



YOUR MAGAZINE FOR AIR FORCE WEATHER

OBSERVER

Nov/Dec 02

TAWS "On Target"

**Exercise TALON
STRIKE '02**

**Bagram Weather
Team
"Up to Challenge"**

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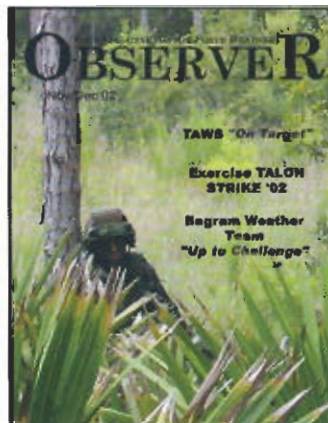
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On the Cover:

A Weather apprentice in training participates in a land navigation exercise at the ANG's Weather Readiness Training Center, Camp Blanding, Fla. The WRTC's mission is to provide additional field training to ANG weather specialists to ensure they are capable of providing high quality mission execution weather support to the Air Force or Army warfighter, anywhere, at anytime.



OBSERVER

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Army of One, Weather for All

By Leandro Delgado
AFWA Product Tailoring and
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High Mobility Multi-Purpose Wheeled Vehicles roll through the desert.



A typical setup for the HMMWV mounted Integrated Meteorological System.

Air Force Weather specialists around the world support Army missions using IMETS. The Integrated Meteorological System program provides tailored environmental products to Army decision makers through Combat Weather Teams supporting the U.S. Army mission. The primary IMETS component is the Weather Effects Workstation. This, along with the New-Tactical Forecast System workstation, the Small Tactical Terminal, and the Tactical Very Small Aperture Terminal, provide complete CWT support system.

The IMETS receives Air Force provided weather data, then processes products for distribution to users. The WEW hosts Army developed software including the Battle Scale Forecast Model and the Integrated Weather Effects Decision Aid, which generate and provide Army specific operational analyses to Army operators.

IMETS comes in three configurations: mounted in a Standard Integrated Command Post shelter; transported on a High Mobility Multi-Purpose Wheeled Vehicle; and a desktop configuration for use at Echelon Above Corps in a command center environment. Thirty-five IMETS mounted systems are fielded and are being standardized to the Block II configuration.

The IMETS "Light" version is man portable and includes a minimum capability of power, tactical communications, SIT, WEW and T-VSAT. The "Light" systems fielding to specified units started in FY02.

Meteorological models used by IMETS are generated at the Air Force Weather Agency or Operational Weather Squadrons. This model data, along with other standard meteorological information from AFWA and Army sources, is transmitted to IMETS via T-VSAT — where the footprint of the satellite provides coverage. The WEW continues to host IWEDA and required Army communications interfaces and the current METSAT receivers will be replaced by the JMIST approach to satellite data distribution.

IMETS is an Army funded program, but it relies on delivery of TVSAT and SIT to Air Force CWTs supporting Army units. The primary communications system for meteorological data to IMETS is the T-VSAT. **T**

XOW Perspective:

AFW In Sync with Army Transformation

By Brig. Gen. David L. Johnson
Air Force Director of Weather

“United States Air Forces will be responsible for maintenance of meteorological service for operation of the Air Forces and provision of meteorological service for the Army, except Army meteorological ballistics data which will remain in the Army.” This short paragraph was part of the agreements called Functions of the Armed Forces and the Joint Chiefs of Staff issued April 21, 1948, which supported the National Security Act of 1947 and is ultimately what is responsible for support provided to the Army by Air Force Weather.

Now that Operational Weather Squadrons have reached their full operational capabilities worldwide, it is time to scrutinize the support we provide from top to bottom. We must ensure we continue building on the momentum reengineering created in order to provide weather support second to none. We have always focused on improving support to Air Force and Army warfighters, operators and trainers, and reducing workload/working smart wherever possible. However, as you no doubt recognize, the world, and operator’s requirements are changing at an ever-increasing pace.

Army leadership recognizes that the fundamental differences in the

threats we face today and will face tomorrow require us to be more strategically responsive than in the past. Therefore, Army Transformation addresses this requirement by

enhancing readiness, deployability, agility, versatility, lethality, survivability and sustainability. The Army’s Objective Force focuses on dominating the full spectrum of land force operations and AFW must be more flexible and creative in providing the necessary support. Army and Air Force commanders require timely, accurate, and precise data where decisions are being made. Army Transformation requires seamless integration of weather information into the planning and execution processes of operations at all echelons.

AFW is poised to support the Army much better since reengineering allows combat weather teams to make fundamental changes in the way operators get support. OWSs now have an operational area focus; are able to work more closely with warfighters, understand their missions, weapon systems and tactical operations tailoring weather support. Together the Army and AFW will leverage the capabilities and tools of AFWA and the appropriate regional OWS to provide high quality, timely and relevant weather information thereby streamlining the CWT functions of today.

Re-engineering has been both an Air Force and Army effort as we worked together to synchronize Army modernization and AFW reengineering programs, concepts and proce-



dures. These concepts provide the foundation to support Army Transformation and the Objective Force. Both the Army and Air Force are focusing on light and lean forward – both services are organizing, training, and equipping the force to that end.

This edition of the *Observer* brings you several articles on Army weather support; from happenings at headquarters staffs to CWTs in the field. These Army-related articles provide greater insights into how we are all, Army and Air Force, working together to achieve the AFW vision in support of Army and Air Force missions. ✎

Army Perspective:

The Knowledge Edge

Weather support...In step with Army Transformation

By Lt. Gen. Robert W. Noonan Jr.
Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2

Throughout my career I have continually been impressed by the selflessness, dedication and professionalism of the Air Force men and women supporting U.S. Army operations. Air Force Weather personnel play a critical role in bringing the full combat power capabilities of both the Air Force and the Army to bear. AFW people around the globe ensure our military can apply the right tools for the right jobs at the right time and in the right manner so our nation achieves its national and military objectives.

Our military's combat power depends on much more than just its troops and weapon systems. It requires the full integration of communications, intelligence and other types of combat support and combat service support. These factors can be decisive since commanders can effectively manipulate and control many of them to achieve tactical surprise and advantage. However, weather is a factor over which commanders have little control. With advanced forecasting techniques and the application of weather effects decision aids, understanding the weather could provide a significant advantage when conducting military operations.

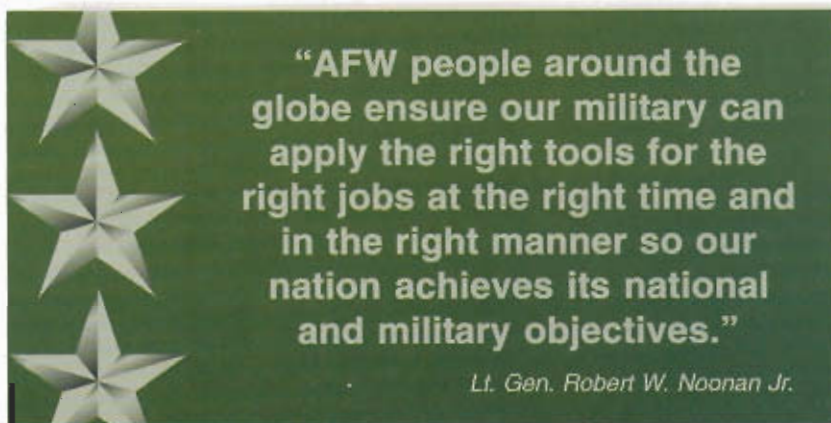
Many battles throughout history have been won, or lost, due to weather's impacts. Some examples include the Spanish Armada, Operation Overlord, the Battle of Trenton, the Battle of Stalingrad, the Battle of the Bulge and both Napoleon's and Hitler's attempts to take Moscow. Though commanders may not have been able to control the weather, they certainly could have taken

advantage of it, or minimized its effects, through knowledge of the environment and appropriate planning.

On tomorrow's battlefields, commanders will require even greater levels of knowledge to shape their environment. This will allow the fight to be executed on favorable terms at a time and place of our choosing. Information Superiority and Decision Dominance are critical enablers of this vision and Army Intelligence will provide the



required level of knowledge. The vision of Army Intelligence for the "Objective Force" Army is a transformed Army Intelligence team projecting knowledge at the point of decision and empowering the Objective Force to ... See First ... Understand First ... Act First ... and Finish Decisively! The Army Intelligence



Vision parallels and complements the Army Vision, while establishing a bold, aggressive requirement for transformation in order to support the Objective Force.

Military commanders have always wanted to base their decisions on near-perfect knowledge, but rarely has such knowledge been immediately available forward at the point of decision. In the past, the lack of perfect knowledge was compensated by using mass, technology, sufficient armor to survive engagements and detailed knowledge of our opponents' operational and tactical patterns. The transcendent contemporary need for speed of action, rapid deployability and full spectrum dominance mandates a transformed Army that stakes its success on dominant understanding of the battlespace, gained through dominant knowledge. Timely and accurate information about weather effects on operations is integral to the ability of the Army's Objective Force to achieve this dominant knowledge.

See Army, next page

Army Transformation “In Action”

Maj. Bruce Lambert

Chief, Total Force/Army Policy

At some point most Air Force Weather specialists supporting the Army will wonder if anyone in the AFW decision-making positions even thinks about them. The questions arise...*Have they ever been to the field with the Army before? Don't they know that this new piece of equipment is too big or not tactical enough for the Army? Don't they know the Army is changing the way they operate?*

Coordination between AFW and the Army has fluctuated over the years. Many years ago we had more people assigned to Army centers and schools and they worked with Army civilian weather staff members. Over time, the number of weather personnel at these locations diminished for both services so that we have AFW SWOs at only three TRADOC locations and the only Army civilian weather personnel are at HQ Department of the Army.

In the fall of 2000, AF/XOWP hosted an Army Weather Support Synchronization meeting, with staff members from Air Force and Army



meteorology, who are working on formalizing the coordination between the two services and syncing Air Force and Army reengineering. Senior-level leadership was involved

to oversee better coordination between the services. Topics varied from doctrinal support to IMETS and a number of other areas in between.

Synchronized, Army Transformation and AFW Reengineering efforts provide the opportunity to give more accurate, timely, and relevant weather support to Army operators while at the same time allowing a reduction of manpower and equipment on the battlefield. In order to facilitate the required synchronization, AFW developed a synchronization council of Army and Air Force colonels. A General Officer Steering Group was also formed to provide the oversight and planning/programming direction needed to ensure success. The memorandum of understanding that formed these two groups was signed in February 2001.

The GOSG provides the decisions and oversight required to ensure

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The OF will use digital, observed and forecast weather data fields to create visualizations of the effects weather has on Army weapons and operations. Timely use of digital weather data will enhance command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities. Weather data fields will be the data source to perform the weather analysis functions in the electronic Intelligence Preparation of the Battlefield. These fast reacting weather support capabilities will increase situational awareness of the battlespace and enable maximum use of the ISR systems by avoiding potential weather limitations or adjusting the mix of intelligence collection assets.

Digital weather will be another key information source networked to critical planning nodes to ensure smart munitions are employed at locations where potential

weather limitations are minimized and probability of kill is maximized. A wide range of sensors and shooters will depend on accurate forecasts and fast-flowing knowledge of the current weather conditions of the battlespace to anticipate threat system limitations and exploit our friendly systems superior high-tech advantages during adverse weather. Combat Weather Teams will continue to play a pivotal role in enhancing the success of warfighters who will employ a wide-array of sensors and systems that are sensitive to weather conditions.

The work you do will continue to directly support the Army's goal to further develop an interoperable, joint C4ISR architecture tailorable to the joint operational picture. Teaming with Army personnel, you will enable us to take advantage of the best ideas and programs from our services and enable us to provide the nation with combat power second to none. ♣

This beats sitting behind a desk any day!

