



*Your Magazine for Air Force Weather*

# OBSERVER

*September 1996*

*Volume 43, No. 9*

**Air Force  
Combat  
Weather  
Center**

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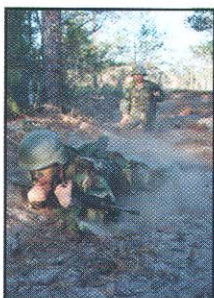
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## SPOTLIGHT



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Air Weather Service  
**OBSERVER** Editorial Staff

Commander

Air Weather Service  
*Col. Joseph D. Dushan*

Vice Commander

Headquarters Consultant  
*Col. Gerald F. Riley, Jr.*

Chief, Public Affairs

*Master Sgt. Don Schmidt*

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Chief, Internal Communications  
*Staff Sgt. Steve Elliott*

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*Capt. Riley Jay*

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*Senior Master Sgt. Mike Spaulding*

*Staff Sgt. Rich Slominsky*

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Electronic mail should be addressed to:

"elliotts@hqaws.safb.af.mil" or

"schmidtd@hqaws.safb.af.mil"

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# Our Vision For The Future

## Everyone Has An Important Part To Play



by Brig. Gen. Fred P. Lewis  
Air Force Director of Weather

I recently signed out the Air Force Weather Executive Guidance to the senior weather leadership throughout Air Force Weather. This guidance was sent to the directors of weather at the major commands and senior staff at Air Weather Service. I would like to share excerpts from that document with you here.

We are all the stewards of the nation's military weather capability. As the Air Force Weather team -- active duty, guard, reserve, and civilian -- we must continue to execute our important responsibilities with a disciplined approach. The guidance sets forth what I consider to be a dynamic vision for Air Force Weather. Our vision is to be:

*The Warfighter's Choice for Aerospace Weather Information on Demand for Global Reach, Global Power, Global Awareness; Providing the Knowledge Needed to Own the Weather*

The key elements of this vision are:

**Warfighter's Choice:**

This means our products are on time, every time, and of such high quality that the warfighters can rely on them with great

confidence. Bottom line: the warfighters come to us for all their weather needs.

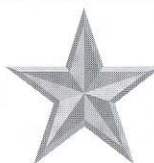
**Aerospace:** Defined by Air Force Basic Doctrine as the entire expanse above the earth's surface. Its lower limit is the earth's surface, and its upper limit reaches toward infinity. The aerospace environment can best be exploited when considered as an indivisible whole.

**Weather:** Our very foundation is in the physics of the atmosphere, space, and the sun. Highly trained operational meteorologists, space physicists, and technicians using state of the art instru-

ments and prediction models in a common operating environment: common data elements, structure, symbols, objects, and processing.

**Information:** Converting data into useful decision assistance to support U.S. and allied combat power. Leveraging emerging technologies and modeling and simulation capabilities that can provide warfighters a shared situational awareness and common understanding of the battlespace environment.

***Our vision is to be: The Warfighter's Choice for Aerospace Weather Information on Demand for Global Reach, Global Power, Global Awareness; Providing the Knowledge Needed to Own the Weather***



Brig. Gen. Fred P. Lewis  
Air Force Director of Weather

**On Demand:** Providing decision makers, planners, warfighters, and weapons systems required information when it is needed. A global, seamless, user-driven infrastructure where information can be accessed when needed, in the right form and volume to satisfy user needs.

**Knowledge:** A superior knowledge of the natural forces that shape the battlespace, from the surface of the earth to the sun.

**Own the Weather:** Exploit superior knowledge of the battlespace environ-

ment to gain advantage over enemies. Anticipating and adapting to dynamic natural forces far ahead of adversaries.

I view several issues as essential to executing our corporate responsibilities. We must:

- Provide the absolute highest quality weather support.
- Recruit good people and ensure they are properly trained.
- Define operational requirements and provide weather support capabilities with a clear vision.

- Meet those requirements by leveraging to the maximum extent the capabilities of other national agencies.

So, where are we going with our Executive Guidance and vision? Several events have already occurred. In August, we met with Air Force Space Command and discussed the future of space weather. Also, I brought the leadership of Air Weather Service to Washington to discuss their role in Air Force Weather and how

they view our future.

I have called a meeting in October with Air Force Weather's "Corporate Board," the senior weather officer and senior weather enlisted at each MAJCOM and the weather colonels and chief master sergeants from the FOA and other agencies and units. At this meeting we will continue refining Air Force Weather's future role.

See VISION,  
continued on Page 23

# Change Takes No Prisoners

## Teamwork Helps Us Take Advantage Of Rapid Change

**D**uring a recent visit to Air Force Combat Climatology Center's Operating Location A at Asheville, N.C., I happened across a pamphlet entitled *Culture Shift: Survival of the Fittest*.

It talks about change and the way change seems to pick up speed as our organizations, institutions, and technology move forward. "Before an organization can finish getting adjusted to one change, it gets hit with several others. 'What works' becomes history in a hurry."

These ideas hit home for AFCCC, in particular, as they plan and organize for a move from Scott AFB, Ill., to Asheville and collocation with the National Climatic Data Center in 1998.

They apply to the entire Air Force Weather business, too. I especially liked one quote from Mr. Fritz Dressler: "Predicting the future is easy. It's trying to figure out what's going on now that's hard."

Given that all this is true and that it mirrors our experience, what should we do? How can we adapt and take full advantage of the rapid changes we see everywhere?

Faithful readers of this column already know what my answer is going to be: **TEAMWORK**. But merely repeating the word like a mantra is not enough.

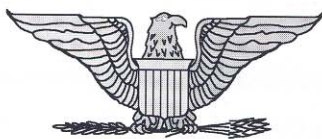
Success in building a truly cohesive and responsive team requires everyone to be involved. It cannot benefit from "benchwarmers" or spectators. All of us in AFW need to be active players and have our heads in the game. And the necessary next step in this process is "Mentoring" — building a network of

by Col. Joseph D. Dushan  
Commander  
Air Weather Service

"wise and trusted counselors" throughout our professional system.

Lt. Col. James Spencer pointed the way in the Spring 1996 edition of the *Airpower Journal*. His three-part approach will work very well at every base and post weather station, center, or headquarters.

**"Success in building a truly cohesive and responsive team requires everyone to be involved. It cannot benefit from 'benchwarmers' or spectators. Everyone in AFW needs to be active players and have their heads in the game."**



Col. Joseph D. Dushan  
Commander, Air Weather Service

### FIND A MENTOR

Select a senior officer or NCO you respect, whose career you'd like to emulate. Consider how and why that senior person is successful. How do they behave in professional situations? How do they approach their responsibilities? Try to identify what makes them tick. If you can discuss these things with your selected mentor to learn firsthand the secrets behind their success, so much the better.

### FIND A PEER

Select one of your contemporaries who will hold you accountable for your professional development. You've heard



the phrase "cooperate and graduate." It is the same with professional growth. A friend or colleague can help you measure and fine-tune your progress. And you can fill the same role for your comrade as well.

### FIND SOMEONE TO MENTOR

Share the lessons you've learned from the first two steps with a younger person. Help that person understand how to behave properly, grow professionally, and develop greater technical competence.

If all of this sounds suspiciously like leadership, I agree. It is also the process I've seen in action in every single successful military organization or operation for the past 28 years.

Our society adores heroes, but true, solid, repeatable, dependable success is the result of teamwork every time. Every one of us in AFW is the architect of that success. We shape it by how we behave and by our willingness to put personal considerations behind organizational success. Every single thing we do serves as one more building block in the habit patterns that make up the Air Force weather function.

Dr. Price Pritchett, author of *Culture Shift*, was precisely on the mark when he wrote: "Change has no conscience. Doesn't play favorites. Takes no prisoners. A world of high-velocity change calls for radical shifts in behavior. We must face reality and do what works."

Well, I believe what works today and what will work tomorrow is essentially what worked so well in times past: teamwork and a cohesive, cooperative approach to the business of providing terrestrial and space weather support to our nation's war-fighting forces.

Have a question for Colonel Dushan? Write to: HQ AWS/CC, 102 W. Losey St., Rm. 105, Scott AFB, Ill. 62225-5206.

# Personnel Issues

## Reenlistment, Special Pay And Retraining

In this month's article, I'm going to talk about a few personnel issues: reenlistment bonuses, special pay programs, and retraining.

Over the past few months, I've presented several graphs and tables addressing the demographics of our weather career field that illustrate some of the points of this article.

I'm going to oversimplify a bit, but each of the programs is linked around a central issue — the number of people reenlisting in the career field.

The Air Force has a finite amount of money each year to enlist and retain people. The Air Force must disperse that money over the spectrum of Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSC). The number of airmen that enter the weather initial skills course is derived from our end strength, or how many people can be on active duty at the end of the period, minus the number of people that reenlist.

The Air Force then pays reenlistment bonuses to career fields that reenlist too few people to sustain their career field. Several factors play in deciding how much money goes to assisting each AFSC: how low is the career field reenlistment rate; how many people would the money have to be spread among; and how many AFSCs need a boost.

The weather career field reenlistment rates as of June 1996 are 42

by Chief Master Sgt. Jim Hoy  
Air Force Weather  
Superintendent of Weather

percent at the first term (zone A), 73 percent at the second term (zone B), and 96 percent for the career (zone C). The Air Force averages for reenlistment are: 61 percent, 77 percent, and 95 percent, respectively.

What's the point?

I have not mentioned reenlistment bonuses being tied to how difficult the job is, how well you do it, or the working conditions (shift work and operations tempo, for instance). Also, our reenlistment rates, except at the first term, are not significantly lower than the Air Force averages.

**"Each of the programs is linked around a central issue — the number of people reenlisting in the career field."**

**Chief Master Sgt. Jim Hoy  
Superintendent of Weather  
Air Force Directorate of Weather**



**Bottom line:** the 1WXXX career field earns a selective re-enlistment bonus (SRB) of 1 at zone A.

Now, contrary to the point I made about what factors reenlistment bonuses don't consider, there are special pays that do consider them. As with reenlistment bonuses, there is a finite amount of dollars. Again, we must demonstrate that our career



field significantly deviates from the Air Force average in some way.

Many special pays are directed at a very narrow portion of a career field while some are directed at the entire career field. Enlistments, reenlistments, and volunteers to retrain into the career field play in the decision to award special pays. While we are considering our options, the 1WXXX career field is not receiving an incentive pay and is not projected to receive one.

Now let's talk retraining out of the 1WXXX AFSC. Our current manning in percent by grade is: airman (E-1 to E-3), 113; senior airman, 89; staff sergeant, 100; technical sergeant, 93; master sergeant, 117, senior master sergeant, 94; and chief master sergeant, 82.

By Air Force policy, first term airmen are afforded the opportunity to retrain; however, all other retraining is based on career field manning. As you can see, our manning is not particularly high.

As you might expect, we severely restrict retraining out of the AFSC. Most of the retraining is into a special duty where they will return to weather after the completion of their special assignment. By the way, any mass approval of retraining would bring into question our reenlistment bonus.

I hope this helps you understand the thought processes in three personnel areas and the related pays and bonuses. As always, my address and E-mail are included and I would appreciate any comments.

Contact Chief Hoy at DSN 224-7410 or by electronic mail at "jhoy.pentagon.af.mil"

# Officer Assignment System

## Learn How Changes Affect Your Career

The Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC) recently announced improvements to the officer assignment system (OAS). The changes include: increased commander involvement in the OAS, remote assignment follow-ons for officers, and PME out-placement.

### Increased Commander Involvement

**"More choice and more voice"**

Gaining commanders will now have "more choice" in who fills their jobs, and losing commanders "more voice" in their officers' future assignments and career development.

