



Your Magazine for Air Force Weather

OBSERVER

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The 55th Space Weather Squadron

*Exploiting The
Space Environment
For The Warfighter*

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"Choose The Weather For Battle"

OBSERVER

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Fundamentals Key to Reengineering Mass, Customer Focus, Experience Critical



by Brig. Gen. Fred Lewis
Air Force Director of Weather

Since I wrote last month's *Observer* article, Chief Hoy, Chief Klumb, and I have traveled to Barksdale, Eglin, Hill, Hurlburt, Langley, McGuire, Offutt, Scott, and Whiteman. During these visits, we've discussed our AF Weather reengineering with over 750 AF Weather people (active, guard, reserve, and civilians). We've briefed MAJCOM leaders; and NAF, wing, operations group, and operations support squadron commanders. We have responded to many e-mails from you regarding our efforts.

As a result of our traveling and discussions with you and the AF leadership, I have asked myself a question, and as we press forward, I would ask you the same question: WOULD YOU DESIGN A WEATHER SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR THE AIR FORCE AND ARMY THAT PUTS YOUR LEAST EXPERIENCED PEOPLE AT YOUR SMALLEST UNITS TO GET TRAINED WHILE SUPPORTING YOUR MOST IMPORTANT CUSTOMERS—THE WARFIGHTERS? Well, that's our current system, one we are working hard with your help to improve.

We're tackling some fundamental issues that affect the AF Weather force, many of the same issues that affect other functional areas within the Air Force: **Mass:** there is a minimum number of people that must be in one place to effectively accomplish training, mentoring, and production. We believe that we have gone below that level in some places;

Customer focus: we must always be focused on our customers' missions and this must include a strong focus on the warfighter mission, even when in-garrison. We have found that our units are driven often more toward base/post

focus than a warfighter focus by our current organization and support structure; **Experience:** our experienced people must be at the pointed-end of the spear. We believe that because of manpower and personnel changes in the AF and AFW over the last few years, we have had to put a large percentage of our inexperienced people in the field and this results in a high training and mentoring burden at our already busy and often small weather units.

In my discussions with you and our customers, I have stressed time and again that our goal in this reengineer-

ing effort is to give you, our AF Weather operators, the products, processes, and organization with the "right" technology so you can do an outstanding job of supporting our customers. One of the good items that has come out of our discussions with our customers is this: they want "their" weather person *on-site*—right there to keep them ready to respond to the weather, and our reengineering efforts will do just that. Our customers also want to be able to "own the weather"

but to get there will require some changes. "Owning the weather" requires well trained, experienced people in the units using highly accurate weather information to produce tailored, relevant products for our customers. So how do we get from where we are to the envisioned end-state where the warfighter and our other customers can "always" count on accurate information, relevant to their mission, when and where they need it? We must keep those three elements—mass, customer focus, and experience—in our sights as we consider options.

Mass. Realistically, we do not expect to get more manpower to help us address this area. We believe we must first look within to find ways to mass our manpower to achieve economies of training and improve our forecasting ability. This will require us to look at a different view of the organization—an organization that takes advantage of regionalizing part of our weather support production, thereby taking more workload away from units than any manpower that may move to a regional hub. We also need a structure that results in experienced people at the units to support our customers than we have today—a structure that allows us the time needed to train our less experienced people. We are working the details with many

"Our commitment to reengineering AF Weather to be the 'warfighter's choice for battlespace weather information on demand' continues unabated."



Brig. Gen. Fred Lewis
Air Force Director of Weather

See FUNDAMENTALS

continued on Page 23

Have a question for General Lewis? Write to: HQ USAF/XOW, 1490 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20330-1490.

Facing The Challenges

Military Decision Makers Depend On You

I'm honored that Air Force Director of Weather Brig. Gen. Fred Lewis asked me to initiate a new process where senior leaders in Air Force Weather have the opportunity to speak with you through the *OBSERVER*.

It's particularly gratifying since I will soon close my career of nearly 25 years in the Air Force. It's a time when one has a tendency to be retrospective, but Chief Master Sgt. Nancy Brooks from my staff convinced me that everyone is looking to the future with a little apprehension and that's what I needed to address.

Frankly, the changes in our career field that loom on the horizon are a bit scary. I can't remove the uncertainty that is the basis of much of the concern, but I can provide some reassurance from a major command director of weather's perspective.

We in Air Combat Command feel a strong obligation to our command and to the weather people in it. If we don't ensure weather reengineering changes move in the right direction for our people, we aren't doing our job.

In implementing whatever is approved, we'll draw upon appropriate resources from the communications, civil engineering, logistics, and plans and programs communities — it won't just be weather folks doing it in their spare time. In other words, when we do it, we'll do it right. I only wish my personal situation would have allowed me to remain in the Air Force to watch our plans unfold.

As we address reengineering, we're also examining Outsourcing and Privatization (O&P) (i.e., finding contractors to do the weather support job). Weather, as a function and service, seems to come up when the subject of O&P is addressed. O&P is a popular process because for some functions it can both infuse dollars into the civil side

by Col. Edward J. Eadon
Chief, Weather Division
Air Combat Command

while reducing overall costs to the military.

To be honest, we're seen as a ripe target, especially non-wartime tasked functions. A quick and cursory analysis would convince any routine watcher of the weather channel that maybe the commercial sector could do what we do as well ... maybe even cheaper.

Before you abandon ship in hope of being one of the first to get a job from the companies that will take over the military weather mission, think about it a little more.

There's something unique we bring to the table when we get integrated with the

"Enthusiasm is something that each of us controls. Don't let anticipation of the future dampen your enthusiasm or the pride in the job that each of you perform."

Col. Edward J. Eadon
Chief, Weather Division, Air Combat Command



operational customer, something that's militarily essential.

We're working to articulate those military contributions and ensure reengineering produces a stronger integration into that fundamental military mission. Our plans for O&P will consider it where it makes sense, but won't lose sight of the need for military people providing weather support.

Until we implement reengineering we're going to struggle with the challenges of today. Manning levels are dropping. We continue to lose critical experience. Training challenges abound. Mentoring is broken. The great technology breakthroughs that are going to make it all easier are just a bit out of reach. And, at



times, it even appears as if we have a malaise affecting our professionalism — something that's creeping in and destroying job satisfaction.

It's real easy for us to get caught up with "what may come" concerns, but we can't be so focused on what's going to happen that we lose sight of our current day-to-day support.

One way to help get through the turbulent times ahead is to use your functional link to the weather people up the chain. Talk with your MAJCOM DOW staff. We recognize that some more radical actions may be needed to address your individual immediate challenges. Don't jump to conclusions about re-engineering — we'll be working hard over the next few months to get you the details as they unfold.

Incidentally, my staff took a couple of simple steps recently which helped us all experience renewed enthusiasm for what it is we do. First a couple of NCOs went and talked to a fifth-grade class — I hadn't done anything like that myself in over 15 years.

In talking about their experience, clearly they got as much of a boost from the visit as the students did — it highlighted to them the skill and knowledge they have that sets them apart and holds them in high esteem.

The second thing we did was the entire weather division took an afternoon to share our "and there I was" most memorable weather event in our careers — what an eye opener, what a true feeling of professional camaraderie — you could feel the electricity in the air!

Enthusiasm is something that each of us controls. Don't let anticipation of the future dampen your enthusiasm or the pride in the job that each of you perform. Military decision makers both in peace and war depend on your service.

Global Attack

Providing Versatile, Responsive Combat Power

(Editor's note: This is part of a series on the Air Force's core values and core competencies.)

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — From its early days as a separate service, the Air Force has continually stretched its combat arms as fast as its aircraft can fly.

Air Force leaders reaffirmed global attack as one of the service's core competencies in its new strategic vision, "Global Engagement: A Vision for the 21st Century Air Force."

The other Air Force core competencies are air and space superiority, rapid global mobility, precision engagement, information superiority and agile combat support.

One aspect of global attack is the ability of the Air Force to use stateside bases and forces to attack anywhere. In the Cold War, Air Force long-range bombers and, later intercontinental ballistic missiles, shouldered the nation's first priority of deterring nuclear war.

"Although nuclear weapons no

longer play as central a role in America's national security strategy as they did during the Cold War, we recognize the dangers posed by the efforts of rogue states and others to acquire them," said Secretary of the Air Force Sheila E. Widnall.

She said the Air Force will sustain its work in the nuclear area and strengthen its response to the growing risk of proliferation.

Meanwhile, she said, the Air Force will use global attack as the basis to maintain the bomber and land-based ballistic missile legs of the triad even as it prepares for any force reductions.

The Air Force will also keep its commitment through global attack to support nuclear requirements of theater commanders, said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman.

"The Air Force is absolutely determined to maintain its record of excellence as the custodian of nuclear weapons by ensuring the safe and secure operation of those weapons."

In addition, the general emphasized that long-range attack forces have in-



creased their conventional abilities and are able to "provide versatile, responsive combat power able to intervene decisively when necessary.

"The ability of the Air Force to engage globally, using both lethal and non-lethal means, is vital to today's national security strategy of engagement and enlargement," he stated.

The other aspect of global attack is providing expeditionary forces with sustained combat power. The Air Force has developed and demonstrated the concept of using rapidly deployable air expeditionary forces from the United States.

This expeditionary force, Fogleman said, can be tailored to meet the needs of the joint force commander, both for lethal and non-lethal applications and can launch and be ready to fight in less than three days.

"We will develop new ways to do mobility, force deployment, protection, and sustainability in support of the expeditionary concept," the chief of staff said.

The Air Force is increasing the role of expeditionary forces to maintain its global engagement capability.

But in the future, Fogleman said, "capabilities based in the continental United States will likely become the primary means for crisis response and power projection. At the same time, long-range air and space-based assets increasingly fill the requirements of the global attack core competency."



Promotions

Air Force System Ensures Equity Among AFSCs

In the 1995 survey of the Air Force Weather career field, a significant percentage of the enlisted that responded felt they did not have equal opportunity for promotion.

Our officers and enlisted often ask how well the weather Air Force Specialty Code did in a particular enlisted promotion cycle compared to the rest of the Air Force. I recently read in the *Air Force Times* a quotation from a senior NCO who stated that because they were a large AFSC, the promotion opportunity was better.

One of the qualities of the Air Force promotion system is that people in every AFSC attain promotions at the same rate — if the Air Force promotion rate is 20 percent, then the Air Force promotes 20 percent of those eligible in the 1WXXX AFSC. The figure published as the Air Force rate is not an average of all the AFSCs but the rate at which every AFSC is promoted. Individually within the AFSC, your opportunity may be better at different times — but at a 20 percent rate, one of five people will be promoted.

I picked up an enlisted promotion guide from a military personnel flight a couple of weeks ago. It's one of the best I've seen and I'd like to pass along a few items from it.

■ Individuals with little time in service/time in grade may perceive that the points awarded for time in service/time in grade give more senior people an advantage.

Senior personnel often comment that the high percentage of the total points awarded for test scores gives an advantage to junior personnel who test well but who may not be "seasoned" enough for

by Chief Master Sgt. Jim Hoy
Air Force Weather
Superintendent of Weather

the next rank.

The fact is that experience and maturity are indicators of potential. At the same time, there are those who are willing to put forth the effort necessary to score well on their tests to advance rapidly. The Weighted Airman Performance System (WAPS) accommodates both.

■ While each point is important, adding a decoration or the normal points acquired for time in grade/time in service will generally not be enough to ensure promotion.

The key to rapid promotion lies in ef-

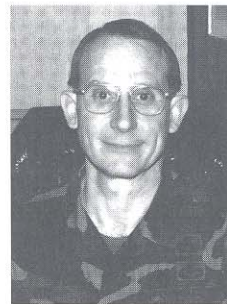
"It is important to build a record using the Enlisted Performance Report (EPR) word picture that shows depth and breadth of experience, because senior and chief promotion boards review EPRs for the preceding 10 years. It is possible for someone to be competing for senior master sergeant with an EPR that they received as a staff sergeant."

**Chief Master Sgt. Jim Hoy
Superintendent of Weather
Air Force Directorate of Weather**



fectively preparing for promotion testing. The idea that someone doesn't test well usually means they don't know how to prepare. Occasionally, some individuals are so junior in grade that they require maximum scores on each test for promotion, but that is rarely the case.

■ By setting and enforcing high standards, and then reserving top performance reports and decorations for those who have earned them, supervisors and



commanders help ensure the right people are promoted.

It is important to build a record using the Enlisted Performance Report (EPR) word picture that shows depth and breadth of experience, because senior and chief promotion boards review EPRs for the preceding 10 years. It is possible for someone to be competing for senior master sergeant with an EPR that they received as a staff sergeant.

In Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel Lt. Gen. Mike D. McGinty's message on enlisted career expectations, he describes the promotion opportunities for enlisted people.

"In actuality, 93 percent of those (senior airman) who stay (beyond the first enlistment) will eventually make staff sergeant," McGinty said. "Twenty-five out of every 100 airman who enter the Air Force can expect to join the rank of technical sergeant. Only 17 out of every 100 people who join the Air Force usually make master sergeant; however, of those technical sergeants who stay with the Air Force, 61 percent will eventually make master sergeant."

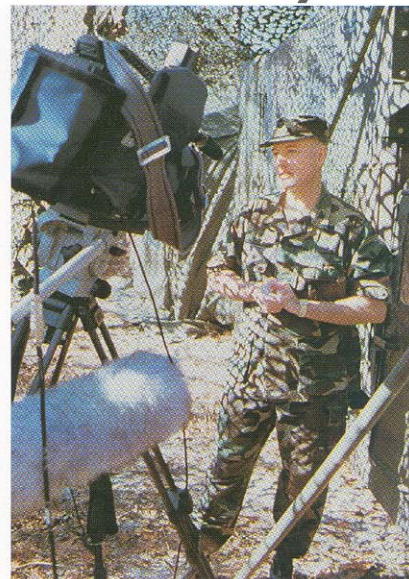
"Approximately six of 100 new accessions can expect to make senior master sergeant," the general said, "but 49 percent of master sergeants, assuming they stay in long enough, will make senior master sergeant. Only two out of 100 accessions achieve the rank of chief. Of those seniors who stay to compete for chief master sergeant, 64 percent will eventually reach this mark."

(The entire message is on the AF/DP homepage at "www.dp.hq.af.mil/DP".)

I encourage you to study your promotion system — beyond how many points it takes to be promoted and how you accumulate those points. As always, if you have any questions, send me an E-Mail at "hoyj@af.pentagon.mil".

Discovery Channel Films At Hurlburt

Prime Time Forecast Calls For 'Weather Warriors' May 14



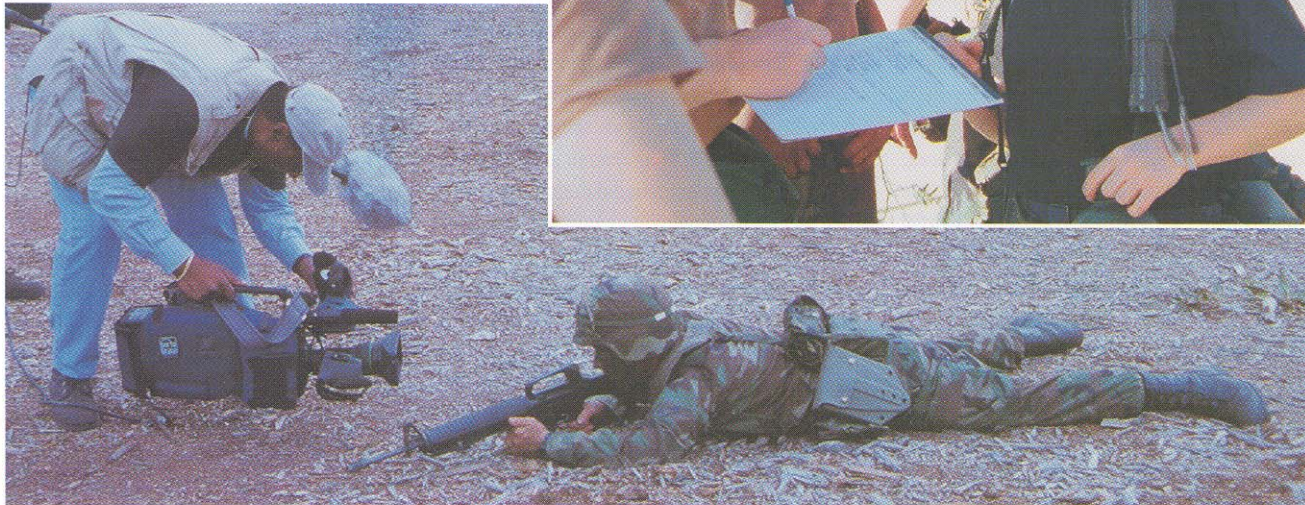
Photos by Master Sgt. Donald W. Schmidt

Top: Maj. Randy Thomas, 18th Weather Squadron director of operations, prepares for an interview about the Integrated Meteorological System (IMETS) for the "Discovery Magazine" television program to air May 14, 1997.

Top right: Air Weather Service Vice Commander Col Gerald F. Riley, Jr., talks about the role of weather during Operation DESERT STORM.

Right: Providence Pictures Inc. crewmember David Vivian (left) collects biographical information from Combat Field Skills Training class member Airman Adrien R. Quarterson for possible use in the film production.

Below: Cameraman Lewis A. Small moves in for a close-up on a CFST course member perimeter guard during a course exercise.



Defining Success

It Means Many Things In The Air Force

(Note: This article contains excerpts from U.S. Air Force Director of Personnel Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty's Realistic Career Expectation Message.)

by Maj. Cecilia M. Grindinger
Air Weather Service
Chief of Personnel



The term "success" is often — but mistakenly — discussed in terms of promotion. For example, despite our very competitive and selective promotion processes, some conclude nothing short of promotion to colonel or chief master sergeant or GS-15 is a successful career.

From the institutional viewpoint, success is when an individual we recruit and train honorably serves our nation and is a contributing member on the Air Force team. Length of service or highest grade held is not the primary determinant of a successful Air Force tour or career.

Defining success in terms of achieving a senior grade has several serious drawbacks -- among them, careerist thinking and a mindset that not attaining colonel or chief or GS-15 means you have failed or did not have a successful career. Instead, success in the Air Force can mean many things.


The reality is not everyone progresses to the same level over the course of a military or civilian career. Historically, for every 100 officers who enter active duty, approximately 45 will be promoted to major and only 32 to lieutenant colonel. Advancement to colonel is even more challenging with only 10 of every 100 line accessions reaching colonel.

Selection for general officer is more selective — only one of every 263 line officers commissioned in 1970 has been nominated for brigadier general. Given these numbers and the high caliber of Air Force officers, those who label success as nothing short of full colonel may not

understand the likelihood of that occurring. A more realistic approach is lieutenant colonel.

Advancement to lieutenant colonel is a significant achievement. In our "best qualified" promotion process, it signals the officer is among those who have the highest potential to meet the responsibilities associated with the O-5 grade. The duties of a lieutenant colonel require a broad range of proven experience, performance and leadership. These positions range from squadron commander (leading) to Air Staff/Joint/Major Command branch Chief (policy) to attaches (representing) to key positions in functional areas (managing).

"Success is when an individual we recruit and train honorably serves our nation and is a contributing member on the Air Force team."



Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty
U.S. Air Force
Director of Personnel

To reach these positions of trust and responsibility, career development should start with a sound foundation of training, followed by duty performance at the appropriate level. The most important aspect of the early career development is duty performance.

The Air Force has a broad range of challenging assignments for officers in every career field. A line officer can expect to spend most of his/her company grade years at wing level, establishing a firm technical foundation and professional expertise. Operator broadening or career broadening assignments like Air

Education and Training Command instructor pilot or recruiting are beneficial at this time as well. Headquarters assignments (Numbered Air Force, MAJCOM) may follow, with a return to base level as an operations officer/squadron commander. Joint tours, higher headquarters (Air Staff), or higher levels of command in the field may round out a rewarding career. Career paths for every specialty can be found in AFPAM 36-2630, Officer Professional Development Guide (we are in the process of updating these to make them more representative of a typical career within a given specialty.)

Every Air Force officer must appreciate the need for continuing professional military education (PME) throughout his or her career. Professional preparation encompasses far more than going to PME in-residence. The development of leadership skills requires a firm foundation based on professional reading, study of doctrine and employment of air and space power across the spectrum of conflict, and an understanding of national military strategy.

Different phases of professional military education, at the right time, are critical in helping us understand the profession of arms, specifically the role of air and space power.

Last year we began a commissioned officer training course for all non-line and JAG officer new accessions. As part of our long range planning, we are now developing the implementation of the Air Force Officer Air and Space Basic Course for all officer (and select civilian) accessions. It will concentrate on the Air Force mission, core competencies, strategy and doctrine, and application of air and space assets to the nation's defense. Later in an officer's development, correspondence, seminar, and in-residence courses offer the opportunity for all officers to com-

plete advanced PME. Starting with the 1992 year group, we are aiming for a 100 percent opportunity for captains to attend resident squadron officers school (SOS). But because of mission requirements and school capacities, resident intermediate (ISS) and senior service school (SSS) attendance is more selective. For example, 13 percent of majors have ISS in residence while 50 percent have completed it by other means. For SSS, eight percent of lieutenant colonels have gained this PME in residence while 45 percent by other methods.

Officers (and civilians) should not rely solely on in-residence attendance at PME to acquire the professional military education needed for career development. The majority won't have that opportunity.

Advanced education, most of it pursued at the appropriate point through off-duty methods, should enhance duty performance and technical competence. Getting a master's or doctoral degree for a degree's sake is not important. Continuing education that complements the officers area of expertise is of higher value.

Air Force career progression is often defined in terms of promotion. Promotion opportunities, however, can be misleading if taken literally. These are policy decisions we make that dictate to a given promotion board the maximum number of officers they can identify as selects.

The math is promotion opportunity times number of first-time-eligible officers equals maximum promotions for that board. Any BPZ and APZ selections are counted as part of the maximum quota, thereby IPZ select rates are lower than promotion opportunity. The opportunity

also varies between grades and among the different promotion categories (line, JAG, nurse, etc.).

Presently for line officers, promotion opportunity is 100 percent to captain, 80 percent to major, 70 percent to lieutenant colonel and 50 percent to colonel. IPZ select rates presently run 73 percent to major, 63 percent to lieutenant colonel and 42 percent to colonel.

Line officers can expect to be promoted to first lieutenant after two years in service. Selection to captain is "fully

pin-on to lieutenant colonels is 15-17 years, and we are averaging 16 years, 7 months. For colonel the DOPMA window is 21-23 years, and we are averaging 21 years, 6 months.

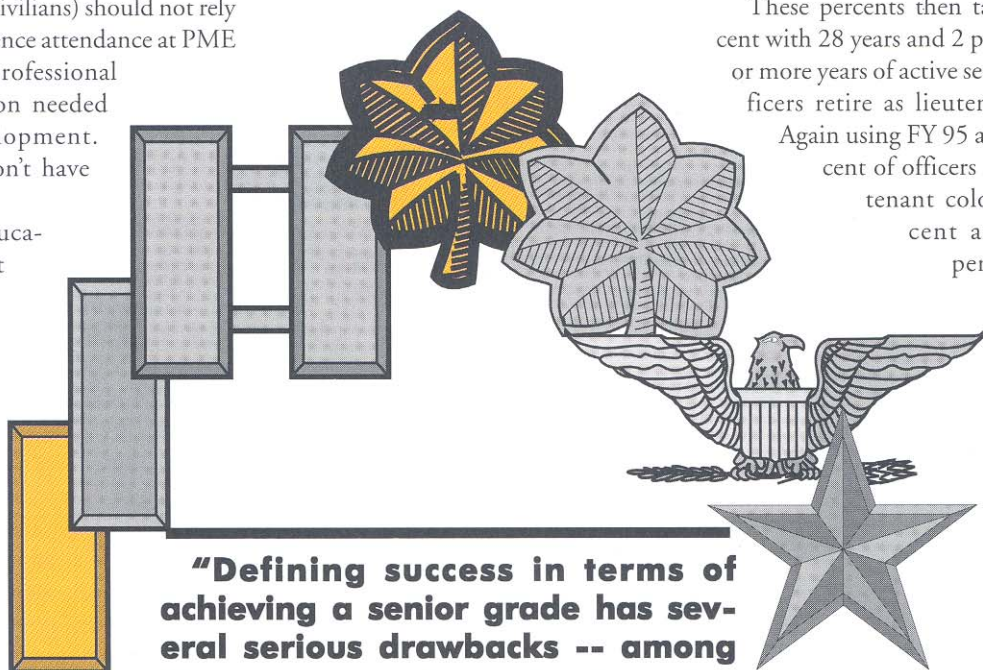
Retirement is a special achievement marking 20 or more years of honorable and distinctive service to the Air Force and nation (recognizing we have temporary authority to retire at 15 years during the drawdown). For FY 95 and 96, 34 percent of all line retirements occurred at the 20 year point, 12 percent at 21 years, 14 percent at 23 years.

These percents then taper to 3 percent with 28 years and 2 percent with 30 or more years of active service. Most officers retire as lieutenant colonels.

