



AWS Observer

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Headquarters Air Weather Service

MARCH 1985

**Don't Forget
Your State
Income Taxes**

Bogart is MAC's Airman of the Year

by Lt. Theresa Giorlando
AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.

SrA Linda M. Bogart is the Airman of the Year for AWS and is one of five airmen nominated by the Military Airlift Command to compete to be one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

A computer programmer in the Software Development Division of AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb., she is one of two airmen, two NCOs and one senior NCO nominated from MAC for the Air Force competition.



SrA. Linda M. Bogart

After learning she had been selected as the AWS Airman of the Year, she said, "It was overwhelming!" Before learning she had won the MAC competition, she said, "winning it (MAC) would be beyond my imagination."

SrA Bogart received the John Levitow Award at the Offutt AFB NCO Preparatory Course and was selected as an Airman of the Quarter and later Airman of the Year for AFGWC. She was also Offutt AFB's Airman of the Year for 1984.

She had this advice to airmen being nominated for unit awards. "Don't have a negative attitude towards the Airman of the Quarter Award. It is a prestigious award because it can open so many doors."

General Thomas M. Ryan Jr., Commander-in-Chief, MAC, congratulated Airman Bogart in a letter which read in part, "This honor recognizes your sustained superior duty performance and the many significant contributions you have made to the military and civilian community. You may take great pride in this distinctive achievement and the highly valuable service you have rendered in furthering the mission objectives of the command and the Air Force."

King nominated for VFW Award

SMSgt. Wayne V. King is the AWS nominee for the 1984 Veterans of Foreign Wars Armed Forces Award. Each year, the VFW honors active duty or retired military members for outstanding contributions to national security.

Sergeant King is the Superintendent, Det 11, 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

Sergeant King is an expert in the DOD Global Weather Intercept Program monitoring foreign meteorological broadcasts. His training and motivation of detachment personnel saved record amounts of vital Sino-Soviet meteorological data.

He developed an extensive library of World Meteorological Organization technical references on overseas

transmission schedules and regional coding formats. When applied to the captured data, his efforts maximized the quality and quantity of captured information. The increase in information directly aided mission effectiveness of Pacific operations and programs.

Leading by example, he inspired his people to be active in professional associations, community affairs and continuing their education. He showed the importance of being involved in everything from sports to social events.

He increased the recognition of personnel in an atmosphere of friendly competition. Sergeant King's emphasis on individual performance meant all his people were prepared to cope singlehandedly with any problem.

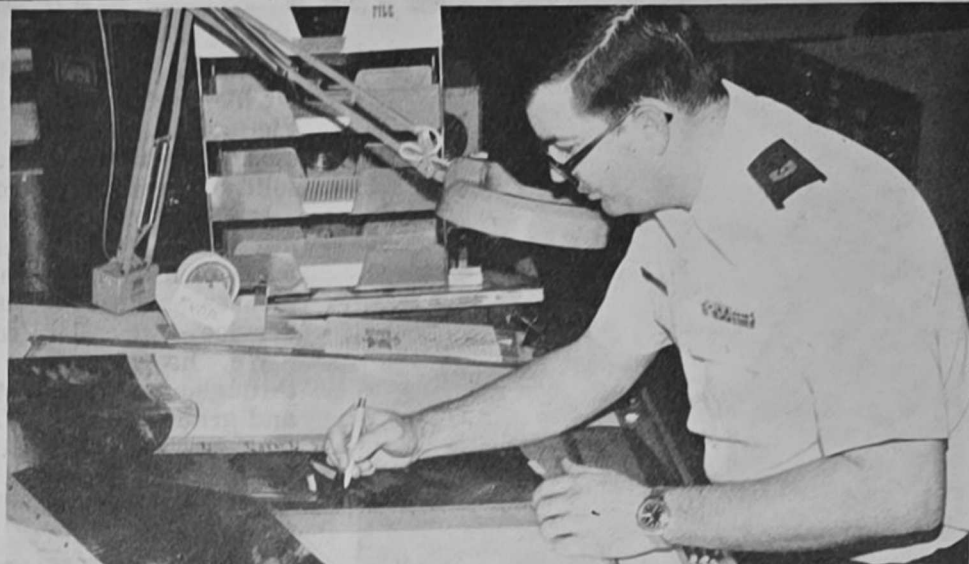
Keesler forecasters best in ATC

Project Jamboree is the annual forecaster competition between all the base weather stations supporting the Air Training Command.

Forecasting proved quite a challenge. For 10 consecutive days, the forecasters from the 10 forecasting units competing would convene and prepare a forecast for different preselected locations throughout the U.S. The forecast included: sky condition, tem-

perature, direction, speed and temperature for 18,000 feet above the surface.

When it was over, the forecasters from Det. 22, 24WS, Keesler AFB, Miss. were the best. Members of the winning forecast team were/ are: Capt. Kenneth Dropco, MSgt. Larry Franklin, TSgt. Kevin Martin, SSgt. Tracy Boudreaux, SSgt. Jerry Monroe, Sgt. Michael Giffon and MSgt. Larry Cain.



MSgt. Michael A. Jimenez

Jimenez named Senior NCO of the Year

by SSgt. Michael W. Kinney
AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.

"Winning at Global was an unexpected honor, but this knocked me out," was MSgt. Michael A. Jimenez's response upon learning he was selected as a nominee as one of MAC's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year. He was also named the AWS Senior NCO of the Year.

Sergeant Jimenez is the NCOIC of the AFGWC Weather Support Section, Production Branch A. His current duties include coordinating the activities of 15 weather specialists who provide assistance to seven weather forecast sections.

Last year, MSgt. Jimenez was also NCOIC of the Tropical Forecast Section. While there, he identified and located a tropical storm in the Mediterranean, the first in several years. Because of his accurate location data, agencies issued advance advisories and forecasts so military forces in that area had time to act.

He also provided direct support to several Space Shuttle missions. His highly accurate mission planning and control forecasts ensured on-time launch and recovery, earning the praise of DOD and NASA.

Sergeant Jimenez was AFGWC's NCO of the Quarter for October-December 1983, Senior NCO of the Quarter for April-June 1984 and Senior NCO of the year for 1984.

Special activities which he took part in included the Offutt Sub-for-Santa drive, Nebraska Special Olympics and a branch sponsored clean-up of flooded homes along the Missouri River. He was also a member of the AFGWC intermural volleyball and bowling teams and is a member of the Air Force Association.

According to Col. David L. Donley, AFGWC commander, "Sergeant Jimenez is an aggressive and dedicated professional who believes in the Air Force Family. An outstanding leader and motivator, he sets the pace for all enlisted people in the wing."

Citizenship required to reenlist

Air Force members who are not U.S. citizens are encouraged to apply for citizenship if they plan to make the military a career.

According to Manpower and Personnel officials at Randolph AFB, Texas, noncitizens who entered the Air Force after Nov. 1, 1982, will not be allowed to reenlist when their term expires unless they have become citizens.