These improvements place OAS emphasis with the commander. Commanders can fully utilize their knowledge of an officer's strengths, qualifications, and potential, and join it with active participation in the assignment selection process.

"More choice and more voice" will institutionalize commanders' roles, making them the bedrock of a successful OAS. Here's how the new OAS works:

- a. Within five workdays of an ad closing, the AFPC assignment officer will provide (via fax, E-mail, etc.) a prioritized list to the hiring authority (usually the gaining commander), with info to the major commands, of all officers "qualified" (possessing the appropriate AFSC, grade, job requirements) and "eligible"

by Maj. John D. Murphy  
(former) Air Weather Service  
Chief of Personnel

(meeting time-on-station (TOS)/tour length requirements), who volunteered for the job.

Other qualified/eligible officers (i.e. mandatory moves, those needing the career development the job provides, etc.) may be added to the list by AFPC without the officer(s) specifically volunteering — this will be based on the member's qualifications, member's Officer Professional Development (OPD) needs, Air Force needs, and input from the officer's commander.

**"Commanders can fully utilize their knowledge of an officer's strengths, qualifications and potential, and join it with active participation in the assignment selection process"**



Maj. John D. Murphy  
(former) Chief of Personnel  
Air Weather Service

The assignment action officer will first contact the member's commander for inputs on the appropriateness of the specific job for that officer (qualifications, timing, OPD, etc.) and will, in turn, request the commander notify the member if it is determined he or she is being made a candidate for the job.

All officers on the list are "candidates" (availability is not "locked"), meaning officers may still actively compete for other jobs while the gaining commander/hiring authority re-



"Choose The Weather For Battle"

views the list. AFPC's prioritization of candidates will be:

1. short-tour returnees.
2. long-tour returnees.
3. base closure/unit deactivation.
4. maximum controlled tours.
5. CONUS members with 3 years Time On Station (or completion of minimum tour).

(Note: Officers in categories 1 through 4 are in "must-move" status. Their non-selection requires appropriate written justification from the hiring authority and MAJCOM.)

- b. Hiring authorities will validate the list of candidates as appropriate and return it to AFPC within 10 workdays, with info to the MAJCOM. Remember, officers may continue to volunteer/compete for other jobs — the selection process is based on a first-come, first-served basis.

- c. Once the action officer receives the hiring authorities' list, availability is checked and the first available requested officer is placed in "selectee" status (availability "locked"). The action officer obtains losing commander input and places the selectee on assignment.

- d. Exception: The procedures above do not apply — current rules of engagement (ROE) still apply for Joint, Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), or other positions above Air Staff level. This is due to special assignment assessments and procedures. AFPC will work with hiring authorities at these organizations to ensure nominations of the best match(es) to include a specific nominee of interest. Other exceptions include:

■ If there are no qualified and eligible volunteers, AFPC will identify/submit to the hiring authority one qualified/eligible officer. Appropriate EOS/TOS requirements, as prescribed in AFI 36-2110, will apply.

■ If the only volunteers are eligible but not qualified, with functional management's concurrence, the action officer will forward the volunteers' names along with the name of one qualified/eligible officer. Appropriate EOS/TOS requirements, as prescribed in AFI 36-2110, will apply.

■ Rated officers won't be nominated for non-rated positions without AFPC pre-approval.

While the above "ROEs" lay the foundation for greater gaining commander involvement, equally important is the role of the losing commander.

"More voice" initiatives, described below, get losing commanders involved early in the assignment process. While many commanders play an active role by counseling their officers on career development, there is little formal input until asked to provide losing CIPs.

While the commander, officer, and AFPC/MAJCOM assignment teams all share responsibility for appropriate job placement and career development, they seldom share their thoughts on what's best for the officer, the unit, or the Air Force.

To solve this, technology will soon allow commanders to provide officer professional development statements directly to respective assignment teams early on, before their officers enter the assignment cycle.

Comments will be kept on file until the officer is selected for an assignment or the commander provides an update (the officer will also have an opportunity to provide direct input to action officers electronically, much like the old AF Form 90 permitted). In the in-

terim, inputs by fax, e-mail, or letter are encouraged.

## Remote Assignment Follow-ons For Officers

**B**eginning soon, all company grade officers will have a 100 percent opportunity to participate in the follow-on program; field grade officers may participate to the greatest extent possible.

This will be done by aggressively pursuing job/location options for officer volunteers. It may require approval of a location/base, with further refinement of the exact duty as specific jobs become available. Needs of the Air Force still take precedence; however, AFPC is committed to working follow-on requests vigorously.

Additionally, several ongoing initiatives will help ensure a smoother job search/match for all overseas returnees. As noted above, AFPC is reemphasizing procedures to ensure qualified overseas returnees (in particular, remote assignment returnees) get high priority in the assignment selection process.

Also, a renewed emphasis on adhering to tour lengths and time-on-station minimums is underway to minimize undue turnover.

Officers who have served their full tour will have greater opportunity to compete for available jobs without competition from those departing prematurely (curtailments for officer professional development, the needs of the Air Force and humanitarian cases will be considered on a case-by-case basis, as always).

Finally, procedures are being formulated to accelerate advertisement and assignment selection timelines for all overseas assignments.

This will increase jobs on the board

(being vacated primarily by CONUS-to-overseas selects) available for overseas returnees.

## PME Out-Placement

**B**eginning with Intermediate Service School (ISS) and Senior Service School (SSS) classes graduating June 1997, Professional Military Education (PME) out-placement will be accelerated.

The goal is to have all graduating students on assignment as soon as possible, but not later than four months prior to graduation.

To achieve this, ISS/SSS selection boards will be standardized to convene in Oct, with other boards (i.e. return-to-fly) also moved up whenever possible.

The earlier boards will allow for more advanced projections of available jobs PME students might fill. PME selectees needing to perform joint duty, as well as upcoming available joint jobs, will likewise be identified earlier.

AFPC assignment teams will obtain commanders OPD statements well before students depart for school and will make personal contact with students prior to their ISS/SSS arrival. Continual contact will be maintained between students and their respective AFPC assignment teams until students are placed on assignment.

Since this is my last column to you (I transferred from HQ AWS in July), I'd like to say it's been a real pleasure providing you with the latest information on promotions, the Air Force Institute of Technology, career progression/opportunities, and other tidbits.

**If you have specific career questions, suggestions for future articles, or issues which you need addressed, contact Maj. Cecilia Grindinger, Headquarters Air Weather Service, Director of Personnel (HQ AWS/RMP), 102 W. Losey St., Rm. 105, Scott AFB, Ill. 62225-5206 or call DSN 576-4895, ext. 344. You can also reach her via E-mail at "grindinc@hqaws.safb.af.mil".**

# Incident At Anguar

## War Story Recounts World War II Bravery



### 'Anguar Weathermen Wounded'

#### 'Lt. Shaw loses life in struggle; 11 others struck by grenade fragments'

*(Editor's Note: This story originally appeared in the January 1945 edition of "THE WEATHER MERCHANT," a monthly magazine published by, and for, all Army Air Force weathermen in the Pacific Ocean areas. The story was edited for potentially offensive content. Thanks to Jim Van Dyne for passing it along.)*

Announcements in December of the award of 12 Purple Hearts to members of a weather detachment on Anguar permitted release of one of the most dramatic stories in the history of combat weather service.

Hero of the event was 2nd Lt. Robert L. Shaw, who grappled with a Japanese soldier in the detachment area and lost his life when the hari-kari-minded enemy held a hand grenade to his chest. But by absorbing the force of the blast, Shaw saved the lives of nearly a dozen other weathermen who might have been killed.

Details were learned from Sgt. Clifford L. Johnson, one of those wounded on the night of Oct. 25, 1944 when the fanatical Japanese soldier slipped through the lines on the closing phases of the Anguar battle.

Johnson and Sgt. Emmet P. Burke were evacuated to hospitals in Oahu, Hawaii. Like most of the victims,

Johnson is nearly recovered. Here is his story:

"At that time, about three weeks after we landed, the officers were quartered in a pyramidal tent. A few feet away, we had stretched a big tarpaulin over the equipment, and most of the enlisted men were sleeping under this tarp, as we had been rained out of our own tents.

"With the end of the battle in sight, the Japanese were forming for a suicidal banzai charge. Some filtered through the lines, and by early that evening nine of them were killed in the vicinity of our camp.

**"Lieutenant Shaw pulled the Japanese soldier's hands over his head and down his back while trying to twist away the mine or grenade. But it was too late. The thing went off, instantly killing both Lieutenant Shaw and the soldier."**

**Sgt. Clifford L. Johnson  
A weatherman at Anguar**

"About 4 a.m., 1st Lt. Charles Griffith, the detachment commander, received a phone call that the Japanese were slipping through in our direction. He ran out to rouse the camp, only to run smack into a large Japanese soldier, nearly six feet tall, standing between the two tents.

"Lieutenant Griffith hollered 'Halt!' — and the Japanese soldier replied by emptying his pistol at the lieutenant at point-blank range. He missed Lieutenant Griffith, but that was where I got mine. One of the bullets struck me where I was sleeping in another tent about 100 feet away.

"The lieutenant, who was unarmed, ran back to his tent to get his rifle. The Japanese soldier rushed after him,

clutching to his chest what we later decided must have been either a Teller mine or an American hand grenade, because it was much more powerful than the type the Japanese Army used.

"As the Japanese soldier came in, Lieutenant Robert Shaw jumped up from his bed and grabbed him from behind. The two grappled back and forth for several moments while Lieutenant Griffith stooped over to pick up his gun — an action that was to save his life.

"Lieutenant Shaw pulled the Japanese soldier's hands over his head and down his back while trying to twist away the mine or grenade. But it was too late. The thing went off, instantly killing both Lieutenant Shaw and the soldier.

"Between the two of them, they absorbed most of the explosion, but some shrapnel hit Lieutenant Griffith and 2nd Lt. Gordon L. Baker, who was also sleeping in the officers' tent.

"Other fragments peppered the large tarpaulin nearby, wounding eight enlisted men. Those hit were Master Sgt. Paul Carlson, Tech. Sgt. Lyle Way, Staff Sgt. Walt Fisher, Sgt. Burke, Sgt. George Chambers, Sgt. Arthur Richert, Sgt. Ralph Nelson, and Cpl. Gerald Katz.

"Six of the men were treated at local hospitals and released in a few days, since their wounds were not serious. Burke and I were brought to Oahu. Lieutenants Griffith and Baker, and Sergeant Richert, were still hospitalized when I left," Johnson concluded.

All of the men were awarded the Purple Heart on the next day. Weather service was not interrupted and the men who weren't wounded kept the station running until new officers and enlisted were rushed in to replace the wounded personnel.

Lieutenant Shaw is survived by his father, Chet L. Shaw, managing editor of *Newsweek* magazine.



# Better Cloud Forecasting

## Real-Time, Global Surveillance Support for Warfighters

The military has always needed better cloud data of all kinds to assist in planning worldwide surveillance, reconnaissance, targeting, and battle damage assessment. The successes of these functions are heavily determined by the ability to see around or through clouds.

Cloud data handling, analysis, and forecasting has up to now been limited and relied on day/night data primarily from one type of military satellite. This approach does not take advantage of the different sensors currently in orbit, and does not rely on data from satellites that are stationary over the equator and give almost continuous updates of changing clouds. It also has neglected use of other satellite platforms and does not address the wealth of data that will become available in the future.

Technical characteristics such as satellite sensor field-of-view, bandwidth, viewing geometry, and time of measurement are all factors that would need to be resolved to optimally exploit sensor data from a diverse suite of satellites.

To address these concerns, the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program sponsored research and development at Air Force's Phillips Laboratory, to build the optimal cloud analysis model using state-of-the-science techniques.

