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Col. Ritchie takes charge of AFGWC

By MSgt. Dave Black
HQ AWS Public Affairs

Col. Adrian A. Ritchie took command of Air Force Global Weather Central (AFGWC), Offutt AFB, Neb., June 7, 1989, in a change of command ceremony officiated by Col. John J. Kelly Jr., commander of Air Weather Service.

Colonel Ritchie succeeded Col. John W. Diercks, who retired after serving more than 26 years of service. (Please see story below).

Previously serving as vice commander of AFGWC since June 1988, Colonel Ritchie was born Oct. 21, 1941, in Washington, D.C. He received a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics from the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., in 1964, and he earned a doctorate in meteorology in 1976 from the University of Oklahoma.

He is a graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Washington, D.C., and a distinguished graduate of Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala., and the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va.

Following his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program in June 1964, he entered the basic weather officer program at the University of Oklahoma. In September 1965, he was assigned to Grissom AFB, Ind., as a wing weather officer.

Colonel Ritchie attended the Air Force Institute of Technology at the University of Oklahoma from June 1968 to January 1970. He was then assigned to the special projects branch of AFGWC as a team chief and operations officer. Colonel Ritchie returned to school for his

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With a final salute to the AWS Commander, Col. John J. Kelly Jr., Col. John W. Diercks (center) relinquishes command of AFGWC. Col. Adrian A. Ritchie Jr. (right) stands ready to take command with the presentation of the AFGWC standard. (U.S. Air Force photo)

AFGWC commander retires after 26 years of service

By MSgt. Dave Black
HQ AWS Public Affairs

The Commander of Air Force Global Weather Central (AFGWC), Offutt AFB, Neb., Col. John W. Diercks retired after more than 26 years service in the United States Air Force.

His retirement ceremony, held June 7, 1989, was officiated by the Commander of Air Weather Service, Col. John J. Kelly Jr.

The Offutt AFB Commander, Col. Walter R. Handy, and his wife were among the distinguished guests and well wishers attending the ceremony.

Colonel Diercks was born on April 6, 1941 in Teaneck, New Jersey. He received his bachelor of science degree, master of science degree, and doctorate degree in meteorology from the Pennsylvania State University.

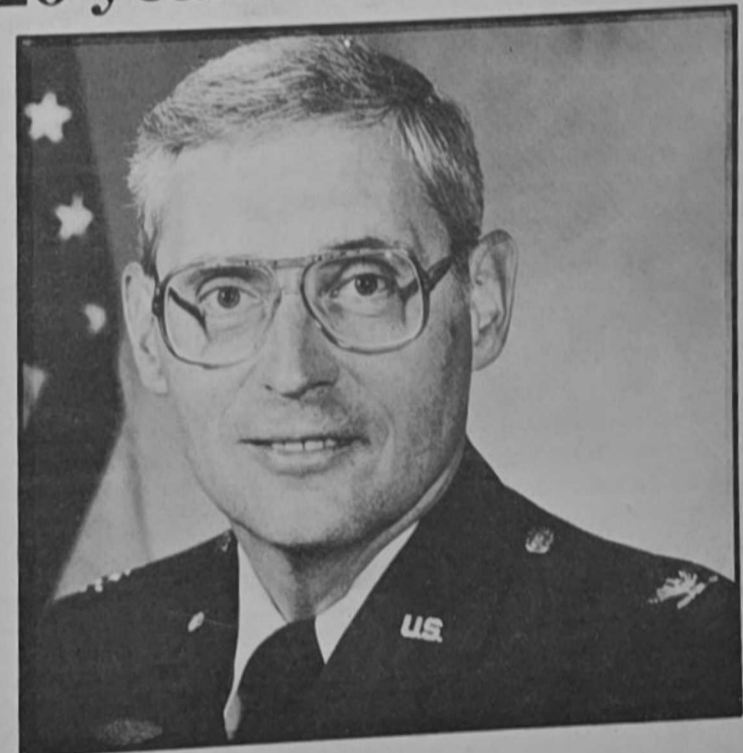
Colonel Diercks was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training

Corps in 1963. He was assigned as a weather analyst and forecaster at the European Weather Central, High Wycombe AS, United Kingdom.

His next assignment was at Headquarters, Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, Ill., where he worked at the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Aerospace Sciences, Directorate of Forecasting Services, from 1967 to 1971. In 1969, he completed Squadron Officers School as a distinguished graduate.

In 1971 Colonel Diercks re-entered the Air Force Institute of Technology program at the Pennsylvania State University, earning a doctor of philosophy degree in Meteorology. After AFIT, Colonel Diercks was assigned to the Automation, Production Control and Operations Divisions at AFGWC from 1974 to 1978. In 1979, he graduated from the Army War College, Carlisle, Pa.

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Col. John W. Diercks

Command Line



Col. John J. Kelly Jr.
AWS Commander

Summer brings personnel changes

The summer season brings with it many changes — weather, different recreational activities, and more hours of daylight — to name but a few. But summer also brings with it personnel changes — and it is about this fact that I want to share some thoughts with you.

By the time you read this article, I will have officiated at the retirement ceremonies of several officers and NCOs. I will also have written retirement letters to many others whose actual retirement I have not been able to attend.

The careers of all these people represent an impressive number of years of dedicated, selfless service to our nation; they have earned our appreciation and respect.

Having completed at least 20 years of active military service, our retirees have upheld the trust given them and shown they were equal to the responsibilities assigned. Their integrity and professional dedication are respected qualities which make it easier for those of us who follow them.

From a personal standpoint, it has been a privilege and an honor for me to have known many of them and to have served with them; from a corporate standpoint, their many accomplishments have not gone unnoticed, having contributed directly to the strength and viability of AWS.

The men and women of AWS extend to these dedicated professionals who have retired, or

will in the near future, our sincere appreciation. Further, we extend that appreciation to their families, who helped make possible their lasting contributions to the nation. To all, our very best wishes for happiness, good health and success in the future.

I know each of these people will understand when I remind us all that the Air Force way means things go on. Personnel changes triggered by retirements are representative of a host of other personnel changes across AWS, caused by PCSs and separations.

To those leaving a unit, we wish you all the best — good luck and Godspeed. We thank each and every one of you for the significant contributions you have made, individually and collectively, to AWS "doing its thing," which translates to "doing our country's thing." To those joining a new unit, we welcome you to that assignment. We look forward to a rewarding professional relationship with each of you in your new job within the AWS family. We hope those who are leaving the Air Force will maintain an active interest in our service and in AWS.

Let's be sure we get our people who are new to a unit into the full swing of things as soon and as smoothly as possible. Being a part of the AWS family, within the framework of our Air Force way of life, has given us a terrific heritage. Let's keep it going! "This ol' AWS ain't perfect, but we ain't done yet!" I know you can handle it. Till next time.

Chief's corner

The Air Force has just announced the major portion of the 1989 NCO promotions (see page 3) and, once again, I've been contacted by some very disappointed people.

The major complaint I hear is, "I'm not working in the mainstream of my AFSC and that is why I'm not getting promoted. It's unfair; how can I compete when I'm doing something different?" This complaint is heard every year throughout the Air Force, but it doesn't hold water. The people who were selected all have one thing in common — they studied for their promotion examinations.

The weather career field provides some good examples of this situation. We have people working in solar forecasting, some parts of Army support, the Automated Weather Network, and computer programming who have little or no contact with the mainstream of the 251X0 career field. However, the promotion selection rate for these people is above average because they understand their situation and, therefore, are better prepared for their examinations.

The objective in reviewing for promotion testing is to refresh your memory on the essential requirements of your AFSC and to

It's Your Promotion

recall the general responsibilities of an NCO. WAPS tests are intended to do more than just demand direct recall of isolated facts. The questions test your ability to use essential knowledge of the Air Force and your AFSC to solve realistic problems. The SKTs are written so that if you comprehensively study the references, you will attain a score commensurate with your degree of preparation.

To aid in your personal study, the Air Force prepares twice yearly (1 May and 1 Sep) AFP 39-8, Weighted Airman Promotion System (WAPS) Study Reference List. This pamphlet states the references from which each SKT and PFE are written. Another aid is the Extension Course Institute Study Reference Material Index. It is more specific than AFP 39-8 in that it contains the dates of each volume of CDC material used. Each unit WAPS monitor, CBPO Promotion and Testing Unit and CBPO Customer Service Section has copies of those publications. It is your responsibility to personally check to insure your study reference material is current.

As soon as the promotion list is released, and you find your name does not appear,

you should begin preparing for the next test. Studying is not a one-time shot two days before you test. In most instances, this will give you six months to prepare. Since the tests account for 43 percent of the points in the WAPS system, up through master sergeant, it's difficult to understand why people don't do their utmost to maximize their chances.



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Senior Enlisted Advisor

Col. John J. Kelly Jr.
AWS Commander
AWS Editorial Staff
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Editor

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AF selects 68 AWS techs for master



The Air Force selected 7,887 technical sergeants for promotion to master sergeant during the 90A7 cycle. Sixty-eight of those stripes went to the Air Weather Service (AWS) career field (251XX) for a selection rate of 20.06 percent.

Other members assigned to AWS with AFSCs such as the 491X1 (computer operator), 491X2 (computer programmer) and 702XX (information management) received a promotion to master sergeant percentage rate of 20.14, 20.11 and 20.12 respectively.

A total of 38,827 eligibles were considered for an overall selection rate of 20.31 percent. There were 349 eligibles for master in the weather service career field.

Average score for selectees Air Force-wide was 334.72 points, based on time in grade of 33.3 (4.39 years); time in service, 32.47 (15.10 years); Airman Performance Reports, 134.48; decorations, 6.51; promotion fitness examination, 64.18; and specialty knowledge test, 71.21. Average age of selectees was 34.94 years.

Those selected for master (all AFSCs) assigned to AWS were:

BARNES, Frederick D.
BEATON, John E. Jr.
BERRY, Kirk R.
BOYER, Richard A.
BOYLE, William J.
BRODERICK, Steven M.
BURKES, James D.
CARRICK, Gail D.
CARTER, Phil R.
CAVANAUGH, Wanda J.
CLIFTON, Dennis W.
COBB, Charles C.
COPESKY, Peter M.
CORBIN, Thomas C.
COVEL, Richard E. Jr.
DAVID, Bruce G.
DEAL, Daniel M.
DOUGHTERY, Michael D.
DYKMAN, Dennis L.
EVINS, James P.
FARIAS, Richard S. Jr.
FISKE, Richard A.
FLETCHER, Christopher L.
FRAZIER, Brenda J.
GALARNEAU, Gerald A.
GARDNER, Samuel
GARNER, Calvin
GONZALEZ, Ismael
GRUBB, Charles E.
HARDING, Joy L.
HARRIS, Kenneth J.

HEISELMEYER, Craig E.
HERBISON, Rodney R.
HERREN, Donald K.
HIGDON, Melody L.
HORN, Erich
JOHNSON, Kevin E.
KELLY, James M.
KIER, Robert J.
KIRBY, Stephen C.
KITCHEN, Billy R. Jr.
KLINE, William L.
KNEIFF, David B.
KOWALSKI, Eric J.
KRICK, Brian D.
LARIVEE, Donald R.
LAROSA, Ronald A.
LEE, Jacob R. Jr.
LOERBS, Carl J.
MARSHALL, John D.
McKNIGHT, Franklin B.
MELTON, Patrick A.
MITCHELL, Richard L.
MOLL, Michael J.
NAPPIER, Dennis E.
NEWSOME, Jimmy L.
PATTERSON, Frederick
PELLETIER, Joseph L.
PHILLIPS, David R.
PHOENIX, Pinchot J. Jr.
PREUSCH, Wyatt N.D.
RARICK, Bradley A.
REID, James J.
RHODEN, Florence M.
RIBERDY, Edgar C.
ROTHBAUER, Patrick J.
RUCH, Steven W.
RUCKER, Dennis A.
RUDOLPH, Dennis J.
RUGG, Patrick K.
SEXTON, Clinton Jr.
SHIPP, Lawrence L.
SHULL, Michael J.
SMITH, Bettye J.
SPOON, Roy E.
STEWART, Oliver Jr.
THORNBERRY, Steven J.
TRIBE, Jeffrey D.
TRYON, Gary H.
VACHINO, Edgar E.
WALSH, Paul E.
WARD, Donald E.
WHITE, Deanna J.
WILCOX, Thomas L.
ZIMMER, Michael A.

