

Commander's Meeting Considers the Future

Last month the USAF Air Weather Service Commanders' Conference was held at Wiesbaden, Germany. In previous years the annual conference has been held at AWS headquarters in Washington, D. C.

This year a program of using other conference locations was inaugurated in order to enable subordinate commanders to gain an on-the-spot appreciation of the problems that wing and group-level commanders must face in providing weather service to a world-wide Air Force. Many subordinate commanders of the European 2nd Weather wing area took the opportunity to attend the conference.

Brig. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman, AWS Commander together with commanders of AWS units from throughout the world took their annual long-range look at the job of the military meteorologist. As the operational capabilities of the Air Force increase and become more exacting, support elements such as AWS must keep pace and increase the area and accuracy of their support.

At the meeting support operations for the past year were reviewed with the idea of establishing objective programs for the forthcoming years. This action provides each commander with an understanding for directing coordinated actions to increase the effectiveness of weather support to USAF global operations.

In commenting on the conference General Moorman says, "I feel we have made material gains in setting our sights properly for future expanded service to the military. This conference was informal and each commander was able to participate actively. The majority of the time was devoted to those problems and future needs of the operating units."

Of particular emphasis at the conference were the general's comments on AWS career personnel. He pointed out that the majority of AWSmen are specialists and it is of the utmost importance to retain as many as possible of these men within the



NOT TELLING A SECRET, but planting a kiss on the cheek of Lt. Col. Howard L. Berg, 54th Weather Recon Commander, is Miss Barbara Hartig. Nine-year-old Barbara was recently elected Kiddie Queen of the squadron and reigned at the Guam base Carnival held to raise money for playground equipment.

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TOP WEATHERMEN of the United States Air Force that recently attended the AWS Commanders' Conference at Wiesbaden, Germany. Seated left to right are, Col. Norman L. Peterson, AWS Deputy Commander; Brig. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman jr., AWS Commander, and Col. James T. Seaver jr., Commander 2nd Weather wing. Standing left to right are, Col. Anthony T. Shtogren, Commander 1st Weather wing; Col. Karl T. Rauk, Commander 9th Weather group; Col. John J. Jones, Commander 4th Weather group; Col. Wray B. Bartling, Commander 8th Weather group; Col. Frederick J. Cole, Commander 1st Weather group; Col. Richard M. Gill, Special Assistant to the AWS Commander; Lt. Col. Harvey P. Hall, Commander 6th Weather group; Col. Oliver K. Jones, AWS Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel; Col. George E. Rath, Commander 2nd Weather group; Col. Russell K. Pierce, Commander 3rd Weather group, and Col. Virgil E. Sandifer, Commander 5th Weather group.

Air Force.

Pertaining to the benefits of an AWS career the general says, "With no reservations, I feel that we offer airmen and officers alike career opportunities in an organization that they will find likeable and profitable. We have excellent military schools for the airmen, and we offer interested officers either one or two years' civilian schooling to become military meteorologists.

"Also, we offer opportunities for post graduate work. Individuals can obtain further information from their nearest USAF weather unit."

Weathermen Win First Place In Latest Reenlistment Finals

Weather airmen have hit a record high in their reenlistment. A whopping 53% was the final figure for the past February, just released by Headquarters USAF. This is the highest rate on record for weather airmen since the beginning of the current USAF reenlistment drive in July 1954.

This new record rate is higher by 3% than the highest overall USAF rate, regardless of career field, established in the month of August last year. The over-all USAF rate for February was only 42% against the weathermen's 53%.

The weather career field is one of the ten fields in the highly technical category. This category has the lowest reenlistment rate USAF-wide, which in February scored 35% throughout the Air Force. This places the Weathermen well in the lead with their 53%.

Real credit for this top spot in the reenlistment count-down goes to the career weathermen; those who reenlisted for the second or more time. The first term airmen, reenlisting at a rate of only 17%, didn't carry their comparative share of the load. Fortunately, since there were so few first-term airmen reported during the period, they did not depress the over-all final weatherman rate too much.

AWS personnel staff section says that the reenlistment rates of weather airmen must be considered to be at a satisfactory level relative to the other career fields. The weather airman rates have improved from 14% for July-September 1954 and 20% for the whole of fiscal year 1955. But further improvement is needed.

Here is how USAF sums up the reenlistment situation AF-wide: "It is apparent from the favorable reenlistment trend experienced during the fiscal year 1956 . . . that policy changes, legislative action and base level programs instituted in 1955 continue to exert a strong influence on reenlistment in general. The reenlistment rates have increased in both the technical and non-technical career fields. "To insure the AF retains quality as well as quantity, the full emphasis of the reenlistment program in fiscal year 1957

(Continued on page 2)



WARRANT TO CAPTAIN in one jump is a nice promotion. Here CWO Russell G. Harris, who was recently recalled to active duty as a reserve officer, receives his bars from Col. Maxwell W. Rowan, deputy commander of the 1st Weather wing in Japan.

AF Soon To Recall Some Men

A limited recall program for Reserve officers has been approved by Headquarters USAF. Weather AFSC's 2524, 2534 and 2546 are included in the list needed for assignment against the most pressing AF-wide requirements.

In addition a requirement exists for the entry on extended active duty of approximately 150 Reserve warrant officers, including weather AFSC's. Both the officer and warrant recall apply to fiscal year 1957.