The Air Force has taken this step because noncitizens are not eligible for background investigations or security clearances. This limits the jobs noncitizens can hold and the

bases to which they can be assigned.

According to immigration and naturalization officials, military members can apply for citizenship if they have been permanent U.S. residents for five years, or if they have been in the military and stateside for three years. Members can also apply for citizenship if they have been married to a U.S. citizen for three consecutive years.

For more information, contact the nearest immigration and naturalization office and ask to listen to Tape 40, "Citizenship and Naturalization Requirements."

Command Line

WARRIORSHIP — HERITAGE: A Linkage



Brig. Gen. George E. Chapman
Commander

Much has been written about Project Warrior, which focuses our attention on our ability, past and present, to meet the defense commitments of our nation in time of war. A column frequently appears in this newspaper under the byline of the Historian, Mr. John Fuller, which highlights the accomplishments of our people in times of crisis — WW II, Korea, Vietnam.

Admiral James Bond Stockdale, best known for his leadership while a prisoner of war in Vietnam, has stated: "In my view, the single most important foundation for any leader is a solid academic background in history."

It is with the theme of Project Warrior in mind that we have embarked on a special program this spring here at Scott AFB that focuses on our past leaders in Air Weather Service — we call it Project Heritage.

We have many outstanding leaders throughout Air Weather Service — all ranks and grades — and as Admiral Stockdale has stated, we think it's important to focus on perspectives from the past, but also review the challenges of today, and continue to move forward to the future.

Project Warrior — Project Heritage: A linkage.

We have invited all former Commanders of Air Weather Service to participate in a special Seminar and an Awards Dinner and Ceremony on the 28th and 29th of May. A Seminar and Ceremony of this type has never been held before at HQ AWS and we believe it will give us a forum to discuss the decisions that were made in the past to develop our wartime weather support capabilities of today and focus on WX-2000 and the capability we will have to meet our wartime commitment between NOW and the year 2000. Specific subjects in the Seminar will include: Evolution of AWS Organization and our

people; AWS Today — Centralized Support, Theater Operations, Specialized Support; "How We Go To War;" Equipment Acquisition (1985-2000); and Weather 2000 Mission Analysis.

In the evening we will have a special Awards Dinner and Ceremony. We will invite in many of our award winners for 1984 so that they may receive the award from the person for whom it was named. As an example, the Pierce Award will be presented to TSgt. Earl Simon by Maj. Gen. Russell K. Pierce, Commander of AWS from 1965 to 1970.

Ten former commanders have tentatively accepted at this time, spanning the period from 1950 (Lt. Gen. William O. Senter) to 1982 (Brig. Gen. Albert J. Kaehn).

The Commander-in-Chief, Military Airlift Command, General Thomas M. Ryan Jr., has graciously accepted our invitation to be the keynote speaker for the evening.

We will videotape major segments of this two day affair and this footage will be the nucleus of my next Commander's Videotape which we will send to the field so that all of AWS can share in it.

I am looking forward to the Seminar and the Awards Ceremony with much enthusiasm. We have a great service because we have great people — that's been true in the past and it will continue to be our foundation for the future. It is important that we take the time to focus on heritage.

Chief's Comments The Positive Attitude

Want the thrill of your lifetime? Be the speaker at a Professional Military Education graduation.

Recently, I had the opportunity to speak to an NCO Leadership School graduation class. The thrill was there for me.

By thrill, I am talking about the members of the class — all bubbling with joy and excitement about their accomplishments. You could say it's their Positive Attitude.

The training they had received in just a little over three weeks was intriguing. They were well aware and practiced military customs and courtesies. Their uniforms were IAW AFR 35-10 and they wore them proudly. Their handshake was firm and sincere. Best of all, their attitude was Positive — they were ready to face any and all challenges.

It just so happened, the theme of my speech was their Positive Attitude — ways they could use their Positive Attitude to make their unit a better unit and to make their Air Force a better Air Force.

One example I used was in the arrival of basic trainees and technical school graduates to their units. In most cases, these young people arrive with a Positive Attitude. But too often, within a matter of hours, their attitude begins to deteriorate. This is not due

necessarily to what has been done, but what hasn't been done.

The other day as I was thinking about my visit to the leadership school, the thought came to me — the same thing could happen to those new graduates. For them to lose their Positive Attitude before they even had the chance to try, would be a crime. Commanders and supervisors would not allow that, or would they?

An article in the local base paper nearly brought me to tears. Seems that this young man was attending NCO Leadership School and was doing very well in the classes. Toward the end of the school when they were preparing for graduation, he sent invitations to his supervisor and commander. (His unit was located at the same base.) The supervisor was involved with a bowling league and the commander was too busy to attend. The R.S.V.P's were called in to the administrative office and the young man had no idea whether his guests would be there or not. He was a Distinguished Graduate. He had done his part, but there was no one there to see it. The summation was given as, "Like having a party and no one shows."

We, in AWS, support PME better than most and as well as the others. There is more to it



CMSgt. Charles T. Melson
Senior Enlisted Advisor

than filling quotas. We need to capture that Positive Attitude when those folks return from those schools and use it to improve our units and the Air Force. When they have a party, let's be there!

Brig. Gen. George E. Chapman
AWS Commander

TSgt. Michael T. Devine
Editor

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A lesson from history

by John Fuller

A pioneer in weather recce

One of AWS' lesser-recognized luminaries from World War II is Col. Clark L. Hosmer.

From mid-1941 until October 1942, he was responsible for weather support along the northeast Atlantic ferry route and pipeline to England. From mid-1943 until mid-1944, he commanded AWS' 1st Weather Reconnaissance Squadron in that same area, pioneering techniques still used today.

Clark Hosmer graduated from West Point in 1936. Some of his classmates, such as William C. Westmoreland, Creighton W. Abrams, Albert P. Clark, Joseph J. Nazzaro and Howell M. Estes (a former MAC Commander), went on to distinguished military careers.

Following graduation, Hosmer was assigned to the Air Corps. He completed primary and basic pilot training at Randolph Field, then advanced training at Kelly Field, Texas. While at Kelly, he became interested in meteorology.

"The idea of trying to cope with the complexity of a multi-faceted problem was intriguing," he recalled later; "and, of course it (meteorology) was directly relevant to flying."

He applied and was accepted for undergraduate meteorology at Cal Tech, where he studied under the renowned and controversial Dr. Irving P. Krick. He graduated in June, 1940.

