



**AWS HIGH FLIGHT HONOREES** — Meeting with General Jack J. Catton, MAC commander, are the seven AWS officers selected for the recent High Flight program. Left to right are Maj. James W. Hall, Hq. AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.; Maj. Lynn L. LeBlanc, AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Maj. Elbert W. Friday, Hq. AWS; Capt. Franklin Hartranft,

Hq. 4th WWg., Ent AFB, Colo.; General Catton; Capt. Alexander Finta, Det. 21, 24th WSq., Craig AFB, Ala.; Capt. Robert C. Heavner, 58th WRSq., Kirtland AFB, N. M.; and Capt. Roger H. Schauss, 6th WWg., Patrick AFB, Fla. (U. S. Air Force Photo. More about High Flight, see pg. 5)



In the Nation's Service

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# New Pierce Award presented to NCO

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — In recognition of individual excellence in weather forecasting in a noncentralized facility, the first awarding of the AWS Pierce Award goes to CMSgt. Robert E. Clark from Detachment 11, 21st Weather Squadron, Torrejon AB, Spain.

The newly created Pierce Award honors Maj. Gen. Russell K. Pierce Jr., who commanded AWS from 1965-69 and is now deputy commandant of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Ft. Lesley J. McNair,

Washington D. C.

Sergeant Clark was cited for outstanding performance throughout 1970 but was accredited with the following specific projects: development of an objective forecast tool, which correlates forecast trajectory start points and pressure levels with recorded observations; incorporation of conditional climatology data into the routine forecasting process by all forecasters; and completion of an objective forecast study of thunderstorms at Torrejon AB. This

assisted the detachment forecasters in predicting the beginning of thunderstorm activity with a higher degree of accuracy.

Runners-up for the award are 1st Lt. Francis X. Ruggiero, Det. 5, 1st Weather Wing; MSgt. Jerry M. Hays, Det. 15, 26th WSq.; TSgt. Ronald O. Beck, Det. 2, 4th WWg.; 1st Lt. John F. Henz, Det. 39, 25th WSq., 5th WWg.; MSgt. John R. Ground, Det. 31, 6th WWg.; and Mr. Charles B. King, Det. 2, 24th WSq., 7th WWg.

The Pierce Award becomes the eighth in a series of Commanders Awards named for past commanders of AWS.

# Safety officials announce change

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — To revitalize its efforts in accident prevention, redirect the emphasis of the program and eliminate unneeded workload, Air Weather Service is making some drastic changes in its safety program. The majority of these changes have come as the result of recommendations by youth study groups which had been formed at each wing.

These groups indicated that the MAC PMV (Private Motor Vehicle) Team Program is a "shotgun" approach to traffic safety based only on age and rank. It's also a very rigid program which places a considerable administrative workload on the PMV Team Chief and the unit safety office.

For these reasons, AWS has requested and been granted a waiver from the PMV Team Program

from May 1, 1971, to April 30, 1972. During this time period, AWS will test a "rifle approach" to traffic safety. This will include a "High Risk Driver" Program, returning the responsibility for safety training to the supervisor.

The purpose of the High Risk Driver Program is to identify individuals who have by their actions shown a higher than average potential for traffic accidents. These individuals will then receive the benefits of additional training, counseling, and monitoring to assist them in improving their driving techniques.

The elimination of the PMV Team Program represents only one of several changes which have been made to reduce the workload of administering the program.

General Best has been doing as much traveling throughout the command as his duties at Scott AFB will allow. He is intensely interested in talking to as many of you in the field as he can.

Obviously, he cannot get to each of the more than 10,000 of you in his command. Therefore, he would like to try a new, informal, direct channel of communications from you by writing directly to him.

All correspondence will be answered either by letter, telephone or by a column called "Here's My Answer" for those questions that traverse the command. Subject matter should relate to AWS activities and responsibilities.

Your letter should be addressed to Brig. Gen. William H. Best Jr., Hq. AWS, Scott AFB, Ill. 62225.

# Veteran weather officer to be vice commander

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — A veteran Air Force weatherman returns to Air Weather Service June 1 to become its vice commander.

Col. John W. Collens III, presently Director of Studies and Analysis for the Military Airlift Command, left AWS in August 1966 for a series of MAC assignments after nearly 18 years of weather service.

Commissioned in 1944 through the aviation cadet program, Colonel Collens flew 28 combat missions in World War II as a B-17 pilot. He later flew 75 tactical weather reconnaissance missions in the weather-modified B-26 during the Korean War and 40 combat support sorties in MAC's C-141 Starlifters, operating into Vietnam.

Entering weather service in 1949 from weather school at Chanute AFB, Ill., Colonel Collens has performed duty at every level of organization in AWS. His weather career is a chronicle of duty assignments as a forecaster, staff officer, and commander who provided support to a variety of users.

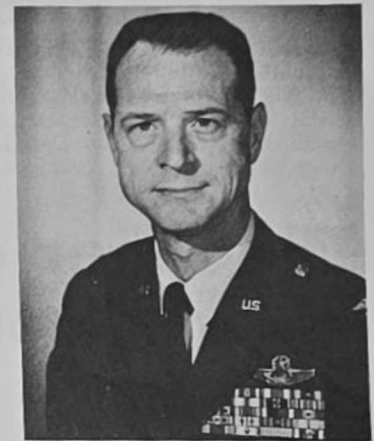
His first assignment after completing weather officer school was as a shift-duty forecaster at Naha AB, Okinawa. Central support was not available in those days. Each shift required analyzing surface and constant pressure charts from data acquired by radio intercept.

From there he went to Korea to fly with a tactical weather reconnaissance unit over the data-sparse areas of North Korea and Yellow Sea. Returning to the United States after 75 missions, he was once again a shift-duty forecaster who twice was assigned staff weather officer responsibilities on exercises — one a cold-weather maneuver, the other supporting the 82d Airborne Division in the Carolinas.

His next assignment was as detachment commander at Sembach AB, Germany, then home of a tactical reconnaissance wing. Transferred to the operations

staff of the 31st Weather Squadron at Ramstein, he continued to will the need for a practical meteorologist on several occasions. One involved direct weather forecasting support to a Matador pilotless aircraft missile unit during exercises in North Africa. On another occasion he accompanied a squadron of fighter aircraft on a month-long exercise in Pakistan, providing their total weather support.

Following assignment at Hq. AWS, where he served on the ad-hoc committee that justified and obtained the first sole-use computer for Air Force Global Weather Central, he attended Command and Staff College, then went to the 25th WSq., located with TAC's Twelfth Air Force. The Cuban Crisis occurred and he found himself augmenting the battle-staff weather team.



Col. Collens

During this tour, U.S. Strike Command was formed. Colonel Collens, though assigned as assistant squadron operations officer, served as a forecaster on Exercise Swift Strike II and as staff weather officer to the Joint Task Force on a six-week STRICOM exercise in Alaska.

Following another STRICOM exercise in Washington state in which he served as director of the weather center, he was (continued on pg. 7)



SYMBOL OF SERVICE to customers, using the famed St. Bernard dog as a symbol, is explained to Lt. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman (Ret.), former AWS commander, and Maj. Gen. William V. McBride, chief of staff, Hq. MAC, by Brig. Gen. William H. Best Jr., AWS commander, during a recent AWS dining-out.

(U.S. Air Force Photo. See editorial, pg. 2)



AWARDED FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE is SSgt. Edward A. Hanrahan, administrative specialist in Hq. 4th Weather Wing, Ent AFB, Colo. Sergeant Hanrahan receives the Air Force Commendation Medal from Col. L. J. Neyland, commander of the 4th WWg., for service while assigned to Detachment 6, 6499th Special Activities Group, Vietnam. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

## Weather captures NCO school slots

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — AWS personnel took the top five positions in the MAC NCO Leadership School class at McGuire AFB, N. J., during ceremonies April 23. Honor graduate of the three-week course was Sgt. Joseph Dino Jr. of the 58th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, Kirtland AFB, N. M. Named recipient of the Commandant's Award for the greatest improvement during the course was the second highest-scoring student, SSgt. N. Keuning of

Detachment 6, 6th Weather Wing, Hanscomb Field, Mass. The next three slots were taken by: Sgt. Harold F. Lee of Det. 34, 26th WSq., Dyess AFB, Tex.; Sgt. Donald E. Smith from Det. 15, 15th WSq., Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; and SSgt. David L. Richardson of Det. 1, 4th WWg., Ent AFB, Colo. A sixth AWS member, SSgt. Carle H. Clarke of OL-A, Det. 33, 3rd WSq. at Polk Army Air Field, La., finished 10th in the class of 27.

## CMSgt. of 4th Wing

**CMSgt. EDUARDO HIDROGO**  
HEADQUARTERS  
4th WEATHER WING  
ENT AFB, COLO.

A NATIVE OF AUSTIN, TEX., HE ENLISTED IN THE MERCHANT MARINES IN DECEMBER 1945, THEN THE ARMY AIR CORPS IN SEPTEMBER 1946.

CAME TO AWS IN 1949 ATTENDED THE WEATHER SATELLITE SCHOOL IN WASH., D. C., IN 1965 AND SET UP A WEATHER SATELLITE UNIT AT OSAN AB, KOREA.

HAS SERVED IN FIVE FOREIGN COUNTRIES DURING HIS 25 YEAR CAREER: JAPAN, KOREA, OKINAWA, GERMANY & ENGLAND.

I'M BUSHED - I THINK I'LL FLIRT WITH SOME GOOD LOOKING DAME SO MY WIFE WILL TAKE ME HOME

ATTENDED THE MAC NCO ACADEMY IN 1959.

AVID SPORTSMAN - PLAYS GOLF, BOWLING FISHING AND HUNTING.