Again using FY 95 and 96, 45 percent of officers retired as lieutenant colonels, 22 percent as majors, 21 percent as colonels and 12 percent as captains.

To sum up, we have begun an effort to put more realism in individual career expectations.

We are not trying to diminish individual aspirations nor pour water on an individual's desire to learn and develop and progress as an Air Force officer. Our objective is to temper these goals with a dose of reality. In doing so, we start on the path of breaking any notion that a certain job or grade is the measure of a successful career.



"Defining success in terms of achieving a senior grade has several serious drawbacks -- among them, careerist thinking and a mindset that not attaining colonel or chief or GS-15 means you have failed or did not have a successful career. Instead, success in the Air Force can mean many things."

Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty
U.S. Air Force Director of Personnel

qualified" and selection rates are 99 percent. Captain pin-on occurs at the four-year point. The Defense Officer Personnel Management Act (DOPMA) of 1980 set the target pin-on times for field grade ranks. The target for majors is 9-11 years, and through various measures, we're getting back down to that point, but the current average pin-on time is 11 years, 10 months. The DOPMA window for

This column is written specifically to meet your needs and concerns. If you have specific career questions, or issues which you need addressed, contact me and I'll either answer them in future columns or get back to you personally. You can contact me through E-mail at "grindinc@hqaws.safb.af.mil" or DSN 576-4895, ext. 344.



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Lt. Col. Dewey Harms, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla. (2nd OLC)
Tech. Sgt. David W. Oetting, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy



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Senior Airman Robert J. Feil, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Channing M. Weinmeister, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Kenneth P. Alarie, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Michael S. Albanese, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Todd R. Allen, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Dana Rae Becker, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Edward C. Czopkiewicz, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Charles H. Elford, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Airman 1st Class Kristie L. Fitzpatrick, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. James D. Gunderson, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Girard L. Hunter, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Theodore K. Junge, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Timothy A. Kalb, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Ricky G. Keil, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. John F. Langhorne, Jr., HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Israel Laracuente, Jr., HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Loretta J. Lemley, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Linda B. Lindsey, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Paul D. McKinney, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Capt. Michael W. Miller, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Theodore V. Mustaikis, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.

Maj. Benjamin B. Novograd, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Daniel J. Powell, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. James J. Rouiller, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
1st Lt. Anthony G. Shea, Jr., HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Joe F. Sousa, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. George A. Splonskowski, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Christopher Stanziano, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Todd I. Stephenson, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. William E. Thompson, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Kevin J. Truitt, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Maj. Steven Wilderrotter, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Airman 1st Class John D. Wood, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Nelson Reaser, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
Senior Airman Shannon Flowers, 3rd ASOS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska
Airman 1st Class Brian Drennan, 3rd ASOS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska
Senior Airman Regina Kennedy, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.
Airman 1st Class Michelle C. Versailles, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
Senior Airman Wesley A. Fresse, Jr., 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
Airman 1st Class Lakisha A. Burton, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
Airman 1st Class James J. Durio, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
Airman 1st Class Kristin L. Koehl, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
Senior Airman Joanna Broadway, 4th OSS/OSW, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
Senior Airman Tammy R. Carroll, 12th OSS/OSW, Randolph AFB, Texas
Senior Airman Paul R. Rogers, HQ AMC TACC/XOW, Scott AFB, Ill.
Airman 1st Class Darin Overstreet, 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

Staff Sgt. Gary A. Hall, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
Senior Airman Martha Roberts, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
Tech. Sgt. Philip Poyner, 20th ASOS, Fort Drum AIN, N.Y.



AIR FORCE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Senior Airman Bryan S. Barks, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Tech. Sgt. Terry L. Barnes, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Everett S. Berry, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Anthony J. Brown, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Robert L. Duncan, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Michael S. Grehan, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. David L. Martin, OL-A, SSG, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Patrick W. Naberhaus, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Norman A. Olson, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Master Sgt. Albert J. Palimenio, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Christopher Shampoe, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Joseph L. Sweet, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Michael S. Albanese, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Master Sgt. Eric G. Fjetland, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Senior Airman Timothy D. Foss, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Michael D. Hazelwood, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Paul D. McKinney, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Sgt. Donald J. Pruden, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Joe F. Sousa, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Staff Sgt. Mark A. Strohl, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.

NATO MEDAL

Capt. Stephen J. Romolo, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
1st Lt. Robert C.A. Kraetsch, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
1st Lt. Debra K. Hoium, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
2nd Lt. Tagg A. Timm, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Master Sgt. Dale F. Williamson, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Tech. Sgt. David W. Oetting, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Tech. Sgt. Sheila M. Dollison, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. Naomi L. Archer, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. John R. Joyce, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. Teddy J. Wykle, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. Andrew M. Stahlbusch, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. Daniel P. Rawls, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Senior Airman Jeffrey T. George, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Senior Airman Sean P. Randall, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Senior Airman Sara L. Peterson, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Airman 1st Class Michael P. Thornbury, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Airman 1st Class Asha M. Fielding, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Airman 1st Class Christy M. Rivers, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Airman Shaun N. Adams, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy

ARMED FORCES SERVICE MEDAL

Capt. Stephen J. Romolo, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
1st Lt. Robert C.A. Kraetsch, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
1st Lt. Debra K. Hoium, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
2nd Lt. Tagg A. Timm, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Master Sgt. Dale F. Williamson, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Tech. Sgt. David W. Oetting, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Tech. Sgt. Sheila M. Dollison, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. Naomi L. Archer, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. John R. Joyce, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. Teddy J. Wykle, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. Andrew M. Stahlbusch, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Staff Sgt. Daniel P. Rawls, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Senior Airman Jeffrey T. George, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Senior Airman Sean P. Randall, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
Senior Airman Sara L. Peterson, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy

Airman 1st Class Michael P. Thornbury, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
 Airman 1st Class Asha M. Fielding, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
 Airman 1st Class Christy M. Rivers, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
 Airman Shaun N. Adams, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy

PROMOTIONS



Dewey Harms, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.
 Jackson L. Pellett, 121st WF, Andrews AFB, Md. (ANG)



Julia Borowiak, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.



Darryl Leon, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



Paul A. Armitage, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Jaime Acres, 4th OSS/OSW, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
 Howard A. Cowell, 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.



Phillip B. Hamblett, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Ernest J. Luoma, 12th OSS/OSW, Randolph AFB, Texas
 Terry L. Pittster, 125th WF, Tulas, Okla. (ANG)



Thomas M. Toth, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 David Gray, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Stephen Wyatt, 355th OSS/OSW, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.
 Nicholas J. DiPaolo, 140th WF, Willow Grove, Pa. (ANG)
 Kevin E. Ingram, 105th WF, Nashville, Tenn. (ANG)
 Lowell R. Ivy, 200th WF, Richmond, Va. (ANG)
 Devin W. McWhorter, 105th WF, Nashville, Tenn. (ANG)



Timothy D. Foss, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Scott M. Maier, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla. (Below The Zone)
 Jennifer C. Perey, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Hilton R. Wells, 3rd ASOS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska
 Robert L. Dean, Jr., 15th ASOS, Hunter AAF, Ga. (Below The Zone)
 Wanda A. Franco, 15th ASOS, Hunter AAF, Ga. (Below The Zone)
 Melissa Ann Kalla, 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.
 Brian Jackson, 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.
 Angela Zephier, 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



Roy M. Jones, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Stacy L. Bennett, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 James McKenzie, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.
 Andrea L. Kimsey, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Brenda Frickle, 3rd ASOS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska
 Debbie Watson, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.
 Timothy D. Johnson, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.
 Christy M. Rivers, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
 Gerry Q. Thompson, A Flight, 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
 Elroy Muse, 4th OSS/OSW, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
 Rhonda Adams-Caswell, 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
 Estaphany Allen-Allen, 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
 Jason Beyer, 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



Anthony J. Peel, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Daniel L. Tennant, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Joshua C. Wyatt, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.

HAILS AND FAREWELLS

Senior Airman Michelle Andrews — to HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb., from Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Staff Sgt. Dale Slider — to HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb., from Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal
 Tech. Sgt. William Kohler — to HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb., from Woomeera, Australia
 Tech. Sgt. William L. Johnson — to HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb., from Little Rock AFB, Ark.
 2nd Lt. Casey Cornish — to HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb., from U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.
 Airman Ryan Humphries — to HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Senior Airman John Wood — to Air Force ROTC, Auburn City, Ala., from HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Airman Tommie Mouser — to Air Force Element, DIA, Washington, D.C., from HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 1st Lt. Darryl Leon - to the Pentagon, Washington D.C., from 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.
 2nd Lt. Harmen P. Visser — to 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Staff Sgt. Wayne H. Opie — to 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Tech. Sgt. Paul A. Hay — to 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., from 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Senior Airman Arktan T. May — to Ramstein AB, Germany, from 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Senior Airman Michael A. McConehay — to Osan AB, Korea, from 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Airman Mollica J. Askren — to 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Senior Airman Benjamin X. Wretling — to 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz., from Keesler AFB, Miss.

Senior Airman Phillip Hardin — to 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Senior Airman Rhonda Roberts — to 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Senior Airman Regina Kennedy — to MacDill AFB, Fla., from 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.
 Tech. Sgt. Manuel Carrasquillo — to Camp Humphreys, Korea, from 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.
 Tech. Sgt. John D. Gist — to 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama, from Korea
 2nd Lt. Jason M. Mercer — to 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama, from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Master Sgt. Vane E. Morrison — to Defense Mapping Agency, Fort Belvoir, Va., from 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.
 Senior Airman Beate Kinzel — to 607th WS, Seoul, Korea, from 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.
 Airman 1st Class Timothy D. Johnson — to 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D., from 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.
 Master Sgt. Bruce J. Babcock — to 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif., from 88th OSS/OSW, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
 Staff Sgt. Andrew M. Stahlbusch — to Det. 5, 10th CWS, Fort Bragg, N.C., from 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
 Senior Airman Susan Secora — to Keesler AFB, Miss., from 57th OSS/OSW, Nellis AFB, Nev.
 Master Sgt. Duane Bullard — to 366th OSS/OSW, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, from Sembach AB, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Darin Robinson — to 355th OSS/OSW, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., from Ramstein AB, Germany
 Master Sgt. John Hampshire — to 355th OSS/OSW, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., from Fort Hood, Texas
 Capt. Chip Parker — to 355th OSS/OSW, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., from Scott AFB, Ill.
 Staff Sgt. Cary Roy Fitzsimons — to Air Force Combat Climatology Center, Scott AFB, Ill., from HQ AMC TACC/XOW, Scott AFB, Ill.
 Master Sgt. Christopher L. Fletcher — to HQ AMCDOWX, Scott AFB, Ill., from HQ AMC TACC/XOW, Scott AFB, Ill.
 Senior Airman Scott J. McCormick — to HQ AMC TACC/XOW, Scott AFB, Ill., from AFCCO, Scott AFB, Ill.
 Senior Airman Brian Jackson — to 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Airman Nikkola Sexton — to 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Master Sgt. Michael E. Rudis — to Commandant, Dover AFB, Airman Leadership School, from 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.
 Staff Sgt. Robert S. Yelton — to Luke AFB, Ariz., from 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

REENLISTMENTS

Staff Sgt. Steve Elliott, HQ AWS Public Affairs, Scott AFB, Ill.
 Staff Sgt. Michael D. Hazelwood, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Airman Timothy D. Foss, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Staff Sgt. Brian W. Jacobi, Det. 1, 10th CWS, Fort Lewis, Wash.
 Senior Airman Lakeitha A. Luster, 51st OSS/OSW, Osan AFB, Korea
 Staff Sgt. Susan L. Bowers, 15th ASOS, Hunter AAF, Ga.

RETIREMENTS

Lt. Col. Michael D. McAtee, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Capt. James K. Surey, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Master Sgt. Thomas O. Kinney, Jr., HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Tech. Sgt. Dennis W. Murphy, HQ AMC TACC/XOW, Scott AFB, Ill.

SEPARATIONS

Tech. Sgt. David R. McConnell, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Staff Sgt. Michael Cave, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Airman Michael W. Reavis, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Capt. Mike Fitzpatrick, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.
 Sgt. Terry "Dusty" Rhodes, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.
 Senior Airman Stacey A. Jones, 15th ASOS, Hunter AAF, Ga.
 Airman 1st Class Suzanne Scheiferstein, 366th OSS/OSW, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho
 Airman 1st Class Brian Bushnell, 20th ASOS, Fort Drum AIN, N.Y.
 Airman 1st Class Darin Overstreet, 16th OSS/DOW, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

EDUCATION

Community College of the Air Force

Staff Sgt. Christopher A. Comte, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Staff Sgt. James P. Conry, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Staff Sgt. Roxanne D. Gelb, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Tech. Sgt. George A. Harris, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Airman Jerry M. Haynes, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Master Sgt. Donald W. Jessup, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Staff Sgt. Clinton E. Kirberger, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Tech. Sgt. Robert J. Poulin, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Staff Sgt. Thomas L. Robind, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Master Sgt. Dean T. Sallee, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Airman Danielle L. Snyder, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Master Sgt. Kenneth A. Strahm, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Staff Sgt. Robert H. Thur, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Airman Lloyd E. Weber, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Airman John Zanfardino, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Staff Sgt. Janet Holly, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo.
 Tech. Sgt. Hardy A. Frey, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif.