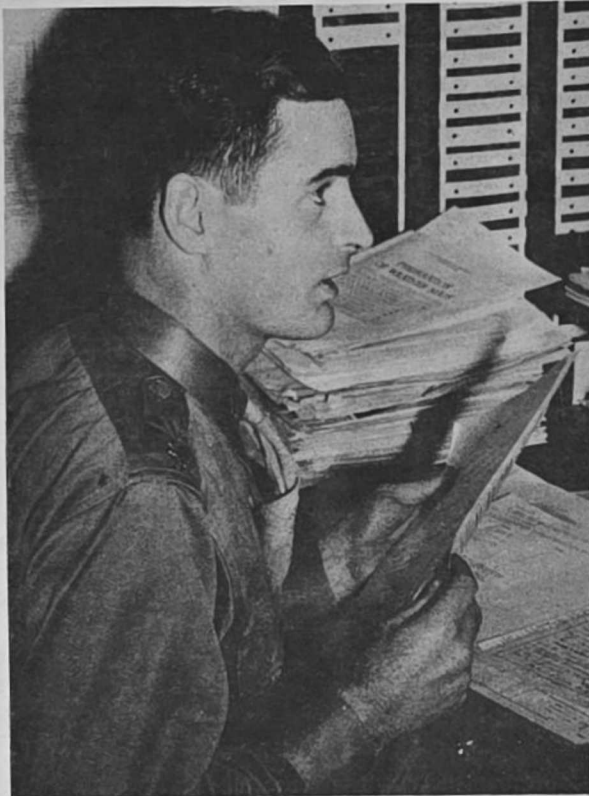
After Cal Tech, he was assigned to Selfridge Field, Mich. One of his duties each day was flying the early morning weather check in A-17, P-35 and P-36 aircraft. He quickly put Dr. Krick's long-range forecasting techniques to work and developed quite a reputation locally for accurate forecasts. But that reputation proved embarrassing on one occasion.

In November 1940, he predicted heavy snow and a white Christmas for Selfridge, Mt. Clemens and Detroit. Because of his reputation for accuracy, local officials began an expensive hunt throughout Michigan for heavier snow-removal equipment. He got the inversion he predicted, with warm air on top, but not the necessary cold air. As a result, instead of snow, the entire area from Chicago eastward was enveloped in low stratus and a fog that closed airports and made airlines frantic when they lost all their Christmas business.

"It was a complete smash," he said of the forecast, "my name was mud."

In the spring of 1941 Captain Hosmer was alerted for a very important assignment by Maj. Arthur F. Merewether who was responsible for running the Army Air Corps Weather Service. Hosmer was to proceed to Newfoundland and establish a competent weather service for supporting the flow of aircraft from the U.S. along the treacherous Northeast Atlantic ferry route.

Hosmer boarded the transport Siboney at Brooklyn, N.Y. on July 18, 1941. The Siboney was convoyed through sub-infested waters to St. Johns, Newfoundland. From there, he proceeded by train to Gandor and in August assumed command of an AAC Weather Service detachment. That detachment, which became the 8th Weather Squadron in November 1941, then assumed control of AAC weather stations at St. Johns and Stephenville.



Clark L. Hosmer

It also controlled stations in Iceland, Greenland and Bermuda.

Gandor ultimately became the nucleus of a weather net reaching from North America to the British Isles. By the end of 1941, after three (Crystal) stations were established in northern Quebec and on Baffin Island. Major Hosmer's squadron operated 12 stations with five officers and 49 enlisted men. A year later, there were 18 officers and 256 enlisted.

Many of those weather stations were in extremely remote locations, accessible only by air. The three Crystal stations were a case in point. Crystal 1 was at the lower part of James Bay; Crystal 2 was on an island in Brobisher Bay; and Crystal 3 was just above the Arctic Circle on the upper part of Baffin Bay. The men were hand-picked volunteers.

Hosmer would fly in, bringing supplies, mail and news from the outside world. By and large, his weathermen did great work. Every month or so, he would write to their wives and families telling them what an important contribution their loved ones were making to the war effort. Some of the men spent most of the war there and morale remained good.

Nevertheless, "we had problems with a couple of men," he said, they "got a little wacky" from being isolated so long.

The aggressive Hosmer was sensitive to criticism and had a temper. But it was muted by a great sense of humor and unyielding devotion to his men. Believing that his forecasters should become familiar with the routes they were forecasting, he arranged for them to fly on aircraft along those routes.

In April 1942, he learned about Operation Bolero and journeyed back to Washington to plead for additional experienced forecasters. He also wanted to check on weather equipment ordered but not delivered.

Operation Bolero was the deployment of Eighth Air Force fighters and bombers across the north Atlantic in the latter half of 1942. Some of the best forecasters available were working for Colonel Hosmer at the time. They included Capt. Leo A. Kiley and 1st Lts. Lynn T. Irish and Silvio G. Simpicio at Presque

Island, Maine; Maj. Benjamin G. Holzman, the forecaster in charge at Goose Bay; and Maj. Joseph J. ("JJ") George, who supervised forecasting from Greenland.

Between June 1942 and January 1943, 920 aircraft attempted the crossing under Operation Bolero, 882 made it. The anticipated accident ratio of 10 percent was cut to 5.2 percent. Much of the reduction attributable to the superb efforts of Hosmer and his 8th Weather Squadron.

One of the factors contributing to that success was that Hosmer and his counterpart with the 18th Weather Squadron in England, convinced Eighth Air Force officials to use eight B-17s to fly route weather reconnaissance along each leg on each fighter deployment.

Colonel Hosmer's interest in weather reconnaissance led to his assignment as commander of the first aerial weather reconnaissance unit in August 1942. The Army Air Force's Weather Reconnaissance Squadron (Test) No. 1 was formed at Patterson Field, Ohio, commanded by Capt. Arthur A. McCartan. After shakedown testing, the squadron was equipped with nine B-25Ds and ordered to Presque Island in 1943. Hosmer assumed command on June 20.

Redesignated as the 305th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, it was organized into three flights of three B-25Ds each. Flight A flew between Goose Bay and Narsarsuaq, Greenland; Flight B between Narsarsuaq and Iceland; and Flight C between Meeks and Stornoway in Scotland's Hebrides Islands.

Equipment on the B-25Ds included an external strut psychrometer, an aerograph as well as radio and aneroid altimeters. With a belly tank, a B-25D could fly about 1,800 nautical miles on nine-to-10-hour flights.

Colonel Hosmer's aircraft flew three types of missions, route recce; area synoptic recce and vertical soundings by flying ascents over a particular point.

"We would be up and out early," he once explained. "The ferry group would get out pre-dawn or dawn, but we'd be out ahead of them."

Initially, he sent a weather officer on each mission, but decided later that the duty could be performed by enlisted observers.

Between July 6th and December 1943, Colonel Hosmer's crews flew 446 route and area recce missions, logging 1,987 hours. While his squadron was in operation, not a single tactical aircraft was lost due to weather along the northeast ferry route on legs reconnoitered by his crews. All that, while flying day-in and day-out in an environment particularly hostile to aircraft operations. "Cold weather (aircraft) maintenance is a miserable business," he reflected.

For their accomplishments, Hosmer and 58 of his weather recce crewmen were personally awarded Air Medals by Maj. Gen. Harold L. George, commanding general of the Air Transport Command.

In July 1944, Colonel Hosmer was reassigned to the Office of the Air Inspector, Headquarters Army Air Force, never to return to the AAF Weather Service.

Before retiring from the Air Force as a colonel, he went on to command the Human Resources Research Center at Lackland AFB, Texas, and then the technical Training School.