HE HAS THREE SONS: ROMAN, MATTHEW AND MICHAEL.

BY THOMAS M. BOLKOVAC 1971

## Navy weatherman nominated admiral

WASH., D. C. — For the first time in the history of the United States Navy, a meteorological specialist has been nominated to the rank of rear admiral. President Nixon's appointment, which is subject to Senate confirmation, named Capt. William J. Kotsch, commander of the Naval Weather Service Command, Navy's counterpart to Air Weather Service.

As commander, Captain Kotsch heads an organization composed of 16 weather centrals and facilities, including a numerical center at Monterey, Calif., and 48 detachments which are located at Naval air stations around the world.

## Colonel heads AWS information

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — Lt. Col. William H. Quelch Jr., has assumed duties as Air Weather Service Director of Information, succeeding Capt. Terrence Mayer, who has been reassigned to Southeast Asia.



Lt. Col. Quelch

## Showers and soap in Korea forecast

OSAN AIR BASE, Korea — The forecast for the Got Dong San orphanage near Osan AB is showers for the rest of the year—the soap-and-water kind.

Thanks mainly to weathermen of Detachment 15, 20th Weather Squadron here, the 39 orphans are now bathing in a brand new shower house, built largely by the men of Det. 15. Financial assistance came from the U.S. Army's 38th Brigade which co-sponsors the orphanage with Det. 15.

Since hot water is a luxury in Korea, the orphans had to use unheated well water before the shower house was completed. Begun in August 1970, the project was completed in March of this year.

Tools, equipment and supplies not available or too expensive to buy on the local economy were loaned to Det. 15's construction gang by Osan AB. Koreans lent a hand for those jobs requiring skilled labor, such as installing the water heater and storage tank specially built in Seoul and tiling the shower.

In addition to the new bathing facility the weathermen built a swing set and a "teeter-totter."

# St. Bernard symbol serves as reminder

In Air Weather Service this is the year of the St. Bernard. General Best chose this symbolism to remind each of you in the command that the important word in our name is SERVICE. None of us should need reminding, but a number of recent incidents have made it pretty clear that some of us do, hence—the St. Bernard.

It would be much easier if we could hit each prediction right on the button, but there is no way in the present state-of-art of meteorology that we can provide perfect forecasting. Therefore, it is extremely important that there be a mutual understanding between AWS and its customers of each other's capabilities and limitations.

Many facets of weather service have shown improvement over past years. First class observers, instrumentation and communications have insured accurate and timely observations for aircraft operations. We are significantly better in long-haul wind, temperature and area forecasts and have made quite definite progress in forecasting thunderstorms and tornadoes.

Our real crux is point forecasting—terminal, target or the detailed specifics of low level route or flying training area. Despite inherent difficulties, quality control statistics over the past 15 years show a painfully slow improvement in our accuracy.

Even though things are improving, we are still a long way from being as much better as we would like to be. Improving service to operational customers depends on two things in almost equal amounts.

The first is an AWS responsibility. Simply stated it is zeal on the part of the weatherman, dedication to providing the best possible service within the state-of-the-art.

It is to focus Air Weather Service effort in this area that General Best designated this the year of the St. Bernard in this command. Beat on doors, find out what your customers want, and see that they get it to the very limit of your ability.

The second ingredient for improved service is not exclusively in the AWS ballpark, but is the mutual understanding, rapport which must exist between you, the weatherman, and the operational customer. It involves dialogue and feedback, i.e., a constant exchange so that you will always know what you are doing wrong, or right, what things you should continue to do as you are doing, and where you dropped the ball or what you need to change.

Feedback can be obtained during staff assistance visits, inspections and command visits and through your frequent contacts with your customers.

We must provide the best environmental service possible. With your help we can. (WHQ)



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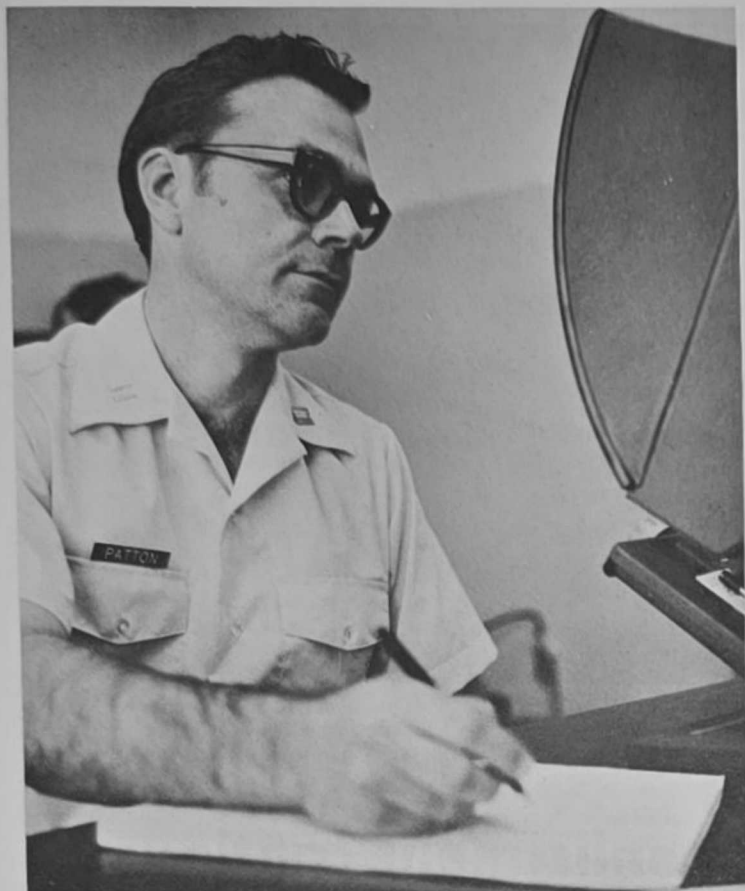
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**BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM H. BEST Jr.**  
Commander, Air Weather Service

Lt. COL. WILLIAM H. QUELCH Jr., Director of Information

MSGT. JAMES ROZANSKI, Managing Editor

SGT. DENNIS KEANE, Editor



REVIEWING A PORTION of the myriad of data used in constructing the 17th Weather Squadron's Aerospace Scientific Services program is Capt. David B. Patton, assigned to the squadron at Travis AFB, Calif. After six years enlisted service Captain Patton received his commission through the AECF program. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Milt Capps)

## Road to commission takes various routes

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — The route to earning a degree and a commission can take many avenues and detours. In the case of Capt. David B. Patton, the road was rough, long, and at times appeared to be without end.

However, after three-and-a-half years of studying chemical engineering, six years enlisted service, and learning some of the torturous Russian language, he earned his degree in meteorology, and now monitors aerospace science activities for 17th Weather Squadron headquarters at Travis AFB, Calif.

"If you were color blind," Captain Patton explains, "about the only course of study open to enlisted in the late 1950's were clerk or language specialist oriented."

Thus, it was that the captain soon after enlisting received assignment to the U.S. Army Language School at Monterey, Calif., in 1957. More education and a commission became his goal after a string of oversea and stateside assignments. He received his 1963 meteorology degree from Pennsylvania State University and completed Officer Training School in 1964.

Since then, in addition to forecaster duties with the Military Airlift, Strategic, and Tactical Air Commands, he earned a master's degree in atmospheric sciences from the University of Washington.

Now, with a Vietnam tour behind him, the education process continues. He remarked, "The art of weather forecasting is constantly changing, slowly approaching the longed-for status of true science."

With an air of long-sighted optimism, he explains, "As much as we hate to admit it, weather fore-

casting is far from an 'exact' science. The multitude of weather variables from dew point to cloud heights, necessitate constant monitoring. The forecaster, at this stage of weather technology, is largely at the call of these whimsical factors.

"Different 'clients' have different uses for bits of weather information. And in that fact," he says, "lies the challenge, trying to fulfill all needs at all times.

"It's an often frustrating business meteorologists agree. However, accuracy and expertise are improving. The 'unknowns' are diminishing."

Scientific methods, perhaps spiced with luck, are yielding constantly sound forecasts — as well as challenge and satisfaction to men like Capt. David Patton.

## RB-57F photos aid blight project

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — An RB-57F aircraft from the 58th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, Kirtland AFB, N. M. is temporarily based at Scott in the midst of Illinois cornfields to take preliminary aerial photographs for a summer-long government project to study Southern Leaf Blight.

The long-winged high-altitude aircraft is specially equipped to take optical and infrared in-flight pictures for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's continuing Earth Resources Program. In its present task to permit "before and after" comparison of midwestern farmlands the aircraft will photograph much of Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan and Nebraska.

# Weathermen support Army during mock battle exercise

LANGLEY AFB, Va. — Last month 23 personnel from various 5th Weather Wing units converged on Ft. Bliss, Tex., to make up the Weather Support Force (WSF) to an exercise named Bold Shot/Brim Fire.

The joint forces training operation involved more than 2,500 Army and Air Force personnel and consisted of ground and air maneuvers extending northward into the Air Defense Center's New Mexico Ranges.

The Army Force (ARFOR) included one battalion of mechanized infantry and a brigade headquarters element, more than

600 officers and men, which were airlifted in a C-130 aircraft from Ft. Hood to Ft. Bliss, Tex.

Their mission was to destroy in mock battle a guerrilla stronghold and evacuate citizens endangered by hostile forces. Throughout the exercise, the ground forces were supported by Tactical Air Command F-4 "Phantom" fighters and RF-4 reconnaissance jets flying from their forward support base (FSB) at Holloman AFB, N. M.