Airman Leadership School

Senior Airman Arlo D. Frederick, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Airman Craig A. Rollings, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Senior Airman Wes Robinson, 21st OSS/OSW, Peterson AFB, Colo. (Distinguished Graduate)
 Senior Airman Beate Kinzel, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif. (Commandant's Award, Writing Award)
 Senior Airman Elizabeth Spurrier, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M. (Levitov Award, Academic Achievement Awards)
 Senior Airman Sharon Cobbs, 366th OSS/OSW, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho

Tropical Weather Forecasting Course

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey D. Barker, Det. 1, 10th CWS, Fort Lewis, Wash.
 Capt. James K. Vickers, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.

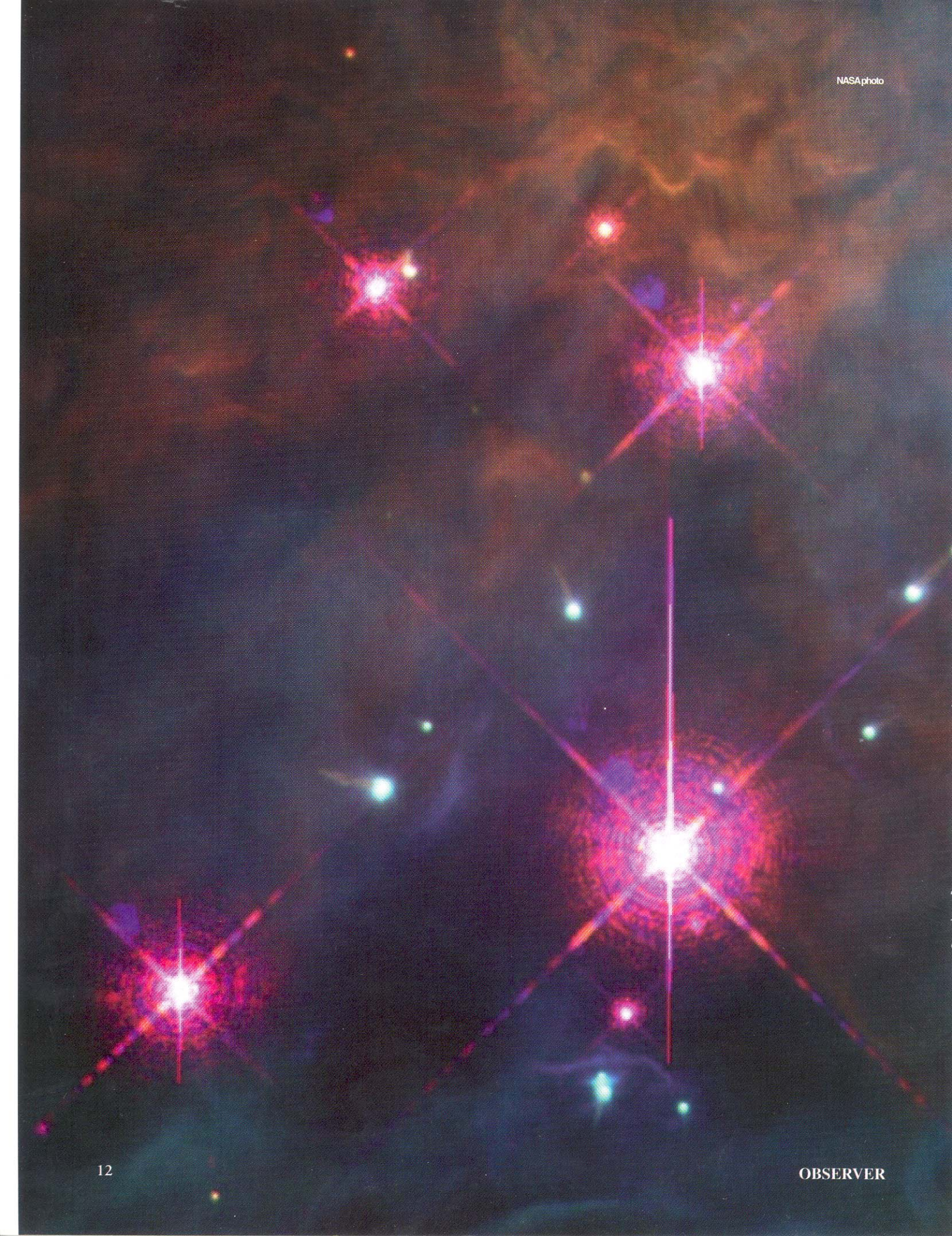
Satellite Forecasting Course

Staff Sgt. John P. Baker, Det. 1, 10th CWS, Fort Lewis, Wash.
 Staff Sgt. Brady L. Armistead, Det. 1, 10th CWS, Fort Lewis, Wash.
 Senior Airman Richard L. Bertram, Det. 1, 10th CWS, Fort Lewis, Wash.

Airmy Jumpmaster Course

Staff Sgt. Brady L. Armistead, Det. 1, 10th CWS, Fort Lewis, Wash.

See SALUTES,
 continued on Page 22



The 55th Space Weather Squadron

Exploiting The Space Environment For The Warfighter

The 55th Space Weather Squadron's mission is one of the most challenging in the weather career field: "To provide space environmental analyses, forecasts, and warnings to enhance worldwide Department of Defense operations and ensure DoD space systems are available when needed."

The squadron began life at Falcon AFB, Colo., in 1992 as the Air Force Space Forecast Center, a component of Air Weather Service. In October 1994, the center transferred to Air Force Space Command (AFSPC), became part of the 50th Space Wing, and was redesignated as the 50th Weather Squadron (50th WS). As of March 17, 1997, it was redesignated once again, this time as the 55th Space Weather Squadron (55th SWX).

Among the unit's many diverse customers are AFSPC, U. S. Space Command (USSPACECOM), North American Air Defense Command (NORAD), high-priority national space programs, all other military services, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Staff at the squadron includes 75 people: 18 officers, 49 enlisted, and eight civilians. There are an additional 56 per-

sonnel at seven geographically separated units (GSUs); those units consist of five officers, 40 enlisted, two civilians, and nine contractors.

To accomplish this unique and highly technical mission, the 55th SWX operates a 24-hour Space Environmental Operations Center at Falcon AFB.

Five operations crews consisting of one officer, two enlisted space environment forecasters, and one enlisted computer system operator meet this challenge. The squadron also manages the Solar Electro-Optical Network (SEON), made up of six solar observatories spread throughout the world monitoring solar emissions at both radio and optical wavelengths.

The 55th SWX assists Space Weather Operations with Air Force personnel assigned to Operating Location A, 55th SWX at the National Oceanographic

and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Space Environmental Center (SEC) in Boulder, Colo.

OL-A provides 40 percent of SEC's space environmental crew manning, functions as a partial backup to the operations center at the 55th SWX, and issues joint USAF and NOAA solar forecasts.

"The road ahead for this squadron is exciting and challenging. Solar maximum (1998-2003) is just around the corner, and increased space environment impacts should dramatically increase within the next two years."

**Capt. Jeff Cox
55th Space Weather Squadron**

**by Capt. Jeff Cox
50th Weather Squadron**

55th SWX operations crews not only receive valuable information from solar optical and radio observatories, but also analyze ionospheric and geomagnetic data from global ground-based sensor networks. The crews receive energetic particle data and electric and magnetic field information from several space-based platforms, including the Defense Support Program (DSP), the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP), the Global Positioning System (GPS), and the Geosynchronous Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) spacecraft. The Falcon operations crew also gathers additional data such as satellite X-ray images of the sun from the World Wide Web.

Observing The Sun From Exotic Locations

To monitor solar activity, the 55th SWX operates six observatories throughout the world to continuously view the sun. These observatories are at Sagamore Hill, Mass.; Ramey AS, Puerto Rico; Holloman AFB, N.M.; Palehua, Hawaii; Learmonth in northwest Australia; and San Vito de Normanni in southern Italy.

Air Force people operate the first five observatories, while contractors run San Vito. All six observatories are direct re-

porting units (DRUs) of the 55th SWX. They observe the sun's activity using both optical and radio telescope systems. Palehua, Learmonth, and San Vito operate both types of instruments; Holloman and Ramey only have optical telescopes; and Sagamore Hill has only radio antennae. Three of the observatories have an additional sensor called a Digital Ionosonde Sounding System (DISS), which measures various parameters of the ionosphere.

The optical observing equipment is used to locate and classify active regions, sunspots, and solar flares on the sun's surface using white light and a discrete wavelength, 656.2 nm (Hydrogen-alpha). The solar analysts at the solar observatories are responsible for providing the Space Environmental Operations Center at the 55th SWX with alerts of solar flares within two minutes of initial observation.

The radio observing equipment measures the radio burst output of solar flares at eight different frequencies; 245, 410, 610, 1415, 2695, 4995, 8800, and 15400 MHz. The radio observatories also measure the sweep nature of radio frequency electromagnetic energy from coronal mass ejections and flares from 25-75 MHz with the Swept Frequency Interferometric Radiometer (SFIR). The SFIR is being phased out

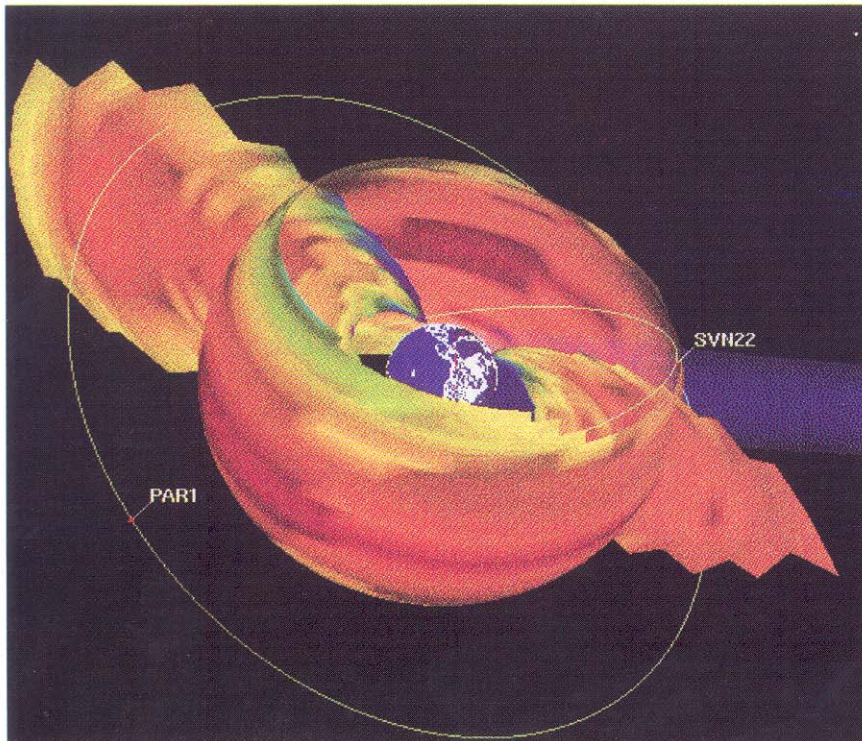
and replaced with the Solar Radio Burst Locator (SRBL), which has a greater frequency range (30-245 MHz) and the capability to pin-point the location of solar radio bursts. A prototype SRBL is currently being tested at the Palehua solar observatory in Hawaii.

The majority of 55th SWX customers are users of high frequency (HF) radio and ultra-high frequency (UHF) satellite communications. The squadron provides general HF propagation forecasts, as well as detailed point-to-point forecasts for several Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard units. These tailored forecasts provide the user with the maximum usable frequency, frequency of optimal transmission, and lowest usable frequency for a specific HF transmission path, which allow the warfighter to better select communication frequencies and assure that critical messages will reach their destination.