This effort, Support of Environmental Requirements for Cloud Analysis and Archives (SERCAA), relies on

by Maj. Mike Remeika  
Air Force Phillips Laboratory

the strengths of sensors on both "stationary" and polar-orbiting satellites to identify low, mid-level, and high clouds anywhere and accurately distinguish them from "cloud look-alikes" in the imagery background — fallen snow, reflected sun glint on ocean and lake surfaces, bright desert sand, and reflected sunlight from vegetative land cover.

The baseline model was demonstrated successfully by qualitative comparison with the current operational model and was delivered in 1994 to Air Force Weather as part of the Cloud Depiction and Forecast System (CDFS) upgrade. Plans call for CDFS to be supporting the warfighter in 1998 at the Air Force Global Weather Center, the overall military center for satellite cloud analysis.

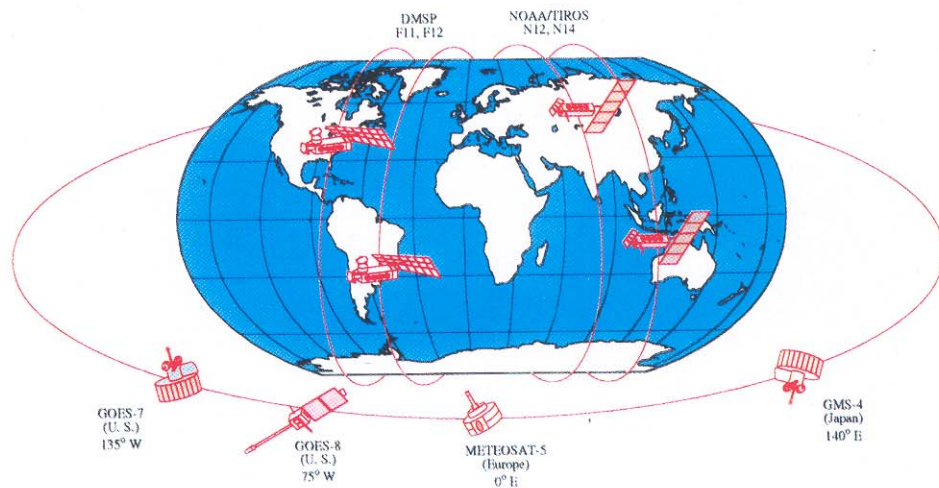
When implemented, CDFS will be global in scope, provide more than double the current level of detail and provide better cloud layer, height, and

type analysis products based on selective combining of data from different satellite sensors.

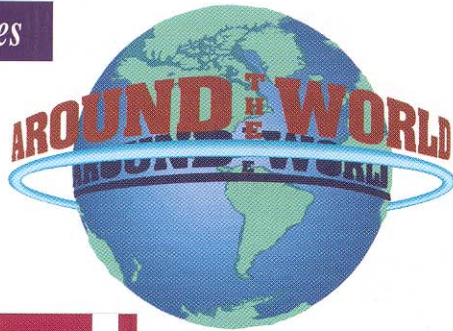
Knowing current weather patterns in more detail leads to better forecasts. A better "global picture" of clouds is expected to lead to a significant improvement in accuracy of cloud forecasting. This improvement in quality is required for war planners to confidently plan their specialized missions around the presence/absence of clouds in attainment of national defense objectives.

CDFS will not only enhance the utility of present and next generation satellite sensors, but will also support critical scientific studies on global climate change.

These studies focus on determining as many characteristics of cloud surroundings and cloud structure as possible — including temperature and moisture profiles; cloud particle size, shape, distribution; and the ability to see through high, thin clouds in day or night. For more information, contact me at (617) 377-3497 or E-mail "remeika@arcuni.plh.af.mil".



The different satellite platforms CDFS-II can and will use.



**AIR FORCE  
MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL**

Master Sgt. Chuck Ganiel, HQ Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Lt. Col. Tim Crum, OL-K, HQ AWS, Norman, Okla. (1st OLC)  
Master Sgt. Franklin E. Henry, HQ Air Mobility Command/Tanker Airlift Control Center, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Capt. Kenneth Simosko, HQ AMC/TACC, Scott AFB, Ill.



**AIR FORCE  
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Staff Sgt. Timothy J. Burke, Air Force Combat Climatology Center, Scott AFB, Ill.  
**ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL**  
Master Sgt. Milton Kooyman, 3rd Weather Squadron, Fort Hood, Texas



**AIR FORCE  
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Staff Sgt. Kent Schupp, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Staff Sgt. Brent A. Debrobander, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Staff Sgt. Michael J. Hudson, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Staff Sgt. Ken G. Weston, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Capt. Frederick D. Williams, USCENTAF/DOOW, Shaw AFB, S.C.  
Capt. David G. Biggar, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.

**ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL**

Tech. Sgt. Rudy B. Tingelhoff, 2nd Weather Flight, Fort McPherson, Ga.  
Staff Sgt. James D. Anderson, 2nd WF, Fort McPherson, Ga.  
Senior Airman Brian Newman, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
Senior Airman Chris Conklin, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Studer, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
Staff Sgt. Jim Barton, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
Airman 1st Class Christine Phillips, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas

**JOINT SERVICE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL**

Lt. Col. Karan T. Hofmann, USTRANSCOM/J3-ODM, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Maj. William R. George, USTRANSCOM/J3-ODM, Scott AFB, Ill.

**JOINT MERITORIOUS UNIT AWARD**

Lt. Col. Karan T. Hofmann, USTRANSCOM/J3-ODM, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Maj. William R. George, USTRANSCOM/J3-ODM, Scott AFB, Ill.

**PROMOTIONS**



William R. George, USTRANSCOM/J3-ODM, Scott AFB, Ill.



Peter T. Knox, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Layne E. Kaspar, 47th OSS/OSW, Laughlin AFB, Texas



Neal Sanger, 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La.



Jeffrey Fries, 6th WF, 18th WS, Fort Rucker, Ala.



Kenneth C. Kerns, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.  
William J. Murtagh, OL-A, 18th WS, Fort Belvoir, Va.



Erik R. Waugaman, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.



Rafael A. Pavwoski, 305th OSS/OSW, McGuire AFB, N.J.



Tamika M. Shipman, 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La.  
Scott Fuller, 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La.  
Christine A. Waicukauski, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Brian J. Deane, 47th OSS/OSW, Laughlin AFB, Texas  
Carol L. Glenn, 47th OSS/OSW, Laughlin AFB, Texas  
James C. Barnes, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.  
Jerrod Webb, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



Daniel A. Crosby, OL-A, 18th WS, Fort Belvoir, Va.

**HAILS AND FAREWELLS**

1st Lt. Troy D. Johnson — to Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, from HQ AMC/TACC, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Tech. Sgt. Scott A. Straw — to HQ AMC/TACC, Scott AFB, Ill., from Camp Humphries, Korea  
Capt. Kurt Bruske — to Air Force Academy, Colo., from HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii  
Maj. Mark Lesky — to HQ USAF, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., from HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii  
Airman Mike Herman — to HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii, from Yokota AB, Japan  
1st Lt. Neal Sanger — to Osan AB, Korea, from 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La.  
2nd Lt. David Vollmer — to 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La., from Maxwell AFB, Ala.  
Tech. Sgt. William T. Wheaton — to Fort Bliss, Texas, from 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La.  
Tech. Sgt. Jeff Frievalt — to 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La., from Palehua Solar Observatory, Hawaii  
Senior Airman Wes Robinson — to 21st ASOS/ASW, Peterson AFB, Colo., from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Senior Airman Amanda K. Hailey — to 47th OSS/OSW, Laughlin AFB, Texas, from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Capt. Don Harper — to 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo., from Utah State University  
Tech. Sgt. Dennis Flanagan — to 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo., from Osan AB, Korea  
Sgt. Terry Rhodes — to 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo., from Kunsan AB, Korea  
Senior Airman Wes Robinson — to 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo., from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Senior Airman John Jones — to 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo., from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Senior Airman Robert Forten — to 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo., from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Tech. Sgt. Jeff Roshach — to Osan AB, Korea, from 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La.  
Master Sgt. Curtis P. Cole — to 12th OSS/DOW, Randolph AFB, Texas, from AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.  
Airman 1st Class Kenny Sutton — to 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, from Randolph AFB, Texas  
Master Sgt. David Driskell — to Hickam AFB, Hawaii, from 20th ASOS, E Ft., Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Lt. Col. Billy G. Davis — to HQ AFSPC/DOOW, Peterson AFB, Colo., from USCENTAF/DOOW, Shaw AFB, S.C.  
Capt. Frederick Williams — to 334th TTMV, Keesler AFB, Miss., from USCENTAF/DOOW, Shaw AFB, S.C.  
Senior Airman Steven L. Atkinson — to RAF Mildenhall, U.K., from 27th OSS/OSW, Cannon AFB, N.M.  
Maj. William R. George — to the Pentagon, Washington, D.C., from USTRANSCOM/J3-ODM, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Maj. Martin J. Loveless — to USTRANSCOM/J3-ODM, Scott AFB, Ill., from Hanscom AFB, Mass.  
Tech. Sgt. Katherine A. Zupan — to OL-S, 18th WS, Fort Belvoir, Va., from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Airman Daniel A. Crosby — to OL-A, 18th WS, Fort Belvoir, from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Senior Airman Ryan Giles — to OL-B, 18th WS, Fort Eustis, Va., from Fort Bliss, Texas  
Senior Airman Valerie Wynn — to OL-C, 18th WS, Fort Knox, Ky., from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Senior Airman Charles Burdick — to 6th WF, 18th WS, Fort Rucker, Ala., from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Capt. David Holt — to 6th WF, 18th WS, Fort Rucker, Ala., from HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.  
1st Lt. Catherine J. Rourke — to 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C., from Ramstein AB, Germany  
Tech. Sgt. Randall L. Johnson — to 18th WS, Fort Bragg, Ky., from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Airman Craig S. Jackson — to 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C., from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Senior Master Sgt. David D. Cramblet — to Eglin AFB, Fla., from OL-B, 18th WS, Fort Eustis, Va.  
Airman 1st Class Kimberly S. Smallwood — to PALACE CHASE, from OL-C, 18th WS, Fort Knox, Ky.  
Maj. Dewey Harms — to 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla., from HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Capt. Richard Lucci — to 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla., from AFIT, Colorado State University  
Master Sgt. Rod Rabenneck — to Scott AFB, Ill., from 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.  
Lt. Col. Nathan Feldman — to 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas, from 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla. (New Commander)  
Senior Airman Victor Herrera — to 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas, from Keesler AFB, Miss.  
Airman Shanda Erving — to 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas, from Keesler AFB, Texas  
Lt. Col. William F. Burnette — to Heidelberg, Germany, from 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
Staff Sgt. Roger Duff — to Germany, from 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas

**REENLISTMENTS**

Staff Sgt. James C. Carr, 6th WF, 18th WS, Fort Rucker, Ala.  
Senior Airman Jamey C. Tate, 6th WF, 18th WS, Fort Rucker, Ala.  
Staff Sgt. Benjamin R. Touchstone, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.  
Randy G. Sabin, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.

**RETIREMENTS**

Chief Master Sgt. Johnny Kicklighter, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Lt. Col. Tim Crum, OL-K, HQ AWS, Norman, Okla.  
Lt. Col. Robert Hughes, HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii  
Master Sgt. Steve Broderick, HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii  
Capt. Nicholas Powell, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.

**SEPARATIONS**

Capt. Kenneth Simosko, HQ AMC/TACC, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Staff Sgt. Kevin D. Caris, 47th OSS/OSW, Laughlin AFB, Texas  
Sgt. Mark A. "Mo" Morris, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Senior Airman James K. Holley, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Senior Airman Darren Benston, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Senior Airman John W. Koelzer, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.

