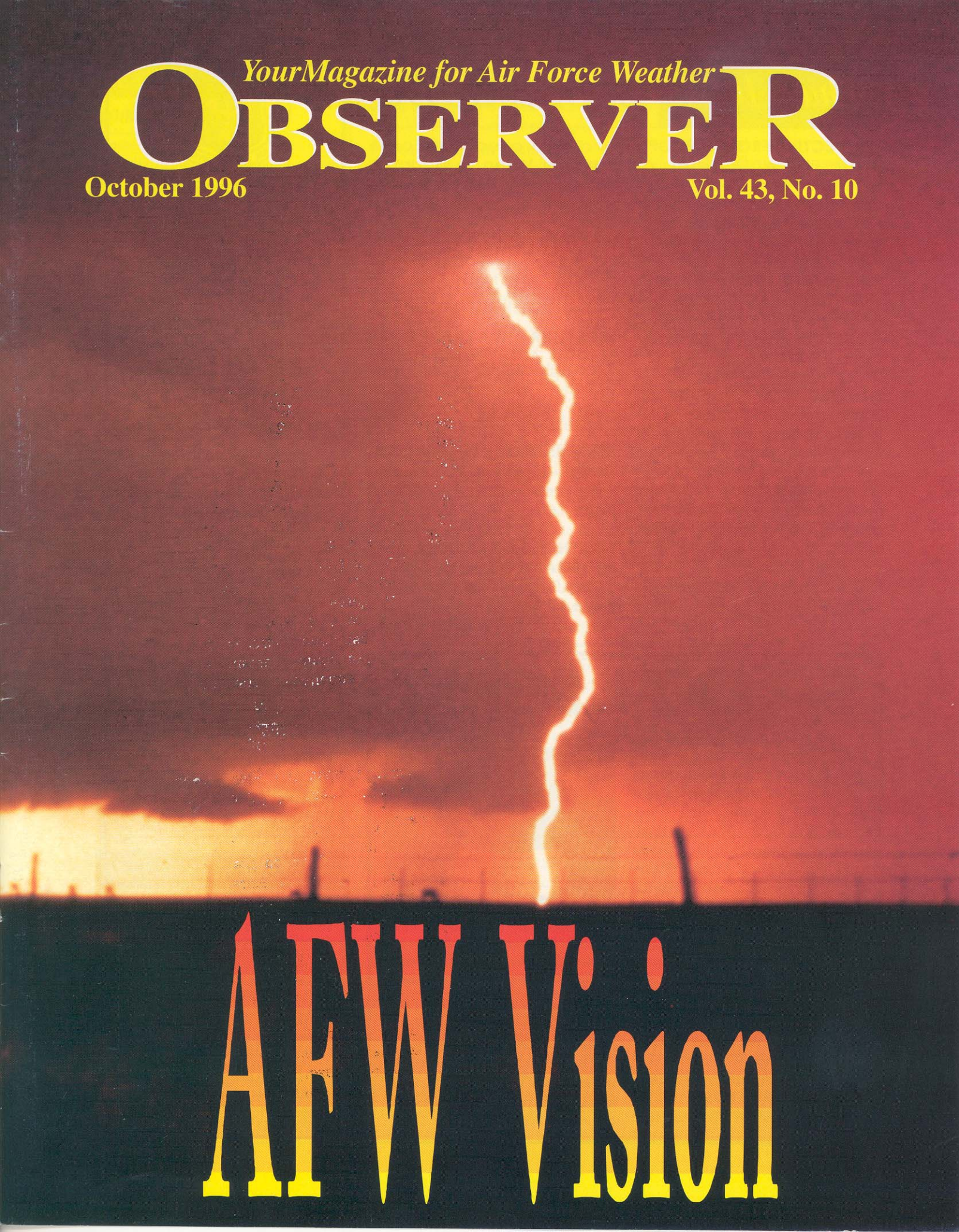


Your Magazine for Air Force Weather
OBSERVER

October 1996

Vol. 43, No. 10



AFW Vision

What's Inside for October 1996

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SPOTLIGHT

The spotlight shines a bit differently this month, focusing on a weather warrior who recently left active duty. Chief Master Sgt. Johnny W. Kicklighter retired at the Scott AFB, Ill., Officers Club Sept. 12, after 26 years of service to the Air Force and Air Force Weather.

The Greenville, S.C., native entered the Air Force in 1970 and began a career that covered the breadth of Air Force meteorology.

A fixture at Scott AFB since 1987, the Chief oversaw dozens of programs during his tenure, not the least of which was authoring the AWS Programming Plan, implementing the largest restructuring in the history of AWS.

His last position at AWS was Man-



AWS Commander Col. Joseph Dushan presents Chief Johnny W. Kicklighter with the Air Force Meritorious Service medal during the chief's retirement ceremony.

ager of the Aerospace Sciences Division, one of the most popular developments in recent AWS history.

The chief and his family plan to retire in the Fairview Heights, Ill., area. Good luck and a happy retirement from everyone in Air Force Weather, Chief...



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Making The Vision A Reality

'We Need Your Input To Help Build This Strategic Plan'



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

Last month I discussed our Air Force Weather Vision: The Warfighter's Choice for Battlespace Weather Information on Demand for Global Reach, Global Power, Global Awareness; Providing the Knowledge Needed to Own the Weather.

We are now pressing ahead with major command (MAJCOM) and Air Weather Service involvement to make this vision a reality.

In fact, we recently briefed the Air Force Chief of Staff on a re-engineering effort designed to help us realize this vision. He approved the effort and requested we return with a MAJCOM-coordinated strategic plan by May 1997.