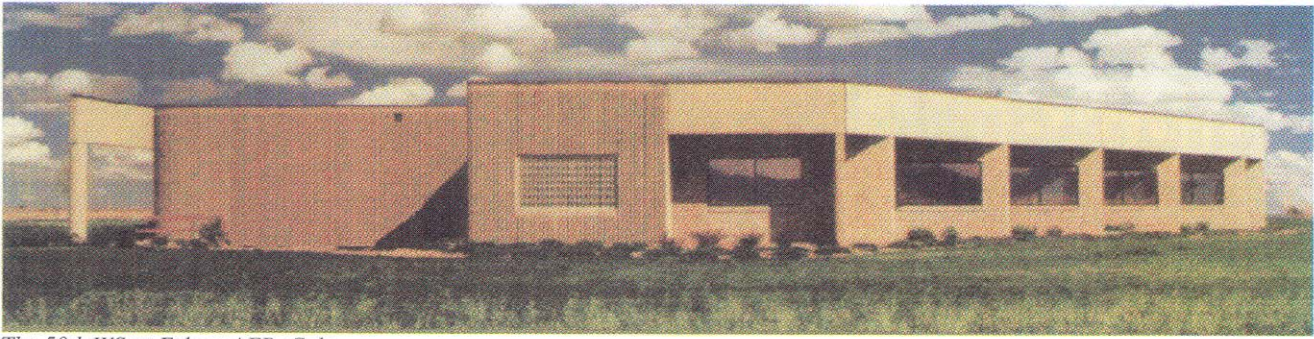
For satellite communications, the 55th SWX forecasts the degree of signal fading due to ionospheric scintillation. Scintillation is rapid signal to noise variations caused by irregular density structures in the ionosphere. These forecasts enable the SATCOM user to select the best satellite to avoid data loss or other comm link problems.

The 55th SWX also provides anomaly resolution assistance for satellite and radar operators. 55th SWX commanders maintain a database of thousands of anomalies with pertinent environmental data and system effects to help engineers determine whether the space environment has contributed to a satellite malfunction or anomalous radar return. The 55th SWX provides warnings of hazardous space environment conditions that can degrade system capabilities of 50th Operations Group space operators and NORAD/USSPACECOM space surveillance and missile warning missions.

One non-military customer of note is the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Ops crews from the 55th SWX provide critical radiation analyses for space shuttle missions. These warnings enable astronauts in orbit to take shelter and protect themselves from potentially serious consequences (i.e., chromosome damage)



A three-dimensional example of the magnetospheric specification model output



The 50th WS at Falcon AFB, Colo.

due to solar radiation. Under extreme cases, NASA would direct an early landing in order to avoid exposure to deadly radiation from large solar flares. In 1972, Apollo astronauts just missed being exposed to fatal levels of solar radiation. This type of support will clearly be of interest for future manned missions to other planets.

The Challenge of the Space Environment

Providing alerts, warnings, analyses, and forecasts of the space environment is a challenging task, considering the 55th SWX's worldwide support and the large environmental variations observed. Space environmental support is still in its infancy and breakthroughs in space science continually expand the scope of our capabilities.

At the present time, 55th SWX Crew Commanders (Air Force Specialty Code CCMDR—15W3A) are all mid-to-senior grade captains who have earned a master's degree in space physics.

The crew commanders provide a strong technical backbone for the operations crew and are responsible for satellite, radar, and communication anomaly assessments. Unfortunately, tropospheric weather forecasting experience is not applicable to forecasting the space environment. This means that newly assigned weather NCOs (Specialty Code 1W0X1A) must currently rely on an extensive on-the-job training program, supplemented by an intense two-week course detailing the fundamentals of the space environment.

The 55th SWX possesses an array of powerful computers to collect and analyze

a wide variety of ground- and space-based environmental data. The squadron currently runs three operational space environmental computer models. These are the first operational space environmental models used for real-time support in the world. They are the Magnetospheric Specification Model (MSM), Parameterized Real-time Ionospheric Specification Model (PRISM), and the Solar Wind Transport (SWT) model. These three models, as well as two others now in development, began as university research projects funded through the DoD Advanced Technology Development program.

However, the original research-grade models required hours of computer time

The PRISM depicts the global ionosphere at altitudes up to 600 miles, providing crucial information to radio and radar operators on the best frequencies to use. MSM and SWT became operational on Aug. 30, 1995, while PRISM became operational on April 17, 1996.

In short, the Air Force now possesses an unmatched capability to analyze and forecast the space environment. The dedicated members of the 55th SWX are truly pioneers on the cutting edge of technology. Two more models are scheduled to be operational in FY 1998, which will further expand and enhance the 55th SWX' ability to specify and forecast space phenomena.

The Future

The road ahead for this squadron is exciting and challenging. Solar maximum (1998-2003) is just around the corner, and space environment impacts should dramatically increase within the next two years.

The first generation of space environmental specification models became operational during the last year, and the next generation will give us the capability to forecast the environment to give operators advanced warning of hazardous environmental conditions.

The 55th SWX is continuing its full integration into 50th Operations Group and 14th Air Force operations, and is working on plans to relocate the 24-hour work center to building 400 on Falcon AFB by May 1997. After this move, the 55th SWX will be co-located with all other 50th Space Wing operational squadrons.

As weather has become a force multiplier of the 20th century, exploitation of the space environment may well turn out to be the key to victory in 21st century warfare.

"As weather has become a force multiplier of the 20th century, exploitation of the space environment may well turn out to be the key to victory in 21st century warfare."



**Capt. Jeff Cox
55th Space Weather Squadron**

and couldn't meet real-time operational demands. Phillips Lab took on the task to re-engineer the models to run faster, and Hughes STX Corporation (HSTX), ported the models to 55th SWX computers. The result is that these models are now able to directly support diverse DoD and national program customers.

The SWT model uses particle velocities and densities from 35,000 to 1.25 million miles out (toward the sun) to determine when disturbances will reach the Earth.

The MSM depicts the radiation environment from 7,800 to 35,000 miles above the Earth, enabling satellite operators to understand the environment to which their spacecraft is exposed.

Data Administration

Treating Data As A Valuable Resource

Imagine you're sitting there, at the job and suddenly the lights go out. Another power outage.

You wait for the back-up generators to kick in ... nothing. You've been through this before.

You wait a few more minutes ... still nothing. Then the word comes through that this is a major outage across the entire base and all communication lines have gone down as well.

Now you have no data and no way to access the data you need. What can you do? Unfortunately, not much. Without data you can't do your job effectively, if at all. This would put more than a small wrinkle in the operations of those units you support.

You probably don't give it much thought, but obviously data is crucial to your mission. To have the most accurate and timely data readily available for your operations is the job of HQ AWS/SCTI, Data Administration.

Data Administration has been around for years, but in October 1993, William Perry, then Deputy Secretary of Defense, directed the acceleration of functional process improvement, migration system selection, and data standardization efforts throughout the Department of Defense.

AWS Data Administration, with the help and expert advice from data and database administrators from the Air Force Global Weather Center, Air Force Combat Climatology Center, and OLA, AFCCC, manages all Air Force Weather (AFW) data. Our main goals are to ensure data is treated as a valuable resource, used efficiently, protected, and

by Master Sgt. Nancy J. O'Connell
Communications and
Information Directorate

made accessible to all Department of Defense (DoD) services.

With the help of our data experts at the centers we do a thorough review of all weather data to ensure we maintain only data that is of value to our mission. A crucial portion of this review is a comparison of existing data requirements and requirements for systems under development such as the Global Command and Control System (GCCS), Tactical Forecast System (TFS), Meteorological Information Standard Terminal (MIST) and Automated Weather Dissemination System (AWDS).

Once data requirements are standardized, they are sent to the DoD Joint Meteorological and Oceanographic (METOC) Data Standardization Working Group. This group, consisting of data and subject matter experts from various services and HQ AWS data administrators, has met bi-monthly since early 1995. The major task of these sessions is to ensure the standardized data fits all DoD services requirements.

"Standardizing" means that each piece of data has standard "metadata" (data about the data, i.e., a concise definition, range of acceptable values, units of measure, data type, etc.). We've been creating the first-ever DoD Weather Dictionary, as the format for all services to follow, as well as creating the DoD Weather logical data model showing the relationships between the data items. The overall goals of this group are to minimize software data conversion/translation, reduce data

storage requirements, minimize data transfer, and achieve an efficient balance between storage requirements and data transfer requirements.

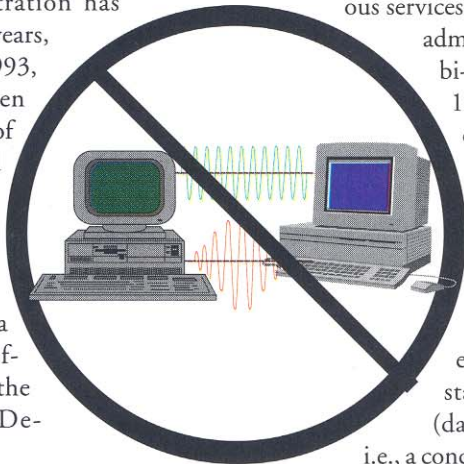
The ideal is to be able to share this data between all services without the need for "black-box" converters at each center. Of course, it's going to take some time and a lot of work to get there. In the meantime, we will need those "black boxes" until each center is fully integrated with standard data elements in their systems. Information about the METOC Data Standardization group's work can be found at "www.cnmoc.navy.mil/da/jmcdm.htm". Feel free to leave comments there or let us know if you have any questions about anything you see there.

As of April 1996 there were 11,426 approved DoD standard data items stored on the Defense Data Depository System (DDDS) and over 1,600 are weather data items. Since it would be cost prohibitive to simply start plugging these standard data items into our programs where they fit, we will be doing "Mapping and Matching" in the interim. That's identifying, through documentation, that the data element your unit is storing closely resembles, or "maps" to a standard data element or it "matches" directly to a standard data element in the DDDS.

Once the data is documented, or mapped and matched, it is considered "registered" according to Defense Information Services Agency (DISA). This will also play a critical role in many other major efforts in DoD, such as the development of the Global Command and Control System (GCCS), the proposed "Virtual Database," and Modeling and Simulation efforts.

If you have any questions about data administration, call DSN 576-5879, ext. 412/405.

Communications and
Information



Analyzing Weather Patterns

New Wind Data Improving Accuracy Of Weather Forecasts

NASA scientists using weather forecast models with newly incorporated data from the wind-measuring NASA Scatterometer (NSCAT) instrument on board Japan's Advanced Earth Observing Satellite (ADEOS) are seeing significant improvements in their ability to analyze weather patterns and generate more accurate forecasts, especially in the Southern Hemisphere.

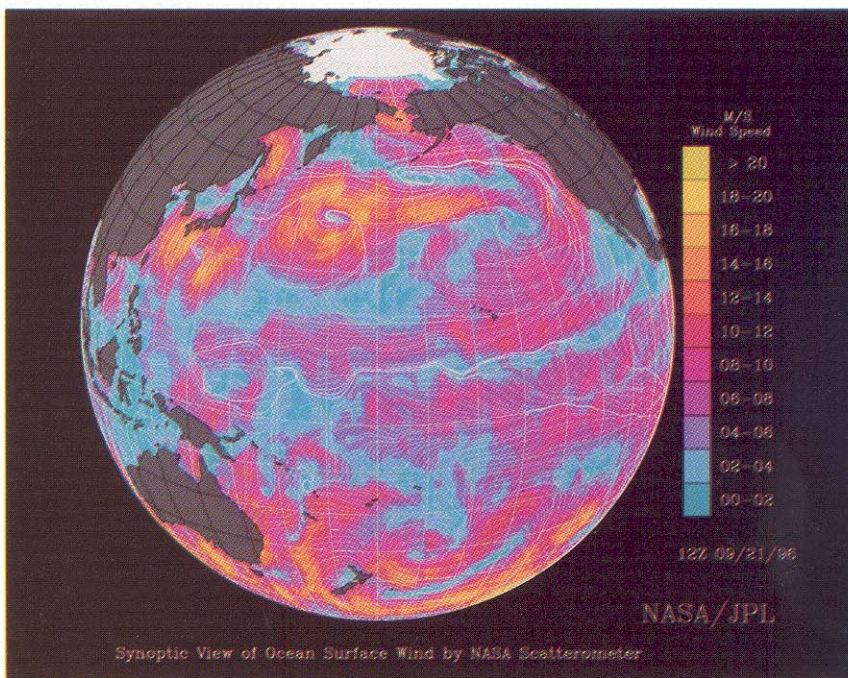
"Initial experiments with the wind measurements taken by the scatterometer indicate the potential to extend the useful range of weather forecasts in the Southern Hemisphere by about 24 hours," said Dr. Robert Atlas, an NSCAT science team member from the Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md.

"We have also seen improvement in early analyses and forecasts of storms in the Northern Hemisphere. Specifically, NSCAT appears to more accurately locate both cyclones and fronts, and to improve the forecasts of their location by as much as several hundred kilometers."

