



# AWS Observer

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Headquarters Air Weather Service

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## Changes slated in AWS commands

Col. Norman F. Rauscher, commander of the 1st Weather Wing, Hickam AFB, Hawaii, will assume duties as the Air Weather Service Chief of Staff in January, succeeding Col. Joseph D. Saccone, who will retire.

Other AWS command changes will include:

—Col. Robert E. Julian, from 7th WW vice commander at Scott to 1st WW commander.

—Col. John R. Sweeney, from deputy chief of staff for logistics, AWS, to 7th WW vice commander.

—Col. Jareld L. Picantine, from assistant DCS for aerospace sciences, AWS, to DCS for logistics.

—Lt. Col. John H. Wylie Jr., from AWS director of readiness to assistant DCS for aerospace sciences. He is a colonel selectee.

—Col. Serhij Pilipowskyj, 3rd WW vice commander at Offutt AFB, Neb., takes command of the 12th Weather Squadron, Colorado Springs, Colo.

—Col. James O. Ivory, from chief of the 3rd WW operations division at Offutt AFB, to 3rd WW vice commander.

—Col. John E. Klag, from chief of the 12th WS operations branch to chief of the 3rd WW operations division.

## Proper wear outlined for new mess dress uniform

The Air Force has outlined the changes for wear of the new mess dress which may be available as early as December 1982, according to Military Airlift Command personnel officials.

A message to all personnel offices states that the Army and Air Force Exchange Service expects to have limited quantities of the new midnight blue formal uniform in December and January.

Uniform specifications are:

—All accouterments — shoulder boards for officers, chevrons for enlisteds, bow tie, tab and cummerbund — are midnight blue.

—The shirt or blouse is the same as the one worn with the current mess dress.

—Generals will wear three-quarter inch silver sleeve braid and other officers will wear one-half inch silver sleeve braid.

—Miniature medals will be centered on the left side of the uniform between lapel and arm seam and midway between top shoulder seam and top button of jacket.

Table 7-4 of Air Force Regulation 35-10 contains rules for the wear of

badges and specialty insignia. Men's changes include:

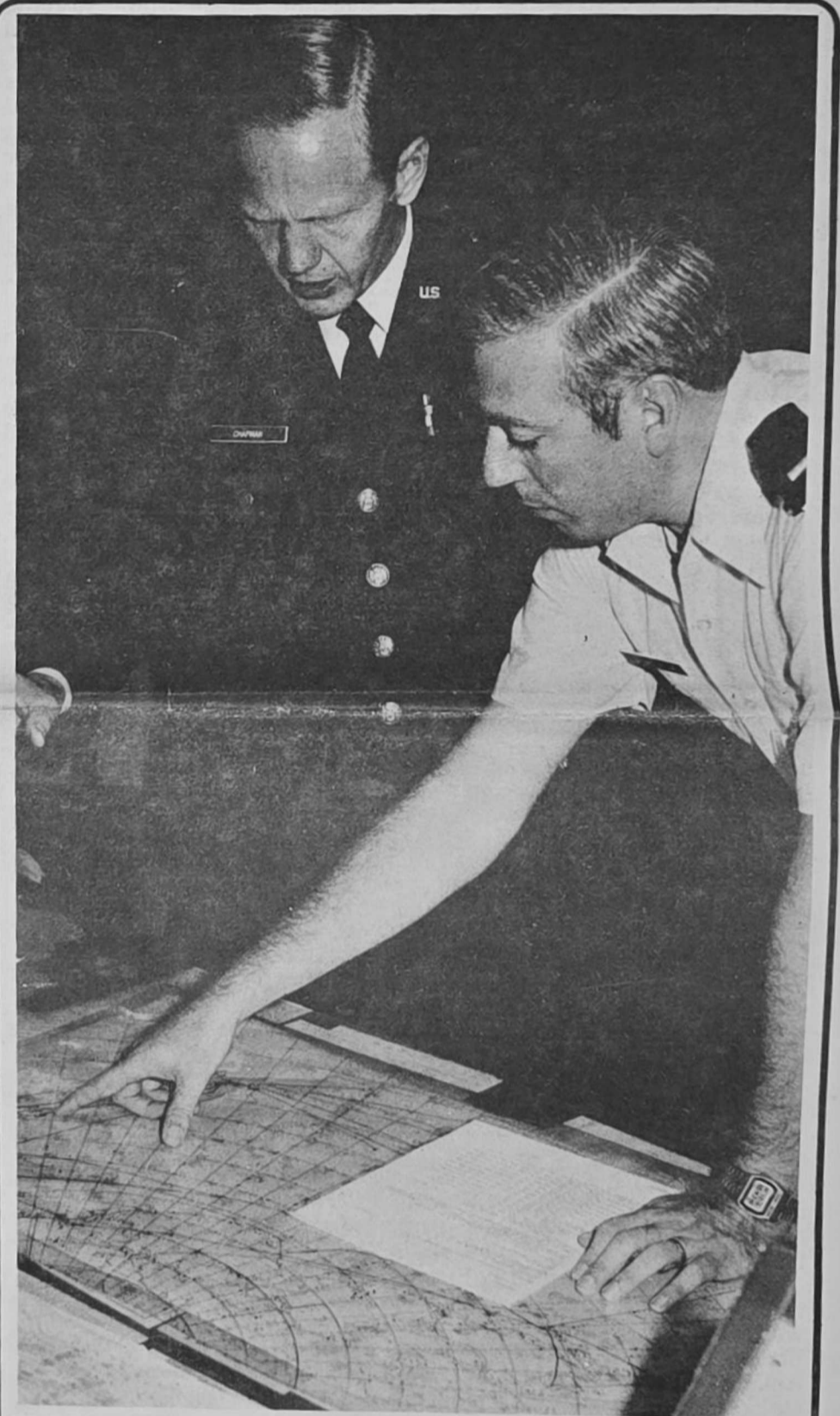
—The regular-size permanent professor U.S. Air Force Academy badge, regular-size Office of the Secretary of Defense identification badge, Joint Chiefs of Staff identification badge and miniature missile badge will be worn one-half inch below medals. The presidential and vice presidential service badges and foreign badges will be worn on the right side of the uniform in a position that corresponds with those badges worn on the left side.

—The OSD and JCS badges may be worn on the right side of the mess dress when wear conflicts with other Air Force badges worn on the left.

Women's changes include:

—The permanent professor badge, OSD and JCS badges, presidential and vice presidential badges, and foreign badges will be worn on the top right side of the uniform in a corresponding position with those badges worn on the left.