1984 Technical

Zimmerman Award

Maj. (IMA) Eugene S. Barnes, Det. 14, 25WS, 5WW, Holloman AFB, N.M. has been selected to receive the 1984 Zimmerman Award. This award honors Brig. Gen. Don Z. Zimmerman, former Director of Weather, Army Air Forces (1942). It recognizes the AWS individual(s) demonstrating the best application of climatology during the year, or developing a device or technique which proves of greatest value in furthering the use of climatology in AWS. The nomination should clearly state how the application of climatology, or the developed device or technique helped the customer directly and/or AWS support the customers command and control decisions and mission planning.



Maj. Eugene S. Barnes

Pierce Award

TSgt. Earl J. Simon, Det. 30, 2nd WS, 4WW, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., has been selected to receive the 1984 Pierce Award. This award honors Maj. Gen. Russell K. Pierce Jr., former Commander, AWS (1965-70). It recognizes individual excellence in meteorology or astrogeophysics by an AWS forecaster assigned to a non-centralized facility.



TSgt. Earl J. Simon

AWS Forecaster Award (Centralized Facility)

Capt. Boyce R. Columbus, Det. 1, 1WW, JTWC, Nimitz Hill, Guam, has been selected to receive the 1984 AWS Forecaster award. This award recognizes individual excellence in meteorology or astrogeophysics by an AWS forecaster assigned to a centralized facility. These facilities are AFGWC, JTWC, regional forecast units, and tactical forecast units.



Capt. Boyce R. Columbus

Best Award

Maj. Charles W. French, Det. 25, 5WW, Albrook AFS, Panama has been selected to receive the 1984 Best Award. This award honors Brig. Gen. William H. Best, Jr., former Commander AWS (1970-73). It recognizes individual excellence in performing environmental services support of a staff nature. (No photo at press time.)



Williams Award

Det. 15, 9WS, 3WW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D., is the 1984 winner of the Williams Award. This award honors Col. Randolph P. Williams, who organized the Army Air Corps Weather Service in 1937. It recognizes the most outstanding AWS unit performing as a weather station with a weather observing and a forecasting or briefing function. Pictured standing are: (left to right) TSgt. Raymond A. Barber, MSgt. Davis V. Dulzo, SSgt. Karlua G. Cessna, 2nd Lt. Mark A.

Kaster, Capt. Michael L. Jamilkowski, 2nd Lt. Thomas A. Meyer, SSgt. Frances Grenda, Mr. Harry F. Petty and Sgt. Sarah L. Pote. Kneeling: Sgt. Marion G. Stinnett, AMN Jeffrey U. Phillips and SSgt. Daniel W. Armstrong. Not pictured are 1st Lt. Shiela R. Harmes, MSgt. Curtis D. Cessna, TSgt. Jeffery A. Davis, TSgt. Ronald P. Whitt, SSgt. Elizabeth A. Davis, SrA. Kevin F. Mouser, SrA. Giles H. Blair III and SSgt. Mark R. Sanders.

Merewether Award

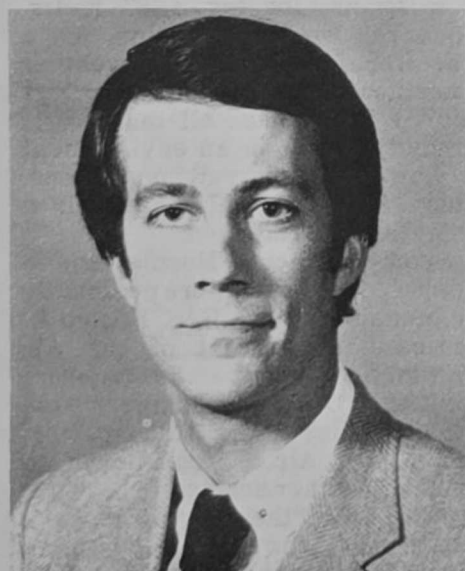
Capt. Mitchel A. Langford, 1st Lt. Jason P. Tuell and Mr. Edward L. Carr have been selected to receive the 1984 Merewether Award. This award honors Col. Arthur P. Merewether, former chief of the Weather Section, Army Air Force (1940-42). It recognizes the AWS individual(s) making the most significant technical contribution to the aerospace environmental support mission of AWS.



Capt. Mitchel A. Langford



1st Lt. Jason P. Tuell



Mr. Edward L. Carr

Award winners



Moorman Award

The 21st Air Force/Weather Support Unit, 15th WS, 7WW, McGuire AFB, N.J. has been selected to receive the 1984 Moorman Award. This award honors Lt. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman, former Commander, AWS (1954-58). It is given for the most outstanding support by an AWS unit other than a weather station. These include weather support units, forecast units, solar observing units, the Joint Typhoon Warning Center, staff-met units, branches of AFGWC

and USAFETAC, and elements of the automated weather net. Units eligible for the Williams Award are not eligible for this award. Pictured are (left to right) Maj. Kenneth E. Parsons, 2nd Lt. Douglas A. Rippey, 1st Lt. Michael Grunwald, Sr., 1st Lt. Kenneth F. Carey, Sgt. Gregory Bates, 1st Lt. Peter E. Virag, Sgt. Leroy G. Krind, 2nd Lt. Andrew B. Woodcock, SrA. Daniel M. Toomey, Sgt. Brian P. Bergmann, Capt. William R. Bobb and Sgt. Robert A. Moreland.



SrA. Mark R. Christensen

AWS Specialized Support Award

TSgt. Gerald D. Rugg, OL-A, Det. 6, 2WW, Bad Toelz, Germany has been selected to receive the 1984 AWS Specialized Support Award. This award recognizes individual excellence by an AWS NCO or airman in AFSC 25XXX providing specialized weather support.



TSgt. Gerald D. Rugg

AWS Technical Supervisor Award

MSgt. Edmund D. Wallace, Det. 4, 17WS, 7WW, Altus AFB, Okla., has been named to receive the 1984 AWS Technical Supervisor Award. This award recognized individual excellence by an AWS noncommissioned officer or airman in technical supervision of a weather function. Eligible persons are AWS NCOs (excluding NCO detachment commanders) or airman in AFSC 25XXX who supervise an AWS observing, forecastings, or specialized function.



MSgt. Edmund D. Wallace



Collens Award

209th Weather Flight, Texas ANG, Camp Mabry Austin, Texas has been selected to receive the 1984 Collens Award. This award honors Maj. Gen. John W. Collens, former Commander, AWS (1974-75). It is given to the most outstanding Air National Guard weather flight. Nominees for the Collens award are judged on the units Mission Readiness Training, Technical training, participation in host/supported unit activities and voluntary support (in addition to annual training and unit training activities). Pictured are (left to right) back row: A1C

Bruce A. Smith, SSgt. Paul E. Buckner, SrA. Kevin W. Miller, TSgt. Randy J. Murray, SrA. Andrew M. Pickerel and Capt. Robert M. Ryan. Center row; SrA. Darrell D. DeSalme, SrA. John C. Henline, Sgt. Thomas A. Opaluch, SSgt. Harold F. Ingersoll, and Maj. Steven J. Blattau. Seated are SSgt. David A. Cornelius, Sgt. Vickie L. Datz, Sgt. Lucinda D. Elizondo, SSgt. Valerie A. Dye and Maj. Dan G. Bellue. Not shown are SSgt. Manuel De Los Santos, SSgt. Paul S. Hamilton and SrA. Julie A. Weber.