Commander of the Weather Support Force (WSF) was Lt. Col. William G. French Jr., of the 1st Weather Squadron, Mc-

Dill AFB, Fla. Focal point of the WSF was the Joint Task Force Weather Center (JTF WECEN) at Ft. Bliss. The WECEN issued Mission Control Forecasts (MCF) during the employment phase of the exercise for all Air Force and Army forces. Army's weather elements included the staff weather officer to the forces commander and additional weather officers assigned to the various fighter and reconnaissance units.

During exercises of this nature, the different weather positions ultimately report to the Joint Task Force weather officer who in turn reports to the Weather Support Force commander.

One unit which played a major role in the exercise, yet was not in the weather support force, was the Tactical Forecast Center at Langley AFB, Va. They issued the mission control forecasts for deployment and redeployment phases of the exercise when the weather support force personnel were deploying to the exercise and returning to home stations.

## Rare breed to loose one more warrant

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — At 55, CWO-4 George W. Grambley is the oldest member of the 7th Weather Wing, and — with more than 26 years service — he retires this month.

The Ohio native is one of less than 400 warrant officers left in the Air Force. As of May 1, there were 49 in Air Weather Service. In 1957, issuance of the warrants was discontinued; 11,000 members then held the rank.

Today, the white-haired chief of wing personnel exhales an "at-home" atmosphere; "at-home" playing musical hits of the Thirties on a piano, "at-home" with his Hawaiian guitar, or simply "at-home" talking shop.

He was no doubt at ease, also, as he rose through every enlisted level to his present "unusual" rank; one he terms neither "airman," nor "officer," but, rather, an historical footnote as old as the United States military, itself.

It's a long way from high school in Holy Trinity, Ala., in

1933 to retirement at Scott AFB in 1971.

His route was profitable: in its course he picked up more than 60 college credits, over 200 Extension Course Institute credit hours, numerous awards and assignments from Japan to Arizona.

Married to the former Margaret Bell of Cleveland, he has two children: a 33-year-old son and a 27-year-old daughter. He recently became a grandfather.

His twin brother, William, retired in 1961 from Air Force as a senior master sergeant.

With ONE career behind him, this energetic warrant officer looks toward a SECOND, as yet undetermined. A back-to-school venture may be in the offing as he returns to Mesa, Ariz. His college credits from the Universities of Maryland and Alabama are in business administration.

By 1977, he notes, Air Force warrant officers will be virtually extinct, having made way for what he considers a valuable new emphasis upon the "top three" enlisted grades.

## 85 identified for overseas

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — AWS officials have selected 84 enlisted men for July 1971 overseas assignments. Those identified are listed below.

RANK NAME	COUNTRY
MSgt. Charles V. Fields	Korea
MSgt. Richard S. Hathaway	Philippines
MSgt. Stuart H. Peterson	Byelor Islands
MSgt. Jerome A. Schmitz	Thailand
MSgt. Eugene M. Weber	Vietnam
TSgt. Lucius M. Bennett	Alaska
TSgt. Arthur E. Billue	Vietnam
TSgt. Robert W. Booth	Vietnam
TSgt. Kenneth E. Butts	Vietnam
TSgt. Robert L. Byers	Guam
TSgt. Maxie A. Cox	Korea
TSgt. Jack H. Dildine	Vietnam
TSgt. Maurice A. Ensel	Korea
TSgt. Robert A. Freeman	Iran
TSgt. Ronald E. Godbout	Greenland
TSgt. Robert L. Hagan	Greenland
TSgt. Richard J. Hall	Puerto Rico
TSgt. Gordon L. Holland	Thailand
TSgt. Roger E. Krites	Vietnam
TSgt. Stephen J. Makis Jr.	Thailand
TSgt. William E. Mang Jr.	Guam
TSgt. Lloyd E. Thomas	Alaska
TSgt. Carl B. Wilkins	Alaska
SSgt. William W. Best Jr.	England
SSgt. Thomas S. Brock	Thailand
SSgt. Richard A. Chattick	Vietnam
SSgt. David W. Dean	England
SSgt. Daniel E. Donohue	Vietnam
SSgt. Manning J. Eldridge	Alaska
SSgt. Nyle K. Friesen	Germany
SSgt. Dennis M. Halbert	Vietnam
SSgt. David L. Hammer	Vietnam
SSgt. DeWayne James	Korea
SSgt. Isaac L. Jones	Germany
SSgt. Roger W. Mead Jr.	Korea
SSgt. James E. Neeley	Germany
SSgt. Jack L. Rice	Vietnam
SSgt. Thomas J. Scholl	Vietnam
SSgt. Jimmy L. Smith	Alaska
SSgt. James H. Strobeck	Panama Canal
SSgt. Paul L. Wagner	Alaska
SSgt. Thomas J. Zellmer	Philippines
Sgt. Carl E. Aldridge	Vietnam
Sgt. Lloyd M. Bradshaw	Thailand
Sgt. Jackson L. Brown	Alaska
Sgt. Thomas D. Burns	Greenland
Sgt. Raymond M. Erland	Korea
Sgt. Michael C. Flood	Greenland
Sgt. Richard J. Fry	Vietnam
Sgt. Richard G. Gedminas	Okinawa
Sgt. Edwin B. Goodridge	Philippines
Sgt. Peter J. Grant	Guam
Sgt. Philip E. Harris	Alaska
Sgt. Douglas C. Kinale	Germany
Sgt. Richard E. Kluge	Puerto Rico
Sgt. Thomas G. Lambert	Vietnam
Sgt. Kenneth A. Law	Panama Canal
Sgt. Harvey B. Lindner	Thailand
Sgt. Cornelia Lucas Jr.	Thailand
Sgt. William H. Martin	Germany
Sgt. Michael Martindale	Vietnam
Sgt. David W. McAnally	Alaska
Sgt. Duane J. Meyer	Korea
Sgt. Timothy Miecznikowski	Greenland
Sgt. Ronald S. Oshiro	Okinawa
Sgt. Robert A. Rein	Japan
Sgt. Martin H. Reibel	Vietnam
Sgt. Ronald Rhotto	Vietnam
Sgt. Frank J. Samp	Alaska
Sgt. Joseph P. Schmidt	Vietnam
Sgt. Douglas P. Springer	Greenland
Sgt. Stephen G. Thomas	Germany
Sgt. Guy E. Tucker	Germany
Sgt. Wilson P. Tuten Jr.	Germany
Sgt. Kelly E. Van Hees	Alaska
Sgt. Warren Vandellinde	Alaska
Sgt. Dale M. Wares	Greenland
Sgt. Robert J. Williams	Germany
A1C Robert W. Darland Jr.	Guam
A1C James W. Knock	Greenland
A1C Wendell K. Mobry	Vietnam
A1C James A. Olan	Alaska
A1C John H. Robbs	Vietnam
A1C Michael A. Sheets	Thailand



FLASHING A FAMILIAR GRIN as he talks about his 26-year Air Force career, is CWO-4 George W. Grambley. Before his retirement this month, Grambley was chief of personnel for the 7th Weather Wing, Scott AFB, Ill. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Milt Capps)

# Thule rawinsonde section breaking balloon record

by 1st Lt. Robert S. Hauter

THULE AB, GREENLAND— Twice each day the teletype machine is flooded with a seemingly endless sequence of numbers. At first glance an unknowing person might think these numbers had no meaning. By the time the observer has plotted the data and the forecaster has analyzed it, a better look at the present weather situation is readily available. Where does this data come from? This is the end result of a rawinsonde run.

Here at Detachment 48, 4th Weather Wing, we are fortunate enough to have our own rawinsonde section. During the past several years this section has had an outstanding record including the Bassett Award for 1969, awarded to units within AWS

which have achieved the best overall record for a given year.

While it may be too early to start comparing records, it should be noted that the rawinsonde section this year is surpassing the performance of the 1969 section by a comfortable margin. During the first two months of 1971 the rawinsonde section was able to successfully complete 100 per cent of its runs. This is the first time this has ever been achieved at Thule.

Much of the credit for the section performance during this time period goes to Sgt. Joseph E. Serra, who served as the section chief from Dec. 2, 1970, until March 2, 1971. He recently was succeeded by TSgt. William O. Brooks, a new arrival at Thule. Sergeant Brooks has as his rawinsonde operators, in addition to

Sgt. Serra, Sgts. William S. Zick and Thomas G. Hegstrom and A1C Richard A. Fleming. Another operator was A1C Stephen Z. Wasylosky, who recently left Thule for a new assignment at Eglin AFB, Fla.

The rawinsonde runs at Thule, as at most stations, are made at 00Z and 12Z. For each run a synthetic rubber balloon is filled with helium so that its lifting weight is approximately five pounds. Attached to the balloon is an instrument package that transmits radio frequency signals. From these signals temperature, humidity, pressure, wind direction and speed are determined.

Heights vary depending on the season, between 80,000 and 90,000 feet during the winter and increasing to 110,000 to 115,000 feet during the summer.

The heights are lower during the winter than they are during the summer because total darkness and cold arctic air prevent the balloon from expanding to its maximum size. Since the balloon is made of a synthetic rubber material, it becomes somewhat brittle in very cold air. During the other seasons balloon contact with warmer air and direct sunlight combine to make the balloon more pliable.

The average height achieved during the first two months of 1971 was better than 91,000 feet. This is the highest average ever achieved. There are two reasons for this improvement. First, the balloons were slightly under-inflated which decreases the ascent rate and makes a higher altitude possible. The second reason is due to an unusual stratospheric warming which took place during January.