The black and white mess dress will be phased out in 1988. (MNS)



### WSU metwatch

1st Lt. Larry White, forecaster at 17th Weather Squadron's 22nd Air Force Weather Support Unit, Travis AFB, Calif., and Col. George E. Chapman, Air Weather Service commander, discuss the various procedures used to metwatch flights as they cross the Pacific. WSU forecasters use satellite imagery, upper air analysis, recent pilot reported winds, and the NWS 250 mb spectral analyses/progs to perform the metwatch. (U.S. Air Force photo)

# Command line *Feedback, highlights given from commanders' conference*

During the past 90 days, my schedule has filled quickly, most notably with travel to our units worldwide and by a conference of Military Airlift Command and Air Weather Service commanders, to review where we've been and where we're going.

I'll have more to say on the travel in a later issue. For now, suffice it to say that the opportunity to meet with the people of AWS and see firsthand the enthusiastic contribution you are making is one of the real pluses of being a commander...and you people are doing a super job.

I thought I'd give you direct feedback of some highlights from VOLANT RALLY, the MAC wing commanders' conference conducted by MAC Commander in Chief, Gen. James R. Allen, in October, and the AWS wing commanders' conference held in conjunction with VOLANT RALLY. It's



Col. George E. Chapman  
AWS Commander

better to talk to you face-to-face on some of the issues and your concerns, and I'll do that when I visit your units, but no matter how ambitious my travel schedule, I'll not be able to get to all of our units as quickly as I'd like to.

At units that I've visited thus far, I'm frequently asked about the progress of new equipment programs being planned for AWS, such as AWDS and NEXRAD, and the support we are getting.

I can tell you the support could not be stronger. General Allen kicked off VOLANT RALLY by briefing on some urgent command funding upgrades underway, specifically citing, in some programmatic detail, the strong push he and the command are giving to AWS programs.

These vital programs will give us a better capability to meet Air Force mission requirements, and the prospects continue to look very good...the support from the top couldn't be stronger.

We learned at VOLANT RALLY of renewed emphasis in the Air Force on training, tactics and technologies to improve our readiness posture. In 1982, you people have spent 27,000 man-days deployed on exercises...we are ready to meet our commitment, and we'll continue to train with the Air Force and Army to make sure we're prepared when called upon.

General Allen called on

commanders throughout MAC to continue to set high standards. In BRIGHT STAR, MAC airlifted troops over the target within five seconds of scheduled time; in GALLANT EAGLE, it was a 30-second deviation and in REFORGER, it was 28 seconds. That's class, and that's professionalism — and weather support, en route weather and computer flight plan wind forecasts, made a direct contribution. The CINC knows it, and you can be proud of it.

During the Air Weather Service Commanders' Conference we focused our view on some new developments within AWS. The development and growth of Space Command will bring with it increased responsibilities for AWS in the future, and we are studying a realignment of 12th Weather Squadron and Space Environmental Support System units worldwide to insure we're ready to meet that responsibility.

The Air Force Systems Command has recently agreed to sponsor a Weather-2000 study effort which will look at the Air Force programs and missions scheduled through the year 2000 and then determine the AWS capabilities that will be needed to meet those requirements.

This is similar to an approach we took in 1970 on a Weather-85 study which is now the primary advocacy document for new capabilities like AWAPS, AWDS

and NEXRAD.

Today I learned of the final approval of the Advanced Weather Analysis and Prediction System which will, stated succinctly, give the AWS by 1985 a Northern and Southern Hemispheric forecast model capable of meeting our global defense support requirements. The upgrade of the base weather stations, the AWDS, is moving along on schedule, and NEXRAD has strong support from the top.

We discussed our first-term retention efforts, which are above the Air Force average. The classes are filled in forecaster school for the next six months and we're maintaining that lead time. Attrition is cut nearly in half from last year, a compliment to the students, the instructor staff and the people who put the new forecaster preparatory program together. That means more forecasters in the field to meet new requirements which you are being challenged to support.

The best way to wrap this up is with an assessment made by General Allen to Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. Charles A. Gabriel, and other senior Air Force commanders at their recent conference. Speaking of MAC people, General Allen stated: "They believe they are doing an important job, doing it well, and their leaders know it." He is talking about you. Keep up the super effort.

## Air Force people should check goals, aim high

Editorial by SSgt. Rick Kron

"Aim High," the 1982 Air Force recruiting slogan is a basic ideal that has been part of American heritage for more than 200 years.

The commitment of Air Force recruiters to fill needed vacancies with the "cream of the crop," is a fitting legacy to those great Americans who battled against staggering odds and continued to "aim high."

In the mid-1700s, most of the 13 colonies agreed that they were being mistreated, but just a small minority of people wanted to break

away from England. That small band of folks aimed high and with hard and convincing work they became the majority and the colonies gained independence.

Thomas Edison was somewhat in the dark when he first started working on the light bulb. But, by aiming high, his flickering light grew. As Edison once said, "I never did anything worth doing by accident, nor did any of my inventions come by accident."

When Robert Fulton was working on his steamboat, his goal may have seemed out of reach. However, he was just aiming high.

On the day of his steamboat's

maiden voyage, someone on shore hollered that Fulton's Folly would never work. As it steamed past he hollered it would never be able to stop. It did. But, the steamboat would never have become a reality if Fulton hadn't ignored the skeptics and aimed high.

In the early 1960s, President John F. Kennedy literally aimed high, declaring America would put a man on the moon before the decade's end. The "Eagle" landed with plenty of time to spare.

Just as the Eagle was selected as the name for the moon ship, the bald eagle was selected as

America's high-flying symbol of freedom.

Is there any reason why we should settle for less in our own goals?

Aiming high is a fundamental tradition started by our forefathers and refined by generations since. Aim high isn't just a slogan for recruiters. It is an attitude that should be shared by all Air Force people.

Check your goals. Make sure that you are among those aiming high. (MNS)

Sergeant Kron is with the 314th Tactical Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Little Rock AFB, Ark.

Col. George E. Chapman  
AWS Commander

SSgt. Sue Shearer  
Editor

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## Chief's comments

# Advisor states beliefs, concerns

It's difficult to express the honor and privilege I feel to have been selected as the senior enlisted advisor for Air Weather Service — to have the opportunity to serve the greatest people in today's Air Force — the people in AWS.

The challenge is one that I accept with great enthusiasm. Not that I am going to make a lot of changes but to continue the ones my predecessor started — to change as change is needed — to keep growing in the areas of more challenges, more responsibilities and more opportunities within the weather career field.

As the previous enlisted advisors before me have stated, "The first article is the toughest — until the last one — to write." There are many topics that I could have written about, but I thought a few lines on my beliefs and concerns would be appropriate.

These were developed through the influence of my trainers, supervisors and commanders throughout my career. Not only through the positive actions but through the negative actions too.

The first is honesty. I believe honesty is the basis for all walks of life. It's the foundation that must be laid before any problem can be solved.

