

5 articles 6-7

# AIR WEATHER SERVICE

# OBSERVER

Vol. 20, No. 6

Headquarters, Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, Illinois

June 1973

## Satellite data discussed at Hickam conference

HICKAM AFB, Hawaii-- Meteorologists of the Navy, National Weather Service, and Air Force met on Guam in April to discuss the use of satellite data in tracking tropical storms and making special weather forecasts. Discussions were held at the Fleet Weather Central with the 1st Weather Wing people making all arrangements for the five-day conference.

Fleet Weather Central, as home of the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC), made an ideal conference location. Since early 1972, JTWC has had to place heavy reliance on satellite data due to a major reduction in aircraft available for storm reconnaissance in the Western Pacific. Fortunately, JTWC has access to extremely high quality visual and infrared satellite data of up to one-half mile resolution. This data is routinely

provided by Det. 1, 1st WWG., which is co-located with JTWC. Det. 1 members have been very successful in developing procedures for positioning typhoons and determining their intensity. During 1972, nearly 15 per cent of the 733 required storm fixes were based on these high quality satellite data and more than 40 per cent of the investigative missions were made by satellite. (Investigations are those cases where aircraft or satellite reconnaissance is used to inspect suspicious looking tropical disturbances.)

In addition to presentations by attendees on the use of meteorological satellite data to support military operations, Captains Chuck Arnold and Chriss Olsen of Det. 1 conducted detailed seminars on techniques for determining storm position and intensity.

As a direct result of this conference, a system has been developed whereby Air Force satellite readout facilities at Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Nimitz Hill, Guam; Fuchu AS, Japan; and Nakhon Phanom RTAFB, Thailand; will track all tropical cyclones which enter their area of coverage.

The Air Force Global Weather Central at Offutt AFB, Neb., also has access to data from the same

(Continued on page 4)

## Det. 8 members airlifted to Germany for exercise

FT. RILEY, Kan.--Eight members of Det. 8, 16th Weather Squadron, here boarded a C-141 and were airlifted to the fields of Germany to participate in Exercise Reforger IV. With the detachment's organic (self-sufficient, deployable) weather team went the Army's 1st Infantry Division.

The job of the weather team during the exercise was to provide up-to-date weather observations and forecasts to the "Big Red One's" tactical operations center and to equip the command staff with information necessary to plot strategy designed to outwit "the enemy."

After arriving at Ramstein AB, Germany, from Forbes AFB, Kan., the weather team was bussed to

the "prepo site" for two days of equipment maintenance. The team then went to the major unit assembly area in the Bavarian hinterlands.

During the exercise, the team issued forecasts every six hours and reported observations every two hours to Army G-2 (intelligence) for dissemination to field units. Two in-person briefings were provided daily to the commander and his staff. Additionally, the team provided observations to the U.S. Army in Europe Forecast Center.

After the initiation of the Army Weather Net, the team became an integral part of the weather support force.

## Christmas comes late... er, early?

ANDERSEN AFB, Guam-- Christmas came early--or late--for members of the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron here this year.

Last year's drop was the twentieth consecutive annual drop. The project started in 1952 when a WB-29 from the 54th Weather Recon-

naissance Squadron dropped a single cannister containing gifts to the natives of Kapingamarangi.

## New vice commander arrives here Potter assumes new VC duties here

Col. Thomas D. Potter became vice commander of the Air Weather Service last month. He succeeded Col. John W. Collens III, who became commander of the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing, McClellan AFB, Calif.

Colonel Potter returns to AWS following an assignment as deputy director of programming and policy with Hq. MAC plans. Except for his MAC job and a number of educational interludes, the colonel has been in AWS since being commissioned in 1951.



Col. Potter

## Col. Collens moves to McClellan AFB

MCCLELLAN AFB, Calif.--In the first of several key personnel changes in Air Weather Service this summer, Col. John W. Collens III has become commander of the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing here. He succeeds Col. (Brig. Gen. selectee) Tedd L. Bishop, who has moved to Altus AFB, Okla., to command the 443rd Military Airlift Wing, Training.

Colonel Collens, former vice commander of AWS, is a command pilot qualified in the WC-130. He flew "with the guys" of the 9th on several occasions during his two year tenure as vice commander.

The "Typhoon Chasers," an arm of the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing headquartered at McClellan AFB, Calif., received a number of mysterious boxes in the mail. The cardboard boxes contained dozens of hand-made items from the island of Pingelap, a small, isolated atoll 1,000 miles southeast of Guam.

The gifts were a good-will gesture from the natives of the island in return for more than 3,000 pounds of gifts and supplies delivered there by the squadron during the 1972 edition of "Project Christmas Drop." In late December one of the squadron's WC-130s flew low over the island and air dropped several boxes containing gifts donated by the military and civilian communities of Guam.

Through close cooperation between the military and civilian populations, the 1972 "Christmas Drop" was the biggest ever. More than 35,000 pounds of toys, food, and supplies were dropped to 27 islands of the U.S. Trust Territory.

Although hundreds of toys were dropped to the island children in 1972, other "presents" are also valued by islanders. These gifts included hardware items, such as fishing hooks and line, lead weights, small hand tools, flashlights and batteries. Clothing items were also included. The most prized gifts of all, however, were the discarded, multi-colored parachutes used to drop the goods. The islanders make clothing and other items of the parachute material.



PRESENTS FROM PINGELAP--Col. and Mrs. Leo B. Rice examine some of the hand-made gifts from the island of Pingelap, a small atoll 1,000 miles southeast of Guam. The gifts were a good-will gesture in return for more than 3,000 pounds of gifts and supplies delivered by the 54th WRSq. as part of "Project Christmas Drop." (U. S. Air Force Photo)



Col. Collens

# Command Line

Brig. Gen. William H. Best Jr.



Morale is a most important factor in a military organization. When a unit has high morale, its members are confident, enthusiastic, disciplined and willing to endure hardship in order to get the job done. On the other hand, when morale is low, life is a drag and work becomes a torment.

A commander, manager or supervisor must not only recognize low morale, but also understand the interaction of events and experiences which cause it.

One cause is today's inflation and dollar devaluation that make living less comfortable for military families, especially those of younger airmen and those on accompanied tours overseas. Relief from these crisis situations and from the dilemma of the shrinking dollar will come, but it will be gradual. Meanwhile, financial hardship and its side effects will continue to threaten our well being. Helping each other, a tradition among Air Weather Service people, is a vital means of maintaining morale during these difficult times. I urge you to keep the tradition going.

Another cause for morale decline, more subtle than the first, is professional in nature. For as long as I can remember, the major limitation in how well we in the Air Weather Service support our customers has been state-of-the-art and state-of-technology. In other words, less than 100 per cent service in predictions, observations, maintenance, meteorological advice and all our jobs has been due to the fact that atmospheric science is inexact and imperfect—not because we weren't doing our best.

Now, however, austerity and drawdown has given us another, more discouraging limitation—namely, we cannot perform to the maximum because we simply don't have the manpower and material resources. This is a new twist for the weatherman. Improvements in ground-based, aerial and spaceborne instrumentation, in data processing, in analysis and prediction state-of-the-art are all around him, but many are out of his reach. He knows that, because of limited resources and highly competitive priorities, he cannot always provide his customers with the best products available. Increasingly he finds himself too busy even to fully exercise his own skills. A potential for low morale? You bet.

What do these two influences on morale mean to the Air Weather Service family? We have to do several things:

...Be concerned with one another. Hold out your hand to a brother and help him over the rough spots.