**EDUCATION**

**NCO Academy**  
Tech. Sgt. William Simcox, OL-C, 18th WS, Fort Knox, Ky.  
Tech. Sgt. Manuel Carrasquillo, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.  
**Airman Leadership School**  
Senior Airman Marc Gahagan, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Senior Airman John Jones, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.  
Senior Airman Jamey C. Tate, 6th WF, 18th WS, Fort Rucker, Ala. (John Levitow Award)  
Senior Airman John Gaona, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas

*Weather Apprentice Course graduates (Class 960528)*

Airman 1st Class Joshua M. Carter  
Airman Chadwick Rebeck  
Airman Daniel A. Crosby  
Airman 1st Class Esteban Deanda  
Airman Shanda L. Erving  
Airman Matthew Gagnon  
Airman Christopher Gilbert (Honor Graduate)  
Airman 1st Class Rodney Hattery  
Airman Edward Scherzer  
Airman 1st Class Joel F. Thompson, Jr. (Honor Graduate)

*Weather Apprentice Course graduates (Class 960617)*

Airman Michael J. Cialini (Distinguished Graduate)  
Airman Daniel Ciuro (Distinguished Graduate)  
Airman 1st Class Julianne M. Buerkert  
Airman Larry J. Stevens  
Airman Melissa A. Boyle  
Airman Robert Clark  
Airman Joy M. Donath  
Airman Derrick M. Gildner  
Airman Nikkola A. McClelland  
Airman Juan F. Paulino  
Airman Heather A. Takajky

*Weather Apprentice Course Graduates (Class 960701)*

Senior Airman Christopher K. Clarke  
Senior Airman Jason M. Johnson (Distinguished Graduate)  
Senior Airman Joseph T. Plante  
Airman Shaun N. Adams  
Airman Rhonda R. Adams-Caswell  
Airman Austin Fernandes  
Airman Jessica F. Waggoner  
Airman Latanya N. Williams  
Airman Angelle M. Cloutate  
Airman Donica L. Walker  
Airman Stephen D. Webb (Distinguished Graduate)

*Able Forecaster Course and Advanced Weather Course (Class 960508)*

Senior Airman James D. Brown — to Moody AFB, Ga.  
Senior Airman Melissa L. Dillworth — to Kirtland AFB, N.M.  
Senior Airman Laurie A. Hartwick — to Keesler AFB, Miss. (Distinguished Graduate, 100% average)  
Staff Sgt. Neal Nakyama — to Hawaii Air National Guard  
Senior Airman Brian A. Thomas — to Fort Bragg, N.C.

*WSR-88D Operator/Manager Course*

Staff Sgt. John M. Edwards, HQ AMC/TACC, Scott AFB, Ill.  
Capt. Layne E. Kaspar, 47th OSS/OSW, Laughlin AFB, Texas (Distinguished Graduate)  
2nd Lt. Michael Scott, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
Capt. Terry Hoffman, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas

*Air Command and Staff College graduates*

Maj. Patrick "Mike" M. Condray (Distinguished Graduate/Commander's Award for Research Excellence)  
Maj. Phillip Nostrand  
Maj. Francine Lockwood

*AWDS Systems Managers Course*

Staff Sgt. Dale Payne, OL-B, 18th WS, Fort Eustis, Va.  
Staff Sgt. William T. Marshall, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.  
Senior Airman John Sosa, 355th OSS/OSW, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.  
Master Sgt. William J. Murtagh, OL-A, 18th WS, Fort Belvoir, 18th WS.  
Tech. Sgt. Jim Baker, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas

*CCAF Degree in Weather Technology*

Tech. Sgt. Ramon Gonzalez-Molina, OL-B, 18th WS, Fort Eustis, Va.

*Doctorate of Philosophy (Meteorology)*

Capt. Glenn E. Van Knowe, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill. (St. Louis University)

*U.S. Army Air Assault School (Fort Drum, N.Y.)*

Airman 1st Class Jeremy Williams, 20th ASOS, E Flt., Fort Drum, N.Y.

*Meteorological Satellite Interpretation Course*

Staff Sgt. Carlton W. Hatfield, OL-A, 18th WS, Fort Belvoir, Va.

*Jumpmaster School*

Staff Sgt. Stephen M. Strait, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.

*U.S. Army Basic Airborne School*

1st Lt. Catherine J. Rourke, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Airman Erin S. Bowser, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Airman 1st Class Neil P. Gahn, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Airman Corey B. Lane, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
Airman Robin L. Yurckonis, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.

*Water Survival School*

Senior Airman Marc R. Gahagan, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.

*Platform Instructors Course*

Airman 1st Class Christine Phillips, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
Staff Sgt. John Robbins, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas

*Current Weather Techniques course*

Tech. Sgt. Edward Amrhein, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas

## AWARDS

*Joint AWS/AFCCC Company Grade Officer of the Quarter*

1st Lt. Jahna L. Schadt, HQ AWS/XON

*Joint AWS/AFCCC Company Grade Senior NCO of the Quarter*

Master Sgt. Richard Koch, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.

*Joint AWS/AFCCC NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Richard D. Slominsky, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.

*Joint AWS/AFCCC Company Grade Junior Enlisted of the Quarter*

Airman 1st Class William T. Baird, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.

*HQ AMC/TACC Senior NCO of the Quarter*

Master Sgt. Samuel Carter, HQ AMC/TACC, Scott AFB, Ill.

*HQ AMC/TACC NCO of the Quarter*

Tech. Sgt. Jerry L. Scholl, HQ AMC/TACC, Scott AFB, Ill.

*18th Operations Group NCO of the Quarter*

Tech. Sgt. William T. Wheaton, 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La.

*OL-B, 18th WS/18th WS/18th ASOG Senior NCO of the Quarter*

Master Sgt. Joshua Godsey, OL-B, 18th WS, Fort Eustis, Va.

*OL-B, 18th WS NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Willis Bearden, OL-B, 18th WS, Fort Eustis, Va.

*OL-B, 18th WS Airman of the Quarter*

Airman 1st Class Donnetta Walker, OL-B, 18th WS, Fort Eustis, Va.

*21st OSS NCO of the Quarter (4th qtr. 1995)*

Tech. Sgt. Manuel Carrasquillo, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.

*21st OSS NCO of the Quarter (1st qtr. 1996)*

Staff Sgt. Larry Rodgers, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.

*21st OSS/OSW Performance Award*

Mr. Frank Guy, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.

*305th OSS/OSW Airman of the Quarter*

Airman 1st Class Loleen Brown, 305th OSS/OSW, McGuire AFB, N.J.

*305th OSS/OSW NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Jim Darlow, 305th OSS/OSW, McGuire AFB, N.J.

*12th OSS Company Grade Officer of the Quarter*

Capt. Randall Bartlett, 12th OSS/DOW, Randolph AFB, Texas

*12th OSS NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Jimmy Odom, 12th OSS/DOW, Randolph AFB, Texas

*12th OSS/DOW Forecaster of the Month (June)*

Staff Sgt. Jimmy Odom, 12th OSS/DOW, Randolph AFB, Texas

*12th OSS/DOW Observer of the Month (June)*

Senior Airman Tammie Carroll, 12th OSS/DOW, Randolph AFB, Texas

*AFCCC Company Grade Officer of the Quarter*

Capt. Luke D. Whitney, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.

*AFCCC Senior NCO of the Quarter*

Master Sgt. Danette R. Peters, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.

*AFCCC NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Richard D. Slominsky, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.

*AFCCC Junior Enlisted of the Quarter*

Airman 1st Class William T. Baird, AFCCC, Scott AFB, Ill.

*334th TRS/TTMV Airman of the Quarter*

Senior Airman Jason Stewart, 334th TRS/TTMV, Keesler AFB, Miss.

*334th TRS/TTMV NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Garth McCulloch, 334th TRS/TTMV, Keesler AFB, Miss.

*334th TRS/TTMV Senior NCO of the Quarter*

Master Sgt. Cory Knowles, 334th TRS/TTMV, Keesler AFB, Miss.

*334th TRS/TTMV Civilian of the Quarter*

Mr. Martin Lester, 334th TRS/TTMV, Keesler AFB, Miss.

*334th TRS/TTMV and 334th TRS Junior Enlisted Instructor of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Lee Johnston, 334th TRS/TTMV, Keesler AFB, Miss.

*334th TRS/TTMV Senior Enlisted Instructor of the Quarter*

Tech. Sgt. Steven Whitehead, 334th TRS/TTMV, Keesler AFB, Miss.

*334th TRS/TTMV and 334th TRS Civilian Instructor of the Quarter*

Mr. Charles West, 334th TRS/TTMV, Keesler AFB, Miss.

*20th ASOS NCO of the Quarter*

Tech. Sgt. Darren C. Obermayer, 20th ASOS, E Flt., Fort Drum, N.Y.

*18th ASOG Airman of the Quarter*

Senior Airman Todd Lericos, 20th ASOS, E Flt., Fort Drum, N.Y.

*27th OSS Company Grade Officer of the Quarter*

2nd Lt. Michael W. Engel, 27th OSS/OSW, Cannon AFB, N.M.

*27th OSS Flight/CC of the Quarter*

Capt. James A. Kratzer, 27th OSS/OSW, Cannon AFB, N.M.

*27th OSS/OSW Airman of the Quarter*

Senior Airman Steven L. Atkinson, 27th OSS/OSW, Cannon AFB, N.M.

*27th OSS/OSW NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Joseph A. Kempfer, 27th OSS/OSW, Cannon AFB, N.M.

*18th WS Senior NCO of the Quarter*

Master Sgt. Robert J. Wonders, Dragon Flight, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.

*18th WS NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Roland Gonzalez, All American Flight, 18th WS, Fort Bragg, N.C.

*18th WS Airman of the Quarter*

Airman 1st Class Mark E. Was, OL-A, 18th WS, Fort Belvoir, Va.

*OL-A, 18th WS NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Richard W. Willard, OL-A, 18th WS, Fort Belvoir, Va.

*OL-A, 18th WS Airman of the Quarter*

Airman 1st Class Mark E. Was, OL-A, 18th WS, Fort Belvoir, Va.

*OL-B, 18th WS NCO of the Quarter*

Staff Sgt. Frank P. Accomando, OL-B, 18th WS, Fort Eustis, Va.

*OL-B, 18th WS Airman of the Quarter*

Airman 1st Class Salvatore Lumetta, OL-B, 18th WS, Fort Eustis, Va.

*412th OSS/OSW NCO of the Quarter*

Tech. Sgt. Hardy A. Frey, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.

*412th OSS/OSW Airman of the Quarter*

Senior Airman Beate Kinzel, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.

*45th WS Company Grade Officer of the Quarter*

1st Lt. Judy Konecky, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.

*45th WS Senior NCO of the Quarter*

Master Sgt. Rod Rabenneck, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.

*45th WS NCO of the Quarter*

Tech. Sgt. Klaus Lammers, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.

*45th Operations Group/45th WS Airman of the Quarter*

Airman Jim Brown, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.

See SALUTES,  
continued on Page 22

# Change.

Ever since its creation, the Combat Weather Facility (CWF) at Hurlburt Field, Fla., has been a hotbed for change. After starting life as Det. 4, Headquarters Air Weather Service, it was inactivated, then came back to life as the CWF ... then was designated as an Air Force Reinvention Laboratory ... well, now even more change is in store!

One more change takes place Oct. 1, 1996, when the Combat Weather Facility becomes the Air Force Combat Weather Center (AFCWC). (The office symbols have already changed:

the Combat Weather Technology Division, formerly DON, is now XT, the Technology Division, and the Combat Weather Exercise Division, formerly DOE, is now DO, the Operations Division.)