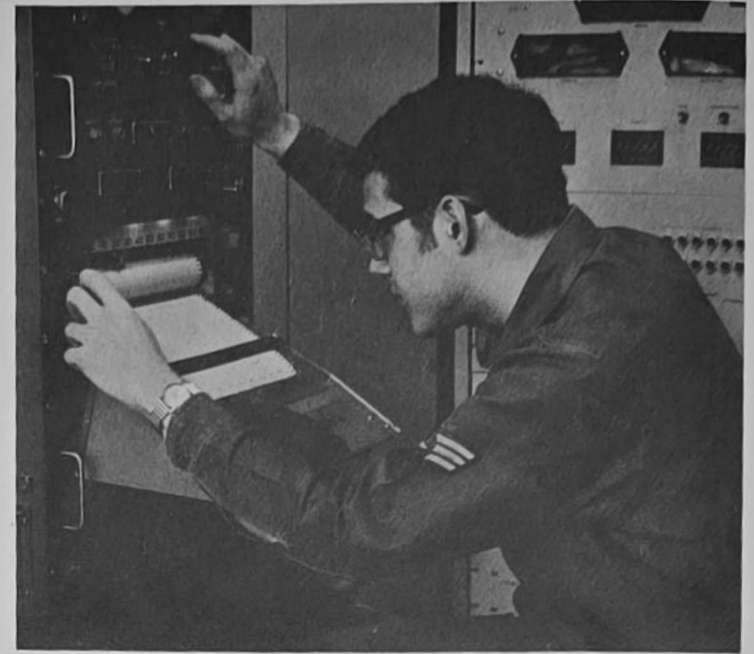
To achieve a 100 per cent completion percentage such as the rawinsonde section has done, there are several important contributing factors.

One is the weather itself. Thule has had a mild winter especially in terms of winds. Winds of up to 50 knots may last as long as 12-24 hours at Thule but during January and February the highest wind recorded was 38 knots. During winter whenever the wind speed is in excess of 30 knots rawinsonde launches may be attempted but are seldom successful because of a very small icy release area.

Another reason for missing a run is the occasional machine outages that occur. To combat such outages Thule also has an outstanding maintenance section.

The maintenance section is headed by MSgt. James R. Dyal who is assisted by Sgts. Arthur Reyes, Carl D. Hillstrom and Valery E. Lipps. Sgt. Lipps recently arrived from Warner Robins AFB, Ga., and replaced A1C Michael E. Wade who departed for an assignment at Ellington AFB, Tex. This section has done a truly exceptional job keeping all the weather equipment in working order through the long and bitter cold arctic night.

The Thule weather detachment is justifiably proud of the achievements of these sections, and feel their cooperative can-do attitude will lead to continual success.



READING A SEQUENCE of numbers is Sgt. Joseph E. Serra a rawinsonde operator for Detachment 48 at Thule AB. Sergeant Serra was section chief of rawinsonde runs before his departure in March. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

## Weather officers speak to university students

ENT AFB, Colo.— Three 4th Weather Wing personnel have just completed a series of AWS Orientation Speakers Bureau engagements on several western university campuses.

Addressing Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFROTC) students on opportunities available to them in meteorology and more especially AWS, the officers traveled to the campuses of Colorado State, Arizona State, Utah State, Oregon State and Washington State Universities, as well as the University of Montana and the University of Washington.

Participating in the speakers tour were Lt. Col. Joseph K.

Lambert, commander of Detachment 1, 4th WWg., Cheyenne Mountain, Lt. Col. Robert F. Short, chief of the wing's current operations and training branch and Capt. Franklin R. Hartranft, system analyst in the aerospace sciences division.

The officers were selected for their interest in public speaking and as outstanding representatives of AWS. They spoke to nearly 900 students about the history of AWS, the role it plays in our military and national defense structure and the work being done in weather modification.

They also explained the educational opportunities in AWS and where they, as potential members of Air Force, might fit into AWS.



DISPLAYING THEIR AWARDS recently presented are Sgt. Daniel A. Cowley, Det. 10, 15th WSq. maintenance technician, and Mr. Samuel Titto, of the detachment administration section. Sgt. Cowley received a \$50.00 cash award for an AF Form 1000 suggestion and a Gold Pride Certificate for his outstanding work in maintenance. Mr. Titto received an outstanding performance rating which was adjudged by the McGuire AFB Incentive Awards Committee to warrant a Superior Performance Award and \$200.00 cash. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

## Reenlistment continues varied, fulfilling life

SUNNYVALE AFB, Calif.— After 21 years as an AWS forecaster and nearly 28 years total military service, CMSgt. Theodore V. Meigs (Major, USAF Reserve) reenlisted 12 April, 1971, for another 3-year hitch to continue his varied and rewarding career in the Air Force.

Sergeant Meigs entered the service in July 1942 through Aviation Cadets and was commissioned a second lieutenant in March 1943. After brief but concentrated flight training in B-24's, Lieutenant Meigs qualified as aircraft commander, was assigned a crew and transferred to the North Pacific as a replacement unit.

On his third mission over Northern Japan, a 20 mm explosive projectile from a Zero shattered the windshield of his aircraft. Fragments of the shell shattered his jaw, entered his vocal cords and chest. As in many exploits, it was a joint crew effort that brought the aircraft back to Attu, Alaska.

After a considerable medical patch-up job, now 1st Lt. Meigs chose to return to duty in lieu of a medical discharge, and was retrained into fighter aircraft.

He flew a variety of aircraft (P-40, P-51, C-47 and B-25) as a training officer at Key Field, Miss., and Rapid City AFB, South Dakota, during 1945-46. During 1947-48 he flew support at MacDill AFB, Fla. He left the service in 1948, but in March 1949 enlisted as a MSgt. in a field related to his previous training . . . meteorology.

He graduated from forecaster school in June 1950 and since has been assigned to base weather stations, weather centers and weather centrals at numerous locations throughout the world.

On 30 May 1970, CMSgt. Meigs arrived at Detachment 3, Hq. AWS, Sunnyvale AFB, Calif. Det. 3 provides environmental support to the Air Force Satellite Control Facility which commands and controls all Air Force Satellites in orbit.



MAKING IT THREE MORE, is CMSgt. Theodore V. Meigs, a 28-year Air Force veteran. Sergeant Meigs, who has spent 21 of those 28 years in AWS, is administered the oath of enlistment by Lt. Col. Kenneth Pitchford, commander of Detachment 3, Hq. AWS. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

# High Flight officer typically untypical

SCOTT AFB, Ill.—Who is the typical High Flight officer? What is he doing that I'm not? These just may be the typical questions that AWS officers ask themselves, especially now that the 43 MAC officers were recently chosen as the fourth MAC High Flight.

Capt. Frank Hartranft, a systems analyst for Aerospace Sciences Division, Hq. 4th Weather Wing, is one of the 43.

Captain Hartranft entered the Air Force in 1957 and after graduating from the weather observer course at Chanute AFB, Ill., he was assigned as an observer at Travis AFB, Calif. He spent two years there before attending forecaster school and transferring to Barksdale AFB, La.

He qualified for Airmen Education and Commissioning Program (AECIP) in 1961 and received his bachelor of science degree in meteorology from Florida State University. Commissioned

a distinguished graduate and a second lieutenant in 1963 he returned to Travis AFB as a duty forecaster where he remained until his Vietnam assignment in 1965.

In 1966 Hartranft moved from Tan Son Nhut AB, Vietnam, to a location south of Pleiku to support Army helicopter operations. At this location Captain Hartranft set up and commanded a new seven-man weather detachment.

Returning from overseas to an Air Force Institute of Technology assignment late in 1966, Hartranft received his master's degree in atmospheric sciences from the University of Washington at Seattle. He has continued with his education since being assigned to Hq. 4th Weather Wing in June 1968.

Not computer qualified when he arrived, Hartranft qualified himself as a programmer after

six months of individual study. He has since contributed significantly in the development of a computerized weather-map typing procedure which has application throughout AWS in the development of forecast aids. For this achievement, Captain Hartranft and two of his colleagues were nominated for the 1970 AWS Zimmerman Award—an award for the best application of climatology within AWS.

Captain Hartranft has been active in the community. As a Kiwanian, he has been very active with youth and is chairman of the club's Boys and Girls Committee as well as Church Superintendent at the First Congregational Church in Colorado Springs. He has also worked with the Cub Scouts and is Chairman of the club's Awards Committee, and serves as publicity chairman for Pack 34.

Captain Hartranft has a keen interest in motivating young students to pursue careers in meteorology and is continually fulfilling requests for weather lectures at local schools and special groups. He has travelled widely, presenting briefings to university AF-ROTC students.

When asked what he thought of the High Flight Program, Captain Hartranft replied, "I feel that it is of value to the individual and the Air Force. It is a definite means of introducing personnel to important audiences both up and down the line."

## Save for future by saving bonds

SCOTT AFB, Ill.—Time payments before the purchase of an automobile is unheard of but it is also practical.

An excellent means of making these "time payments" in the Pay Roll Deduction Plan for the purchase of Savings Bonds. Through the plan, the saver can accumulate sufficient funds to purchase the automobile for cash, thus saving interest and other financing costs.

Many persons consider the purchase of Savings Bonds solely as a retirement savings plan—and while it is that also—there are many applications of the plan.

The purchase of an automobile is only one. One banker reported that he has been purchasing his automobiles for years on the Savings Bond "time payment" plan. He said that he started years ago by authorizing a Bond deduction during the period after he had paid for his car and before he was ready to buy a new one. When he again "got the car fever," he had accumulated enough Bonds to make a good cash deal on his new car without having to go to his auto loan department for the thick monthly payment book. He has been buying cars this way for years.