87 staff sergeants selected for tech

Eighty-seven Air Weather Service staff sergeants have been selected for promotion to technical sergeant.

They were among 9,843 selected from 83,028 eligibles Air Force-wide for a selection rate of 11.86 percent. Seventy-two of 611 eligibles were selected in the 251XX career field for a 11.78 percent selection rate.

Other members assigned to Air Weather Service such as 491X1 (computer operators), 491X2 (computer programmers) and 702XX (information management) fared about the same with 11.73, 11.82 and 11.75 percent selection rates, respectively.

Those selected for technical sergeant (all AFSCs) assigned to Air Weather Service were:

COOMBS, Marvin S.
FRITZ, John M.
GOFORTH, Bryan K.
GRAY, Robert C.

JEFFERSON, Orlando
JONES, Melvyn J.
KRATZER, James A.
NICHOLLS, Michael D.
ROMERO, Isaac
SMITH, Walter H. Jr.
THOMASON, Glenn S.
ANSON, Michael A.
BILLINGSLEY, Gary M.
BOUDREAUX, Tracy J.
CONKLIN, Richard J.
COWELL, Howard A. Jr.
DOMINGUEZ, Alfredo
ELLIS, Derrick T.
ELYEA, Mark L.
HANCOCK, John K.
JONES, William A.
RANO, Paul A.
RIOS, Robert R.
STRUEBING, Terry L.
THOMAS, Nathaniel W.
BARNETT, Clayborn C.
BOWERS, Joseph B.
GUERRERO, Fred R.
HAACK, Peter R.
HOOVER, Ronald L.
HOPKINS, Bradley N.
HUFFINES, David W.
JACOBS, Charles D.
KIELNECKER, Frank H.
LLEWELLYN, Constance J.
MILLER, Louis R.
MITCHELL, William R.
PELLETIER, Marc M.
PROUSE, William F.J.
TODD, Timothy
VINSON, Charles G.
YELENIC, Steven M.
BEST, Leslie C.
HERMANSON, Keith A.
PINKERTON, Paul A.
SHACKLADY, William
SINIFF, Charles B.J.
STECHEER, Carl W. III
ALDRICH, Patrick J.
CHAMBERS, Curtis



COMPTON, Richard W.
CONNELL, James P.
DEMPSEY, Robert L.J.
GOODE, Ronald C. Jr.
JACOBS, Michael L.
KINCAID, Scott R.

LANG, Glen H.
PARSONS, James C.
RAHE, Peter J.
SCHMIDT, Jeffrey A.
SCOTT, Stephen G.
VELASCO, Juan M.
ADAMS, Steven R.
ANDERSON, Ernest C.
BARRON, Ronald R.
FARLEY, Jerry L.
FISHER, Donald M.
GLOVER, Gail D.
MILLER, Janice E.
MIRELES, Mark R.
RUNGE, David C.
TRYON, Heidi C.
WELK, Jon T.
YU, Byung D.
ASHFORD, Carl A.
BRENNER, Michael R.
DAVID, Charleece L.
GEIS, Daniel L.J.
JACKSON, Linda M.
LEIDIG, Paul F.
SUMPTION, John D.
TOOMEY, Daniel M.
RICE, David P.
WILLIAMS, Gregg R.
CUPPY, Bruce E.
FULLER, Robbert L.
ROPER, Richard C.

hot off the wire...

Pay back time — A Defense Department proposal that may change the way people are reimbursed for moving expenses could begin as early as fiscal year 1991. The plan, if adopted, would replace the current permanent change of station per diem reimbursement program with a moving-in housing allowance. If the program is approved, an additional \$25 million will have to be added to the overseas housing allowance budget for first year expenses, said Col. Richard Lind, staff director of DOD's per diem transportation and travel allowance committee. The new allowance would be paid up front for expenses such as those incurred for rental agents, finder's fees, and security-related costs covering such things as purchasing and installing steel doors, fences, window bars and screens and other anti-theft or anti-terrorist items. Partial reimbursement is also proposed for purchases made to make quarters habitable, to include transformers, wardrobes and heating equipment.

Heads up, lieutenants and captains

— Revisions are being made to the captain and major promotion programs beginning with the next captain's board. Full year groups will meet each captain promotion board starting with the calendar year 89B Board convening Sept. 25. First lieutenants with a date of rank in 1988 will meet this board. Also effective with this board, officers promoted to captain are obligated to one year of active-duty when pinned. This commitment will run concurrently with any other active-duty commitment. This policy has no impact on officers who have a five-year commitment for undergraduate navigator training or an eight-year commitment for undergraduate pilot training. Starting in 1990, there will be only one captain's board each year. This change will not affect pin-on time to captain. First lieutenants will still pin on captain after two years' time-in-grade. For the major promotion board, below-the-zone eligibility for promotion from captain to major changes from three considerations to two beginning with the calendar year 1989 board convening Dec. 4. This change makes below-the-zone consideration for major, lieutenant colonel and colonel the same. More information on these changes is in the January-March 1989 edition of the U.S. Air Force officers' newsletter.

Like challenges? Try this

— Volunteers are needed for aerial weather reconnaissance duty at Det. 1, 7th Weather Wing, Keesler AFB, Miss. Although continued funding of this program beyond fiscal year 1990 is uncertain, there's still a need for highly motivated weather personnel to fill these exciting positions. Lieutenants and junior captains with an AFSC of 2524 are needed to serve as aerial reconnaissance officers and weather observers are needed as dropsonde system operators. Their primary mission is flying through tropical cyclones in support of the National Hurricane Center. For additional information, call Capt. Valerie Schmid or MSgt. Gary peel, at AUTOVON 576-5082 at 7WW/DOV, Scott AFB, Ill., 62225-5000.

AWS update

Official Weather Poem? —

Weather team members at Det. 21, 5th Weather Squaddron, Hunter AAF, Ga., submitted an interesting poem recently published in "Heartbeats," a weekly newsletter of Sacred Heart Interparochial School, Savannah, Ga. The poem was written by a Sacred Heart School third grader, Hank Santaferara, the son of CW3 and Mrs. James P. Santaferara of Hunter Army Airfield, Ga.

I like to see a thunderstorm,
a dunder storm
a blunder storm
I like to see it, black and slow,
Come stumbling down the hills.

I like to hear a thunderstorm
a plunder storm,
a wonder storm,
Roar loudly at our little house
And shake the window sills.

Surprise, you're promoted!



— Commander of AWS, Col. John J. Kelly Jr. and the Commander of AFGWC, Col. John W. Diercks (now retired) surprised SSgt. (now TSgt.) Gary D. Mercer, weather technician, AFGWC's CONUS Severe Forecast Unit, on June 6, 1989, with a STEP promotion at Offutt AFB, Neb. The day before, the AWS Chief of Staff, Col. Tom

Proffitt picked up the phone and dialed TSgt. (now MSgt.) Joe N. Chrisman, DOD NEXRAD Test and Evaluation NCOIC, Tinker AFB, Okla., to notify him of his STEP promotion. Congratulations to both from HQ AWS!

Perpetual Motion? — We told you in the May AWS Observer about TSgt. Ronald A. LaRosa, the weather comptroller attached to Headquarters 4th Weather Wing who was named Military Airlift Command's Outstanding Airman of the Year for 1989. Well, here's an update. Sergeant LaRosa was recently selected as one of the Twelve Outstanding Airmen of the Air Force! Bravo and congratulations from HQ AWS.

Testing change — Senior Master Sergeant Testing cycles are being moved to October and November of each year from September. This change begins with the 9188 senior master sergeant promotion cycle scheduled for this October and November. The move and previous senior NCO cycle changes reflect an effort to bring the promotion release more in line with assignment cycles and reduce the time between testing and the release of promotion results. More information is available through the base personnel office.

Thrill of victory, agony of duh feet

On April 22-23, 10 hearty souls with tough soles, assigned to Kadena AB, Japan, tested their endurance during the Kadena High School Pantherun. More than half of the 10-runner team was composed of members from Det. 8, 20th Weather Squadron.

The weather station was represented by Capt. David Giger and Capt. Christa Fields (team captain). The other four runners were TSgt. Dennis Dykman, SSgt. Jerry Gaunt, Sgt. Bill Raney of Social Actions, Sgt. Daniel Hughes and Sgt. Anthony Kindred of the 18th Combat Support Wing.

Each individual on the team ran 17 miles to tally a total of 170 miles during the 24-hour relay. All 63 teams in the race were composed of 10 runners, each running one mile at a time before handing the relay baton to the next runner on the team.

The weather team took 34th place overall and



Det. 8, 20th Weather Squadron, Pantherun team members from left to right: TSgt. Miguel Rivera, Sgt. Anthony Kindred, Capt. Christa Clynch, Sgt. Bill Field. Back row: Sgt. Daniel Hughes, Sgt. Bill Raney, A1C Mike Engen, Capt. David Giger, TSgt. Dennis Dykman and SSgt. Jerry Gaunt. (U.S. Air Force photo)

16th place in the mixed (male and female) division. Although they weren't the fastest, they were still winners. They won the prize for the best team name — Mama San and the Mercenaries.

The Pantherun is an annual fund-raising event

where proceeds from race entry fees go to the graduating senior class at Kadena High School. This year's team set the pace for future Det. 8 team participation in the event. Another weather team is already in training for next year's race.

AWS NCO scores in bodybuilding tourney

Sgt. Duane E. Woodberry, a Det. 15, 30WS, information management technician, recently took second place in the PACAF Bodybuilding Competition held at

Yokota AB, Japan. It was his fourth competition.

It was quite an accomplishment considering the sergeant began bodybuilding only six months ago. Since then, the sergeant

has placed in the top five of three other competitions.

Sergeant Woodberry decided at the age of 13 that he needed to put on some weight. He took up weightlifting and joined his high school wrestling team. He's been actively

pumping iron ever since. He works out at the Osan Fitness Center five times a week for about two hours a day.

To prepare for the competition, Sergeant Woodberry stated that he doesn't follow any fancy routine. His workout includes benchpress, squats

and curls. He credits his lifting partner with pushing him to be the best he can be. Sergeant Woodberry isn't through yet. He plans to compete in the Armed Forces bodybuilding competition held in January 1990, in California.



Sgt. Duane E. Woodberry, Det. 15, 30th Weather Squadron, shows a winning pose during the PACAF bodybuilding competition. (U.S. Air Force photo)

HQ AWS deputy chief of staff for operations retires

Col. Darrell L. Lucas, the deputy chief of staff for operations, Headquarters Air Weather Service, has retired after serving more than 26 years in the U.S. Air Force.

Nearly 100 people attended his retirement ceremony held at the Scott AFB, Ill., Officers' Club, May 31, 1989.

As deputy chief of staff for operations, Colonel Lucas was in charge of planning and implementing policy and procedures for operational environmental support to the Air Force, Army and designated Department of Defense agencies.

Colonel Lucas was born on Nov. 17, 1940, in Hot Springs, Ark. He graduated from Hot Springs Senior High School in 1958 and received his bachelor of science degree in geology in 1963 from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Colonel Lucas received a regular commission as a distinguished AFROTC graduate and has had a variety of assignments within Air Weather Serv-

ice. Following undergraduate meteorology studies at Texas A&M University, through the Air Force Institute of Technology, his initial operational weather assignment was as a detachment forecaster and Strategic Air Command wing weather officer at Carswell AFB, Texas, in 1964.

His tour there included extended temporary duty supporting B-52 Southeast Asia operations out of Andersen AFB, Guam. In 1967, he was at the University of Washington where he received a master of atmospheric sciences degree in 1969.