While change in the Air Force is inevitable, the center's mission remains the same. As the Air Force center of excellence for all battlespace weather issues, AFCWC develops and implements new doctrine, tactics, techniques, and technologies across Air Force Weather (AFW) to enhance the effectiveness of Air Force, Army, special operations, joint, and multinational combat weather forces. In addition, we will retain the capability to deploy equipment and expertise into a wartime theater or contingency operation in order to troubleshoot and solve critical weather-related shortfalls at all levels of operations.

The staff of 20 AWS and 13 Air Education and Training Command (AETC) personnel, along with our Army Research Laboratory (ARL) liaison, Mr. Gene Barnes, is already enhancing combat weather support to the joint warfighter.

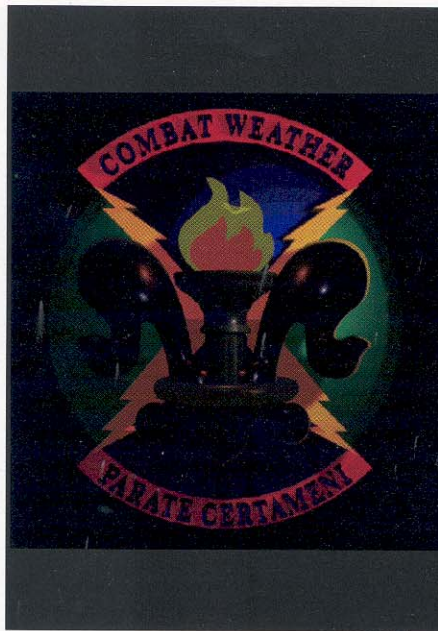
# Air Force Combat



by Capt. Steven Johnson  
Chief, Technology Division  
Air Force Combat Weather Center

Besides our name, another important change recently occurred. Col. (sel.) Malcolm E. Gosdin, Jr., assumed command July 31 from Lt. Col. Gary L. Sickler, who retired after more than 33 years of service. Colonel Gosdin was commander of 617th Weather Squadron in Germany and brings recent operational experience to AFCWC. As Staff Weather Officer to the United States Army Europe, he directed all weather support to Operations JOINT ENDEAVOR, DENY FLIGHT, AND PROVIDE HOPE, to name just a few.

One change Colonel Gosdin will oversee is the addition of a one-officer Operating Location (OL) at the Army Research Laboratory, White Sands Missile Range, N.M.



The Air Force Combat Weather Center, at Hurlburt Field, Fla., is the Air Force focal point for battlefield weather technology and serves as the primary center for training weather personnel on tactical weather and communications equipment.

Other CWF objectives include exploiting new technology, and developing new procedures to forecast weather; and testing new tactical meteorological and communications equipment and concepts.

# AFCWC Weather Center



Mirroring the role of Mr. Gene Barnes at AFCWC, this officer will be a liaison to the laboratory, allowing AFCWC to remain abreast of emerging Army weather support systems and procedures so that the best are consistently transitioned to AFW forces.

The operating location (OL-A) at Camp Blanding in north central Florida is staffed by Master Sgt. Bill Jones, and acts as a liaison to the Air National Guard's Weather Readiness Center (WRC). Two recent OL-A accomplishments include improving the Guard's AWDS Operator Course and playing a key role in the development of a Weather Team Basic Combat Skills Course similar to the Basic Weather Combat/Field Skills course taught at Hurlburt. Both these new courses will ensure the *Total*

*Force* is better trained using current AFW doctrine, tactics, techniques, and procedures.

Speaking of training, Det 1, 335 TRS/Combat Weather Training (CWT), the AETC Division of AFCWC, changed leadership in February of this year: Master Sgt. Mike Boettcher took the reins from Chief Master Sgt. Bob Platt, who retired after more than 30 years in service. CWT's current focus is to conduct the Basic Weather Combat/Field Skills Course for 3-level weather apprentice students. This course prepares each student for worldwide mobility responsibilities upon assignment to their first duty station.

In FY96 alone, 24 Combat/Field Skills Courses were taught to more than 250 future weather warriors. When not teaching C/FSs,

CWT instructors provide supplemental training on the Quick Reaction Communications Terminal (QRCT)/Goldwing, High Frequency Network Control, Rapid Deployable Imagery Terminal (RDIT), Transportable Automated Weather Distribution System (TAWDS), and Miniature Rawinsonde (MARWIN) System.

Courses under development cover the Small Tactical Terminal (STT) and the new Interim Tactical Weather Radar (ITWR) which will be fielded to AFCWC and three locations in Saudi Arabia during 2FY97. AFCWC's system will be used to train personnel enroute to these overseas locations just as we train on the RDIT today. The STT course is scheduled to replace today's RDIT course.

### Reinvention Initiatives

Despite the many changes outlined above, AFCWC's focus remains on the mission. Two major AFCWC reinvention initiatives will help define service weather support interoperability for the Unified Commands and rewrite Army weather support doctrine.

The annual Joint Chiefs of Staff-sponsored Joint Warrior Interoperability Demonstration (JWID) is a major Command, Control, Communication, Computers, and Intelligence (C4I) event designed to test new technologies to shape the battlespace of the future. The goal of JWID is to pro-

vide a fully-interoperable C4I architecture to the joint warfighter.

### BOARD

Our Battlespace Operations, Applications, and Readiness Digest (BOARD) publications, Battlespace For Your Information (BFYI), and Compact Library of Information and Procedures (CLIP) publications, are evolving based on user feedback. Each is now targeted for monthly production.

### BFYI

BFYIs are intended to provide a reference to, or an overview of, a particular subject. Future installments are timed to coincide with fielding of new AFW systems and software. BFYIs are also produced in response to MAJCOM requests.

### CLIPs

CLIPs are quick references to frequently needed information in a handy, deployable format. They cover the main points of information and tasks not routinely used or accomplished. If you haven't already begun assembling your CLIPs into a flight crew checklist, we suggest you do so.

### FORECAST CHALLENGE

Even our ongoing projects like FORECAST CHALLENGE (FC) have changed for the better. The biggest change will be in team composition: to support the "Back to Basics" program, an Operational, Instructor, or Command Meteorologist will be added to each team -- a radical departure from previous enlisted-only competitions.

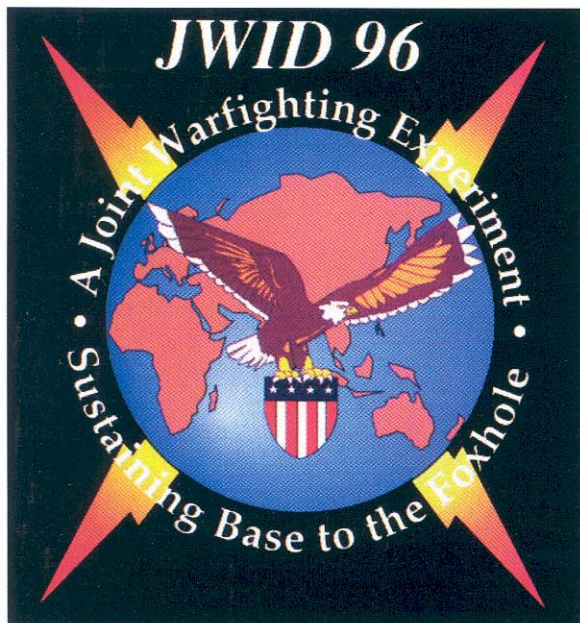
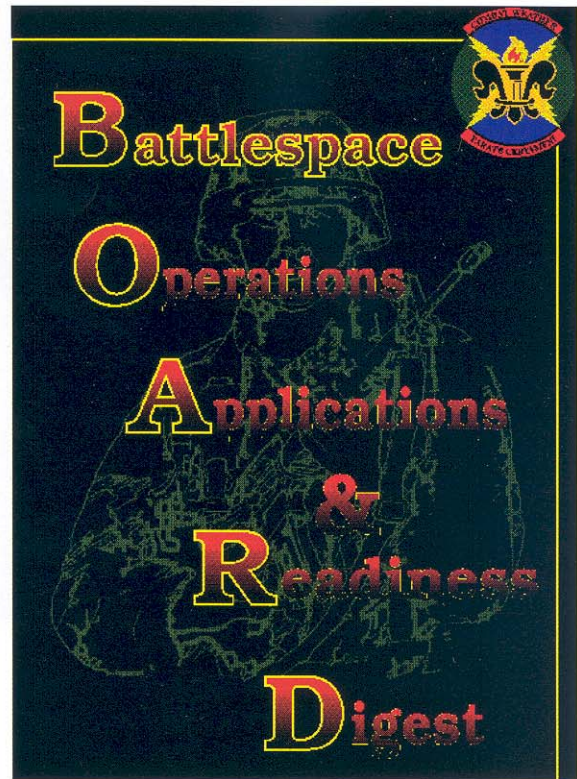
In addition, we expect to see a few more

teams this year as U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Pacific Air Forces were each invited to send an Army and Air Force team as ACC has done in the past. We've also added plain language, non-operational forecasts and DD 175-1 type flight weather briefings to the competition scenario.

Scoring procedures have been through major overhauls. In past competitions, particular elements or categories were scored at predetermined times. For example, current weather and winds used to be verified only at the 6, 12, 18, and 24 hour points, the altimeter setting wasn't scored at all, and ceiling and visibility were scored as a category — a team could be completely wrong in their ceiling or visibility forecast, yet predict the category correctly! We'll now score all weather parameters independently at each TAF hour.

We also plan to reward "on-target" forecasts with significantly more points than "close" forecasts, i.e. we'll penalize hedging.

The last change is adding a penalty for missed weather warnings and weather advisories. Since missed warnings and advisories could seriously impact opera-



tions, we'll deduct points if either is not issued when required. All of these scoring changes were made for one simple reason: to ensure the *best* team wins. FC 97 is tentatively scheduled for April, and it should be the most challenging event to date. Hope to see you there!

### Weather Forecasting Proficiency Exercises (WFPE)

**A**long with improvements to FORECAST CHALLENGE, we've changed the WFPE format based on the feedback from over 500 survey responses. WFPEs are now better organized and a more useful tool for maintaining limited data forecasting proficiency. Some of the changes are: disseminating the WFPE electronically with an automatic decompression and installation tool, including an overview of the WFPE package, and including a checklist for the WFPE administrator.

### Combat Weather Internship Program (CWIP)

Our Weather Warrior Internship Program has changed its name to the Combat Weather Internship Program (CWIP). Similar to HQ AWS/XON's Weather Internship Program, the CWIP will give talented forecasters an opportunity to exploit various aspects of tactical systems with the aid of AFCWC experts but without the distractions of day-to-day weather station operations. By 3FY97, AFCWC will have virtually all of the current and soon-to-be fielded tactical weather systems and software packages.

If you have an idea on how to improve your deployed forecasting or observing capabilities, for example, a better way to produce forecast Skew-T diagrams on STT, submit a proposal to AFCWC/XT describing your goal and the systems you require. Please make your proposals clear and concise; we'll review them quarterly and select one for implementation. AFCWC will fund for the associated TDY expenses.

### System Evaluations and Operational Testing

In concert with our reinvention initiatives, we're working hard to improve our technology base of METOC systems for research and development (R&D) and test activities. Currently in our laboratory we have a (beta) TFS Version 2 and a new Enhanced STT. Looking ahead to FY97, we will acquire a SOCRATES METOC, an IMETS Block II and other systems under development by AWS and commercial vendors. Our goal for such acquisitions is to provide you with a comparative assessment of each system's capabilities as well as to devise new techniques for employing these systems. Look for the information to be crossfed in the form of BYFIs and CLIPs.

