



# AWS Observer

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"Nobody in his right mind welcomes war, especially those who have seen it—the destruction, the pain are beyond telling, but the less prepared we are, the more wishful our thinking, the greater the cost of war when it comes."

—Gen. Creighton W. Abrams

## European Forecast Unit providing centralized support

Detachment 13, 7WS, Traben-Trarbach, Germany, became a direct reporting unit of 2WW and was designated the European Forecast Unit on Oct. 1. The change will more accurately portray the theater-wide, multi-usage scope of Det. 13's centralized weather support to U.S. Forces in Europe.

Earlier this year, Det. 13 celebrated the installation of two Integrated Graphics System work stations. The \$1.4 million computer upgrade marked a significant milestone in a cooperative venture between AWS and the German Military Geophysical Office, to establish a joint theater forecast unit in the GMGO secure and hardened bunker at Traben-Trarbach.

Major Clifford Matsumoto, Det. 13 commander, described the Integrated Graphics System as, "a state-of-the-art computer graphics system capable of displaying weather conditions minutes after they are observed and reported." He added, "One of the major features of the Integrated Graphics System is its ability to depict results of forecast model calculations performed by the host computer as well as those from the European Center for Medium Range Weather Forecasts and the German civil weather service for display and comparison."

Another feature is a digitizer tablet, that can access four geographic background maps of different scales—the North Atlantic and Europe, Central Europe and the United Kingdom, North Germany, and Southern Germany. Using a zoom facility, any section of these four maps can be magnified by a power of two or three. Weather meeting certain thresholds can be programmed to blink on-screen for easy



Cutting the ribbon on the Integrated Graphics System work stations are Dr. Horst Leese, President of the GMGO and Col. Gary S. Zeigler, 2WW commander. Also present at the ribbon cutting ceremony were (from left) Col. Robert K. Thompson, 38th Tactical Missile Wing deputy commander for Operations; Col.

Victor C. Ortloff, Hahn AB base commander; CMSgt. Charles Newman, 2WW Senior Enlisted Advisor, Capt. Dale Perry, and TSgt. Frederick White, Det. 13, 7WS. Attending the ceremony, but not pictured were Col. James E. Sands, 7WS commander and Lt. Col. Robert J. Dumont, 31WS commander.

detection.

The Integrated Graphics System work sta-

tions will permit instantaneous access to the vast GMGO data base and forecast model output. It will also help streamline and automate much of the EFU's present metwatch functions.

Although the 25 members of Det. 13 at Traben-Trarbach provide considerable support to the military community in Europe through their AFN and "Stars and Stripes" forecasts, their primary mission is to provide operational forecasts and severe weather warning and advisories for U.S. Air Forces Europe and U.S. Army Europe units and installations.

Detachment 13 is also the net control station for encrypted theater High-Frequency broadcasts and functions as the hub of the USA-REUR Weather Net.

The EFU has melded and refined the centralized support requirements of U.S. Air Forces Europe and U.S. Army Europe into a comprehensive package. This melding has improved planning and execution of joint missions during JCS-directed exercises, such as REFORGER. In peacetime, EFU weather warnings, guidance forecasts and other tailored products provide cohesiveness to intra-theater support. During NATO exercises or in wartime, EFU's forecast products provide unified planning for the employment of weapons, such as electro-optical systems.



TSgt. Sandra Emery and TSgt. Frederick White, Det. 13 forecasters, work at one of

the Integrated Graphics System stations after the ceremony.

# Command Line "A Tough Letter To Write"



**Brig. Gen. George E. Chapman**  
Commander

During my career, I have occasionally been put in the position of writing a letter of condolence to a relative of a member of my command who has lost their life while serving his/her country. It's a tough letter to write because it's impossible to replace close friends or family members.

One of our squadron commanders had to meet this challenge recently, shortly after assuming command. The sensitive, caring aspects of the letter he wrote to a young daughter missing her dad suggest it was tough for him to write. I thought I would share it with you. If it causes you to pause and think about your value to us – and the steps you should take to protect that relationship – it will be worth it. I have removed the names from the letter to respect the privacy of those who still mourn.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

*I was your father's squadron commander and am writing you this letter to express my deepest condolences about his death. I know that now you probably don't understand where your father has gone or why he left, but I write this letter for you when you get older and can better understand what has happened.*

*All of us in the Weather Squadron felt a tremendous loss when we learned your father had died in a car accident. He was a valued member of my weather squadron who served his Nation well for over 5 years. As a weather observer he had the*

*important job of providing the latest weather observations to pilots in the air and people on the ground. His weather observations many times contributed significantly to protecting people and valuable Air Force resources from severe weather. He was an Air Force professional who served with pride!*

*I know your father cared for you very much and that he didn't want to leave you. He was a positive person who would want you to always remember him as a loving and caring father. He would also want you to do your best in life and to make him proud of you.*

*Again, please accept my deepest sympathy for you in the loss of your father. If I can ever be of assistance, please contact me.*

Please give this letter special consideration as you enjoy the blessings of this holiday season.

## Chief's Comments

# Sounds With Meaning

Normally we would use "words with meaning" in day-to-day conversations – something we know or can easily find the meaning or definition of by using the dictionary.

Sounds have meanings too. Take the sound AAAURA. To make the correct sound you are heavy on the first A, the U and sort of slide from the R through the last A-AaaURA.

Using sound as a meaning does have advantages. One being the spelling. You don't have to worry about the spelling. What difference does another A or H make. It's great.

An expert on this particular sound tells me you can break it down to mean several things. A low Aaa means hello. However, be careful not to make it sound like a growl, because that could get you into trouble – like hurt.

When you make the sound URA, it means you agree with what's being said or shows your approval.