Such information should assist meteorologists at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Marine Prediction Center, Camp Springs, MD, to issue more accurate warnings that could help reduce the loss of life and property at sea and along the U.S. coastline.

Accurate measurements of wind velocity in the Southern Hemisphere have been virtually non-existent due to the vastness of the southern ocean. The scatterometer takes 190,000 wind measurements per day, mapping more than 90 percent of the world's ice-free oceans every two days. The instrument is giving scientists more than 100 times the amount of ocean wind information that is available from ship reports or buoys. Because the scatterometer is a radar instrument, it operates 24 hours a day, collecting data day or night, regardless of sunlight or weather conditions.

"Since the August launch, we've set a new standard in terms of how quickly we have been able to calibrate and validate our instrument



and get the data into the hands of the people who are using it," said Jim Graf, NSCAT project manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif.

"Weather forecasters will be able to use these data to better predict the evolution of fronts and storms over the oceans and track them as they approach land and major population centers. The maritime industry will benefit by steering ships away from storms and toward areas with favorable tailwinds," Graf said. "By combining the scatterometer wind data with ocean height data from the TOPEX/Poseidon mission, Earth scientists are getting a first hand look at the forcing function, the winds, and the ocean's response, ocean height and waves, or the yin and yang that control much of our planet's weather and climate change."

The NSCAT project also is making the wind images available to the public via the Internet at the following address:

<http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/winds>

"Each day, we provide a 'daily wind movie' of the Pacific Ocean that allows people to see the last 26 hours of NSCAT wind data. Anyone who has an interest

in what the winds are doing -- weather forecasters, scientists, boaters, surfers, fishermen -- can log on and get an up-to-date picture from NSCAT," Graf said.

The scatterometer uses an array of stick-like antennas that radiate microwave pulses in the Ku-band across broad regions of the Earth's surface. A small fraction of the energy in the radar pulses is reflected back and captured by NSCAT's antennas. At any given time NSCAT's array of six dual-beam antennas scans two swaths of ocean -- one on either side of the satellite's near-polar, sun-synchronous 500-mile orbit. Each swath is 375 miles wide. The swaths are separated by a gap of about 215 miles directly below the satellite where no data collection is possible.

The satellite is a key part of an international environmental research effort that includes NASA's Mission to Planet Earth (MTPE) program, a long-term, coordinated research effort to study the Earth as a global environmental system. The goal of MTPE is to develop a better scientific understanding of natural environmental changes and to distinguish between natural and human-made changes and impacts. (Courtesy NASA News Service)

PEACEFUL EAGLE

Former Cold War Adversaries

Cooperate In Multi-Nation Exercise

Military troops that once faced off as Cold War adversaries worked hand-in-hand during a nine-nation "Partnership for Peace" exercise last summer in the former Soviet Bloc nation of Albania. The United States and Albania were co-hosts for PEACEFUL EAGLE, which took place from June 9-July 21, 1996.

"The exercise was designed to enhance stability in NATO's southern region by expanding interoperability with Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, Romania, Slovenia, and Turkey," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Timothy Thomas, a spokesman for the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force (USASETAF), located at Vicenza, Italy, and a major participant in the exercise.

Other participants included the U.S. Navy's Seabees from their forward de-

by Capt. David C. Runge
OL-E, 7th Weather Squadron

ployed location at Rota, Spain, and U.S. Air Force C-130s operating from Aviano AB, Italy; RAF Mildenhall, England; and Ramstein AB, Germany.

Lt. Col. Athanasios Bafas, head of the Greek army element said, "The most important thing being derived from the training is the chance to become better friends with non-NATO participants." Fifty-six Greek troops went to Albania for the exercise — the

largest number of Greek troops to visit Albania since World War II.

Turkish army Lt. Col. Ihsan Balabani stated that "Everybody must learn how we (NATO) do peace. Peace is the most important thing in this world."

About 250 Albanian troops took part in the exercise. Albanian army Lt. Col.



Captain Runge works on a forecast presentation.

Vladimir Oirjazi, a veteran of the U.N. peacekeeping operation in Georgia said, "It (the exercise) helped us to learn how to work and to keep peace. It's better than preparing for war. War is terrible."

About 250 Albanian troops took part in the exercise. Albanian army Lt. Col. Vladimir Oirjazi, a veteran of the U.N. peacekeeping operation in Georgia said, "It (the exercise) helped us to learn how to work and to keep peace. It's better than preparing for war. War is terrible."

The NATO side of the exercise was run by USASETAF, the European theater's quick response joint task force. Operating Location E, 7th Weather Squadron is responsible for

weather support to USASETAF and deployed a five-member weather team to Rinas AB, Tirana, Albania, where air operations were centered.

The weather team discovered there was no ground support when they arrived at Rinas AB June 13, and spent the first night under the stars in a field along the

airfield. The weather team Officer In Charge, Capt. David C. Runge said, "It was extremely fortunate we brought mosquito netting or we would have all been a pint short of blood by morning."

The team spent the second day pitching tents for the task force that would follow. On the third day after arriving, they had the weather office set up and were briefing pilots that night.

A major logistical effort preceded the exercise by a full month. The exercise area, located in rugged mountainous terrain, is about a two-and-a-half-hour drive from Rinas AB, and because the road to the area was so difficult and dangerous, most supplies and personnel were flown to the area aboard Chinook CH-47 helicopters.

The weather team provided aviation weather support to Chinook CH-47s, Medevac UH-60 Blackhawks, C-12s, C-130s, and command and control UH-60 Blackhawks, as well as planning weather support to the SETAF Joint Operations Center (JOC).

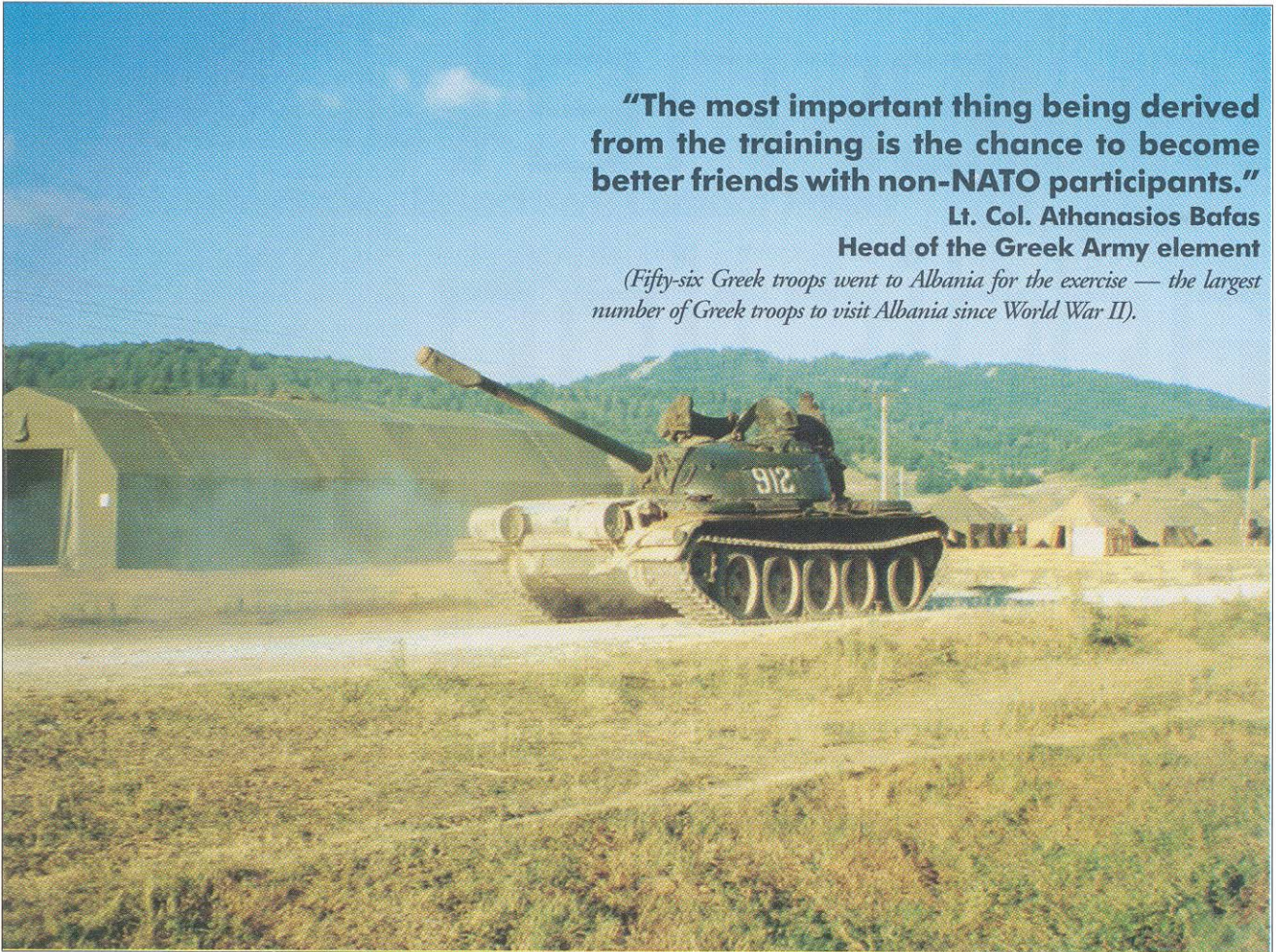


The Riza training site relied almost exclusively on Chinook helicopters to airlift in supplies and equipment.

"The most important thing being derived from the training is the chance to become better friends with non-NATO participants."

**Lt. Col. Athanasios Bafas
Head of the Greek Army element**

(Fifty-six Greek troops went to Albania for the exercise — the largest number of Greek troops to visit Albania since World War II).



Photos courtesy of OL-E, 7th WS

"The tricky part of the aviation weather support was monitoring weather conditions at the training area, located at 4,200 feet," Runge said. "We set up a remote observation site at the training area to monitor mountain weather conditions. Most mornings the visibility was 500 meters or less at the mountain training center, even though the weather at Rinas AB was good. The remote observation site allowed us to tell the pilots when it was safe to fly."

The mountains were especially hazardous during thunderstorm periods, and there were four occasions when the forecasters had to shut down the routes between Rinas AB and Biza. "USASETAF Operations doesn't like to be told the weather's too bad to fly, but I knew they appreciated our support when Maj. Gen. Nix (USASETAF Commander) presented our weather team with a plaque during the awards ceremony," Runge said.

Another challenge was lack of communications to access weather data. All that was available were tactical phone lines, but 7th WS provided the answer with a German tactical satellite weather data receive system called "Metassi." The 7th WS incorporated this tactical system into their CONOPS and it proved to be a phenomenal weather support success for both PEACEFUL EAGLE and the ongoing Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR effort.

"Metassi" provides a continual feed of all European observations, TAFs, and U.S. military and German weather bulletins. It also provides a wide assortment of short and long range German spectral model chart products if hooked into either an Alden 9315 TR or TRT tactical fax. All this capability came packed in a single case and a small satellite dish assembly.

Tech. Sgt. Whittle, the weather team NCOIC said, "If you could bring only

one weather system to the field, this would be it."

Two of the weather team members, Senior Airman Thomas J. Hakes and Senior Airman William H. Ballard had just returned from Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR, but volunteered to deploy to PEACEFUL EAGLE.

"All weather team members were motivated and dedicated to accomplishing the mission. They were professionals and made it (field weather support) look easy," Runge said. "Being away from friends and family was tough; but when we shook the hands of former Cold War adversaries and saw the friendly faces of Albanian kids, we all felt truly fortunate to be able to contribute to this peace effort."

internet addiction

Obsessive net-surfing can be just as addictive as excesses of other ordinary activities such as eating, sex, work and exercise

KEESSLER AFB, Miss. (AFNS) — The Internet is an amazing information resource. Students, teachers and researchers use it as an investigative tool. Physicians use it to learn more about unfamiliar diseases and the latest medical developments.

Ordinary folks use it for shopping, banking, bill-paying and communicating with family and friends. People all over the globe use it to connect with individuals of other countries and cultures.

Even journalists use it to find information for stories -- like this one.

"It's opened up a whole new world," a friend explained. "You never know exactly where the journey will take you. Doors open and you take off in new directions. You can learn about anything -- I mean anything! And you never have to be lonely -- there's always someone out there to connect with."

But for some people, the computer world rivals their real world.

Some people choose to commune with a computer, rather than their spouses and children. While they expand their horizons electronically, they insulate themselves from intimate settings and relationships.

Internet abuse has been cited as a contributing factor in the disintegration of marriages and families and the collapse of promising careers.

by Susan Griggs
Keesler News

Dr. Ivan Goldberg, a New York City psychiatrist who coined the term "Internet Addiction Disorder," explained IAD is not a recognized medical addiction like alcoholism, but "more like an out-of-control behavior that threatens to overwhelm the addict's normal life.