...Talk with one another. A unit in which members talk and discuss problems is invariably a top outfit. On the other hand, a unit in which members do only their own thing and to the devil with everybody else, is always a low performer.

...To provide the very best service under austerity and cutback, we must look for new, more efficient ways of doing things. We seek innovations, new ideas, new operating concepts. More people and resources are not the answer because the cupboard is bare. The door is open for dramatic changes in the ways we operate. Never before were brainstorming as likely to evolve positive action. And everybody is involved, not just the planners at the top.

These are tough, frustrating times, but we are going to win through. We have thousands of talented, dedicated people in the Air Weather Service. We are a family with feelings about one another, trust in one another—yes and expectations and demands from one another. We will do the job.

## Lightning strikes more than twice

As the "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" approach, so does the air mass thunderstorm season. Likewise, the frequency of lightning—one of the thunderstorm's greatest dangers—increases.

According to Capt. Von Woods, Det. 9, 12th Wea. Sq., Tyndall AFB, Fla., lightning kills more people each year in the United States than do tornadoes. The 260,000 bolts of lightning which bombard the earth every hour strike and kill more than 600 persons in the U.S. alone.

"We have been unable to prevent lightning," the captain says, "but we have learned how to protect our homes by installing electrical grounding systems. The only way a person can protect himself is to obey the following lightning safety rules. These rules will help you save your life when lightning threatens."

1. Stay indoors and don't venture outside unless absolutely necessary.
2. Stay away from open doors or windows, fireplaces, radiators, stoves, metal pipes, sinks and plug-in electrical equipment, like radios, television sets, lamps and refrigerators.
3. Do not use plug-in electrical equipment like hair dryers, electric tooth brushes or electric razors

during an electrical storm.

If lightning catches you outside, the captain added these safety precautions:

1. Don't work on fences, telephone or power lines, pipelines or structural steel fabrications.
2. Don't handle flammable materials in open containers.
3. Stop tractor work, especially when the tractor is pulling metal equipment, and dismount. Tractors

in open fields are often struck by lightning.

4. Get out of the water and off small boats.

5. Stay in your automobile if you are traveling. Automobiles offer excellent lightning protection.

6. Seek shelter in buildings. If no buildings are available, your best protection is a cave, ditch, canyon or under head-high clumps of trees in open forest glades.



FORBES AFB, Kan.—The 1st Aerial Cartographic and Geodetic Squadron here has a new commander. Lt. Col. Charles K. Lansdale replaced Lt. Col. Jack W. Gentry as commander on Feb. 28. Colonel Lansdale, a three-year veteran of Air Weather Service, came to Forbes from McClellan AFB, Calif., where he was chief of the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing's training program. (U. S. Air Force Photo)

## Tornado threat highest during summer

Summer is the time when the greatest threat of tornadoes is at its peak.

In the interest of the safety for all people in AWS, the following tornado safety rules are given. When a tornado approaches, your immediate action may mean life or death.

If you are in:

1. Shopping Center. Go to a designated shelter area (not your parked car). If there is no designated shelter, go to an inner reinforced wall or an inner room (such as a bathroom) without windows. Stay away from counters with loose debris on them.
2. Your home. The basement offers the greatest safety. Seek shelter under sturdy furniture if possible. In homes without basements, take cover in the center of the house on the lowest floor, in a small room, such as a closet or bathroom, or under sturdy furniture. Keep windows slightly open but stay away from them.
3. Office buildings. Go to an interior hallway on the lowest floor or to the designated shelter area.
4. Schools. Follow advance plans to an interior hallway on the lowest floor. If the building is not of reinforced construction, go to a nearby one that is, or take cover outside on low, protected ground. Stay out of auditoriums, gymnasiums and other structures with wide, free-span roofs.
5. Open country. Move away from the tornado's path at right angles. If there is not time to escape, lie flat in the nearest ditch or ravine.
6. Mobile homes. They are particularly vulnerable to overturning

during strong winds. If not anchored, they should be evacuated when strong winds are forecast. Damage can be minimized by securing trailers with cables anchored in concrete footing. Trailer parks should have a community shelter and a warden to monitor broadcasts throughout the severe storm emergency. If there is no shelter nearby, leave the trailer park and take cover on low, protected ground.

Also, thunderstorms accompany tornadoes and may cause flash floods. So, be careful where you take shelter. The base warning will be sounded only if a tornado has been sighted or if a tornado echo is evident on the weather radar and constitutes a direct threat to base people, the base housing area or the base proper.

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## OBSERVER

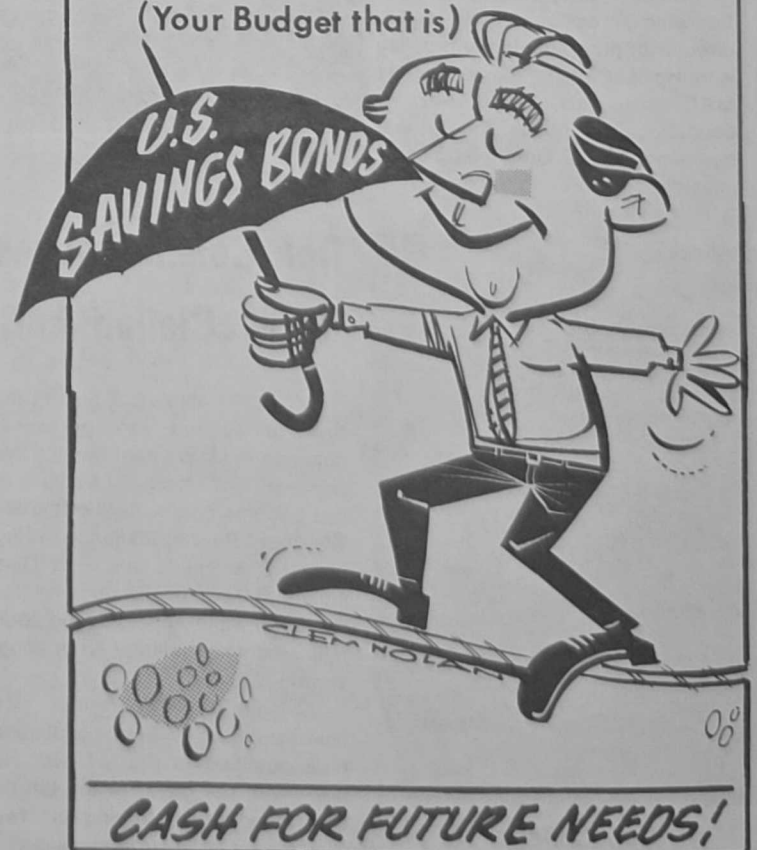
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BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM H. BEST Jr.,  
Commander, Air Weather Service

SSgt. Allan W. Ackerson—Editor

### Helps You Balance— (Your Budget that is)



CASH FOR FUTURE NEEDS!

# Det. 2 wins Williams Award

ANDERSEN AFB, Guam--Det. 2, 1st Weather Wing, here has been named winner of the Williams Award, an annual award presented to the best weather detachment in the Air Force.

The announcement was made by Brig. Gen. William H. Best Jr., AWS commander, in recognition of the standard of performance maintained by Det. 2 while operating under the heaviest weather service obligation in the history of the Air Force.

During the period of time that Det. 2 was being scrutinized for the prestigious award, the detachment was going through the biggest weather support assignment in history and one of the worst typhoon seasons on record in the Western Pacific. It was during this period that Operation "Bullet Shot" producing the massive buildup of Strategic Air Command resources at Andersen, was in full force.

As a result of Bullet Shot, the number of aircrews briefed daily rose from 30 to 100; the out-of-station briefings increased from four to 34; and the number of command and control agencies receiving weather information tripled.