Our people in paraweight use this sound daily and can give AAAURA the perfect sound it so deserves.

OOWAH! Another sound made by a few individuals in Air Weather Service. They don't jump from airplanes but serve in another important facet of our mission. They are known as light fighters.

Don't let the word "light" misguide you. When deployed with the unit they support, their mode of transportation is by "foot." They carry their equipment plus personal items for a total weight of 82 pounds. Sleeping quarters do not exist – not even tents. The sky is their tent and covers. This is Army support. Paraweight support, which encompasses more than jumping from airplanes, and Army support are just two of the many challenging jobs in AWS. If you want to learn a new sound with a lot of meaning, try a tour with the Army or learn to jump from airplanes. Both are challenging and rewarding.

However, the most important meaning from these two sounds is really what being in the military is all about – comradeship, devotion to duty, team support, leadership, loyalty – all the traits of an individual prepared to defend this Great Nation of ours.



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

# They tackle age-old problem: weather

By Eloise Ogden  
Daily News Staff Writer  
Minot Daily News

MINOT N.D. — The Farmers' Almanac takes a back seat when it comes to predicting the weather at Minot Air Force Base.

One or two of the weather people there admit to taking peek into that old standby book, but they depend on the precision of the new technology to do their job. And there are plans for the addition of other specialized equipment in the near future.

"Our specific mission is to protect the people and resources at the base," said Capt. Charles W. Tuttle III, commander of Det. 21, 9WS.

Members of the detachment support the 91st Strategic Missile Wing, 5th Bombardment Wing, 5th Fighter Interceptor Squadron and other base and tenant groups on the installation.

Around the clock, the 18 men and women of the detachment provide meteorological watch for the base.

The detachment is not part of the Strategic Air command chain, but comes under the Military Airlift Command.

The heart of the weather work is done by noncommissioned officer forecasters, with MSgt. Gary Rumery as chief of weather station operations.

Enlisted personnel first train for weather observer positions at Chanute AFB, Ill. After three or four years of work, they return for training as a forecaster.

The observer's job is to observe the current weather and disseminate weather observations to all organizations on the base, Tuttle said. He said the forecaster, who is in charge of a team consisting of the forecaster and the observer, is responsible for forecasting and

issuing severe weather warnings.

Special "weather packages" comprised of maps and specific forecasts in hard copy, are given twice a day to the bomb wing and fighter squadron, which have aircraft on alert.

Special briefings also are given to the wings and fighter squadron by weather detachment officers.

Any time an alert crew goes out in the field they are given a telephone briefing on the weather to expect, Tuttle said.

Occasionally, the detachment works with the civilian community, such as supplying police with information about severe weather conditions.

The detachment's FPS-77 Severe Storms Detection Radar can reach 200 miles. The 1960s-vintage model is the only one in north central North Dakota, Tuttle said.

The "dial-up weather radar" gives them the capability to dial up any National Weather Service radar in the U.S. which allows the military weather people to watch for any severe weather in any location the base's aircraft may be flying, Tuttle said. He said personnel also can dial up the three sites in North Dakota — Williston, Bismarck and Fargo.

Satellite pictures of the weather also are sent to the office and are used to brief the bomb wing commander, Tuttle said. The pictures are sent to both wings and the base command post over closed circuit television.

The \$37,000 closed circuit television is the detachment's newest equipment addition, and has the capability of showing the color of storms.

In the near future, the detachment's facilities will undergo construction with the addition of more advanced equipment.

The five-year plan calls for expanding the detachment's headquarters in the base

operations building near the flightline.

In the early 1990s, Minot AFB is scheduled to be the site of a new weather radar called "NEXRAD," or Next Generation Weather Radar, Tuttle said.

"It will have 20 lines coming into us so as many as 20 different places with dial-up capability, such as National Weather Service, we'll be able to dial them up," Tuttle said.

NEXRAD is a joint project of the Departments of Defense, Commerce and Transportation, Tuttle said. He said the \$2.2 million system to be installed here will show the movements of clouds, and weather people will be able to watch tornados in clouds.

The prototype for NEXRAD has been built, MSgt. Rumery said.

NEXRAD is being developed to replace aging radars, and will provide an automated system for meteorologists, air traffic controllers and military specialists to detect hazardous weather conditions.

An Automated Weather Distribution System, costing about \$600,000, also is scheduled for the 1990s and will eliminate the need for the weather map in the weather station, Tuttle said. The computer based system and information will come from Air Force Global Weather Central at Offutt AFB, Neb.

The quality of weather forecasting has greatly improved in past years, Tuttle said. "The more the weather is studied, the easier it is to forecast. With the 24-hour forecasts, they have improved a lot in the last 10 years," Tuttle said.

He adds, "Nothing will ever replace the weatherman. People want to talk to other people."

(Reprinted from the "Minot Daily News.")

## Combat weather is challenging mission

By SSgt. Travis L. Barger  
Det. 3, 5th Weather Squadron  
Fort Bragg, N.C.

There is a group of men at Fort Bragg, N.C., who wear the stripes and brass of the Air Force and the fatigues and patches of the Army. To top off this distinctive uniform, they don a gray beret. They are members of Det. 3, 5th Weather Squadron.

The Air Force has been responsible for weather support to the Army since 1958. Today, about 20 percent of all Air Weather Service members are dedicated to supporting both active and Reserve Army components.

This combat weather unit primarily supports the Army's XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg's 82nd Airborne Division, 5th and 7th Special Forces Groups and the 1st Special Operations Command. The detachment also serves Fort Bragg's Simmons and Mackall Army Air Fields.

The unique outfit's roots extend to Southeast Asia. In 1966, Air Weather Service expanded its Southeast Asian organizational

posture from a squadron to a group and three squadrons. This was the beginning of the Military Airlift Command's modern combat weather specialist.