Grimes Award

Det. 20, 30WS, 1WW, Camp Casey, Korea, has been named as the 1984 Grimes Award winner. This award honors Col. Keith R. Grimes, former Commander, 10th Weather Squadron. It is presented

to the outstanding AWS weather unit exhibiting the highest state of readiness to support the wartime tactical Air Force or tactical Army mission. (No photo at press time.)

AWS Salutes

Medals

Meritorious Service Medal to:

CMSgt. Willie Williams (1 OLC), HQ AWS/DNTS, Scott AFB, Ill.; Maj. Howard R. Alston, Jr. (1 OLC), Det. 2, 17WS, Travis AFB, Calif.; Capt. Jerrold S. Foster (1 OLC), Det. 11, 5WS, Ft. Sill, Okla.; Maj. Marvin G. Colman, Det. 17, 28WS, Upper Heyford, UK; Maj. Donald W. Pittman, 28WS, RAF Mildenhall, UK; MSgt. Gary E. Wicklund, Det. 5, 3WS, England AFB, La.; MSgt. Frederick Gesser, HQ AWS/DNTM, Scott AFB, Ill.; MSgt. A. James DeCarufel, Det. 26, 26WS, Grissom AFB, Ind.; MSgt. Howard E. Haroldson, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; MSgt. Gary R. Emmons, Det. 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.; SMSgt. Robert L. Albert, Det. 1, 15WS, Andrews AFB, Md.

Air Force Commendation Medal to:

MSgt. Steven D. Paulsen (2 OLC), Det. 11, 5WS, Ft. Sill, Okla.; SSgt. Janet E. Murray (2 OLC), Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.; TSgt. Drew S. Bowman (1 OLC), AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Capt. Richard D. L. Bost (1 OLC), Det. 2, 11WS, Eielson AFB, Alaska; TSgt. Doyle Diener, Det. 2, 17WS, Travis AFB, Calif.; Sgt. Anne Marie Cipot, Det. 2, 17WS, Travis AFB, Calif.; TSgt. Adrian Perry, Det. 9, 4WW, Learmonth, Australia; 1st Lt. Michael E. Adams, Det. 3, 28WS, RAF Lakenheath, UK; TSgt. Ronald W. Pagitt, Det. 3, 28WS, RAF Lakenheath, UK; SSgt. Dennis E. Nappier, Det. 17, 28WS, RAF Upper Heyford, UK; SSgt. Jeffery J. Smith, Det. 11, 5WS, Ft. Sill, Okla.; Capt. Kimberly H. Gilbert, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; MSgt. Norman P. Campos, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; TSgt. Charles J. Ponce, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; SSgt. Rene B. Keese, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Sgt. Edward B. Patterson III, Det. 3, 11WS, Shemya AFB, Alaska; Sgt. Gigi D. Addison, Det. 10, 2WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.

Air Force Achievement Medal to:

SSgt. Christine Smith, Det. 2, 17WS, Travis AFB, Calif.; MSgt. Daniel J. Sheldon, 28WS, Barksdale AFB, La.; A1C William D. Trudo, Det. 26, 28WS, RAF Greenham Common, UK; TSgt. Robert M. Benson, Det. 10, 25WS, Bergstrom AFB, Texas; Sgt. Sheri K. Harden, Det. 3, 11WS, Shemya AFB, Alaska; SSgt. Daniel W. Archibald, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; A1C Timothy F. Jay, Det. 3, 11WS, Shemya AFB, Alaska; SSgt. Karen A. Werner, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; MSgt. Larry Franklin, Det. 22, 24WS, Randolph AFB, Texas; Sgt. David Gorham, Det. 6, 3WS, Homestead AFB, Fla.; 1st Lt. Jeffrey Kapolka, Det. 3, 11WS, Shemya AFB, Alaska.

Army Achievement Medal to:

SrA. Eric C. Merrell, Det. 15, 15WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; TSgt. Kevin P. Martin, Det. 22, 24WS, Randolph AFB, Texas; 1st Lt. Eric P. Priest, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.

Promotions

To Major:

Marshall C. Pollard, HQ 4WW, Peterson AFB, Colo.; Jerry R. Thronberry, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Homer O. Woodard, Det. 7, 3WS, Langley AFB, Va.

To Captain:

Richard V. Greene, Det. 17, 24WS, Williams AFB, Ariz.; Giles M. Cherrick, HQ 4WW, Peterson AFB, Colo.; Mark A. Koozer, Det. 26, 28WS, RAF Greenham Common, UK; Michael A. Tighe, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Jason P. Tuell, Det. 10, 2WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.

To First Lieutenant:

Cynthia G. Mendonca, Det. 8, 26WS, Griffiss AFB, N.Y.; Patrick Tuller, Det. 21, 9WS, Minot AFB, N.D.; Jo Ann Frederick, Det. 2, 3WS, Seymour Johnson AFB, S.C.; Michael N. Jones, Det. 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.; Michael F. Bonadonna, Det. 11, 17WS, McChord AFB, Wash.; Patrick M. Hayes, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.; Brett W. Scholten, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

To Senior Master Sergeant:

Robert B. Purdie, Det. 18, 28WS, RAF Fairford, UK; Thomas J. Scholl, Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena AB, Japan.

To Master Sergeant:

Gary A. Ouderkerk, Det. 15, 28WS, RAF Mildenhall, UK;

Leslie O. Taylor, Det. 26, 28WS, RAF Greenham Common, UK; Franklin C. Mullins, Det. 10, 25WS, Bergstrom AFB, Texas; Stephen L. Gross, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.

To Technical Sergeant:

Bryan Logie, Det. 2, 9WS, Castle AFB, Calif.; Manuel M. Vela, Jr., Det. 17, 24WS, Williams AFB, Ariz.; Gregory A. Ramsay, Det. 2, 17WS, Travis AFB, Calif.; Robin G. Post, Det. 17, 24WS, Williams AFB, Ariz.; Anthony Marra, Det. 2, 17WS, Travis AFB, Calif.; James P. Roy III, Det. 2, 17WS, Travis AFB, Calif.; Milton W. Clark, Det. 6, 28WS, RAF Alconbury, UK; David A. Morris, Det. 17, 28WS, RAF Upper Heyford, UK; Donald J. Zafke, Det. 36, 28WS, RAF Alconbury, UK; Andrew A. Farley, Det. 2, 3WS, Seymour Johnson AFB, S.C.