During 1969-1970, Colonel Lucas provided support to a classified project in Southeast Asia while assigned with Headquarters 1st Weather Wing Group at Tan Son Nhut AB, Republic of Vietnam.

During his four-year tour (1970-74) at Air Force Global Weather Central, Offutt AFB, Neb., he was a team chief, and an assistant operations officer and officer in charge, North

American Forecast Center.

Colonel Lucas was a distinguished graduate of the Air Command and Staff College in 1975 and was assigned as commander, Detachment 2, 9th Weather Squadron, Castle AFB, Calif., supporting B-52 and KC-135 aircrew training, the 93rd Bombardment Wing and the 84th Fighter Interceptor Squadron.

He was first assigned to AWS Headquarters in July 1978, where he was chief of the Centralized Weather Support Division and later director of technical programs.

He was assigned as the commander, 15th Weather Squadron at McGuire AFB, N.J., in July 1981, and was staff weather officer to the 21st Air Force. Colonel Lucas and his command supported Military Airlift Command strategic and tactical airlift from the Mississippi River east to Afghanistan. This support included exercises and contingencies in Africa and the Mideast. They also



Col. Darrell L. Lucas

supported URGENT FURY, the Grenada Rescue Operation.

In July 1984, Colonel Lucas was assigned as chief of current operations, 1st Weather Wing, Hickam AFB, Hawaii. He

became chief of operations in June 1985 and in July 1986 was assigned to Scott AFB as vice commander, 7th Weather Wing. He was assigned as deputy chief of staff for operations in February 1987.

Leaving a mark!

Col. Darrell L. Lucas served as the deputy chief of staff for operations, Air Weather Service's largest deputate with over 130 people and four directorates and 13 direct reporting units, during a period of dramatic changes in the way the command operates. Thanks to Colonel Lucas, Air Weather Service met its "real world" weather support responsibilities in an outstanding manner. Here are a few highlights during his tenure as DCS for operations:

- Directed highly responsive weather support to a host of Joint Chief of Staff-

directed exercises and several short-notice contingencies.

- Pioneered the concept of using interactive videodisc technology to train personnel for Automated Weather Distribution System (AWDS) operation.

- Kept the operational requirements for both the AWDS and the Next Generation Weather Radar "on track."

- Managed the Pacific Tropical Cyclone Reconnaissance Program that successfully exploited new weather sensor technology and developments for operational

use in forecasting tropical storms.

- Led the development of greatly improved contingency weather support programs and concepts for employing tactical weather communications and equipment worldwide.

- Laid the groundwork for improved support to Air Force Communications Command by minimizing environmental effects on command and control systems.

- A primary contributor to HQ AWS and its direct reporting units, earning a second Air Force Organizational Excellence Award.

Weather Warriors get hot at BRIM FROST '89

Editor's note: AWS members have always proved themselves in military exercises, but then there's never been an exercise like BRIM FROST '89!

By Capt. Martin Nehring
11th Weather Squadron
Plans Officer

More than 120 weather service members joined 26,000 Army, Air Force, Marine, Guard, Reserve and Canadian forces in a mock war fought throughout Alaska's arctic tundra in BRIM FROST '89.

A biennial exercise, BRIM FROST is designed to train Alaskan-based forces assigned to the Joint Task Force-Alaska to operate more effectively in an arctic winter environment. This year Mother Nature added an extra touch of realism which participants are not likely to soon forget.

Arctic winds of 40-knots and minus 40-degree temperatures plunged wind-chill factors to temperatures below minus 100 degrees. Unofficially, a North American all-time record low was broken with a minus 82 degrees at a hunting lodge north of Fair-

banks.

The 3rd Weather Wing's 11th Weather Squadron (11th WS) was host for weather warriors from the 5th and 7th Weather Wings and two Air National Guard Weather Flights. The Commander of 11th WS, Col. Keith Rhyne, was staff weather officer to the commander, JTF-AK and officer in charge of the Weather Support Force (WSF).

From day one, Weather Team Forces (WTF) had their work cut out. The WSF was organized under two echelons of support, the Ground Component Command (GCC) and the Air Component Command (ACC), while the Alaskan Forecast Unit provided centralized forecast support to all forces as needed.

Weather teams for the GCC were composed of members of Detachments 4 and 5, 11th WS and augmentees from the 208th Weather Flight, St.

Paul, Minn. These weather members provided a wide range of support to Army forces at four deployed locations.

Opposition Army forces were provided by the 12th Special Forces Group A-teams operating from Fort Wainwright. A four-man 107th Weather Flight (WETM) from Selfridge ANGB, Mich., provided staff and forecasting support to the headquarters element at Fort Wainwright.

The ACC forces were composed of Alaskan Air Command (AAC) F-15s, A-10s, C-130s and C-12s and Tactical Air Command (TAC) Air Warning and Control (AWAC) aircraft. Aircraft from Pacific Air Force, Strategic Air Command, TAC and the Royal Canadian Air Force provided opposition forces.

Staff officers from Headquarters 11th Weather Squadron provided ACC battlestaff support. Det 1, 11WS, and augmentees from Det. 16, 9WS; Det.

BRIM FROST

BRIM FROST '89 is a Joint Chiefs of Staff directed exercise sponsored for the first time by Forces Command (FORSCOM). FORSCOM is a Specified Command and has the mission of land defense for the Continental United States.

The purpose of BRIM FROST is to train and exercise Joint Task Force-Alaska in defending Alaska against a full spectrum of conventional and special warfare operations. BRIM FROST also allows Joint Task Force-Alaska to integrate Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Reserve and National Guard Forces necessary to operate more effectively in an arctic winter environment.

16, 25WS; and Dets. 2, 7, and 8, 17WS provided operational support to the commander of Airlift Forces, as well as airlift, ACC, and opposition forces at Elmendorf AFB. Det. 2, 11WS, handled ACC support at Eielson AFB, and Operating Locations I and D, 11 WS, at King Salmon and Galena Airports, respectively, provided observational support to forward ACC aircraft. Additionally, two augmentees from Det. 11, 17WS, provided field observations for ALCE support from the primary drop/landing zone.

The AAC Commander, Lt. Gen. Thomas McInerney, summarized BRIM

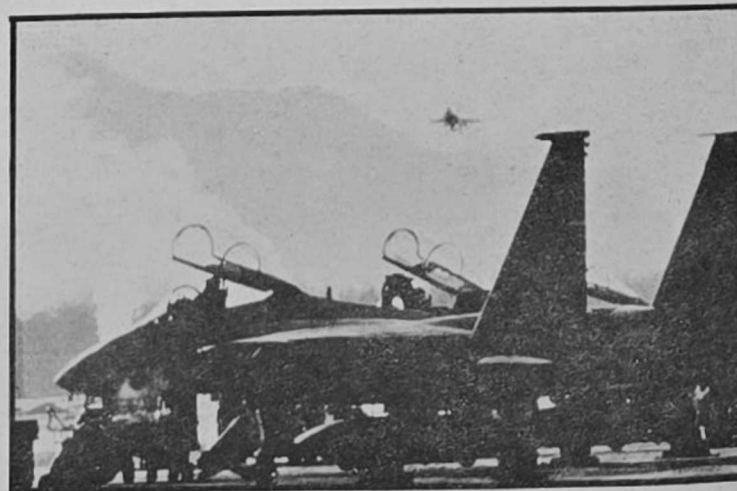
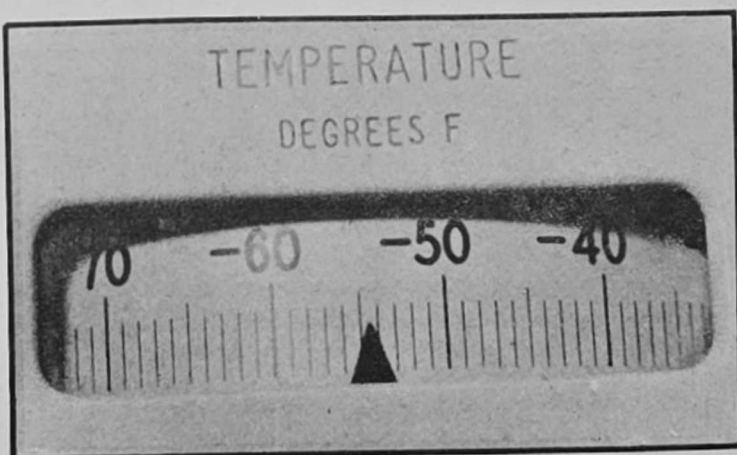
FROST saying, "In spite of the extreme weather conditions, we were able to accomplish most of our exercise objectives. We demonstrated conclusively to ourselves and to the world that we are capable of conducting military operations in the rigorous arctic environment."

Colonel Rhyne also attested that, Weather Service members provided outstanding support to both air and ground forces. "Our tactical setup, including communications, was top notch. We met the challenge and completed the mission — I'm extremely proud of each member of the BRIM FROST '89 Weather Support Force."

WAR'S HELL — Even at minus 82 degrees



Photo left, Troops from the 2nd Battalion, 17th Infantry, Fort Richardson, Alaska, begin leaving the train to unload vehicles from rail cars. Right photo, Brrr — the temperature gage at Det. 2, 11WS, Eielson AFB, Alaska. Below left: Equipment brought in by 2nd Battalion, 17th Infantry. Below right: Crew chiefs prepare F-15s for take off at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, while overhead an F-15 returns from a mission.

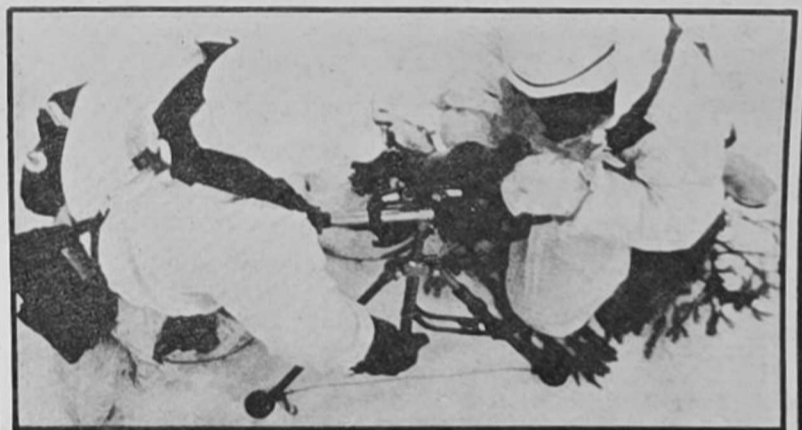


HOMEBASE



Top photo, Det. 1, 11th Weather Squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. **Top right**: SSgt. Frank Daniels descends an ice-covered stairwell. **Above left**, SSgt. Craig Matters of the 11WS, prepares a forecast using atmospheric flow charts. **Above center**, Sgt. Heidi Ackerly briefs flight crews on weather conditions happening around Elmendorf during BRIM FROST '89. **Above right**, Capt. Hofmann, SSgt. Anderson and 1st Lt. Gardner, front to back, Det. 1, study satellite pictures in order to brief flight crews for the exercise.

TACTICAL MISSION



Top left photo, SSgt. Rich Hansen takes a wind speed and direction measurement at Malamute Drop Zone. **Above center**, Amn. Bryan S. Olson of the 3415 Security Police Squadron on patrol. **Above right**, PV2 Isaiah Owen (left) and Spec. Dane Griffin, 2nd BATT, 17th INF, make sight adjustments to a 60mm mortar launcher. **Below left**, SSgt. Ernest Luoma leaves his tent to complete a security check around his weather observation area. **Bottom right**, Sergeant Luoma takes temperature and barometric pressure readings on a remote hillside three miles from Fort Richardson. (U.S. Air Force photos)



7th WS fields USAREUR Automated Weather System

By MSgt. Ronald P. Whitt
7th Weather Squadron

What's the best thing since the availability of the subdued Air Weather Service badge for Battle Dress Uniforms?

