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AWS Observer

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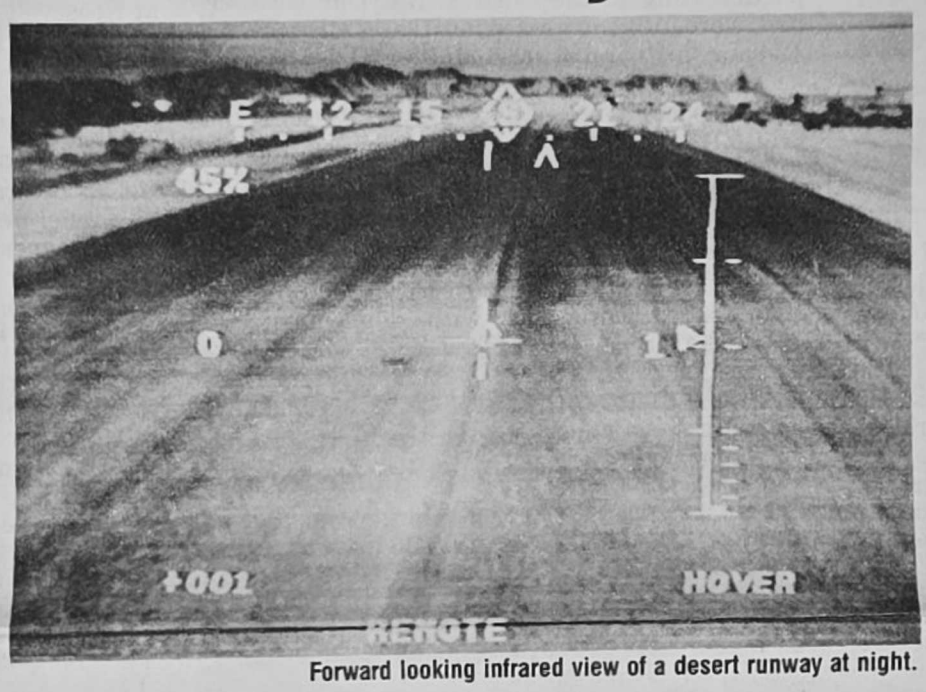
"Star Wars" side of Army weather support

by 1st Lt William D. Hall
Det 9, 5WS, Ft. Rucker, Ala.

Weathermen often cringe at the words, "Army Weather Support." Visions of sleeping in tents, eating C-rations and working in the mud usually come to mind.

There is another side of Army weather support that is also very demanding and exciting — Army Aviation. This newest branch within the Army provides weathermen with the latest challenges in technology and warfighting doctrine.

Here at Fort Rucker, the home of Army Aviation, the breakthroughs in technology and doctrine are constantly tested to insure their feasibility before being disseminated to operational units. One of the latest pieces of this new technology is the Forward Looking Infrared. Forward Looking Infrared provides the Army Aviator an adverse weather/day or night capability necessary to function in the battle area.



Forward looking infrared view of a desert runway at night.

How the system works

The workings of the Forward Looking Infrared are much the same as that of the Geostationary Operational Environment Satellite's infrared satellite shots that weather people work with daily. It detects the infrared wavelengths emitted by different objects (man-made or natural) in the pilot's field of vision. The varying temperatures of these objects are displayed in a white-hot/black-cold mode to the pilot. The mode can also be reversed. Looking through the Forward Looking Infrared eye piece gives the same image as watching a black and white television.

Another electro-optical system that will be on the AH-64 is the Target Acquisition Designation Sight. It will be used by the co-pilot/gunner to better identify and select battlefield targets that are obscurred. It contains three sensors that operate in a three field of view mode (wide, medium or narrow). This allows the gunner to increase the magnification of his view for better identification. In other words, it allows the gunner to zero in on a target, much like the telescopic sight on a hunting rifle.

Capability Tests

The AH-64 branch here has conducted numerous tests involving these systems. During a recent bad weather day (300/1/2) aircraft equipped with the Forward Looking Infrared could operate with no restrictions, while the remainder of the post's aircraft were grounded. Video tapes of those pilot's view, using the Forward Looking Infrared, showed their visibility was three to five miles, versus one quarter to one-half mile with the unaided eye.

Other Department of the Army tests have demonstrated the Forward Looking Infrared's capability in various atmospheric conditions.

Clouds and/or Fog: The pilot can see the clouds or fog as he approaches them and can see outside of the clouds or fog once the aircraft enters them. The denser the clouds or fog, the better the Forward Looking Infrared can distinguish them from other parts of the field of view. The ability of the system to operate in clouds or fog depends on those objects outside of the clouds or fog. Those objects must be warmer or cooler than the clouds or fog to be distinguished.

Smoke: Targets concealed by smoke were invisible to the naked eye, but easily identified using the Forward Looking Infrared.

Blowing Snow: Again, the system worked well.

Ice Pellets: No significant effect.

Snow Cover: No problems. In fact, in darkness, snow cover appeared to aid indentification of objects that were exposed.

High Humidity/Temperature: Despite being a worse case condition for thermal contrast, the Forward Looking Infrared operated with no problems.

Some limitations have been noted, and these may be a significant forecast parameter in future Army weather support. The farther out one looks with the Forward Looking Infrared, the less definition can be seen. Also, during times of Infrared crossover, those periods of the day when cooling or heating reduces thermal contrast to a minimum, the ability of the Forward Looking Infrared is degraded.

Evolving weather support

As Fort Rucker is the testing and training ground for this new equipment, Det 9, 5WS becomes the testing ground for the conventional and electro-optical weather support required for Army Aviators. Routinely, this requires the normal service provided by a base weather station. But since the aviator's use of this equipment is in an evolving state, weather support must also be evolving. This is to insure providing the service necessary to support this technology. Therefore, much leg work, research and debriefing are required to glean as much information as possible about what weather parameters are critical to the Forward Looking Infrared's operation.

In summary, Army weather support offers numerous opportunities for weather people to practice their skills. From single station forecasting — to developing weather support for a "BLUE THUNDER," — Det 9 is constantly challenged.

Closure ends era at Chanute

What retires without getting retirement pay?

Dining hall 801, Chanute AFB, Ill., closed its doors Feb. 12, 1984, after putting in 33 years of service.

Built in 1951, dining hall 801 served everything from doughnuts to fish fillet. The dining hall was converted in 1980 to serve ala-carte menus as well.

In its peak years of service, 1974 and 1975, dining hall 801 fed 1,200 to 1,300 people per meal. It is the last dining hall of the Korean era remaining. The dining hall will be placed on stand-by status, which means the facility may be used in the event of an emergency.

Most recently, dining hall 801 served permanent party and students in the 3336th Student Squadron while they were still in-processing.

During its last day open, dining hall 801 served more than 400 meals. Students found the atmosphere comfortable and relaxing. "It (the dining hall conditions) is a pleasant change from what we're used to in basic training," said one airmen eating in the dining hall for the last time.

Equipment, such as the steam pressure cookers and the ovens, will be moved from dining hall 801 to dining hall 303, which is being renovated. Once the equipment is moved, dining hall 303 will be operational. (Reprinted from "The Pacesetter.")

INSIDE . . .

Command line "MAC — The Backbone of Deterrence"

Col. George E. Chapman
AWS Commander

In reflecting on the growth in scope and size of the Military Airlift Command mission, CINCMAC, General Ryan, recently announced a new motto.

Although our mission is still global in nature — and our people are still first-class professionals — the response from MAC to the crisis in Grenada certainly demonstrated the change that has occurred in the MAC mission in the past few years, aptly reinforcing the appropriateness of the new MAC motto — The Backbone of Deterrence.

It applies equally well to all of us throughout MAC. In the last year, we in AWS have clearly demonstrated our ability to support our customers in both exercise and contingency operations. AWS personnel have logged over 29,000 mandays away from base weather stations in support of exercises and contingencies during the past 12 months. Early in 1983, AWS provided support to operation EARLY CALL in northern Africa. We were tasked to deploy a small contingent of forecasters, observers and staff weather officers with their supported customers. The system worked — it showed that our people are closely aligned with their customers and ready to deploy to provide environmental support worldwide.