The honest answer may not be the one we would like to hear, but

with honesty as a foundation, we can plan in a positive manner. We also need to be honest with ourselves. The mistakes we make should be admitted and corrected and we should learn from them. You can't ask any more from the human factor.

The second is respect. I believe strongly in respecting each person as an individual. The respect to the position and the rank of an individual in our military environment must always be upheld.

This is the basis for the discipline required when we are called upon to defend this great nation of ours. Respect for our flag — the one that has been tattered many times but still remains standing. It's worth the two minutes a day to pay respect during retreat. I question the military commitment of those who run for cover versus standing retreat. There is some doubt.

The next one, image, ties the other two together, both mentally and physically. We are representatives of the United States Air Force regardless of where we may be assigned. While overseas, we are actually an unofficial American ambassador. Our image to others represents the strength of our government and our ability to meet worldwide crises as needed. This image can remain

strong only through our efforts.

When it comes to concerns, my main concern is people — our most important resource. People problems and issues are 95 percent of my job. And when I say people, I mean all the people in AWS regardless of AFSC.

There have been perceptions in the past that if you were not an observer or forecaster you were an outsider within a weather unit. I sincerely say that I consider all persons assigned to AWS as AWS people.

I don't know of any commander who would say an administrative person isn't a part of the unit — that the supply person did not belong in the headquarters, and the 14 different AFSC's at AFGWC weren't a part of that unit. Anyone who has done without this expertise because of manpower shortages, knows what I am talking about. You belong. And when I visit a unit, I am there to see members of all the different career fields.

What's my top priority? Mission. The Air Force mission.

I am fully committed to the support of the Air Force mission, which means the mission of the Air Force will be considered first in all decisions. An example would be assignments.

We cannot overman a base in the sunny south while another base in a less desirable location

is undermanned and support to the Air Force mission is impeded.

So I am like any typical "Bluesuiter" huh? Hope so. But while I am in this job, I promise that I will represent you in an honest, respectful manner, and will display the image expected of the AWS Senior Enlisted Advisor. At the same time I ask each of you to be honest with me, show respect to your fellow workers, peers, and the American tradition and display that all important image.

Editor's note — The monthly senior enlisted advisor's column, long known as the "Enlisted line" has taken a new name. The "Chief's comments" include matters of interest and importance to all AWS members.



**CMSgt. Charles T. Melson**  
AWS Senior Enlisted Advisor

## More than forecasts

# EFU meets varied needs

By 1st Lt. Mark P. Weadon

The European Forecast Unit of Detachment 21, 2nd Weather Wing has always had a name problem. Known variously in its history as the Kindsbach Forecast Center, the European Tactical Forecast Center and the USAFE Forecast Center, this direct reporting unit to Headquarters 2nd WW, co-located at Kapaun AS, Germany does more than simply forecast for Europe, as the name would imply.

The commander of the detachment describes the scope of the unit's weather responsibility, "While our prime concern is the European command area, that is far from all. At various times we have been asked to forecast, metwatch, and describe weather conditions anywhere from the

Arctic Circle to the tropics, from the mid-Atlantic to the Middle East and beyond.

"Here at EFU we function primarily as weather people advising other weather people. With the great variety of products received at the unit, we can help the forecasters in the field produce better forecasts."

Among the multitude of products available to EFU forecasters are facsimile analyses and progs from the British Meteorological Organization, the Deutsche Wetterdienst, Global Weather Central, and GMGO (the German military weather service); indigenous forecasts and observations over two teletype circuits; satellite pictures of Europe and the Middle East on DMSP laserfax; and a variety of surface, upper air, and severe weather information via a

high-speed DCT computer/printer.

The task of displaying, analyzing, and comparing this great influx of information falls to the five-person teams which staff the unit round the clock.

In a large room lined with charts, the team members, including a chief, two desk forecasters, and two observers, constantly examine incoming data as they update their thinking about weather in the special areas of concern.

The primary vehicle of EFU's support to the field is the Staff Weather Officers' Bulletin, a three-times daily, plain language discussion of weather conditions in Europe and the southeastern Mediterranean region.

The name is apt, since the SWO Bulletin goes out to weather officers throughout Europe, many at remote or data-denied locations. To

them, the "big picture" provided by EFU's SWO Bulletin can be an invaluable aid.

A team chief at EFU describes the challenges of working at the unit, "The team chief really needs to be a jack-of-all trades. In addition to having a firm grasp of synoptic meteorology, he or she must be proficient in turbulence forecasting, icing forecasting, and satellite interpretation. When you also consider the great variety of terrains and climates we have to forecast for — from Saharan Africa to near-polar Norway — you get some idea of the challenges involved. All in all, EFU is a great place to learn about weather."

Lieutenant Weadon is the public affairs representative for the EFU.

## A lesson from history

# 21st WS reconstructs German weather Service

By John Fuller

On July 13, 1945, two months after V-E Day, orders were issued by U.S. military authorities to form a German meteorological service for the civilian population residing within the U.S. zone of occupation.

The job fell to AWS' 21st Weather Squadron, which also had the mission of furnishing weather service to Army and Air Force units occupying Germany.

Inasmuch as the orders stated that Germans were to be incorporated as soon as possible, one of the squadron's first jobs was to find qualified people.

Captured German weathermen formed a nucleus. Those and others found in prisoner of war camps, together with volunteers, were screened by counter-intelligence units.

With their scientific backgrounds, many had served in the German military service. Many of the civilian and military meteorologists were members either of the Nazi Party or affiliates.

### Employing Germans

It presented a thorny problem. The 21st WS had neither the time nor the people to train "good" Germans for the highly technical work. But after a thorough screening by counter-intelligence, 21st WS was permitted to employ both civilian and ex-military forecasters and observers.

Nevertheless, orders specified that no Germans would be employed where American meteorological personnel worked. Further, German forecasters could prepare no airway, terminal, or flight-advisory forecasts because of their potential military value.

Additionally, the Germans worked under strict military supervision, and all German meteorological records were collected and held in custody by U.S. authorities.

Through the interrogation and cooperation of such German

weather luminaries as Dr. Werner Schwerdtfeger and Dr. Gerhart Schinze, large quantities of German weather instruments, archives, maps, and charts were uncovered and placed at the squadron's disposal. Those men, together with others prominent in German meteorological circles, aided considerably in activating a civil meteorological service.

### Weather centrals

Accordingly, weather centrals were set up at Bad Kissingen and Munich, equipped with captured German instruments. The former central served most of the American occupation zone, the Bremen area, and the U.S. zone in Berlin, as well as receiving weather reports from satellite reporting stations in those areas.

The Munich station served all occupied territory in Germany and Austria south of the Danube River. At Bad Kissingen teletype reports from military networks were available, but power difficulties in Munich precluded such service.

However, both centrals had powerful German-made radio receivers capable of intercepting weather reports from every part of the world north of the Equator.