Maintaining our operational testing role, we're one of two test sites for the STT Follow-on Test and Evaluation (FOT&E) in October and November of this year. As with our role in the Initial Operational Test and Evaluation, we will ensure previously flagged problems were corrected and that the system is ready for fielding. We will take this opportunity to perform interface testing with TFS.

The two systems will be connected on a local area network (LAN) to assess the capability of the systems to work

together. There will also be test personnel at Shaw AFB SC to test the TFS's ability to send satellite imagery and products between systems linked by satellite communications.

Another R&D effort we're involved with is the Automated Thermal Injury Risk Management System (ATIRMS) which is designed to assess environmental impacts to personnel.

ATIRMS is a direct result of the four weather-related Ranger casualties which occurred during training on the massive Eglin range complex.

Weather data from automated sensors on the range is relayed to ATIRMS where a weather module, combined with terrain data and a thermal stress model, calculates the effects on the human body.

Not only does it predict heat effects, it also calculates the impact of cold weather, including water immersion, which is what caused the Ranger fatalities. As ATIRMS is tested and refined, we will work to implement this capability across the Army and Air Force.

As you can see, we are changing for the better. Constantly improving our capabilities, we are developing new ways of performing combat weather operations and testing them in major warfighting events.

All our efforts are targeted at the objective *Parate Certameni -- Be Combat Ready!*



*The entire Small Tactical Terminal package.*

# Tropical Cyclone Tracking

## AFGWC Provides A New Way To Look At Hurricanes And Typhoons



Our Scientific Services Branch has developed a new capability to display the current and forecast positions for tropical cyclones around the world.

The Tropical Cyclone Tracking System (TCTRACKS) runs on a SUN workstation and is a prototype software program that uses fourth-generation language technology.

The software reads teletype data from the Automated Weather Network (AWN) and detects, decodes, and displays warnings/advisories/forecasts from the Joint Typhoon Warning Center in Guam, the Tropical Prediction Center and National Hurricane Center in Coral Gables, Fla., the Central Pacific Hurricane Center in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and the Naval Pacific Meteorology and Oceanography Center, also in Pearl Harbor.

TCTRACKS was developed to overcome persistent shortfalls experienced last hurricane season with the use of our commercial software. Forecasters manually monitored the AWN and then "fat-fingered" the data into the computer to make graphics of tropical cyclone warnings -- a very time consuming process.

by Lt. Paul J. McCrone (USN)  
Advanced Technology  
Exploitation Officer

The tracks were often quite late (as much as three hours) and in some cases went undone due to higher priority tasks that also precluded us from doing any storm plots for systems in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean areas.

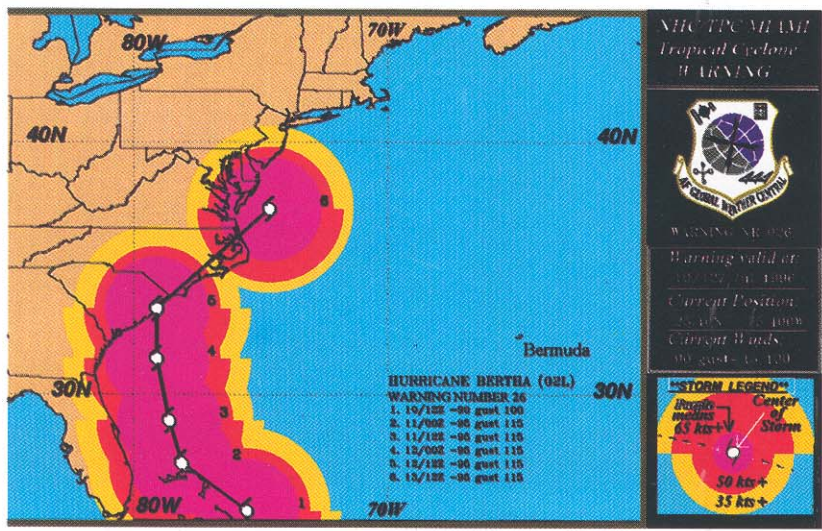
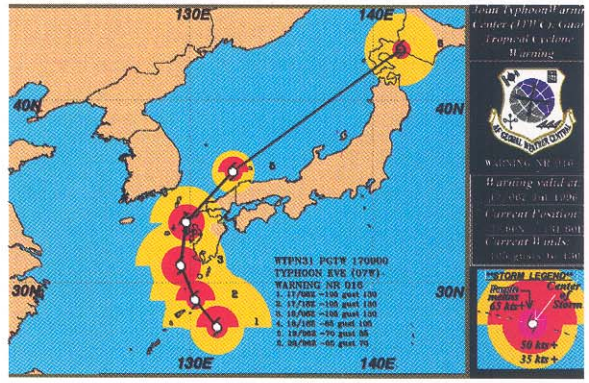
TCTRACKS alleviates these problems by continuously monitoring the AWN and automatically generating visualization products whenever a tropical cyclone bulletin is intercepted. Now, customers have worldwide coverage of tropical cyclone forecasts from ALL warning agencies, without the costly expenditure of manual labor.

We've developed customized map backgrounds that depict land areas in brown and oceans in blue.

In addition, we've color-coded the storm's wind speeds to distinguish those areas experiencing gale (35-49 knots),

tropical storm (50-64 kts.), and hurricane/typhoon (65 kts. and higher) winds.

The resulting visualizations make excellent briefing tools that can be easily imported into PowerPoint or other presentation graphics programs.



TCTRACKS currently takes teletype data from the AWN, stores the data on a PC, and routes it to a workstation. The workstation then scans the alphanumeric bulletin for warnings, and if a warning is detected, it is processed and turned into a map and storm plot (in GIF format).

Finally, the visualization is transferred to our AF Dial-In Subsystem (AFDIS) and AF Weather Information Network (AFWIN) product servers for retrieval by AFDIS and AFWIN field users. The GIF filename follows a certain convention: "TW" + AWN product title + ".GIF." For example, Typhoon Eve in the western Pacific, under MANOP WWTPN31 PGTW, would be TWWTN31.GIF.

The TCTRACKS products are available on AFDIS by simply calling up the filename and are found in the same lo-

See AFGWC,  
continued on Page 22



# Quality Customer Service

## Understanding How To Survive And Thrive

**W**hat is excellence in customer service? What do organizations have to do in order to retain customers? What strategies will ensure that customer service becomes and remains a value that permeates every aspect of organizational life?

These are a few questions that today's organizational managers are constantly asking themselves. These are questions that you should be asking yourself.

The concept of consistent, excellent customer service is more complex than ever. Customers are more demanding and more discerning, and no longer satisfied with acceptable service — they demand stellar performances.

Organizations that fully embrace the philosophy of the total customer service organization will not only survive, but thrive in upcoming years.

Managers who want to lead those organizations in that quest for excellence must identify what they need to do to ensure their organizations are among that select group.

### Customer Service Measurements

**T**he key principle is to measure the right things right — in other words, understand what is important to the customers and measure those things accurately and consistently.

Measurements for customer service should answer the following questions:

- What is the simplest system to track customer service results over time?
- What are the strategic oppor-

by Staff Sgt. Richard D. Slominsky  
AFCCC Quality Advisor

tunities to improve customer satisfaction?

- What actions will have the biggest payoff?

- How do you know if your actions have improved customer service?

Our new customer service survey form measures the timeliness of our delivered product, and also overall satisfaction with the products.

**"The concept of consistent, excellent customer service is more complex than ever. Customers are more demanding and more discerning, and no longer satisfied with acceptable service — they demand stellar performances."**

*Staff Sgt. Richard D. Slominsky*  
AFCCC Quality Advisor



The areas covered in the survey rate the customer service aspect of the center. These areas include: professionalism, availability, knowledge of AFCCC services, and timeliness in coordinating your request.

Our customers also can rate: quality, useability, completeness, and how AFCCC meets their requirements. This survey is readily available and convenient for the customer on the AFCCC homepage.

### Customer Service Is Everybody's Job

**E**veryone in your organization must know the importance of customer service. Good cus-

tomers service starts with good training.

At AFCCC, we have an Exceptional Customer Service Course. This course is mandatory for all people assigned to the center. The aim of the course is to increase every member's buy-in to customer service. The course met with great reviews, and other organizations have requested the course be made available to them.

Our Public Relations (PR) Team lets our customers know that if they are unhappy with the support given them, they can contact the AFCCC commander directly ... even at home. The sun doesn't set without our people getting back to the customer and letting them know that we are working their problem/concern.

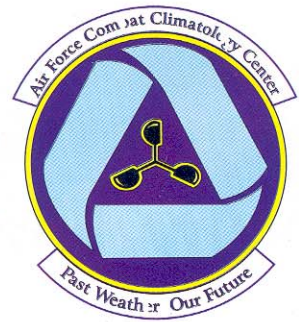
Here are a few suggestions that have worked at AFCCC that may help your organization keep your customers happy:

1. If you have a mission statement, have it posted everywhere. Be creative about how you explain what is expected.

2. Regularly recognize personnel who have gone that extra mile in serving your customers. Write up the incident including a photo of the person, post it in a special place of honor.

3. Why not give management an opportunity for hands-on experience with customer service? Every few weeks have each of them spend some time on the front lines serving customers!

4. Hold regular meetings for people who have the most contact with your customers and ask them: what are the questions your customers most often ask about your product or service? What is the complaint people hear the most from your customers? What do customers find most beneficial about your product or service?



Have a story about your unit or a weather person you would like to share with your weather brethren? Send it by mail, by fax, or by E-Mail to the address on Page 2 and we'll get it printed as soon as possible.

## Why Not, Minot !?

by Staff Sgt. Scott E. Wirebaugh  
Minot AFB, N.D.

Just the mention of Minot AFB, N.D., is sometimes enough to send chills down the spine of even the most seasoned of Air Force personnel. The severe winter weather and remoteness have always been a primary deterrent for Air Force personnel from choosing the northern North Dakota base for an assignment.

But more than 30 Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and Army National Guard units throughout the North Central and Northeastern United States and California are choosing Minot for their weather services.

Why Minot? Closures and realignments of Plattsburgh and Griffiss AFBs in New York, K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich., and March AFB, Calif., left many reserve units without weather services. In October 1994, the commander of Air Combat Command approved the creation of the Reserve Component Unit (RCU) Weather Cell at Minot AFB.

Despite severe manning, equipment and data shortages — and the fact that it had never been done before — the RCU Weather Cell began operations in April 1995 and became part of the 5th Operational Support Squadron's Weather Flight aligned under the 5th Bomb Wing.

The RCU Weather Cell is unique for several reasons. First, its customers are geographically separated and its mission is spread over a 10-state region ranging from "sea to shining sea" -- in this case, Maine to California. It also is a prototype in providing weather services that encompass new concepts and methods. The RCU Weather Cell is dedicated to

# OBSERVATIONS

providing weather services solely to Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and Army National Guard missions.

The cell provides flight weather briefings to a variety of Department of Defense aircraft, issues point weather warnings, worldwide aerial refueling forecasts, air drop missions, alert weather packages, exercise support, deployment/redeployment briefings, and climatology and plain language forecasts.

Weather Cell forecasters utilize AWDS, AFDIS, NODDS, NEXRAD Information Dissemination System and lightning detection data to monitor weather conditions and prepare weather products.

Due to the geographical separation of the RCU Weather Cell from its customers, it does not have the same face-to-face interaction as a base weather station. Therefore, the primary method of disseminating information is by fax and telephone. Transmission of this information by electronic mail -- E-mail -- is a possibility in the future.