If you ask anyone in the 7th Weather Squadron (7WS) these days, you'll probably hear "USAREUR Automated Weather System" (UAWS)! "Want to see mine?" There is a lot of pride in 7WS now that the long-awaited UAWS has been successfully delivered to 7WS units.

"What's a UAWS and how can I get mine?" Glad you asked.

The UAWS began as a brainchild of a handful of 7WS members in 1984. They felt there had to be a better and more reliable way to pass a large volume of data to weather units than by using Radio Teletype Rigs (RATT Rigs). After a few "what-ifs" and a lot of research, the UAWS idea began to become a reality.

The concept of UAWS is really quite simple. USAREUR weather teams need three types of data in the field: alphanumeric, graphic and real time satellite data, and lots of back-up should any one of these systems fail. These requirements resulted in the final selection of UAWS' four major components: Alden 9315T/Rs, a WRASSE tactical meteorological satellite receiver, Zenith 248 enhanced microcomputers and a Harris 119-series radio complete with adaptive controller and 39-tone modem. These are the subcomponents that combine to form the fully-integrated weather system, UAWS.

That's the "What is it?" But how does it all

work? Well, UAWS operates with five control nodes, located at USAREUR main and rear, V and VII Corps, and the European Forecast Unit (EFU) at Traben-Trarbach, West Germany.

In addition, there are 15 units at various major subordinate commands (MSC) throughout Germany and Italy. Communications are then directed down from the control nodes to the MSCs by either point-to-point, networking or high frequency broadcasting.

The UAWS began as a brainchild of a handful of 7WS members in 1984. They felt there had to be a better and more reliable way to pass a large volume of data to weather units than by using Radio Teletype Rigs.

The EFU will serve as the primary control node. It will be the main source of weather data via facsimile and or teletype received from the Automated Weather Network (AWN) or indigenous sources to the other nodes or MSCs. The EFU system is a fixed system, meaning it is not intended for mobile transport.

The remaining four control nodes may act as the primary node upon outage of Traben-Trarbach or coordination with other nodes. Furthermore, the nodes at USAREUR rear and main will act as the activator of the USAREUR Weather Net (UWN) and share the responsibility of managing and networking the UWN. The USAREUR main and rear sites, though configured to operate in

a hardened site, can be configured to go mobile at any time. The V and VII Corps systems are the respective Net Control Stations (NCSs) for their respective corps weather nets and are completely mobile as their UAWS are shock mounted in a five-ton van.

The individual MSC support units operate their UAWS in a variety of vehicle and configurations, some in five-tons, some in two and one-half tons, and some are even transported to fixed sites, by any means available. The MSCs are the primary data receptors but still have the capability to assume NCS responsibilities at any time.

To make all this happen, 7WS sent a select team of representatives to Fliegerhorst Kaserne led by Capt. Michael Hemler, UAWS project officer, and MSgt. Ronald Whitt, 7WS NCOIC, Communications.

The team's primary tasks were to head-up the installation of

UAWS into fixed and mobile sites, develop a UAWS training plan, and learn as much as possible from integration contractor engineers to be UAWS experts for their respective units.

The MSCs are the primary data receptors but still have the capability to assume NCS responsibilities at any time.

The installation phase began in October 1988 and finished in December 1988. By December, 20 systems in all had been completed. In addition, Captain Hemler and Sergeant Whitt and their team trainers: TSgt. Mark Mullenax, Det. 12; TSgt. Jerry Sanders, Det. 4; SSgt. Paul Heinz, Det. 1; Sgt. Donald LaFromboise, Det. 6; TSgt. Rodney Herbison, Det. 10; and SSgt. Ricky Kiel of Det. 5, 7WS had trained half of all 7WS personnel on UAWS safety, load-up, set-up, opera-

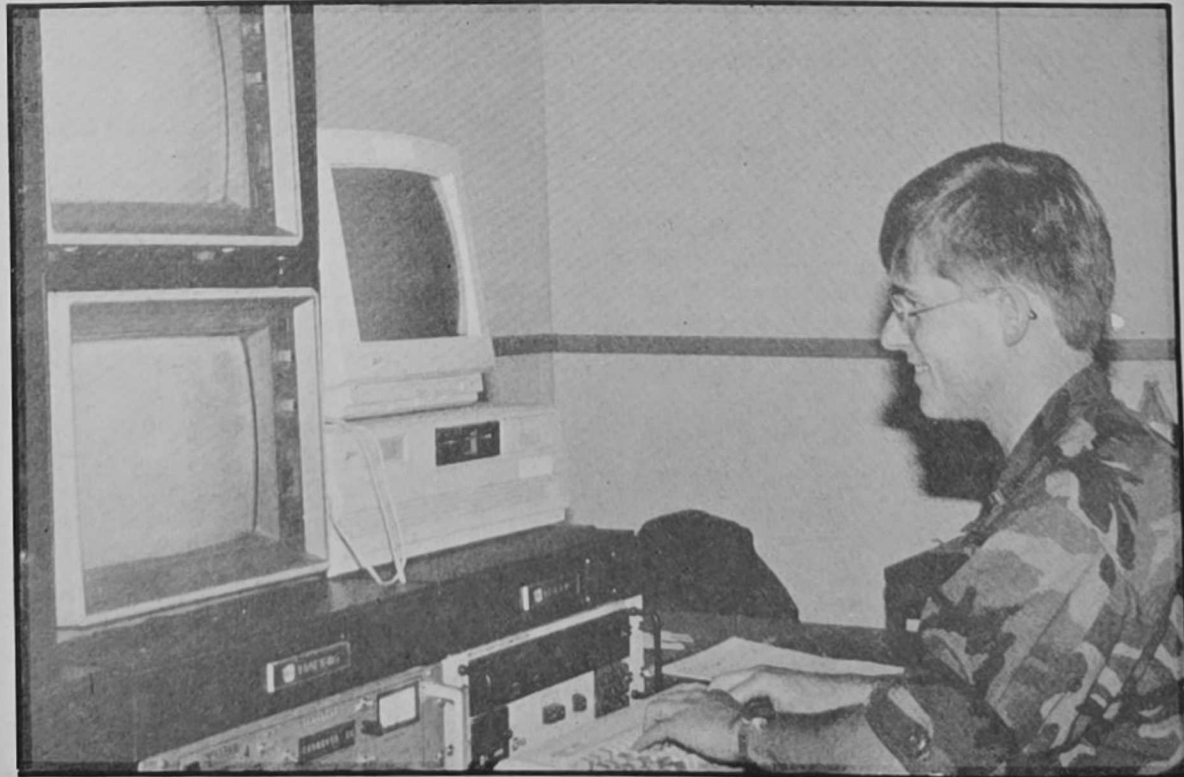
tions, basic troubleshooting and preventive maintenance.

Also, each 7WS unit's UAWS representatives had the opportunity to work alongside engineering personnel for four to six weeks, thus providing the deeper understanding required during the adaptation of any new system.

Check ride came on Dec. 14, 1988, with the first squadron-wide test of UAWS. Every unit that participated came up and made contact as scheduled — a feat unheard of with the previous mode of communication, the RATT Rigs.

From northern to southern Germany, USAREUR WETMs put their UAWS systems through the paces, passing "congratulations" and "well done."

The 1984 idea of "there has to be a better way" had become a reality by 1988. Full operational capability is projected in several months with the completion of all applications of software and a full maintenance package.



1st Lt. John Meyer, Det. 5, 7th Weather Squadron, operates the new USAREUR Automated Weather System recently installed squadron-wide. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Col. Ritchie...

Continued from page 1
doctorate in July 1973. In January 1976, he was assigned as assistant chief, Command and Control System Management Division at Headquarters, Air Weather Service, Scott AFB, Ill.

Following graduation from the Armed Forces Staff College, he became

the chief of the Aerospace Sciences Division, 2nd Weather Wing, Kapaun AS, West Germany, in February 1979.

From May 1981 to July 1982, Colonel Ritchie served as the operations officer for the 31st Weather Squadron, Rhein Main AB, West Germany. Upon return-

ing to the United States, he was assigned to Headquarters Air Weather Service as director of the Special Projects Division, Deputy Chief of Staff, Systems.

In July 1983, he transferred to the Military Airlift Command's Inspector General staff as chief of the Weather In-

spection Branch. From March 1985 through June 1988, he commanded the 5th Weather Squadron, 5th Weather Wing, Fort McPherson, Ga. He served concurrently as staff weather officer to the Commander in Chief, Forces Command.

His military decora-

tions include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters and the Air Force Commendation Medal. Colonel Ritchie is married to the former Margaret Adams of Hyattsville, Md. They have four children, Karen, Lynn, Christine and Dennis.

Col. Diercks...

Continued from page 1

Colonel Diercks then became the commander of Det. 1, 1st Weather Wing and director of the Joint Typhoon Warning Center at Nimitz Hill, Guam. From 1981 to 1983, he commanded the 30th Weather Squadron, Yongsan, Korea.

He was then assigned to Headquarters U.S. Air

Force, as assistant chief of staff for Information Systems, Washington, D.C., where he later became the chief of the Command and Control Systems Division.

On June 5, 1985, Colonel Diercks assumed command of the 7th Weather Wing at Scott AFB, Ill., with concurrent duty as the Military Airlift Command staff weather

officer.

His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters and the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Colonel Diercks is married to the former Donna Mac Howe of York, Pa. They have two children, John and Deborah.



Col. John W. Diercks accepts the U.S. flag during retreat ceremony held in his honor at Offutt AFB, Neb. More than 800 people attended the ceremony for the former commander of Air Force Global Weather Central. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Det. 3, 5WS members take on Canadian Airborne School



Commander of the Canadian Parachutist Regiment, Col. Cowling congratulates SSgt. Timothy P. Blair after presenting him with the Canadian Parachutist Badge. A1C John Baker (right) stands by for his presentation.



SSgt. Timothy Blair and A1C John Baker take time out for a photo near the Buxton DZ after completion of a jump operation. (U.S. Air Force photos)

Two members from Det. 3, 5th Weather Squadron, at Fort Bragg, N.C., recently traveled to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, to attend the Canadian Airborne Course.

The trip was arranged by the 507th Tactical Air Control Wing at Shaw AFB, S.C., along with Maj. Talbot, Canadian Forces liaison officer at Fort Bragg. Approximately 49 jumpers from both the Air Force and the Army attended the school.

SSgt. Timothy P. Blair and

Jolly good 'ole chap!

A1C John P. Baker, members of Det. 3, participated in seven jumps from both Canadian and United States aircraft while in Edmonton. Approximately 30 Canadians also jumped from the American aircraft so they would qualify for their American jump wings. The Americans needed only three jumps from the Canadian aircraft to qualify for the Canadian Parachutist Badge.

Minus 30 degree temperatures didn't stop jump operations. The Canadians routinely jump in weather well below zero, but for the American contingent, it was a new experience.

"The challenge of jumping in a foreign country, learning new techniques and procedures made it a memorable trip," added Airman Baker. Graduation ceremonies took place in the afternoon of Feb. 17, 1989, at the Canadian Airborne School.

Reenlist and take a plunge!

An ambitious senior airman reenlisted for another tour recently in a rather unique way. SrA. Steve Mizell of Det. 3, 5WS, Fort Bragg, N.C., reenlisted while aboard a C-141 enroute to his 28th parachute jump. The senior airman is a Special Operations weather observer working to support the 7th Special Forces Group mission worldwide.



SrA. Steve Mizell (left) takes the oath from his commander, Maj. John Conley, while jumpmaster, TSgt. Ronald Kellerman, witnesses and bears the flag. (U.S. Air Force photo by TSgt. Kevin J. Cummings)

AWS Salutes

Due to our special edition on new technologies in last month's issue of the AWS Observer, the Salutes section in this issue contains both the May and June submissions for this column.