Operating 24 hours a day, the Bad Kissingen central employed 70 civilians, while Munich had 40. Each employee worked eight hours a day, six days per week. Both centrals had upper air and surface forecasting sections. Most of the maps and charts used were of German origin and issue.

### Learning the facts

Captured German meteorological supplies and equipment were stored at a special depot in Erlangen. There, 21st WS officials found time for many interesting and profitable interviews and interrogations of Germans who had been at the highest level in the German weather service during the war.

One they interviewed was Dr. Schwerdtfeger, who had been in

charge of the forecasting section of the "Zentralwetterdienstgruppe", or German weather central at Berlin since September 1943.

One of the most brilliant of the younger German meteorologists, he had made hundreds of weather recce flights as a flight meteorologist and navigator.

One of the most significant operational forecasts he made during the war for the German high command was for their December 1944 counteroffensive in the Ardennes — popularly referred to by the Allies as the Battle of the Bulge.

Schwerdtfeger's forecast predicted that the Allies would be unable to bomb visually or use close air support for seven days. He admitted to good luck in that forecast, because the weather continued unfavorably for nine days, a fact the Germans took full advantage of.

According to Dr. Schwerdtfeger, Adolf Hitler and his high command, with the exception of a few enlightened commanders, did not rely too heavily on their meteorologists.

Their wariness stemmed from conflicting forecasts that frequently crept into Hitler's military plans. Consequently, German commanders often launched campaigns in spite of forecasts of unfavorable weather. The results were not too serious until the 1941 invasion of Russia. Weather there was a major contributor to the German setback.

### The archives

The Germans had one of the world's outstanding collections of climatological archives. In some cases it extended as far back as 100 years for both German and foreign weather stations.

The archives and the German meteorological library were under supervision of Dr. Karl Knoch, internationally known climatologist. When Berlin's collapse seemed imminent, the library was moved to Friedrichroda, although some of it

had to be abandoned.

Intelligence teams with the advancing Americans captured the library at Friedrichroda and many of its employees in the climatological section. Those men served as a potential nucleus for a climatological section in the reconstituted weather service, and had only to be asked.

Dr. Knoch and his staff were quite willing to continue to watch over the huge mass of valuable material and worked with U.S. intelligence officials to safeguard it. They were subsequently moved to Kassel, then to Wiesbaden, where a climatology center was established with a 21st WS officer in charge.

### The first forecasts

The first dissemination of weather information emanating from the reconstructed German weather service was in August 1945 over the U.S.-controlled Radio Luxembourg. The broadcast consisted of forecasts of general weather conditions for the ensuing 36 hours, and a surface analysis emphasizing agricultural aspects.

Once the service was inaugurated, the centrals at Bad Kissingen and Munich were besieged by local government agencies, private industry, farmers, and others seeking specialized weather information.

They also provided service to newspapers in Frankfurt, Munich, Wurtzberg, Berlin, and Bremen; to railroads and freight companies, with emphasis on track conditions; by telephone to authorized bureaus and individuals; and, finally, to the one military agency it was permitted to service — flood forecasts for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The list grew almost weekly until it included practically every agency concerned with Germany's reconstruction.

Written by Mr. Fuller, the Military Airlift Command historian for AWS, this column is featured monthly as part of the Project Warrior program.

## MAC officials underscore leave, pass policies

"Early" retirement and "five-day" passes are neither condoned nor authorized, according to Military Airlift Command personnel officials.

In some cases, supervisors have released retiring members from duty up to a month before the member's terminal leave began. Other members have used three-day passes in conjunction with weekends and other time off. Both circumstances are violations of

either Air Force Regulation 35-17 or AFR 35-9.

AFR 35-17 provides for one to five days of outprocessing time for retiring members at the supervisor's discretion, depending on what the relocation involves. For example, people with families would probably need more time for household goods shipments than single members, and people retiring in the local area would probably need less time off than

those making a cross-country move. In any event, excessive time off is not a provision of the regulation.

During outprocessing, the retiring member is still subject to recall, and he or she may not leave the local area without entering leave, temporary duty or other official travel status.

AFR 35-9 spells out pass policy. Normally, a special pass is 72 hours

long. In unusual circumstances, 96 hours may be granted. But passes may not be granted if they combine with other time off to exceed the 72/96 hour limit.

Supervisors should be aware of all policies set forth in AFR 35-9, Leave and Administrative Absence Policy, and AFR 35-17, Preparation of Personnel Selected for Relocation Base Level Procedures, MAC officials said. (MNS)

# Det. 14, 17th WS marks anniversary

December 3rd marks the 40th anniversary of Detachment 14, 17th Weather Squadron.

On that day in 1942 a type A weather detachment was activated at San Bernardino, Calif., beginning the history of military weather support at what is now Norton AFB.

Since 1942 the weather unit has been assigned to three different Air Weather Service wings, numerous different squadrons, and a variety of other Army and Air Force organizations.

Even in the past ten years the detachment has been designated, respectively, as Det. 3, 17th WS; Det. 14, 15th WS, (5th Weather Wing); Det. 14, 7th WW; and on May 1, 1979, became Det. 14, 17th WS.

Norton AFB, the home of Det. 14 is located near the southeast corner of the city of San Bernardino, Calif. about 55 miles east of Los Angeles.

The Pacific Ocean is 60 miles to the west and 45 miles to the southwest; the San Bernardino mountains, a 6,000 foot high east-west mountain range, with peaks up to 11,500 feet, are just six miles north of the base; the San Jacinto mountains lie about 40 miles southeast; and the Santa Ana mountains begin about 25 miles to the southwest.

The mild year-round climate, the numerous places to swim, hunt, fish, water ski, and snow ski during the winter, and the ability to visit numerous amusement activities makes Norton AFB a very desirable assignment.

Det. 14's primary customer is the 63rd Military Airlift Wing, which

operates C-141B Starlifters.

However, the unit also supports the Reserve Associate, 445th Military Airlift Wing, the Air Force Safety and Inspection Center, and other major tenant organizations on Norton.

In addition, the detachment supports 146th Tactical Airlift Wing C-130s out of Van Nuys Air National Guard Base.

The 63rd MAW are called "The Professionals" because of their outstanding performance in providing airlift to major aerial parts throughout the Pacific and their combat readiness. 63rd MAW aircraft routinely transit such major U.S. bases as Clark AB, Philippines; Yokota AB and Kadena AB, Japan; Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; and Andersen AFB, Guam.

However, they also frequent such places such as Christchurch, New Zealand; Woomera and Richmond, Australia; Pago Pago, American Samoa; Tengah, Singapore; Wake Island; and Kwajaleen.

Det. 14 supported the longest flight for a C-141B, a direct trip between Norton and Darwin, Australia, which included three aerial refuelings. The 63rd MAW also provides airlift for Operation DEEP FREEZE, the annual resupply of the Antarctic.