The combat weather career field is totally volunteer. Those who sign up for the unique duty soon learn that the mission requires specialized training that their peers don't receive.

"An airman, NCO or officer who volunteers for this job not only has to be the best forecaster or observer, but also has to go that little bit further to obtain the tactical training required to do the mission," said Maj. John Conley, detachment commander.

The combat weathermen usually begin their day at 7 a.m. with a half hour of calisthenics and at least a two-mile run. Training occupies about 80 percent of the detachment's work week. With the possibility that they could deploy at a moment's notice, the weathermen must always be ready, according to Major Conley.

Each team member must know how to operate all the equipment needed to man a

weather station in the field. Usually at least two to seven detachment members are deployed on field exercises or on temporary duty for schooling.

"We act as a force multiplier to supply commanders with weather conditions, present and forecasted, to assist them in making the most effective use of their soldiers and equipment," Major Conley said.

The 83rd Airborne Division weather team has an 18 hour deployment time — from mission notification to takeoff. Living, working and deploying with the Army has its challenges, but the rewards overwhelm the negatives, say detachment members.

"This is a demanding job, but I enjoy it," said 1st Lt. William Spendley, officer in charge of a weather team. "I get a lot of job satisfaction out of being among the best weather forecasters in the Air Force. There's a certain pride in being able to deploy to any location and providing our customers with the forecasting they need." (Mac News Service)

# Typhoon Dinah Strikes Okinawa, most powerful storm in 18 years

by

1st Lt. James E. Hammett Jr.  
Det. 8, 20WS,  
Kadena AB, Japan  
and

SSgt. Samuel E. Warren Jr.  
1313 AD Public Affairs

Typhoon Dinah started as a tropical depression on Aug. 22 with winds gusting from 30 to 40 knots. Weather satellites tracked Dinah and forecasters watched their radar as the typhoon closed in on Okinawa.

From the beginning, Dinah was forecast by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center and Det. 8, 20WS, Kadena AB, Japan, to track toward Okinawa. Because Dinah's projected track implied strong winds at Kadena, base officials evacuated all aircraft that could not be hangared and began to prepare for the worst.

Forecasters went on "typhoon duty," and for the first time, were working without data from weather reconnaissance aircraft.



"The Air Force deactivated the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron at Anderson AFB, Guam," explained Maj. Kenneth A. Nash, Det. 8, commander. "The planes are gone, but weather satellites and our radar, proved we weren't left defenseless," he explained.

Kadena went into Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness (TCCOR) Three at 9 a.m. Aug. 27, when Dinah was 400 nautical miles south-southeast of Okinawa.

Typhoon Condition Two was declared at 4 a.m. Aug. 29, when it became apparent Dinah was tracking towards Okinawa. Mili-



Typhoon Dinah's closest point of approach to Okinawa as seen on Det. 8's FPQ-21 color video display. The date on the screen is one day ahead.

tary installations were placed in Typhoon Condition One Caution at 11:15 a.m. that day, with Dinah about 200 nautical miles south-southwest of the island and winds at Kadena gusting to 38 knots.

The eye of Dinah appeared on Kadena's newly commissioned FPQ-21 weather radar at 3:35 p.m. Aug. 29. With the aid of these accurate radar fixes, Typhoon Condition One Emergency appeared imminent.

As Det. 8 tracked Dinah's northward movement, Kadena received a series of 50 knot gusts and Typhoon Condition One Emergency was declared at 6 p.m. Dinah was just 150 nautical miles southwest of Okinawa and still approaching. Okinawa remained

in One Emergency for 18 hours as Dinah pounded the island through the night with feeder band activity.

The nearest eye position, based on radar, was 91 nautical miles west of Kadena at 3:28 a.m. Aug. 30. Kadena received its peak wind gust (93 knots) about one hour earlier, when a large feeder band from Dinah engulfed Okinawa. The winds inside Dinah during her closest point of approach were estimated to be 85 knots with gusts to 105 knots.

By noon on Aug. 30, Kadena returned to Typhoon Condition One Caution for two hours as damage control teams assessed damage and fixed numerous power lines that had been downed by Dinah.

Based on winds received over the island, Typhoon Dinah was the most powerful typhoon to strike Okinawa in 18 years. Although the base received 10.77 inches of rain, street flooding was minor.

Kadena received a maximum wind gust of 93 knots, while Marine Corps Air Station, Futenma, located about five miles south of the base, received 96 knots. Naha, about 10 miles southwest of Kadena, recorded the island's highest wind, 98 knots. In comparison, last year's big typhoon (Vera) had peak wind gusts of only 84 knots at Kadena and 82 knots at Naha.

While spared a direct hit, the feeder band activity was almost as intense as the maximum winds near the center. High winds uprooted trees, splintered fences and caused vehicle damage for which a dollar amount was not readily available. A hangar door was blown off its track, and grazed a 28-passenger bus before smashing a mini-pickup truck. Initial estimates of structural damage from Typhoon Dinah's visit total \$378,300.

## AWS claims PA Awards

1987 was a good year for Air Weather Service Public Affairs in its annual Media Contest. Public Affairs honors for 1987 went to:

24, 26WS, K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich., was named the AWS Unit Public Affairs Representative of the Year. Lieutenant Callahan was selected by MAC Public Affairs for his tremendous job of supporting AWS, MAC and Air Force Public Affairs objectives.

At an awards ceremony at McChord AFB, Wash., during the MAC Public Affairs Conference, MSgt. Michael T. Devine won MAC's top enlisted public affairs award. Sergeant Devine is the only full-time public affairs person assigned to AWS. From AWS Headquarters at Scott AFB, Ill., he manages the AWS Public Affairs Program and is editor of the "AWS Observer." The "AWS Observer" was first runner-up in its newspaper category.