By
Senior Airman Jamie Hardin
25th ASOS Weather Flight

Wheeler AAF in Hawaii isn't my first duty station. I came from an Air Education & Training Command base where I used to be an observer. I was just doing the same job day in and day out. After about two years in the service I received a RIP for Wheeler Army Air Field in Hawaii. All I thought was "Cool, Hawaii!" I didn't know at the time it was an Army assignment. Later that year I packed my bags and said, "Aloha, Hawaii".

Wheeler AAF is very different from my last base. I am not accustomed to the outdoors; a major portion of this assignment is conducted outdoors and it involves a lot of hard work. Not only do you have to be a top-notch weather technician, you also have to learn about numerous pieces of high tech, tactical equipment. You have to know who's who in the Army and you have to do physical training. It took me a long time to adapt to Army support. At Wheeler, we support the 25th Infantry Division (Light). They deploy all over the world to perform combat operations as part of a Corps counterattack.

I haven't been to the field much but every time I have, it has turned out to be an interesting experience. Let me tell you about my most recent trip. A team of five people loaded up the HMMWV and headed out to Bellows AFS for a three-day internal



training mission. We were to conduct complete field operations using the Integrated Meteorological System at the military training range.

The IMETS is a system designed to produce, display, and disseminate tailored mission weather forecasts, warnings, and decision aids for battlefield operations. The IMETS is the meteorological component of the Intelligence Electronic Warfare element for the Army Battle Command System. It has computers that receive and process weather information from a variety of military and civilian sources, and disseminates forecasts/warnings and decision aids to other battlefield functional areas. The IMETS's modular design allows for Air Force weather systems/components to be added into the Commander's decision-making process.

Everything was going smoothly on the first morning. We set-up all of our equipment with no problem, but when mid-morning hit, a lot of locals

began camping out around us. We failed to realize that day was a state holiday. It was like camping out in Central Park. We tried to stay focused with our training objectives,

though. We were all in a pretty good mood and patting ourselves on the back about how well our set-up went. I guess we shouldn't have praised ourselves too soon because our generator broke down. This wasn't a good thing. It's probably one of the worst things that could have happened to a group in the field. Luckily we were able to overcome this hardship by using the IMETS onboard battery power to provide electricity for the most vital equipment, not hampering mission success. Toward the end of the day, all the civilians headed back home.

The next morning we awoke to the sounds of an Army unit setting up right next to us. It was the 68th Medical Evacuation Company, a 45th Corps Support Group air-ambulance unit stationed at Wheeler. They provide medical evacuation support for 25th Infantry Division. Although we support them, we were unaware of their scheduled joint training mission. They were performing rescue missions with the Honolulu Fire Department, lifeguards, and the Coast Guard.

See Hawaii, next page

Hawaii, continued from previous page

The Aviation Brigade Commander stopped by to check out our IMETS - he was quite impressed. So impressed that he asked if we would join the 68th in their semi-annual training mission - over-water rescue-hoist training events with safety officers, rescue teams and emergency medical personnel from the local fire department, the state's Ocean Safety Division and the U.S. Coast Guard. Our part would include briefing the pilots and participating in their training scenarios. We accepted his offer and decided to stay an extra day.

I am always up for any type of adventure, so I grabbed a life vest, jumped on the back of a jet ski, and headed out to sea. The lifeguard dumped me 500 feet away from shore and returned to land. Suddenly above my head, a Black Hawk helicopter appeared. A MedEvac rescue diver was being hoisted down a 100-foot cable. He attached me to the cable and away we went. The view from above was breathtaking, and the first thought that crossed my mind was,

"This beats sitting behind a desk any day!" After participating in the exercise we resumed our training. The MedEvac was always ready to lend a hand - they even invited us to their bonfires. This camaraderie inspired me to write this article.

Later that evening, an underground fire was discovered across the street from where we were set-up. The men and women of the 68th didn't skip a beat. They jumped into action and began finding shovels, water cans and fire extinguishers to put out the fire. The roots of trees, in a densely forested area, were ablaze. If they had not reacted so quickly, the fire could have spread and endangered lives. Once the fire was out, it dawned on me that these people risk their lives every day to protect human lives whether those lives are military or civilian. I was proud to be a part of their team.

I would have never expected that the next day could top the one I just experienced, but it did. This time I got to jump out of a helicopter from 15 feet above the ocean surface. I was then hoisted, with a rescue diver, into

a helicopter hovering 100 feet above us. After this, we loaded our gear in the HUMWV and were ready to roll. The 68th MedEvac Commander personally invited the five of us to come back again for the next joint training exercise. We headed back to Wheeler, left with the answer to the question: "How does an internal training exercise turn into something greater?"

We went to Bellows AFS and met our training objectives and more. We supported a multi-agency training mission on the fly, and had fun at the same time. I love Army support! You get to interact with people from another service you probably would have never met otherwise, and there is always something to do. Even though we work with the Army on a regular basis, we don't usually get to know them on a personal level. They really are great people. So if you are up for a little adventure, want to see a different side of weather, and like to stay busy, give Army support a try! We work hard, and we play hard. In Army support, each day brings a new adventure! ♪

4-Star appeal

Gen. John Handy, commander, USTRANSCOM and AMC, poses with Lt. Col. Lou Zuccarello and Staff Sgt. Charles Andrews, 15th Operational Weather Squadron, in front the Air Force Weather display at the 34th Annual Airlift/Tanker Association Convention in Nashville, Tenn.

Gen. Handy was one of the more than 2,900 attendees to the three day event featuring vendor displays, seminars, and guest speakers. The event culminated with Gen. John Jumper, Air Force Chief of Staff, addressing the attendees.



Photo by AFWA Public Affairs

Reengineering Pays Dividends In Alaska

By Capt. Mel Grove
3rd ASOS Weather Flight

Just as the Alaska's Permanent Fund pays dividends to its state residents, the weather reengineering for the U.S. military operating in Alaska's extreme weather and terrain conditions continues to pay dividends. Everyday, weather technicians are called upon to make critical decisions on weather conditions for remote mountain passage, high altitude mountain rescues for injured climbers, target acquisition and mission planning for joint forces combined arms exercises. Under reengineering, the weather specialist is able to fully integrate into the customer's mission planning and execution and this year's joint forces exercise, ARCTIC BLAST 2001 was no exception.

There's an old cliché among the residents of Alaska, *if you don't like the weather wait an hour, it'll change, sometimes for the better, and sometimes for the worse!* The two week long ARCTIC BLAST 2001 looked like it was going to be an easy exercise for America's arctic warriors with unseasonably warm weather conditions prior to the start of the exercise. Temperatures were averaging 5 – 10 degrees Fahrenheit above normal throughout the months leading up to the exercise, however when the exercise started the temperatures dropped below normal to -30 F as a large air-mass of cold arctic air pushed south over the interior of Alaska. Next came severe winds over parts of the area of operations, gusting as high as

40 knots as the warmer Pacific maritime air-mass began to push north against the arctic air-mass.

When Mother Nature throws these types of curve balls, you better have a plan. This is where reengineering has paid dividends by allowing the weather specialists to integrate with the customer and adjust mission plans according to the pitch that's thrown.

During AB01, exercise timelines were adjusted, fixed wing extractions changed to rotary wing extractions, and "go/no-go" missions executed based off the weather technician's "weather call." It was the team effort of 1st. Wainwright's 3d Air Support Operations Squadron Combat Weather Team, Elmendorf AFB's 11th Operational Weather Squadron and 3rd Operations Support Squadron CWT, and Eielson AFB's 354th Operations Support Squadron CWT that tailored the "weather call" to meet the customer's mission requirements.

"I was so involved and versed on the Battalion's mission, I was informing other aviators on the plan," said Staff Sgt. Duane Bruce, 4th Battalion, 123rd Aviation Regiment planning cell. Reengineering has put the forecaster into the heart of the planning process and reach back weather support was in place where it had never been before! Can you say HOOAA? ♪



Above, Senior Airman John Snodgrass uses the TMQ-34 to gather weather condition during Alaska's premier Arctic Exercise ARCTIC BLAST 01.

Left, When the temperature is -20F and winds are gusting over 30Kts, wind chill temperature can reach -80F. To prevent frostbite and get out of the cold, Tech. Sgt. Wallace Tumblin innovatively mounts the TMQ-34 on the HMMWV and relays wind conditions to pilots for takeoff.



Tricky Weather no match for Bagram team

By Lisa Burgess

Stars and Stripes European Edition

Troops deployed to Afghanistan for the war on terrorism can expect a white Christmas.

But if the Bagram AB, Afghanistan, weather team is right, the snow won't create many problems during the upcoming winter, unless the troops head for the mountains.

Afghanistan's mountains, deserts and complex wind patterns can make weather forecasting a daunting job.

"This is a very difficult and challenging region to forecast," said Maj. Pete Clement, head of the Bagram weather team. Clement is in charge of the 18th Weather Squadron's Joint Meteorologic and Oceanographic Office, Fort Bragg, N.C.

But the Combat Weather Team, which includes five other weather specialists, rises to the challenge, particularly with a new season approaching.

The good news about winter is that the troops can expect Bagram to be much less windy than it is during the summer. And while temperatures will be cold, they won't be bitter – January's minimum temperatures rarely dip below 27 degrees, said Clement.

Snowfall also will be minimal. Snow could start falling as early as mid-November, but the monthly average is only about four-tenths of an inch. The average January snowfall is between 5 and 8 inches, added Clement.

The Bagram CWT, Bahrain weather specialists, 28th Operational Weather Squadron, Shaw AFB, S.C., and HQ Air Force Weather Agency, Offutt AFB, Neb., are responsible for delivering five-day weather forecasts for 11 different locations throughout Afghanistan, according to team member Master Sgt. Mark Adams.

Forecasts include temperature highs and lows, wind and precipitation. Twice a day, at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., the whole team climbs the steep stairs to the top of Bagram's air traffic control tower.

There, in a small but clean room, stacked with computers and monitors, and an old copy of "The Farmer's Almanac," where the weather technicians discuss weather



Photo by Lisa Burgess

Air Force weather technicians Staff Sgt. Jayson Wilson, left, and Master Sgt. Mark Adams, adjust a satellite dish on the roof of the Bagram AB control tower in Afghanistan.

patterns during the last 12 hours with the 28th OWS, and what might come up in the next 12.

Normally, Adams is flight chief for the 18th WS's Operating Location "Charlie," at Fort Knox, Ky.

Before coming to Bagram, Adams frequently communicated with his boss, Clement, over the telephone and e-mail, but had never actually met him. Now the two work side by side.

Adams, a native of Elizabethtown, Ky., has been doing his job for more than 19 years.

After spending time in Canada, Mexico, and South Korea, Adams says Afghanistan will be his final foreign deployment before he retires. But before he hangs up his uniform, Adams has one last challenge to meet – mastering Afghanistan's weather.

One of the major obstacles to forecasting in Afghanistan, according to Adams, is "there are very few weather records here, because during the country's 30 years of war, people had better things to do than document the weather every day."

"You can't look back and see what the average snowfall,

or average temperature, except for about six locations including Kabul," he said, "and even those records are spotty."

Art of forecasting

The Bagram team gets much of its data from the 28th OWS and AFWA, which is overlaid against a variety of special computer programs that help develop the Mission Execution Forecasts that chart wind and precipitation patterns and predict weather fronts.

"There's a lot of science in what these guys go through," Clement said. But weather "is not just a science, it's also a fine art."

Part of this "art" is the weather observation. Several times each day, one of the weather specialists opens a set of double windows in the tower room and climbs outside to the roof. From that vantage point, the technician can see the full length of Bagram's runway and, in the distance, the mountains that surround the area on two sides.

The mountains act as a funnel for north-prevailing winds, which rush through the valley and come out at the other end – which happens to be right where Bagram is located. Local Afghans call Bagram "the windy valley," Clement said.