"Such use continues despite knowledge of a persistent or recurrent physical, social or psychological problem caused or exacerbated by net use, such as sleep deprivation, marital difficulties, lateness for early morning appointments, neglect of occupational duties and feelings of abandonment in significant others," Goldberg said.

"Internet addiction has gained credibil-

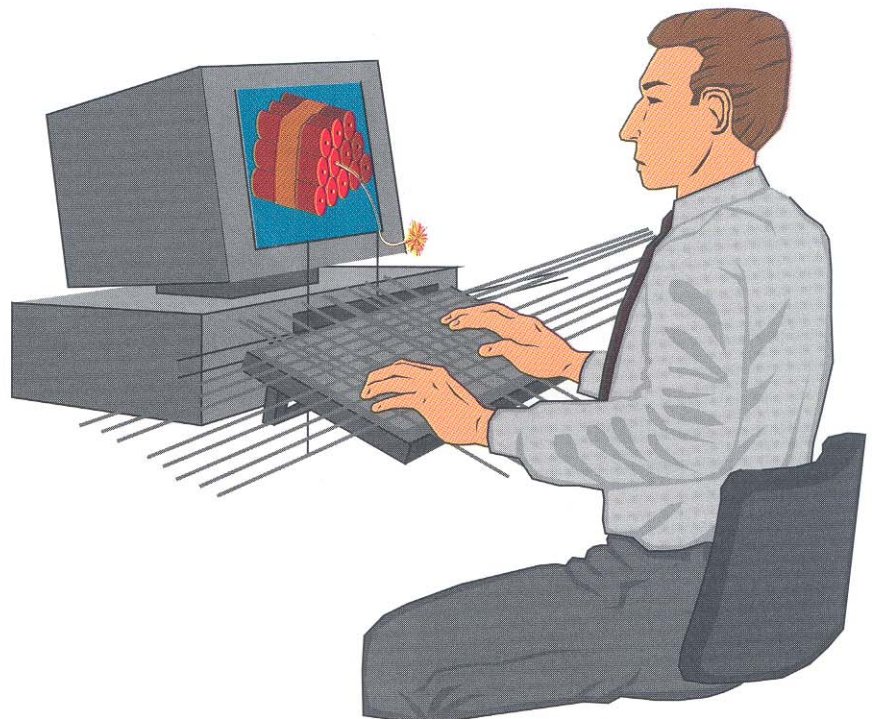
ity among mental health professionals as a clinically significant disorder which negatively impacts social, occupational, family and financial functioning," said Dr. Kimberly Young, director of the Center for Online Addiction at the University of Pittsburgh-Bradford, and reviewer of more than 400 IAD cases.

"Anyone with access to a modem and the Internet may become addicted," Young warned. She said home-based computer users are most at risk of developing IAD. Contrary to the stereotype of the computer nerd, a typical addict is a middle-aged female with limited education, although persons of all ages and social groups are prominent in her study.

Dr. Nancy Wesson, a clinical psychologist in Mountain View, Calif., pointed out people can develop behavioral addictions like IAD even when there's no true physiological dependence. She asserted obsessive net-surfing can be just as addictive as excesses of other ordinary activities such as eating, sex, work and exercise.

Bill Cooley, a drug demand reduction specialist with Keesler's mental health clinic, believes the anonymity of Internet communication, which allows a person to escape from reality, has great potential for compulsive behavior or misuse.

"Many individuals go on-line and gain a sense of acceptance from people they



don't even know," he suggested. "It's a coming-home feeling that can entice people to the detriment of family, home, career and health."

Some doctors are skeptical of specialists who apply psychiatric terms such as "addiction" or "dependence" to what may seem to be a harmless hobby, but Cooley stressed, "Hobbies don't become harmful in terms of the attention they take away from important aspects of our lives—addictions do."

Cooley, who has extensive experience counseling individuals with substance abuse problems, indicated, "I don't have any studies or data to prove it, but it wouldn't surprise me to find that alcoholics and drug addicts move to the Internet in their search for validation, love or a sense of importance."

Is "surfing the net" a hobby or an addiction? You may have a problem if you have these symptoms:

- You neglect important family activities, social events, work responsibilities, academic projects or health concerns to spend hours on the Internet;
- A significant person, such as a boss, close friend or partner, has complained you're spending too much time or money on the Internet;
- You're constantly anticipating your next on-line session;
- It becomes impossible to cut back on your Internet time;
- You're determined to spend a brief period on-line, only to discover later that several hours have passed;
- You check your e-mail compulsively;
- You develop cravings and withdrawal symptoms when you're away from the computer;
- You're skipping meals, classes or appointments to get on the Internet;
- You'd rather talk to people on-line than face-to-face;
- You sleep less than five hours a night so you can spend more time on-line.

Since Internet Addiction Disorder is a relatively new mental health concern, few self-help resources are available. Ironically, there are some on-line support

groups designed to wean people from the Internet.

Send an e-mail message to the Internet Addiction Support Group at listserv@netcom.com (Subject: leave blank; Message: Subscribe i- a-s-g)

Visit the IASG web site at [http://](http://www.iucf.indiana.edu/~brown/hyplan/addict.html)

www.iucf.indiana.edu/~brown/hyplan/addict.html; or the Center for Online Addiction at <http://www.pitt.edu/~ksy/>

Netaholics Anonymous can be reached at <http://www.safari.net/~pam/netanon/index.html> (Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)

Web Surfing Officer Nets Nine Months Confinement

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFNS) — An Air Force officer using his government computer to download pornographic images has learned a lesson he'll never forget and wants others to avoid the same temptation.

On Aug. 24, Capt. William D. Hopkins Jr., 88th Communications Group, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, was sentenced to nine months confinement, a \$10,000 fine and a reprimand for conduct unbecoming an officer consisting of wrongfully and dishonorably using Air Force computer and telecommunications equipment to locate, download and store computer graphics, including pornographic images.

Hopkins plead guilty to the charge and was sentenced by a military judge sitting alone at his request.

In an open letter written while in confinement, the 23-year veteran admitted he violated the rules by using government equipment for personal purposes, and hopes his story will convince others tempted to misuse government computers to think twice.

Looking back, Hopkins wrote, he now realizes that he was falsely justifying his actions at the time of misuse.

"I told myself it (using the computer) was okay because I'm only using it after working hours; I'm not causing a loss to the government—the computer won't be used up because the hard drive can be erased and used again and again; I'm not making any money by what I'm doing; and besides, I know other people in my work center who are doing it," Hopkins wrote.

Over time, while using the computer to access large archives of infor-

mation for work, Hopkins stated that he became aware of the multitude of nonofficial information that exists on the Internet and began using his computer to download erotic pictures.

Hopkins' illegal web surfing began as a brief diversion from a hectic work load, but eventually he began downloading erotic pictures more frequently.

"In a sense, I was using my government computer as a screen for my electronic 'men's' magazine. It was like having the magazine hidden in my desk and, when no one else was around, taking it out to look at the pictures, and then putting it away," Hopkins wrote.

According to Hopkins, his "terrible mistake" has cost him much more than a simple monetary loss. The loss of trust and respect that now scars his lifetime achievements in the Air Force convinced him to try to sway others from making the same mistake.

"Essentially, I can't be trusted to continue my career in the Air Force. I doubt (anyone) can imagine the embarrassment I feel," wrote Hopkins.

In January, the Air Force distributed Air Force Instruction 33-129, Transmission of Information via the Internet and will soon publish AFI 33-119, Electronic Mail Management and Use. The AFIs contain specific guidance regarding use of the Internet and e-mail as a government resource and as such should be for official business or authorized use only.

Every member is responsible for complying with these publications, according to Air Force Communications Agency officials.

(Courtesy of Air Force Materiel Command and Air Force Communications Agency)

SALUTES,

continued from Page 11

WSR-88D Operator/Manager Course
Senior Master Sgt. David D. Cramblet, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
EODTA Course
Capt. James K. Vicker, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
Staff Sgt. Jose E. Chavarria, 51st OSS/OSW, Osan AFB, Korea
Staff Sgt. Daniel Tucker, 51st OSS/OSW, Osan AFB, Korea
Senior Airman Dave L. Lewis, 51st OSS/OSW, Osan AFB, Korea
Arctic Survival School
Airman 1st Class Brian Drennan, 3rd ASOS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska
Airman 1st Class Clint Dobry, 3rd ASOS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska
Airman 1st Class Brenda Frickle, 3rd ASOS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska
Senior Airman Hilton R. Wells, 3rd ASOS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska
Weather Officer Course
2nd Lt. David Vollmer, 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La.
Able Forecaster Course
Senior Airman Phillip Hardin, 21st ASOS/ASW, Fort Polk, La.
Senior NCO Academy
Senior Master Sgt. George Strohm, 45th WS, Patrick AFB, Fla.
Senior Master Sgt. Kim A. Anderson, 13th ASOS/WF, Fort Carson, Colo.
NCO Academy
Tech. Sgt. Lloyd D. Golden, 412th OSS/OSW, Edwards AFB, Calif. (Distinguished Graduate)
Advanced Weather and Able Forecaster Course (Class 961105)
Senior Airman Bryan Davis — to Minot AFB, N.D.
Senior Airman Daniel Henderson — to Fort Carson, Colo. (Distinguished Graduate)
Senior Airman Robert Martlett — to Fort Rucker, Ala.
Senior Airman Kenneth Siyaka — to Minot AFB, N.D.
Advanced Weather and Able Forecaster Course (Class 961218)
Airman 1st Class Samuel Garbiso — to Colorado ANG
Senior Airman Kenneth Harris — to Fort Campbell, Ky.
Senior Airman Geraldo Jaime — to U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.
Senior Airman Jeffrey Price — to Luke AFB, Ariz.
Senior Airman John Rosario — to Hunter AAF, Ga.
Senior Airman Jennifer Shields — to Eglin AFB, Fla.
QRCT Goldwing Course
Airman 1st Class Jeremy Williams, 20th ASOS, Fort Drum AIN, N.Y.
Squadron Officer School Correspondence Course
Capt. Scott Magnan, AFIT (Naval Postgraduate School), Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
Capt. Gary Marsteller, AFIT (Naval Postgraduate School), Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
Weather Apprentice Course (Class 961209)
Senior Airman Christine Goodwin (Distinguished Graduate)
Senior Airman Stephen T. O'Bar (Distinguished Graduate)
Senior Airman Richard C. Bollinger
Senior Airman Jessika K. Clarke
Airman 1st Class Jennifer A. Dorn
Airman Jeani E. Bullock
Airman Patricia Peters
Airman Teri L. Wilkerson

AWARDS

Air Education and Training Command Moorman Award
334th Training Sq., Weather Training Flight, Keesler AFB, Miss.
AETC Best Award
Mrs. Vickie Simms, 334th TRS, Weather Training Flight, Keesler AFB, Miss.
Air Force Global Weather Center Attitude Award
Senior Airman Hjal Nelson, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
Headquarters Air Weather Service Company Grade Officer of the Quarter (Oct.-Dec. 1996)
1st Lt. Michael Moyles, HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS Senior NCO of the Quarter
Master Sgt. Mark Anderson, HQ AWS/CVV, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS NCO of the Quarter
Tech. Sgt. William H. Dennis, HQ AWS/SYD, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS Senior Civilian of the Quarter
Mr. Glenn Shelley, HQ AWS/SYA, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS Junior Civilian of the Quarter
Ms. Patricia K. Warner, HQ AWS/RMH, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS Company Grade Officer of the Year
Capt. Joseph Piasecki, HQ AWS/XON, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS Senior NCO of the Year
Master Sgt. Mark E. Anderson, HQ AWS/CVV, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS NCO of the Year
Tech. Sgt. William H. Dennis, HQ AWS/SYD, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS Junior Enlisted of the Year
Senior Airman Lisa M. Gray, HQ AWS/RMP, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS Senior Civilian of the Year
Mark T. Surmeier, HQ AWS/XOX, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AWS Junior Civilian of the Year
Ms. Yong Son Cook, HQ AWS/RMX, Scott AFB, Ill.
314th OSS/OSW Airman of the Quarter (Sept.-Dec. 1996)
Airman 1st Class Jerrod B. Webb, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.
314th OSS/OSW NCO of the Quarter
Staff Sgt. William T. Marshall, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.
314th OSS NCO of the Quarter
Staff Sgt. William T. Marshall, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.
314th OSS NCO of the Year
Staff Sgt. William T. Marshall, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.