Also during this time the B-52 population of the base soared to record setting levels as Andersen became one of the busiest bases in

the Air Force with 24 per cent of all SAC flying time and six per cent of all USAF flying time being conducted from the base each month.

In spite of this tremendous increase in workload and responsibility, Det. 2 maintained one of the highest performances of work in the Air Force. According to Gen. G.W. Johnson, commander of Eighth Air Force, the detachment maintained high standards of excellence by hard work and their positive attitude.

It was their dependability that helped 8th AF conduct "business as usual" through the record setting typhoon period when bad weather threatened all facets of the Arc Light operation.

As if these workload increases weren't enough, the observing section found itself being put into areas they had never been. In the midst of everything, the observers took over the function of tending to map facsimile and teletype machine plus being responsible for transmission of weather data, a duty formerly performed by AFSC.

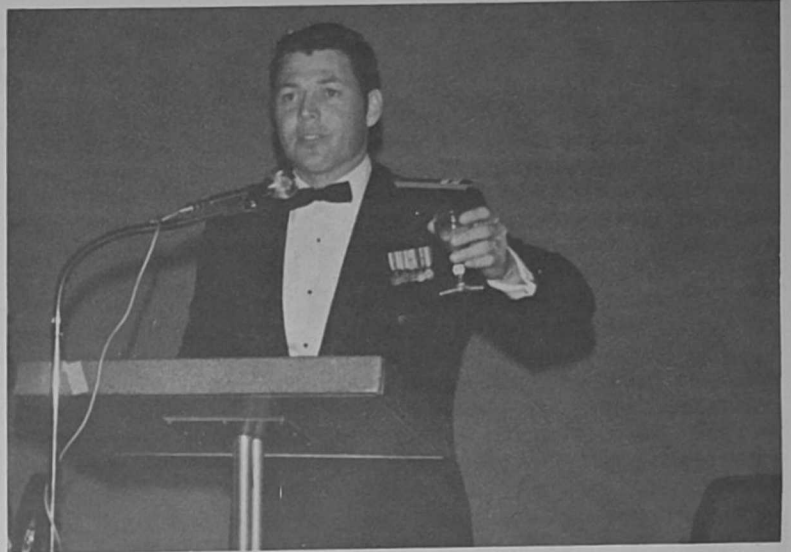
As this was taking place, the observation site was also being moved to a new location in the control tower, adding to problems associated with supporting the largest air armada ever located on one base.

A constant problem on Guam is

the maintenance of weather equipment against the harsh elements that continually beset the maintenance section. This was additional maintenance along with the chore of relocating equipment and burying cables when the observing site was moved.

The maintenance section also kept equipment working in spite of B-52s being parked so close to sensing device as to affect the temperature and humidity sets and wind transmitters on both ends of the runway.

In spite of all these problems and the increased effort required by each man in the unit, Det. 2 proved to be not only the busiest weather station in the world, but the best as well.



"TO THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF"- Capt. Tom Utley, of Hq. AWS, proposes a toast at the traditional dining-in held at the Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala. Captain Utley, shown here as the infamous "Mr. Vice", was one of the 14 AWS officers enrolled in the 798-member class--the largest in 10 years at the school. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

# AWS helps Skylab during May

With some initial uncertain moments, the colossal Skylab project is under way. Meteorological and environmental support to this space venture is considerable. Here it is in a nutshell.

More than 200 Department of Defense meteorologists and space environment specialists are contributing to the support of Skylab. DOD weathermen around the world are observing environmental conditions at the earth's surface, in the upper atmosphere and in space itself. This information is evaluated and quickly relayed to the DOD meteorologist at the Mission Control Center in Houston, or to the Cape Kennedy Forecast Facility for use by NASA officials directing the flight.

In mid-May Air Weather Service employed the extensive meteorological resources of the Air Force Eastern Test Range (AFTER) at Cape Kennedy to provide conventional support for the initial Skylab launches. In addition to normal hourly surface weather observations, many critical soundings of the upper atmosphere were made by balloons and rockets during the last two days of the launch countdown. A computerized radar storm motion and prediction program, capable of predicting the time and place of severe weather occurrences in the Cape Kennedy area, was operational during the initial launches. A launch pad lightning warning system was also employed to measure the atmospheric electrical field potential over Cape Kennedy.

The capability of one of the largest high speed meteorological computer complexes in the free world, located at the Air Force Global Weather Central (AFGWC), Offutt AFB, Neb., is accessible to DOD meteorologists for use in Skylab support, including flight plans for the advanced range instrumentation aircraft.

The AWS capability also extends into outer space. The AWS Space Environmental Support System (SESS), the backbone of which is a global chain of seven

strategically located optical/radio telescopes and sensing devices, gather data on solar radiation and energetic particle emission which could adversely affect manned operations in space.

This information is also used in the effective management of worldwide communications networks as various types of intense solar activity can cause high frequency radio "blackouts." The focal point of SESS is the AWS Aerospace Environmental Support Unit at Cheyenne Mountain, just outside of Colorado Springs, Colo. This unit routes significant solar data to the Mission Control Center.

AFGWC also provides specialized space environmental support involving energetic particle, X-ray and solar wind information obtained from radiation sensing satellites, such as VELA. Through this round-the-clock watch on the space environment, AWS weathermen are able to provide NASA with the vital advance warnings necessary to compensate for potentially disruptive solar activity.

Meteorological satellite data is a vital source of launch and recovery weather information. Interpretation of ESSA-8 video and NOAA-2 infrared and video satellite imagery, as well as data from military systems, was provided by meteorologists at the AFETR for launch and abort area forecasting. During recovery, satellite data will be relayed to Houston for weather assessment of recovery areas. ARIA aircraft are also being supported by meteorological satellite data interpreted by AWS weathermen.

The 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing at Cape Kennedy provided WC-130 weather reconnaissance over the launch site at Cape Kennedy. Prior to splashdown, the 9th will undertake vital weather reconnaissance of the primary recovery zone using WC-135 aircraft. On two of the manned Apollo missions, this recovery area reconnaissance provided information that resulted in a late-hour shifting of the splashdown point to an area with safe weather conditions.

# Noncom saves lads life

CHING CHUAN KANG AB, Taiwan--Sgt. Kenneth W. Nelmes, a weather observer with Det. 23, 1st Weather Wing, was instrumental in saving the life of a youth at a beach near here.

Sergeant Nelmes and two friends were spending a Sunday afternoon at Tung Hsian Beach when two American Girl Scouts ran up to them and said there was a body floating in the water.

The men rushed to the scene and found a boy floating about 25 feet from shore in five-foot deep waters.