It doesn't have to be an automobile. Many people use the Payroll Deduction Plan to save for the purchase of furniture, children's education, a wedding, and



CAUGHT IN THE ACT of his job as systems analyst for the 4th Weather Wing is Capt. Frank Hartranft. Capt. Hartranft was a recent High Flight selectee. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

## Four units capture commanders awards

SCOTT AFB, Ill.—Four winners of this year's AWS Commanders awards have been announced by AWS Commander Brig. Gen. William H. Best Jr. The awards, named for past AWS commanders, recognize outstanding achievements by weathermen and organizations.

The Williams award, honoring Col. Randolph P. Williams, who organized AWS in 1937, goes to Detachment 1, 31st Weather Squadron, 2nd Weather Wing, at Bitburg AB, Germany, naming it the outstanding AWS weather detachment of the year.

On the basis of in-depth staff assistance visits conducted at all subordinate units during 1970, Det. 1 was adjudged to be the best managed unit within AWS.

Winning the Bassett award is Det. 4, Operating Location A, 21st WSq., Iraklion AB, Crete. The detachment was selected for over-all superior performance from among 11 units considered. Besides mission performance, other factors such as site location, working conditions and personnel assignments were considered.

The award is named in honor of Maj. Gen. Harold H. Bassett, twice commander of AWS.

The Senter award, for excellence in weather reconnaissance, was won by the 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif. Last year the 55th flew 9,999 hours on a variety of missions, fulfilling the requirements of weather reconnaissance and aerial sampling for the Department of Defense, the National Hurricane Center, the Systems Command, the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories, the Strategic Air Command and the Tactical Air Command.

The European Weather Central (EWC), Det. 40, 28th WSq., won the Moorman award for 1970. EWC personnel performed all phases of their complex and diversified mission in an outstanding manner. Throughout the center's move from High Wycombe AS to Croughton RAF, England, personnel continued a constant flow of quality forecasts to customers.

To handle expanded responsibilities to all units of the 2nd WWg. in Europe, the Mediterranean and adjacent areas, EWC made drastic changes in its concept of operation, mission philosophy and output of products. Essentially the change was from the products of a classical line-drawing covering a third of the Northern Hemisphere to real-time, short range "sensible weather" forecasts concentrating on the European area. Field units believe that the new process is a great improvement over the previous, and the new products are highly useful to tactical crews and decision-makers who control air and ground operations throughout the theatre.

## Weather recon officer, MAC Officer of the Year

SCOTT AFB, Ill.—Capt. Daniel K. Akaki, an avionics officer for the 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron at McClellan AFB, Calif., was recently selected from a group of 22 nominations representing MAC units around the world as Military Airlift Command's Junior Officer of the Year for 1970.

The junior officer award is based on outstanding accomplishments during the past year, significant self-improvement during off-duty hours and participation in social, cultural or religious activities both in the Air Force and community.

A letter of nomination from Col. Ernest E. Triplett, vice commander of the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing, McClellan AFB, acclaimed Captain Akaki's participation in the development and efficient operation of the Radiological Safety Program. "The addition of a nucleonic oil quantity-indicating system on the WC-130B aircraft created a need for an extensive educational program of safeguards in storage and han-

dling procedures." Captain Akaki "rose to the occasion and achieved excellent results with minimum expenditure of time and material."

Captain Akaki's professional expertise in coordinating all phases of personnel training, equipment procurement and supply functions was also commended by Colonel Triplett.

MAC's junior officer of the year and his wife devoted many hours to working with the less fortunate children in the community. Both have participated as tutor counselors for "Friends Outside," an organization serving those children where one or both parents are in jail. They are also members of the Asian-American Community services and are particularly interested in helping older citizens obtain needed medical and social services.

Captain Akaki holds a bachelor of arts degree in biological sciences from San Jose (Calif.) State College and was commissioned a second lieutenant in June 1967.



MAKING FINAL CHECKS on a radar altimeter before installing it in a squadron WC-135B is Capt. Daniel Akaki, avionics officer in the 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif. Captain Akaki is MAC Junior Officer of the year for 1970. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



DIRECTING THE ATTENTION of youngsters from the base elementary school at Yokota AB, Japan, is Capt. Robert A. Marzano, an air reconnaissance weather officer for the 56th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron. The children and their teacher spent the day learning about their environment. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

## Births in AWS

SCAFFIDI, Sgt. and Mrs. Michael A., a son. Father assigned to Det. 9, 4th WWg., Tyndall AFB, Fla.

GREENEWALD, Sgt. and Mrs. James H., a son, Anthony Arthur. Father assigned to Det. 21, 16th WSq., Hunter Army Airfield, Ga.

HULL, AIC and Mrs. Rickey L., a daughter, Karianne. Father assigned to Det. 14, 16th WSq., Fort Hood, Tex.

BLATTAU, 1st Lt. and Mrs. Steve, a son. Father assigned to Det. 9, 4th WWg., Tyndall AFB, Fla.

PERANTONI, Capt. and Mrs. Edward, a daughter. Father assigned to Det. 17, 24th WSq., at Williams AFB, Ariz.

LACY, SSgt. and Mrs. Robert C., a daughter, Barbara Ann. Father assigned to Det. 14, 16th WSq., Fort Hood, Tex.

DONALDSON, AIC and Mrs. Frank, a son. Father assigned to Det. 9, 4th WWg., Tyndall AFB, Tex.

REGULUS, SSgt. and Mrs. Elijah J. Jr., a son, Lawrence Anthony. Father assigned to Det. 29, 6th WWg., Fort Richie, Md.

BLUNCK, Maj. and Mrs. Kurt G., a daughter. Father assigned to 31st WSq., Ramstein AB, Germany.

LATHAN, 1st Lt. and Mrs. Carl D., a daughter. Father assigned to Det. 9, 4th WWg., Tyndall AFB, Fla.

HENDERSON, 1st Lt. and Mrs. John R., a son. Father assigned to Det. 10, 26th WSq., Westover AFB, Mass.

SHELTON, SSgt. and Mrs. Eddie W., a son. Father assigned to Det. 31, 25th WSq., Nellis AFB, Nev.

SCHENK, 2nd Lt. and Mrs. Horst A., a daughter, Heidi Caroline. Father assigned to Det. 8, 16th WSq., Fort Riley, Kansas.

BROCK, Sgt. and Mrs. Dana R., a daughter. Father assigned to Det. 9, 4th WWg., Tyndall AFB, Fla.

WOOD, AIC and Mrs. Charles

A., a daughter, Lia Elizabeth. Father assigned to Hq. 3rd WWg., Offutt AFB, Neb.

BERTOLINO, AIC and Mrs. Stephen, a daughter. Father assigned to Det. 10, 26th WSq., Westover AFB, Mass.

CONTARINO, Sgt. and Mrs. John, a daughter, Joanne Giusy. Father assigned to Det. 8, 21st WSq., Aviano AB, Italy.

BRADLY, Capt. and Mrs. Michael S., a son, Bradly Allen. Father assigned to OL-B, 1st WWg.

SPENCER, Sgt. and Mrs. Richard, a son. Father assigned to Det. 9, 4th WWg., Tyndall AFB, Fla.

DZIEZYK, Sgt. and Mrs. Thomas, a son, Vincent. Father assigned to Det. 12, 4th WWg., Otis AFB, Mass.

EWING, Sgt. and Mrs. Eddie, a son, David Lee. Father assigned to Det. 2, 4th WWg., Kingsley Field, Ore.

SCHUMACHER, SSgt. and Mrs. Richard M., a daughter. Father assigned to Det. 9, 4th WWg., Tyndall AFB, Fla.

BRIDGES, Sgt. and Mrs. Dennis E., a son, Darren Scott. Father assigned to Det. 21, 31st WSq., Ramstein AB, Germany.

REHKAMP, Lt. and Mrs. Donald D., a daughter, Romany. Father assigned to Det. 12, 4th WWg., Otis AFB, Mass.

WALLACE, Capt. and Mrs. Larry W., a son, Brandon Allan. Father assigned OL-B, 1st WWg.

ADKINS, MSgt. and Mrs. Luther T., a son. Father assigned to Det. 9, 4th WWg., Tyndall AFB, Fla.

BOLDMAN, SSgt. and Mrs. James W. Jr., a son, James Wilson III. Father assigned to Det. 2, 4th WWg., Kingsley Field, Oregon.

WALKER, Capt. and Mrs. Harold C., a son, Thomas Allen. Father assigned to Det. 21, 31st WSq., Ramstein AB, Germany.

CAUSEY, SSgt. and Mrs. Joseph W., a daughter. Father assigned to Det. 9, 4th WWg., Tyndall AFB, Fla.

## Full-time artist draws for safety

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — "Turning people on" to the Air Force Safety Program has been tried a-plenty, but 7th Weather Wing graphics technician TSgt. Robert L. Slade is better at it than most.

A former Air Policeman, the 29-year-old Detroit native became an illustrator in 1965 — "officially," that is, for Sergeant Slade has done a great deal of "extra-duty" and "courtsey" work for his and neighboring units during his 13 years in Air Force.

In the headquarters for his Scott AFB-centered wing, the sergeant turns out a wide range of products, from vugraphs used in management analysis to the voluptuous poster girls that remind all of safety. More traditional studies also appear.

He recently completed a colorful, lifelike portrait of a St. Bernard dog and pup, designed to publicize the "Year of the St. Bernard"—an AWS program emphasizing the tailoring of weather support to suit a customer's needs.

The artisan has done his work in such places as Japan, France, and more recently Hq. MACV in Saigon. Last year he was chosen to attend the Military Airlift Command NCO Academy at Norton AFB, Calif.

At home with virtually any medium, the sergeant vows to "stay in graphics"—a desire sustained by his art-oriented hobbies, photography and painting.

In line with the diversification of his talent, the informally trained illustrator hopes to be assigned later to support a military television unit, "because I haven't done it before."