AWS also received the MAC Public Affairs "Director's Award for Outstanding Achievement." The award was presented to AWS in recognition of the efforts of all AWS Unit Public Affairs Representatives who publicized the AWS 50th Anniversary. As the name of the award indicates, winners of this award are selected by Col. Richard L. Fuller, Director of MAC Public Affairs.

1st Lt. Kevin P. Callahan, Det.

### Combating Holiday Diet Busters

Christmas and New Year's can be disastrous for dieters still recouping from Thanksgiving. Serious dieters need a strategy for combating those holiday temptations. Here are a few suggestions:

- Eat fruit for dessert.
  - Skip the bread and gravy.
  - Use low-calorie salad dressing.
  - Count calories and eat smaller portions.
- If dining out:
- Avoid buffets and "all you can eat" meal deals.
  - Order a la carte instead of a complete meal.

# AFR 900-71 sets policy for Meteorologist Badge

Who can wear the new Meteorologist Badge? What and where are the criteria for award.

Since the Meteorologist Badge was approved by the Air Force Chief of Staff earlier this year, many questions have been asked. Air Force Regulation 900-71 will soon be published, establishing the policy and eligibility criteria for awarding the Meteorologist Badge.

The new regulation will apply to active duty and reserve weather personnel assigned to AWS Headquarters, all subordinate units, as well as weather personnel assigned or attached to U.S. Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units. It will also apply to people currently performing weather duty outside AWS, and those who have previously performed weather duty.

The primary factor in determining which badge should be awarded is the number of years served in the duty AFSC 25XX or 25XXX. Years of service for award of the badge may include advanced and supplementary meteorological training, but not initial meteorological training needed for entry qualification. It may include weather duty outside AWS, as long as the DAFSC was 25XX or 25XXX.

Personnel may combine commissioned and enlisted service, if both were performed in qualifying AFSCs. A year of satisfactory Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard time is equal to a year of active duty time. Personnel who have served as a 25XX or 25XXX in different components may combine years of service.

Award of the badge may be retroactive for active duty personnel with prior weather duty who do not currently hold a weather PAFSC.

## Badge qualifications

Generally, qualifications for the Basic, Senior and Master Meteorologist Badge are:

**Basic Meteorologist Badge** — Officers and airmen must successfully complete an approved curriculum in the field of meteorology from a recognized and accredited university or technical training facility; be

qualified to perform duty as a weather officer, specialist or technician, have been awarded the 2524 or 25150 AFSC; and have a minimum of one year practical experience, not including formal school time.

**Senior Meteorologist Badge** — Officers and NCOs must be qualified to perform duty as weather officers or weather forecasters (awarded a 7-level) and have a minimum of seven years experience in AFSC 25XX, 251XX, 252XX or 253XX.

**Master Meteorologist Badge** — Officers and NCOs must be qualified to perform duty as staff weather officers (awarded AFSC 2516) or as weather forecasters (awarded a 9-level); have a minimum of 15 years experience in qualifying AFSCs; and have at least eight of those years as qualified weather officers and/or weather forecasters.

## Who may authorize wear

The AWS Commander and his designated representatives may authorize wear of the Meteorologist Badge within AWS. This authority is delegated to the Deputy Chiefs of Staff at Headquarters AWS; to the commanders of weather wings, squadrons and detachments as well as to detachment chiefs.

The AWS Chief of Staff may authorize wear of the badge for personnel assigned outside AWS at the time of application. This includes personnel currently performing weather duty outside AWS and those who have previously performed weather duty.

After reviewing Unit Personnel Record Groups and verifying badges to which individuals are entitled, the awarding authority prepares letter(s) addressed to the member(s) by name grade and SSAN, specifying the badge(s) to be awarded. Original letters are given to the member and copies are sent to the servicing CBPO(s).

Retired personnel who meet the eligibility requirements may wear the appropriate badge if their retirement date is March 25, 1987 or later. No application procedures are necessary. AWS members who retired before that date are ineligible to wear the weather badge.



## LIZ L 1507: ROS MOVG S ON PLS

Observers of Det. 4, 216WS, Loring AFB, Maine, began working from a new representative observation site, or ROS, in August. The new building replaced one built in 1956. The old building was removed "intact" by base engineers shortly after this photo was taken, prompting the following local observation: KLIZ 1507L ROS MOVG S ON PLS.

## MAC clarifies wear of BDU

Guidelines for wear of the battle dress uniform by Military Airlift Command members were recently approved by Gen. Duane H. Cassidy, MAC commander in chief.

Desert BDUs will continue to bear the aircrew-style black leather name tags. The tags will contain first name, middle initial, and last name on the first line. The rank — enlisted members only — should be spelled out on the second line and USAF should be listed on the third line. Appropriate badges are centered above the name.

Name tags should measure two by four inches, or two and three-quarter by three inches to accommodate up to two badges. The tags should be attached by velcro centered over the left breast pocket. No patches will be worn.

Officers will wear the same name tag, omitting the rank and opting for subdued cloth grade insignia instead.

MAC officials have requested authority for officers to wear subdued Army metal grade insignia with the aircrew-style name tag. Approval is expected in early December, but officers will wear the cloth insignia until then.

Woodland BDUs must be configured as shown in Air Force Regulation 35-10, Figure 2-13, dated June 30, 1987.

"Unit patches and rank insignia should be placed on BDUs the same as they would be placed on the fatigue uniform," said TSgt. Kevin Taylor of MAC's personal affairs division.

There are exceptions to the woodland BDU wear policy, according to MAC personnel officials.