"The boy was only about four feet tall," Sergeant Nelmes recalled "He appeared to be about

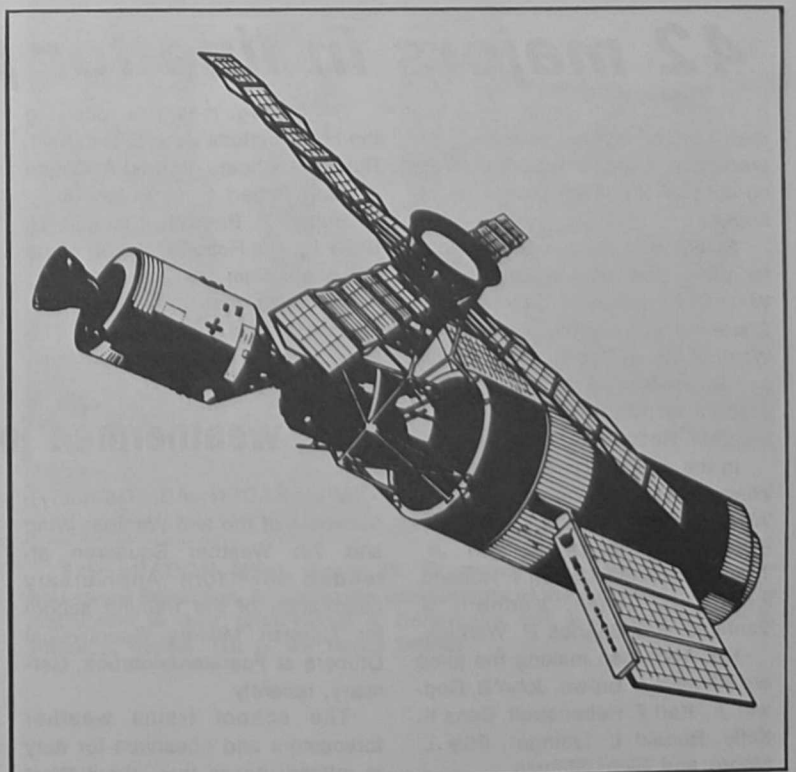
10 or maybe 11 years old. He didn't look good when we got to him."

The trio pulled the youngster from the water and checked for signs of life. There was no pulse or breath and the boy appeared to be dead.

Sergeant Nelmes and another man worked quickly to pump water from the boy's lungs while the other man administered artificial resuscitation. After much effort, the youth's vital signs began to return. When the boy was breathing again, the men rushed him to the nearest hospital. Medical officials there reported that the youth should have a complete recovery.



ENVIRONMENTALIST--Capt. Robert Marzano, an aerial reconnaissance weather officer with the 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif., proudly shows one of his contributions to the environment--a California personalized license plate. The extra fee for such a tag in the Golden State goes to environmental protection. The captain's "WC-135B" tag represents the type of aircraft he flies aboard. (U.S. Air Force Photo)





**LAST ENTRY**--Lt. Col. Donald J. Peterson, acting commander of the 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif., signs TSgt. Kenneth D. Brucklacher's personal flying log for the last time. Sergeant Brucklacher, after more than 7,000 hours in the air, retired at McClellan recently. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

## Typhoon Chasers prepare for 20th season

ANDERSEN AFB, Guam--The "Typhoon Chasers" of the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron are preparing for their 20th season here.

Since 1951, except for a two-year interruption between March 1960 and April 1962, the squadron has flown thousands of missions into hundreds of typhoons and tropical storms. Using a variety of specially instrumented aircraft, the "Typhoon Chasers" have provided vital data on storm location and intensity over millions of square miles of the Western Pacific.

The 54th's primary mission is tropical storm reconnaissance in the area bounded by the equator, the international date line and the Asiatic continent. This reconnaissance not only includes the tracking of storms, but also the investigation of "suspect areas" in which it is believed a typhoon may be forming.

Once a storm is positively identified, surveillance is maintained on a 24-hour-day basis with a "fix" on the center every six hours or less, depending on the storm's proximity to populated areas. Fixing is accomplished by penetrating into the storm's center, or "eye", and pinpointing the geographical center.

In addition, both visual and instrumented observations are made of the storm's physical characteristics--temperature, pressure, wind speeds, turbulence, precipitation and weather distribution. All information is transmitted within minutes by high frequency radio to Guam's Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) where it is used to forecast the storm's movement, intensity and further development.

The storm warnings issued by the JTWC have been credited with saving countless lives and untold millions of dollars in property damage.

As an example, in 1951, Typhoon Ruth struck Okinawa and southern Japan taking a toll of 340 dead, more than 1,000 injured and an estimated property damage of \$575 million.

Typhoon Vera was the most destructive typhoon ever to hit Japan. Striking Nagoya in 1959, she completely destroyed the harbor, killing more than 4,500 people, leaving 658 missing, 32,285 injured and more than a half-million persons homeless.

The art of typhoon reconnaissance and forecasting developed rapidly after a number of such tragedies. Typhoon Karen struck the island of Guam in late 1962 with estimated winds of 200 miles per hour. An estimate was necessary because wind measuring equipment was destroyed by the storms.

Although 90 per cent of the island's structures were destroyed, only one death was reported. Typhoon reconnaissance and timely warnings allowed the islanders to prepare for the storm's dangerous and destructive onslaught.

The "Typhoon Chasers" began their activities at Andersen in February 1951. As the 54th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, the unit flew converted World War II bombers.

In 1956, the squadron received its present name and replaced its WB-29 aircraft with WB-50s. The squadron was deactivated in March 1960, to be reorganized in April 1962 using WB-47 aircraft. In 1965 the squadron received its present Lockheed WC-130 "Hercules" aircraft.

Although the "Typhoon Chasers" fly through some of the

most terrifying weather known to man on a daily basis, only two aircraft have been lost during storm reconnaissance missions. Both were lost during the 1950s when typhoon reconnaissance was still in its infancy.

In October 1952, a WB-29 with its crew of 10 was lost in Typhoon Wilma. In 1958, a WB-50 and its crew disappeared without a trace during reconnaissance of Typhoon Ophelia. Today, improved techniques, equipment and aircraft have reduced the risks of storm reconnaissance but the dangers still exist.

Despite the risks, the squadron has completed more than 11 years and nearly 98,000 hours of flying without a single accident.

## Data discussed at Hickam AFB

(Continued from Page 1)

satellites and will be responsible for the areas which the other facilities cannot observe.

At present, reports of storms between longitude 140 degrees west to the international dateline are forwarded to the Central Pacific Hurricane Center in Honolulu while storm reports for the area west of the dateline are sent to JTWC. In 1973 this satellite reconnaissance system will be used primarily to supplement reports from reconnaissance aircraft. When feasible, the system will be used as an alternative to reconnaissance aircraft.

## 42 majors in line for promotion

Forty-two Air Weather Service men have been selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel, according to Hq. AWS personnel officials.

Selected in the secondary zone for promotion were majors: Henry W. Brandt, James B. Behard and Clarence B. Givens, of the 6th Weather Wing; George E. Chapman and Roger Strand of Hq. AWS; and Joseph W. Martin Jr., of the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing.

In the primary zone 3rd Weather Wing men getting the nod included William D. Breedlove, Donald L. Brooks, Milton D. Forsyth Jr., Tommy D. Guest, Darrell T. Holland, Harold L. Jones, Kenneth J. Vanhulla and Charles P. Warnick.

Hq. AWS men making the jump are Richard A. Brown, John B. Godwin Jr., Karl F. Hebenstreit, Dana K. Kelly, Ronald L. Lininger, Billy L. Moore and Eichi Shibata.

9th WRWg. members receiving the boost include Jack E. Bingham, Robert N. Choate, Willard A. Couch Jr., and Robert R. McCutcheon.

Robert E. Bagwell, Clarence H. Bush Jr., and Robert C. Sibert made the grade from the 2nd WWg.

1st WWg. men getting the hike include Harold E. Bradberry, Clifford U. Hendricks, Glenn A. Ryan

and Frank J. Schmidt Jr.

Men of the 5th WWg. in line for promotion are Peter J. Britos, David J. Given, Arden C. Llewellyn Jr. and Leonard N. Starr.

6th WWg. majors being promoted include Neil H. Bowels, Glen L. Fuller, John E. Kutulas, Alex P. Lupenski, Leonard H. Smith and Morgan G. Williams.