AWS headquarters has forwarded 19 officer applications and one warrant application from personnel on duty in enlisted status with AWS. There are also more than 20 applications from officers in the AWS Reserve program. According to the AF Times first recall orders are expected soon.

As also recently announced in the AF Times, a new Reg. AFR 45-26, covering application for active duty, reduces the age limits for recall. However, applications pending prior to 26 July will be governed by AFR 36-58, under which application was made.

Eligible Reserve weather officers and warrants are urged by AWS headquarters to apply immediately. Application is made through channels on AF Form 125 in accordance with AFR 36-58, until the new Reg becomes available. Proper completion of the form is important in precluding the possibility of the application being held up or returned for administrative correction.



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BRIG. GEN. THOMAS S. MOORMAN, JR.
Commander, Air Weather Service

CAPT. EDWARD G. VRABLE
Chief, Information Services

JOHN D. RUGG
Editor

S/SGT. ROBERT G. McCARTNEY S/SGT. J. FRANK SUBKO
Assistant Editor Sports Editor

A Decade of Security through Global Airpower

We're With You

We'd like to take a little space here to bring to you, the reader, the latest report on how your command newspaper, the Air Weather Service *Observer* is doing.

This past spring, as you may know, your paper was just about on its last legs from lack of funds. However, due in a great part to the response of the readers in renewing their subscriptions and even ordering additional copies, we staggered back into production with an eight-page combined April-May issue to make up for the month we lost.

Now the editor of the *Observer* is pleased to be able to announce that with the coming of the new fiscal year, it looks like clear financial sailing ahead for your paper. It is gratifying to us that all the readers and supporters of this paper have done so much to insure the continued service of the *Observer*.

At this time we'd like to ask your help again. We're planning to expand the *Observer* to eight pages soon and we want your ideas on what you'd like us to put in the additional space. More pictures? More info from headquarters? More news from the field? Social items? Feature stories?

In order to bring you what you want in your command newspaper, we'd like to get your own personal ideas, from all the officers and airmen serving around the world in AWS.

Again our many thanks for the support that has been shown for the *Observer* from the personnel of the entire command and we'll be looking forward to your cards and letters telling us how we can serve you better in the future. (RGM)

Just A Reminder

Just a reminder. Has your detachment helped to interest an active duty officer in applying for weather officer basic meteorology training? Remember if every detachment got just one successful applicant AWS would soon have enough weather officers to fill existing vacancies.

AWS Hq Boasts Happy Relations In Staff Section

(EDITOR'S NOTE: It is unusual for the *Observer* to carry social items due to our space limitations. Perhaps breaking the ice with this article we can continue to bring you more items on the lighter side of AWS activities.)

A forceful illustration of congenial and pleasant working relationships between the members of the AWS headquarters Personnel Staff section was brought to light last month with the announcement that Miss Betty J. McCarthy of the Weather officer branch and T/Sgt Emil J. Knick of the Personnel Records section are planning to join hands and stroll the rose-strewn pathway to matrimonial bliss.

Betty was one of last year's runners-up in the Miss Air Weather Service contest and has been with the headquarters for seven years. Sergeant Knick has been seen by weathermen around the world during a recent series of staff visits to help facilitate the weather AFSC changes.

They plan to be married this coming November 10th at St. Francis Xavier's in Washington, D. C.



Reenlistment

(Continued from page 1)

should be directed toward retaining highly trained airmen in the most needed career fields."

The weak point in weather airmen retention is 5-level first-term airmen. Col. Oliver K. Jones, AWS Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, says that the chief responsibility for helping our first-term airmen realize the advantages of an AF weather career, lies with our career NCO's.

"They are the men who by giving us this fine reenlistment rate, have demonstrated most forcefully their conviction of the rewards and satisfaction to be gained from their career. They in turn must pass their conviction on to our younger airmen," concluded the colonel.

Tornadoes, the most destructive storm known to man, have destroyed over 13½ million dollars worth of property a year in the past 35 years. The most destructive year in the United States was 1927, when 127 tornadoes were reported; 540 people lost their lives.

Doctor: "What you need, young lady, is a little sun and air."

Girl: "But, Doctor, I'm not even married." (AFPS)

ON THE skew-T AWS Global Report

Once again from the far flung frontiers encompassed by the global AWS family, here are interesting high lights and sidelights of AF weathermen at work and play.

This month the 57th WRS in Hawaii had a golf tournament in conjunction with their squadron party. Winners of their "Name the Plane" contest are expected to be announced in next month's *Observer*.

Great Lakes Conference Senior Golf tournament was won this month by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross, Executive officer of the 6th Weather group at Wright-Patterson AFB. The next step is the USAF-wide tournament



Airman Fowler

at Lackland AFB, Texas, this month. Good luck, colonel.

At Detachment 8, 6th Wea Gp, McClellan AFB, Cal., a Swiss citizen, A/2c Albert Reuthold is serving as an observer. Fluent in four languages, Airman Reuthold says he misses home but is enthusiastic about his duty in the AF.

Supporting the current "Slow Down and Live" campaign, the Commander's Call program at 3rd Wea Gp, Ent AFB, Colo., featured an Alcometer demonstration by the local police department. It is reported that the officers were swamped by volunteers to test the machine that measures the percentage of alcohol in the blood.