The RCU Weather Cell is a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week operation and has a manning authorization of 12 active duty Air Force forecasters including a NCOIC and AWDS manager. The average monthly workload consists of 350 DD Form 175-1s, 375 multiple-page weather flimsies, relay of 250 point weather warnings and numerous miscellaneous requests for weather information.

The goal of the RCU Weather Support Cell is to be a force multiplier and increase the safety and effectiveness of the units that it supports.

Master Sgt. Stanley Grell, Chief, Weather Cell Operations, attributes the successful activation of the new weather cell and positive customer feedback to the enthusiasm and dedication of the forecasters.

"Our customers were initially skeptical of getting their weather support

from Minot AFB, N.D.," Grell said. "However, that early skepticism quickly subsided and was replaced by appreciation for dedicated quality weather services."

Why not Minot? Why not!

## Guard Weather Troops Learn "Hang-Ups" Of Assault Training

by Tech. Sgt. Ken Wheeler  
202nd Weather Flight  
Otis ANGB, Mass.

Dangling at the end of a 50-foot rope underneath a helicopter may not be the idea of fun for most people, but Staff Sgt. Brian Archer and Gary Silvia, both of the 202nd Weather Flight, proved they were "all that they could be" by completing the Army Air Assault Course at Fort Drum, N.Y.

The two weather observers were the only Air National Guard personnel in a class of 150 who started the grueling two-week course and tied for third place among the 79 who finished.

"We (the weather flight) support the Army, which performs air assault," Archer said, explaining why the two observers took the course. "Now we can tailor our products (weather forecasts) to meet our customer's needs. And if the 202nd WF needed to be involved in an Army air assault, we can train the other members of our unit."

Silvia, from Newport, R.I., said the part of training that would most affect the 202nd WF would probably be sling loading, in which bulky equipment can be hung in cargo nets be-

# FROM THE FIELD

neath helicopters to be transported into a combat location.

"We can rappel into an area where a helicopter can't land," Archer said. "We would then take weather observations and radio back with information to be used to brief pilots of other aircraft."

**B**efore attending the course, the two observers underwent an intense Army physical exam involving push-ups, sit-ups, and a two-mile run.

After arriving at Fort Drum, the course began in earnest almost immediately, with a check of appropriate gear that was carried at all times in a rucksack. This included a full complement of uniforms, Kevlar helmet and M-16 rifle.

Then it was off to the obstacle course, during which "you started off jogging in place," Silvia said. "You don't stop ... it seems like it's the course instructor's job to keep you from stopping. And every time your left foot hits the ground, you had to shout 'air assault.'"

The course started with a confidence climb, which involved scaling up beams that were three to four feet apart and rose to a height of 50 feet. From there, they went on to the "tough one." This meant climbing a 30-foot rope, without knots, to a platform, then across a 20-foot ladder to another platform, and down a cargo net.

"The climb up the rope seemed to be the most difficult for many of the participants," Silvia said.

They then jogged to their next obstacle, a series of chest-high hurdles they had to climb over before crawling under barbed wire and jumping another series of hurdles. In between, at "rest stops," they

were "allowed" to do more push-ups, jumping jacks and jogging in place.

Because of his Air Force ties, the obstacle course instructors also made Silvia pretend he was an F-16 and "fly" around while he was jogging.

After the obstacle course, the people were marched back to the barracks where those who didn't pass the course were pulled out of line. Those who passed were rewarded with a two-mile run.

Then they actually got to begin the air assault course!

Phase one consisted of learning how to set up an air operation. During a typical Army operation, after the infantry is sent in to secure an area, the reconnaissance troops, such as weather people, are flown in to provide intelligence for Army units coming in later.

Silvia said they learned how to load helicopters, control pickup and landing zones, and helicopter control signals.

"We had to learn how to assess and

**"We got a lot of good information that we will be able to use in servicing our Army customers. It was a good experience ... that I wouldn't want to repeat."**

**Staff Sgt. Brian Archer  
202nd Weather Flight, ANG**



mark the zones for helicopters and guide them in, and we actually performed a simulated combat operation with the helicopter, including setting up medical evacuation operations," Silvia said.

During the second phase, the weather troops were instructed in sling-loading operations, which Archer and Silvia agreed would be most useful for their missions.

"We have a lot of bulky equipment,"

Archer said. "But with a helicopter, the equipment can be airlifted over mountains and rivers and dropped into another location to start operations."

**A**s a part of phase two, they learned to prepare and rig a variety of cargo loads to be airlifted by helicopter. "It was critical to learn this phase correctly, because if a load of cargo shifts while being carried, it could cause the helicopter to crash," Archer said.

During testing in this part of the training, participants had two minutes to find four errors that were planted in the cargo rigs by the instructors. In this section, 21 people flunked out because they couldn't find the errors in time.

Phase three involved rappelling — the highlight for both the Air Force observers.

"We learned how to make a seat out of a section of rope and rappel safely," Archer said. The rappelling involved jumping from a 48-foot tower with a 40-pound rucksack, Kevlar helmet and M-16 and "braking four times on the way to the ground. "You had to make sure you tied yourself in right to the D-ring ... or it was a long way down."

**A**rcher said one of the hardest things to learn was keeping a high grip on the rappelling rope while keeping your body in an L-shaped position. "You could easily get tilted back by the weight of the rucksack. You didn't want to hit the ground head first."

The finale of the training was a 12-mile hike that they each completed in three hours.

"The Army is tradition-oriented and the closing ceremony was no exception," Archer said. "The emblem of the course is considered blood wings because of the way they are put on your chest. The instructor comes up to you, puts his hand on your back to make sure you won't move back, and punches the wings into your chest, drawing blood."

"We got a lot of good information that we will be able to use in servicing our Army customers," Archer said. "It was a good experience ... that I wouldn't want to repeat."



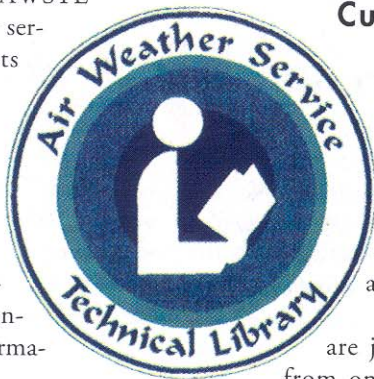
## The AWS Technical Library Your One-Stop Shop for Information

**N**eed a sunrise or sunset table for Saudi Arabia? Or how about climatic data for Bosnia? If so, your first stop should be the Air Weather Service Technical Library (AWSTL). The AWSTL has this type of information and much more.

Located at Scott AFB, Ill., the AWSTL is the only technical information center in the Department of Defense (DoD) dedicated to military meteorology. With its growing collection of nearly 500,000 documents, the AWSTL meets the scientific and technical information needs of Air Force Weather operations.

Computerized on-line search and Internet access to bibliographic retrieval capabilities allow the AWSTL staff to provide library service to meteorologists around the world. Technology makes it possible for instant communication to nearly every other library, information center, or private vendor that provides scientific and technical information.

In addition to these "invisible" resources, conventional reading and research facilities are also available for local users.



# AFCCC begins move to Asheville, N.C., in 1997

**T**he Air Force Combat Climatology Center (AFCCC) will begin moving operations from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., to Asheville, N.C., during the summer of 1997. The new center is expected to be fully operational by the end of 1998.

The action consolidates climatological functions currently being performed by the center and by the center's Operating Location A, currently located in Asheville.

An AFCCC advance team of five people will move to Asheville by the end of next summer to begin establishing technical, equipment and personnel support systems to accommodate incoming personnel and operations.

The relocation, driven by DoD-mandated drawdown requirements,

will result in a consolidation of several AFCCC functions and will result in about a 45percent decrease in manpower authorizations, while allowing the Air Weather Service to continue to effectively meet mission requirements.

Most of the planned manpower cuts will occur during the October, 1998 to September, 1999 timeframe.

While the Air Weather Service is working to optimize the civilian/military mix at the new center, determinations as to which specific military or civilian positions will be eliminated as a result of the consolidation have not yet been determined.

The military manpower to be gained at Asheville include officer and noncommissioned officer meteorology and computer science specialists.



Is there anything the AWSTL can't do? Well, the staff can't buy books or subscriptions for other than AWS direct reporting units (other AFW units receive those services from base or command libraries), but they are here to serve you in any other way.

### Customer Service Team

Meteorologists trained in bibliographic search techniques are working hard for both local AWSTL users and Air Force weather units around the world.

Customers anywhere are just a phone call away from one of the largest "mail order" information stores in DoD. Just telephone the customer service section, DSN 576-6648, when in need of extracted bits of information, answers

to reference questions, comprehensive bibliographic lists, or actual documents. This team can provide almost any data or document in the atmospheric sciences or related disciplines.

Orders for documents or information can be submitted by mail or by telephone. The AWSTL is open at 1200Z for European phone calls.

However, please hold requests for upcoming documents until firm dates of publication are posted in your Ops Digest or the catalog of Air Force weather technical publications.

### Publishing Team

The technical editors and graphics specialist on the publishing team are here to review, edit and format your technical manuscripts. They also create graphics, and arrange for publication and initial distribution of Air Force weather documents.

Furthermore, there is an on-staff

translator who can turn French, Russian, German, or Spanish weather documents into English. Arrangements can be made to translate other languages, or long documents, by other agencies.

The following is a list of publications prepared and distributed so far this year:

- AFCCC/TN—96/001, *Directory of Climatic Databases Available from OLA, AFCCC.*
- AFCCC/TN—96/002, *Nation-wide Lightning Climatology.*
- AFCCC/TN—96/003, *Lightning Climatologies for Low-level Flying Routes in the United States.*
- AFCCC/TN—96/004, *Lightning Climatology for Eglin AFB, Fla.*
- AFCCC/TN—96/005, *Lightning Climatology for Holloman AFB, N.M.*
- AFCCC/TN—96/006, *Evaluation of the Homogeneity of Cloud Cover Climatology in Large Scale Regions*
- AFCCC/TN—96/007, *Lightning Climatology for Maxwell AFB, Ala.*
- AFCCC/TN—96/008, *Lightning Climatology for Nellis AFB, Nev.*
- AFCCC/TN—96/009, *Fog Study for Maxwell AFB, Ala., March 1996*
- AFCCC/TN—96/010, *Thunderstorm Study of Maxwell AFB, Ala.*
- AFCCC/UH—96/001,

*DATASAV2 Upper-Air Database Users Handbook*

- AFCCC/UH—96/002, *ASPAM Quick Reference Users Handbook*
- AFCCC/UH—96/003, *ASPAM Held Output Users Handbook*
- AFCCC/UH—96/004, *Satellite Derived Vertical Moisture Sounding Database Users Handbook*
- AFCCC/UH—96/005, *Climatology of Cloud Statistics Users Handbook*
- AWS/TN—96/001, *Use of Polar-Orbiting Satellite Data by Air Force Weather (Submitted by Staff Sgt. Kris Byrnside, AWSTL, DSN 576-6648, E-Mail: "awstl@thunder.safb.af.mil". Originally printed in the AWS Ops Digest)*

## ACC Weather Support Unit

The Air Combat Command (ACC) Weather Support Unit (AOS/AOW), located at Langley AFB, Va., provides Mission Control Forecasts (MCFs) for ACC and Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed fighter and bomber movements throughout the world (e.g. "Coronet" and "Global Power" movements).

The MCF is the official weather forecast for these aircraft movements and must not be deviated from except when required by immediate operational priority or safety of flight (Ref.: COMACC D/R Plan 100 (Annex H) and ACCI 15-150). MCFs provide field units everything they need to brief enroute and air refueling weather to aircrews including: flight level hazards, significant clouds/visibility, winds, and a brief forecast discussion.