Medals

Legion of Merit:

WEEKS, Lt. Col. Thomas R., 200WS, VAANG

Meritorious Service Medal:

BOYER, TSgt. Richard, USAFETAC
BURROUGHS, SMSgt. Carl L., Det. 29, 17WS (10LC)
BUTCHKO, Lt. Col. Joseph J., HQ AWS (30LC)
CARROLL, Maj. Stephen W., Det. 15, 30WS (20LC)
CLARK, Lt. Col. Kenneth R., AFGWC (20LC)
COUEY, SMSgt. Kenneth A., Jr. 3WW (30LC)
CSENCISITS, CMSgt. Louis U., HQ AWS (20LC)
DAYBELL, Capt. Mark H., HQ AWS
DUMONT, Lt. Col. Robert J., 3WW (30LC)
GOMBARCIK, MSgt. George G., AFGWC
GOSDIN, Malcolm E. Jr., HQ AWS
JOHNSON, Lt. Col. Dale L., AFGWC (20LC)
KOENEMANN, Col. William S. 3WW (20LC)
MADDUX, TSgt. John A., Det. 16, 9WS
SETTJE, SMSgt. Randolph C., (10LC)
SNELL, Lt. Col. Michael R., Det. 4, 17WS (10LC)
SNYDER, TSgt. Julian L., AFGWC
TAYLOR, MSgt. John M., Det. 12, 25WS
THOMPSON, TSgt. Philip D., Det. 4, 28WS
TRAPNELL, Maj. Robert N., AFGWC (10LC)
WATSON, SMSgt. Constance L., AFGWC (20LC)
WHITE, TSgt. Deanna J., Det. 26, 28WS
WOODWARD, Maj. Edward T., HQ AWS

Air Medal:

SAMMET, Sgt. George T., Det. 1, 7WW

Navy Meritorious Service Medal:

KOCH, SSgt. Jerome P., Det. 4, 7WS

Joint Service Commendation Medal:

HERN, SSgt. Dennis D., Det. 5, 20WS
MCCLEMON, Capt. Karen L., 26WS
REEVES, TSgt. Paula J., Det. 3, 15WS

Air Force Commendation Medal:

ALLEN, TSgt. Donald E. Jr., Det. 7, 20WS (10LC)
ANDRASH, Capt. Sherry D., Det. 14, 5WS
BINION, SSgt. Cove A., AFGWC
BLOND, Sgt. David M., AFGWC
BORN, TSgt. Robert J., HQ AWS (10LC)
CALLAGHAN, Sgt. Patricia M., Det. 15, 28WS
COOKERLY, Sgt. Fred S., Det. 15, 30WS
DEBREAUX, A1C Rawie, Det. 3, 7WS
DONNELL, MSgt. Tracy L., Det. 11, 24WS
DREKSLER, Capt. Steven B., HQ AWS (10LC)
DRUCKENMILLER, SSgt. Harry L., Det. 15, 30WS
DUNLAP, TSgt. Cleveland R., AFGWC (30LC)
FLEMING, MSgt. Jeffrey L., Det. 2, 20WS (20LC)
FRASER, SSgt. Randolph S., AFGWC
GUNN, SSgt. Patti A., Det. 2, 20WS
HEMBROCK, A1C Anton L., Det. 4, 28WS
HERMANSON, SSgt. Keith A., Det. 6, 4WW
HESLAND, 1st Lt. Paul D., Det. 1, 5WW
HOEFLEIN, Capt. Gerald E., HQ AWS (20LC)
KELLER, A1C Richard, Det. 1, 7WS
KUNKEL, Sgt. Melvin L., OL-D, 11WS
KWIUNSKI, SSgt. Dennis C., Det. 1, 5WW
LOMAX, TSgt. William E., AFGWC
MAYTES, Sr. Michael J., Det. 17, 28WS
MICHETTI, 1st Lt. Vicki K., 3WW
NEVENS, SSgt. William R., AFGWC
PIGORS, Capt. Marilyn A., HQ AWS (20LC)
POTTS, TSgt. Charlee S., Det. 11, 25WS
REID, SSgt. Howard P., Det. 4, 28WS
RICHARDS, SSgt. Barry A., Det. 18, 28WS
ROBINSON, TSgt. Donald R., 3WW (10LC)
ROULLER, SSgt. James J., AFGWC (10LC)
SPENCER, TSgt. April, Det. 17, 28WS
WHEELER, SSgt. Derrick L., USAFETAC
YEEFONG, Capt. Juan M., Det. 15, 30WS (10LC)

Army Commendation Medal:

BUNDT, Capt. Jerry L., USAFETAC
JONES, SSgt. William A., OL-A, Det. 6, 2WW
TURCOTTE, Capt. Frederick N., HQ AWS
VAN ESSEN, Capt. Douglas H., OL-B, HQ AWS

Air Force Achievement Medal:

ASHCRAFT, Sr. Mark A., AFGWC
BASKIN, Capt. Walter E., AFGWC
CALLAGHAN, Sgt. Patricia M., Det. 15, 28WS
CARLSON, 1st Lt. Scott A., AFGWC
CLAAR, Sgt. Det. 21, 2WS
CLARKE, TSgt. James Jr., Det. 8, 20WS
CORONADO, Sgt. Carlos S., Det. 5, 7WS
DEBREAUX, A1C Rawie, Det. 3, 7WS
DILLON, Sgt. Kevin L., Det. 17, 20WS
FRANZ, 1st Lt. Regina M.G., AFGWC
HANLIN, 1st Lt. Marc H., HQ AWS
HANSON, SSgt. Ralph P., AFGWC
HEMBROCK, A1C Anton L., Det. 4, 28WS
HOWARD, Sgt. Monica, Det. 15, 26WS
JOHNSON, A1C Cory R., AFGWC
KELLER, A1C Richard, Det. 1, 7WS
KNOWLES, SSgt. Cory W., 6WS/SOWT
LLOYD, Sgt. David J., Det. 16, 9WS
LYONS, 1st Lt. Kyle S., AFGWC
MAYTES, Sr. Michael J., Det. 17, 28WS
MAZUR, Capt. Andy, AFGWC
MCELHANEY, 1st Lt. Larry D., Det. 15, 30WS
MILLER, SSgt. Louis R., Det. 1, 9WS

NICHOLLS, SSgt. Michael D., Det. 19, 30WS
PELLETIER, TSgt. Joseph L., AFGWC (10LC)
PERSINGER, Sr. Richard S., Det. 1, 7WW
RAY, SSgt. Edmund T., AFGWC
RINDERKNECHT, 1st Lt. Donald, Det. 15, 30WS
SANDERS, Sgt. Stuart A., Det. 7, 24WS
SCHUPP, SSgt. Kent R., Det. 17, 9WS (10LC)
SERRETTE, SSgt. Diane P., Det. 16, 9WS
SOMERS, Sr. Owen, Det. 1, 5WS
TIMMERMANN, Sgt. Rick J., AFGWC
THOMAS, 1st Lt. Bruce H., AFGWC
TRYON, TSgt. Gary H., USAFETAC
TURK, A1C Brian M., AFGWC
WILFONG, Sgt. Michael J., AFGWC
WILSON, Capt. James A., Det. 1, 17WS

Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation Award:

DYE, Maj. Anita, Det. 11, 2WS
MCNAMARA, Capt. Donna, HQ 2WS

Joint Service Achievement Medal:

LEY, SSgt. Ralph F., Det. 10, 7WS
RESSEN, Sgt. Randy R., AFGWC
WHITTLE, SSgt. Robert J., Det. 7, 24WS

Army Achievement Medal:

HEMBROCK, A1C Anton, Det. 4, 28WS
KINARD, TSgt. Harry N., Det. 20, 30WS
MIRELES, SSgt. Mark R., AFGWC
OBERMEYER, Sgt. Darren C., Det. 31, 5WS
SCHMIDT, A1C Charles E., Det. 25, 5WS
SEALE, SSgt. Clarence R. III, Det. 8, 20WS, OL-A
SETCOSKI, Sgt. Peter J., AFGWC

Combat Readiness Medal:

SALSBURY, Capt. Daniel J., OL-A, Det. 14, 5WS

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award:

SALSBURY, Capt. Daniel J., OL-A, Det. 14, 5WS

Air Force Good Conduct Medal:

ATKINSON, SSgt. Paulette C., Det. 2, 7WS
BARLOW, SSgt. Stephen J., Det. 11, 17WS
BAWEK, SSgt. Scott A., Det. 22, 24WS
BILLAU, Sr. Marion E., 3WW
CALLAGHAN, Sgt. Patricia M., Det. 15, 28WS
CARTY, TSgt. John, Det. 14, 31WS
CARSTEN, Sr. Patti L., 3WW
FONTENOT, Sgt. Violet N., HQ 26WS
ELLIS, SSgt. Miriam Y., HQ 5WW
HAISS, Sr. Timothy, Det. 4, 5WS
HIGGINS, Sgt. Brad W., Det. 6, 4WW
HOLDEN, MSgt. Benton E. III, Det. 20, 24WS
HOWELL, Sr. Don N. Jr., Det. 9, 7WS
JACKSON, TSgt. Larry D., Det. 20, 24WS
JACKSON, SSgt. Linda M., Det. 1, 15WS
JOHNSON, Sgt. Jeffrey E., Det. 3, 5WS
KLEESCHULTE, TSgt. Kenneth R., Det. 19, 26WS
LACKEY, SSgt. Dennis M., Det. 2, 7WS
LEURCK, Sgt. John A., HQ 5WW
MAYTES, Sr. Michael J., Det. 17, 28WS
MAYO, MSgt. Randall W., Det. 3, 3WS
MIZELL, Sr. Stephen A., Det. 3, 5WS
NASH, TSgt. Michele I., OL-A, Det. 6, 4WW
OUDERKIRK, SMSgt. Gary A., Det. 23, 6WS
PARKER, SMSgt. Duane C., Det. 19, 26WS
PATTERSON, TSgt. Gregory M., Det. 23, 6WS
REID, SSgt. Howard P., Det. 4, 28WS
SCHAFFERS, Sr. Alexia, HQ 5WS
STRECKER, Sgt. Steve, HQ 26WS
SPENCER, TSgt. April, Det. 17, 28WS
WALTHERS, Sgt. Bruce E., Det. 8, 17WS
WALTHERS, Sgt. Mia S., Det. 8, 17WS

Promotions

To Colonel:

GOLDEY, James W., HQ 5WW
OVERALL, James W., HQ AWS/SY

To Lieutenant Colonel:

BONEWITZ, Joel D., AFGWC
CARROLL, Stephen W., Det. 15, 30WS

To Major:

HOFMAN, Karan T., Det. 1, 11WS
LING, Thomas J., Det. 18, 25WS
GILBERT, Steven R., 30WS
SMITH, Kenneth F., 9WS
WHITE, G. Anderson III, AFGWC

To Captain:

APLING, Duane L., AFGWC
BLAKESLEE, Jason H., Det. 12, 31WS
BRESSETTE, Kemberlee B., Det. 22, 26WS
BRINKMAN, Peter A., USAFETAC
CARLISLE, David A., Det. 1, 7WW
FELVER, Walter D. Jr., AFGWC
FRANZ, Regina M.G., AFGWC
HAMMETT, James E., Det. 8, 20WS
HUTCHINSON, Timothy, Det. 1, 1WW
MORGENSTERN, Carolyn D., Det. 23, 26WS
MURANAKA, Neil J., AFGWC
PURCELL, Patrick N., Det. 15, 30WS
RUMYAN, Mark C., AFGWC
SCOTT, Bruce Y., Det. 23, 3WS
TALBERT, Kim A., AFGWC
TALBERT, Michael, USAFETAC
ZUCCARELLO, Louis V., AFGWC

To First Lieutenant:

BORECKY, Cynthia A., Det. 5, 3WS
GUIMOND, Philip W., HQ 1WW
HANSER, Joseph A., Det. 58, 5WS
HOSSLEY, James G., Det. 3, 9WS
LOOMANS, Susan M., HQ 1WW
SMITH, William C., AFGWC

To Chief Master Sergeant:

CAMPBELL, David D., AFGWC

To Senior Master Sergeant:

PARKER, Duane C., Det. 19, 26WS
SHELDON, Daniel J., AFGWC
WHISNANT, Richard J., 26WS