A/1c James F. Campbell of the 3rd Group was chosen base Airman - of - the - month at Ent AFB for July.

Community relations were thriving last month at the 53rd WRS in England when Major Sayre and Lt. Daly judged a beauty contest at the DeHaviland Propeller Company's annual party. They also made a tour through the plant. Other officers of the squadron are enthusiastic about plans for further visits after the VIP treatment given the two officers.

Fourth place in the Inter-service Photo contest for the black and white category was taken by T/Sgt John L. Cossitt



CUTEST POOL SCENE of the season is provided graciously by the lovely Miss Elaine Stewart of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

A roundup of news items from the far-flung reaches of the Air Weather Service.

of Det 19, 4th Wea Gp, Dugway Proving Ground in Utah. His entry was titled, "Serious Business."

In Wiesbaden the 18th Wea Sq men who play with the MATS Softball team report that the team won 62 consecutive games in the past two seasons. However, this year they won two and lost two in the WARCOM play-offs to bow gracefully out for the season.

Airman-of-the-month at the 57th WRS in Hawaii is A/1c Ross L. Fowler of the squadron weather section. He entered the service in 1953 and earned the American Spirit of Honor Medal in basic training.

At the 58th WRS in Alaska, transition from WB-29s to WB-50s is almost complete and all crews have finished transition training.

At the 59th WRS in Bermuda Airman - of - the - month, A/1c Richard S. Bishop received an extra award for the honor in addition to the usual 3-day pass and \$10. He was no doubt pleased to be released from all extra duty for one month. Getting off KP and parade duty really makes it worthwhile to try for Airman-of-the-month.

Col. Donald W. Roberts has replaced Lt. Col. Louis Bertoni



Colonel Roberts

as commander of the 20th Wea Sq at Nagoya, Japan. Colonel Roberts, after three years with ARDC, received his re-indoctrination to AWS as Executive officer of the 4th Wea Gp, support unit for ARDC.

Top Rawinsonde section in the Far East last month was Det 2, 15th Wea Sq on Guam. The men received the 1st Wea Wg Certificate of Achievement.

And at last an item of great chagrin to the airmen. The officers actually defeated the airmen in a softball game at a squadron picnic. The site of the momentous upset was Ishikawa beach on Okinawa where the officers of Det 4, 15th Wea Sq shut the airmen out with a 2-1 victory. And to think that it could happen in AWS.



COMMENDATION RIBBON is awarded to Maj. Edmund Lauder by Brig. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman jr., AWS commander. Major Lauder was assigned to AWS headquarters as a personnel officer last month.

Rugged Survival Training on Guam Insures Safety of Typhoon Flyers

A realistic ditching and survival training program is the pride of the 54th Weather Reconnaissance squadron on Guam where the teaching technique of "tell 'em, show 'em and let 'em do it" is used to the fullest.

T/Sgt James F. Woods, head man of the Personal Equipment section, supervises the program which includes lectures, demonstrations and plenty of practice.

Most of the flying done by this 1st Weather wing unit is over water. Logically the trainees give the survival program their utmost attention, realizing that it may come in handy if they ever have to take the big splash.

The training doesn't take place in a nice chlorinated, fresh water pool, but in the Pacific ocean at Hover beach. This lends a certain element of realism. Aircrew members simulating a bailout, practice 15-foot leaps into the water wearing Mae Wests and parachute harnesses. They must then get out of the chute harness and swim to an overturned raft which must be righted prior to entry.

Survival suits are also used in the practice. Crew members learn what can happen when air gets into the suit; they find themselves floating head downwards. There is also the matter of getting water into the suit, at best uncomfortable.

Lt. Col. Howard L. Berg, 54th Commander says, "It is essential for personnel involved in

the amount of over water flying performed by our squadron to be fully indoctrinated in all methods of survival."

"Imagine," said one trainee after a particularly rugged training session, "having to learn all this for the first time during an actual ditching." The 54th is making sure this never happens.



TURNING OVER a six-man life raft in the choppy Pacific can turn out to be quite a job, as this trainee will tell you.



THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS when all the air is not removed from the survival suit prior to ditching. T/Sgt Woods, lower right, and A/2c Norbert W. Obenaus, also of the Personal Equipment section, stand by to assist the trainee.

AWS Song Refound

The AWS Song

I'll never forget the day was wet
The General wanted to fly
He said, "My Boy is it O.K.
For Me to go on high?"
When I said, "No, it's going to snow,"
You should have seen him frown,
Say I'm the only boy who's ever
Kept the General down.

CHORUS:

We are the men
The weather men
We may be wrong
Oh now and then
But when you see
Our planes on high—igh
Just remember we're the ones
Who let them fly.

I read the codes and spot the plot
My maps are very neat
With isotherms and millibars
These charts are most replete.
I slip the slide-rule, check the graph,
Consult the weather vane,
I order sunshine every day
But all I get is rain.

CHORUS:

The teletype hops, synoptic shots
Anomometer's going around
My pressure lines are intertwined
The fronts are on the ground.
The winds that go from high to low
Have blown me off the track
I'll have to throw my books away
And use the almanac.

CHORUS:

I fly reconnaissance every day
In my Baker-Twenty-Nine;
My double drifts and ascent rates
Are always out of line.
The "naviguesser" missed his fix
The crew is all a-fright
But that's the way it always is
On a weather recon flight.