Members assigned to units with sensitive missions may be required to wear a "sanitized" configuration on their BDUs. In this instance,

members may configure woodland BDUs the same as for desert BDUs, but only while deployed. Woodland BDUs will be configured as specified in AFR 35-10 at all other times, requiring members in these specialized units to maintain two sets of BDUs.

Headgear guidelines have also been established.

The daytime desert hat will be worn with desert BDUs. The Army BDU cap, the new baseball-style Air Force camouflage fatigue cap, when available, or the BDU bush hat can be worn with woodland BDUs.

The BDU bush hat may only be worn on contingencies or deployments, and not while at home station.

Authorized members may wear distinctive berets.

Officers will wear grade insignia on the caps. The insignia should be the same type as worn on the BDUs, centered one-half inch above the visor or brim of the cap. Cloth insignia will be sewn on.

The fatigue field jacket and the BDU field jacket may be worn with either the BDUs or regular fatigues.

Those members who are authorized to do so, have the option of wearing the aircrew-style name tag or configuring the jacket like the BDU shirt. People not authorized to wear the aircrew-style name tag should configure their field jackets like the BDU shirt. For officers, subdued rank insignia should be sewn on the epaulet of the jacket.

The wear policy for standard OG-507 fatigues remains unchanged. Multicolored organizational baseball caps may be worn with fatigues except on deployments.

These guidelines will become mandatory Jan. 1, 1988. However, members are encouraged to reconfigure BDUs immediately. (MAC News Service)



**U.S. SAVINGS BONDS**  
**1-800-US-BONDS**

# AWS Salutes

## Medals

### Defense Meritorious Service Medal to:

KENDRICK, Maj. Frank L., Det. 6, 2WW

### Meritorious Service Medal to:

AVANT, Lt. Col. James R., HQ 3WW  
CHARY, Maj. Henry A., Det. 2, 2WS  
COLEMAN, Maj. Marvin G., AFGWC (2OLC)  
FORCE, SMSgt. Robert D., 11WS (1OLC)  
FRESH, Maj. Herman E. (2OLC), AFGWC.  
GENTLE, Capt. Jackie, Det. 24, 26WS.  
MACY, Lt. COL. Owen Y., Det. 17, 9WS  
PELLEY, SMSgt. Tommy M., AFGWC (1OLC)  
ROWE, SMSgt. Horace R., AFGWC (2OLC)  
SINGLETERY, Capt. Willard Jr., Det. 25, 31WS  
THAELER, Maj. John S. (IMA), Det. 1, 9WS

### Jont Service Commendation

Medal to:  
RAMOS, Maj. Charles A., AFGWC

### Air Force Commendation

Medal to:  
BLUME, SSgt. Richard A., Det. 3, 9WS  
BORDEN, MSgt. Larry F., AFGWC (2OLC)  
BUELL, Capt. Michael J., Det. 9, 31WS  
BUTTS, TSgt. Elda G., Det 13, 15WS  
CHRISTY, 1st Lt. Steven R., Det. 1, 9WS  
GRIFFITHS, Capt. James E., AFGWC (2OLC)  
JACKSON, Capt. William A. Jr., Det. 11, 1WW  
MAYO, MSgt. Randell W., Det. 3, 11WS (1OLC)  
MILLER, 2nd Lt. David, Det. 24, 26WS  
MOYER, TSgt. Bruce, Det. 13, 15WS  
RINDERKNECHT, Lt. Donald, USAFETAC  
ROSENBERGER, SSgt. Denise, USAFETAC  
STERLE, SSgt. Michael, Det. 1, 24WS  
TASSO, Capt. William C. HQ, 3WW

### Combat Readiness

Medal to:  
CARR, TSgt. Michael E., Det. 25, 31WS  
HOWEY, SSgt. Deborah, Det. 25, 31WS  
KANE, SrA. Robert, Det. 3, 7WS  
KOCINSKI, SSgt. Richard T., Det. 3, 7WS

### Joint Service Achievement

Medal to:  
HERNANDEZ, Sgt. Edward R., AFGWC

### Air Force Achievement

Medal to:  
HAGGARD, SSgt. Terry C., AFGWC  
HOFMANN, Capt. Karan T., Det. 1, 11WS  
HOLLEY, A1C Janet K., AFGWC  
LEWIS, Sgt. Gary, Det. 7, 9WS  
PAYNE, MSgt. Robert, Det. 24, 26WS  
PEAK, Sgt. Victoria D., Det. 3, 11WS (1OLC)  
SCHIANO, 1st Lt. Thomas L., Det. 1, 9WS  
SCHMIDT, Sgt. Mark C., AFGWC  
STALEY, 2nd Lt. Michael C., Det. 26, 7WS

### Army Achievement

Medal to:  
BROWN, A1C EUGENE, Det. 3, 7WS  
HAMMOND, A1C David A., Det. 3, 7WS  
HARDING, A1C Jesse, Det. 3, 7WS  
McALEENAN, SrA. Mike M., Det. 1, 11WS  
ROTHBAUER, SSgt. Patrick J., AFGWC

### Humanitarian Service

Medal to:  
BORDERS, MSgt. Stephen W., Det. 11, 9WS  
MELTON, TSgt. Patrick A., Det. 11, 9WS  
PRYOR, Lt. Col. Stephen P., Det. 11, 9WS  
WOODS, SSgt. Jeffery P., Det. 11, 9WS

## Promotions

**To Major:**  
FISHER, George F., AFGWC  
HOFFMAN, Scott, Det. 12, 24WS

**To Captain:**  
BRYANT, Jerry, HQ 4WW  
JONES, Lori, USAFETAC  
TASSO, William C., HQ 3WW  
TONGUE, Jeffrey, AWS/DNTS  
WOODCOCK, Andres B., Det. 20, 31WS