During the month of July, two Air Weather Service forecasters deployed to provide weather support to the MAC ALCE and aircrews participating in the Chad airlift. Our weather men were fully integrated into the ALCE, worked 12-hour shifts and supported other ALCE tasks as required. AFGWC provided mission control forecasts and TAFs. Following that exercise, the ALCE Commander was extremely complimentary of the total contribution provided by the deployed weather personnel and expressed a desire to take weathermen on future deployments.

In late August, our overseas commitment increased significantly with deployments to support exercise BRIGHT STAR 83 in Northern Africa, ARID FARMER in Sudan, and AHUAS TARA in Central America. The BRIGHT STAR exercise was a major USCENTCOM deployment to Egypt that we supported with 34 Air Weather Service personnel.

The ARID FARMER operation was a short notice deployment to the beddown base at Khartoum, Sudan. Initial weather personnel arrived on site just 16 hours following the first deployment notice. A total weather support force of eight people eventually deployed to support varied Air Force missions.

As ARID FARMER continued, a contingent of Air Weather Service personnel were readying themselves for deployment to Central America. AHUAS TARA or BIG PINE II is a CINCSOUTH exercise that involved a Weather Support Element (WSE) in Honduras to support the Joint Task Force Headquarters with TFU support provided by TDY personnel to Det 25, 5WW at Howard AFB, Panama. That support has undergone a number of personnel and equipment changes as operational support requirements have been modified.

URGENT FURY was the nickname given to the presidentially-directed US intervention on the island of Grenada. The first SWO was in place at Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico four days after initial planning began. The deployed WSE in the contingency area was composed of a total of 13 AWS people. Additionally, three people deployed from AFGWC and 5WW to support a Joint Forecast Control Agency at NAVEASTOCEAN-CEN, Norfolk, Va. Seventh Weather Wing personnel deployed to support the MAC ALCE, special operations aircraft and Det 21, 5WS which expanded its normal operations to 24 hours per day in support of the large airlift effort from Hunter, AAF, Ga.

As General Ryan outlined in a letter to all MAC units, the increased complexity of world affairs has brought MAC from the background to the forefront in enforcing our national policy, protecting US interests, and fostering confidence between the United States and our Allies. To support this ever-increasing mobility mission, our new motto, "MAC — The Backbone of Deterrence" expresses the increased mobility mission we have seen demonstrated during the past year and that we can expect in the future. You are part of that quotient of success. Be aware of our mobility role, stay trained and be ready.

chief's comments

Your Vote — A Right and a Freedom

Most of us are aware of election years, but only a few exercise their right to vote — their freedom to vote for the candidate of their choice.

The 1980 election had the lowest turnout in 32 years. Only 53.9 percent of the eligible voters in the country cast their ballots in the 1980 Presidential election. The military percentage was around 18-20 percent of the eligibles. The lowest was 51.1 percent for the Truman-Dewey election. The highest was 62.8 percent during the Kennedy-Nixon contest in 1960.*

According to "FAMOUS FACTS," Kane, 3rd Edition, 1964, the first accredited colonial election in America was held on May 18, 1631, when John Winthrop was elected Governor of Massachusetts. The statistics were not available as to how many eligibles voted, but I would bet that the percentage exceeded 85 percent.**

Another first from "FAMOUS FACTS," the first Army vote was tabulated in 1864. The soldiers in the field were allowed to vote in the election of Nov. 8, 1864. This was the beginning of the absentee vote for Federal elections.**

The first absentee voting law (State) was enacted by Vermont on Nov 24, 1986. A person by showing a certificate stating that he/she was qualified to vote in that state, could vote at any election booth in the state.**

And to add one more first. The first woman whose vote was recorded was the widow of Josiah Taft of Uxbridge, Mass., who in 1756, voted her approval of levying a town tax. She was granted this privilege because her son was a minor.**

The Bill of Rights establishes our right and freedom to vote. Article 15, Section I., was ratified in 1870. It establishes the right of the citizens of the United States to vote regardless of race, color or previous conditions of servitude. Article 19, ratified in 1920, gave the right to vote to women. And Article 26, Section 1, ratified in 1971, extended the right to vote to persons 18 years of age or older.*

The Bill of Rights gives us the right to vote, and as a citizen of this Great Nation of ours, we have the freedom to vote for any candidate we choose. Maintaining this freedom has not been easy. During the Revolutionary War, there were 4,435 deaths, protecting that freedom. The protection did not get any easier throughout the years. World War I cost 116,516 American lives; World War II deaths totalled 405,399; and in Vietnam, our death totals were 57,700.

Freedom is very costly. We have the right to vote and we, you and I, help to maintain our freedom. We just need to vote. Each year, there are voting officers selected for each unit. These folks provide the proper guidelines to us in establishing voting registration and a means to obtain an absentee ballot. It only takes a few minutes to obtain the necessary information, but don't wait until it's too late. There are different rules for each state. Get the correct informaion from the voting officer.

In 1980, the total population in the Air Force was 561,000.* Suppose 20 percent of that population, 112,200, were ineligible to vote. By simple mathematics, that would leave 448,800 eligible to vote. Only 18 percent, or 80,784, actually voted. That leaves 368,016 that did not vote.

CMSgt. Charles T. Melson
AWS Senior Enlisted Advisor

The message is clear — we should vote. We need to exercise our right to vote to add our contribution to this Great Nation. Using the free Standard Form 76, Absentee Ballot Request, is a good start — it's available in your unit. The DOD slogan sums it very well, "When people vote, people listen."

***Please ALMAMAC 1983, A&W Publisher, Inc., NY 1983**

*****FAMOUS FACTS," Kane, 3rd Edition, 1964**

A Lesson from history : Breaking Japan's WWII weather codes

by John Fuller

In the mid-1930's, Pan American Airways pioneered commercial aviation across the Pacific with its Martin M-130 flying *Clipper* boats.

Because the *Clippers* could not make it from Hawaii to the Philippines or China without refueling, Pan Am developed a support facility on Wake Island in 1935. In addition to constructing a hotel and a radio navigation facility, Pan Am's Wake Island manager, George Bickwell became a "meteorologist."

Each day he arose at 4:30 a.m. A half-hour later he got his men up. Then he would set up his theodolite for the 1800Z upper-air observation. By 5:15 a.m., there was usually enough light to track his balloon. As soon as his observations were logged, he radioed them to San Francisco.

Bickwell's observations, as well as weather data collected by Matson Ocean Liners under a contract with Pan Am, were used by Pan Am's chief meteorologist, William Clover, to forecast the *Clipper* runs. Still, there was a small number of weather reports from the western Pacific.

Coded weather broadcast

The Japanese weather service had developed a good reporting network. For some years, their weather data was transmitted regularly from the mandated islands of Bonij, Mariana, Caroline and the Marshalls. The Japanese felt resentment to all things American during the 1930s. That resentment was reflected in the fact that, shortly after Pan Am's trans-Pacific flights began, they ceased broadcasting weather data in clear international code.

In early 1936, the Japanese continued to broadcast regularly from their mandated islands. But their broadcasts were in a code unintelligible to Pan Am's meteorologists. The new code's sole purpose was to deny weather data to the hated Americans.

Pan Am soon sought help from U.S. Navy intelligence. Presently, John Cooke, an expert radioman trained by the Navy not only in meteorology, but also in cryptography and the Japanese language, was dispatched to Guam. He became Pan Am's radio operator in charge. To everyone but Cooke, the new Japanese weather code was gibberish. After a week of analyzing the code, he broke it.

Pan Am began retransmitting weather reports from all the Japanese-held islands to Pan Am's facilities in Honolulu and California in international code. A vast area of the world's weather map, which had gone blank, was blank no longer. The Japanese began changing the hours and radio frequencies of their transmissions, but it presented no great obstacle to Cooke.

A short while later, some 1,600 miles west of Guam, at Sangley Point in the Philippines, Navy Aerographer's Mate 1st Class Harry Cook went to work on the Japanese cryptographical code. He was evidently unaware of John Cooke's work.

In late 1939, the Japanese began cryptographing all synoptic weather reports for their mandated islands, plus selected shipping.