In July 1982, one of our wing weather officers became the first weatherman to deploy to Christchurch and provided tailored weather support to this important Military Airlift Command mission.

The 63rd MAW and 445th MAW crews routinely conduct combat airdrop training at several



locations in the California desert, for which wing weather officers provide tailored forecast support. They are involved in Joint Airborne/Air Transportability Training missions from the Philippines and throughout the U.S.

63rd MAW aircraft were also involved in the direct airdrop of 82nd Airborne troops during REFORGER and the subsequent non-stop return of the aircraft to the U.S.

Det. 14 is a 24-hour observing, 15-hour forecasting station with fifteen people authorized.

In 1979, Det. 14 received the Williams Award as the best base

weather station in AWS. Then the only all-enlisted detachment ever so honored. It also joined a select group which has won the award twice.

During the last two 63rd MAW Operational Readiness Inspections, Det. 14 garnered an unprecedented two consecutive perfect 200s for weather support.

Det. 14 has provided personnel to support MAC operations from Korea to the mid-East, proudly carrying the 17th WS, 7th WW, and AWS banners.

Det. 14's excellence continues. Proud of their heritage, they support "The Professionals."

## Locator service can help

# What became of whatshisname?

Want to contact a retired servicemember, a former shipmate or someone you served with in years past?

Many active duty and retired servicemembers would like to renew acquaintances with other military members, including those retired, but have lost track of their whereabouts.

The Privacy Act of 1974 normally prevents the military departments from releasing current addresses; however, each service operates a locator service which will forward your correspondence.

Here's how to do it. On one envelope, in which you have included

your message or greeting, write the name and grade of the person you're trying to find. In the upper left corner put your return address. Place a stamp in the upper right. Insert this envelope in another stamped envelope addressed to the locator service. Include your return address on this envelope, too.

Because there are so many people with identical names, accuracy of spelling and completeness of name is vital. It also is a good idea to send the locator service a data sheet, in the "outside" envelope, listing what you know about your friend's service background, duty stations

schooling, dates, etc. This will help the locators to track the individual down faster.

Send your correspondence:

**Army:** HQDA-DAAG-PSR, Alexandria, VA 22331

**Navy:** USN (NMPC-641E), Washington, DC 20370

**Air Force:** AFMPC/D003, Randolph AFB, TX 78150

**Marine Corps:** HQ USMC (MSRB-13), Washington, DC 20380

**Coast Guard:** HQ USCG (G-PS-1), Washington, DC 20593

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# AWS Salutes . . .

Information for the Salutes column should be sent by public affairs representatives to HQ AWS/PA, Scott AFB, Ill., 62225. Submissions should list information by category and include the rank, full name, unit and unit location.

Items received by the 15th of the month will be printed in the following month's AWS OBSERVER.

Abbreviations are AWS - Air Weather Service; HQ - Headquarters; AIN - Army Installation; AAF - Army Airfield; AFS - Air Force Station; CCAF - Community College of the Air Force; WW - Weather Wing; WS - Weather Squadron; AFGWC - Air Force Global Weather Central; USAFETAC - U.S. Environmental Technical Applications Center; WRS - Weather Reconnaissance Squadron; BTZ - Below the Zone; OL - Operating Location; and OLC - Oak Leaf Cluster.

## Medals

**Defense Meritorious Service Medal:** Maj. Frederick P. Milwer, OL-G, 2nd WS, Tyndall AFB, Fla.; Capt. Cory R. Chadwick, Det. 14, 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany.

**Meritorious Service Medal:** MSgt. Ernesto S. Nazareno, 6th WS, Tinker AFB, Okla.; SSgt. Harold E. Harper, Det. 5, HQ AWS, Keesler AFB, Miss.; MSgt. William G. Torma, Det. 75, 3rd WS, Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Lt. Col. Melvin L. Turner (3rd OLC), HQ 30th WS, Yongsan AB, Korea; MSgt. Steven C. Wilson (1st OLC), OL-A, Det. 4, 11th WS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska; SMSgt. Gary R. Peterson, Det. 2, 11th WS, Eielson AFB, Alaska; MSgt. Billy D. Richardson, Det. 10, 30th WS, Kunsan AB, Korea; Capt. Erwin L. Williams (1st OLC), Det. 11, 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Maj. James W. Overall, HQ 3rd WS, Shaw AFB, S.C..

**Joint Service Commendation Medal:** TSgt. James P. Kolodzyk, OL-AE, Det. 6 HQ AWS, Willow Grove, Pa.

**Air Force Commendation Medal:** 1st Lts. Kim C. Pantley, Donald L. Wilson, Det. 20, 31st WS, Sembach AB, Germany; Capt. David E. Hodges (2nd OLC), 6th WS, Tinker AFB, Okla.; TSgt. Wayne A. K. Kim (3rd OLC), SSgt. Michael D. Dougherty, Det. 7, 1st WW, Wheeler AFB, Hawaii; MSgt. David W. Gibson, SSgt. Randy J. Brennan, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; MSgts. Dale M. Bystedt (2nd OLC), Bruce D. Silliman (3rd OLC), TSgts. Ronald P. Szymkowski (3rd OLC), John C. Graham (1st OLC), SSgts. Currey R. Buchanan (1st OLC), Thomas E. Cabeen, Steven P. Sheamer (1st OLC), Det. 7, HQ AWS, Mercury, Nev.; SSgt. Michael S. Erskine, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.; TSgt. Donald E. Terhaar, SSgt. Daniel E. Mitchell, OL-K, HQ AWS, Las Vegas, Nev.; 1st Lt. Mark H. Daybell, Det. 4, HQ AWS, Andersen AFB, Guam; MSgt. Donald H. Thompson, SSgts. Steven D. Braatz, Kirk R. Berry, SrA. Kevin L.

Scaife, A1C Anthony J. Antonaitis, Det. 4, 17th WS Altus AFB, Okla.; 1st Lt. Kenneth H. Wallingford, Det. 1, 31st WS, Bitburg AB, Germany; SSgt. Michael McGurn, MSgt. William Brent (1st OLC), Det. 18, 30th WS, Yongsan, Korea; SrA. Daniel J. Geis, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**Air Force Achievement Medal:** SSgt. Robert J. Dalphe, III, Det. 1, 31st WS, Bitburg AB, Germany; Capt. Arthur R. Walker, Det. 4, 17th WS, Altus AFB, Okla.; SSgt. Jack Tones, Jr., OL-K, HQ AWS, Las Vegas, Nev.; Capt. Alfred Powell, MSgt. David Hill, Det. 3, HQ AWS, Sunnyvale AFS, Calif.; Sgt. Roderick L. Donaldson, Det. 7, 1st WW, Wheeler AFB, Hawaii; SSgts. Steven V. Miller, Flordeliza Faulkner, Det. 12, 31st WS, Torrejon AB, Spain; A1C Dirk W. Christiansen, SrA. Magda Wold, Det. 2, 11th WS, Eielson AFB, Alaska; A1C Florentino Versoza, Det. 1, 9th WS, Offutt AFB, Neb.