## Detachment officers claim to be oldest

LANGLEY AFB, Va. — A trio of second lieutenants assigned to Detachment 75, 5th Weather Wing, claim that as a group, they have more time in service and are older than any other trio of second lieutenants.

Their claim is based on a total of 30 years, five months and five days in the Air Force and their combined age is 89 years. The average time in service for the trio is 10 years.

The three second lieutenants weren't always officers, though. David C. McIntosh, 27, was a staff sergeant until he attended the University of Wisconsin. He attended the school through the Airmen Education and Commissioning Program (AECIP) and received his degree in meteorology.

The second member of the trio, Ronald C. Gilchrist, is a former staff sergeant. Lieutenant Gilchrist received his commission through AECIP at Pennsylvania State University. His degree is in meteorology. Prior to this he had served with the Air Force Security Service.

The lieutenant is the oldest of the trio at 31 years of age and has served 13 years in the Air Force.

The last member of the trio is Earl R. Snipes who was a technical sergeant prior to attending the University of Oklahoma where he also received a degree in meteorology. He was commissioned through AECIP. Lieutenant Snipes has served 11 years in the Air Force and is 30 years old.

## ON THE skew-T AWS Global Report

Ft. Hood, Tex.

For its efforts in supporting the AWS Category III test of the AN/MMQ-2 meteorological van, Detachment 14, 16th Weather Squadron, recently received the MAC Blue Pride Unit Achievement Award. The test was designed to evaluate the accuracy, reliability and mobility of the van. To assure the successful completion of the test, Det. 14 personnel held daily meetings with test personnel to discuss problems and provide guidance where necessary.

### RAF Mildenhall, England

While stationed with Detachment 8, 28th Weather Squadron, MSgt. Vernon L. Patterson, a forecaster now assigned to the Automation Division of the Environmental Technical Applications Center (ETAC), Wash, D. C., authored a paper on forecasting the time of fog clearance which has recently been published in The Meteorological Magazine, an official publication of the British Meteorological Office, (BMO). Sergeant Patterson's paper proposed a method now in use by the BMO as well as by AWS, for forecasting the time of clearance or radiation fog at Mildenhall.

### Andersen AFB, Guam

Recently, approval was given to personnel of Operating Location C, 1st Weather Wing, to share in the Meritorious Unit Commendation Award presented by the Secretary of the Navy to the Fleet Weather Central/Joint Typhoon Warning Center, Guam. The warning center had shared in a previous Air Force Outstanding Unit Award to 1st WWg. for the period of July 1, 1967, to June 30, 1969.

Highlights of Air Weather Service people at work and play

### Norton AFB, Calif.

Giving weather facility tours to youngsters is almost a daily occurrence in AWS. Recently, Boy Scouts from Troop 110, Tialto, Calif., visited Detachment 3, 17th Weather Squadron, at Norton AFB, Calif. The visit was a major part of their program in earning the Boy Scout's weather merit badge. SMSgt. Wilson H. McMullan, weather forecaster, explained to them the role of weather in everyday life and the AWS mission.

### Scott AFB, Ill.

AWS has approved savings in six program areas and command assigned goals of the Resources Conservation Program (RECON). As of March 31, \$2,037,100 was saved against a goal of \$924,400. In the general management improvements area alone, \$1,239,000 was saved, or ten times its goal.

Linda Kay Jones, daughter of CWO and Mrs. Alton Jones, was the recent recipient of the "Corinn Samotis Scholastic Award," named after Lt. Col. John Samotis' wife who was killed in an automobile accident.

Four other high school seniors won scholastic scholarships of \$750 sponsored by the Officers' Wives Club: Carla L. Barrows, daughter of Lt. Col. and Mrs. Earl Barrows; Signe L. Korslund, daughter of Lt. Col. and Mrs. Harold Korslund; Gary J. Wood, son of Maj. and Mrs. James Wood; and Kathleen F. Whealen, daughter of Lt. Col. and Mrs. Daniel Whealen. In addition to the \$750 Miss Barrows received a \$1,000 National Honor Society Scholarship.



CLAIMING TO BE the oldest trio of second lieutenants in the Air Force, with a total age of more than 89 years are three former noncommissioned officers, turned officers; from left to right, 2nd Lts. David C. McIntosh, Ronald C. Gilchrist and Earl R. Snipes. They are weather forecasters with Detachment 75, 5th Weather Wing, at England AFB, La. (Photo by Sgt. Ira S. Cohen)

# Awards and decorations

## Meritorious Service Medal

Capt. Richard D. Stonemark, Det. 13, 20th WSq.  
CMSgt. Peter K. Jesion, Det. 1, 26th WSq.

## Distinguished Flying Cross

Maj. Dennis L. Gruntorad, 7th/13th Air Force.

## Bronze Star

Maj. Richard K. Dutton, 30th WSq.  
Maj. William G. Wallace, OL-A, 1st WGP.

Capt. Gary L. Doly, 1st WGP.  
Capt. Edward J. Kaye, 1st WGP.  
Capt. Terrell D. McCorry, 10th WSq.  
Capt. Bruce M. Nagle, Det. 23, 30th WSq.

Capt. Keith A. Preece, Det. 32, 5th WSq.

Capt. Jack D. Shannon, 5th WSq.  
Capt. John H. Taylor, Det. 14, 1st WGP.

Capt. John L. White, 5th WSq.

1st Lt. Edward F. Sander, Det. 31, 5th WSq.

SMSgt. Stanley Levin, 1st WGP.

TSgt. Max R. Herbert, 30th WSq.

TSgt. Luther B. Lokey, Det. 31, 5th WSq.

## Air Medal

Lt. Col. Franklin A. Ross, (2nd & 3rd oak leaf cluster), OL-A, 1st WGP.

## Air Force Commendation Medal

Lt. Col. Arthur D. Ward, (1st oak leaf cluster), AFGWC.

Maj. David L. Arnold, 55th WRSq.

Maj. Gerald D. Boynton, Det. 18, 30th WSq.

Maj. Douglas N. Gerbuz, (1st oak leaf cluster), 5th WSq.

Maj. William K. Griffin, (1st oak leaf cluster), 54th WRSq.

Maj. Owen Y. Macey, Det. 6, 6th WGP.

Maj. Franklin J. Peterson, 1st oak leaf cluster), 58th WRSq.

Maj. John F. Royston, 3rd WWG.

Maj. Leonard N. Starr, (1st oak leaf cluster), Det. 26, 15th WSq.

Maj. Rodger F. Strand, 7th WSq.

Capt. Richard C. Bagnsby, Det. 10, 20th WSq.

Capt. Louis R. Billones, AFGWC.

Capt. Gary L. Bunney, 31st WSq.

Capt. Richard D. Fannin, 56th WRSq.

Capt. Leonard T. Grant, Jr., Det. 6, 26th WSq.

Capt. Samuel L. James, 17th WSq.

Capt. Sherwin W. Jamison, Det. 10, 20th WSq.

Capt. James R. Johnson, Det. 21, 31st WSq.

Capt. Lloyd R. Kramer, (1st oak leaf cluster), 56th WRSq.

Capt. Richard E. Lawrence, (1st oak leaf cluster), 55th WRSq.

Capt. Kenneth G. Mason, 9th WRWG.

Capt. Terrance Mayer, (1st oak leaf cluster), Hq. AWS.

Capt. Alexander S. Pinta, (1st oak leaf cluster), Det. 21, 24th WSq.

Capt. Thomas F. Proctor, 1st WWG.

Capt. Keith C. Ross, ETAC.

Capt. Terry R. Warner, 1st WWG.

Capt. James A. Young, (1st oak leaf cluster), Det. 15, 20th WSq.

1st Lt. Robert L. Crawford, AFGWC.

1st Lt. Robert S. Elliott, 4th WWG.

1st Lt. Charles L. Steverson, Det. 48, 4th WWG.

1st Lt. Michael J. Zimmerman, Det. 14, 26th WSq.

CWO. Raynor L. Buckley, 24th WSq.

CWO. Robert J. Lake, (1st oak leaf cluster), 15th WSq.

CMSgt. Robert E. Clark, Det. 11, 21st WSq.

CMSgt. David S. Jaynes, (1st oak leaf cluster), 5th WWG.

CMSgt. Lowell K. Turner, (2nd oak leaf cluster), Hq. AWS.

SMSgt. Lynwood L. Arceneaux, (1st oak leaf cluster), 21st WSq.

SMSgt. Joseph H. Black, (1st oak leaf cluster), 6th WWG.

SMSgt. Anthony D. Gallant, (1st oak leaf cluster), 6th WWG.

SMSgt. Dennis H. Van Houdt, 3rd WWG.

MSgt. Roy Andrews, 10th WSq.

MSgt. William L. Brannon, Det. 9, 7th WSq.

MSgt. Richard A. Crabb, (1st oak leaf cluster), Det. 6, Hq. AWS.

MSgt. James R. Garrison, (1st oak leaf cluster), Hq. AWS.

MSgt. Billie L. Greene, 53rd WRSq.

MSgt. Robert Hembach, (1st oak leaf cluster), Hq. 3rd WWG.

MSgt. Lorraine D. Jones, Det. 1, 4th WWG.

MSgt. Edward F. Madigan, (1st oak leaf cluster), Det. 7, Hq. AWS.

MSgt. Desmond P. McMahon, Det. 8, 20th WSq.

MSgt. Richard C. Ruth, (2nd oak leaf cluster), 7th WWG.

MSgt. Thomas S. Shimabukuro, 20th WSq.

MSgt. Benjamin F. Templeton, OL-D, 2nd WWG.

TSgt. Russell A. Allen, 25th WSq.