Summer and early fall are the windiest seasons here. The locals have a name for that, too – "120 days of wind."

Earlier this month, right at the end of the windy season, weather specialists measured peak gusts at 48 mph, strong enough to blow down tents.

"The CWT and the 28th OWS forecasted that wind three days in advance," Adams said.

Keeping pilots safe

But wind is more than just a dusty nuisance. For aviators, knowing weather conditions can literally mean the difference between life and death.

Wind holds a special significance for fliers. Helicopters have trouble hovering in strong winds, and crosswinds can make takeoffs and landings dangerous.

"This is a very demanding job, but we save lives here," Adams said.

The tower's weather room is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and "we brief every aircraft that flies in or out of here," said Staff Sgt. Jayson Wilson, a weather technician normally assigned to support the Army's 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C.

In less than an hour one afternoon, Wilson took several radio calls from pilots, asking about prevailing winds.

"Our customers ask us for advisories for any winds higher than 23 mph," Wilson said.

Because weather is so critical to air operations, the Bagram forecasting team is all-powerful when it comes to deciding when the weather is too poor to support flights.

Any weather specialist in Bagram's tower can shut down the airfield at any time, Adams said. "It's his call, and nobody second-guesses him."

Planning ahead

Pilots aren't the only ones who must put their trust in the local weathermen.

One weather technician has a permanent seat in Bagram's Joint Operations Center, where missions for all U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan are planned. Another technician sits in the 82nd Airborne's Tactical Operations Center, where the ground combat missions originate. Two more weather specialists are stationed at the U.S. base in Kandahar.

"Our job is to give as much advanced warning [to military commanders] as possible, so they can exploit the weather for battle," Adams said. "We help them plan operations so that weather will not be a factor, and if it is, that it's to our advantage." ¶

Jump Assignment Policy Implemented

Airborne Combat Weather Teams got some assistance from the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Texas. As of December 2002, AFPC will assign personnel headed for Combat Weather Airborne units a "J" prefix for their Air Force Specialty Code. This will allow the training system to complete the Basic Mission Qualification process before an individual reaches the unit. Additionally, the "J" prefix will also allow jump-qualified individuals to work in non-jump billets after their initial assignment.

In the past, a weather apprentice graduate assigned to an Airborne team would report to the unit and then go through qualification training which includes jump school. This complicated team planning and staffing, because the personnel numbers didn't properly reflect unit capabilities. Moreover, this wasn't a short-term problem. Basic mission qualification could require up to two years in training status due to requirements scheduling. Now, Airborne units and the weather specialists assigned will be accounted for and properly designated – trained and ready for duty. ¶

Weather Cooperation in Kosovo

By Capt. Leon Perkowski
7th Weather Squadron

When I was back in the States providing weather support to F-16s, I never once thought about how weather is coordinated in North Atlantic Treaty Organization operations. I figured each nation did its own thing. That can be true to some extent at the operator level, with each nation generally responsible for providing weather support to their aircraft. However, at the combined, multinational planning and staff level, weather support is expected to be coordinated through NATO weather channels to ensure "one theater, one forecast." Now that many of our deployments support NATO-led multinational missions, coordinated weather support to commanders in charge of multinational forces should not be taken for granted.

As the Chief of NATO and Joint Operations at 7th Weather Squadron, IIQ USARFUR, I have worked on NATO weather support issues for about 18 months. I have seen how the "theory" of NATO weather support is supposed to work in our Allied Weather Publications and in our NATO exercises, but I had never seen the theory really in action until I deployed as the commander of the 7th Expeditionary Weather Squadron, Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo.

In this deployed position I wear two hats: national and NATO. Under my national hat, I conduct weather operations in support of U.S. forces in Kosovo, primarily for Army aviation. Under my NATO hat, I provide meteorological and oceanographic support to the commander, staff and subordinate commands of KFOR's Multinational Brigade East, which include forces from Poland,

Ukraine, Greece, and Russia. MNBs North, West and South also have their own dual-hatted weather units, and all of our "NATO hats" come under the KFOR Senior METOC officer at KFOR HQ in Pristina.

I won't bore you with how the NATO METOC structure is supposed to work in theory to promote the NATO concept of "one theater, one forecast." You can find that in such documents as AWP #1 (for naval forces) and AWP #2 (for air and land forces), and in regional guidance such as NRD 80-33 and NRD 80-34. It works reasonably well in Kosovo, but can be expected to depend somewhat on the NATO knowledge of the Senior METOC Officer at KFOR HQ and the weather officers at the subordinate multinational brigades.

What I find more interesting, however, is the informal interaction between the MNB METOC units fostered by our monthly KFOR Meteorological Committee meetings. Back in August 2001, I was invited as the weather officer supporting Joint Headquarters Centre (the leading NATO land component command in the NATO northern region) to attend the 2nd KFOR Meteorological Committee meeting and see how support was being provided to NATO land forces in Kosovo. At that meeting, we weren't even sure how many different nations had weather teams in Kosovo, let alone how to get in touch with each other directly or what capabilities each team had. But the attendees each brought a clear spirit of cooperation and willingness to the meeting, and a number of good ideas were proposed. Little did I know then that I'd be back to see the 10th, 11th, and 12th KFOR Meteorological

Committee meetings still going strong.

Just one year of meetings has done a lot to enhance the interaction between the MNB METOC units. We now have a healthy exchange of METOC information and even throw in a few friendly boasts about World Cup soccer and Formula One racing. We at MNB(L) share skew-T data from our ARTY MET folks, our briefing slides, and our radar data. The Germans, in the south, share skew-T data and much-appreciated observations from their Forward Area Limited Observation Program in a few mountain outposts. The French, in the north, pass on their morning observation and briefing slides. The Italians are available for consultation at the airfield near Pristina. The Russians contribute detailed climatological records for the airfield.

None of us are in theater long enough to be confident we know the local weather, but having an informal mechanism to share data, techniques, and ideas helps us all support the KFOR mission just a little bit better. And meeting colleagues from all over Europe certainly enhances the KFOR experience. As my NCOIC said, "It's pretty darn cool to meet weather folks from 5 or 6 different countries and all be able to communicate in two common languages: English and METAR." So if you should find yourself tapped to go to Bosnia, Kosovo or some other NATO or multinational environment, take some time to find out about NATO weather support and seek out both the formal and informal ways for you all to help each other provide better weather support to the multinational forces in your area. ♪

AFW specialists visit Slovakia

7th Weather Squadron members travel to Slovakia to participate in U.S. European Command's Joint Contact team program

By Maj. David Runge
7th Weather Squadron

Although our duties at the 7th Weather Squadron staff headquarters normally entail overseeing weather support to European Theater U.S. Army units and joint forces, Senior Master Sgt. Lawrence Alexander, 7th WS superintendent of operations, and I were given the rare opportunity to participate in a mil-to-mil visit to a former Soviet-bloc country. In February of 2001, we eagerly accepted the opportunity and traveled to the Slovak Air Force Headquarters at Zvolen, Slovakia.

Our unique mission was to familiarize the Slovak Air Force meteorologists with U.S. Air Force Weather specialist's weather support to Army air and ground operations. We briefed 12 Slovak Air Force weather officers from bases across Slovakia on topics such as historical weather impacts on key battles, U.S. Air Force weather support concepts and infrastructure, weather forces' role in the military decision making process, mission execution forecast process, battlefield meteorological measurements and operations, and other topics. Our visit was in support of U.S. European Command's Joint Contact Team Program.

The JCTP is the foundation of USEUCOM's Peacetime Engagement Programs in Central Europe and the New Independent States. The program supports the USEUCOM strategic objectives of stability, democratization, military professionalism, and a closer relationship with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, while also responding to host nation requirements.

Jointly staffed Military Liaison Teams, three to five members deployed in country, are the key JCTP elements bringing U.S. military expertise to bear on a wide range of issues. More than 9,000 mil-to-mil contacts or "events" coordinated by these teams have helped host nations address fundamental topics such as establishment of military legal codes and programs to develop professional



Photo courtesy of 7th WS

Maj. Misha, Slovak Air Force meteorologist, demonstrates the Slovakian weather data-dissemination and display system for then Capt. David Runge and Senior Master Sgt. Lawrence Alexander, 7th Weather Squadron, during their visit to Slovakia in February.

noncommissioned officers.

To accomplish these mil-to-mil events, the MLTs collect host nation requirements and then bring in Traveling Contact Teams, comprised of handpicked U.S. military personnel with the right expertise to address specific requirements. TCTs go to the host nation and share information on how the U.S. conducts business. This has proven to be the most effective type of event for reaching the greatest number of mid-grade host nation military personnel.

An interesting fact about the Slovak military structure is they have no NCO corps. In the Slovak military, one is either a conscript or an officer. Senior Master Sgt. Alexander spoke with the Slovak officers about the role of the U.S. military NCO corps and its importance to U.S. military forces' morale and efficiency.

Another topic that interested the Slovak officers was AFW training methods. When Slovakia and the Czech Republic split up, their Military Academy discontinued its meteorological program, so the Slovak Air Force is currently exploring an ROTC-type educational program for its weather officers. We explained how AFW provides training to both its officer and enlisted personnel.

After two days of briefings, Maj. Misha, a Slovak Air Force meteorological officer, gave us a tour of the Sliac AB Weather Station and explained how they provide weather support to their military forces. It was a beneficial exchange of information for both parties.

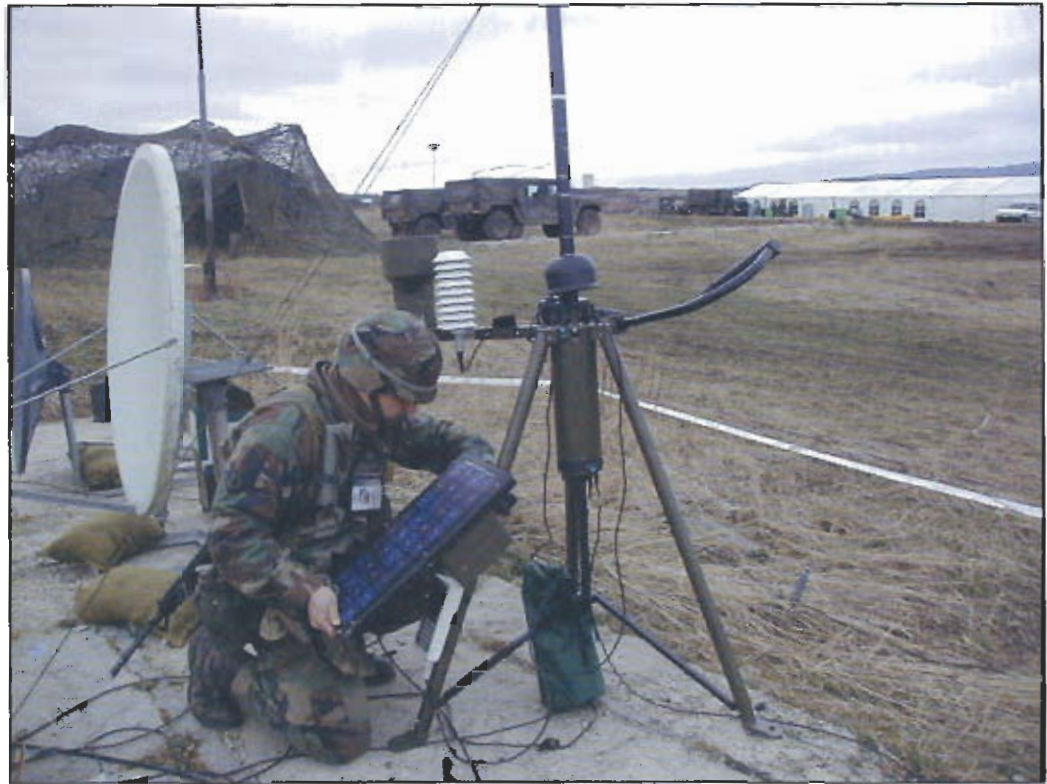
See **Slovakia**, next page

Exercise TALON STRIKE '02

**By Staff Sgt.
Bart Hopkins**
Det. 3, 7th WS

On February 27, 2002, four members from Detachment 3, 7th Weather Squadron, deployed to the Czech Republic to provide front-line weather support to the 2nd Squadron, 6th U.S. Cavalry. The mission of the exercise was to safely and efficiently enable the squadron's Apache helicopter pilots to obtain current flight qualifications by the conclusion of the Exercise TALON STRIKE 02.