Codes broken

Serving aboard the aircraft carrier *Langley*, Cook was given access to the encrypted Japanese reports. Cook had an uncanny memory for anything numerical. For example, he memorized logarithmic tables and the serial numbers of all hands aboard the *Langley*. Within a month, Cook had deciphered the Japanese codes. The key clue having been furnished by the increase in radio traffic from Japanese ships making special weather reports on a typhoon threatening Guam.

Right up until they invaded the Philippines on Dec. 8, 1941, the Japanese never changed their weather coding scheme. As a result, a number of weather reports from the western Pacific were available and passed to the Navy's weather central at Pearl Harbor in a much tighter U.S. Navy code.

When the Japanese attacked the Philippines, Cook was assigned as a section leader to the Navy's 21-man Fleet Weather Central at Cavite. Another section leader there was AEROG 1/C Zemo C. Tarnowski.

After the central was demolished by Japanese bombers Cook, Tarnowski and other Navy weathermen eventually made their way to Corregidor. They set up shop again. Pibal runs were made twice daily, while synoptic surface observations were taken each six hours for encrypted transmission by Cook as the fleet "broadcast" back to Hawaii.

Corregidor falls

When the Japanese finally overran Corregidor in early May 1942, Cook and Tarnowski were captured, after having been pressed into duty as riflemen and machine gunners in defense of U.S. positions.

With the interrogation by the Japanese inevitable, the Navy weathermen decided that because of his crypto work, Cook had to be shielded at all costs.

As it turned out, Tarnowski was the only enlisted weatherman interrogated on Corregidor. His interrogator was a captain who not only spoke English very well, but was a meteorologist. They wanted to know how the Americans had been drawing weather maps containing Japanese weather data. After three days of harsh interrogation, including twice being led out for execution by a busy firing squad, Tarnowski satisfied the captain, and the Japanese general in charge, that the meteorological data was the responsibility of their commanding officer. He also convinced them that the commander had escaped in the U.S. submarine *Spearfish*, two days before Corregidor's fall.

In early June 1942, Cook, Tarnowski and the other prisoners were forced to march along Minila's Dewey Boulevard. The "victory parade" was photographed for home consumption in Japan. By train and a forced march, during which any prisoner unable to walk was shot, bayonetted, or decapitated, they were hearded south to a prison at Cabanatuan.

At Cabanatuan, the Japanese formed the prisoners into 10-man squads to cope with escape attempts. Should anyone escape, the remaining squad members would be executed. Among the Navy weathermen it was decided that should anyone want to escape, he had to notify the others and all would plan to escape together. But their physical condition from a spartan diet of rice balls and seaweed precluded any escape attempts.

Hoping to get word to, or perhaps even contact his Filipino wife, Cook volunteered for a work party — only to be executed later on Mindanao Island.

Umeda Bunsho prison

In November 1942, Tarnowski and about 600 other prisoners were shipped to Japan in an unmarked transport. Wearing khaki shorts, short sleeve shirts and sun helmets, they were off-loaded in a snow storm onto the dock at Shimonseki. Their summer apparel was so they could be sprayed with disinfectant. Then came a seven-hour trip to Osaka, where 450 of them were marched to a three-story warehouse that became the Umeda Bunsho prison. It was to be Tarnowski's home until the war ended.

Tarnowski was not at Umeda Bunsho long before he was "elected" the American camp commander following the death of the commanding officer. He is believed to be the only weatherman in uniform to have been "elected" commander of Americans in a prisoner of war camp. A born leader imbued with integrity, Tarnowski was often severely beaten by the Japanese when summoned by the camp commander to defend his men for infractions of the rules.

But Tarnowski survived. After the war, he went on to a splendid career in the Naval Weather Service. Retroactively made an officer during the time he was in Japanese prisons, he rose to the rank of commander (0-5). He had a final brief stint as the commanding officer of the Fleet Weather Central at Pearl Harbor before retiring in 1965.

As a footnote to Tarnowski's story, while at Umeda Bunsho, a work detail brought him word that another "balloon buster" was a prisoner working in an adjacent rail yard. It was later established that he was an Aerographer's Mate 1st Class who had been captured on Wake Island. His name was Walter Cook.

He was lucky

By CMSgt. William B. Thompson
Detachment 2, 26th Air Defense Squadron
Luke AFB, Ariz.

LANGLEY AFB, Va. (TACNS) — Among those in my unit is a particularly sharp airman who is both intelligent and lucky.

This one has been a gem. He was never late, never had to be told what to do and seldom how to do it.

He did professional work and everyone noticed. He had the look of a fast burner and an excellent chance for a below-the-zone promotion.

He had a very nice assignment to one of the California bases. The paper work for his medal was on my desk. He could have easily made staff sergeant in four years, but he won't.

He was in correctional custody for the holidays.

He was fined $200 and received a suspended reduction to airman basic. The assignment was cancelled.

Why? He smoked marijuana.

He didn't think he would be caught. He listened to a "friend" tell him how to beat the urinalysis. Of course it didn't work.

Was I surprised? No. I have heard the same story many times.

Was I sick? You bet. He had it all going his way — all the way — until he threw it away.

Intelligent? Yes he is. He learns quickly and is very capable. Lucky? Very. He has another chance — most don't. If he stays lucky, he can be in six years where he should have been in four.

It probably didn't cost more than several thousand dollars, his assignment, 30 days of freedom, the respect and confidence of his superiors and the extra years he must work to regain some of that.

The cost could have been much higher.

Col. George E. Chapman
AWS Commander

SSgt. Michael T. Devine
Editor

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Exercises '83

In 1983, AWS personnel spent more than 29,000 mandays deployed with Air Force and Army units participating in field exercises.

AUTUMN FORGE

by
1st Lt Jimason J. Rand
and
Capt JoAnne E. Moore

REFORGER is the return of forces to Germany. It is one of the opening exercises of AUTUMN FORGE, the NATO ground, sea and air exercises that took place last fall.

First conducted in 1969 to test the redeployment of troops committed to NATO, 12,187 dual-based troops returned to Europe. REFORGER 1983 saw 16,000 soldiers transported.

The demanding job of providing weather support to the more than 250,000 allied troops taking part in AUTUMN FORGE fell on 2WW and AWS personnel deployed from the United States.

Seventh Weather Squadron provided support to the Army. Nearly 50 percent of 7WS' manpower was involved. They were augmented by 25 people from 5WS, some deployed from as far away as Ft. Lewis, Wash.

Realism is emphasized. From simulated attacks on staging areas and major river-crossings to practicing ground delaying and defensive tactics of enemy forces required seven-day-a-week work. Night drops of troops airlifted directly from the United States and using troops as mock targets for NATO air forces air-attack and defense exercises meant 24-hour-a-day support.

Air Force operations were supported by the 28th and 31st Weather Squadrons. Their units deployed members to 16 locations throughout Europe. Results testify to their performance. Just one exercise, COLD FIRE, had more than 8,000 successful sorties.

Forecasters and observers at Sembach AB's Allied Tactical Operations Center provided near real-time target forecasts for planning and operations. Their Met Cell used European Forecast Unit's area forecasts, updated with Target Weather Information reports extracted from Forward Air Control Reports and Mission Reports.

Additional support came from Air Force Global Weather Central, Offutt AFB, Neb. and the US Army Europe Tactical Forecast Unit or UFTU. The UFTU deployed to the field and produced the same weather bulletins and warnings that it would in garrison. It performed area met watches and provided exercise bulletins. It also acted as the interface between Defense Communications Service's weather circuts and the Army Tactical Communication System.

Sgt Kenneth B. Winston, OL-A, Det 10, 7WS, Wertheim AAF, Germany takes a tactical weather observation. (photo by Capt Jimason J. Rand)

COLD FIRE

by Capt Peter B. Rice
Det 25, 31WS

COLD FIRE 83 was part of NATO's AUTUMN FORGE exercise. It was AFCENT's annual "live fly" exercise providing support for I Corps' exercise ATLANTIC LION and V Corps' exercise CONFIDENT ENTERPRISE.

Weather support was provided from the Forward Operating Location at Wiesbaden AB, Germany, which has no permanent meteorological equipment. That meant all tactical meteorological equipment, such as the TMQ-22, TMS-15, Beltweather Kit, Altimeter Barometer and Ceiling Balloon Equipment had to be deployed for this standby base operation.