CHORUS:

In Hurricane's and Typhoon's eyes
I ride the thermals through,
And by the time we're half way there
My seat is black and blue.
The lightning strikes, the thunder roars,
The sea looks awfully rough,
The wind is blowing a hundred knots,
I swear, I've had enough.

CHORUS:

Oh we're the weather boys, you see
We catch it in the slats
From passing out misleading dope
To people down in MATS.
But you'll always find us singing
For we're never ever blue;
Oh we're the weather boys, you see
And who the H..... are you?

CHORUS:

Research Reveals Author of Lyrics To Classic Melody

It was recently discovered that the Air Weather Service has a song. The Observer staff has gone to considerable effort to trace the origin and history of this epic piece. Extensive research indicates that the original lyrics, to the tune of "McNamara's Band," were written by one Eugene Devereaux during the latter part of 1942.

At the time 2nd Lt. Devereaux was stationed at Fort Warren, a Coast Artillery installation in Boston Harbor, Mass. He was in transit status with a group of students awaiting assignment to a meteorology class at M.I.T. The song was apparently the product of youthful exuberance during idle hours.

After World War II Mr. Devereaux rose to even more exalted heights as a song writer, producing parodies to such American favorites as "I'm My Own Grandpa," and "I'm Married to a Strip-tease Dancer." The last of these was written for the opening of a new U.S. Steel plant, just south of Morrisville, Pa., and figured quite prominently in the ceremonies.

Mr. Devereaux now lives the comparatively quiet life of a school teacher at Merrick, Long Island, though it is rumored in some quarters that he had a hand in the writing that epic of the Korean action, "Just a Little Hole, on the Other Side of Seoul."

Support to Army Regular Routine For 8th Group

One of the unsung and seldom noted missions of AWS is part of every-day operations for men of the 8th Weather group at Scott AFB, Ill.

The mission is weather support for the US Army for the 8th Group provides regular weather service for the 6th Armored division and Fort Leonard Wood at Rolla, Mo. Forecasts are submitted daily Monday through Friday.

Forecasts for the Army unit are for a three-day period and include maximum and minimum temperatures, winds and minimum humidities.

Transmission of this data to the using agencies is made by military and commercial wire communications facilities.

Provision of this service is part of a program of weather support to the Army installation which was inaugurated in late 1953.

The program also provides for severe weather warning service, when appropriate and special forecasts on request from the Army units.

This job being done by the 8th Group is illustrative of the services being provided by many AWS units around the world to the support of the US Army.

Wind Problem Licked

Azores Unit Devises Gimmick Used in Two-Country Operation

The tricky problem of releasing rawinsonde balloons in extremely high surface winds has been solved by the men of Detachment 3, 9th Weather group at Lajes Field in the Azores.

The device used by the island observers consists of an umbrella-shaped shroud that fits over the balloon while the balloon is still in the inflation shelter. The shroud is connected to an overhead track with pulleys. The track extends outside the shelter on two sides.

When the balloon is ready for release it is put in the shroud, the doors on the shelter opened and the balloon enclosed in the shroud on the track is wheeled to the downwind side of the building.

The novel contraption de-

signed by M/Sgt William Bandish, former NCOIC of the rawinsonde section, enables operators to control the balloon and minimize fouling during periods of excessive winds.

Over a thousand aircraft per month depart the Lajes facilities and due to the station's isolation any additional meteorological data is at a premium for the important job of briefing these aircraft crews. Four releases daily are made to keep a constant check on upper air patterns, and more accurately monitor in and out-bound flight levels.

Trying hard to increase the height of their soundings the Lajes observers have scored with Yankee ingenuity. Salvaging the heating element from the Detco's hot water heater plus a home-made aluminum tank

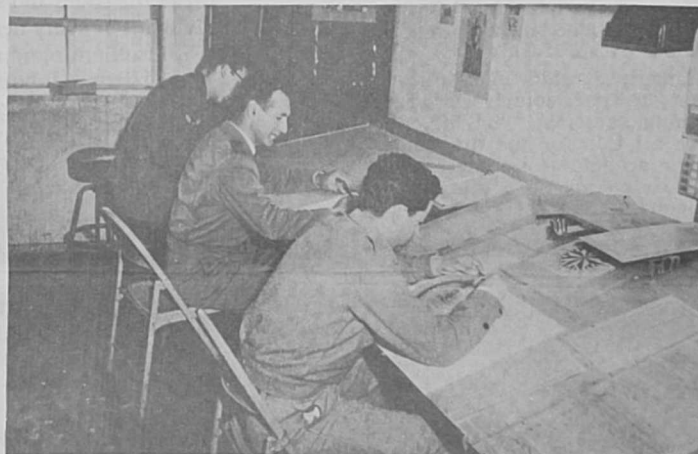


RADIOSONDE CHECK prior to release is made by A/2c Crowley.