TALON STRIKE 02 also served as the ramp-up to the much larger live-fire exercise, VICTORY STRIKE III in September 2002, to train and validate a fast-response, V Corps deep-strike force package with NATO partners. Much like Exercise VICTORY STRIKE II conducted in October 2001, the 7th WS again augmented the USAFE OWS to help stand-up a special forecasting cell for the exercise. They provide support to the expeditionary Army weather team comprised of four 7th WS units, Detachments 2, 3, 10, and 11, to support approximately 4,000 deployed soldiers, more than 70 rotor-wing aircraft, and 300 sorties over a 150 sq-km Joint Operating Area in Poland.



Photos courtesy of 7th WS

Staff Sgt. Nicholas DiTondo, 7th WS weather specialist, sets up a TMQ-53 while deployed in support of Exercise TALON STRIKE '02.

The team effort to support VICTORY STRIKE II successfully rerouted more than 50 aircraft around developing hazardous weather during two missions, and worked deployment timelines for all 76 aircraft into a five-day window working around 72 hours of restrictive weather.

For TALON STRIKE 02, getting equipment and personnel to the Hradiste Range was the easy part. Our detachment hosted a full complement of tactical equipment – IMETS, a 4-pack HMMWV with trailer, Tactical Quiet Generator, TMOS, NAMIS, T-VSAT, STI, camou-

Slovakia, continued from previous page

“It’s a common trait of all weather folks to find a way to accomplish the mission regardless of obstacles,” said Alexander. This belief holds especially true for Slovak Air Force weather personnel. It was inspiring to see the quality of their weather support capabilities considering their limited resources. Misha also accompanied us on a tour of the Slovak Military Museum in Banska-Bystrica, Slovakia, where we learned about their partisan efforts against

German forces during WWII.

Although mostly limited to an exchange of weather support concepts and information, this TCT visit played an important role in America’s successful outreach to Slovakia. We both felt fortunate to participate in this valuable program, and had a great experience exchanging information and ideas with the Slovak officers and learning about their country. ♣

flaging materials, etc. – that was rail-loaded and shipped ahead to an awaiting advance party. Our personnel arrived by bus, immediately secured a location against the Tactical Operations Center, and began to set up.

Unfortunately, heavy rains had left the area in near calf-deep mud. Combine this with a late arrival on site and it proved to be the perfect recipe for missing our day-one set up target. Well into darkness, and 16 hours after show time, we arranged our sleeping bags in the work tent and called it a night.

We woke up early the next day to the sound of wind howling around and through the tent, and it wasn't long before the OWS sent notification of a wind warning for our deployed location.

If you haven't had the pleasure of putting up cammo in 40+ knots of wind, let me tell you...it isn't easy. It takes elbow grease, persistence, and patience. Our sleep tent, normally ready in less than 45 minutes, took more than four hours to set up. We spent the rest of the day putting the finishing touches on our equipment in preparation for the arrival of our aircraft the following day. After another solid 16-hour day, we turned in for the night.

On the third day, we were the key players as winds continued to howl near aircraft limitations and pilot concern mounted. Satellite reception, LAN problems, and malfunctioning equipment were among the hurdles we needed to overcome in order to create an accurate forecast. It didn't help that half of our four-man crew were new, or out of practice at being "in the field." With the help from the OWS, we buckled down, analyzed the situation, and produced accurate forecasts of the weather situation. When several aircraft arrived safely and on time that afternoon, it was a sweet and just reward for all our hard work and persistence.

Since the heart of any exercise or deployment is the daily operations, we realized that our work had only just begun. Our next forecasting challenge came in the form of expected rainfall with our Apaches already having problems sinking in the saturated, muddy terrain. In most of the area, stable ground was simply not available. As a strong frontal boundary approached the region, we forecast that heavy precipitation would not immedi-

ately materialize, sparing our aircraft the time it would take to evacuate back to home base. The rains held off as we had forecast, and platforms of plywood were constructed for the helicopters during the following two days. When the next big rains did come, our aircraft were ready.

Due to time limitations during this exercise, the pilots started to fall off schedule. The operation tempo increased exponentially and accurate weather forecasts became key to safe and on-time mission execution. We knew that with such a small margin of error separating mission success from failure, our briefings to the squadron commander had to be as concise and as close to perfection as possible. More than 50 percent of the pilot qualifications were completed in the final week, a third of those finishing on the last day. The same commander we had faced daily, who frequently scowling as we delivered bad news, smiled and thanked us for "outstanding weather support" when all was said and done.

Were we all left with feelings of fulfillment? You bet! We simply did our job as best we could, and the mission succeeded. But more than that, bonds were formed with our Army brethren that can't be broken. Bonds forged by being in the middle of it with them. From not having more than a "baby-wipe shower" for an entire week, to repairing fallen tents in the pouring rain and whipping winds, to sharing a mid-day snack from an MRE, we all *lived* it together. These types of events become invaluable when building and strengthening the ties with your customer...your brothers-in-arms. ♪



Members of the 7th Weather Squadron help set up a Deployable Rapid Assembly Shelter tent under camouflage during Exercise TALON STRIKE '02.

Weather technicians help get bombs on target, on time

Are you familiar with Target Acquisition Weather Software and Night Vision Goggles Operations Weather Software, commonly referred to in the weather community as TAWS and NOWS? Whether you are or not, you'll want to be familiar with the latest software that merged the two programs into one – Target Acquisition Weapons Software.

By Paige Hughes
AFWA Public Affairs

Col. Mary Lockhart
IMA, HQ ACC/DOW

TAWS can help you dramatically aid the warfighter in getting bombs on target and on time. If you are not aware of TAWS, but support units employing precision guided munitions and target acquisition systems including night vision goggles, then you need to boost your knowledge in this area.

The TAWS program translates conventional weather forecasts into weather predicted impacts on employed weapons systems for a specified target area. In effect, TAWS

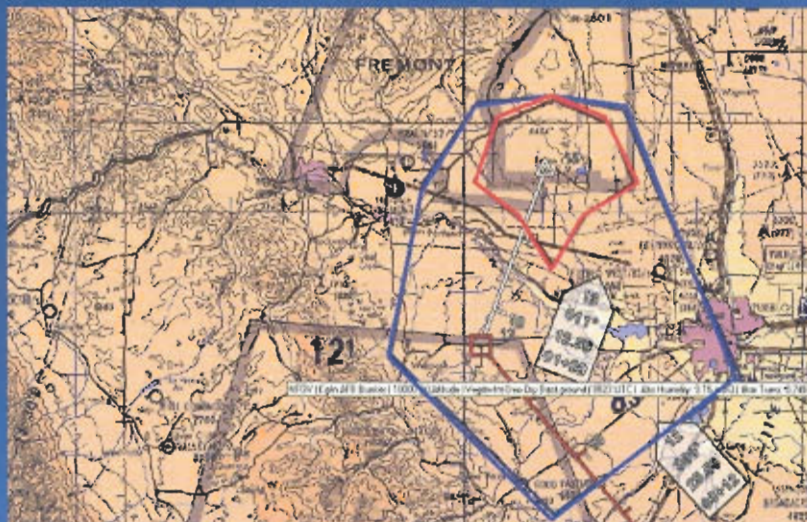
takes the guesswork out of finding the target and being able to hit it.

"TAWS allows our warfighter to get a feel for what the weather is like on the battlefield. It predicts the performance of electro-optics weapons and navigation systems," said Col. Mary Lockhart, Air Force meteorologist. TAWS supports numerous missions such as Air Interdiction, Close Air Support, Special Operations helicopter refueling, identification of pick-up/drop zones, training, search and rescue, and Predator surveillance to name a few.

The newest version of TAWS 3.1.2, arriving at flying squadrons and weather units this month, has many significant upgrades. TAWS now interfaces directly with Portable Flight

Planning Software, allowing for more robust mission planning capability. Planners can now integrate critical parameters, such as intelligence and weather, into one single source, enhancing their capability to build a better "picture" of the battlefield. Additional improvements include an extensive training package and the choice of using a classified or unclassified version of TAWS. The classified TAWS refers to the actual sensor names while the unclassified TAWS uses the numbering system to designate a particular sensor's name. The TAWS target database is constantly expanding to meet new operational requirements and targets are available for download off the TAWS web site at www.taws.net.

TAWS is no longer a program operated by just weather forecasters. It's a tool that integrates key



This TAWS product overlays geo-referenced predicted detection ranges and best attack angles on to FalconView airways charts.

et bombs

components of a mission planning cell. This integrated "team" of Ops, Intel and Weather provides a cross-feed of information that can significantly improve mission planning and execution. Unlike past versions, the new TAWS enables the area experts to input their critical information and save data separately for download. Aircrews can now run the program to obtain the desired attack information.

"The ability to download the TAWS weather file allows pilots to run the program themselves, relieving the weather shop from making several time consuming runs for different units," said Maj. Dave "30" Thirtyacre, USAF Weapons School, F-16 Division.

TAWS supports an automated weather reachback from either the Air Force Weather Agency's Joint Air Force Army Weather Network or the Navy's Tactical Environmental Data Server. The information populates the weather fields in TAWS using model data from the selected source. The parameters in the TAWS program are surface weather data, surface layer information, cloud information, and upper layer parameters.

"Once all the required information is entered and detections are calculated, the program is able to predict the performance of selected weapons systems. This helps leaders make "go/no-go" decisions and helps them develop the best plan of attack," said Lockhart. According to developers, TAWS is the main DoD tactical decision aid used for unit level mission planning. And weather technicians and commanders are seeing the benefits of TAWS in the field.

"Based on the TAWS output, strategies could change – use a different weapon, attack at a different time, or approach the target from a different direction," said Tech. Sgt. Paul Hamilton, a TAWS user in Afghanistan.

Direct feedback from deployed AEF-10 commanders stated, "TAWS was crucial to planning target attacks. TAWS detections could "make or break" an attack when using

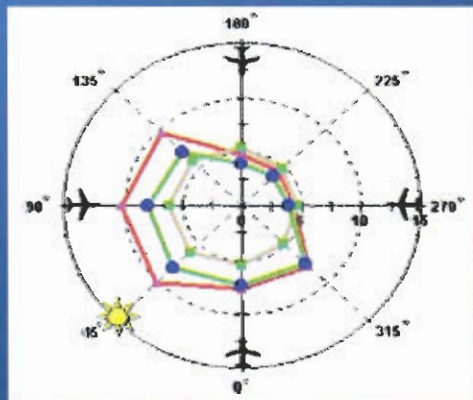


Precision Guided Munitions and worrying about collateral damage." In fact, TAWS was instrumental to the first combat employment of the Enhanced GBU-15 during Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and SOUTHERN WATCH. Deployed Coalition Air Force aircrews were in full agreement that TAWS and weather forecasters, co-located with Intel in the mission planning cell, had a positive impact on mission planning and execution.

In the near future, Air Force researchers will release the Infrared Target-Scene Simulation Software program. Coupled with TAWS, IRTSS will generate "through-the-sensor" target scene predictions in the thermal IR waveband that include the effects of weather and time of day on a specific weapons system. This capability can also be extended to the NVG, and visible wavebands. The pilot will be able to fly the mission from virtually any attack altitude and heading.