## Promotions

**To major:** Larry B. Townsend, Det. 9, 12th WS, Tyndall AFB, Fla.; Peter B. Mills, HQ 11th WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

**To captain:** Richard C. Fleming, Det. 12, 31st WS, Torrejon AB, Spain.

**To first lieutenant:** Carol A. Thompson, Det. 1, 15th WS, Andrews AFB, Md.

**To chief master sergeant:** Milorad R. Knezevich, HQ 3rd WS, Shaw AFB, S.C.

**To senior master sergeant:** Jeffrey W. Russell, HQ 3rd WW, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Robert B. Tuttle, HQ 11th WS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Delwin P. Nance, Det. 9, 12th WS, Tyndall AFB, Fla.; Philip D. Henderson, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**To master sergeant:** Levarn Adger, HQ 3rd WS, Shaw AFB, S.C.; Robert J. Cianchetti, Det. 12, 31st WS, Torrejon AB, Spain; Harry J. Podhora, Det. 24, 26th WS, K. I. Sawyer AFB, Mich.; Frederick E. Gesser, Robert King, HQ 3rd WW, Offutt AFB, Neb.; Patrick L. Pritchett, Glenn D. Stalder, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; Gary Russell, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany; Edmund D. Wallace, Det. 4, 17th WS, Altus AFB, Okla.; Clayton R. Chartier, Det. 4, 28th WS, RAF Bentwaters, United Kingdom; John Love, Det. 18, 30th WS, Yongsan AB, Korea; Richard Whisnant, Det. 21, 15th WS, Pope AFB, N.C..

**To technical sergeant:** William M. Smith, Det. 36, 28th WS, RAF Alconbury, United Kingdom; Dwight Fleming, Det. 2, 9th WS, Castle AFB, Calif.; Rickey J. Fruge, Det. 3, 9th WS, Fairchild AFB, Wash.; Gary W. Brakefield, Det. 5, 9th WS, Malmstrom AFB, Mont.; Harold E. Newman, Det. 5, HQ AWS, Keesler AFB, Miss.; Ricky V. Donaldson, Det. 10, 30th WS, Kunsan AB, Korea; Glen R. Rury, 6th WS, Tinker AFB, Okla.; Timothy W. Jacobs, Joseph G. Kisela,

Jr., Det. 8, 1st WW, Kadena AB, Japan; Robert R. Thomas, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany; David W. Ziesennehenne, Det. 15, 25th WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.; Leonard W. Gibson, Det. 23, 3rd WS, Moody AFB, Ga.; Emmitt Grant, Jr., Det. 17, 1st WW, Yokota AB, Japan.

**To staff sergeant:** Lawrence J. Alexander, Deborah A. Radke, Det. 20, 31st WS, Sembach AB, Germany; Gilbert C. Hine, Jr., OL-A, Det. 6, 2nd WW, Bad Toelz, Germany; Ronald M. Robison, Rickey J. Lane, Rebecca R. Schaffer, Karl H. Stevens, Det. 20, 17th WS, Little Rock AFB, Ark.; Lloyd P. Johnson, Jr., Det. 10, 15th WS, McGuire AFB, N.J.; Thomas P. Moore, Det. 11, 17th WS, McChord AFB, Wash.; Glenn Hoffman, Det. 10, 2nd WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.; Timothy J. Smith, Det. 5, HQ AWS, Keesler AFB, Miss.; Debra Scherer, Larry Smith, Det. 18, 30th WS, Yongsan AB, Korea; Martin W. Sprankle, Det. 10, 30th WS, Kunsan AB, Korea; Morris N. Friedman, Det. 8, 1st WW, Kadena AB, Japan; Wayne E. Howe, Det. 6, 26th WS, Pease AFB, N.H.; David G. Rawson, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; Rodney L. Clements, Det. 21, 9th WS, Minot AFB, N.D.; Mark L. Elyea, Det. 6, 9th WS, Peterson AFB, Colo.; John M. Buinicky, Det. 3, 9th WS, Fairchild AFB, Wash.; Michael S. Erskine, Rene A. Lacelle, Robert B. Slayton, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**To sergeant:** Michael Archuletta, Det. 17, 9th WS, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.; Trena L. Tice, Det. 8, 1st WW, Kadena AB, Japan; Warren F. Weritz, Det. 5, HQ AWS, Keesler AFB, Miss.; Larry D. Slaughter, OL-A, Det. 6, 2nd WW, Bad Toelz, Germany; Arlene M. Rzepecki, Det. 10, 2nd WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.; Maura K. Duffer, Roderick L. Donaldson, Det. 7, 1st WW, Wheeler AFB, Hawaii; Edward L. Walton, Virgil W. Israel, Det. 4, 11th WS, Fort Richardson, Alaska; David M. Ward, Det. 36, 28th WS, RAF Alconbury, United Kingdom; Linda J. MacDougall, Det. 14, 17th WS, Norton AFB, Calif.; Ralph G. Quinto, Det. 11, 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Richard A. Winkle, Det. 3, 2nd WW, Athens, Greece; Lynda M. Register, Det. 7, AFGWC, Carswell AFB, Texas; Jarre Symsyn, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**To senior airman:** Linda Y. Sturgis, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany; Heidi C. Heroux, 6th WS, Tinker AFB, Okla.; Mark E. Testroet, Det. 4, 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Michael C. Giffon, Maria T. Clark, Det. 14, 31st WS, Hahn AB, Germany; Edward J. Sheeche, Jr., Det. 11, 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Cathy L. Ray, Ruben Carrasco, Det. 1, 15th WS, Andrews AFB, Md.; Michael E. Dziezyc, Det. 41, 12th WS, Peterson AFB, Colo.; Alice F. Cosby, Det. 14, 17th WS, Norton AFB, Calif.; Raymond L. Souza, Det. 7, 1st WW, Wheeler AFB, Hawaii; Mark A. Stewart, Howard A. Westbrook, Det. 5, HQ AWS, Keesler AFB, Miss.; Sally Turnipseed, HQ 9th WS, March AFB, Calif.; Suzanne M. Sensabaugh, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; Vanessa U. Harris, Det. 11, 17th WS, McChord AFB, Wash.; Dennis Barron, Det. 15, 24th WS, Vance AFB, Okla.; Ron Saclolo, Det. 11, 24th WS, Reese AFB, Texas; Keith D. Anderson, Det. 8, 26th WS, Griffiss AFB, N.Y.; Brian J. Siciliano, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**To airman first class:** Thomas A. Lamb, Det. 10, 30th WS, Kunsan AB, Korea; Michael A. Zenner, Det. 5, 9th WS, Malmstrom AFB,

(continued on page 7)

Many units continue to send submissions for the AWS OBSERVER to the old address. The correct address is HQ AWS/CSSP or PA, Scott AFB, Ill. 62225.

