rain gauge and a belt weather kit.

By mid-December, we finally sent our first observation over USAF long-line teletype. And three months later the base got a telephone dial capability.

However, to this day, AUTOVON capability is limited to single instruments in Strategic Air Command operations and the command post.

Late arrivals

During all this time, weather equipment installation originally slated for September 1979 kept slipping for many reasons like lack of scheme material, lack of money, allied support, weather, etc. Installation finally began in late April.

There is light at the end of the tunnel. The winds are operational and the remaining equipment will be working by

the end of July.

So we've had some obstacles. What have we accomplished since last September?

The tanker crews tell us they have received outstanding support not only for their refueling missions, but also for their redeployments to the continental United States, Spain and the eastern Mediterranean.

Earlier this month we successfully supported three B-52s. During the last six weeks, everyone in the unit has spent many off-duty hours constructing the new weather facility.

Good prognosis

RAF Fairford is now alive and well. Converted open bay barracks serve as the base school, a fine base exchange facility opened 60 days ago.

Rats that roamed the barracks at will are all dead. Tennis courts and gymnasium are now useable.

The dining hall has hot water so food is now served on real plates. Our newest addition - a pizza parlor - opened three weeks ago and serves as the only alternative to the dining hall.

Our operation is as simple as our mission. We have three observers and two forecasters who work shifts. We provide observing services five days a week from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Forecaster hours depend on the flying schedule, but usually run from 4 a.m. to 7 p.m. During hours of limited duty, the European Forecast Unit provides met watch services.

We plan to expand to 24-hours forecasting and observing seven days a week starting Jan. 1. Inbound people have been identified and we will have sufficient bodies for that expanded operation.



SQUADRON LEADERS — Top Air Weather Service people were on hand for the 28th WS reactivation. Left to right are Maj. Bruce D. Altenhof, Det. 15, 25th WS commander; Capt. Richard C. Bagby, Det. 18, 28th WS commander; Capt. Lawrence C. Hallauer, 28th WS operations directorate; Maj. Allen E. Barr, Det. 4, 28th WS commander; Lt. Col. John S. Bohlsen, Det. 17, 28th WS Commander; Col. Richard A. Brown, 31st WS commander; Brig. Gen. Albert J. Kaehn Jr., AWS commander; Col. Billy L. Moore, 2nd WW vice commander; TSgt. Gary E. Wicklund, 28th WS operations directorate; Maj. George F. Duffield, Det. 36, 28th WS commander; and Lt. Col. Shirley Boselly III, Det. 3, 28th WS commander. (U.S. Air Force photo)

AWS reactivates dormant 28th WS

A unit dormant for nine years returned to the Air Weather Service fold July 1 when the 28th Weather Squadron was reactivated at RAF Mildenhall, England.

Lt. Col. Arthur L. Boright assumed command of the squadron from Brig. Gen. Albert J. Kaehn Jr., AWS commander.

The 28th WS provides or arranges operational and staff weather support for the 3rd Air Force, Strategic Air Command, Military Airlift Command and other Air Force elements in England.

The reactivated unit's work force will comprise nine new work slots for a commander, operations officer, technical services officer, operations superintendent, communications coordinator and administrative people.

Already at work are Colonel Boright, Capt. Lawrence C. Hellaver, SMSgt. Alfred W.

Griffis and TSgt. Gary E. Wicklund.

The 28th WS was originally organized in June 1945 at Seymour-Johnson Field, N.C., and prepared to move to the Pacific in World War II.

However, the Japanese surrendered soon afterward and the unit was deactivated at Los Angeles in November 1945.

In March 1949 the Berlin Airlift needed increased weather support, so the 28th WS was reactivated at Bushy Park AFB, England.

Shortly thereafter, it was moved to South Ruislip, but was back at Bushy Park in early 1951.

In the early 1960s the squadron had 18 detachments, including three forecast centers. It was moved to RAF Northolt in 1962, where it remained until its 1971 deactivation.



AWARD WINNER — TSgt. Michael J. Visnow (second from left) received the Commandant's Award and was a distinguished graduate of the Military Airlift Command NCO Academy - East, McGuire AFB, N.J. The sergeant is assigned to Det. 28, 26th WS, Wurtsmith AFB, Mich. With him are from left CMSgt. George Horn, AWS senior enlisted advisor; Brig. Gen. Albert J. Kaehn Jr., AWS commander; and CMSgt. Forrest Guilder, academy commandant. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Elliff new 7th WW commander



Colonel Elliff

Col John J. Elliff assumed command of the 7th Weather Wing July 18 in a ceremony which also saw the wing receive its first Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

Brig. Gen. Albert J. Kaehn Jr., Air Weather Service commander, presided over the ceremony. He also attached 7th WW's award to the wing's flag.

Colonel Elliff, who succeeded Col. Robert W. Fanning, has had many flying assignments, mostly in transport and rescue helicopters.

He was a helicopter pilot who supported the last above-ground atomic tests at Yucca Flats, Nev., in 1957. He also had rescue duties at Tuy Hoa, Vietnam, in 1966-67.

The colonel received a bachelor of science degree in meteorology from the University of Washington at Seattle in 1962. He then served a tour at Fuchu Weather Central in Tokyo.

Colonel Elliff's other assignments included command of rescue units in Vietnam; Reese AFB, Texas; and Incirlik CDI, Turkey.

He commanded weather detachments at Sioux City AB, Iowa, and Fort Hood, Texas. He was Operations Division chief at 24th Weather Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas, before he became 7th WS commander at Heidelberg, Germany.

The colonel has served the last year as 7th WW vice commander.