For now, pilots are putting TAWS to good use. "We use TAWS on virtually every sortie that involves any air-ground ordnance or is flown at night," according to Maj. Byron Anderson, USAF Weapons School, F-15E Division.

"AFW will continue to bring the most accurate and vital weather information to the warfighter, helping to ensure mission success and survival. It's what we bring to the fight," said Lockhart. ☺



This TAWS product depicts predicted detection ranges and best attack angles for multiple targets. Further details can be obtained in the tabular format also produced with TAWS.

Air Force provides NWS additional Doppler radar

By Paige Hughes
AFWA Public Affairs

Officials from the Air Force and NOAA's National Weather Service broke ground Oct. 28 for the installation of a Doppler radar in Brandon, Miss., which will provide low-level detection of severe weather for residents across that state.

Brig. Gen. David L. Johnson, Air Force director of weather, applauded the relationship between National Weather Service and Air Force Weather during his remarks at the ceremony.

"This cooperative effort is good government practice. We're doing what's right for the nation while continuing to forge a strong relationship between Air Force Weather and National Weather Service," said Gen. Johnson.

The radar was transferred to NWS from the Air Force inventory earlier this year and will be moved from Keesler AFB, Miss. to the new site. The Air Force operates 26 of the 158 operational Doppler radars worldwide. The NWS and Federal Aviation Administration operate the remaining radars.

The NWS funded the cost of the move and the restoration of the Keesler radar site to its original look. In addition, the National Weather Service installed a one-of-a-kind radar training system at the weather technical school located at Keesler AFB.

The Doppler radar has been at the Joint Weather Training Center since 1993 and was the primary source for radar training until recently. Instructors determined a better approach to training would allow students to be trained from taped radar data recorded from locations around the continental United States. The archived tapes include weather phenomena such as tornadoes and hurricanes dating back to 1992.

"Now I can pull up any significant weather event, in any



Photo by Paige Hughes

Brig. Gen. David L. Johnson, Air Force director of weather, and Vice Admiral (ret) Conrad Lautenbacher, Jr., undersecretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator, pose for photos during the ground-breaking ceremony for the WSR-88D radar in Brandon, Miss., Oct. 28, 2002.

region, like the Texas tornado that hit in 1994," said Tech. Sgt. Scott Butler, NEXRAD instructor at the training center. Joining General Johnson at the ceremony were keynote speaker, Third District Congressional Representative Charles "Chip" Pickering (R-Mississippi); Vice Adm. (ret) Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Ph.D., undersecretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator; John Jones, NWS, deputy director; Mac McLaughlin, NWS Southern Region, chief program officer; and Alan Gerard, Jackson weather forecast office meteorologist in charge.

The ceremony commemorated an event that is a winning endeavor for all involved. "The residents of Mississippi get better radar coverage, the National Weather Service gets a needed radar, and the Air Force gets a new training system," said Gen. Johnson. "This is a win, win, win situation," he added. ♪

Civil and Military Weather Work Together

By Jodie Grigsby
AFWA Public Affairs

Two of the world's leading weather center directors met at Offutt AFB, Neb., Oct. 30. Leadership from the Air Force Weather Agency and the National Weather Service met to discuss the working relationship between the two organizations, and possible future endeavors.

Col. Chuck Benson, AFWA commander, hosted the Director of the National Weather Service, John (Jack) Kelly, and members of the NWS staff.

"This was a great opportunity to highlight AFWA's stellar accomplishments, and share them with our civilian counterpart," said Col. Benson.

AFWA is a leader among United States weather organizations, maximizing our Nation's aerospace and ground combat effectiveness by providing accurate, relevant and timely air and space weather information to DoD, coalition, and national users.

The National Weather Service provides weather, hydrologic, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters and ocean areas, for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy.

"Our missions are similar but the emphasis is different," said Director Kelly.

He should know. Brig. Gen. (ret.) Kelly retired from the Air Force in

1994 after serving for 31 years in weather. His final position within the Air Force was as Director, Weather and Commander, Air Weather Service.

When asked why the meeting was so important Col. Benson said, "I think the two organizations understand the value of learning from each other and importance of further developing our existing relationship to benefit civil and military customers."

Director Kelly agreed adding, "The best way to do that is eyeball to eyeball."

Not only do the two organizations work together to develop and research new weather technologies, but AFWA acts as the back up for several of NWS's national specialized centers.

AFWA is poised to take over the forecasting responsibilities for the Aviation Weather Center, Storm Prediction Center, Space Environmental Center, and the National Centers for Environmental Prediction if any of these agencies were unable to perform the support. AFWA has provided back-up support on several occasions during the past year.

"Because we both do a similar job we can learn from each other and leverage each others capabilities," Director Kelly said.

"We work together to make sure the customer, no matter who they are – military or civilian – have the best available support and weather information," said Col. Benson. ♪



Photo by Jodie Grigsby

Heather Oviatt-Burg (right), AFWA weather technician, briefs Jack Kelly (left), director of the National Weather Service, and Dr. Lou Uccellini, director of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction, about the support the Air Force Weather Agency provides as the backup for the Storm Prediction Center. AFWA personnel, who take over the forecasting responsibilities if any of these agencies were unable to perform the support, must be certified to do so.



Photo courtesy of 335th TRS

Perfect Score!

Senior Airman Christopher Morales is presented an Honor Graduate certificate Oct. 24 by Capt. Christopher Cox, commander, 335th Weather Training Flight, Keesler AFB, Miss. Morales is the first person to achieve a perfect

100% grade point average while attending the Combat Weather Team Operations course. His assignment after training is the 7th Weather Squadron, Heidelberg, Germany.

Transformation, continued from page 6

Army Transformation and AFW Re-engineering stay in synchronization to ensure the weather support required by all Army units is provided in the most effective way. They meet twice a year or as needed and provide tasking and direction to the SYNCoC.

The responsibilities of the SYNCoC are to:

- Review all facets of Army Transformation and AFW Reengineering to see where changes are needed to ensure Air Force and Army weather support personnel and equipment meet the roles and responsibilities as outlined in Army Regulation 115-10 and Air Force Joint Instruction 15-157 – Weather Support to the Army.
- Establish agenda for the GOSG and present unresolved issues for

direction and/or decision. Agenda items for the GOSG will be forwarded through all SYNCoC members before the GOSG meets.

- Establish working groups, as required, and assign appropriate lead action organizations/officers.

The SYNCoC is covering a large list of action items. Some of the action items identified are:

- Communication/data requirements – working to establish standardized common user communications for getting weather data to Army CWTs for garrison and deployed operations
- IMETS – many issues relating to IMETS have been covered, with the big issue being how IMETS fits into the AFW Weapons System architecture, which will determine how IMETS is worked into formal training and future AFW systems

- A standardized graphical supplement to the DD Form 175-1, for Army aviation

- Working to establish a Combat Field Skills training course by expanding the existing SWO course

- Promoting better coordination on equipment development and fielding strategies

So the answer to the many questions raised out in the field is “YES, we are thinking about you.” We are working many different issues to make your life and job easier and in line with AFW Reengineering and Army Transformation. Bottom-line: the problems identified will require significant buy-in and commitment as well as perhaps some brain-bending to think of better ways of doing what we do today - by USAF and Army leaders at the highest levels. ♣

Florida ANG breaks ground on new weather training center

By Senior Airman Stephen Hudson
Florida National Guard Public Affairs

Members of the Florida Air National Guard recently broke ground on a new Weather Readiness Training Center Nov. 3 at Camp Blanding, Fla., to replace World War II era barracks that currently houses the WRTC.

The new state of the art facility will cost more than \$4 million and is scheduled for completion in August, 2003. The complex will include an administration and classroom building, an operations building for the 159th Weather Flight and a dormitory for the students attending the school.

"This new facility is a major milestone in adding to the high-quality weather training provided by our dedicated staff," said Maj. Loretta Lombard, executive officer for the WRTC. "We will be one giant step closer to fulfilling the vision of the WRTC with a world class facility to provide

fully trained and capable weather warriors for Army and Air fighting forces."

Opened in 1991, WRTC's mission is to provide basic and intermediate weather training to the 33 ANG weather flights and active duty Air Force weather units. Training provided at the WRTC is conducted primarily in a hands-on environment and includes, but is not limited to, performance of the weather flight mission, "field conditions" training, enhancement of technical skills, wartime survival, and various other elements of tactical weather support not covered in formal classroom instruction.

"What we've done here is to combine highly skilled people with the best technology you can get in this new facility," said Maj. Gen. Douglas Burnett, Adjutant General of Florida. "The end result is a well-equipped training environment that fits the needs of our customers – the warfighters, operators, and trainers." ♪

Image courtesy of Burns and McDonnell

Architects vision of the new ANG weather training center, Camp Blanding, Fla.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



More than just waterways and dams

By Lt. Col. David Zehr
Chief, Weather Support Division, HQ USACE

An Army Major Command, consisting of 37,000 personnel located worldwide, managing a \$12 Billion budget, Headquarters U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the "largest engineering firm in the world." USACE provides direct worldwide engineering support to U.S. Air Force, Army military and foreign construction projects, programs, exercises, and contingencies. They construct and operate nationwide civil works projects involving flood control, navigation, and hydropower generation. USACE supervises the emergency operation of inland waterways, ports, and harbors, including dredging operations. They also provide contracting services to urban and rural firefighting forces to obtain heavy equipment and/or demolition services as needed to suppress disaster related fires.

In support of the Red Cross, USACE provides potable water and ice for mass care use and bulk distribution to disaster victims; provides assistance in inspecting mass care shelter sites after the disaster to ensure suitability of facilities to safely shelter disaster victims; and provides assistance in constructing temporary shelter facilities, if necessary, in the disaster area. USACE provides trained Structures Specialists and Systems to Locate Survivors teams

to supplement resources of Urban Search and Rescue task forces; and provides pre-disaster training for USAR and Incident Support Teams structures specialists. Finally, USACE coordinates emergency power team taskings with power-restoration activities to assist in setting priorities and ensures that time and resources are not wasted in providing support to a facility that is about to have its power restored.

The best example of what USACE can do occurred after the attacks of 9/11. USACE formed two Crisis Management Teams to manage activities at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon disaster sites. In support of the WTC, the command deployed the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power), Ft. Belvoir, Va., who provided expertise in connecting generators to commercial power grids. USACE efforts were key in the removal of the debris at the WTC ahead of schedule and below budget.

So who provides the weather services for this Army MACOM where disasters dictate what they will be responding to next? The Chief, Weather Support Division for USACE, a one-person deep position, serves as the Staff Weather Officer to the Chief of Engineers/Commander, HQ USACE and his staff. The SWO is solely responsible for all worldwide meteorological, including



Photos courtesy of USACE

The U.S. Corps of Engineers' flag flying over the Crisis Management Team trailer at the Pentagon following the 9/11 terrorist attack.

space weather, support to HQ USACE, developing and issuing policy, providing and coordinating environmental support to USACE's eight divisions, forty-one district headquarters, four research laboratories, and the Engineering Battalion. Assigned to the HQ USACE Operations Center, the USACE SWO, as a battle staff member, is on call 24/7 and conducts military watch on all natural disasters affecting U.S. military operations, USACE civil operations and executes command and control functions supporting worldwide emergency management, interagency, military, and civil works operations, exercises, and contingencies. It is a challenging position, requiring environmental knowledge literally "from the mud to the sun." So next



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' crews aid in the debris removal at the World Trade Center site following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

time you see the Corps emblem, know that they are more than waterways and dams and that AFW is there supporting the command's efforts. ♪

Call for Inputs to Weather Reservist's History

The Air Force Weather Agency History Office is working on a history of reservists who have served in Air Force Weather, or its predecessor, Air Weather Service. This is a long-term project, expected to take four to six years to complete.