## U.S. weathermen join anniversary fete

WEISBADEN AB, Germany--Members of the 2nd Weather Wing and 7th Weather Squadron attended the 10th Anniversary celebration of the training school for German Military Geophysical Officers at Fuerstenfeldbruck, Germany, recently.

The school trains weather forecasters and observers for duty at military bases throughout West

Germany. Many of their courses are patterned after those provided AWS people at Chanute AFB, Ill.

Among the speakers at the ceremony was Dr. E. Sussenberger, director of the German Weather Service; Brig. Gen. W. Schmitz, commander of the Luftwaffe (Air Force) Officer School; and Dr. G. Seidel, director of the German Military Geophysical Office.

## The Weatherman

And so it came to pass as day approacheth, the forecaster climbeth out of the sack and girdeth himself to again battle the elements. Under the warm blanket he heareth the mumblings of his spouse crying of stormy weather, fog, cold, rain and laundry on the line that drieth not. He revileth her under his breath but dareth not speak aloud for her anger knoweth no bounds and her fist smiteth at the slightest provocation.

He arriveth at his sanctum known as Stormy's Hideaway and looketh into his crystal ball. Satisfied, he heaveth the missile known as "The Dart" and maketh his forecast. It landeth in the area called Fog. He shuddereth, but the dart is cast. He thinketh of the warnings and the words of the major who hath many missions to fly and much time to make up. He prepareth himself for many chewings and placeth into position his forecaster protective device known as the baseball bat.

And so the day breaketh and the fliers, bleary-eyed and weak from making merry and partaking of strong spirits, enter the sanctum and in reverence removeth their hats and boweth their heads. The forecaster speaketh to them in kindly words and telleth them of many wondrous things. He speaketh in the tongue of pilots and telleth them of visibility which is naught and of a ceiling which reacheth the ground. He speaketh of pressure gradient, isobars and tropopause; he telleth them of freezing rain which maketh the aircraft heavy and causeth them to enter the Land of Darkness. He speaketh of weather which stinketh and causeth birds to go south by train.

The pilots hearken unto his words, but smile inwardly for now they can return to the sack for they know the Master's wrath will be directed at the weather prophet.

And so it cometh to pass that the Master calleth and spake unto the prophet saying, "Verily art thou blind. Thou seest not. Hast thou forgotten thy glasses? Lo, I can see many miles. Go thou therefore unto the window and looketh and thou too wilt behold many objects."

But the prophet heeds not the Master's words and sayeth, "Thy voice cometh weak over this instrument and I hear thee not. The sound passeth through the holes in my head."

And the Master sayeth, "Alas, that this tribulation should be cast upon me. Many hours have I to fly and I am cursed with a blind prophet who signeth not my clearance because he cannot write. Verily, I say unto you, this will reflect in my ER and next year cometh another RIF. Woe is me!"

# Swedish weather commander tours U.S. counterpart



"AND THIS GADGET HERE"--SSgt. Edward P. Smith, right, explains the operation of the aircraft dropsonde equipment to Brig. Gen. Bengt A. Bengtsson as Maj. Jack E. Bingham, center, watches. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



A MODEL OF PERFECTION--Brig. Gen. Bengt A. Bengtsson, commander of the Royal Swedish Air Force's Military Weather Service, left, presents Brig. Gen. William H. Best Jr., commander of AWS, with a model of the SAAB 37 Viggen, Sweden's newest jet fighter. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

Brig. Gen. Bengt A. Bengtsson, commander of the Royal Swedish Air Force's Military Weather Service, recently completed a 10-day visit to Air Weather Service units.

meteorological cooperation between the two weather services and friendship created during the exchange visits.

General Bengtsson's visit was hosted by Brig. Gen. William H. Best Jr. to foster Swedish-United States cooperation and understanding in the field of meteorology and military weather support.

Also included in the itinerary were tours of the Weather Training Department at Chanute AFB, Ill.; Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories, Hanscom Field, Mass. Air Force Global Weather Central, Offutt AFB, Neb.; and the Fleet Numerical Weather Central, Monterey, Calif.

General Best made a similar visit to Swedish weather installations in August 1972.

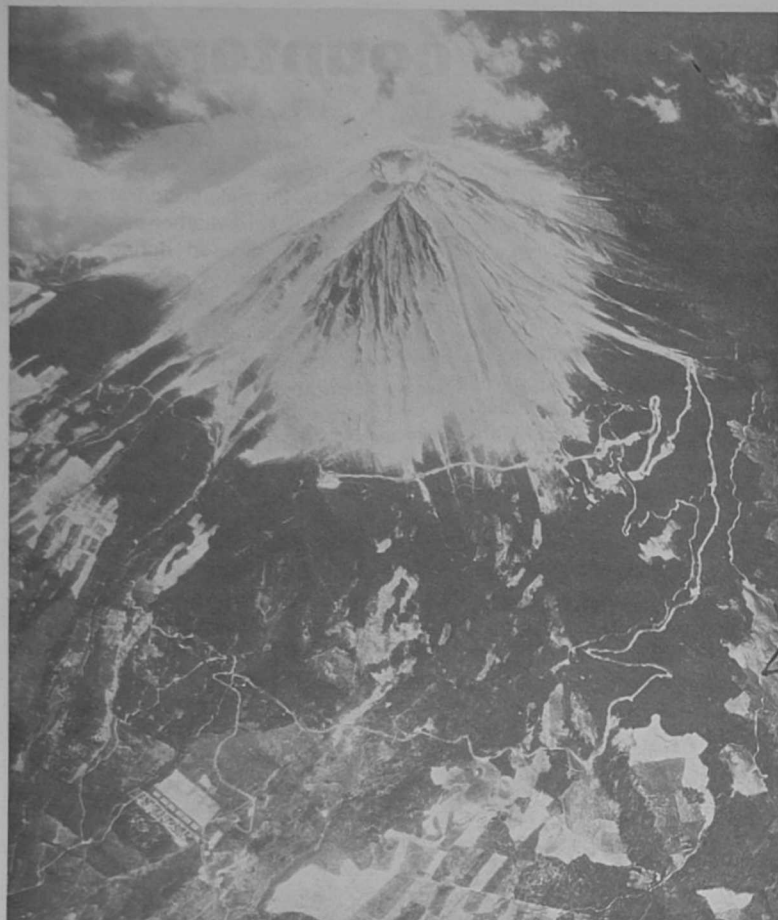
A visit to Scott AFB, Ill., included a series of briefings on AWS activities, a tour of the MAC Command Post and a call on Gen. Paul K. Carlton, commander of MAC.

General Bengtsson also visited the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing at McClellan AFB, Calif. At McClellan, the general received a series of briefings and demonstrations describing the various missions and equipment of the 9th WRWg. and 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron. There were also tours of WC-130 and WC-135 aircraft, maintenance facilities, the 55th's weather section and the 9th's flight simulator.

General Bengtsson presented General Best with a model of the SAAB 37 Viggen, Sweden's newest jet fighter. The presentation was made in recognition of the



EXPLANATION--MSgt. Larry D. Scoggins, 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, explains the components of the weather dropsonde instrument to Brig. Gen. Bengt A. Bengtsson, left, and Lt. Col. Arne E. Jonason, center. (U. S. Air Force Photo)



**ON TOP OF OL' FUJI--** This picture of Fujiyama, a 12,395-foot volcanic mountain near Tokyo, Japan, was taken by men of the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing, McClellan AFB, Calif. The unusual photograph pleased the Japanese who live in the area tremendously, since they had never seen the mountain from this angle. Fuji is a sacred mountain to the Japanese. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

## Births in AWS

MORK, Maj. and Mrs. William A., a son, Christopher Gordon, April 28. Father is commander of Det. 2, 3rd WWg., Castle AFB, Calif.