To Master Sergeant:

GOODMAN, Richard A., Det. 6, 17WS
KENNEDY, Michael K., Det. 19, 26WS
ROGERS, Alan M., OL-H, 7WS
SHEEHAN, Timmy D., HQ 4WW
WHITE, Larry D., 121WF, DCANG
WOODS, Helene L., AFGWC

To Technical Sergeant:

BOCZEK, Christopher, OL-D, 7WS
CANNON, Herbert L., HQ 5WW
DASHER, Mark P., Det. 15, 28WS
DOOLAN, Carol A., Det. 6, 3WS
ERWIN, Glyn A., HQ 1WS
GRELL, Stanley G., AFGWC
IMHOF, Christopher M., Det. 10, 15WS
KELLERMAN, Ronald H., Det. 3, 5WS
KLEESCHULTE, Kenneth R., Det. 19, 26WS
PERSIAN, Mike R., Det. 19, 26WS

To Staff Sergeant:

BARNERY, Daryl K., 6WS/UAS
BEACHMAM, Larry, Det. 26, 26WS
BYRD, Daniel H., AFGWC
COLE, Dewey W., Det. 12, 24WS
FRASER, Randolph S., AFGWC
HUMPHREY, Stephen P., Det. 11, 24WS
LAWRENCE, Kevin S., AFGWC
LOUK, Russell W., Det. 3, 15WS
MARCoux, Joseph J., AFGWC
MATTHEWS, Gregory R., AFGWC
OTTERSTROM, Russell, AFGWC
PALMIERI, Anthony, Det. 10, 7WS
POPE, Deborah A., Det. 7, 3WS
TEFF, Paul C., Det. 7, 9WS
VAN SICKLE, Michael R., Det. 9, 24WS
WETTERBERG, Carl A., Det. 14, 25WS
WILLIAMS, Michael E., Det. 10, 7WS

Appointment to Sergeant:

ADCOCK, Nathan L., Det. 18, 30WS
BENEFIELD, Jeffrey S., Det. 13, 2WW
CORONADO, Carlos S., Det. 5, 7WS
DELK, Kirk M., Det. 20, 30WS, OL-E
FONTENOT, Violet N., HQ 26WS
GIZESKI, Timothy J., Det. 36, 28WS
GRANAHAN, Gerald D., Det. 15, 15WS
GRIPPON, Sylvain, Det. 3, 11WS
HALL, Gary A., Det. 18, 30WS
JEFFREY, T., Det. 11, 7WS
LEBRUN, Steve A., Det. 22, 26WS
LEVESQUE, Bradley J., Det. 8, HQ AWS
LEWIS, Patrick J., Det. 11, 25WS
MILLER, Jeffrey S., OL-A, Det. 5, 20WS
MYRICK, Robert B., Det. 11, 17WS
NELSON, Joseph G., Det. 4, 5WS
PROSAPPO, Jeffrey T., Det. 11, 7WS
QUALLS, Jennifer, Det. 11, 1WW
STEENBURGH, Robert R., Det. 14, 25WS

To Senior Airman:

AMRHEIN, Edward T., Det. 23, 3WS
ASHMAN, Eric J., 15WS
BAKER, John P., Det. 3, 5WS
BONNELL, Donald W. II, Det. 13, 7WS
BURLESON, Iwana L., OL-I, 11WS
BUSTANY, Brady M., Det. 12, 7WS
DADDARIO, Christine M., Det. 12, 24WS
DALE, Bennett M., Det. 18, 30WS, OL-A
FERGUSON, Eugene P., AFGWC
FIELDS, Timothy J., Det. 1, 7WW
FOBBS, Randy, Det. 5, 5WS
HEMBROCK, Anton L., Det. 4, 28WS (BTZ)
HILTON, Diana R., AFGWC
JOHNSON, Keith A., Det. 19, 26WS
JOHNSON, Tony E., OL-I, 11WS
JONES, Heather A., Det. 15, 28WS
JONES, Scott A., Det. 3, 28WS
KLEMPN, Michael B., Det. 11, 7WS
MARTINEZ, Steven A., AFGWC
MCKINNEY, Kevin, Det. 17, 9WS
MORGAN, Dawn D., Det. 15, 28WS
QUIRK, Rhonda F., Det. 6, 26WS
REGAN, Steven B., 6WS/UAS
SITLER, Jeffrey L., Det. 7, AFGWC
TATE, Patricia A., Det. 5, 7WS
TURNER, Thomas C., AFGWC
VOGEL, Jeffrey W., AFGWC
WOFFORD, Bruce W., AFGWC

To Airman First Class:

ADELSBERGER, Daniel, AFGWC
BATES, Gina R., Det. 9, 24WS
BRENTON, Shonn C., Det. 4, 7WS
CRISCILLO, Bryan F., AFGWC
GAMBINO, Randall R., Det. 1, 5WS
GRAY, David, Det. 19, 26WS
HELSELGESSER, Preston W., Det. 2, 17WS
JAMISON, Angela M., Det. 14, 26WS
LATIMER, Michael P., AFGWC
MARSICO, Marc D., Det. 15, 26WS
MEADE, Connie M., Det. 20, 17WS

MCKAY, Michael A., AFGWC
MILLER, Stacey D., Det. 1, 24WS
MOSNESS, Lance M., AFGWC
O'REILLY, Patricia L., AFGWC
PAUL, Michael J., Det. 1, 5WS
PETERS, Timothy W., Det. 75, 6WS
PRICE, Greg, Det. 1, 7WS
RAMOS, Lisa A., Det. 14, 25WS
SCHENCK, John M., AFGWC
SKINNER, David S., AFGWC
SONES, Linda E., Det. 4, 26WS
SORRENTINO, Joseph C., Det. 8, 26WS
STARK, Daniel L., 6WS/SOWT
TREADON, Russell E., Det. 4, 26WS
TROYER, James A., Det. 11, 17WS

To Airman:

AVENARIUS, Steven R., Det. 7, 3WS
BENNETT, Liza R., Det. 20, 17WS
BROWN, Valentina E., Det. 75, 6WS
CUMBO, Richard A., 6WS/SOWT
FRANCIS, Mark A., Det. 22, 24WS
JOHNSTON, Marston S., Det. 31, 5WS
LARSEN, Paul R., Det. 11, 17WS
PIERCE, John P., Det. 31, 5WS
PRIEST, Deborah A., Det. 1, 24WS
RONCA, Anthony A., Det. 10, 15WS
RUSSO, Michael J., Det. 14, 5WS

Unit honors

Company Grade Officer of the Year

7WW — MITCH, Capt. Andrew J., 6WS/WSC
17WS — GORDON, 1st Lt. John D., Det. 1

Airman of the Year

6WS — GAUTHIER, Sr. Frances H., UAS

Company Grade Officer of the Quarter: (Jan.-March)

2WW — WILDE, Capt. Tyree L., HQ 2WW
HQ 2WW — WILDE, Capt. Tyree L., HQ 2WW
3WW — LARAIA, 1st Lt. Kevin M.
AFGWC — HANLINE, Capt. Edward R.
7WW — NEY, 2nd Lt. Richard A., Det. 75, 6WS
7WW — SHARKEY, 1st Lt. Michael J., 6WS/SOWT
(Oct.-Dec.)
9WS — RIES, 1st Lt. Vincent T., 9WS
6WS — NEY, 2nd Lt. Richard A., Det. 75, 6WS
11WS — NETTERVILLE, 1st Lt. Lee S.
26WS — SCHRADER, 1st Lt. Mark L.
28WS — MINER, 1st Lt. Barbara D., Det. 15
31WS — SCHIMMOLLER, 1st Lt. Brian, Det. 2
USAFETAC — ROUSSEAU, 2nd Lt. Marquerite

Senior NCO of the Quarter: (Jan.-March)

2WW — WICKLUND, SMSgt. Gary E., Det. 2, 31WS
HQ 2WW — NELSON, MSgt. David, Det. 13
3WW — KNUDSON, MSgt. Reed A., Det. 4, 11WS
AFGWC — LUCIUS, MSgt. Kenneth E.
7WW — FESSENGER, MSgt. Gordon H., Det. 11, 17WS
5WS — TRIPLETT, MSgt. Neal L., Det. 9
7WS — REYNOLDS, MSgt. Mark, Det. 9, 7WS
9WS — BORDERS, MSgt. Stephen W.
11WS — KNUDSON, MSgt. Reed A.
24WS — DORSEY, MSgt. Billy L.
26WS — TAYLOR, SMSgt. Leslie O.
28WS — HEINEN, MSgt. Penny M., Det. 15
31WS — WICKLUND, SMSgt. Gary, Det. 2

NCO of the Quarter: (Jan.-March)

2WW — HARDING, TSgt. Joy L., Det. 19, 31WS
HQ 2WW — GERRISH, TSgt. John, HQ 2WW
3WW — MENTOLA, TSgt. Udell F., Det. 19, 26WS
AFGWC — ROZICH, SSgt. Teresa M., AFGWC
7WW — DUNLAP, SSgt. Dora A., Det. 1
7WW — LONG, SSgt. Jerry L., 6WS/UAS, Oct.-Dec.
5WS — BULLARD, SSgt. Duane P., Det. 8
6WS — KNOWLES, SSgt. Cory W., SOWT
7WS — FISKE, TSgt. Richard A., Det. 13
9WS — FARIAS, TSgt. Richard M.
11WS — ZEMBA, TSgt. Edward J.
17WS — BARNES, TSgt. Frederick D., Det. 1
17WS — MOLL, TSgt. Michael J., Det. 8, Oct.-Dec.
24WS — FIGULY, SSgt. Robert R.
26WS — MENTOLA, TSgt. Udell F.
28WS — PEARSON, TSgt. Anthony A., Det. 15
31WS — HARDING, TSgt. Joy L., Det. 19, 31WS
USAFETAC — TRYON, SSgt. Heidi

Airman of the Quarter: (Jan.-March)

2WW — PELLETIER, Sr. Raymond L., Det. 8, 7WS
HQ 2WW — WOOD, A1C Robert, Det. 13
3WW — MOHR, A1C Lori F.
AFGWC — PEDERSON, Sgt. Maria M., AFGWC
7WW — JOSEPHSON, Ann. Kevin A., Det. 75, 6WS
7WW — GANT, A1C Cardenas J., Det. 31, 15WS, Oct.-Dec.
7WS — PELLETIER, Sr. Raymond L., Det. 8
(WS — JOHNSON, Sr. David W.
11WS — ROBERTS, Sr. Casey W.
17WS — SELLERS, A1C Joe D., Det. 4
24WS — HARRIS, Sr. Edward L.
26WS — TREADON, Ann. Russell E.
28WS — HEMBROCK, A1C Anton L., Det. 4
31WS — PITTS, A1C Troy A., Det. 11
USAFETAC — MCCORKLE, A1C Dave

Joint Task Force-Bravo (Honduras Soldier of the Quarter)

JTF-B WSE — COGGINS, A1C Mark D.