Sgt Conrad R. Patterson travelled more than 8,000 miles with other personnel from Det 11, 17WS, McChord AFB, Wash., joining weather folks from Det 23, 17WS, Kirtland AFB, NM to reinforce weather personnel from Det 8, 20 and 25, 31WS.

ROLLING THUNDER

BOOBY TRAP — TSgt Ronald T. Presnal, one of the aggressors, plants an unwelcome surprise.

by 2nd Lt Eric P. Priest
Det 1, 5WS

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) was losing ground.

Forced to tactically withdraw, units scrambled to start the convoy. The Division's support weather team became separated. Still in radio contact, but realizing that any attempt to locate the convoy might mean massacre, the weather team set up operations and camp in an abandoned town. Soon after, they were discovered by hostile troops and a heated firefight ensued.

Typically, Army weather support personnel experience all the hardships of war in a tactical environment. All except the most important: combat! ROLLING THUNDER 83, held on Ft Campbell, Ky., added that necessary ingredient to Det 1's tactical training.

In the typical Army exercise, the weather team provide forecasts and observations while the "war" may be miles away. ROLLING THUNDER 83 provided members of Det 1 with a better perspective of their tactical mission.

Participants were divided into opposing forces. Along with the standard tactical meteorological equipment, vehicles, field gear, M-16s and protective masks, Det 1 personnel were given special gear. They were issued blank ammunition, booby traps, grenade simulators and the Multi-Integrated Laser Engagement System (MILES).

Each M-16 was equipped with MILES. Every "player" wore a harness with sensors at strategic points of the body. When the weapon fired, a laser beam was simultaneously transmitted toward the target. If a shot hit, but would not have "killed," a short "beep-beep" sounded. A direct hit caused a continuous tone, "killing" the individual, putting them out of the war for 30 minutes.

BRIGHT STAR

by Maj Howard Alston
3WS

Air Weather Service was involved in every aspect of BRIGHT STAR 83. Thirty-four weather people from the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 9th, 15th, 17th and 25th Weather Squadrons, as well as 3WW participated in the joint/combined exercises.

Most supported the air operations involving MAC, SAC and TAC. Services ranged from providing weather data to remote Airlift Control Elements to detailed briefings at Cairo West. Numerous B-52, C-130, E-3A, F-16, F-111 and KC-10 crews received tailored support for their specific missions.

A small Tactical Forecast Unit (TFU), at the USCENTAF weather tent at Cairo West, provided the majority of data and products used by the various staff weather officers and weather teams. Hourly surface observations, Pilot Balloon Sounding data and forecasts and advisories were transmitted from the TFU.

Capt Gregory J. Donovan, 3WS/DON, was the TFU OIC, supervising two four-man teams. Daily support included the preparation of Terminal Airdrome Forecasts, forecasts for drop and landing zones, forecasts for refueling routes and various air operations. TFU forecasters also helped the people who presented weather briefings to the joint Army and Air Force staffs.

A Tactical Weather Analysis Center (TWAC) was deployed by the 5th Combat Communications Group, Robins AFB, Ga. Weather satellite, full-duplex teletype and European Digital Facsimile System data were transmitted via SATCOM and terminated in TWAC. High frequency teletype and facsimile broadcasts were intercepted using various receivers. Timely assistance from AFGWC and 2WW helped resolve problems and refine forecast products.

BRIGHT STAR 83 was an excellent opportunity for AWS people to exercise their deployment and employment procedures. They learned while working shoulder-to-shoulder with their supported units in a bare-base desert environment.

Army weather support came from 5WS personnel. They provided daily briefings to the deployed staffs of the Third US Army, XVIII Airborne Corps and 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions. Forecasters provided information for air drops, helicopter operations and ground maneuvers.

Unconventional warfare forces operations ranged over the entire exercise area. They were supported by weather personnel from Ft Bragg, NC, Hurlburt Field, Fla., and MacDill AFB, Fla. Weather support varied from night sorties to combined training exercises with multi-national forces. Some weathermen jumped with the troops they supported.

The entire Weather Support Element was commanded by Col Juri V. Nou, 1WS Commander and Staff Weather Officer to the United States Central Command. Primary component Staff Weather Officers were: Lt Col Joseph B. Hooten, USARCENT (5WS/DO); MAJ Howard R. Alston, Jr., USCENTAF (3WS/LN); and 1st Lt Michael L. Davenport, USJUWTFCENT (1WS/LN).

THE SOVIET CONSCRIPT

The shrill sound of the junior sergeant's whistle pierces the early morning quiet, rousing 18-year-old Private Ivan Grechko out of a deep sleep. It's exactly 0650 as the sergeant marches through the crowded barracks shouting obscenities. Ivan scrambles out of his sack and into his uniform. It's not wise to be late for early morning muster.

So begins a day in the life of a Soviet army conscript serving a two-year hitch. He is one of about five million people under arms in the Soviet Union.

In 1967, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics passed the Law of Universal Military Service. It requires all Soviet men to take pre-induction military training and to serve in the armed forces. The Soviet military is not exactly a champion of women's liberation. Soviet generals have been quoted in the press saying women are not needed in the military. That may explain why there are only about 10,000 of them serving on active duty; mostly in clerical and health fields.

Only 90% serve

Even with the 1967 law, only 90 percent of Soviet men ever serve in their armed forces. Those who don't serve have an educational exemption, family hardship or "know someone."

But just what is a Soviet military conscript really like? Chances are he is a lot more militarized than his American counterpart. And, in some ways, a lot more disciplined. After all, he's been programmed for a long time.

Soviet military patriotic education begins early — at six or seven years of age. Communist party organizations such as the Young Pioneers and Komsomol (Young Communist League) conduct training and summer exercises with a strong emphasis on developing military skills.

But the primary way pre-induction training requirements are met is through 140 hours of mandatory training for 16 to 18-year-olds. This includes basic military skills, such as drill and marksmanship, which takes place over a two-year period, usually in school. School dropouts take their training where they work. Wherever they get it, this training could be likened to what you went through in basic or boot camp. The Soviets use the term "basic training" to cover the early phases of training when a person reports to his first operational unit.

At 17 the Soviet man reports to his local draft office. He is given a physical examination and later appears before a board which determines what military training he has had, what his political activity has been and what skills he possesses. Still later, another board meets to decide who gets in and who stays out.

Those who are accepted are assigned to one of the five branches of the armed forces: Strategic Rocket Forces, Soviet Army, Air Defense Forces, Soviet Air Force and the Navy. The naval infantry is similar to the U.S. Marine Corps but only number about 13,000 people. The Soviets also have a Coast Guard which is part of the border patrol. Their Coast Guard is much the same as ours; guarding the borders on land, sea and air. The big difference is that the Soviet Coast Guard is run by the state security agency, the KGB.

Those who have the best skills are usually assigned to the elite units, and personal preferences usually don't count for much. But their skill level does. And one way for a young man to improve his skills, either through his own choice or at the direction of his draft board, is to take more training on his own time through DOSAFF (The Voluntary Society for Assistance to the Army, Air Force and Navy). DOSAAF training includes everything from military drill to electronics, communications, parachuting and even flying.

At age 18, the recruit goes on active duty.

There isn't a centralized basic training program in the Soviet Union. Most inductees are shipped directly to the unit they will serve in during their entire tour. But there are exceptions. Some Navy and Air Force people attend a technical training school before being assigned to a unit. There they will receive the initial "basic training" other recruits get at their unit.

Army, Coast Guard, the air arm of the Navy, border and security troops serve two years. Those assigned to Navy ships, Coast Guard combat units and maritime units of the border troops serve three years; that's because their training period is longer.

Before inductees report to their unit, they're pretty sure of what they're getting into: a very structured lifestyle with little or no free time.

The first week is especially intense. Physical conditioning and field training are the order of the day. And like everybody from generals on down, they spend about five hours a week listening to the political officer preach the party line.

The initial training usually lasts about three months. One of the highlights for a recruit comes during the fourth week. That's when he is sworn into the armed forces. Each soldier reads the oath of enlistment aloud in front of his comrades.