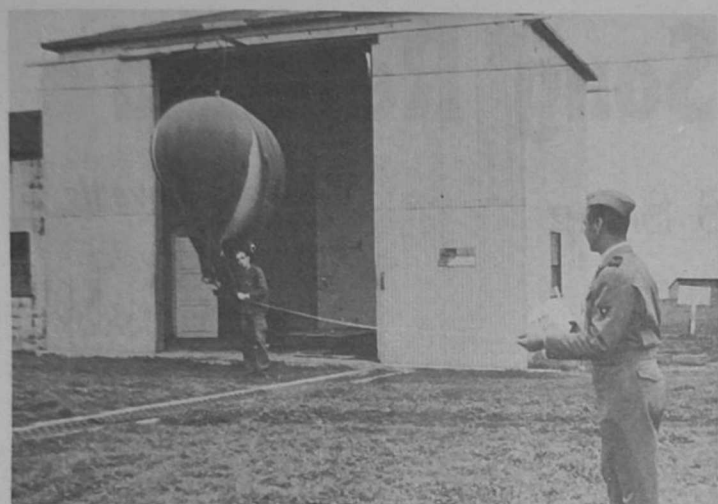
equals one pre-run balloon conditioning tank. The balloons are emersed in a hot water-glycerin mixture to make them more pliable.

This Azores rawinsonde section is a joint operation of the US and Portuguese Air Forces. It is commanded by Captao Antonia R. Miraof, the Portuguese AF and Maj. George J. Newgarden III, USAF. Portuguese airmen and civilians work side-by-side with American personnel in all phases of the rawinsonde operation.

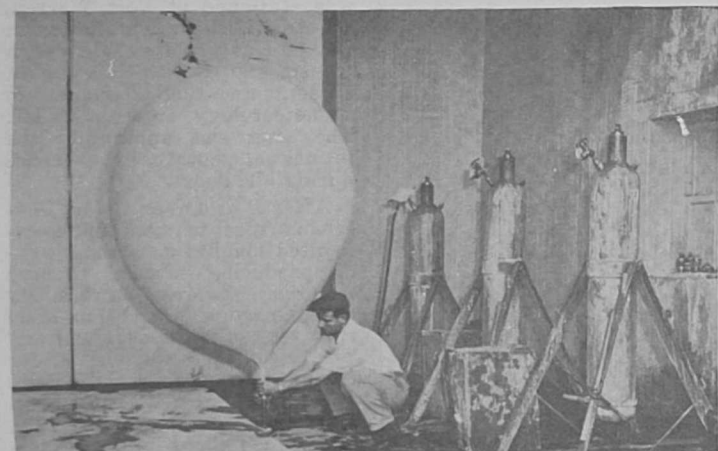
The men of both nations at Lajes are proud of their devices, such as the release shroud and the conditioning tank, that are doing their bit towards maintaining that vital link in the "Cross-roads of the Atlantic."



COMPUTATION of transmitted coded temperature and humidity data is made by, left to right, A/2c Donald J. Crowley, 1st Cabo Jose' O Prates and Furnell de Azevedo.



BALLOON RELEASE SHROUD on special track is trundled out of the inflation shelter for release by A/2c Crowley at the Lajes field site. Furrell (Sgt) Samuel Freitas de Azevedo, in the foreground holds the radiosonde.



LOCAL HYDROGEN manufacture is the order of the day at Lajes. Manuel Rodrigues, Portuguese civilian, is filling the balloon.

Rawin-men Score High Record In Consecutive Errorless Runs

From Detachment 8 of the 25th Weather squadron at Clinton County AFB, Ohio, come some new scores on consecutive errorless observations by an individual. The high score goes to S/Sgt Robert J. Lohrer with 2354.

In June's issue of the Observer it was reported in the Skew-T column that A/1c George L. Dean at Grandview AFB, Missouri had 1000 observations without error to his credit. The men at Clinton County AFB were quick to reply with a whole list of impressive totals.

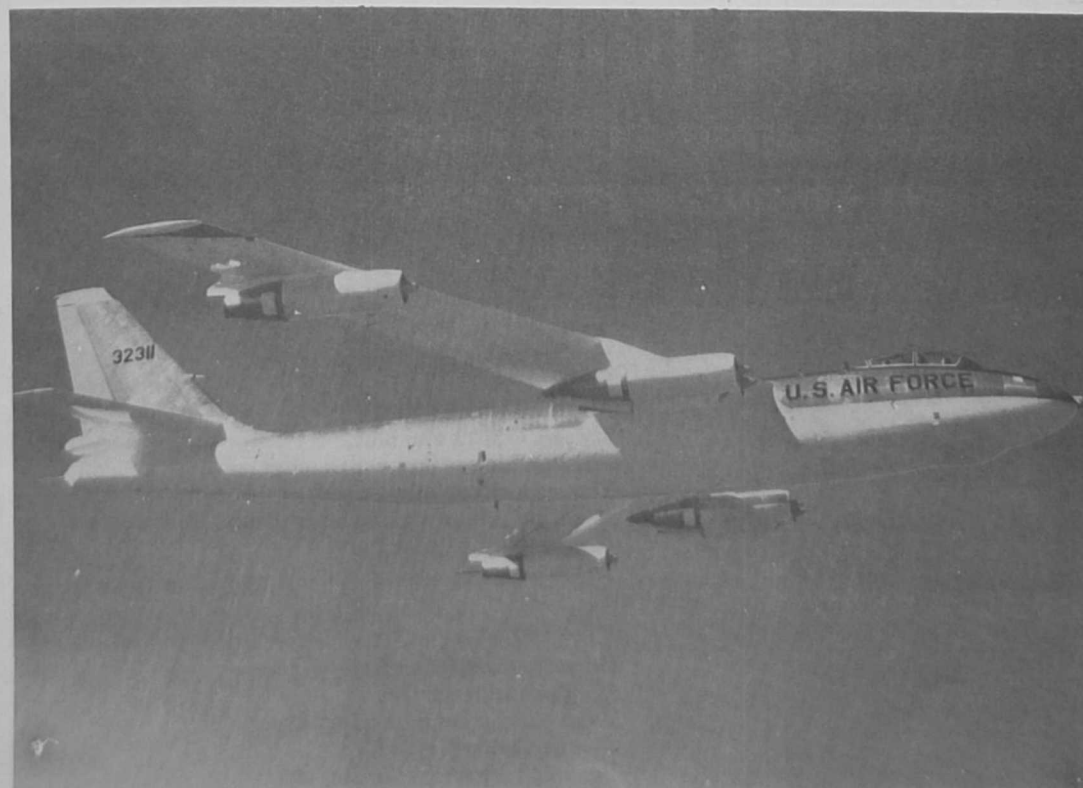
Among the without error totals at Detachment 8 are S/Sgt