Civilian of the Quarter: (Jan.-March)

7WW — CREMER, Martha, Det. 10, 15WS
7WW — KNICHEL, Kathy T., Det. 3, 15WS, Oct.-Dec.
6WS — TERRAZAS, Lydia O., Det. 23, 6WS
17WS — KLENKE, Duane, Det. 11

Education:

Air War College

BEAVER, Lt. Col. Thomas F., 3WW
DAVENPORT, Maj. James H., AFGWC

Air Command and Staff College:

SCHMIT, Capt. Gregory D., AFGWC
SCHAEFFER, Capt. James, AFGWC (Corr)

Squadron Officer's School:

BENSMAN, Capt. Edward L., AFGWC
BREIT, Capt. Scott W., 26WS
NELSON, Capt. Kurt A., 6WS/WSC

SNCO Academy:

BEHNKE, SMSgt. John A., AFGWC
CONTARINO, MSgt. John, Det. 3, 7WS (Corr)
GORDON, MSgt. Richard A., Det. 6, 17WS
LUTES, MSgt. James D., Det. 22, 24WS
MINDNICH, SMSgt. Martin E., Det. 75, 6WS
VAN VLEET, MSgt. Kim L., Det. 7, 24WS

NCO Academy:

CARTER, TSgt. Phil R., Det. 4, 11WS
COLEMAN, TSgt. Ronald, USAFETAC
FINK, TSgt. Donald R., Det. 1, 3WS
GUNNING, TSgt. Donald D., Det. 7, 17WS
HARAKAL, TSgt. Joseph L., Det. 7
HARRISON, TSgt. Raymond A., Det. 7, 24WS
LIEDKE, TSgt. Gregg A., Det. 1, 9WS
MENTOLA, TSgt. Udell F., Det. 19, 26WS
TOMLJUNSON, SSgt. Russell, AFGWC (corr)
TRYON, TSgt. Gary, USAFETAC
TURKOVICH, SSgt. Stephen, Det. 26, 7WS

NCO Leadership School:

BANNICK, SSgt. Gary R., Det. 5, 9WS
BRANDON, SSgt. Ronald T., AFGWC
BROWN, Sgt. Michael C., Det. 11, 17WS
CARRILLO, SSgt. Jorge L., Det. 4, 17WS
DAKE, SSgt. Mark K., AFGWC
DOWNS, SSgt. Craig A., Det. 24, 26WS
EVANS, Sgt. Michael D., Det. 15, 25WS
FINCHER, SSgt. David A., Det. 15, 26WS
GARNER, SSgt. Thomas F., Det. 12, 25WS
KIM, Sgt. Chris W., Det. 13, 5WS
LOUMA, Sgt. Ernest J., Det. 4, 11WS
NIELSON, SSgt. James D., AFGWC
RICE, Sgt. Gwindal, 7WW/1M
RILEY, Sgt. Joe, Det. 12, 31WS
ROBERTS, Sgt. Ray, Det. 10, 30WS (Levitow)
SANCHEZ, SSgt. John, Det. 16, 9WS
THOMPSON, Sgt. Frank D., Det. 2, 9WS
VAN SICKLE, SSgt. Michael R., Det. 9, 24WS
VINSON, SSgt. Charles G., Det. 20, 26WS
WILLIAMS, SSgt. Michael E., Det. 10, 7WS

NCO Preparatory Course:

BOUSER, A1C Sharia L., Det. 3, 9WS
BUSTANY, Sr. Brady M., Det. 12, 7WS (Levitow)
CROWN, Sr. Terrance E., 7WW/DOX
DROWN, A1C Daniel J., Det. 17, 9WS
EDWARDS, Sr. Marvin E. Jr., Det. 14, 5WS
EVANS, Sr. Charles M., Det. 3, 3WS
FORD, Sr. Joseph R., AFGWC
GATTO, A1C Tonya R., Det. 15, 25WS
HILTON, A1C Diana R., AFGWC
HOFFMAN, Sr. David A., Det. 12, 5WS (Levitow)
JOHNSON, Sr. Keith A., Det. 19, 26WS
KEITH, A1C Clark B., 7WW/WL
LIPPERT, Sr. Brett L., Det. 4, 11WS
LOGSDON, A1C Holly A., Det. 14, 26WS
MITCHELL, Sr. Jeffrey, 7WW/WL (Levitow)
NAVARRO, Sr. Nicholas H., Det. 11, 24WS
OLIVEIRA, Sr. Jason A.S., AFGWC
NYE-BRINLEY, Sr. Susan D., Det. 6, 17WS
ROBERTSON, Sr. Melinda, Det. 20, 31WS
SCHAFER, Sr. Randall S., Det. 1, 11WS
SMITH, Sr. Terrence B., AFGWC
SPRAGUE, Sr. Raymond, USAFETAC
TATE, Sr. Patricia A., Det. 5, 7WS
TEFFT, Sr. John S., Det. 4, 28WS
WEST, Sr. Chester R. II, AFGWC
WORDEN, Sr. Barbara J., Det. 11, 9WS

Weather Technician Course:

Weather Station Operations Course:

DAVIDSON, TSgt. Robert A., Det. 31, 15WS
RIDLEY, TSgt. John C., Det. 31, 15WS

GMD-5 Rawinsonde Course:

ROGERS, Ann. Clifton L., 6WS/UAS

Master's Degree to:

BARTON, SMSgt. Marsha B., Det. 4, 28WS
ESTRADA, MSgt. Bayardo R., HQ 7WW/DOOT
GRIFFITHS, Maj. David N., Det. 7, 24WS
MACPHAIL, Maj. Thomas R., HQ 7WW/WL
SENTELLE, Capt. Gary, AFGWC
SPENCER, Mr. Shawn L., AFGWC</

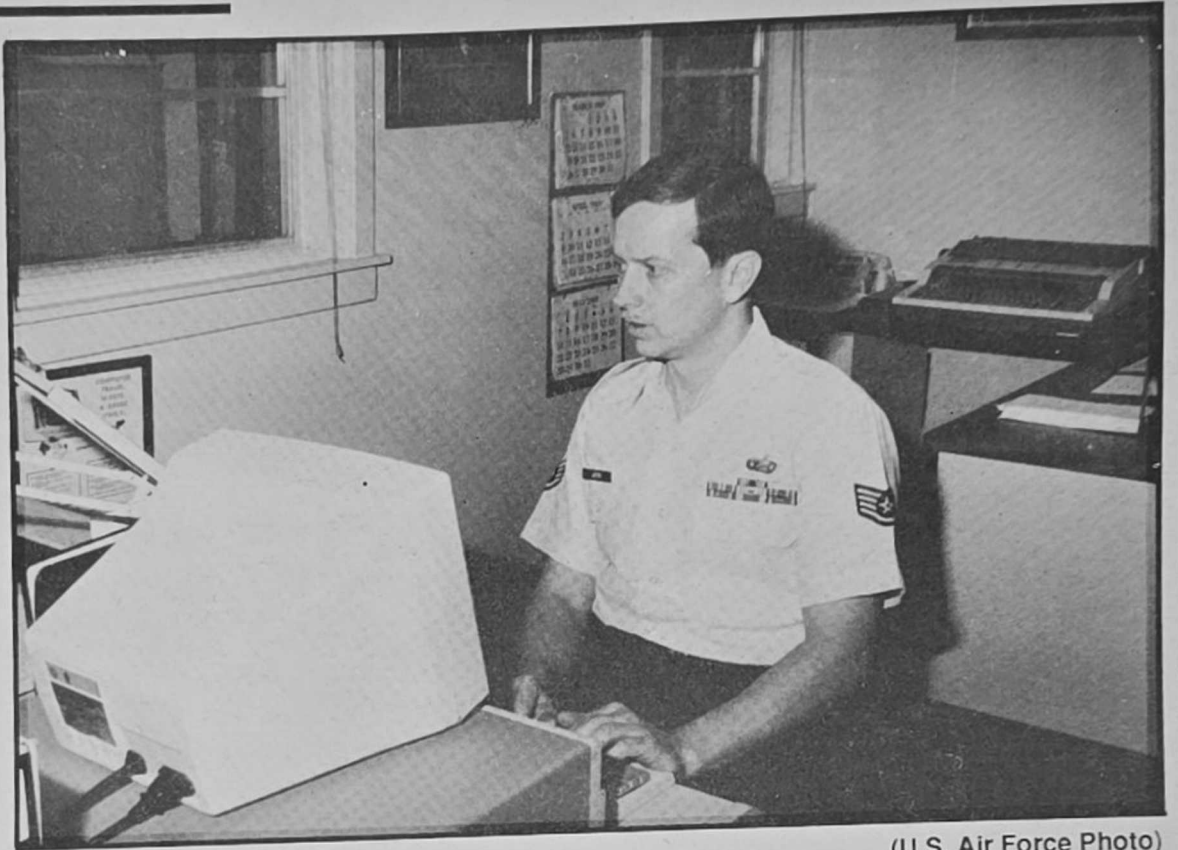
Spotlight on Performers

Who: SSgt. Charles D. Jacobs, noncommissioned officer in charge of administration.

What: Identified in a laudatory finding as an outstanding performer by the Headquarters Military Airlift Command Inspector General during a recent Unit Effectiveness Inspection.

Where: Det. 2, 24th Weather Squadron, Columbus AFB, Miss.

How and Why: SSgt. Jacobs is a dedicated, extremely knowledgeable administrative specialist who provided outstanding support to his unit. His publications review and INTRO procedures were particularly noteworthy. He reviewed all publications bulletins for changes to applicable regulations, circulated them through the detachment's operating procedures monitors, and monitored completion by a suspense log. **Result:** Key staff members were always aware of significant changes to applicable regulations and written procedures were constantly up to date. His INTRO program was superb as documented by questionnaires distributed to new unit members by the base INTRO manager. He used a log to ensure timely completion of sponsor actions, developed superior checklists, and provided warm, personal sample letters to help sponsors welcome new members into the unit. Congratulations from HQ AWS!



(U.S. Air Force Photo)

SSgt. Charles D. Jacobs
administrative specialist
Det. 2, 24th Weather Squadron

Salutes cont'd

Bachelor's Degree to:

KISSEL, SSgt. Kevin M., AFGWC

Associate Degree from CCAF to:

AZAM, Sgt. Abubaker E., Det. 11, 24WS
BRIDGES, TSgt. Thomas R., 3WW
CAIN, TSgt. Michael J., AFGWC
DE ROJAS, SSgt. Fernando A., Det. 10, 5WS
HILSDORF, SSgt. David M., AFGWC
HOPKINS, SSgt. Bradley N., Det. 15, 26WS
HOPKINS, SSgt. Keith I., AFGWC
KNUDSON, MSgt. Reed A., Det. 4, 11WS
O'BRIEN, SSgt. Scott M., Det. 2, 17WS
PITULA, SSgt. Kimerly A., AFGWC
ROTHBAUER, TSgt. Patrick J., AFGWC
VANDEMARK, MSgt. James R., Det. 7, 17WS
WESSENDORF, SSgt. Jay G., Det. 14, 26WS
WONDERS, TSgt. Robert J., Det. 9, 24WS
YEAZELL, Sgt. Christopher D., AFGWC

Reenlistments

ALEXANDER, SSgt. Robert J., Det. 8, 26WS
ALI, SSgt. Jeffery S., Det. 7, 3WS
CALDWELL, TSgt. Ronnie P., Det. 2, 9WS
CLEMENTS, SSgt. Gregory W., AFGWC
DERKS, TSgt. Michael, Det. 24, 26WS
DELAOSSA, MSgt. Mariano Jr., Det. 7, 20WS
DINGLE, Mae Michelle, Det. 2, HQ AWS
EASLEY, Sgt. Robert M., Det. 1, 11WS
FERGUSON, TSgt. Eric III, Det. 15, 28WS
FERGUSON, MSgt. Paul T., Det. 8, 20WS
GRANAHAN, Sgt. Gerald D., Det. 15, 15WS
HARRIS, TSgt. Darryl E. Sr., Det. 26, 26WS
HEINEN, MSgt. Penny M., Det. 15, 28WS
HERBERLINE, SSgt. William G. Jr., Det. 28, 26WS
HILL, SSgt. Steven G., Det. 14, 5WS
HULL, Sr. Rodney J., Det. 21, 5WS
GRELL, TSgt. Stanley G., AFGWC
JOHNSON, Sr. David W., Det. 2, 9WS
KLAUS, MSgt. D. "Jake" Jacoby, Det. 7, AFGWC