"If I should break this my solemn oath, then let me suffer the severe penalties of Soviet law and the general detestation and contempt of all workers" is the last line of the oath.

Even after the initial basic training, a recruit's life still doesn't change much. The average Soviet G.I. starts his day early and ends it late. It's filled with organized drill, sports, physical conditioning, political lectures and, depending on the time of year, planting or harvesting local crops. Several times a week, the unit participates in very realistic combat exercises.

The Soviets place a lot of emphasis on physical conditioning. Before the end of the first year of training, all military people must pass tests consisting of pulling up and crossing the parallel bars, the 100-meter run, the 1- or 3-kilometer cross-country run, the 100-meter free-style swim and 10-kilometer ski race or 6-kilometer forced march.

The Soviet soldier spends a lot of time cleaning his weapon. Soviets are known to keep their weapons very clean. But you can't say the same for the soldiers themselves.

Soviet society doesn't place as much importance on personal hygiene as Americans do. Soviet soldiers bathe once every two days, if that often. And wherever the conscript is assigned, there's probably a shortage of hot water.

Most of the barracks are open bay and sleep as many as 100 men. Bunks are stacked two, and sometimes three high, with as little as eight inches between stacks. That's about the same space as in your average coffin. There are common areas for personal hygiene.

A Soviet base usually has a library filled with officially approved books and a movie theater (open only on weekends), where you can be sure Western films aren't shown. Bases sometimes have a gymnasium and service club.

There isn't much free time. Nearly every minute of a serviceman's time is "organized." The Soviets have repeatedly said that leisure time is often frittered away, and that it needs to be directed into activities useful to the state and Communist Party. It may include sports competitions or contests to see how fast a weapon can be disassembled. Even when the conscripts go out to see the sights, they go in groups and are accompanied by a political officer.

If a few servicemen are musically inclined, they might be allowed to sing; but the songs are strictly censored by the political officer. Most of a recruit's free time is spent listening to the political officer.

Most soldiers don't leave their duty assignment during their entire tour. A very small percentage of them are granted 10 days leave as a reward for exceptional performance during a 2-year tour; up to 20 days while on a 3-year hitch.

While U.S. sailors spend months at sea without port calls, their Soviet counterpart doesn't. But that's because the U.S. Navy is the best in the world at replenishing its ships at sea and keeping them on the move. The Soviets have historically operated out of ports, and still do for the most part. But that's changing. Their cruises are getting longer.

Pay in the Soviet armed forces is nothing to write home about. Food, housing and other needs are provided, but conscripts only get about $10 a month, most of which goes for cigarettes. Pay and privileges increase for careerists.

But less than five percent of conscripts make the military a career. In the Army, for example, nearly 77 percent of the soldiers are first-termers. Conscripts also get a lot of hazing from career NCOs. Since uniforms are at a premium, it's not unusual for an NCO to demand a new conscript turn over the uniform he was issued. If he resists, he is taken out "behind the barn" and taught the rules of the game.

And no recruit is going to report the incident. The officers turn their heads to that kind of abuse. They think it's necessary for good order and discipline.

Military life doesn't end after a conscript's tour of active duty is over. Everyone serves in the reserves until age 50. Occasionally they are called up for refresher training.

So, how does Private Grechko stack up as a fighting man? Not withstanding the stories about highly centralized control, inability to make decisions at lower levels and rampant alcoholism, those who keep a close eye on the Soviet military agree that Ivan is no pushover. He is said to believe he's better than his American counterpart and would come out ahead in battle. As one observer put it, "Ivan isn't 10 feet tall, but he's not a drunken midget either." **(AFPS)**

Ivan may not be 10 feet tall, but he isn't a drunken midget either!

AWS Salutes . . .

MEDALS

Meritorious Service Medal:
Maj David C. Danielson (3 OLC), HQ 4WW, Peterson AFB, Colo.; Maj Larry J. Gardner, HQ 4WW, Peterson AFB, Colo.; Capt Marshall C. Pollard, HQ 4WW, Peterson AFB, Colo.; Capt Robert Haschalk, Det 15, 24WS, Vance AFB, Okla.; MSgt Bruce Campbell, Det 4, 26WS, Loring AFB, Maine: SMSgt Jurgen Verhune, Det 17, 1WW, Yokota ABS, Japan; MSgt Phillip Canter, Det 1, Bitburg ABS, Germany; SSgt Susan Lawrence, Det 1, Bitburg ABS, Germany: SMSgt Dwayne Burgess (1 OLC), Det 14, Hahn ABS, Germany; SMSgt Ron Shaw, (1 OLC), Det 19, Incirlik ABS, Turkey; MSgt Ray Perez, Det 19, Incirlik ABS, Turkey; Lt Col Roland Tadd, (1 OLC), 31WS, Sembach ABS, Germany; MSgt Charles Travers, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.: Maj James K. Broyles, 7WW, Scott AFB, Ill.; Maj Wilbur H. Clark, 7WW, Scott AFB, Ill.;
TSgt Bryan J. Folk, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; LtCol Larry L. Terrell (2OLC), HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.; CMSgt Fortunato Moreno, Jr (1OLC), HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.; Maj James P. Long, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.;

Air Force Commendation Medal:
Capt Michael Abel, Det 1, 2WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; MSgt Harald Davis, HQ 4WW, Peterson AFB, Colo.; SSgt Rammona Murphy, (1 OLC), Det 14, Hahn ABS, Germany; 1Lt Randolf Fulwider, (1 OLC), Det 14, Hahn ABS, Germany; SSgt Debbie Lema, Det 19, Incirlik ABS, Turkey; Sgt Christopher N. Daniel, Det 10, 25WS, Bergstrom AFB, Texas; 1Lt Janet Sorlin, Det 11, 31WS, Spangdahlem ABS, Germany; SSgt Laurence Shipp, Det 11, 31WS, Spangdahlen ABS, Germany; TSgt Wayne D. Becker, Det 20, 24WS, Laughlin AFB, Texas; Capt Sheryl A. Foerster, Det 16, 25WS, Nellis AFB, Nev.; TSgt Robert A. Eads, Det 16, 25WS, Nellis AFB, Nev.; 1Lt Judd Zillioux, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; 1Lt Howard Hart, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; SSgt Jeffrey Hornung, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; Capt William G. Munley, Jr., Det 15, 15WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; SMSgt Bert E. Calentine, HQ 3WW, Offutt AFB, Neb.; MSgt Frederick Crocker, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Maj William K.F. Grant, Jr, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.

Army Commendation Medal:
Capt Kenneth Smith, 31WS, Sembach ABS, Germany;

Air Force Achievement Medal:
SSgt James R. Lynch, Det 15, 25WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.; Sgt Christopher Malone, Det 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.; SrA Paul F. Leidig, OL D, 9WS, North Dakota State Univ.; Capt Peter Rice, Det 25, 2WW, Rhein-Main ABS, Germany; A1C Julie D. Trowman, Det 14, 7WS, Heidelberg AIN, Germany; A1C William G. Trowman, Det 14, 7WS, Heidelberg AIN, Germany; A1C David B. Hammond, Det 14, 7WS, Heidelberg AIN, Germany; 1Lt Patricia Nichols, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; Sgt Ronaldo Villapando, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; 1Lt Paul G. Lapointe, HQ 3WW, Offutt AFB, Neb.; MSgt Everett E. Bolin, Det 21, 15WS, Pope AFB, N.C.; A1C Mark S. Fisher, Det 31, 15WS, Dobbins AFB, Ga.; SrA Michael J. Przybysz, Det 21, 15WS, Pope AFB, N.C.; SSgt Gary H. Tryon, Det 14, 17WS, Norton AFB, Calif.; A1C Alain Gorris, Det 4, 11WS, Ft. Richardson AIN, Alaska; 1Lt Lesile Brenton, Det 3, 11WS, Shemya AFB, Alaska; Sgt Allison B. Hocutt, Det 3, 11WS, Shemya AFB, Alaska; SrA Mark D. Hill, Det 3, 11WS, Shemya AFB, Alaska; A1C Garth L. Getgen, Det 3, 11WS, Shemya AFB, Alaska; 1st Lt Robert L. Hamilton, Jr, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.