recent discharge S/Sgt Lorher had made 4,055 observations with only one error to mar his record.

Oophs!

Last month the Observer in an article on streamlined weather briefings at Maxwell AFB, Ala., mistakenly listed Maj. Robert E. Doecker as the commander of Detachment 7, 9th Weather group. Major Doecker is a forecaster at Maxwell, but the Detco there is Lt. Col. Ralph W. Beatty. Sorry, Colonel Beatty.

William H. Phillips with 1825, A/1c Charles H. Hensel with 1078 and A/1c Robert J. Eilenberger with 1021. Prior to his



HURRICANE RESEARCH will be conducted by one of these B-47's, specially modified for weather reconnaissance. This aircraft and two WB-50s will work full time this year just gathering data for further hurricane study. The Commander's Call film for this month on some bases is about the B-47. Next month the rest of the state-side bases will see the film and overseas units will receive the special Boeing aircraft production on this plane in October.

Safety Pay-Off? More Folks Alive

"Slow Down and Live," the MATS campaign to reduce traffic accidents in which AWS is cooperating, has resulted in an initial drop of 40 percent in MATS traffic injuries and deaths. This favorable showing is based on first reports from MATS units stationed in the US.

While final tabulation on the safe driving campaign will not be received until September or

Rawin High

The work of men in AWS rawinsonde sections around the world has pushed the AWS average Rawin and Raob heights to the highest averages ever obtained AWS-wide. During June 1956 the average Raob height was 87,143 feet and the Rawin average, 86,661 feet.

October, the early results have been so encouraging that officials are now considering an extension of the drive through the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. The drive is presently scheduled to end after Labor Day.

Goal of the campaign, in which MATS commanders and drivers alike have cooperated, is to slash traffic accidents by 50 percent.

The OBSERVER Spotlights



This month the Observer spotlights Detachment 5 of the 6th Weather group. This detachment at Kelly AFB, Texas reflects the two primary functions of the 6th Group: to provide weather support for the Air Materiel Command and to supply field maintenance on all AWS meteorological equipment in the ZI and certain overseas areas.

Kelly is headquarters for AMC's San Antonio Air Materiel Area and the Continental Division of MATS. Commanded by Lt. Col. Lynn H. Pribble of Logan, Utah, Detachment 5 maintains two weather stations serving Kelly and adjacent Lackland AFB, a field maintenance shop and a twin-engine flight section.

The two weather stations are necessary to handle the traffic of local operations. The Kelly station is located at Base Ops on the Kelly flightline and the MATS Weather section, a limited forecast section, is located across the field on the Lackland flightline. Shift personnel alternate between the stations.

The Kelly station provides 24-hour forecasting and observing service to all units and transient aircraft clearing through Kelly Operations, plus service to the Lackland Operations during hours when the MATS Weather section there is closed. The Kelly site does all the observing.

Kelly station processes about 950 AF Form 175s each month, 900 locals and 12-15 flight cross-sections. Service is to Hq, SAAMA, the 19th Logistic Support Squadron, LOGAIR, the USAF Security Service and the Staff Weather officer, Continental Division, MATS.

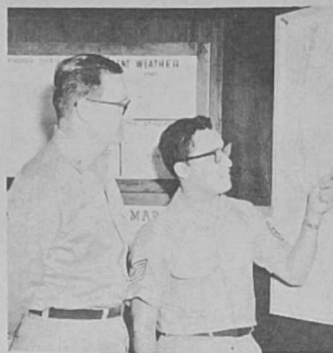
Severe weather warnings for the Kelly-Lackland area, Fort Sam Houston and Brooks AFB are issued from the Kelly station. General advisories on severe weather over a five-state area including Texas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Arkansas and Oklahoma are issued to 4th Army headquarters.

The Kelly station now has a CPS-9, radar storm detector, with a remote scope used in pilot briefings in the forecasters' room. These radar observations are also used in forecaster to pilot transmissions over UHF Channel 13 or VHF.



STORM DETECTOR REPORT is prepared by A/1c James F. Lewis, standing, and A/1c Richard H. Allen at the console of the CPS-9. Both men are from San Antonio, Texas.