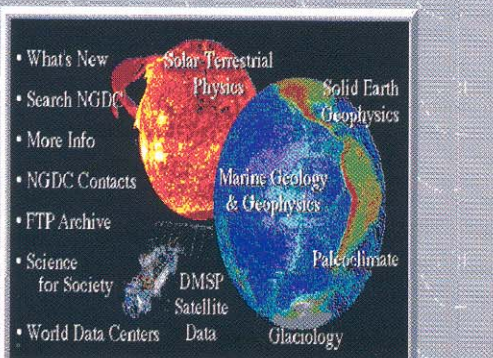
MCFs are issued via the Automated Weather Network (AWN) under the headers FOXX(1-10) KLFC, not later than 5 hours prior to launch. For classified missions, or other special circumstances, MCFs will be issued via standard message channels (AUTODIN, etc.). As a companion product, AOW also produces a time-phased horizontal weather depiction (HWD) that is available 5 hours prior to launch. The HWD is routinely sent to departure base weather units.

In recent weeks, we've learned that many units aren't aware of, or disregard, the fact that we provide MCFs/HWDs for these missions and ultimately do a lot of unnecessary work. Try us, you'll like us! Our products

See OBTW,  
continued on Page 23

# Put THIS on your "Hot List"

## National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC)



The National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) manages environmental data in the fields of marine geology and geophysics, paleoclimatology, solar-terrestrial physics, solid earth geophysics, and glaciology (snow and ice). In each of these fields, NGDC also operates a World Data Center discipline center.

There are also links to the U.S. Department of Commerce and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Web surfers can also subscribe to a specialized mailing list from NGDC.

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/ngdc.html>

# SALUTES,

*continued from Page 11*

### First Official Observation certificate

Airman Melanie Kytola, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
 Airman 1st Class James Kramer, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
 Airman John Barnes, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
 Airman Scott Crosby, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas  
 Airman Daniel Clarke, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### Certified as Weather Observer

Airman 1st Class Jerrod Webb, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.  
 Airman James McKenzie, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.  
 Staff Sgt. Joni Conway, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.

### BIRTHS

Tyler Scott Rohl — to Staff Sgt. Kurt and Mrs. Julie Rohl, 47th OSS/OSW, Laughlin AFB, Texas  
 Angela Marie Mann — to Senior Airman Phillip and Mrs. Yong Sook Mann, 334th TRS/TTMV, Keesler AFB, Miss.  
 Samuel Elias Crook — to 1st Lt. Barry and Mrs. Gretchen Crook, 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska  
 Kiana Danielle Burciaga — to Airman 1st Class Juan and Mrs. Debbi Burciaga, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.

### MARRIAGES

Tech. Sgt. Patrick Haugh, 325th OSS/OSW, Tyndall AFB, Fla., to 2nd Lt. Heidi Strader, 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska

## AFGWC,

*continued from Page 16*

cation as the regular Tropical Cyclone products. On AFWIN, simply go to the Tropical Section and look under the "Forecaster Generated and Trop Cyc Tracks" section. TCTRACKS updates every 6 hours and the new products are available at 05, 11, 17, and 23Z.

Since TCTRACKS is a prototype program, there are several limitations. The storm tracks are built from bulletins received over the AWN and garbled data may result in erroneous plots. We're working an initiative to validate this data prior to creating the products. The mapping database is from 1991, so minor discrepancies in current geopolitical boundaries will exist.

Finally, the entire creation and dissemination process takes place in the Scientific Services Branch which is only manned during normal duty hours. Therefore, if a problem arises during non-duty hours, it may take several hours before it's identified.

Our Ops Center (manned 24 hours a day) periodically monitors AFWIN to ensure the products are updating, but higher priority taskings may preempt this safeguard.

We're working hard to ensure you receive high-quality, timely, tropical cyclone visualizations. If you have specific questions on the TCTRACKS program, contact AFGWC/DON at DSN 271-2821 (CMCL (402) 294-2821). If you have any other feedback or suggestions for improving these products, please contact our Current Operations Branch at DSN 271-1626 (CMCL (402) 294-1626).

## Air Force Weather Staff Sergeant Selectees



<u>NAME</u>	<u>BASE</u>	<u>COMMAND</u>
Ableiter, Cassandra	McConnell AFB, Kan.	AMC
Baker, Shawn A.	Eielson AFB, Alaska	PACAF
Bielas, Michael P.	Charleston AFB, S.C.	AMC
Briggs, Thomas E. Jr.	Cannon AFB, N.M.	ACC
Brown, Kimberly M.	Langley AFB, Va.	ACC
Butler, Scott E.	Holloman AFB, N.M.	ACC
Cardenas, Richard N.	RAF Mildenhall, U.K.	USAFE
Champion, Werner L.	Moody AFB, Ga.	ACC
Christian, Adam C.	Charleston AFB, S.C.	AMC
Ellingson, Gary L.	Elmendorf AFB, Alaska	PACAF
Entwistle, Jeremy A.	Altus AFB, Okla.	AETC
Evans, Keith F.	Whiteman AFB, Mo.	ACC
Fant, Connie H.	Pope AFB, N.C.	ACC
Fischer, Michael J.	March AFB, Calif.	AMC
Gahagan, Marc R.	Pope AFB, N.C.	ACC
George, James S.	Osan AB, Korea	PACAF
Gore, Lisa R.	Dyess AFB, Texas	ACC
Granniss, David J.	RAF Mildenhall, U.K.	USAFE
Gray, David	Eglin AFB, Fla.	AFMC
Greenwood, William	Altus AFB, Okla.	ACC
Grubbs, Toby P.	Beale AFB, Calif.	ACC
Haney, Michele L.	Offutt AFB, Neb.	AWS
Hansen, Sean C.	Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany	USAFE
Haught, Bryan G.	Dyess AFB, Texas	ACC
Heinrich, James A.	Keesler AFB, Miss.	AETC
Henderson, Daniel D.	Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany	USAFE
Higgins, Dale J. Jr.	Offutt AFB, Neb.	AWS
Hines, Allen S.	Patrick AFB, Fla.	AFIC
Hoffman, Charles R.	Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany	USAFE
Joyce, David N.	Eglin AFB, Fla.	AFMC
Kessler, Ronald W. J.	Travis AFB, Calif.	AMC
Krukiel, Michael F.	Reese AFB, Texas	AETC
Kuttner, Mark P.	RAF Mildenhall, U.K.	USAFE
Landtroop, Brian H.	Scott AFB, Ill.	ACC

## VISION,

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I see good things coming from this and the meetings that will follow -- improvements in our ability to optimally support the warfighter into the twenty-first century. However, I need to convey a very important point, to move to the "right" future we will need everyone's help. Everyone has an important part to play in

this effort. Thus, I have charged my staff to include your participation in our process as we move to the future.

Let me pass along one final observation. I have visited several CONUS units in my first few months as the Director of Weather, I must say I am impressed. I've enjoyed the discussions we've had on how we can continue to improve our support to the warfighter. I will visit many more CONUS units in the months to come. We'll also travel to see European units in

October and visit the Pacific Theatre in the next few months. I will need your perspective to help keep us all focused on what's important for the warfighter. I will also share with you what we're doing at the Air Staff to keep Air Force Weather in step with what's happening in the rest of our Air Force.

In closing, I see Air Force Weather as a team of outstanding people with a bright and dynamic future. Together we'll chart our course for developing the premier weather support capability for the Air Force, the Army, and the nation.



## Air Force Weather Staff Sergeant Selectees

Lassetter, Nathanie	Keesler AFB, Miss.	AETC
Lericos, Todd P.	Hanscom AFB, Mass.	ACC
Lester, Kimberly J.	Keesler AFB, Miss.	AETC
Mathias, Wesley D.	Maxwell AFB, Ala.	ACC
Mayer, David C.	Scott AFB, Ill.	AMC
McDonald, Patrick M.	Elemendorf AFB, Alaska	PACAF
McGoogan, Cheri K.	Kadena AB, Japan	PACAF
McIntire, Shane P.	Altus AFB, Okla.	ACC
Millen, Mark H.	Andrews AFB, Md.	AMC
Morin, William R.	Randolph AFB, Texas	ACC
Moser, Bruce G.A.	Minot AFB, N.D.	ACC
Murray, Michael W.	Ellsworth AFB, S.D.	ACC
Patterson, Robert J.	Shaw AFB, S.C.	ACC
Perez, Generoso L.J.	Osan AB, Korea	PACAF
Richards, Groff CAS	Scott AFB, Ill.	ACC
Sanders, Barry L.	Kirtland AFB, N.M.	AETC
Schmidt, Gregory S.	Kadena AB, Japan	PACAF
Smalley, Jon M.	Barksdale AFB, La.	ACC
Smoke, Christopher	Langley AFB, Va.	ACC
Sones, Linda E.	Mountain Home AFB, Idaho	ACC
Souders, Allen M.	Kunsan AB, Korea	PACAF
Stovall, Rodney L.	Incirlik AB, Turkey	USAFE
Sutherland, Kyle E.	Scott AFB, Ill.	AMC
Tate, Jamey C.	Maxwell AFB, Ala.	ACC
Thomas, Aaron D.	Ellsworth AFB, S.D.	ACC
Thurman, Jeffrey T.	Osan AB, Korea	PACAF
Toner, Robert E. III	Malmstrom AFB, Mont.	AFSPC
Tumblin, Wallace L.	Robins AFB, Ga.	AFMC
Tyler, David M.	Eielson AFB, Alaska	PACAF
Vice, Cynthia L.	Misawa AB, Japan	PACAF
Wade, Robert J.	Osan AB, Korea	PACAF
Walswick, Anthony D.	Pope AFB, N.C.	ACC
Wilson, Jesse E.	Barksdale AFB, La.	ACC
Wilson, Mark R.	Maxwell AFB, Ala.	ACC
Wyatt, Stephen G.	Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.	ACC

## OBTW,

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may not be as esthetically pleasing as the AWDS charts, but they're mission specific.

We're always open to discussion on ways to improve our products and services. Please call DSN 574-2007/2008 or send a fax, DSN 574-5506, if you have suggestions or need assistance.

*(Submitted by Capt. J. Lorens, Air Combat Command AOS/AOW, DSN 574-2007/2008, E-Mail: "lorensj@hqacdo.langley.af.mil")*

## Air National Guard Weather Jobs Open

The Air National Guard has the following openings for officers and enlisted, observers and forecasters:

- 104th Weather Flight, Baltimore, Md.: two forecasters, two observers.
- 105th WF, Nashville, Tenn.: one forecaster.
- 107th WF, Selfridge ANGB, Mich.: one forecaster.
- 110th WF, St. Louis, Mo.: one forecaster.
- 116th WF, McChord AFB, Wash.: two forecasters, two observers, one officer.
- 120th WF, Buckley ANGB, Colo.: one officer, three observers.
- 123rd WF, Portland, Ore.: two forecasters.
- 125th WF, Tulsa, Okla.: two officers, three forecasters.
- 127th WF, Topeka, Kan.: one forecaster.
- 131st WF, Westfield, Mass.: one officer.
- 146th WF, Pittsburgh, Pa.: one forecaster.
- 154th WF, Little Rock, Ark.: one forecaster.
- 164th WF, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio: one observer.
- 195th WF, Fort Huachuca, Calif.: one officer, four forecasters, one observer.
- 199th WF, Wheeler AAF, Hawaii: one officer.
- 202nd WF, Otis ANGB, Mass.: one officer, three forecasters.
- 208th WF, Minneapolis, Minn.: one officer.
- 210th WF, Ontario, Calif.: two forecasters.

For more information, contact Ted Houghton at DSN 278-8285.

**COMBAT WEATHER**



**PARATE CERTAMENI**