Air Force Meritorious Civilian Service Award:
Mr. Robert Dean, Det 1, 2WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

Sustained Superior Performance Award:
Ms. Betty R. Anderson, Det 16, 25WS, Nellis AFB, Nev.;

10 Year Federal Service Pin:
Mrs. Betty Vinson, HQ 3WW, Offutt AFB, Neb.;

PROMOTIONS

To Major:
Alfonse J. Mazurowski, Det 1, 5WS, Ft. Campbell, Ken.;

To First Lieutenant:
Ivan K. Friend, 9WS, March AFB, Calif.;

To Senior Master Sergeant:
Charles Newman, 3350 TCHTG, Chanute AFB, Ill.;

To Master Sergeant:
Roger W. Johnson, Det 4, 26WS, Loring AFB, Maine; Hugh R. Wells, Det 22, 26WS, Carswell AFB, Texas; Dennis Spurlin, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.;

To Technical Sergeant:
Patrick K. Rugg, Det 12, 26WS, Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y.; Kevin P. Martin, Det 14, 7WS, Heidelberg AIN, Germany; William Wigton, 3350 TCHTG, Chanute AFB, Ill.; Steven R. Hahn, Det 11, 17WS, McChord AFB, Wash.; John E. Snead, Det 23, 17WS, Kirtland AFB, N.M.;

To Staff Sergeant:
Robert Whittle, 9WS/WSU, March AFB, Calif.; Lana Sutherland, Det 20, 24WS, Laughlin AFB, Texas; Raymond D. Moore, Det 14, 17WS, Norton AFB, Calif.; Milton G. Kooyman, Jr., Det 19, 15WS, Lajes Fld, Azores; Carol Plant, Det 14, 31WS, Hahn ABS, Germany; Matthew C. Wiatt, Det 2, 11WS, Eielson AFB, Alaska;

Appointed to Sergeant:
Richard W. Kurz, Det 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.; Jefferson Cook, Det 9, 24WS, Maxwell AFB, Ala.; Raymond A. Sirois, OL D, 9WS, North Dakota State Univ.; Carol Ullrich, Det 14, 7WS, Heidelberg AIN, Germany; Christopher N. Daniel, Det 10, 25WS, Bergstrom AFB, Texas; Timothy Bush, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; James R. Spicer, Jr., Det 6, 17WS, Hill AFB, Utah; Julie A. Nalette, Det 6, 17WS, Hill AFB, Utah;

To Senior Airman:
Ronald N. Bradsby, HQ 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Missie Amos, Det 20, 31WS, Sembach ABS, Germany; Matthew Nortman, Det 16, 31WS, Zaragoza ABS, Spain; Paula J. Stovall, Det 40, 2WW, RAF Croughton, England; Robert J. Hepler, Jr., Det 40, 2WW, RAF Coughton, England; George R. Pilkington, Jr., Det 21, 15WS, Pope AFB, N.C.; Ronald N. Bradsby, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska;

To Airman First Class:
Lisa Lauber, Det 2, 9WS, Castle AFB, Calif.; Scott R. Leach, OL A, 11WS, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska; Freddie Scott Jr., Det 19, 26WS, Whiteman AFB, Mo.; Theresa A. Zamiela, Det 4, 26WS, Loring AFB, Maine; Stephen J. Barlow, Det 11, 5WS, Ft. Sill, Okla.; Robert J. Henderson, Jr., Det 20, 24WS, Laughlin AFB, Texas; Michael A. Chastain, 6WS, Tinker AFB, Okla.; James E. Levitt, 7WW, Scott AFB, Ill.; David M. Tefft, Det 6, 17WS, Hill AFB, Utah;

To Airman:
Timothy P. Bowder, Det 4, 26WS, Loring AFB, Maine; Lynda C. Lambert, Det 28, 26WS, Wurtsmith AFB, Mich.; Brian T. Gipperich, 6WS, Tinker AFB, Okla.; Katharine J. Herbert, 6WS, Tinker AFB, Okla.; Kevin J. Nehf, Det 6, 17WS, Hill AFB, Utah;

UNIT HONORS

Junior Officer of the Year:
1Lt Karen K. Piotrowski, Det 10, 15WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.; 2Lt Michael R. Babcock, Det 10, 25WS, Bergstrom AFB, Texas; Capt Robert Keefer, 3350 TCHTG, Chanute AFB, Ill.;

Junior Officer of the Quarter:
1Lt Kenneth S. Smith, Det 21, 15WS, Pope AFB, N.C.; 2Lt Mary T. Pace, Det 21, 2WW, Kapaun ABS, Germany;

Senior NCO of the Year:
SMSgt Charles Newman, 3350 TCHTG, Chanute AFB, Ill.;

Senior NCO of the Quarter:
MSgt Richard A. Platz, Det 10, 15WS, McGuire AFB, N.j.;MSgt Richard J. Whisnant, Det 21, 15WS, Pope AFB, N.C.; SMSgt Wayne V. King, Det 11, 1WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; MSgt George R.N. Hanohano, Det 21, 2WW, Kapaun ABS, Germany; MSgt Tommie McRae, Det 20, 31WS, Sembach ABS, Germany;

NCO of the Year:
SSgt Ronald Pagitt, 3350 TCHTG, Chanute AFB, Ill.;

NCO of the Quarter:
SSgt Ruben M. Maya, Det 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.; SSgt Manes H. Gallagher, Det 10, 15WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.;Sgt John A. Harpool, Det 10, 25WS, Bergstrom AFB, Texas; SSgt Scott R. Kingsley, Det 25, 5WS, Howard AFB, Phillipines; TSgt David A. Girton, Det 21, 15WS, Pope AFB, N.C.; SSgt Randy J. Brennan, Det 21, 2WW, Kapaun ABS, Germany; SSgt Tony Tesori, Det 20, 31WS, Sembach ABS, Germany; TSgt, Michael G. Josias, Det 2, 11WS, Eielson AFB, Alaska;

Airman of the Year:
A1C Kenneth D. Peirce, Det 15, 25WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.; A1C Geri Swanson, Det 1, 31WS, Bitburg AB, Germany; Sr A Timothy J. Lovell, Det 2, 11WS, Eielson AFB, Alaska;

Airman of the Quarter:
SrA Terry Roe, Det 25, 2WW, Rhein-Main ABS, Germany; A1C David B. Hammond, Det 14, 7WS, Heidelberg AIN, Germany; A1C Thomas J. McDaniels, Det 14, 7WS, Heidelberg AIN, Germany; A1C Scott Koepsell, Det 25, 5WS, Howard AFB, Philippines; Sgt Kathleen Acevedo, Det 17, 1WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Sgt Michael J. White, 15WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.; A1C James N. Ozgunduz, Det 21, 2WW, Kapaun ABS, Germany; SrA Paul Hay, Det 12, 31WS, Torrejon ABS, Spain; A1C Morya K. Bransford, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Amn Pamela S. Tims, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska;

Safety Officer of the Year:
Lt Ann C. Keller, Det 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.;

Safety NCO of the Year:
SSgt Ruben M. Maya, Det 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.;

Technical Supervisor of the Year (1983):
MSgt Warren C. George, Det 10, 15WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.;

Observer of the Year:
SrA Gregg R. Baron, Det 10, 15WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.;

MAC Family Award:
SSgt Melody L. Higdon, Det 22, 24WS, Keesler AFB, Miss.;

EDUCATION

NCO Leadership School:
SSgt Michael P. Blomquist, Det 15, 25WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.; SSgt Christopher Andrejcik, Det 2, 9WS, Castle AFB, Calif.; SSgt Tommie B. Timmons, Det 22, 26WS, Carswell AFB, Texas; Sgt Stephen Bressie, Det 11, 24WS, Reese AFB, Texas; SSgt Dennis W. Snyder, Det 10, 25WS, Bergstrom AFB, Texas; SSgt Richard C. Roper, Det 10, 15WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.; Sgt Mary V. Kaliszewski, 31WS, Sembach ABS, Germany;