**To First Lieutenant:**  
KORIK, Andy, USAFETAC  
MILLER, John G., USAFETAC  
NETTERVILLE, Lee, Det. 1, 11WS

**To Chief Master Sergeant:**  
PELLY, Tommy M., AFGWC  
SILLIMAN, Bruce D., Det. 3, 7WS

**To Senior Master Sergeant:**  
HALL, David, HQ 4WW  
MICHALEWICZ, MSgt. Daniel J., Det. 19, 30WS

**To Master Sergeant:**  
FOSTER, James E. Det. 11, 7WS  
PAYNE, MSgt. Robert, Det. 24, 26WS  
STATLER, George Reginald Jr., Det. 14, 26WS  
SWEET, Patricia M., 24WS

### To Technical Sergeant:

BLACKFORD, Brik, Det. 8, 31WS  
FRIEDMAN, Morris, USAFETAC  
GANGE, Charles L. 31 WS  
KACZMAREK, Elizabeth, Det. 3, 7WS  
MADDUX, TSgt John A., 11WS  
ROTH, Dale S., Det. 11, 31WS  
RZEPECKI, Joel M., AFGWC  
THURSTON, Irene J., HQ 3WW  
TRYON, Gary, USAFETAC

### To Staff Sergeant:

CARRASQUILLO, Manuel, AFGWC  
CORLETT, Stephen R., AFGWC  
DENNIS, Sgt. William, Det. 1, 15WS  
GARDNER, William G., HQ 3WW  
KEIL, Rick G., Det. 5, 7WS  
LAWRENCE, Ronald, AFGWC  
POOLE, Sylvia V., 9WS  
THOMPSON, SSgt. Scott, Det. 24, 26WS  
VOSHELL, Rodney, Det. 19, 31WS

### Appointed to Sergeant:

BOWDEN, Timothy P., Det. 2, 31WS  
LANGDON, Helen I., AFGWC  
MILAM, Rhonda, Det. 9, 24WS (BTZ)  
MORRISSEY, Robert L, Det. 5, 7WS  
PARADIS, Bryant A., AFGWC  
RITCHIE, Randall E., Det. 2, 31WS  
SCHIERHOFF, Ray, Det. 19, 31WS  
WILKINSON, Timothy R., AFGWC

### To Senior Airman:

BRATTAIN, Mark A., 207WF  
BRUCE, John, Det. 2, 11WS  
CHOPLICK, Daniel E., Det. 3, 7WS  
GRIMM, Jeffrey A., AFGWC (BTZ)  
HART, Kelly M., Det. 11, 9WS  
HIRSCH, Frank M., Det. 8, 31WS  
HONEYCUTT, J. Scott, 207WF  
HURD, Angela J., Det. 8, 31WS  
McGUINNESS, Michael, Det. 2, 31WS  
MITCHELL, Valerie E., AFGWC  
PLILER, Gregory, Det. 2, 31WS  
SLOMINSKY, Richard D., Det. 1, 9WS  
VANSCYOC, Michael J., OL-B, Det. 10, 7WS  
WALLER, R.J., Det. 8, 31WS  
YESKE, Robert K., Det. 10, 7WS

### To Airman First Class:

BEACH, Shelly A., HQ 3WW  
CLINESMITH, Diana R., AFGWC  
FERGUSON, Eugene P., AFGWC  
GREMES, A1C Timothy, Det. 24, 26WS  
HACKLER, Victor L., AFGWC  
KNOWLTON, Ineal Jr., AFGWC  
KOORS, Annette D., 207 WF  
MARTINEZ, Steven A., AFGWC  
PITTS, David J., Det. 11, 9WS  
TRAUERNICHT, Clifford, AFGWC  
TURNER, Thomas C., AFGWC  
VOGEL, Jeffrey W., AFGWC

### To Airman:

DARLING, James, Det. 1, 15WS

### Sustained Superior Performance Award to:

SHAFFER, Mrs. Lynn A., Det. 1, 5WS

## Unit Honors

### Individual Mobilization

**Augmentee of the Year for:**  
3WW - Lt. Col. Anton S. Prechtel, HQ 11WS

### Civilian of the Year for:

3WW - Mr. James B. McClain, OL-A, Det. 26, 26WS

### Junior Officer of the Quarter for:

3WW - Capt. Paul Bridges, Det. 2, 11WS  
5WS - Capt. Daniel J. Villarreal, OL-A, Det. 14, 5WS  
9WS - 1st Lt. Charles J. Martin, Det. 11  
20WS - Capt. Nemencio Quintanilla, Det. 5  
25WS - 2nd Lt. Lucy G. Lee, Det. 18  
31WS - 2nd Lt. Malcom C. Walker, OL-A, 31WS  
USAFETAC - Capt. Dewey Harms

### Senior NCO of the Quarter for:

2WW - MSgt. Larry K. Broomfield, Det. 7, 31WS  
4WW - MSgt. Penny Heinen, Det. 10, 2WS  
5WW - MSgt. Donald G. Farrington, 5WS  
7WS - MSgt. John Contarino, Det. 3, 7WS  
9WS - MSgt. Joseph C. Toschik, Det. 7  
11 WS - MSgt. Robert Yates, Det. 2  
24WS - MSgt. George E. Simmons, Det. 17  
25WS - MSgt. Paul D. Church, Det. 11  
31WS - MSgt. Larry K. Broomfield, Det. 7  
USAFETAC - MSgt. Patrick Pendergast.