Detachment 5 6th Weather Group



QUICK BRIEFING on current conditions at Hill AFB, Utah is given by T/Sgt Jesse A. Trevino to 1st Lt. William P. Cramer. The lieutenant is about to go on duty in the MATS Weather section.

MATS Weather section provides limited forecasting and storm warning service, 0700C to 1600C, for units operating from the Lackland flightline. These hours cover the bulk of traffic, both scheduled MATS and transient.

MATS Section processes about 300 AF Form 175s, 250 locals and 6-8 flight cross-sections each month. Units supported from the Lackland side of the field



OFF TO WORK, men of the maintenance shop board the detachment VC-47D on their way to a repair job. In the foreground are left, Capt. John T. Kuhn of San Antonio and right, 1st Lt. Harry P. Seese. Aboard the aircraft are T/Sgt John C. Noland jr. from San Antonio and A/2c Carl R. Blakemore from Madill, Oklahoma.

are MATS Transport control, the 3700th Military Training wing, 1707th Air Transport groups and the 1707th Ferrying group.

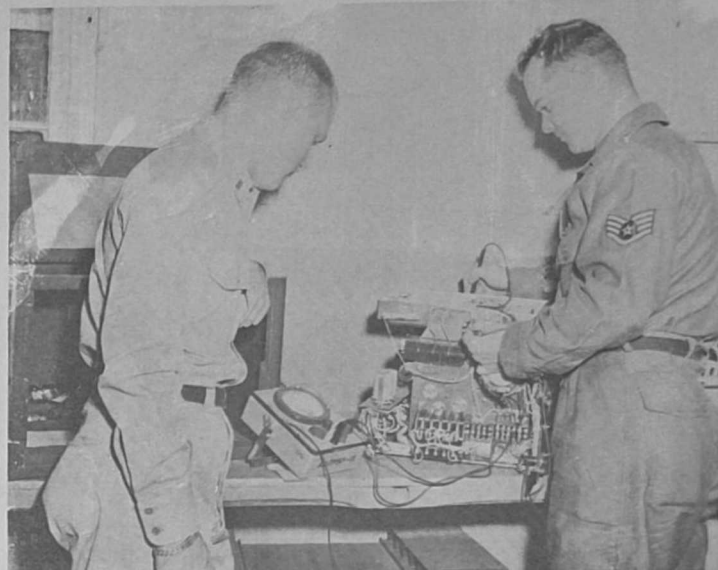
The field maintenance shop at Kelly, under the supervision of Maj. Willard T. Brannon from Billings, Montana, is one of the five, 6th Group shops. Detachment 5 maintenance men are responsible for weather equipment

at locations in Louisiana, New Mexico, Texas and Albrook AFB in the Canal Zone. Service is provided not only to AWS units but also to the National Guard, Contract schools and AACS.

Field maintenance teams make regular visits to some thirty bases in the area performing preventive and corrective maintenance on weather equipment. SAC, TAC, ATC and ARDC base weather stations are all serviced by the wandering mechanics of Detachment 5. Some of the technicians log over 30 hours of airtime each month just traveling to and from work at various sites some distance from Kelly. Usually two men can inspect and service a detachment's equipment in one day.

Then there are the "hurry up" calls from the field when a vital piece of equipment suddenly goes on the blink. Normally, help is on the way within 24 hours. Sometime, repair is a matter of minutes, with the replacement of a part. On other occasions, several frustrating days may be spent looking for some mysterious trouble only to find that a mechanical ditch-digger has cut through a ceilometer cable.

Such difficulties are not uncommon, due to expanding construction programs at many bases. About 10 emergency calls come through each month, a quarter of them for parts only.



EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN, S/Sgt Richard E. Birdsall from San Antonio, Texas, checks the power supply unit of a GMD/1A, Control Recorder, as 1st Lt. Ira O. Whittenberg looks on.

The Flight section, under 1st Lt. Harry P. Seese of Los Angeles, operates in support of the field maintenance shop. One VC-47D is assigned. Aircraft are also borrowed from SAAMA when the unit's aircraft is out of commission. The detachment aircraft is also used for administrative and proficiency flying.

Lt. Colonel Pribble serves as Staff Weather officer to SAAMA. In this capacity his duties include presentation of weather info at Flying Safety

meetings, aiding the Base Defense Planning section with climatological statistics, working with the Instrument Training school at the 1708th Ferrying wing, and advising 4th Army on local climatology and radioactive fallout plotting techniques to be used by Army units in the area.

The varied and complex operations of Detachment 5, representing 6th Weather group activities, is a graphic illustration of the many skills demanded of AF weathermen the world over.



LADY DISPATCHERS also get briefings before going on duty at Kelly AFB Operations. Lt. Col. Lynn H. Pribble checks out Mrs. Winifred D. Jameson, left, and Mrs. Jean D. Richardson, right, on winds aloft to be expected during their duty shift.