Senior NCO Academy:
MSgt William Phillips, Det 5, 9WS, Malmstrom AFB, Mont.; MSgt Dennis Gagne, Det 20, 24WS, Laughlin AFB, Texas; SMSgt Kirby Danielson, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.;

NCO Academy:
MSgt Kenneth R. Sifford, Det 6, 17WS, Hill AFB, Utah;

Observers School:
A1C Pamela Hauger, Det 5, 9WS, Malmstron AFB, Mont.;

PME Phase II:
SSgt Paul F. Schirle, Det 6, 4WW, Peterson AFB, Colo.; SSgt Steven G. Gruber, HQ 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; SSgt Cindia Wetherway, Det 11, 24WS, Reese AFB, Texas; Sgt Bush, Det 28, 26WS, Wurtsmith AFB, Mich.; Sgt Rose, Det 26, 26WS, Grissom AFB, Ind.;

Squadron Officer School:
1Lt Sylvia M.R. Dake, Det 23, 26WS, McConnell AFB, Kan.; Lt William J. Bowne, Det 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Lt James L. Reardon, Det 17, 1WW, Yokota ABS, Japan; Lt William C. Keller, Det 16, 25WS, Nellis AFB, Nev.; Capt Kenneth Stokes, OL A, 31WS, Soesterberg ABS, N.L.;

Air Command and Staff College:
Capt Ricky C. Savage, Det 21, 2WS, Edwards AFB, Calif.; Capt Merrilee A. Powell, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska;

Selected for Officer Training School:
SSgt Gary L. Gumm, Det 7, 1WW, Wheeler AFB, Hawaii; James Surey, 3350 TCHTG, Chanute AFB, Ill.; Nancy Hester, 3350 TCHTG, Chanute AFB, Ill.;

National Defense University:
Maj Thomas G. Egelston, "National Security Management", Det 14, 26WS, Blytheville AFB, Ark.;

Degree Recipients:
SMSgt Wayne S. Boytim, BS in Business Administration, Det 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.;

OJT Supervisor School:
SSgt Rodger D. Campbell, Det 15, 15WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; SSgt Donald E. Gatfield, Det 15, 15WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; SSgt Thomas W. Porter, Det 15, 15WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; Sgt Terri S. Oakman, Det 15, 15WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio;

Station Chief Course:
MSgt Larry L. Hildebrand, HQ 3WW, Offutt AFB, Neb.;

Financial Management Counseling:
MSgt Randolph C. Murphy, HQ 3WW, Offutt AFB, Neb.;

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Capt Michael D. Morton arrived at Det 3, 2WW, Athens City, Greece from Offutt AFB, NE; Capt Richard G. Peer departed Det 3, 2WW, Athens City, Greece for Langley AFB, VA; SSgt Robert Elson arrived at Det 2, 31WS, Ramstein AB, Germany; SSgt Tim Todd arrived at Det 7, 31WS, Aviano ABS, Italy; 2Lt James E. Walker, Det 5, 15WS, Dover AFB, Del.; SSgt Claytorn C. Barnett, III arrived at Det 20, 24WS, Laughlin AFB, Texas; TSgt Wayne D. Becker departed Det 20, 24WS, Laughlin AFB, Texas; Lt Col Nelson Arzola PCA from AFGWC to HQ 3WW, Offutt AFB, Neb.; MSgt Patrick E. Jennings arrived at HQ 3WW, Offutt AFB, Neb. from Italy; TSgt Charlie H. Aldridge arrived at HQ 3WW, Offutt AFB, Neb. from 43d Supply Sq, Guam;

AWS Salutes . . .

HEIR FORCE

Cynthia Janet to 2Lt and Mrs. Benjamin V. Noah, Det 6, 5WS, Ft. Lewis, Wash.; Christina Elaine to SSgt and Mrs. Frank Hall, III, Det 25, 5WW, Howard AFB, Panama; Curtis to SSgt and Mrs. Michael A. Calvert, Det 10, 5WS, Ft Benning, Ga.; David Lawrence to SSgt and Mrs. Brian Krick, Det 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.; Daniel Michael to Sgt Michelle R. and Mr. Timperio, 5WW, Langley AFB, Va.; Matthew to SSgt and Mrs. Scott M. Hill, Det 31, 5WS, Ft Hood, Texas; Deveney (daughter) to AlC and Mrs. Charles Elford, Det 14, 5WS, Ft Hood, Texas; Courtney Danielle (daughter) to AlC Marsha K. and Mr. Patterson, Det 6, 5WS, Ft Lewis, Wash.; Shyra LaRue (daughter) to Sgt Mark and Sheila Collins, Det 3, 28WS, RAF Lakenheath, U.K.; David Allen to Amn Mark and Nancy Jacobs, Det 17, 28WS, Upper Heyford, U.K.; Travis Michael to SSgt Ian and Jane Thompson, Det 15, 28WS, RAF Mildenhall, U.K.; Anna Katrina to Maj Donald and Linda Ellingson, Det 4, 28WS, RAF Bentwaters, U.K.; Chanel Marie (daughter) to AlC Paula and Danny Paige, Det 15, 28WS, RAF Mildenhall, U.K.; Patricia Ann to Sgt Kimberly A. and Ashley Miller, Det 10, 2WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.; Baby Girl to Capt David and Evelyn Ulsh, 3330TCHTG, Chanute AFB, Ill.; Marc Benjamin to TSgt Steve and Nina Meyer, Det 21, 2WW, Kapaun ASN, Germany; Maureen Katherine to SSgt Peter and Mary Copeskey, Det 4, HQ AWS, Andersen AFB, Guam; Zachariah Dillon to Sgt Thomas W. and Rita Petty, Det 8, 1WW, Kadena AB, Japan; David Timothy to SSgt M. Stephen and Hee Lan Moleski, Det 15, 30WS, Osan AB, Lorea; Ashley (daughter) to AlC Michael and Dawn Marsolais, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Chad (son) to SrA and Mrs. Rawling, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Nebr.; Adam to SrA Adam and Janis Johnson, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Sarah Bethany to Sgt and Mrs. Stephen D. Harford, Det 9, 5WS, Ft Rucker, Ala.;

Elizabeth Anne to SSgt Bob and Yong Pok DuFrane, Det 15, 25WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.; Joshua Loren to A1C David and Kathy Luithle, Det 15, 25WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.; David Lawrence to SSgt Brian and Lynda Krick, Det 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.; Benjamin to Capt Peter and Suchada Morse, Det 4, 4WW, Holloman AFB, N.M.; Brian David to CMSgt Dave and Sue Coulombe, Det 8, 26WS, Griffiss AFB, N.Y.; Travis and Trevor (identical twin sons) to SSgt Luke and Kimberly Whitney, Det 9, HQ AWS, Henderson, Nev.; Crystal to SrA Robert T. and Carmin Warner, Det 14, 7WS, Heidelberg AIN, Germany; Kimberly Ann to SSgt Rickey J. and Kaye Murphy, Det 14, 7WS, Heidelberg AIN, Germany; Stephen to A1C Stephen and Mrs. McConnell, 31WS, Sembach ABS, Germany; Rebecca Victoria to SSgt and Mrs. Jay W. Lawrence, Det 25, 5WS, Howard AFB, Philippines; Jonathan Scott to Sgt W. Gary and Diane Heberline, Det 15, 15WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio;

RETIREMENTS

Major Denis Moreno, Det 16, 25WS, Nellis AFB, Nev.; GS-6 Gertrude Holtzman, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; Capt William R. Schaub, Jr., USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; SSgt Kenneth Arbour, USAFETAC, Scott AFB, Ill.; MSgt Frederick Crocker, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; MSgt Larry Baden, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill;

The ROCK: Still launching rocketsondes, and watching Siberian weather

The "Rock" is only 450 miles from Russia.

Shemya Island, Alaska, is near the end of the Aleutian Chain, and is home for Det 3, 11WS. The weather people out on the "Black Pearl of the Aleutians" keep pretty busy. They are proud of the work they do supporting the Air Force mission on Shemya.

Detachment 3 is divided into five work centers. The *command section is where the detco, station* chief, administration and weather maintenance are located.