# AWS Salutes . . .

(continued from page 6)

Mont.; Christopher M. Rambali, Det. 1, 15th WS, Andrews AFB, Md.; Richard Book, Det. 18, 30th WS, Yongsan AB, Korea; Freddy G. Underwood, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; Kenneth D. Pierce, Det. 15, 25th WS, Luke AFB, Ariz.; John Anderson, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany.

## Unit honors

**Junior Officer of the Quarter:** 1st Lt. John C. Pace, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; Capt. Michael Jamilkowski, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.; 1st Lt. Ronald G. Meris, Det. 10, 30th WS, Kunsan AB, Korea for 30th WS; Capt. Michael J. Stanley, HQ 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; 2nd Lt. Frederick J. Chaison, III, Det. 10, 15th WS, McGuire AFB, N.J., for 15th WS.

**Senior NCO of the Quarter:** MSgt. Bruce S. Campbell, MSgt. Finis R. Herron, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; SMSgt. Joseph R. Lara, Det. 15, 28th WS, RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom, for 2nd WW; MSgt. David P. Pruitt, Det. 17, 28th WS, RAF Upper Heyford, United Kingdom.

**NCO of the Quarter:** TSgt. Stephen J. Ricci, Det. 17, 28th WS, RAF Upper Heyford, United Kingdom; Sgt. Kimberly Lessard, Det. 18, 28th WS, RAF Fairford, United Kingdom, for 2nd WW; TSgt. Joseph G. Kisela, Jr., Det. 8, 1st WW, Kadena AB, Japan; SSgt. Anthony R. Ramirez, Det. 21, 2nd WS, Edwards AFB, Calif., for 2nd WS; SSgt. Franklin E. Henry, Det. 10, 2nd WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.; SSgt. Jeffrey A. Fries, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; SSgt. Nancy J. Hester, Det. 11, 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; SSgt. Paul L. Holcombe, III, Det. 10, 15th WS, McGuire AFB, N.J., for 15th WS; SSgt. Reed A. Knudson, Det. 5, 9th WS, Malmstrom AFB, Mont.; TSgt. Lewis F. Riggsby, Det. 7, AFGWC, Carswell AFB, Texas; SSgt. Thomas L. Lees, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**Airman of the Quarter:** A1C Stephen D. Meloche, Det. 17, 28th WS, RAF Upper Heyford, United Kingdom; A1C Keith D. Johnson, Det. 8, 1st WW, Kadena AB, Japan; SrA. Joel M. Rzepecki, Det. 10, 2nd WS, Eglin AFB, Fla. for 2nd WS; A1C Cynthia A. Huston, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany; A1C Gordon S. W. Kim, HQ 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; SrA. Mark Drake, Det. 18, 30th WS, Yongsan AB, Korea; SrA. Melody L. Norton, Det. 7, AFGWC, Carswell AFB, Texas; Sgt. Jarre Symson, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**Team of the Quarter:** Capt. Lloyd D. Claude, 1st Lt. Pamela M. Hougland, SSgt. David G. Rawson, A1C Gregory A. Bond, Det. 21, 2nd WW, Kapaun AS, Germany.

## Education

**Air War college:** Maj. Terry C. Tarbell, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**NCO Academy:** SSgt. Dwight Fleming, Det. 2, 9th WS, Castle AFB, Calif., graduated with honors; TSgt. Michael D. Storey, HQ 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

**NCO Leadership School:** SSgt. Robert W. Duggan, Det. 11, 17th WS, McChord AFB, Wash.; SSgt. Victoria Archibald, Det. 14, 31st WS, Hahn AB, Germany, graduated with honors; Sgt. Margaret A. Hendel, Det. 16, 25th WS, Nellis AFB, Nev.

**Phase II PME:** SSgt. Bobby J. Hall, Det. 14, 26th WS, Blytheville AFB, Ark.; Sgt. Merle Delande, Det. 1, 31st WS, Bitburg AB, Germany; Sgt. Raymond D. Moore, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.; Sgt. William R. Wertz, Det. 10, 2nd WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.; Sgt. Bruce A. Suntych, Det. 4, 17th WS, Altus AFB, Okla.

**Phase I PME:** SrA. Kevin L. Scaife, Det. 4, 17th WS, Altus AFB, Okla.; SrA. Edward J. Sheehe, Jr., Det. 11, 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

**Weather Technician Course:** SSgt. Ronald L. Jankowski, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.; SSgt. Henry E. Bergfeld, Jr., HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; SSgt. Michael P. Cregeen, Det. 7, HQ AWS, Las Vegas, Nev.; Sgt. Donald E. Garfield, Det. 15, 15th WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; SSgt. Craig M. Keating, Det. 7, 24th WS, Mather AFB, Calif.; SSgt. Robert C. Teneyck, Jr., HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.; SSgt. Tommy B. Timmons, Det. 22, 26th WS, Carswell AFB, Texas; Sgt. Michael E. Walters, 165th Weather Flight, Louisville, Ky.; SSgt. Amy Wilson, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.

**Weather Specialist Course:** Sgt. Christine L. Smith, Det. 31, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**CCAF degrees:** MSgt. Happy J. Armstrong, Det. 41, 12th WS, Peterson AFB, Colo.; MSgt. Donald H. Thompson, Det. 4, 17th WS, Altus AFB, Okla.; MSgt. Dale M. Bystedt, TSgt. Ronald P. Szymkowski, Det. 7, HQ AWS, Las Vegas, Nev.; SSgt. Sandra D. Bradley, Det. 11, 1st WW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

## Retirements

CMSgt. George M. Horn, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.

SMSgt. Homer D. Beddo, Det. 11, 17th WS, McChord AFB, Wash.

## Births

SSgt. Ronald L. Jankowski, Det. 30, 2nd WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., a daughter, Tamara.

SSgt. Steven P. Sheamer, Det. 7, HQ AWS Las Vegas, Nev., a daughter, Jennifer Marie.

Capt. Robert D. Prochaska, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill., twin sons, Matthew and Daniel.

1st Lt. Christopher P. Zelzer, Det. 24, 26th WS, K. I. Sawyer AFB, Mich., a daughter.

SSgt. Anthony J. Jonilas, Det. 6, 26th WS, Pease AFB, N.H., a daughter, Sarah.

A1C Lava and Tim Sutherland, Det. 20, 24th WS, Laughlin AFB, Texas, a daughter, Jessica Marie.

SSgt. Ludwik Chabot, Det. 7, 24th WS, Mather AFB, Calif., a son, Nicholas Bruce.