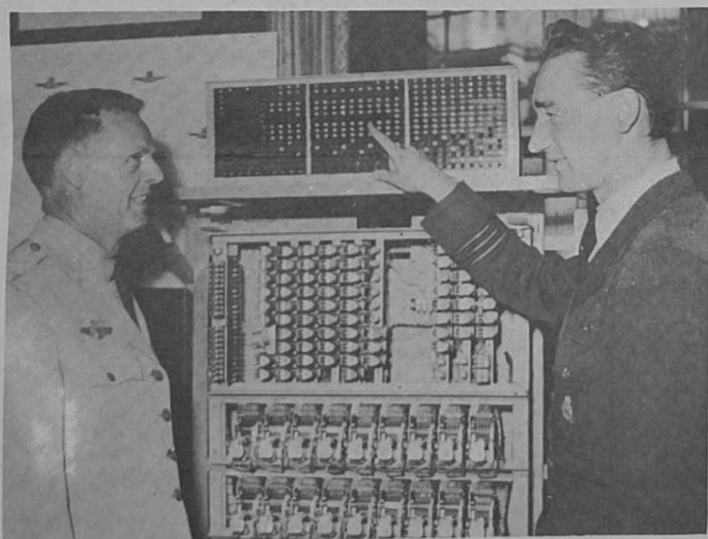
CEILOMETER RECORDER operation is explained by A/2c Joseph D. Elman to 2nd Lt. Larry Peters.



NOT SNOW BUT HAIL comes up to the knees of little Miss Carol Anne Barsch in Lakewood, Colorado. The picture was taken last June after a 20-minute hailstorm hit the Colorado area. The stones, some of which measured 2 inches in diameter, caused major damage to homes and buildings. The picture was taken by W. J. Barsch and originally appeared in the Rocky Mountain News.



OUTSTANDING CIVILIAN
Performance rating goes to Miss Alice M. Wynhoff of the AWS Data Control division at Asheville, N. C. Miss Wynhoff, Supervisor of the Coding section, received a \$200 cash award for sustained superior performance for the 1956 fiscal year.





INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, one of the necessities of successful AWS operation, is illustrated here as Capt. Frank Bastin, of the Belgium Air Force, briefs Brig. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman Jr., on the operating parts of weather instruments used in Belgium. The photo was taken at the recent Commanders' Conference. (See story page 1)



GRAND OPENING of the new CPS-9, radar storm detector, at Offutt AFB, Nebraska, was attended by the AWS Commander, left, Brig. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman Jr., who helps Maj. Gen. Francis H. Griswold in the ribbon cutting. General Griswold is Vice Commander of SAC.



MASTER MODELER at Manston AB in England is A/1c Robert A. Bartoszewicz, showing us some of the many trophies and awards he has received in 12 years of model airplane building. He is Secretary-Treasurer of the Model Airplane Club at Manston which sends representatives to participate in competitions throughout Europe.

Pibal  in the  **Corner Pocket**

By Frank Subko

WITH THE BASEBALL season nearing its end, all eyes are focused on the World Series. In the American League the New York Yankees seem to be a pennant cinch. Out in front by 9 and-a-half games at press time, who can catch them. Mr. Mantle hitting a homer every 2.74 games, the pitching doesn't have to be too good to hold that lead. The National League, however, finds us with a somewhat different story. The Braves, Bums and Reds are still in the race. To eliminate any of the three would be a mistake. With Newcombe and Craig at their best and the Duke hitting harder than ever, the Bums are a definite threat. Who can be eliminated with the Braves pitching the strongest and the Reds slugging the best?

ABOUT THE TIME of the All-Star Game, the sport fan becomes aware of the football season. It's hard for us not to think of football.

AN ARDENT FAN cannot help but wonder what will happen to the Cleveland Browns without Otto Graham. Some fans seem to think that the Paul Brown dynasty of the football league has come to an end. Let's dig into the football records and find out just how Brown stands as a coach. In 27 years of coaching he has compiled a record of 244 wins, 41 losses and 10 ties.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, Otto Graham will definitely be missed, but fans sometimes tend to forget that Graham was the player but Brown none-the-less is still the brains behind the team. Brown's team didn't look slick in the All-Star game and will probably, no—undoubtedly, be in better shape when the season starts.

BROWN COACHED GRAHAM to play the game and is probably doing the same with George Ratterman and Vito (Babe) Parilli. Ratterman and Parilli can probably hold their own with any quarterbacks in the league. The Browns can't be sold short with a good line, a well balanced backfield and Lou Groza kicking 40 yard field goals.

LET'S PEEK AT the rest of the league and see what it looks like. The Bears are loaded for the Rams, the Rams didn't get worse, the Colts' defense is always terrific and the Redskins and Lions are question marks. The Redskins had a great season last year, and could have a better one this year providing . . . ? The Lions fell from top to bottom in one season, and it's pretty hard to figure a team like that. However, don't look for them to sit on the bottom for two years in a row.

FRANKIE ALBERT is coaching the 49er's and he might have something up his sleeve that none of us knows about. The Giants, Eagles, Steelers, Packers and Cardinals are about even, but who can tell before December.

AWS Deaths

The Observer regretfully reports the deaths of the following Air Weather Service personnel:

A/1c Roger Wise of Detachment 2, 11th Weather squadron at Chanute AFB, Ill., of injuries sustained in an auto accident.

T/Sgt Walter R. Grininger of

Detachment 5, 19th Weather squadron at Ft. Snelling, Minn., who drowned in a swimming accident.

A/3c Anthony K. Katts and A/2c Matthew D. Radka, both of Detachment 10, 4th Weather group at Eglin AFB, Fla., who died in the same auto accident.

SEND THE OBSERVER HOME

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TO _____

PLACE

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