The basic information needed to build a history of weather IMAs includes:

Name and Rank

Where you served – unit, location, duty title, or responsibilities

-Include active duty in addition to your reserve duties

When you served

-Projects and/or exercises involvement

-Were you recalled to active duty to support Air Force operations?

-Did you receive any special honors or awards from your unit, squadron, wing or AFW

Typical types of work

-Operations weather support

-Scientific development (models, technical applications, training enhancements...)

-Your proudest moment as a reservist

-Challenges you faced as a reservist and IMA

-Solutions to overcoming those challenges

Any supporting documentation describing your work that you'd be willing to share with the history office?

-These could be tour orders, memoranda or reports you wrote, or other papers.

The initial focus is on the Individual Mobilization Augmentee, but inputs from all members of the reserves who served in weather are welcome and encouraged. This history project will be capped with a booklet about the reserves of AFW, their story and impact on the mission.

The official AFW histories contain a wealth of information, which helps weather leaders make more effective decisions. Reservists are part of this wealth of information. This call for history inputs is for current and former IMAs and Air National Guard weather flight members. More information is available by emailing Lt. Col. Beth McNulty, IMA to the AFWA Commander at Beth.McNulty@afwa.af.mil or the AFWA History Office at HO@afwa.af.mil. ♪

Staff Sergeant Selectees Show-off Stuff

Tamara Aldrich, 3rd ASOS, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska
Petina Allen, AFWA, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Tracey Alleyne, 3rd WS, Ft. Hood, Texas
Joseph Andaya, 57th OSS/OSW, Nellis AFB, Nev.
Maria Ansley, 72nd OSS/OSW, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Marjorie Arfa, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.
Sherri Ayala, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Sheila Baber, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Jody Ball, 13th ASOS, Ft. Carson, Colo.
Angela Banks, 3rd WS, Ft. Hood, Texas
Dana Baucorn, 607th WS, Yongsan, Korea
Joshua Bauman, 39th OSS/OSW, Incirlik AB, Turkey
Jason Bazin, 75th OSS/OSW, Hill AFB, Utah
Scott Beecher, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany
William Benford, 607th WS, Yongsan, Korea
Della Benson, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
James Bills, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.
Joseph Blakely, 354th OSS/OSW, Eielson AFB, Alaska
John Bondi, 305th OSS/OSW, McGuire AFB, N.J.
Pradipa Boonyobhas, 17th ASOS, Ft. Benning, Ga.
Jelani Brooks, 60th OSS/OSW, Travis AFB, Calif.
Kawani Brown, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.
Douglas Bunn, 47th OSS/OSW, Laughlin AFB, Texas
Tarrick Burney, 18th WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Jason Campbell, 11th OWS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
Melissa Capestro, 5th OSS, Minot AFB, N.D.
Scott Capodice, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Publio Casillas, 97th OSS/OSW, Alms AFB, Okla.
Jonathan Chavers, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Lethal Coe, 366th OSS/OSW, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho
Michael Cole, 354th OSS/OSW, Eielson AFB, Alaska
Christine Collins, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Jane Connors, 341st OSS/OSW, Malstrom AFB, Mont.
Robert Cook, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Stephen Dabkowski, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Anthony Danner, Det. 2, 607th WS, Camp Humphreys, Korea
Melissa David, USAFE OWS, Sembach AB, Germany
Casey Dawley, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Frederick Demming, 17th ASOS, Ft. Benning, Ga.
Sharay Dixon, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Jennifer Drowell, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Aaron Downing, 3rd ASOS, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska
Vaui Dowus, 25th ASOS, Wheeler AAF, Hawaii
Mikayle Dupree, 60th OSS/OSW, Travis AFB, Calif.
Elijah Edwards, 20th OSS/OSW, Shaw AFB, S.C.
Brian Egan, OL-A, Det. 1, 607th WS, Camp Stanley, Korea
Samir Fahouth, 78th OSS/OSW, Robins AFB, Ga.
Michael Farr, Det. 1, 18th WS, Ft. Eustis, Va.
Nathaniel Farrington, USAFE OWS, Sembach AB, Germany
Alec Ferguson, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.
Johnny Flores, 80th OSS/OSW, Sheppard AFB, Texas
Douglas Fortin, 20th ASOS, Ft. Drum, N.Y.
Kristy Fry, 27th OSS/OSW, Cannon AFB, N.M.
Caroline Fuson, OL-A, Det. 1, 607th WS, Camp Stanley, Korea
Jennifer Galvez, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Chad Gawel, 20th OSS/OSW, Shaw AFB, S.C.
Jennifer Gillen, OL-A, 607th WS, Seoul AB, Korea
Erik Gilliland, 18th WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Kevin Goff, OL-C, 18th WS, Ft. Knox, Ky.
Rafael Gonzalez, 20th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
Melody Goode, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Thomas Grabrick, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Shane Grob, OL-A, Det. 1, 607th WS, Camp Stanley, Korea
Jaet Gunderson, 17th ASOS, Ft. Benning, Ga.
Keisha Herding, 15th ASOS, Ft. Stewart, Ga.
Joshua Hardy, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.



Allen Hart, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Rodney Hattery, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Allen Heffner, 20th ASOS, Ft. Drum, N.Y.
Kelly Henderson, 18th WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Timothy Henry, 78th OSS/OSW, Robins AFB, Ga.
Latoya High, 27th OSS/OSW, Cannon AFB, N.M.
Amy Hilbun, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Nolan Hildebrand, 52nd OSS/OSW, Spangdahlem AB, Germany
April Hires, 14th OSS/OSW, Columbus AFB, Miss.
Duane Holt, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Timothy Huffman, 47th OSS/OSW, Laughlin AFB, Texas
Michael Hughes, 20th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
Whitfield Jack, 3rd WS, Ft. Hood, Texas
Nysheema Jackson, 20th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
Roderic Jackson, 20th OSS/OSW, Shaw AFB, S.C.
Bryan Johnson, 11th OWS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
Jimmy Jones, 20th OSS/OSW, Shaw AFB, S.C.
John Jones, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
Robert Jones, 20th OSS/OSW, Shaw AFB, S.C.
Herman Kaamura, 37th OSS/OSW, Lackland AFB, Texas
Sarah Kah, 11th OWS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
Christine Keeley, 3rd WS, Ft. Hood, Texas
Chad Keister, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Jessica Kishirizu, 20th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
Brian Lacinigola, 15th OWS, Scott AFB, Ill.
Ericka Landry, 4th OSS/OSW, Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.
Alden Lang, 1st WS, Ft. Lewis, Wash.
Carla Lee, OL-A, 607th WS, Seoul AB, Korea
Catherine Lee, AFWA, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Trot Joseph Lee, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Karrie Leonard, USAFE OWS, Sembach AB, Germany
Richard Long, 20th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
Barry Lott, AFWA, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Christopher Lozzi, 45th WS, Paine AFB, Fla.
Ingrid Luttrell, 19th ASOS, Ft. Campbell, Ky.
Michael Main, 51st OSS/OSW, Osan AB, Korea
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Renee Maouel, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
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John Marlowe, 15th OWS, Scott AFB, Ill.
Jennifer McCauley, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Andrew McGee, 612th ABS, Enrique Soto Cano AB, Honduras
Marcia McLennon, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
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Matthew Mitchell, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Phillip Mohr, 50th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
Jessica Moore, 2nd OSS, Barksdale AFB, La.
Tomas Morales, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Jesse Morris, 612th ABS, Enrique Soto Cano AB, Honduras
Joseph Morris, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
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John Nagy, OL-A, 607th WS, Seoul AB, Korea
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Alicia Nelson, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Kiet Nguyen, 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
Ryan Noetzelman, 19th ASOS, Ft. Campbell, Ky.
William O'Donnell, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Shenna O'Neal, 25th OWS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.
Mary O'Niell, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Brenda Oquendo, 80th OSS/OSW, Sheppard AFB, Texas
April Owens, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Dasveer Parhar, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.
Nicholas Patterson, 22nd OSS/OSW, McConnell AFB, Kan.
Dawn Perez, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.
Steven Perez, 20th OSS/OSW, Shaw AFB, S.C.
Deanne Prado, 89th OSS/OSW, Andrews AFB, Md.
Senia Pritchett, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
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James Raffner, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Christopher Reddington, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.
Daniel Reyes, 34th OWS, USAFA, Colo.
Leslie Richman, 88th WS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
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Angel Rivera, 3rd WS, Ft. Hood, Texas
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Samy Sabagalsanchez, 7th OSS/OSW, Dyess AFB, Texas
Adam Saker, OL-B, Det. 1, 607th WS, Camp Page, Korea
Shawn Saylor, 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.
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John Snodgrass, 3rd ASOS, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska
Mark Sterling, 18th WS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Sandy Stewart, 20th OSS/OSW, Shaw AFB, S.C.
Matthew Strachan, 7th OSS/OSW, Dyess AFB, Texas
Aaron Strickland, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Daniel Sullivan, 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
John Thompson, 20th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
Christopher Tomlinson, USAFE OWS, Sembach AB, Germany
Jerry Trinidad, 12th OSS/OSW, Randolph AFB, Texas
Jason Tye, 3th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
Jessica Vallanos, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Daniel Vanmeter, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Timothy Verville, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Benjamin Vogelsang, 15th OWS, Scott AFB, Ill.
Anthony Walker, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Jason Warner, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
Mimuela Weisser, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Mitchell Westlund, 18th OSS/OSW, Kadana AB, Japan
Jonathan White, 2nd OSS, Barksdale AFB, La.
Aaron Wood, 11th OWS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
Daniel Worden, 20th OSS/OSW, Shaw AFB, S.C.
Corey Worner, 36th OSS/OSW, Andersen AFB, Guam
Doug Wright, 81st OSF/OSW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Karen Young, 18th OSS/OSW, Kadana AB, Japan

XOW, Staff provide answers

Brig. Gen. David L. Johnson, Air Force director of weather, and his staff are dispelling rumors and educating the career field on "hot issues" in weather. Questions may be submitted to the Air Staff via e-mail at: afxow@pentagon.af.mil

Q. What do I need to get promoted in the enlisted system in way of education, jobs, etc?

A. This is a difficult question to answer because it varies for the grade. Your MAJCOM chiefs or enlisted representative can provide more detail for specific grades.

Generically, you need to do the best job you can at your unit so your EPRs are good and then you need to ensure **YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION** and college education. You must complete PME for your rank and when possible, you should take the next level of PME by correspondence or in residence. You must ensure you're at least enrolled in a Community College of the Air Force degree for your career field. You would be surprised how many people never check to see if they are enrolled and for the weather career field. You may only need four or five classes to complete a degree. Completing your CCAF degree is a plus, and you may be able to CLEP the few remaining credits or take the classes in residence, by correspondence, or any other method possible.

Additionally, you need breadth of experience. Does this mean you have to move to another base – not necessarily, but you should consider moving jobs if you plan to stay on the same base. Your next job should show you are expanding your horizons or taking what you've learned from headquarters job and using it in an operational job. Some examples of career broadening jobs include AFWA, space assignments, Army and AFSOC jobs, instructor duty – both PME and AFSC school-house, headquarters jobs, recruiting, first sergeant, command chief master sergeant, etc.

Finally, awards for excellence always help for promotions – boards use awards for SNCO promotions, some Equal Plus job packages uses this information for selection, and the points earned from some awards help toward your promotion. The simplest advice anyone can give you in this area – participate in base, local, and unit activities when possible and assume any leadership position you can in the activities. You should look for things you enjoy and do **not do an activity** just for promotion.