JUHL, Capt. and Mrs. William A., a son, April 22. Father assigned to 54th WRSq., Andersen AFB, Guam.

KIBURTZ, 1st Lt. and Mrs. Carl A., a son, Ethan Scott, April 19. Father assigned to 54th WRSq., Andersen AFB, Guam.

HOLMAN, A1C and Mrs. Daniel R., a son, Daniel Robert Jr., March 16. Father assigned to Det. 6, 16th WSq., Ft. Lewis, Wash.

HENRICK, TSgt. and Mrs. Bobbie E., a daughter, Cassandra Lynn, March 31. Father assigned to OL D, Det. 3, 12th WSq., State University Station, Fargo, N.D.

THOLE, A1C and Mrs. Thomas R., a son, Mark Norman, March 28. Father assigned to Det. 21, 6th WWg., Edwards AFB, Calif.

EDWARDS, Capt. and Mrs. Percy, a son, Julian Preston, March 24. Father assigned to Det. 8, 5 WSq., McClellan AFB, Calif.

CHAMBERS, SSgt. and Mrs. Gerald N., a son, Gerald N. II. Father assigned to Det. 5, 3rd WWg., Malmstrom AFB, Mont.

ACANFRIO, Sgt. and Mrs. Micheal A., a daughter, Kimberley Renee. Father assigned to Det. 23, 1st WWg., Ching Chuan Kang AB, Taiwan.

CEJKA, Capt. and Mrs. George A., a son, Adam Joseph, Feb. 23. Father assigned to Det. 10, 5th WWg., Bergstrom AFB, Tex.

RUDY, Capt. and Mrs. Clifford M., a son, Scott Alan, Feb. 25. Father assigned to Det. 10, 5th WWg., Bergstrom AFB, Tex.

CURRY, SSgt. and Mrs. Richard L., a daughter, Cynthia Ann, April 11. Father assigned to Det. 13, 5th WWg., Little Rock AFB, Ark.

BRADLEY, Capt. and Mrs. Michael M., a daughter, Brianna Dawn. Father assigned to 15th AF Weather Support Unit, Det. 7, 3rd WWg., March AFB, Calif.

PETERSON, SSgt. and Mrs. Gary R., a daughter, Karen Lynn, March 16. Father assigned to Det. 23, 3rd WWg., McConnell AFB, Kan.

TOWNE, SSgt. and Mrs. David M., a son, David Mathew, Jan. 17. Father assigned to Det. 25, 5th WWg., Howard AFB, C.Z.

RUNYON, SSgt. and Joseph H., a daughter, Michelle Ann, March 30. Father assigned to Det. 6, 5th WWg., Homestead AFB, Fla.

## Reserve, Guard to play larger roles

LANGLEY AFB, Va.--Elimination of the draft, implementation of an all-volunteer force in July, an active duty force at its lowest strength level in years--the need for a strong guard and reserve component is obvious.

Well, don't be surprised when you see more and better use of Air National Guard and Reserve people by Air Weather Service. Under the Total Force Concept, the guard and reserve components provide almost 30 per cent of this nation's military manpower, yet cost less than five per cent of the defense budget.

### Students observe 1st WWg. facilities

HICKAM AFB, Hawaii--Thirty University of Hawaii geosciences students recently toured 1st Weather Wing facilities here. Highlights of the tour were a comprehensive briefing on the high resolution Air Force satellite system and a tour of the base weather station.

Capt. Jerry Mills showed how weather satellite photos taken by the Air Force Data Acquisition and Processing Program (DAPP) are used in observing and forecasting weather phenomena affecting the Hawaiian Islands. The one-half nautical mile resolution of the DAPP photos observe cloud systems in much greater detail than was previously possible. Recently declassified, the DAPP data is now being made available to the University of Hawaii for use on research and study programs.

During the tour of the base weather station, SMSgt. Robert Pack explained how weather data was gathered, analyzed and posted for use in aircrew briefings.

A recent example of the skill and professionalism of our reserve manpower is Maj. Lawrence C. Ranieri, a forecaster assigned to the 200th Weather Squadron, Virginia ANG.

Major Ranieri, deputy director of the National Ecology Research Laboratory in the Environmental Protection Agency, served as the staff weather officer to the 192nd Tactical Fighter Group during the recent exercise, Exotic Dancer VI. Operating from Byrd Field, Va., and handicapped by a total lack of teletype and facsimile data, the major provided stand-up briefings, DD-175-1 clearances and Met watch coverage for approximately 200 F-105 sorties covering a 12-day period.

Exotic Dancer VI was a joint exercise involving an estimated 42,000 people from all services including many ANG and Air Force Reserve forces. The 192nd

TFGp., supported by Major Ranieri, simulated an enemy air force capability in both high level and close-air support activities in order to test the readiness of the regular joint forces conducting a mock troop landing in the exercise objective area.

Mission control forecasts were relayed to Byrd Field from Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., via a Xerox 400 telecopier. Alternate support was obtained as required from the National Weather Service office in Richmond, Va., and the Andrews AFB, Md., base weather site. In spite of the lack of "normal" weather communications facilities, the staff weather officer support to the 192nd TFGp. was nothing short of outstanding.

Future exercise involving AWS people, including Gallant Hand, will fully use the talents of selected people from the ANG and Air Force Reserve.

### Weathermen discuss foggy subject

HQ. AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.--A conference was held here recently to discuss ways of improving cold fog dissipation efforts in support of Air Force operations.

Conference discussions centered on strengths and weaknesses of present systems. Hq. AWS participants provided background briefings on recent developments in fog dissipation techniques.

It was agreed by those attending that the present systems are now near optimum effectiveness pending minor modifications and some adding or relocating of dispensers. It was also concluded that such a conference should become an annual

event and be expanded to include most areas of weather modification.

AWS now operates three ground-based cold fog dissipation systems. These use vented liquid propane to cool the environment near the propane dispensers and thus form ice crystals in the fog. The crystals then grow at the expense of the fog droplets and fall out as snow, clearing the fog. The dissipation systems are located at Fairchild AFB, Wash., Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, and Hahn AB, Germany. Together they cleared enough fog this past winter to permit nearly 370 aircraft movements which would otherwise have been prevented.



**BULLS-EYE--**An illusion of pinpoint accuracy by a MAC combat airlift crew is created as the detector portion of an AN/GMQ-10 ceilometer is unloaded from a truck near the runway at Yokota AB, Japan. The relocation, attended by SSgt. David I. Diehl, left, and TSgt. James A. Burkhalter of the 1837th Electronics Installation Squadron, Air Force Communications Service, was made to improve the ceilometer's ability to measure very low clouds. (U.S. Air Force Photo by MSgt. Elliot D. Park)



# WOULD YOU BELIEVE . . .

By SSgt. Allan W. Ackerson

Would you believe that AWS wives in the Bad Tolz, Germany, community did well in recent elections at the Army post. The women are married to members of Operating Location C, 7th Weather Squadron. **Mrs. Georganne Crowder** was elected president of the Officer's Wives Club and **Mrs. Lou Scott** was chosen secretary for the Protestant Wives of the Chapel.

Army Col. **Ludwig Faistenhammer Jr.**, commander of the U.S. Army Special Forces in Europe, reenlisted AWS **Sgt. James A. Hoy** at Bad Holz. Sergeant Hoy is an airborne weather observer with OL-C, 7th WSq. The sergeant was the first Air Force member to be reenlisted by the colonel during his 28 years in the Army.