To Staff Sergeant:

Edward Harmon, 9WS/WSU, March AFB, Calif.; Daryl R. Bargiband, Det. 36, 28WS, RAF Alconbury, UK; Nigel J. Bridger, Det. 36, 28WS, RAF Alconbury, UK; David A. Williams, Det. 4, 28WS, RAF Bentwaters, UK; Steven R. Adams, Det. 2, 3WS, Seymour Johnson AFB, S.C.; Tomas I. Fredricks, Det. 1, 15WS, Andrews AFB, Md.; Robert J. Heise, Det. 2, 3WS, Seymour Johnson AFB, S.C.; Irving A. Taylor Jr., Det. 1, 15WS, Andrews AFB, Md.; Ronald G. Sisson, Det. 6, 5WS, Ft. Lewis, Wash.; William M. Scheiser, Det. 5, 11WS, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska.

Appointed to Sergeant:

Rick Butler, Det. 1, 9WS, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Joanna L. Reischer, Det. 11, 25WS, Cannon AFB, N.M.; Manuel Carrasquillo, Det. 36, 28WS, RAF Alconbury, UK; Richard A. Vogel, Det. 26, 28WS, RAF Greenham Common, UK; John S. Muhleman, Det. 12, 25WS, George AFB, Calif.; Robert J. Orsi, Det. 12, 25WS, George AFB, Calif.; David Pagillo, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Sean S. Salaz, Det. 2, 3WS, Seymour Johnson AFB, S.C.; Steven M. Pickard, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Eric L. Strom, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Larry D. Williams, Det. 10, 2WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.; William T. Rigling, Det. 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Cynthia A. Wallace, Det. 26, 26WS, Grissom AFB, Ind.; Horace N. Smith, OL-A, Det. 26, 26WS, Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio.

To Senior Airman:

Priscilla F. Kelly (BTZ), Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena AB, Japan; Marsha K. Patterson (BTZ), Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena AB, Japan; Jeffrey E. Johnson (BTZ), Det. 11, 7WS, Coleman Bks, Germany; Gary F. Willis, Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena AB, Japan; Susan C. Schmieding, Det. 11, 5WS, Ft. Sill, Okla.; Catherine A. Hered, Det. 4, 28WS, RAF Bentwaters, UK; Stephen D. Meloche, Det. 17, 28WS, RAF Upper Heyford, UK; Gregory M. Olson, Det. 4, 28WS, RAF Bentwaters, UK; Thomas D. Dohl, Det. 9, 3WS, Tyndall AFB, Fla.; Leif B. Rasmussen, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Kevin K. Hatcher, Det. 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Jerry A. Walk, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Thomas A. Lamb, Det. 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

To Airman First Class:

William N. Rondeau, Det. 17, 20WS, Yokota AB, Japan; Linda H. Furmage, Det. 26, 28WS, RAF Greenham Common, UK; Hugo Hidalgo, Det. 18, 28WS, RAF Fairford, UK; Mark A. Jacobs, Det. 17, 28WS, RAF Upper Heyford, UK; Eugene J. King Jr., Det. 18, 28WS, RAF Fairford; Craig S. Bouchillon, Det. 5, 3WS, England AFB, Fla.; Brian S. Leib, Det. 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.; Harold Givens, Det. 5, 5WW, Ft. Knox, Ky.; Barbara L. Bailey, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Clay C. Cyr, Det. 1, 3WS, Shaw AFB, S.C.; Sharon A. Poirot, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Robert F. Fisher, Det. 5, 11WS, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska; Jeffery Schmidt, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

To Airman:

Craig Eckert, Det. 3, 9WS, Fairchild AFB, Wash.; Nancy Morris, Det. 7, 9WS, March AFB, Calif.; Steven W. Bullard, Det. 2, 17WS, Travis AFB, Calif.; Ian M. Bohlen, Det. 4, 28WS, RAF Bentwaters, UK; Michael A. Knappes, Det. 18, 28WS, RAF Fairford, UK; Ronald K. O'Rourke, Det. 4, 28WS, RAF Bentwaters, UK; Martin A. Riggs, Det. 36, 28WS, RAF Alconbury, UK; James E. Totaro, Det. 18, 28WS, RAF Fairford, UK; Laura L. Powers, Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena AB, Japan; Gary E. Lewis, Det. 2, 3WS, Seymour Johnson AFB, S.C.; Robert J. Powell, Det. 7, 3WS, Langley AFB, Va.; Phillip S. Childs, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Education

Air Command and Staff College:

Capt. Richard D. L. Bost, Det. 2, 11WS, Eielson AFB, Alaska.

Squadron Officer's School:

Capt. Richard L. Greene, Det. 17, 24WS, Williams AFB, Ariz.; Capt. Edward L. Weniger, Det. 17, 28WS, RAF Upper Heyford, UK; Capt. Parke A. Smith, Det. 18, 28WS, RAF Fairford, UK; 1st Lt. Glen A. Blook, Det. 18, 28WS, RAF Fairford, UK; 1st Lt. Jeffrey Wilhelm, Det. 6, 3WS, Homestead AFB, Fla.

NCO Academy:

MSgt. Ronald S. Lalonde (Honor Grad and Comm Skills Award), AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; TSgt. John E. George (Dist Grad), Det. 5, 4WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; TSgt. Leon R. Scott, HQ 4WW, Peterson AFB, Colo.; MSgt. Gary A. Ouderkerk, Det. 15, 28WS, RAF Mildenhall, UK; TSgt. William T. Kvederavish, Det. 18, 28WS, RAF Fairford, UK; TSgt. George G. Gombarcik, Det. 3, 9WS, Fairchild AFB, Wash.; TSgt. David L. Wyman, Det. 18, 25WS, Mt. Home AFB, Idaho; TSgt. Richard L. Mitchell, Det. 12, 25WS, George AFB, Calif.; TSgt. Kenneth R. Chesson, HQ 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

NCO Leadership School:

Sgt. Edward J. Shee Jr. (Dist Grad), Det. 11, 1WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; SSgt. James L. Green (Dist Grad), AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; SSgt. Sterling D. Holmes (Commandant's Award) Det. 6, 4WW, Peterson AFB, Colo.; SSgt. Timothy Crume (Academic Award), Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.; SSgt. Charles Curtis, Det. 7, 9WS, March AFB, Calif.; SSgt. Dena D. Otten, Det. 17, 28WS, RAF Upper Heyford, UK; SSgt. Denise L. Spack, Det. 17, 28WS, RAF Upper Heyford, UK; Sgt. Ricky Lawrence, Det. 26, 28WS, RAF Greenham Common, UK; Sgt. Davis A. Brann, Det. 5, 3WS, England AFB, La.; SSgt. Tracy J. Boudreaux, Det. 22, 24WS, Randolph AFB, Texas; SSgt. Lonnie W. Leasman, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; SSgt. Clyde Hunter, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

NCO Preparatory Course:

SrA. Garth L. Getgen (Honor Grad), Det. 1, 15WS, Andrews AFB, Md.; SrA. Gregory M. Olson, Det. 4, 28WS, RAF Bentwaters, UK; A1C Billy C. Fritz, Det. 17, 28WS, RAF Upper Heyford, UK; A1C Yolanda R. Long, Det. 3, 28WS, RAF Lakenheath, UK; A1C Stephen D. Meloche, Det. 17, 28WS, RAF Upper Heyford, UK; SrA. Rachel A. Taylor, Det. 11, 1WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; SrA. Gregory W. Alexander, Det. 16, 25WS, Nellis AFB, Nev.; SrA. Marsha K. Patterson, Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena AB, Japan; SrA. Gary F. Willis, Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena

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AWS Salutes

Education

AB, Japan; Sra. Priscilla F. Kelly, Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena AB, Japan; A1C Jeffery E. Johnson, Det. 11, 7WS, Coleman Bks, Germany; Sra. Shelli M. Peck, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Sra. Michael D. Dennis, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Sra. Stephen H. Turkovich III, Det. 10, 2WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.; A1C Michael S. Kroll, Det. 10, 2WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.; Sra. Pauline A. Brand (Levitow Award for academic excellence), HQ 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Sra. Christopher A. Popp, Det. 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Sra. Thomas A. Lamb, Det. 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

PME Phase 1

Sra. Nicholas B. McNider, Det. 18, 28WS, RAF Fairford, UK.

Station Chief Course:

TSgt. Jeff Fried, Det. 1, 9WS, Offutt AFB, Neb.; MSgt. Daniel Michaelwicz, Det. 3, 9WS, Fairchild AFB, Wash.; TSgt. Nancy Brooks, Det. 7, 9WS, March AFB, Calif.; MSgt. Mary Hebert, Det. 10, 25WS, Bergstrom AFB, Texas.

Satellite Interpretations School:

SSgt. Tracy J. Boudreaux, Det. 22, 24WS, Randolph AFB, Texas.

Tropical Forecasting Course:

1st Lt. Patrick M. Hayes, 2nd Lt. Dennis R. Thomas and SSgt. William Jones, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Weather Staff Officer and Electro-Optics Courses:

1st Lt. Patrick M. Hayes and 2nd Lt. Dennis R. Thomas, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Observer School:

AMN Joseph LaRocco, Det. 8, 26WS, Griffiss AFB, N.Y.; A1C Terry C. Click, Det. 26, 26WS, Griffiss AFB, Ind.

Water Survival School:

Capt. Jackie Gentle, 1st Lt. Patrick Hayes, SSgt. Cory Knowled; A1C Jerry Brewer and A1C Byron Pullen, Det. 3, 5WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C..

Associate Degree to:

MSgt. Robert J. Cianchetti, Det. 5, 5WS, Ft. Knox, Ky., in Applied Science (CCAF).

Congratulations to:

Maj. Michael D. Lewis for receiving his Certified Systems; Professional Certificate and Certificate in Data Processing. These certificates are to the data automation profession what being a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) is to an accountant.

March Heir Force

Elspeth Eileen to Maj. Judson E. and Laura Stailey, Det. 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Meagan Callie to Sra. James C. and Darleen Palmer, HQ 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Robert Tomas to Sra. Martina G. and Scott Adams, Det. 10, 2WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.; Kevin Francis to SSgt. Sylvia R. and Kewith Bickell, Det. 32, 3WS, MacDill AFB, Fla.; Danielle Frances Ann to Sgt. and Mrs. Edward A. Rosinski, Det. 18, 25WS, Mt. Home AFB, Idaho.

Retirements

MSgt. Robert L. Workman, Det. 6, 5WS, Ft. Lewis, Wash.

Reenlistments

SSgt. John W. Hampshire, Det. 15, 25WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.; TSgt. Gregory L. Martin, Det. 26, 26WS, Griffiss AFB, Ind.

March Unit Honors

Junior Officer of the Year for:

AFGWC — Capt. Francis P. Kelly, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; 11WS — Lt. Daniel N. Shoemaker, Det. 1, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

Senior NCO of the Year for:

11WS — SMSgt. Steven D. Wilson, Det. 5, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska.

NCO of the Year for:

3WS — TSgt. Ed Riberdy, Det. 1, Shaw AFB, S.C.; 11WS — TSgt. Michael G. Josias, Det. 2, Eielson AFB, Alaska.

Airman of the Year for:

3WW — A1C Bruce G. Johnson, Det. 3, 11WS, Shemya AFB, Alaska.

Forecaster of the Year for:

3WS — MSgt. Royce L. Hildebrand, Det. 5, England AFB, La.

Observer of the Year for:

1WW — Sra. Richard W. Nieman, Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena AB, Japan.

Senior NCO of the Quarter for:

3WW — SMSgt. Richard H. Prewitt, Det. 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska (Oct.-Dec.).

NCO of the Quarter for:

3WS — TSgt. James P. Evins, Det. 5, England AFB, La.; 11WS — TSgt. Bryan J. Folk, Det. 1, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska (Oct.-Dec.).

Airman of the Quarter for:

2WW — A1C Jeffery E. Johnson, Det. 11, 7WS, Coleman Bks, Germany; 3WW — Sra. Thomas A. Lamb, Det. 1, 11WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; 3WS — A1C Edward R. Gessner, Det. 5, England AFB, La.; 25WS — A1C Suzette C. Adams, Det. 10, Bergstrom AFB, Texas.

Handicapped rocketsonde instructor honored

(Editor's note: While the Observer is dedicated to the people of AWS, sometimes a story about a non-AWS person is submitted and deserves printing. This is one such story. It is reprinted from the Pan Am World Services, Inc., Newsbriefs.)

Pass the Rocketsonde School classroom at Eastern Space and Missile Center Headquarters at Patrick AFB, Fla., and you'll see Bob Bradley instructing students in weather Rocketsonde operations and analysis.

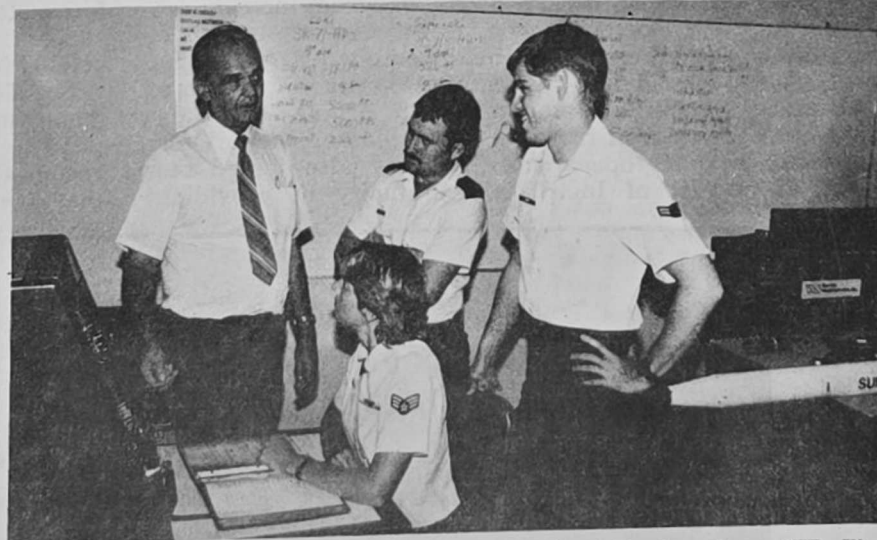
Students come from all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces and several foreign governments. Despite daily close contacts, few of the students realize that Bob is legally blind.