Q. Why can't my unit close at night with the hub operating?

A. For the most part, we agree that your unit should close whenever your local customer closes the runway or unit. A lot of units are still operating as if they were a Base Weather Station – doing analysis that should come from the hub, and second guessing the hub's TAFs and warnings, not explaining the

reengineered process to their customers, etc. AIW tries to educate the base leadership on the reengineered process and provides the top cover for the local Combat Weather Team to operate as we envisioned in the reengineered state. Now we have to perform a mind change in our own minds. **YOU JUST DON'T HAVE ENOUGH REENGINEERED MAN-POWER TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE AS A BASE WEATHER STATION.** When leadership fails to change, our people suffer and eventually we all suffer when the overworked troops separate at the first chance.

I challenge all of you to review your processes, educate your local base leadership, and step out of the box we knew as a BWS and embrace reengineering. Units are converting to reengineered states as our customers are educated. Trust and confidence between OWSs and CWTs remains the key to timely and accurate customer support.

Q. I am an Initial Skills Course trained Forecast Apprentice and recently was told I need to go to a hub next. I feel I know the CWT job and have been trained to do any AFW job. So why do I need to go to a hub?

A. We applaud the CWTs who have managed to get the new ISC FA trained – most likely the CWT got the FA to a hub for some hub training (thanks to MAJCOMs help). But, the short time a FA spends **training at a hub is very different from** actually working there day to day and the experiences gained are invaluable. USAF/XOW implemented a policy that all FAs will get back to a hub for additional training so all ISC graduates are on an even plane for **experience** and for their careers.

The hub experience provides not only the learning center for new technical approaches to forecasting, it includes the mentoring by experienced contract trainers, SNCOs, officers, and other airmen in all aspects of military life and provides **insight into** the weather career field as a whole. Knowing the issues and problems a hub experiences day to day **working with** CWTs can provide growth and insight to make a **better future** leader because you know the hub processes and what they can produce for a CWT. The **FA coming from** a CWT is stronger because they know the **issues and problems** from that level and can provide a different **approach to the** issues between the two units. The hub experience **also provides** them insight into areas the CWTs may cover but are not required to routinely complete such as TAF/warning preparation, regional graphics, regional briefing cell work, etc. that they should be aware of for promotion testing and just basic weather skills. So yes, every FA must go through the hub process and will get to a hub in their career.



Staff Sgt. Robert Lenahan

72nd OSS/OSW, Tinker AFB, Okla.

Weather Technician

Years In Service: 9

Hometown: Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.

Role Model / Why?: Chief Master Sgt. Chris Shumway. When I was a young Airman, he showed me the value of getting involved, the importance of initiative, and that once everyone buys into the team concept and the mission, the unit/organization can accomplish anything.

Hobbies: Watching my children grow up and develop, playing golf, watching any and all sports

Most Memorable Air Force Weather Experience: Soon after arriving at Tinker AFB, the state and region was hit by one of the most extensive ice storms in history. Having grown up in California and never living in a cold climate, the power and the destructiveness of this storm was amazing. We had the event covered and gave our fliers good warning, but the ability of the weather to totally suspend all operations and to cause mass damage to an entire area was an eye-opener.

WEATHER WARRIORS

Staff Sgt. Scott Losenicky

Det. 1, 607th Weather Squadron, Camp Red Cloud, Korea

Detachment Training Manager

Years in Service: 8

Hometown: Des Moines, Iowa

Role Model / Why?: My mother and father, for providing me with an excellent childhood and always being there when I needed them – after 30 years of marriage, they are still going strong.

Hobbies: BBQing, golf, football, anything outdoors!

Reason joined the Air Force: As a child, I found my dad's Vietnam era Air Force uniform, ever since that day I was hooked, and knew I would follow in my father's footsteps.

Most memorable AFW experience: All assignments in my career have been memorable, from observing 80kt Chinook winds in Montana to tornadoes in Kansas, forecasting -100° F wind chills in North Dakota, to working with the U.S. Army on the DMZ in Korea. Every duty station has provided me with invaluable experience and great personnel who have trained, mentored and guided me through my career. My MOST memorable would have to be briefing the U.S. Army's 2nd Infantry Division Commanding General during a field exercise, in the middle of the Korean Monsoon season – we received 11 inches of rain in six hours.



SALUTES

Retirements

Lt. Col. William Brown, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Lt. Col. Jeffrey Carson, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.
Capt. Fritz Van Wijngaarden, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Chief Master Sgt. William Kyle, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Master Sgt. Donna Huebner, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Darrell Adams, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Ronald Bridges, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Robert Davidson, 2nd WF, Ft. McPherson, Ga.
Master Sgt. Joel Hart, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. William Johnson, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Bruce Lindc, 2nd WF, Ft. McPherson, Ga.
Master Sgt. Isaias Ortiz-Lopez, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Douglas Rishel, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Stephen Turkovich, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Brian Woodard, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech Sgt. Kerry Barnes, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Susan Bowers, 15th ASOS, Hunter AAF, Ga.

Awards and Decorations

BRONZE STAR

Maj. Stephen Rorobolo, 2nd WF, Ft. McPherson, Ga.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

Col. Joseph Morales, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Col. David Smarsh, NOAA, Washington, D.C.

Col. Mark Welshinger, HQ USAF/XOW, Washington, D.C.

Lt. Col. William Brown, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Lt. Col. Jeffrey Carson, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.
Lt. Col. John Egentowich, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Lt. Col. Jay Fitzgerald, HQ USAF/XOW, Washington, D.C.
Lt. Col. Randall Skov, OL-K, AFWA, Norman, Okla.
Lt. Col. Kim Waldron, HQ USAF/XOW, Washington, D.C.
Lt. Col. Curtis Winstead, HQ USAF/XOW, Washington, D.C.
Lt. Col. David Zehr, HQ USAF/XOW, Washington, D.C.
Maj. Michael Adams, OL-H, AFWA, Hanscom AFB, Mass.
Maj. Edward Bensman, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Maj. Shawn Filby, Det. 5, AFWA, Palohua Solar Observatory, Hawaii
Maj. Martin Loveless, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Maj. Danny Lucas, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Maj. Richard Mueller, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Maj. William Olson, Det. 1 AFWA, Learmonth, Australia
Maj. Robert Rankin, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Maj. Michael Roche, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Maj. John Sheply, HQ USAF/XOW, Washington, D.C.
Maj. Frederick Williams, AF-CWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Maj. James Ulman, HQ AMC, Scott AFB, Ill.
Capt. Ariel Acebal, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Thomas Blazek, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Brian Griffith, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Capt. Kelly Law, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.

Capt. Travis Steen, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Steven Storch, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Fritz Van Wijngaarden, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Robert Waacker, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Chief Master Sgt. William Kyle, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Chief Master Sgt. Daniel Michalewicz, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Master Sgt. Alfredo Domingues, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Senior Master Sgt. Donna Huebner, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Master Sgt. Ricky Keil, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Master Sgt. Salinda Larabee, HQ USAF/XOW, Washington, D.C.
Senior Master Sgt. George Statler Jr., AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Master Sgt. Darrell Adams, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Ronald Bridges, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Steven Campbell, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Jefferson Cook, AF-CWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Master Sgt. Shiela Dollison, Det. 5, AFWA, Palohua Solar Observatory, Hawaii
Master Sgt. Joel Hart, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Rick Gardner, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. James Jezek, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Carl Johnson, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. John Johnson, AFCCC, AF-WZ, Asheville, N.C.
Master Sgt. William Johnson, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Gary Mercer, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Isaias Ortiz-Lopez, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Douglas Rishel, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.

Master Sgt. Stephen Turkovich, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Brian Woodard, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Carlton Geene, HQ USAF/XOW, Washington, D.C.
Tech. Sgt. Jerry Pedone, OL-K, AFWA, Norman, Okla.
Staff Sgt. Raymond Miller Jr., HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.

JOINT SERVICE COMMENDATION MEDAL

Maj. William Carle, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Master Sgt. James Wiemann, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Tech. Sgt. Brian Anderson, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Chris DeCorte, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

Lt. Col. Christopher Strager, 146th WF, Coraopolis, Pa.
Maj. David Bacot, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Maj. Thomas Goulter Jr., HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. David Cray, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Michael Graf, 146th WF, Coraopolis, Pa.
Capt. Juan Hidalgo, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Andrew Martin, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Mark Nolley, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Michael Richman, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Michael Gardner, 146th WF, Coraopolis, Pa.

Master Sgt. James Malia, 146th WF, Coraopolis, Pa.
Master Sgt. David Tucker, 146th WF, Coraopolis, Pa.
Tech. Sgt. Terry Avery, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
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Tech. Sgt. James Barton, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Tech. Sgt. Greg Bell, 340th WF, Willow Grove ARS, Pa.
Tech. Sgt. Susan Bowers, 15th ASOS, Hunter AAF, Ga.
Tech. Sgt. Alice Brunette, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.
Tech. Sgt. Thomas Cardinal, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Tech. Sgt. Julie Clark, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Michael Claxton, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Stephen Heywood, Det. 5, AFWA, Halehua Solar Observatory, Hawaii
Tech. Sgt. Angela Hilliard-Sellers, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Tech. Sgt. Patrick Johnson, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Tech. Sgt. Douglas Leas, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Timothy McKinnon, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Tech. Sgt. Anthony McSwain, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Robert Nechtman, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Jeffery Peterson, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Francis Rolkowski, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Tech. Sgt. James Slisik, Det. 1, AFWA, Learmonth, Australia
Tech. Sgt. William Thompson, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. John Tunney, 146th WF, Coraopolis, Pa.
Staff Sgt. Cory Brown, OL-A, AFCWC, AFWA, Camp Blanding, Fla.

Staff Sgt. Clayton Eyer, 146th WF, Coraopolis, Pa.
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Staff Sgt. Charles Littlejohn, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Staff Sgt. Randall Marnino, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Mackenzie Mercer, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
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Staff Sgt. Jeffery Regan, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Michael Riedy, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Lena Spengler, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.
Staff Sgt. Susan Willis, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Kurt Zachary, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Jonathan Arensmeyer, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Senior Airman Alexander Early, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Renech Manuel, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Maj. Pat Hayes, USAIC, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.
Capt. James Wingenroth, 125th WF, Tulsa, Okla.
Master Sgt. Bill Simcox, USAIC, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.
Tech. Sgt. Susan Bowers, 15th ASOS, Hunter AAF, Ga.
Staff Sgt. Chris DeCorte, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Senior Airman Bobby Baum, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illesheim, Germany

JOINT SERVICE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

Major Scott Hausman, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Daniel Weckley, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Brian Anderson, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Staff Sgt. Chris DeCorte, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Dave McKinney, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Michael Schierer, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

Capt. Robert Edwards, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Lewis Altman, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Master Sgt. Louis Canjar Jr., AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Master Sgt. Lyle Elliot, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Master Sgt. Glenn Harris, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Master Sgt. Dennis Huggins, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Harry Lind, 28th OSS/OSW, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.
Tech. Sgt. Christopher Bundrick, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.
Tech. Sgt. James Clark, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.
Tech. Sgt. Israel Cruz-Colon, Det. 3, AFWA, Ramey, Puerto Rico
Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Fiala, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Linda Ham, Det. 1, AFWA, Learmonth, Australia
Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Jackson, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.
Tech. Sgt. William Martin, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Scott Wilkins, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Gary Brooks, 28th OSS/OSW, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.
Staff Sgt. Gery Cook, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Matthew Myers, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Ricky Palmer, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Michael Schierer, JSOC, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Staff Sgt. James Shaw, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Gary Spray, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Richard Wright, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Shadrick Wynn, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Francis Yeager, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Sarah Burns, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.
Senior Airman Christopher Fidler, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Robert Follis Jr., OLA, AFWA, Ft. George Meade, Md.
Senior Airman Nathan Halstead, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.