TSgt. Roy H. Collom, Det. 5, 30th WSq.

TSgt. William H. Colson Jr., 5th WWG.

TSgt. Donald D. Ferguson, 54th WRSq.

TSgt. Berth C. Frankowiak, OL-D, 5th WSq.

TSgt. Barry E. Golembiewski, Det. 3, 30th WSq.

TSgt. Richard W. Houghton, (1st oak leaf cluster), 5th WWG.

TSgt. Gary L. Lebouef, (2nd oak leaf cluster), 55th WRSq.

TSgt. Arthur W. Marquette III, Det. 11, 20th WSq.

TSgt. Donald K. Schockmel, (1st oak leaf cluster), OL-B, 4th WWG.

TSgt. Roger G. Seyfert, 2nd WWG.

TSgt. Marvin O. Shavers, Det. 15, 24th WSq.

TSgt. Cecil E. Timmons, 55th WRSq.

TSgt. Ralph E. Torrence, Det. 7, Hq. AWS.

TSgt. Edmund A. Wilson, Hq. 4th WWG.

TSgt. Darrel R. Wolfe, 10th WSq.

SSgt. Verl R. Best, 56th WRSq.

SSgt. Charles F. Brodt, Det. 15, 10th WSq.

SSgt. Douglas N. Burkholder, 3rd WWG.

SSgt. William C. Casteel, Det. 21, 6th WWG.

SSgt. Phillip Ciufa, Det. 14, 1st WGP.

SSgt. Harry M. Coble, (2nd oak leaf cluster), Det. 3, 17th WSq.

SSgt. Robert E. Conyers, (1st oak leaf cluster), 7th/13th Air Force.

SSgt. Roy W. Gebeke, 20th WSq.

SSgt. Donald D. Gray, 58th WRSq.

SSgt. Ronald A. Groom, Det. 23, 30th WSq.

SSgt. Charles L. Hertz, 56th WRSq.

SSgt. Ignacio Lopez, (1st oak leaf cluster), Hq. 3rd WWG.

SSgt. Andrew M. Matava, 1st WGP.

SSgt. Paul M. McClennay, Det. 17, 10th WSq.

SSgt. Charles R. Qinley Jr., 53rd WRSq.

SSgt. Lloyd D. Sams, Det. 14, 31st WSq.

SSgt. Larry D. Snyder, Hq. 1st WWG.

SSgt. William R. Stewart, 2nd WWG.

SSgt. George L. Tash, 58th WRSq.

SSgt. David L. Turner, Det. 14, 1st WGP.

SSgt. Carlos Zangbano, 58th WRSq.

Sgt. Stephen Austin, Det. 32, 5th WSq.

Sgt. Raymond E. Buffington, Det. 3, 30th WSq.

Sgt. Robert S. Bowers, Det. 39, 7th WWG.

Sgt. Charles H. Butler Jr., 1st WSq.

Sgt. Ronald H. Crist, Det. 32, 5th WSq.

Sgt. Robert E. Frederick, Det. 32, 5th WSq.

Sgt. Glennis R. Hall, Det. 29, 6th WWG.

Sgt. Mark Hamberger, 1876th Communications Squadron.

Sgt. Rafael Jones, Det. 37, 5th WSq.

Sgt. Joel L. Kaplan, Hq. 7th Air Force.

Sgt. Henry F. McNight, Det. 6, 5th WSq.

Sgt. Keith R. Playstead, Det. 4, 4th WWG.

Sgt. Reginald K. Rowell, 56th WRSq.

Sgt. Thomas J. Stansbury, Det. 14, 1st WGP.

Sgt. Rodney L. Weeks, Det. 23, 30th WSq.

Sgt. Stephen M. White, Det. 39, 25th WSq.

Sgt. David L. Whiteman, 5th WWG.

A1C Carl D. Parker, Det. 1, 4th WWG.

A1C Joseph D. Tiano, 2nd WWG.

## Gold Pride Award

Capt. Charles N. Norman, 3rd WSq.

CWO. Philip T. Boucher, Det. 17, 24th WSq.

Sgt. Daniel A. Cowley, Det. 10, 15th WSq.

A1C John Rodriguez, Det. 17, 24th WSq.

Mrs. Reba F. Sargent, Det. 2, 11th WSq.

## Silver Pride Award

TSgt. David L. Buzard, Det. 17, 20th WSq.

TSgt. Elmer F. Foster, Det. 2, 11th WSq.

## Bronze Pride Award

Capt. Harold R. Barbera, Det. 29, 6th WWG.

SSgt. Philip R. Gingerich, 56th WRSq.

A1C Charles W. Osborne, 56th WRSq.

## Recon men gather honors for safety

SCOTT AFB, Ill.—Six weathermen were selected by MAC safety officials to receive symbolic pins, patches and letters of commendation for achieving accident-free flying hours in Air Force aircraft.

Those in Air Weather Service selected are: Maj. Curtis D. Dale and Harold Hoffman and Capt. Phillip E. Taylor, all from the 58th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, Kirtland AFB, N. M. for 2,500, 5,000 and 2,500 accident-free flying hours, respectively; and Maj. Richard A. Anderson and Capt. Albert T. Oldham, all from the 55th WRSq., McClellan AFB, Calif., each flying 5,000 accident-free hours.

## Sergeant trains observatory men

ENT AFB, Colo. — SMSgt. Arthur Francis, stationed at Operating Location B, 4th Weather Wing at the Sagamore Hill radio observatory near Boston, recently returned there from almost a month in Athens, Greece, where he trained personnel in the operation of equipment at a new solar radio observatory.

The observatory site located at Pedili Hill in a northeastern suburb of Athens will be operated by AWS men as station OL C, 2nd WWG., and contains one eight-foot radio antenna which measures frequencies received from the sun on 8800, 2695 and 1415 megahertz. The radio observatory site will soon be combined with an optical solar observatory on the Hill of Nymphs in downtown Athens.

The Air Force Cambridge Laboratory, which operates the Sagamore Hill site, provided the equipment for the new observatory. Both sites are similar in design.

## Hurricane Hunters hunt down tornadoes

RAMEY AFB, P. R. — For the first time this year, AWS Hurricane Hunters are flying special missions to help military and civilian weathermen forecast another kind of violent storm — tornadoes.

By request of the nation's tornado forecasters, a daily flight is made over the Gulf of Mexico near the U.S. coast to measure winds, barometric pressures, humidity and cloud dimensions and to make visual observations. Data from weather-instrumented WC-130 aircraft making the flight go to Air Force Global Weather Central, Offutt AFB, Nebr., and to National Weather Service's National's Severe Storms Forecast Center, Kansas City, Mo.

Data thus provided by the 53d Weather Reconnaissance Squadron are used to predict instability of air masses and formation of

squall lines which breed tornadoes.

One day's flight by the Hurricane Hunters is from their base at Ramey AFB, P. R., to Patrick AFB, Fla., in a fishhook pattern over the Gulf. Next day's flight is flown in reverse, Patrick back to Ramey. The special track is known as Gull Echo, a northward revision of a track flown over the Gulf in hurricane season.

For many years, flying weathermen of the 9th WRWG., of which the Hurricane Hunters are a part, have flown storm reconnaissance to aid in the forecasting of hurricanes and typhoons. More recently, AWS men and aircraft have flown special winter storm missions, helping forecasters to predict more accurately the great snowstorms and blizzards which cripple the East Coast of the United States.

## Officers to receive top AWS awards

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — Initiative in meteorology has paid off for three AWS officers. They have been named to receive the AWS Merewether, Zimmerman and Yates Awards for their outstanding contributions to weather science in 1970.

Presented annually for the most significant technical contribution

## Collens . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

assigned to Taiwan. There he was detachment commander and practicing forecaster supporting the U.S. Taiwan Defense Command and Air Task Force Thirteen. In this assignment he worked closely with the Nationalist Chinese Weather Service.

His last weather service assignment before returning to AWS headquarters was with 5th WWG., where he was on the operations staff. This one-year assignment before airlift duty with MAC, the prior two-year assignment at AWS headquarters, and the year at Command and Staff College, are the only three periods in his nearly 18-year weather service career in which he was not directly and frequently involved in providing basic weather forecasting and staff weather officer support to Army and Air Force users.

He is a graduate of Air Command and Staff College and Squadron Officers School. A native of Monroe, La., he has attended Loyola University at New Orleans, the University of Mississippi at Oxford and Schreiner Institute at Kerrville, Tex.

A command pilot, Colonel Collens holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Air Force Commendation Medal.

Colonel and Mrs. Collens, the former Barbara Westbrook, have two children, Janet, 20 and Paul, 17.

Colonel Collens succeeds Col. Thomas A. Aldrich, who has been selected for promotion to brigadier general and named to command Lajes AB in the Azores.

to military meteorology, the Merewether Award for 1970 goes to Lt. Col. Kenneth D. Hadeen. Colonel Hadeen was project officer on the Planetary Boundary Layer program at the Air Force Global Weather Central, Offutt AFB, Neb. There, he developed a meso-mesh, or limited area automated analysis and prediction model, which diagnoses and forecasts eight levels of information for the lowest 1,600 meters of the atmosphere. This model has been used by several severe weather forecasting units with much success and is widely recognized within the scientific community.

Maj. Paul Janota, Detachment 1, Hq. AWS, was named for the 1970 Zimmerman Award. Major Janota was solely responsible for applying a climatological data base in support of a 50 million-dollar project. The performance of this system is weather-dependent and initially had little basis upon which planning system utility and decision-making information could be used. Janota designed, developed and tested the necessary operational control and decision-making programs using strategy and gaming theory. He then applied the raw climatic data base which enabled the operator to exercise the decision theories developed.