KOLODZYK, MSgt. James P., Det. 28, 26WS
KRAETSCH, Sgt. Robert C., Det. 5, 9WS
LOFTON, TSgt. Eugene, Det. 1, 3WS
MACK, TSgt. David C., Det. 4, 20WS
MARSICEK, Sr. A. Mike, Det. 12, 31WS
MARLING, SSgt. James, Det. 2, 11WS
MCCRADY, Sgt. Carol L., Det. 13, 25WS
MIKISKA, SSgt. Stephen J., Det. 4, 17WS
MIZELL, Sr. A. Stephen A., Det. 3, 5WS
MOORE, TSgt. Michael A., Det. 23, 6WS
MURDERS, TSgt. Robert W., Det. 12, 24WS
PLATT, CMSgt. Robert W., 6WS/DOO
PRUITT, SSgt. Anita, Det. 6, 26WS
RIVIERA, SSgt. David, AFGWC
SCHIEB, SMSgt. William M., Det. 23, 6WS
SHERIN, SSgt. Willie C., Det. 7, 3WS
SINIFF, Charles B. Jr., OL-A, Det. 6, 4WW
STEVENS, TSgt. Kari H., Det. 23, 3WS
STRUNK, MSgt. George K., Det. 2, 3WS
STUMPH, SSgt. John, Det. 12, 31WS
TESORI, TSgt. Anthony J., Det. 6, 17WS
WATSON, MSgt. Michael T., AFGWC
WIEAND, TSgt. Michael J., Det. 12, 5WS
WILLIAMS, SSgt. Donovan N., AFGWC
ZALESKI, Sgt. Anthony J., Det. 2, 17WS

Retirements

BLUFF, Maj. Ronald, HQ 2WW
BREITENBACH, Maj. Peter N., HQ 2WW
BROWN, TSgt. James W., AFGWC
BURROUGHS, SMSgt. Carl L., Det. 29, 17WS
CLARK, Lt. Col. Kenneth E. II, AFGWC
DIERCKS, Col. John W., AFGWC
JOHNSON, Lt. Col. Dale L., AFGWC
MARSTON, Maj. Edwin W., HQ 5WS
POUDRIER, MSgt. John R., Det. 1, 11WS
SAVAGE, Lt. Col. Stephen J., HQ 5WW
SETTJE, SMSgt. Randolph C., Det. 1, 9WS
SMITH, SMSgt. James H., Det. 2, 11WS
SNYDER, TSgt. Julian, AFGWC
TRAPNELL, Maj. Robert N., AFGWC
WATSON, SMSgt. Constance L., AFGWC

Read CHAMPUS policy fine print

AURORA, Colo. (AFNS) -- Do you have a CHAMPUS supplemental insurance policy?

If not, maybe you should consider one.

Insurance that supplements the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services is available from many military associations and other private firms, CHAMPUS officials point out.

Such policies can provide a big assist at times when even CHAMPUS cost-sharing may leave sizable sums for you to pay as your share of the total medical bill.

But, if you do buy a CHAMPUS supplemental policy, read the fine print. Find out if the policy pays all or only part of the sum left after CHAMPUS has paid its share of your civilian health care costs.

There are CHAMPUS supplements that do pay all of the remaining costs of your care after CHAMPUS has paid. Other CHAMPUS supplements don't.

Here's an example of the type of problem some holders of supplemental policies have run into:

You are a military retiree who just spent 20 days in a civilian hospital. While in the hospital, you ran up a \$10,000 bill for CHAMPUS-covered inpatient hospital services.

Before the CHAMPUS diagnosis-related group, or DRG, payment system went into effect, CHAMPUS used to pay its share of the costs as the hospital billed them. This means that, for all CHAMPUS-eligible persons except active-duty families, CHAMPUS would have paid 75 percent of the \$10,000 hospital bill, or a total of \$7,500. That would have left you, the patient, with a cost-share of \$2,500 to pay. And, if you had a CHAMPUS supplemental policy, it would have picked up most or all of that amount for you.

But under the DRG payment system, which presets rates for in-patient CHAMPUS-covered services, CHAMPUS would pay only its share of the amount specified by the DRG rules as reasonable, or "allowable," for the type of care you received. In this example, the DRG system allowed a \$4,000 amount for the care, even though the hospital gave you care it valued at \$10,000.

The DRG payment rules say that your share of the cost can't be more than 25 percent of the billed charges, or a maximum of \$210 per day, whichever is less, and that costs can't exceed the DRG-allowed amount. Since \$210 per day multiplied by the 20 days you spent in the hospital is \$4,200, and since 25 percent of the \$10,000 that the hospital billed is \$2,500, your cost-share can't be any more than \$2,500 in this case.

But here's the rub: Some CHAMPUS supplemental policies are worded so that they agree to pay your 25 percent of the allowable charges for the hospital costs. In our example, under the DRG payment rules, the allowable charge is \$4,000, so the 25 percent to be paid by the supplemental policy only comes to \$1,000. That could leave you on the hook for the rest of the \$3,000.

What it all means is that if you decide to buy a CHAMPUS supplemental insurance policy from one of the many organizations that offer them, you should read the whole policy carefully. If you don't fully understand parts of the policy, ask questions. Be certain that you know what the policy covers and how much of your medical bills it covers after CHAMPUS has paid its share.

Active-duty dependents will continue to pay \$8.05 for each hospital day or \$25 for each admission, whichever is greater.

Submissions to Salutes

OLs, detachments and squadrons submitting inputs to this Salutes column must do so through their chain of command for information and consolidation purposes. Wing public affairs representatives will consolidate these inputs by alphabet and in the format presented in this column. Wing/PAs then forward their consolidated Salute submissions by the 10th of each month to HQ AWS/PA. For more information, contact MSgt. Dave Black at HQ AWS/PA, at ATOVON 576-2065.

AWS NCO wins 2nd in Armed Forces bowling championship

A forecaster assigned to Det. 2, 24th Weather Squadron, Columbus AFB, Miss., did what no one else has done there in 20 years — he bowled his way to second place in the Armed Forces bowling championship.

During the competition held April 25-27 at Little Creek, Va., Brian Campbell not only finished second place in the men's single division with a total of 1,270 pins, but he placed 10th overall with 3,536 points — just 67 points shy of qualification for the Armed Forces team. The Armed Forces team represents the military at the American Bowling Congress Master's tournament.

"This is the first time I've made it to the Air Training Command (ATC) level, so I thought I did pretty good," Campbell said.

The weather forecaster competed for a spot on the

base team last year, but missed out by seven pins. That competition convinced him to change his game. "I was averaging about 183, but not getting any better," said Campbell. "I started accentuating my slide at the line, which improved both my accuracy and power. I'm now averaging 192."

Campbell advanced to the Armed Forces tournament by first earning spots on the base, command and Air Force teams.

Millie Young, base bowling center director, said several base bowlers have made it to the Air Force level before, "but Brian is the first one in 21 years to make it to the interservice level."

Campbell bowls about 30 games per week and participates in weekend tournaments when possible. He said bowling on different lanes may have helped him advance to the Armed Forces level.

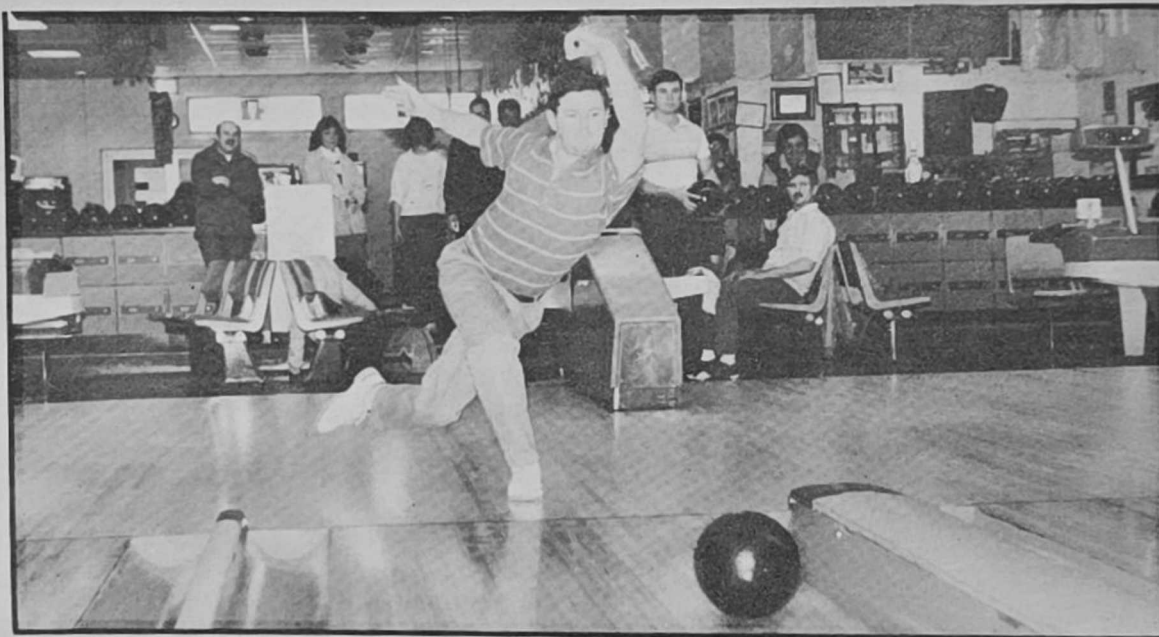
"The lanes are different everywhere you go, so the more tournaments you participate in, the better you become at adjusting to them."

Unfortunately, Campbell was not able to adjust to some of the lanes at Amphib NAS where the

Armed Forces bowling competition was held. During the men's doubles competition on the second day of play, he bowled a 990 which put him in 19th place overall.

Fortunately, Campbell was able to bounce back the last day for the singles competition to finish in

10th place. Campbell plans to resume his 30 games per week schedule, however, to get ready for the "Super Hoinke Classics" in Cincinnati, Ohio, in November. Although the competition is for amateur bowlers, it carries an incentive of \$90,000 for first prize.



Brian Campbell shows off his winning form which earned him places on the base, command, and Air Force bowling teams. (U.S. Air Force photo by Sgt. Scott Lindvall)

Fourth of July Message from the President

This Fourth of July, Barbara and I send a special message of greetings and gratitude to our men and women in uniform around the globe.

Exactly 213 years ago this week, General George Washington asked his troops to do more than merely fight for political independence; he urged them to show the whole world that "a free man, contending for liberty," is "superior to every slavish mercenary on earth." Those early American fighting men did show it, at Valley Forge, at Yorktown, and on every battlefield during the Revolutionary War. The world took notice then and it has remembered ever since.

Today, as Americans celebrate the proud heritage made possible by those patriots, we reflect with gratitude upon the continuing sacrifices of our military personnel—sacrifices that include separation from loved ones, long days of service at sea, or standing watch in a foreign land. The liberty we hail today, you defend every day. The rights we enjoy as Americans, we could not enjoy were it not for you who willingly bear the sword to assure peace.

On the 213th birthday of our country—so blessed with peace and freedom—I urge all Americans to join me in expressing our gratitude, publicly and joyfully, to you, the guardians of our Independence, the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Happy Fourth of July!

George Bush
George Bush
President

Fourth of July Message from the Secretary of Defense

Independence Day 1989 finds the United States at peace. It hasn't always been that way, of course.

On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was announced to a country already at war. It gave meaning and direction to the glorious struggle in which the 13 colonies were already embroiled.

Since that first Independence Day, the United States has had many "birthday" celebrations, many of them muted by war.

On July 4, 1863, a bitterly divided country waited for the results of the two Civil War campaigns at Gettysburg and Vicksburg.

The Glorious Fourth in 1918 saw American doughboys in France preparing to storm the World War I trenches on the Western Front.

July 4, 1944, found those doughboys' sons also in France, getting ready for a breakout from the Normandy beachhead of World War II.

On July 4, 1950, Americans were entering battle on the Korean peninsula, and on several July 4ths, from the mid-60's through the early 70's, Americans were patrolling, fighting, and dying in Vietnam.

July 4, 1989, finds our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines standing guard around the world. Just as surely as those who have gone before you, you are protecting our interests, our values, and our precious heritage and independence.

As we watch the fireworks and enjoy this Independence Day with our families or friends, we would do well to remember all of the sacrifices that made our freedoms possible. The dedication that you display today is the same dedication that has sustained our nation in freedom for 213 years.

Richard B. Cheney
Richard B. Cheney
Secretary of Defense

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