Senior Airman Benjamin Hastings, 55th SWXS, Schriever AFB, Colo.
Senior Airman Jennifer McCaulley, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Relynn Monroy, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Nandi Morgan, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Karl Nelson, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman David Salazar, Det. 7, AFWA, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Senior Airman Gary Skinner, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Paul Sobczak, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Nicole Spreitzer, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Anthony Walker, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Airman 1st Class Nathaniel Chisley, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Airman 1st Class Jeremy Friedrichsen, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Airman 1st Class Shannon Linderman, 28th OSS/OSW, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.
Airman 1st Class Mathew Miles, AFCCC, AFWA, Asheville, N.C.
Airman Seann Clark, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.

ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

Staff Sgt. David Elliott, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illsheim, Germany
Senior Airman Derrick Bright, 125th WF, Tulsa, Okla.
Senior Airman Justin Christian, 125th WF, Tulsa, Okla.
Senior Airman Nathan Gillock, 125th WF, Tulsa, Okla.
Senior Airman Elizabeth Henderson, 125th WF, Tulsa, Okla.

OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD

607th WS, Yongsan, Korea

Education

WEATHER OFFICER'S COURSE

Capt. Bradley Stebbins, 20th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
1st Lt. William Booe, 25th OWS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.
1st Lt. Aaron Stults, USAFE OWS, Sembach AB, Germany
2nd Lt. Trenton Cloer, 28th OWS, Shaw AFB, S.C.
2nd Lt. Daniel Horton, USAFE OWS, Sembach AB, Germany
2nd Lt. David Huston, 11th OWS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
2nd Lt. Annette Parsons, 26th OWS, Barksdale AFB, La.
2nd Lt. Kimberly Stellato, 80th OSS/OSW, Sheppard AFB, Texas

2nd Lt. Travis Wyatt, 25th OWS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.
2nd Lt. Tal Ziv, 17th OWS, Hickam AFB, Hawaii

WEATHER CRAFTSMAN'S COURSE

Maj. Gyuwon Oh, Daejeon, Republic of Korea
Staff Sgt. Jerome Adams, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Heath Alexander, Det. 7, 7th WS, Grafenwoehr, Germany
Staff Sgt. Kelley Allen, 1st OSS/OSW, Langley AFB, Va.
Staff Sgt. Jennifer Ball, 13th ASOS, Ft. Carson, Colo.
Staff Sgt. Greg Bianchi Jr., 19th ASOS, Ft. Campbell, Ky.
Staff Sgt. Amy Brannon, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. James Brown, 75th OSS/OSW, Hill AFB, Utah
Staff Sgt. Montgomery Campbell, 3rd WS, Ft. Hood, Texas
Staff Sgt. Jason Cleinens, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.
Staff Sgt. Megan Egnew, 17th OWS, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
Staff Sgt. Brian Fjeld, 17th OWS, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
Staff Sgt. Russell Froat, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Marty Gameon, 11th RS, Indian Springs, Nev.
Staff Sgt. Bryan Garton, 377th MSS/OIW, Kirtland AFB, N.M.
Staff Sgt. John Geyer, 509th OSS, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
Staff Sgt. Julia Hagan, 20th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
Staff Sgt. Eugene Jeunelot, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Adrien Kierzek, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Geoffrey Lamson, 3rd WS, Ft. Hood, Texas
Staff Sgt. Tanna Langue-Yarnell, 92nd OSS/OSW, Fairchild AFB, Wash.
Staff Sgt. Michael Lee, 20th OWS, Yokota AB, Japan
Staff Sgt. Joshua Lewis, Det. 5, 10th CWS (Airborne), Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Mario Luna, Det. 1, 10th CWS, Ft. Lewis, Wash.
Staff Sgt. Wanda Nicholls, 347th OSS/OSW, Moody AFB, Ga.
Staff Sgt. Brady Spiczka, 607th WS, Yongsan, Korea
Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Story, 19th ASOS/CDW, Ft. Campbell, Ky.
Staff Sgt. Shaun Wallace, 97th OSS/DOW, Altus AFB, Okla.
Staff Sgt. Vernee White, 27th OSS/OSW, Cannon AFB, N.M.
Staff Sgt. Paul Wilkerson, 189th MSF, Ark.
Staff Sgt. Scott Williams, 39th OSS/OSW, Incirlik, Turkey

Staff Sgt. Timothy Williams, 72nd OSS/
OSW, Tinker AFB, Okla.
Staff Sgt. Gregory Youtz, 10th CWS, Ft.
Bragg, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Angela Zephier, 17th OWS,
Hickam AFB, Hawaii
Senior Airman Sheila Baber, 7th OSS, Dyess
AFB, Texas
Senior Airman Trot Joseph Lee, 436th OSS,
Dover AFB, Del.
Senior Airman John Platt, 81st OSF, Keesler
AFB, Miss.

FORECASTER COURSE

Staff Sgt. John Blackwell, 127th WF, Forbes
Field, Kan.
Staff Sgt. Adrian Kiezek, HQ AFWA, Offutt
AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Jeffrey Cerza, 62nd OSS/
OSW, McChord AFB, Wash.
Senior Airman Aaron Strickland, 37th OSS/
OSW, Lackland AFB, Texas

WEATHER FORECASTER APPREN- TICE COURSE

Tech. Sgt. David Ivey, 26th OWS, Barksdale
AFB, La.
Petty Officer 2nd Class Rob Olmstead
(Honor Graduate)
Staff Sgt. John Hawkins, 181st WF, Carswell
ARB, Texas
Senior Airman Carlos Austin, 26th OWS,
Barksdale AFB, La.
Airman 1st Class Dustin Baca, 25th OWS,
Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.
Airman 1st Class Jeffery Ostwald, 15th
OWS, Scott AFB, Ill.
Airman 1st Class Curtis Robison, 28th OWS,
Shaw AFB, S.C.
Airman 1st Class Christopher Travis, 26th
OWS, Barksdale AFB, La.

COMBAT WEATHER TEAM OPERATIONS COURSE

1st Lt. Laura Beeson, 8th OSS/OSW,
Kunsan, Korea
1st Lt. Jacob Thomas, 509th OSS/OSW,
Whiteman AFB, Mo. (Distinguished Graduate)
2nd Lt. Bradley Harbaugh, (Distinguished
Graduate)
Tech. Sgt. Mark Gadzala, Det. 1, 607th WS,
Camp Red Cloud, Korea
Tech. Sgt. Gary Rann, OL-A, 353rd OSS,
Taegu, Korea
Tech. Sgt. Rubi Tornero, Det. 2, 607th WS,
Camp Humphreys, Korea
Staff Sgt. Brian Clark, 25th OWS, Davis
Monthan AFB, Ariz.
Staff Sgt. Jefferson Helfrich, Det. 5, 10th
CWS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Staff Sgt. Gregory Parker, 10th CWS,
Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Staff Sgt. Chris Walton, 48th OSS/OSW,
Lakenheath, UK
Senior Airman James Ahern, 65th OSS/
OSW, Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal
Senior Airman Keri Barile, Det. 3, 7th WS,
Illesheim, Germany
Senior Airman James Clanahan, 607th COS,
Osan AB, Korea
Senior Airman Michael Delgado, 607th WS,
Yongsan, Korea
Senior Airman Elijah Edwards, Det. 5, 10th
CWS, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Senior Airman Myria Edwards, 65th OSS/
OSW, Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal
Senior Airman Anthony Fountain, 39th
OSS/OSW, Incirlik AB, Turkey
Senior Airman Thomas Gwinn, OL-B, Det.
1, 607th WS, Camp Page, Korea
Senior Airman Clayton Harris, Det. 6, 7th
WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
Senior Airman Kimberly Hawn, 36th OSS/
OSW, Andersen AB, Guam
Senior Airman Teresa Hernandez, 4th OSS/
OSW, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
Senior Airman Patricia Holder, 3rd ASOS,
Ft. Wainwright, Alaska
Senior Airman David Hugentbruch, Det. 7,
7th WS, Grafenwoehr, Germany
Senior Airman Brian Kendall, 3rd ASOS, Ft.
Wainwright, Alaska

Senior Airman Christopher Morales, 7th
WS, Heidelberg, Germany (Distinguished
Graduate)
Senior Airman William Robinson, 55th
OSS/OSW, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Melissa Ruocco, HQ AFWA,
Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Sherdean Sherman, 3rd
ASOS, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska
Senior Airman April Wilson, 354th OSS/
OSW, Eielson AFB, Alaska
Airman 1st Class James Davison, 354th
OSS/OSW, Eielson AFB, Alaska
Airman 1st Class Darryl Ford, 354th OSS/
OSW, Eielson AFB, Alaska
Airman 1st Class William Guthrie, 3rd
ASOS, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska
Airman 1st Class James McGee, 18th
ASOG, Pope AFB, N.C.
Airman 1st Class Jeremy Montgomery, Det.
6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
Airman 1st Class Christopher Patterson, 3rd
ASOS, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska
Airman 1st Class Sarah Sabins, 374th OSS/
OSW, Yokota, Japan
Airman 1st Class Jessica Tipton, Det. 2,
607th WS, Camp Humphreys, Korea

COMBAT LIFE SAVER COURSE

Staff Sgt. Bart Hopkins, Det. 3, 7th WS,
Illesheim, Germany

AMS/NWS FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Evan Kuchera, University of Nebraska at
Lincoln, Neb.

NCO ACADEMY

Tech. Sgt. Scott Nych, Det. 1, AFWA,
Learnmonth, Australia

Promotion

Selected for promotion to Captain
Daniel Wunder, 607th WS, Yongsan, Korea

ANG Promotion

Promotion to Technical Sergeant
Donna Kirckof, 116th WF, Camp Murray,
Wash.
Monica Preble, 120th WF, Buckley AFB, Colo.
David Correa, 210th WF, March ARB, Calif.

Master Sgt. Rick Gardner, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb., received his General's coin for his outstanding contributions to the Communication and Information Directorate and the entire agency. He reengineered the LAN upgrade technical solution for Learmonth Solar Observatory, Australia, boosting performance tenfold and saving more than \$17,000. Gardner also directed the redesign of classified data storage processes, which averted loss of service to the Special Support Operations Branch and the National Intelligence Center and saved the agency more than \$44,000 in manpower. Additionally, he was AFWA's SNCO of the Quarter for July – September 2002 and serves as the agency's backup First Sergeant.



Receiving General's coins:

Chief Master Sgt. Chris Flores, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Carol Andersen, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Master Sgt. Dale Light, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Master Sgt. Lawrence Peterson, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Ray Secession, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Master Sgt. Jonathon Vereen, 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Lacayo, 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Tech. Sgt. Ronald Richards, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Tech. Sgt. Thomas Walker, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Donald West, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Timothy Dixon, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Staff Sgt. Tim Dunman, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Michael Mazucce-Mambala, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
Staff Sgt. Bradley Paul, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Staff Sgt. Carl Schuett, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Thomas Grabrick, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Anthony Scott, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
Airman 1st Class Jeremy Coleman, 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



General and Chief's Coin Corner



Staff Sgt. Robert Decker, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb., received his Chief's coin for his work in AFWA's Network Operations and Security Center. He cleaned up AFWA's firewall rule base and removed identified port vulnerabilities. He ensured data flow was not impeded and spent several months adjusting the web-filtering product to ensure the product was stable and that the system would provide all the reporting and statistical information needed for security assurance. Additionally, Decker coordinated with vendors to provide solution the agency's web log server running out of virtual memory. His efforts stabilized the system by having the server reboot itself every few hours and continuously log all web traffic.

Receiving Chief's coins:

Senior Master Sgt. Rob Rios, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
Senior Master Sgt. Jeremy Samuel, AFCWC, AFWA, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
Staff Sgt. Amanda Jenkins, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
Staff Sgt. Jason Smith, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
Airman 1st Class Nicolas Reinstein, HQ AFWA, Offutt AFB, Neb.





Army Weather

Under the National Security Act of 1947, which transferred the Air Force from the Army and established it as a separate branch of the military, the Air Force was made responsible for the provision of meteorological service to the Army, except Army meteorological ballistics data which remains in the Army today.