SSgt. **Walter R. Spencer III**, Det. 10, 7th WSq., Kitzingen, Germany, was named the recipient of the Commandant's Award for Class 73-8 of the 21st Air Force Leadership School. His classmate, SSgt. **Garland R. Hardamon**, Hq., 31st Weather Squadron, Ramstein AB, Germany, was a distinguished graduate of the class.

MSgt. **Robert M. Rubendall**, Det. 1, 7th WSq., Feucht Army Airfield, was selected the Outstanding Senior Airman for 1972 there. **Sergeant Rubendall** is a forecaster at Feucht. SSgt. **Otis D. Griffin Jr.**, Hq. 31st WSq., Ramstein, was selected as outstanding airman for that organization. Both NCOs will compete for MAC honors.

SSgt. **Theodore J. Parvu**, Det. 17, 31st WSq., Upper Heyford RAF, England, has been awarded a MAC Outstanding Individual Safety Award. **Sergeant Parvu's** development of a safety program resulted in an accident-free record for the detachment.

**Mrs. Karen J. Goyette**, a clerical assistant with Det. 8 15th Weather

Squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif., has received the Sustained Superior Performance Award. This \$200 cash award was earned for special achievement from March 1, 1972, to March 1, 1973.

Col. **Robert M. Gottuso** assumed command of the Environmental Technical Applications Center (ETAC) April 6. He replaced Lt. Col. **Gilbert N. Woods**.

SSgt. **Royce L. Hildebrand**, an observer with the 1st WSq., MacDill AFB, Fla., was named Honor Graduate of Class 73-8 of the 21st Air Force NCO Leadership School at McGuire AFB, N.J. He also received special recognition as the 1,000th graduate of the school.

TSgt. **Joseph R. Carley**, 10th WSq., has been selected as the Squadron NCO of the Quarter at Udorn RTAFB, Thailand. **Sergeant Carley** is a forecaster in the base weather station at Udorn.

Det. 11, 12th WSq., Luke AFB, Ariz. was recently selected to receive the Air Defense Command "A" Award for outstanding service from Jan. 1, 1972, to March 31, 1973. The ADC "A" formally recognizes units that have distinguished themselves by outstanding achievement leading to increased operational effectiveness or sustained operational effectiveness of an exceptionally high degree.

Seven civilian employees of the 1st Weather Wing Hickam AFB, Hawaii, were presented lapel buttons in recognition of their contribution toward the wing's receipt of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. Col. **Morris H. Newhouse**, wing commander, presented the buttons to: **Mrs. Grace Parish**, **Mrs. Kay Ige**, **Mrs. Haruko Koga**, **Mrs. Dorothy Yoshikawa**, **Miss Mary Cummings**, **Miss Ellen Murata** and **Mr. John Newhouse**.

MSgt. **Samuel L. Pettiford**, Det.

1, 5th Weather Wing, Shaw AFB, S.C., presented the Meritorious Service Medal at his retirement ceremony by Col. **John S. Samotis**, detachment commander. Among things credited to **Sergeant Pettiford** was his part in raising the first term retention rate from zero to 80 per cent in the detachment.

Det. 1, 5th WWg., has another distinction also. Of the 33 men assigned to the unit, the detachment has had two consecutive honor graduates from MAC NCO Leadership School Dover AFB, Del. **Sgt. Terry M. Hopkins** was top man in his class (73-8) while **Sgt. John C. Dixon** graduated at the head of the next class. Both men are forecaster assistants at Shaw.

Another all-Air Force family was created at Castle AFB, Calif., recently when **Sgt. Patricia G. Wintz** and **Sgt. Jerry W. Briggs** were married April 21 in the Castle Chapel. The new **Mrs. (Sergeant?) Briggs** is assigned to Det. 2, 3rd WWg.

**Mrs. Ruth Perry**, wife of 1st Lt. **Charles A. Perry**, Det. 14, 12th WSq., was elected assistant treasurer of the Officer's Wives Club at Richards-Gebaur AFB, Mo., recently. **Ruth's** tasks will include the accounting and disbursement of club funds, making reports and sitting on board meetings.

Also at Richards-Gebaur, MSgt. **Kevin C. McCarthy**, Det. 14 non-commissioned officer in charge of maintenance, retired from the Air Force. In a ceremony at the weather station, the sergeant was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and a Letter of Appreciation from Col. **Eugene C. St. Clair**, 3rd WWg., commander. **Sergeant McCarthy's** wife was presented the Wife's Certificate of Appreciation to recognize the important role of the spouse in the husband's career.

TOP SPOT--MSgt. John H. Dansby, top, supervises the work of A1C Rafael A. Goldsmith, a weather observer with Det. 21, 6th Weather Wing, Edwards AFB, Calif. Sergeant Dansby recently was graduated from the MAC Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Norton AFB, Calif., as winner of the Commandant's Award and as a Distinguished Graduate. Additionally, the sergeant also won first place in the Academy Speech Competition. Sergeant Dansby is chief observer and first sergeant of the weather detachment. (U.S. Air Force Photo by A1C Dave Gresio)

## The DOCTOR'S CORNER

Maynard Bellamy, M.D.  
with Bob Drebelbis  
© COPYRIGHT 1973



### YOU AND YOUR HEART THE PUMP

The blood nourishes the body and sustains life, but it's the heart that pumps, directs its flow, and keeps the blood circulating thru every cell of the body to deliver the

oxygen and nutrients of life and carry away the waste.

The entire blood supply of 6 qts.<sup>1</sup>, is exchanged in approx. 96 seconds<sup>2</sup>. It is the pumping



and routing at a sustained rate that is essential to life and health. Should your heart stop for just 60 seconds you would lose consciousness. In 3 to 4 minutes severe brain damage would result and probably death would occur.

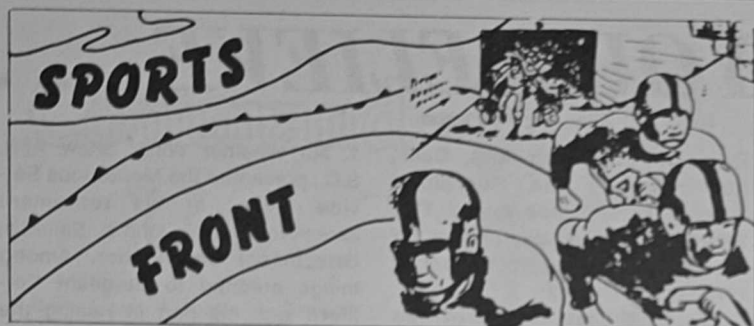
At rest the heart rate is about 64 per minute<sup>3</sup>. With exercise the body demands more oxygen. A signal from the nervous system will increase the breathing and heart rate to supply the needed oxygen.

Increased heart rate may also be a danger signal of infection, damage, or malfunction in some part of the body or the heart itself.

1. A NORMAL MALE 6ft 4 180 lbs.
2. BASED ON A MEAN HEART RATE OF 64/MIN. AT REST.
3. NORMAL HEALTHY YOUNG ADULT, MALE.

NEXT: THE TRAFFIC DIRECTOR





## 1st ACGSq. cops first place

FORBES AFB, Kan.--The 1st Aerial Cartographic and Geodetic Squadron bowling team won the Forbes AFB intramural bowling championship by defeating the 313th Supply Squadron 5,872 to 5,718 in a six-game roll-off. The 1st got off to a fast start by winning the first three games with a 302-pin margin. Though the supply squadron won the final three games, they failed by 154-pins to make up the deficit. Members of the 1st ACGSq. team were: SSgt. E. Rice (team captain), MSgt. P. Smith, MSgt. M. Bailey, MSgt. R. Wells, SSgt. G. Pongruber, Sgt. M. Brandow, Sgt. J. Stewart and MSgt. J. Vaughn.