### NCO of the Quarter for:

2WW - SSgt. Michelle T. Jablonski, Det. 7, 31WS  
3WW - SSgt. John D. Greenwood, OL-D, 11WS  
4WW - SSgt. Gary Kimsey, Det. 9, 4WW  
5WW - SSgt. Richard T. Poore Jr., Det. 1, 5WS  
9WS - SSgt. Richard M. Grotzinger, OL-A, 9WS  
20WS - TSgt. Melody Higdon, Det. 17  
25WS - TSgt. Robert W. Troastle, Det. 11  
31WS - SSgt. Michelle T. Jablonski, Det. 7  
USAFETAC - SSgt. Dave Llewelyn

### Airman of the Quarter for:

Hurlburt Field - SrA. Robert H. Culbertson, Det. 75, 6WS  
3WW - A1C Richard D. Slominsky, Det. 1, 9WS  
4WW - SrA. Kevin Brady, Det. 11, 2WS  
5WW - A1C Brian J. Fallon, Det. 15, 25WS  
11WS - A1C Mark O. Ditter, Det. 5

20WS - SrA. Dexter Johnston, Det. 8  
25WS - A1C Brian J. Fallon, Det. 15  
31WS - SrA. Sandra J. Geliske, Det. 1  
USAFETAC - SrA. Karen Hafer

**Civilian of the Quarter for:**  
5WW - Robert A. Bruce, Det. 18,  
25WS  
5WS - Robert Madison, Det. 3

**Administrator of the Quarter for:**  
Beale AFB - TSgt. Patrick A. Melton,  
Det. 11, 9WS  
Pope AFB - SSgt. Janet E. Murray,  
Det. 3, 5 WS  
25WS - SSgt. Cynthia L. Patterson,  
Det. 18  
USAFETAC - Sandra S. Harmann

**Security Manager of the Quarter for:**  
Castle AFB - Maj. Marshall C. Pol-  
lard, Det. 2, 9WS

## Education

**Air War College**  
BONEWITZ, Maj. Joel D., AFGWC,  
(seminar)

**Air Command and Staff College**  
GENTLE, Capt. Jackie, Det. 24,  
26WS (seminar)  
WILCOX, Maj. Robert, (AFGWC)  
(seminar)

**Squadron Officer School**  
GOLDBERG, 1st Lt. Jonathan P.,  
AFGWC  
JOHNSON, 1st Lt. Jonathan P.,  
AFGWC  
MARTINO, 1st Lt. Martin R.,  
AFGWC (DG)  
ROSEMARK, Capt. Michael S. (corr),  
207WF  
RUNYAN, 1st Mark C., AFGWC

**Senior NCO Academy**  
DEVINE, MSgt. Michael T., HQAWS  
(corr)  
VALENTINE, MSgt. James H.,  
24WS (corr)

**NCO Academy**  
GAVIN, SSgt. Randy L., Det. 8, 31WS  
HENDRICKS, SSgt. David A. (Corr),  
207WF  
HUGG, TSgt. Robert L. (DG), Det. 17,  
9WS  
JONILAS, TSgt. Anthony, Det. 4,  
4WW (corr)  
LEMA, TSgt. Deborah L. (DG), Det.  
3, 3WS  
RAAB, SSgt. Joe E. (DG), Det. 7, 9WS  
SHACKLADY, SSgt. William T.,  
AFGWC (corr)  
WEBER, SSgt. Scott D., Det. 8, 31WS

**NCO Leadership School:**  
ANDRUS, SSgt. William E., AFGWC  
(grad w/merit)  
BOTSFORD, SSgt. David R.,  
AFGWC (grad w/merit)

BRADSHAW, SSgt. Dorothy, Det. 11,  
2WS  
COOMBS, SSgt. Marvin, Det. 30,  
2WS  
DEMPSEY, SSgt. Robert L. Jr., Det.  
20, 24WS, Speech, Effective Writing  
and Academic Achievement Awards)  
MATHIE, SSgt. Walter W., 5WW/WL  
(DG)  
MATTERS, SSgt. Creig J., 11WS

**NCO Preparatory Course**  
Ball, A1C Frank M., Det. 10, 7WS  
DODWELL, SrA. Anthony J., Det.  
19, 31WS  
ECKERT, SrA. Craig L., Det. 19,  
30WS  
ELIE, A1C Randy J., Det. 5, 7WS  
KILE, SrA. John A., AFGWC  
KONEK, SrA. Martin, AFGWC  
PRICE, SrA. Scott A., Det. 5, 7WS  
SCHMIDT, A1C David, Det. 24,  
26WS  
SINGH, SrA. Jairam, AFGWC  
THOMPSON, SrA. Linda S., Det. 1,  
9WS

**Weather Technician Course:**  
Sept. 30, 1987  
FJELLIN, Sgt. Kim T., Det. 8, 31WS  
FREY, Sgt. Hardy, Det. 10, 7WS  
GONSALVES, Sgt. Philip A.,  
AFGWC  
KROLL, Sgt. Michael S., Det. 12,  
24WS  
SIZEMORE, Sgt. Lester, Det. 12,  
24WS  
TAYLOR, SSgt. David A., Det. 9,  
7WS  
WESTBROOK, Sgt. Howard A., Det.  
25, 5WW

**PhD to:**  
SICKLER, Maj. Gray, HQ AWS/  
DNXA

**Associate Degree to:**  
CARI, MSgt. Robert, Det. 3, 4WW  
(CCAF-Weather Technology)  
EDWARDS, TSgt. Victoria, Det. 24,  
26WS (CCAF)  
VALENTINE, MSgt. James H.,  
24WS (CCAF)

**Reenlistments**  
JOHNSON, SSgt. Randall L., Det. 1,  
9WS  
JONILAS, TSgt. Anthony, Det. 4,  
4WW

## OOPS!

On page 7 of last month's "Ob-  
server," 16 names, beginning with  
TSgt. Linda Doggett, were listed  
under "Retirements. These people  
didn't retire, they reenlisted, but the  
correct heading was lost. Sorry for the  
error. Editor.