In 1981 he was stricken by a rare, hereditary eye disease known as PXE. He rapidly lost the functions of his retina. The condition has stabilized, but left his near vision so severely damaged that to read any document, he must apply a magnifying glass of at least six power.

It is when students are absent that his disability and dedication become evident. During this time, he sits at his desk tediously hunched over documents with his magnifying glass. With his face less than three inches from the paper, Bradley conducts research necessary to improve himself, advance the science of meteorology and increase the

knowledge he can impart to his students. That knowledge is already significant, he is the recognized leading authority on matters relating to rocketsondes.

Pan Am and the Air Force are helping Bradley become even more productive by obtaining an image magnifying television device. This monitor will alleviate, to some extent, the torturous reading methods he now uses.



Bob Bradley describes metrocket firing to Sgt. Sheri Harden, Scott AFB, Ill., Canadian Armed Forces Cpl. Sylvain Levesque, Cold Lake, Alberta; and A1C Daryl Barney, March AFB, Calif. (Photo courtesy Newsbriefs)

Bradley, who celebrated 30 years of company service in November, said he loves teaching and helping out is part of the job.

Many letters of commendation reflect his willingness to put in extra effort. A recent graduate from his course wrote:

"The thorough and comprehensive training we received at Patrick by Mr. Bradley allowed a smooth transition into the Metrocket

operations here at Shemya AFB, Alaska. Since the school, we have been constantly in contact with Mr. Bradley with various rocketsonde problems. He is always eager to help.

"Mr. Bradley alerted us to the fact that we were not considering the Earth curvature factor in computing rocketsonde heights. He passed on the appropriate formulas for computation and other mathematical formulas that have made our job here easier. He has been working with us on a difficult problem concerning the Rocketsonde-CoRawinsonde tie-in temperature.

"Mr. Bradley has done these things and more. He is not required to do anything for us after the Rocketsonde School, but he has helped us considerably."

Bradley has effectively overcome what, to many, would be a reason for giving up. His outstanding performance, despite his impairment, is an inspiration to everyone aware of his condition.

For these reasons, he was recently recognized as the Disabled Employee of the Year by the Space Coast Association of the Physically Handicapped.

After receiving the award, Bradley said he was very honored by his selection. He also said that part of the award belonged to a fellow employee, the "navigator" who gets him to work every day.

20th Weather Squadron reactivated at Yokota

In formal ceremonies at Yokota Air Base, Japan, 1st Weather Wing Commander Col. Robert E. Julian passed command of the 20th Weather Squadron to Lt. Col. Richard J. Vogt on Jan. 4.

The squadron was reactivated to improve communications and enhance management and administration of AWS units in the Western Pacific. It will provide environmental services to the Air Force and Army forces in the Western Pacific, excluding Korea. This includes direct support to the Fifth Air Force, U.S. Forces Japan, U.S. Army Japan and the U.S. Army IX Corps.

Twentieth Weather Squadron has a rich history dating to its formation in Cairo, Egypt in 1943. At that time, the squadron's mission was to provide weather support to the 5th Air Force within the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater of operations. The squadron has been activated and deactivated several times since the end of World War II.

Seven detachments currently make up the 20WS, they are: Det. 2, Andersen AFB, Guam; Det. 4, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Det. 5, Clark AB, Republic of the Philippines; Det. 7, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Det. 8, Kadena AB, Japan; Det. 13, Misawa AB, Japan; and Det. 17, Yokota AB, Japan. More than 150 forecasters, observers and administrative specialists assigned to these detachments provide a wide variety of environmental support to commandands ranging from the U.S. Army's 25th Infantry Division on Hawaii to SAC, MAC and PACAF units stationed in or transiting the Pacific theater.

Before assuming command of the 20WS, Lt. Colonel Vogt was the Chief, Central Support Division, Deputy Chief of Staff/Operations, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill. Other members of the 20WS staff include Maj. Steve Horn, Maj. Bill Normington, Capt. Larry Moore, 1st Lt. Jim Reardon, SMSgt. Sam Verhunc, TSgt. Rudolph Williams and SrA. Charles Outlaw.



Lt. Col. Richard J. Vogt and Col. Robert E. Julian.

Incirlik's Det. 19 gets Commander's Trophy

by SSgt. Kathy Jaramillo

Detachment 19, 31st WS, was recently selected as the best unit at Incirlik AB, Turkey. The weather people were presented with the Commander's Trophy by Col. William Hentges, Commander, 39th Tactical Fighter Group.

Although a quarterly award, its awarding culminated 12 months of hard work by the Detachments men and women. During the preceding year, Incirlik's flying mission changed, the Middle East was a hotbed of political and military activity, NATO and USAFE conducted a combined operational readiness inspection for the first time in a decade. The weather people became TV personalities. These challenges amid constant terrorist threat posed unique opportunities for the only around-the-clock AWS detachment between Spain and the Philippines.

The fine flying weather at Incirlik AB and over much of the Republic of Turkey has long attracted USAFE fighter units from bases throughout Western Europe. Det. 19

forecasters were kept busy supporting F-16, F-111, F-15, and A-10 fighters, MAC C-5, C-141, C-9 and C-130 transports as well as NATO's AWAC aircraft.

The weather observers, too, were kept on their toes by supporting the forecasters and by taking observations not only at Incirlik, but also at Konya Range. In addition to these "routine" requirements, the 39th TACG in early 1984 resumed a Victor Alert status after a 10-year interruption. This mission change required new 24-hour support from Det. 19.

As wartime commitments changed, so did the volatile Middle East. Detachment 19 supported U.S. Navy operations in their efforts to resupply the Marines in Lebanon. When terrorists attacked in October, the first C-9 aerovac into Beirut was from Incirlik.

Disaster support wasn't new to Incirlik's weather people. In November 1983, a strong earthquake devastated parts of eastern Turkey. Detachment 19 people not only provided the necessary weather support for relief operations, but they also joined the rest of Incirlik's community in providing

food and clothing to the thousands made homeless.

During the week-long NATO and USAFE evaluation held last June, the weather people excelled. Not only did they rate an overall satisfactory, but were commended for establishing a tertiary observing site. That site was one of six workcenters which the weather people operated 24-hours a day for five days.

The weather people were already well known before their ORI recognition. Every weekday night a Det. 19 forecaster presents the weather portion of the evening news. Routinely, the day shift forecaster goes to the TV studio, prepares U.S., European and Turkish weather maps, writes a script and then presents the TV weather. All the unit's forecasters get their turn in front of the camera and they have all become base celebrities.

The Commander's Trophy is now proudly displayed at the forecaster's counter for all to see and admire. It's the first such recognition for Incirlik's weather people, and they are certain it won't be the last.

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