The Yates Award, presented to the weather reconnaissance aircrew member who has shown excellence in daily performance, goes to Capt. John W. Pavone, 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, 9th Weather Wing. Among many other achievements, the versatile officer wrote all training outlines for weather officers on the WC-130 aircraft.

Three of eight AWS Commanders awards, honoring past AWS commanders, the Merewether, Zimmerman and Yates Awards are named for Col. Arthur F. Merewether, who commanded AWS from 1940-42, Brig. Gen. Don Z. Zimmerman, who succeeded Merewether, and Lt. Gen. Donald N. Yates, AWS commander from 1945-50.



**CAPTAIN'S DREAM**—Four lovely students from Belleville Area College near Scott AFB, Ill., serve coffee to Capt. Barry C. Evans, deputy director of administration, Hq. AWS. The girls were participa-

ting in On-the-Job Observation with the college. From left to right are: Gail Hiles, Kathy Kupferer, Delores Mueth, Cathy Lanter and Captain Evans. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

## Detachment leaves weather to ARVN

TAN SON NHUT AB, Vietnam—It's always nice to wrap up operations in the Republic of Vietnam with a bang, but when that bang is provided by the local chapter of the Viet Cong, it comes as a bit of a shock.

The men of the 30th Weather Squadron's Detachment 5 at Pleiku AB were on their last day of duty before the unit's deactivation and before turning over their equipment to Republic of Vietnam Air Force (VNAF) meteorologists they had been training for the past year.

About three o'clock on the morning of March 31, "Charlie" decided to get in his last licks at the unit. Rockets were fired at the base control tower, which also houses the weather unit, and sappers managed to penetrate the base's security defenses to lay satchel charges around the base of the tower.

Fortunately, the satchel charges failed to explode, but the rockets

did impact near the tower, damaging the unit's equipment and wounding the VNAF observers on duty. Both men were taken to the base hospital where one was held for further treatment. The other VNAF meteorologist returned to his post and began taking weather observations. Within a few hours, VNAF and 1st Weather Group intermediate maintenance personnel had the damaged equipment back in operation.

The dedication of the VNAF meteorologists such as the one who returned to duty after being wounded resulted in only one weather observation being missed. This was during the time the two VNAF weathermen were receiving treatment for their wounds.

The following morning Det. 5's commander, Capt. Harold Schmidt, turned the facility over to the Vietnamese forecasters, confident he was leaving the job in very capable hands.

## Fog-seeding operations cease at seven bases

SCOTT AFB, Ill.—AWS Fog Chasers have put away for another season their equipment for dispensing dry ice and propane to clear military runways of fog. This season's aerial and ground-based fog-dissipation operations made possible 369 takeoffs and 286 landings by aircraft at a number of bases in Europe and the United States.

In aerial operations, fog-chasing AWS weathermen fly specially equipped Lockheed WC-130 weather reconnaissance aircraft along a series of parallel tracks above the fog. In flight, crushed dry ice is dispensed through a chute in the fuselage.

Falling into the supercooled—colder than freezing—fog, dry ice causes ice crystals to form, which enlarge by robbing fog of

its moisture. Becoming heavier as they grow, ice crystals fall as light snow, producing a temporary area of clearing.

Fog operations took place this year at Ramstein, Hahn, Zweibrücken, Bitburg and Spangdahlem Air Bases in Germany, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, and Fairchild AFB, Wash. At Fairchild ground-based propane dispensers were used instead of aircraft. Effect from this technique is the same. At Hahn, similar ground equipment was tested.

This year's successful fog-dispelling activities brought the total of AWS-assisted takeoffs and landings during the past three winters to more than 1,500.

WC-130 aircraft and crews are from the 53rd and 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadrons.

Beginning with the June issue, the Observer will have a new editor Capt. John E. Cranfill. With a bachelor of arts degree in journalism from Baylor University in Waco, Tex., and a master's degree in management from U.S.C., Calif., Captain Cranfill comes from Hickam AFB, Hawaii, where he was information officer for the 1st Weather Wing.

## AECP aids NCO, advancement rapid

KINGSLEY FIELD, Ore.—A 23-year-old weather observer formerly at Kingsley's Detachment 2, 4th Weather Wing, has been selected to receive training and a subsequent commission under the Airmen Education and Commissioning Program (AECP).

SSgt. Gerald M. Hill reenlisted to be eligible for the program and recently departed for North Carolina State University at Raleigh where he will spend the next two years working for a bachelor of science degree in meteorology. Under the program Hill will be drawing the pay of a staff sergeant while Air Force meets the tuition costs.

"I have two years to obtain my degree," Sergeant Hill says, "but I think I will be able to complete all my requirements in about a year and a half."

"I'm sure that my six-year background in weather will be invaluable to me in my college studies," he added. "And all of my enlisted background should be helpful once I receive my commission."

Sergeant Hill, a native of Duquesne, Pa., joined the Air Force in May, 1965.

After attending the Weather Observer Technical Training School at Chanute AFB, Ill., he was assigned as an observer at Westover AFB, Mass. Eighteen months later he went to Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico, where he studied at the InterAmerican University.

He left Ramey for training as a forecaster and then was assigned to Kingsley.

## SPORTS



## FRONT

The weather/communications basketball team reigned as king when the Perrin AFB intramural league champs completed the season with a won-lost record of 14-3. The team was led by Kenneth R. Chesson and Michael A. Giovannello, team captain. In a previous assignment the veteran hoopster Chesson was selected by Tyndall AFB to play with its team at Otis AFB in the ADC Tournament which Tyndall won.

Sgt. William E. Drake, assigned to Operating Location L, 11th Weather Squadron, at Ft. J. M. Wainwright AI, Alaska, has been named the outstanding player of the post basketball tournament. Drake scored a total 137 points during the tourney for an average of 23 points per game.

### Bowling Along

Mention bowling in Big Spring, Tex., and the first name to come to everyone's mind is SSgt. Tom Davis, Detachment 16, 24th WSq. In the past 10 months Davis has set two base records and two Big Spring Bowling Association records. His 688 series and 268 game are all time highs for Webb AFB. In the local establishment, Davis's 224 average and 759 series surpass all in Big Spring. In addition to his observer duties, Davis finds time to tour with the Southwest Class Bowling Association throughout West Texas. Bowling in the last 10 meets, Davis carries a 207 average. He has been in the finals six times and led the qualifiers four times. He also won the June 1970 meet held in Midland, Tex.

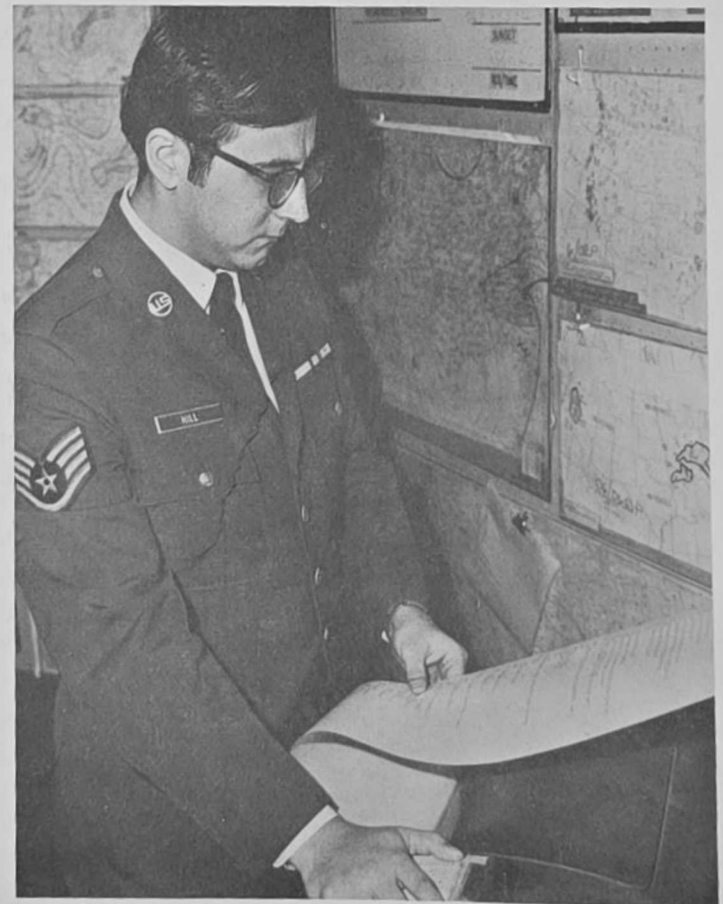
Since joining the Tin City Classic Bowling League in late February, A1C Wayne Strang of OL H, 11th WSq. has provided the spark that has ignited his team's drive for the top spot. Prior to Strang's becoming a member of the Red Barons, the team was hopelessly mired in last place. But now they have won 23 of their last 24 games, set a new team high game and series, and are only two games behind the league leaders.

The 7th WSq. Army Flight Support Center's Thunderbolts captured first place in the Heidelberg Bowling League. They won the championship by 12½ games over the nearest competitor in a 10-team league.

And one of the most improved bowlers at Det. 16, 24th WSq., is SSgt. Steven Meyer. Assigned in August, 1970, he carried a 148 average with a high series of 515. His average now is 177. Right On!

### Putt'n Around

TSgt. Walter C. Fischer hit his second hole-in-one April 11, using a five iron on the 155-yard 11th hole of the Ft. Stewart, Ga., golf course. Fischer, a forecaster for Det. 19, 16th WSq., made his first at Newbury, England, in 1962.



LOOKING OVER some of his work is observer SSgt. Gerald M. Hill. Sergeant Hill is at this moment studying for a degree in meteorology at North Carolina State University under the AECP program. (U.S. Air Force Photo)