"Managing day-to-day operations of the separate sections is a full time job," says MSgt J.B. McLeod, station chief, "add to that trying to maintain supplies out here at the end of an 1,800 mile supply line and you've got your hand's full."

Weather support to Det 1, 6th Strategic Wing is provided by two wing weather officers who live and work with the people they support. They are on 24-hour alert to support two RC-135 "COBRA BALL" aircraft stationed here. They are also involved in the rocketsonde program as the Range Safety or Launch Control Officer.

The surface observing section currently works out of the Base Operations building. A new Representative Observing Site has been started and is expected to be ready for use this summer. Around-the-clock observational support is provided to "COBRA BALL" and transient aircraft. Surface observations, averaging over 1,300 per month, are currently sent out over an "old fashioned" 100 word-per-minute teletype system.

TSgt Doug McQuaid, NCOIC Weather Maintenance, repairs the receiver from the GMD-4 tracking set.

SrA Roy Bishop lowers the launcher after a successful rocket launch.

ALMEDS, a Continental U.S. Meteorological Data-type system, is expected to be in operation later this year. A polarimeter, which measures total electron count, and a tide gauge used in the Tsunami warning system, are also monitored by the observer.

The upper air section is divided into a rawinsonde and rocketsonde section.

The rawinsonde section is responsible for the daily baloon runs at 00Z and 12Z. This data is important for computer forecasting models, since Shemya is the first station to pick up weather systems moving in from Siberia. This data is also important to military and commercial flight planning for the North Pacific.

Using 600 gram balloons, rawinsonde runs usually go higher than 28,000 meters. "Trying to get a balloon released in the 50 to 60 know winds that are common on Shemya can be quite an experience," said SSgt Gerald Claycomb.

The rocketsonde section is responsible for running the only rocketsonde program in the Air Force. Using the PWN-10D "Super Loki" system, launches are normally made three times per week.

Preparation for a launch begins 24 hours prior. First, the Federal Aviation Association at Anchorage, the Coast Guard at Adak, and various base agencies are notified. The pad crew, with the Launch Control Officer and Range Safety Officer, depart for the launch site an hour before the launch.

While the Range Safety Officer clears the range of vehicles and personnel, the Launch Control Officer and pad crew inspect the launching system. If everything checks out, the rocket system is assembled and loaded.

Leaving the launcher at more than 1,800 feet per second, the system will reach its apogee of more than 210,000 feet in two minutes (T+120). The datasonde is then ejected and tracked to below 30,000 feet.

If all goes well, the rocketsonde and rawinsonde data will overlap, giving a complete analysis of the atmosphere. This data is then analyzed and sent out to AFGWC and Foreign Technology Division. The data collected is also used supporting "COBRA BALL" activities and by NASA for space shuttle missions.

One of the approximately 400 "natives" of Shemya, an Artic Blue Fox.

Capt Jim Parker (l) aircraft commander presents MSgt Ronald A. Koplitz his 10,000 hour patch while flying inside Typhoon Forrest.

Koplitz hits 10,000 hours

MSgt Ronald A. Koplitz, NCOIC of Det 4, HQ AWS, Andersen AFB, Guam, recently passed an important flying milestone. During a penetration of Thypoon Forrest, just west of Okinawa, Koplitz logged his 10,000th accident-free flying hour.

All his time has been accrued in weather reconnaissance, flying WC-130 and WC-135 aircraft. Koplitz is believed to be the first Dropsonde Operator to ever reach the 10,000 hour plateau.

Safety award winners named

Capt William F. Markert has been named AWS Safety Officer of the Year for 1983. His performance as Additional Duty Safety Officer of AFGWC also earned Markert the MAC Distinguished Individual Safety Award.

SSgt Laura S. Angel, Det 3, 7WS, 2WW has been named the AWS Safety NCO of the Year for 1983. Also a winner of the MAC Distinguished Individual Safety Award, Angel was cited for her work ensuring a safe work environment and promoting safety awareness.

The following people were awarded the MAC Distinguished Individual Safety Award for their outstanding efforts as Additional Duty safety Representatives:

Capt James C. Roller, Det 30, 2WS, 4WW, Vanderberg AFB, Calif; 2nd Lt Susan K. Anderson, Det 17, 9WS, 3WW, Ellsworth AFB, SD; MSgt Tx P. D. Vogler, 26WS, 3WW, Barksdale AFB, La; SSgt Penny M. Heinen, 7WW, Scott AFB, Ill.

Speck earns ASD honors

Capt Peter W. Speck, Det 1, 2WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, has received the fourth annual Aeronautical Systems Division "Outstanding Ground Safety Monitor of the Year" award for 1983.

The award recognizes the outstanding contributions made by a Ground Safety Officer to the overall ASD safety program. Maj Gen John T. Buck, ASD vice commander, presented the award Jan. 25. He commended Speck for his excellent management of Det 1's ground safety program and for his strong support to the ASD Safety staff.

MAC motto changes

SCOTT AFB, Ill, (MNS) — The Military Airlift Command has changed its official motto from *"Global in Mission — Professional in Action"* to *"MAC — the Backbone of Deterrence."* MAC officials encourage use of the new motto in speeches, on stationery and in base newspapers whenever possible.

Stationery printed with the old motto should be used until supplies of new stationery become available through local base administration sources.

In explaining the reason for the change, Gen. Thomas M. Ryan Jr., MAC commander in chief, said:

"The Military Airlift Command of today bears little resemblance to its historical predecessors, and is even much broader in scope than it was in the 1970s. While we've always continued to perform the airlift missions that served as the basis for the command's creation, our mission has expanded as the world had changed around us. The increasing complexity of world affairs has brought MAC from the background to the forefront in enforcing our national policy, protecting U.S. interests, and fostering confidence between the United States and our allies.

"Therefore, I believe a motto change is in order to reflect MAC's modern day role more accurately. Our new motto, "MAC — the Backbone of Deterrence," captures in a few words the powerful presence of all facets of the Military Airlift Command in the defense of liberty."

First "Night Hawk" debuts

SCOTT AFB, Ill. (MNS) — The first Air Force HH-60D Night Hawk combat search and rescue helicopter made its debut Jan. 23 at United Technologies' Sikorsky Aircraft Facility, Stratford, Conn.

Project manager Capt. Donnie Wurster, MAC Aircraft Requirements, said, "The Night Hawk is now going through developmental testing of its airframe modifications, engine and transmission upgrading and its rescue hoist, air refueling probe and auxiliary tanks. An avionics package will be installed by IBM in December."

Captain Wurster added that "initial operational capability is set for 1988. Following initial cadre training, the first 24 operational Night Hawks will be delivered to MAC's special operations forces."

At the rollout, Aeronautical Systems Division commander, Lt. Gen. Thomas H. McMullen, said, "The Night Hawk has the 'right stuff' to get our combat rescue and special operations forces in and out of 'hot spots' in one piece.

"For a downed flier, lying injured in the enemy's backyard on some cold, rainy night, the sound of the Night Hawk's rotors will play like 'solid gold' music. I'm just as sure it will sound the same to our aircrews who will fly it. They will have confidence — in some of the toughest situations that we get into in combat — that they are flying a winner."

The Air Force requirment is for the Night Hawk to perform unescorted all-weather day/night missions to locate and rescue downed aircrews up to 250 nautical miles behind enemy lines.

General McMullen pointed out, "Combat rescue is the all-important lifeline in a hostile environment! Before we send our pilots into combat, we do everything we can to make sure they have a backup ticket home...a ticket they can count on when the chips are down."

The general emphasized that the Night Hawk Program, currently managed by ASD at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, will be a ticket to count on.

Tax time nears

Housing deductions still OK

SCOTT AFB, Ill. (MNS) - Military homeowners can continue deducting mortgage interest and real estate taxes on their personal residence at least through 1984, officials of the Military Airlift Command's Staff Judge Advocate's office announced.

A proposed ruling, which would have required military homeowners to reduce deductions for mortgage interest and real estate taxes by the amount of tax-free housing allowances — Variable Housing Allowance and Basic Allowance for Quarters — received, is still being considered by the Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service. No deadline has been set for the final decision.

In the meantime, officials added, military people can be assured that any possible change will not affect tax returns through calendar year 1984.

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