Gilda G. (Jill) Lindner



Linda A. Jordan



**WHO:** Mrs. Gilda G. (Jill) Lind-  
ner and Mrs. Linda A. Jordan.

**WHAT:** Identified as outstand-  
ing performers by the MAC IG  
during a recent inspection.

**WHERE:** Det. 10, 2WS, Eglin  
AFB, Fla.

**HOW and WHY:** The outstand-  
ing team efforts of Mrs. Linder  
and Mrs. Jordan resulted in super-  
ior administrative support.

The files plans for both the de-  
tachment and staff meteorologist  
functions were flawless.

The unit files and publications  
library were immaculate. Forms  
management was outstanding.

Their management of the unit  
leave and in/out processing pro-  
grams was equally superb.

Teamwork, knowledge and per-  
formance in every administrative  
functional area far exceeded stan-  
dards.

## Santa's mailbag

EIELSON AFB, Alaska (AFNS)  
- For the 32nd consecutive year,  
members of Detachment 2 of the  
11th Weather Squadron will help  
Santa answer his Christmas mail.

The program works like this:  
Children write to Santa, in care of  
the weather station. Parents in-  
clude a personalized reply to their  
children from Santa and a  
stamped, self-addressed enve-  
lope. A preprinted letter from

Santa is available if parents do  
not want to include a personalized  
reply. The envelope is returned  
with a North Pole postmark.

Last year, the unit responded to  
more than 12,000 letters. Letters  
received after Dec. 10 may not be  
returned in time for Christmas.



Mail letters to Santa's Mailbag,  
Detachment 2, 11th Weather  
Squadron, Eielson AFB, Alaska  
99702.

Brig. Gen. George E. Chapman  
AWS Commander  
AWS Editorial Staff  
MSgt. Michael T. Devine  
Editor

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wide Air Weather Service of the Military Airlift Command. This funded  
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HQ AWS/PA, Scott AFB, IL 62225-5008

## A job with unique fringe benefits

# Providing weather support to the Commander-In-Chief

Detachment 2, HQ AWS, is located in the Pentagon, inside the Headquarters U.S. Air Force Combat Operations Center. Their mission is to provide or arrange operational weather support not only to Headquarters U.S. Air Force, but also to Headquarters U.S. Army, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the National Military Command Center, the Secretary of Defense, the Defense Intelligence Agency and a host of others, including the White House.

The unit's principle role is crisis and contingency response. Detachment 2 coordinates worldwide weather support to the Commanders-in-Chief of various unified and specified commands, making sure that each command and control element has the same weather data.

To help coordinate weather support, Det. 2 controls the Crisis Action Weather Support System, or CAWSS, in the computers of the Worldwide Military Command and Control System, or WWMCCS. Detachment 2 can also task military forecast centers such as AFGWC and centers of the Navy Oceanography Command to provide the CAWSS forecast bulletins and other special support to the DOD. Maj. Earl Snipes is the unit's WWMCCS specialist and keeps the CAWSS working. He also serves as DOD configuration manager for a \$1 million software development contract to build a new system to replace the CAWSS.

Detachment 2 is also home for the DOD Climatologist, Maj. John Rubenacker. He generates about 30 climatological studies a month, mainly for the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Defense Intelligence Agency. Using the unit's dedicated, encrypted teletype, he passes some of the taskings to USAF Environmental Technical Applications Center, Scott AFB, Ill., for action. This teletype connects Det. 2 with AFGWC, USAFETAC and Det. 2's OL-A at Ft. Ritchie, Md. The communications line goes directly into one of AFGWC's computer systems. It allows Det. 2 forecasters secure communications, including the availability to tap the AFGWC database without manual intervention.

Another unique asset at Det. 2 is a direct link into the AFGWC Satellite Global Database. This makes Det. 2 one of two units with the capability to receive worldwide imagery from the Satellite Global Database and the Satellite Data Handling System at AFGWC. Detachment 2 provides the imagery to several Washington area customers. During crises, the Secretary of Defense has been known to carry the pictures across the Potomac to the White House to update the President.

Between crises and contingencies, the Det. 2 Weather Support Section writes daily briefings for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretary of Defense. They also feed data to the JCS Directorate of Operations, provide travel planning weather packages for the Secretary of



President Reagan gives a "thumbs-up" before departing from the South Lawn. (photo courtesy of Capt. Brian Branby)

Defense, Chairman and members of the JCS, Congress and many others. They also write daily letters to the President giving the forecasts for Washington, Camp David and Santa Barbara.

The White House Advance Office calls Det. 2 whenever the President is planning a trip and has his destinations added to the list of forecast locations in the daily forecast letter. During the 1986 congressional election campaigns, President Reagan's speaking engagements pushed the letters to record lengths.

When the hectic election season faded into the December holidays, White House staffers showed their appreciation by using their personal time to take Det. 2 members and their families through

the Executive Mansion. The tour visited all of the original White House below the President's residence rooms. Stops included the Library, East Room, Blue Room, Green Room, Red Room, Great Hall, and State Dining Room. The large numbers of seasonal visitors made the working areas in the West Wing inaccessible.

When spring arrived, so did another invitation to return to the White House. This time, the tour included the Oval Office, the Cabinet Room and other working areas, the Press Room, the Rose Garden and finally to wave to the First Family on the South Lawn as they emerged from the building and boarded their U.S. Marine Corps helicopter.

HQ AWS/PA  
SCOTT AFB, IL 62225-5008

HQ 1ST WEATHER WING 17  
HICKAM AFB HI 96853

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PERMIT No. G-1

MOM