314th OSS Airman of the Year
Airman 1st Class Shawn T. Koch, 314th OSS/OSW, Little Rock AFB, Ark.
Master Parachutist Wings
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey D. Barker, Det. 1, 10th CWS, Fort Lewis, Wash.
Staff Sgt. Brian W. Jacobi, Det. 1, 10th CWS, Fort Lewis, Wash.
56th OSS NCO of the Quarter
Staff Sgt. Barry J. Hunte, 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
3rd ASOS Airman of the Quarter (June-Sept. 1996)
Airman 1st Class Hilton R. Wells, 3rd ASOS, Fort Wainwright, Alaska
375th OSS NCO of the Quarter (Oct.-Dec. 1996)
Staff Sgt. Greg C. Espinosa, 375th OSS/OSW, Scott AFB, Ill.
375th OSS Junior Enlisted of the Quarter
Senior Airman Kyle E. Sutherland, 375th OSS/OSW, Scott AFB, Ill.
375th OSS Civilian (cat. II) of the Quarter
William E. Elliott, 375th OSS/OSW, Scott AFB, Ill.
24th WS Officer of the Quarter (July-Sept. 1996)
1st Lt. Peter D. Jacob, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
24th WS NCO of the Quarter
Staff Sgt. Thomas E. Zipprich, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
24th WS Airman of the Quarter
Airman 1st Class Michelle C. Versailles, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
24th WS/24th OG Civilian of the Quarter
Annette Quinn, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
31st OSS Senior NCO of the Quarter (3rd qtr.)
Master Sgt. Dale F. Williamson, 31st OSS/OSW, Aviano AB, Italy
57th OSS NCO of the Quarter (Oct.-Dec. 1996)
Tech. Sgt. Steven Grimes, 57th OSS/OSW, Nellis AFB, Nev.
49th OSS NCO of the Quarter (Aug.-Oct. 1996)
Tech. Sgt. Brian J. Siciliano, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
49th OSS/OSW NCO of the Year
Tech. Sgt. Brian J. Siciliano, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
49th OSS Airman of the Quarter
Senior Airman Elizabeth Spurrier, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
49th OSS/OSW Company Grade Officer of the Year
2nd Lt. Frank A. Tersigni, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
49th OSS Company Grade Officer of the Quarter (Aug.-Oct. 1996)
2nd Lt. Frank A. Tersigni, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
49th OSS Company Grade Officer of the Quarter (Oct.-Dec. 1996)
2nd Lt. Dean Carter, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
49th OSS/OSW Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Martha Roberts, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
49th OSS/OSW Senior NCO of the Year
Master Sgt. Richard C. Roper, 49th OSS/OSW, Holloman AFB, N.M.
12 OSS/OSW Forecaster of the Year
Staff Sgt. Jimmy R. Odom, 12th OSS/OSW, Randolph AFB, Texas
20th ASOS NCO of the Year
Tech. Sgt. Darren C. Obermeyer, 20th ASOS, Fort Drum AIN, N.Y.
19th ASOS NCO of the Quarter (4th qtr. 1996)
Staff Sgt. Ben Delozier, 19th ASOS/CDW, Fort Campbell, Ky.
19th ASOS Airman of the Quarter
Senior Airman Jon Born, 19th ASOS/CDW, Fort Campbell, Ky.
19th ASOS NCO of the Year
Staff Sgt. Steve V. Scudder, 19th ASOS/CDW, Fort Campbell, Ky.
19th ASOS Officer of the Year
1st Lt. Joe Benson, 19th ASOS/CDW, Fort Campbell, Ky.
HQ AMC TACC NCO of the Year
Tech. Sgt. Jerry L. Scholl, HQ AMC TACC/XOW, Scott AFB, Ill.
HQ AMC TACC/XOW Customer Service Performer of the Quarter
Tech. Sgt. Scott C. Copeland, HQ AMC TACC/XOW, Scott AFB, Ill.
436th OSS/OSW Senior NCO of the Year
Master Sgt. Kevin B. McGarrigle, 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.
436th OSS/OSW NCO of the Year
Staff Sgt. Bebbin K. Cassel, 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.
436th OSS/OSW Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Melissa Ann Kalla, 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.
436th OG and 436th Airlift Wing Civilian of the Year
Mr. Carlton L. Colvin, Jr., 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.
436th OSS Senior NCO of the Quarter
Master Sgt. Kevin B. McGarrigle, 436th OSS/OSW, Dover AFB, Del.

DEPLOYMENTS

OPERATION JOINT ENDEAVOR

(Sarajevo and Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina; Taszar and Kaposvar, Hungary; Naples, Italy)
Lt. Col. William F. Burnette, Headquarters 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Maj. Kenneth Smith, HQ 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Maj. Kent W. Krisher, HQ 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Capt. Lance S. Jensen, HQ 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Capt. Mark R. Lajoie, HQ 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Senior Master Sgt. Larry Broomfield, HQ 4th ASOG, Heidelberg, Germany
Master Sgt. John L. McDonald, Jr., HQ 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Master Sgt. Marty L. Tucker, HQ 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Tech. Sgt. John Clum, A Flt., 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Senior Airman Shawn P. Peno, A Flt., 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Senior Airman Jared P. Frizzell, A Flt., 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Senior Airman Richard J. Corey, A Flt., 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Airman Mark J. Tinberg, A Flt., 7th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
Capt. Catherine A. Alinovi, OL-D, 7th WS, Kaiserslautern, Germany
Tech. Sgt. Scott Price, OL-D, 7th WS, Kaiserslautern, Germany
Maj. David E. Landers, Det. 1, 7th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
Master Sgt. Ralph T. Barrett, Det. 1, 7th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
Staff Sgt. Michael J. Maytes, Det. 1, 7th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
Staff Sgt. James A. Daniels, Det. 1, 7th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
Senior Airman Matthew S. Albertson, Det. 1, 7th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany

Senior Airman Franklin S. Edwards, Det. 1, 7th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
 Airman 1st Class Gordon A. Clark, Det. 1, 7th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
 Airman 1st Class Katherine M. Anholt, Det. 1, 7th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
 Airman Jason B. McNulty, Det. 1, 7th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
 Maj. Randall Skov, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Capt. Eric J. Barela, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 2nd Lt. Jeff W. Budai, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Master Sgt. Michael Moll, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Tech. Sgt. Glenn P. Zilkenat, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Earl D. Nast, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Randall V. Brooks, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Thomas J. Cardinal, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Alex Hubert, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Dale Nelson, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Dewey Cole, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Senior Airman William H. Ballard, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Senior Airman Thomas J. Hakes, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Senior Airman James Morton, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Senior Airman Johanna Braun, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Capt. Bruce Shapiro, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illesheim, Germany
 Capt. Gail M. Pfeifer, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illesheim, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Todd R. Mueller, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illesheim, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Theodore Prichard, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illesheim, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Ronald Thuro, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illesheim, Germany
 Senior Airman Derrell D. Lankford, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illesheim, Germany
 Senior Airman Joni A. Spence, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illesheim, Germany
 Senior Airman Richard L. Wojnilo, Det. 3, 7th WS, Illesheim, Germany
 Capt. Bruce H. Van Aartsen, Det. 4, 7th WS, Traben Trarbach, Germany
 Master Sgt. Michael A. Anson, Det. 4, 7th WS, Traben Trarbach, Germany
 Master Sgt. Lewis C. Altman, Det. 4, 7th WS, Traben Trarbach, Germany
 Maj. Peter J. Citrone, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany
 2nd Lt. Kelly B. Doser, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany
 Tech. Sgt. Brad A. Medlin, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany
 Staff Sgt. James C. King, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany
 Staff Sgt. John M. Crain, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Israel A. Cruz-Colon, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany
 Senior Airman Troy A. Walker, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany
 Senior Airman Nicholas A. Ditondo, Det. 5, 7th WS, Katterbach, Germany
 Capt. Christopher Bjorkman, Det. 6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 1st Lt. Steve L. Renner, Det. 6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Tech. Sgt. Paul A. Heinz, Det. 6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Rodger M. Smith, Det. 6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Raymond M. Perez, Det. 6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Ralph A. Wright, Det. 6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Senior Airman Angela S. Joy, Det. 6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Senior Airman Scott R. Darling, Det. 6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany

Airman Joseph D. Taylor, Det. 6, 7th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Maj. Mark Kaster, Det. 7, 7th WS, Grafenwoehr, Germany
 Senior Airman David W. Stringfield, Det. 7, 7th WS, Grafenwoehr, Germany
 Airman Leah E. Harris, Det. 7, 7th WS, Grafenwoehr, Germany
 Maj. Robert Medred, Det. 8, 7th WS (V Corps), Heidelberg, Germany
 Capt. Christopher Plonka, Det. 8, 7th WS (V Corps), Heidelberg, Germany
 Tech. Sgt. Vincent S. Huebner, Det. 8, 7th WS, Sandhofen, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Jerry Cowart, Det. 8, 7th WS, Sandhofen, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Rolando M. Zbikowski, Det. 8, 7th WS, Sandhofen, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Mark D. Jacobs, Det. 8, 7th WS, Sandhofen, Germany
 Tech. Sgt. Daniel T. Ebbert, Det. 9, 7th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Robin Betsch, Det. 9, 7th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Wanda Camacho, Det. 9, 7th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Christopher McKinney, Det. 9, 7th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Robert Pucci, Det. 9, 7th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Scott Nych, Det. 9, 7th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Senior Airman Crystal Condor-Corpstein, Det. 9, 7th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Airman 1st Class Timothy Sawyer, Det. 9, 7th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Airman 1st Class Scott Radden, Det. 9, 7th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Maj. Theodore Vroman, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Master Sgt. Charles G. Vinson, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Master Sgt. Gary Mercer, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Tech. Sgt. Timothy Scheidt, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Dennis Ramsdell, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Karl Kleinback, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Staff Sgt. James Tart, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Arnold Ascano, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Scott Daves, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Michael Chandler, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Senior Airman Charles Hoffman, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Airman Anson Summers, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
OPERATION ABLE SENTRY (Skopje, Macedonia)
 Staff Sgt. Dewey Cole, Det. 2, 7th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Michael Chandler, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Scott Daves, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Senior Airman Kelly Lawless, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Senior Airman Charles R. Hoffman, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Douglas L. Dibble, Det. 10, 7th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany

BIRTHS

Matthew Thomas Stoss — to Capt. Laura and Fred Stoss, HQ AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb.
 Madison Elizabeth Guinn — to Capt. and Mrs. Kirt Guinn, 46th WS, Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Joshua Caleb Viray — to Staff Sgt. Mario and Wyda Viray, 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
 Elizabeth Angela Michetti — to Capt. Vicki and John Michetti, HQ AWS/XORR, Scott AFB, Ill.
 Monica Faith Ferguson — to Airmen 1st Class William and Monica Ferguson, Fort Benning, Ga.

FUNDAMENTALS

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of you now and are pleased with the possibilities for improvement that we see here.

Customer Focus. Our acquisition, operations, and training decisions must be based on how well they support the warfighter's mission. We must start with how we perform our job for our customers when they are deployed or "in the bunker" and work backwards to build our peacetime structure, rather than build weather stations and add tools and technology to build a deployable package. Our products need to be highly accurate, relevant (mission-tailored), and timely; they must be what our customers want and can always count on.

Experience. It's time to put our experienced people—not our trainees—with our customers. Then combine trainees with a staff of very experienced people to mentor and train in an organization that has the time and staff to do the job right—that's one

key part of regionalization. We are building an organization where weather people have the support structure to practice with their customers and deploy with them, too. Through our reengineering effort we are creating an environment where we can train our most valuable resources, you, our AFW people, so you can produce continuously improving products that are always mission-focused.

We have heard our customers and are adjusting our efforts to meet their needs. We are also closely listening to you through the reengineering homepage and our visits, and are developing, integrating, and adapting our reengineering game plan to address your issues, too! We will remain focused on our customers and our people, discussing all their inputs and using them to adapt our concepts to create a mission-tailored, customer focused weather support structure.

As we move down this path together, we (many of us throughout AFW) are becoming more and more convinced that there are real, workable, practical, and tested—that's right,

tested—solutions to help us make some significant improvements. Our commitment to reengineering AF Weather to be the "warfighter's choice for battlespace weather information on demand" continues unabated.

I would challenge all of you to stay engaged with us. Keep the e-mails flowing on the reengineering homepage. Ask your MAJCOM weather functionals to explain the issues. Send me or CMSgt Klumb an e-mail. (Chief Klumb recently replaced Chief Hoy who moved to Air Weather Service where he will continue to be an important part of this effort as a reengineering team member.)

Most importantly, please remember that this reengineering effort is really for you, to give you the tools and the structure that you need to do the best job you can for our customers—the warfighters.

Please keep in touch!

DMSP12