## Weather team wins cage title

HICKAM AFB, Hawaii--The 1st Weather Wing basketball team has won the Hickam B-League Championship for the second consecutive year. The weather team finished with a 15-2 regular season record after capturing the pre-season tourney. Team members were David Javier, Bill Parket, Jerry Mills, John Erickson, Al Mitchell, John Gossage, Chuck Allen, Duane Chilton, Jackie Kaneshiro, Pat McKessey, Don Von Gruenigen and Coach Leroy C. Johnson.

## McCarthy crowned state singles champ

RICHARDS-GEBAUR AFB, Mo.--MSgt. Kevin C. McCarthy, Det. 14, 12th Weather Squadron, won the 1973 Missouri State Men's Singles Bowling Championship at Columbia, Mo., recently. Sergeant McCarthy turned in a 712 pin scratch total and a handicap total of 772 pins to win the title. He produced games of 211, 235 and 266 pins on his way to the victory.

## Whitehead wins AU chess tourney

MAXWELL AFB, Ala.--SSgt. Mark Whitehead, Det. 9, 15th Weather Squadron, here went undefeated and won the Air University Chess Club tournament April 14-15. Sergeant Whitehead, a forecaster, will represent AU in the 1973 USAF Chess Championship play this fall.

## Det. 1 creates forecaster assistants

SHAW AFB, S.C.--Wondering how to handle work loads at peak hours? Faced with a shortage of forecasters and a surplus of observers? Det. 1, 5th Weather Wing here, has developed a solution to the problem--forecaster assistants. Two observers, both staff sergeant selectees, were relieved of their observing duties and trained to accomplish many of the time-consuming jobs which had been assigned to the forecaster on duty.

These tasks included local dissemination of forecasts, maintaining the recovery forecast worksheet, handling routine telephone calls and assisting in the pilot-to-forecaster service (soon to be "pilot-to-metro service"). With a forecast assistant on duty, the forecaster is able to devote more of his time to the preparation of forecasts, flight briefings on the closed circuit television and preparation of flight weather

briefings.

The concept was developed by MSgt. Charles J. Hoffman, chief observer, and Chief Forecaster James E. Lowe under the supervision of Capt. William Koenemann, officer-in-charge of the base weather station.

The program has been operating for four months and appears to be a successful way of coping with the large volume of business at the busiest times of the day.

## Weather family pawns way to chess honors

AVIANO AB, Italy--MSgt. Charles Ronan, a Det. 7, 31st Weather Squadron, forecaster, his son Larry and daughter Patricia, were involved in a number of gambits at Vicenza, Italy, recently as they checked off opponents in the U.S. Armed Forces Chess Championships. Together, they carried off prizes in the form of trophies, watches and cameras after a few knights play. While it's not known if they rooked anyone during the tourney, it is a fact that Sergeant Ronan's only loss was pawned off on him by Chess Master Bill Pendergast. Sergeant Ronan placed second overall in the tourney. Meanwhile, Larry, 16, playing in his first tournament, took second in the unrated division. Patricia, 13, pulled the tournament upset by beating a rated player to capture first in the

## SSgt. Stewart works as ski instructor

AVIANO AB, Italy--SSgt. William R. Stewart, Det. 7, 31st Weather Squadron, recently participated as a chaperon and ski instructor for a "School in the Snow" program here.

An intra-cultural American-Italian venture, the school sponsored 100 American and Italian fifth and sixth grade school children during a week of skiing and learning in Pian Consiglio, a resort in the Dolomite Mountains.

Sergeant Stewart's role in the program was as an instructor of basic skiing skills, safety and courtesy on the slopes.

"The activities kept my day a full one," commented Sergeant Stewart, an observer with the detachment. His day started with outfitting the children and properly setting their ski safety bindings. Then he supervised a three-hour

morning ski class. During the free skiing period in the afternoon, he instructed a class of 10 children. Entertainment and educational portions of the program took up his

evenings.

"One of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had," said the sergeant later. "A most pleasurable week."

## MAC women outshine MAC men bowlers

Military Airlift Command women outperformed their male counterparts in the 1973 Air Force Wide Bowling Tournament at Lockbourne, AFB, Ohio.

The MAC women's team nailed down the overall team title for women while the men placed ninth as a team. No MAC men placed in individual competition.

In the WAF singles event, Sharon Folkendahl was crowned

champ with Ruth Cox and Theresa Rupp placing fifth and sixth respectively. Folkendahl was also individual WAF overall events champion with Cox finishing third and Rupp finishing ninth. Folkendahl and Cox were chosen as members of the WAF team entered in interservice competition at Long Beach Naval Station, Calif.

Folkendahl was also WAF high series runner-up.

## 55th WRSq. launches 3rd annual paper plane tourney

McCLELLAN AFB, Calif.--The Third Annual Paper Airplane Contest, sponsored by the 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron here, has been rated a "giahugic" success by its organizers.

The event, spawned in a frenzy of spring fever, was held in a 55th WRSq. hangar. Although this was the first year of competition, the contest's founders dubbed it "third annual" to provide the event with some class.

Organized primarily by maintenance people, the rather spontaneous air races included the entire squadron of weather-watchers on lunch break or off duty. A challenge issued by Air Force Academy cadets enroute to visit the 55th on an orientation trip never materialized. They were delayed in arriving and missed the competition.

Winners were: Amn. Martin Rochlitz in the small (fuselage under six inches) and "giahugic" (fuselage over 18 inches) classes; Sgt. George Dellenbach in the open (six to 18 inches) class; and Sgt. Charles Wheat won the design category with a delta-winged cone model.

According to one observer,

Wheat's "XL-3" resembled a combination of F-102, F-106, SR-71, A-4 and 1970 Porsche 914-6. "It looked great," the observer added.



AND AWAY HE GOES--Maj. John Mackesy, 55th WRSq. maintenance officer, attempts to launch his entry in the "Third Annual Paper Airplane Contest. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

## Two weathermen named All-Stars

RAMSTEIN AB, Germany--Bill Elliott and Mike DeSeure, both of Det. 21, 2nd Weather Wing, were unanimous choices for the small-unit all-star basketball team here.

The two were the only unanimous choices made from players comprising the 16-team league. Each coach voted for five players to represent the small units against all stars representing the larger units at Ramstein.

In that game, Elliott led the scoring with 14 points and won the game with a tie-breaking basket as the clock ran out. The final score was 47-46 in favor of the small unit's all-stars.

Elliott, playing center and forward, was Det. 21's leading scorer and rebounder for the third consecutive year. His game average was 14.3 points.

DeSeure, Det. 21's team captain and guard, was the coach's popular choice for the best defensive player in the league. He also averaged 13.8 points per game.

junior division. Said the sergeant, en passant, "Patricia, will be hard to live with now because she has the only first place award in the family." Checkmate!

## Weather AFSCs face VRB cut

Personnel officials at Hq. AWS have announced that the variable reenlistment bonus multiple for the 25XXX career field will be reduced from three to two July 1. Airmen who reenlist on their estimated time of separation before July 1, or who had documented approval prior to April 9 to reenlist early and do so before July 1, will still receive the higher multiple.



AND THE WINNERS ARE--By virtue of their superior aeronautical skills and extraordinary good luck, these three men were declared winners of the contest. Left to right, the winners are: Sgt. Charles Wheat, design class; Amn. Martin Rochlitz, giahugic and subminiature classes; and Sgt. George Dellenbach, open class. (U. S. Air Force Photo)

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