A1C Donna B. Ahlstrom, Det. 7, 9th WS, March AFB, Calif., a son, Ronald.

1st Lt. Robert and Joanne Callahan, MIT, Cambridge, Mass., a son, Regan Ruff.

SSgt. Anthony J. and Ann B. Tessori, Det. 20, 31st WS, Sembach AB, Germany, a daughter, Kathleen Margaret.

SSgt. Jim Kelly, Det. 10, 15th WS, McGuire AFB, N.J., a son, Erin Darcy.

Sgt. Howell D. and Sharon Cearley, Det. 7, AFGWC, Carswell AFB, Texas, a son, Nicholas Ryan.



## The chiefs

Retired CMSgt. George M. Horn (foreground), and CMSgt. Charles T. Melson, the Air Weather Service senior enlisted advisor, traveled with commander Col. George E. Chapman to AWS units in the field. Those visited included 1st Weather Wing units, and units from 5th, 9th, 11th, 12th, 17th and 25th Weather Squadrons. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## Weather Obs. . .

**Altus AFB ceremony** — Members of Detachment 4, 17th Weather Squadron, Altus AFB, Okla. have been honored for their actions during the May tornado which devastated the base.

During award ceremonies, the 443rd Military Airlift Wing commander, Col. Jimmie L. Jay, credited them with saving lives due to prompt, accurate reporting of the storm's movement and timely warning to the base and civilian communities.

**Base Golf Champions** — Members of 1st Weather Wing breezed through finals to capture the title in the Intramural Par 3 Championship at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. Members of the team were Tony White, Arnie Oakes, Charles "Pete" Peterson, Jack Wargo, Jim MacKay, Chuck Viola and Jim Hruz.

**Recce visit** — Brig. Gen. Paul W. Kadlec, the Air Force Reserve mobilization augmentee to the AWS commander, recently visited with weather units at Keesler AFB, Miss. The general met with people from Detachment 5, HQ AWS, Det. 22, 24th Weather Squadron, 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, and the 920th Weather Reconnaissance Group. He flew with the Storm Trackers on a weather reconnaissance mission in the Gulf of Mexico and tried his hand in the Aerial reconnaissance weather officer crew position.

**Oops** — An article in the September issue of the AWS OBSERVER, on Sgt. Frank Chernowetz, included some incorrect information. Sergeant Chernowetz, who completed the Chanute weather specialist course in only three weeks, is assigned to Detachment 1, 15th Weather Squadron at McGuire AFB, N.J., not OL-C, Det. 6, HQ AWS as the article stated.

## Late support payments subject to garnishment

Military people who fall behind in court-ordered child or child and spousal support payments may be required to make these payments by allotment, according to the Military Airlift Command Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

Subtitle E of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, which became effective Oct. 1, provides that an individual supporting a spouse or dependent child — other than a spouse or child whose support comes under the court order — may have 50 percent of his or her disposable income garnished. The garnishment ceiling is 60 percent for an individual not supporting another spouse or child.

These amounts may be increased to 55 and 60 percent, respectively, to collect past unpaid support payments.

Notice of failure to pay court-ordered support payments will be sent to the affected service member and to designated armed forces officials of the services concerned. Action requiring an allotment will not be taken for 30 days after the service member has been properly notified and has either consulted with a judge advocate of the service involved or has been unable to arrange such consultation. (MNS)

# Uniform required to fly DOD

A policy governing the wear of uniforms aboard Military Airlift Command aircraft has been formulated by Gen. James R. Allen, MAC commander in chief, following consultation with the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The policy, which begins Dec. 1, stems from a requirement of each military service that members be in uniform when traveling on aircraft owned or controlled by the Department of Defense.

According to MAC transportation officials, MAC passenger agents will not process or board service members who are not in uniform. If boarding is denied for this reason, members will be informed that the denial arises from their failure to comply with their own service's uniform requirements.

This policy applies to duty and leave passengers traveling on military and MAC-contracted civil aircraft departing from military airfields and commercial gateways, with the following exceptions:

- When civilian attire is required by the USAF Foreign Clearance Guide.
- When the member's orders specify authorization to wear civilian clothes.
- When the policy is waived for service members not in uniform for reasons beyond

their reasonable control, provided a designated representative of the members' service concurs. If no such representative is available, the final determination will be made by the MAC transportation operations officer.

Officials emphasized that in enforcing this policy, MAC passenger agents will be acting on behalf of the traveler's service rather than implementing a MAC-unique requirement. (MNS)



## New law affects tax deductions

Some deductions that Military Airlift Command people had been able to claim on their federal income tax returns have been reduced by the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, according to the MAC Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

Currently, taxpayers who itemize deductions may deduct medical expenses which exceed 3 percent of adjusted gross income. The new law has raised that floor to 5 percent, effective in tax years beginning in 1983 — that is, returns filed in 1984 and after.

Beginning in 1983, taxpayers will no longer be allowed a separate deduction for the first \$150 of medical insurance premium expenses. All such premiums will be included with other

medical expenses and will be subject to the 5-percent floor.

Effective in 1984 — returns filed in 1985 and after — taxpayers may take a drug-expense deduction only for prescription drugs and insulin. Currently, the expense of non-prescription drugs may be deducted. However, the current floor of 1 percent of adjusted gross income is eliminated, and these expenses will be included with other medical expenses and will be subject to the 5-percent floor.

Beginning in 1983, taxpayers may deduct non-business casualty and theft losses only to the extent that they exceed 10 percent of adjusted gross income. (MNS)

## Suggestion awards scale revised

A suggestion that saves the Air Force \$100,000 now earns the suggester \$3,700 since the new scale for computing suggestion awards went into effect Oct. 1.

Suggestion awards will be based on a percentage of Air Force savings which means a substantial increase for most suggesters, according to Jacqueline Brink, Military Airlift Command suggestion program manager.

Categories of benefits and amounts of awards have changed to the following:

- Less than \$250 savings, no cash award.
- \$250 - \$10,000, 10 percent of the benefits.
- \$10,001 - \$100,000, \$1,000 for the first \$10,000,

plus 3 percent of the benefits over \$10,000.

—\$100,000 or more, \$3,700 for the first \$100,000 plus 5 percent of the benefits over \$100,000.

Suggestions saving \$5,000 will earn the submitter \$500; a \$150,000 benefit will earn \$6,200. Ms. Brink said it is not unusual for suggestions to save more than \$100,000.

"The Air Force revised the scale to keep up with the times," Ms. Brink explained. "The scale hadn't been updated in quite some time, and the Air Force also felt that increased awards would encourage more people to suggest money-saving ideas. We anticipate greater participation as a result." (MNS)

*The true spirit of Christmas doesn't come in a bottle; enjoy a safe, sober holiday season.*