Over the next several months we will involve many of you in helping "us" build this strategic plan, and, more importantly, re-engineer the way we do our weather business to provide the warfighter the "knowledge needed to own the weather."

As we begin down this re-engineering path, I have tasked a team of officers and NCOs, to begin to flesh out our customer requirements, our weather support processes/practices, and our communications infrastructure, with an eye towards finding ways to improve them.

We will use this team's results to begin the re-engineering effort throughout AFW and will brief this late this month to the AFW leadership (colonels and chiefs). We will then form teams from throughout AFW to rapidly help us refine and finalize our efforts.

The re-engineering team has already come forward with an initial vision briefing, in which we outline seven enduring principles that we will use to help

all of us move Air Force Weather into the 21st century. Brief descriptions of these principles are listed here. Please realize that they are not all inclusive, but are meant to help all of us focus our thoughts on important areas as we move forward in this effort. Over the next few months, there will be ample opportunity to continue to refine these principles as we complete our re-engineering strategic plan.

We firmly believe these enduring principles will guide us in meeting the many challenges in the re-engineering effort ahead. We need your support to make this effort a success.



Brig. Gen. Fred Lewis
Air Force Director of Weather

1. Our people are our number one asset.

This principle is the key to everything we will do in our re-engineering effort. We have a cadre of high quality people very dedicated to mission success — and this fact becomes more and more evident as I travel around our AFW community. All our AFW leaders, self included, must train, motivate, challenge, and mentor our people. Each of us in AFW must focus our efforts toward continuously improving the way we do our weather operations business — continuously improving our value to the warfighter.

2. We must maintain a warfighter's focus in peace and war.

We are an operational force. Every day should be an opportunity to exercise our warfighting mission; when we

observe or forecast, we must practice the basics well so we are ready to meet any warfighting challenge. Each of us should know our customer's decision support and weapon systems requirements in detail. This will ensure we maximize the added value that we provide for the many Air Force, Army, and/or joint warfighter missions we support.

3. We must ensure customer satisfaction by providing on-target weather information.

We must know our customers' terrestrial and space weather needs. Said another way, we must keep our information relevant to our customers — that is, the information we provide must be accurate, fine scale, accessible, tailored, timely, and understandable. This will ensure that we are "the customer's choice for battlespace weather information," each day, every day by providing combat-focused weather information.

4. We must integrate the weather support system — end-to-end, making it the same in peace and war.

We must move toward an environment where our processes and automation systems allow us to be the same in peace and war. The transition from peace to war must be seamless! We must have equipment that has the same "look and feel," whether you work on the floor at the Air Force Global Weather Center, you're on a shift in garrison, at an austere air base in theater, or you jump into the field.

You deserve a robust and capable weather system that has all the applications you need to provide on-target

See REALITY,
continued on Page 23

Anticipate And Exploit

Within Reach Or Just A Dream?



by Col. Joseph D. Dushan
Commander
Air Weather Service

Capt. Wayne English, my section commander at Squadron Officers School in 1973, would be pleased and surprised that I still remember some of the lessons he taught. We learned in the communications block, for example, “effective communications depends equally on the transmitter and the receiver.”

Putting this in the context of the Air Force weather business, I wonder if we’ve spent too much effort looking inward and not enough time, attention, and energy outward — on the warfighters we serve?

I think former Air Force Director of Weather Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Lennon was right when he said: “*Weathermen lost their focus on operations. In the 1980’s, Air Force weather folks became weathermen for weather’s sake.*”

Have we, indeed, forgotten why we entered the swamp? Have we become so overly focused on technology, computers, models, data handling routines, and communications “systems” that we’ve lost sight of what role we fulfill on the Air Force team?

In our tireless efforts to modernize centers and weather stations in pursuit of better forecast accuracy, have we overlooked the point that our work is totally without value unless warfighting forces understand and implement the weather intelligence we furnish?

Stated simply, visions of an effective end-to-end process to support U.S. and allied combat power in exploiting superior knowledge of the battlespace will forever remain a dream unless we complete the “communications link.”

Let’s start with the “receiver.” Supreme Allied Commander Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower certainly anticipated and

exploited the weather during his D-Day decision.

In 1979, the 3rd Infantry Division in Germany adjusted pre-set defensive positions in their area of responsibility based on climatology. They selected locations where surface visibility would better permit weapons to acquire targets at maximum effective range.

During REFORGER 80, the division also used weather forecasts to decide when to use air defense radars and avoid revealing tactical locations to Orange Forces.

“Have we overlooked the point that our work is totally without value unless warfighting forces understand and implement the weather intelligence we furnish?”



**Col. Joseph D. Dushan
Commander, Air Weather Service**

I am told Special Operations Forces plan team insertions for times when adverse weather masks activities from adversaries. In each of these cases, warfighters and decision makers were prepared and ready to anticipate and exploit weather information with confidence.

Notice, however, there were no Air Force examples. For some reason, Air Force warriors seem to consider weather support a nuisance instead of an advantage. “*Dagnabit, Stormy! I’ve got a checkride tomorrow. So make sure there’s no crosswinds.*” Sound familiar? These same warriors would never dream of launching sorties without a thorough review of enemy air defenses from the

Intelligence folks. But they seem willing to overlook weather intelligence. I wonder why?

Simple questions usually have very complex dimensions, but I suggest “the transmitter” part of the communications equation can help. Start by looking outward instead of only inside the weather station. Learn the language of the warfighting mission you support. Understand operational decision points and consider the impacts the environment has on mission success.

One time, an infantry battalion commander told me the most critical environmental answers he needed were morning low temperatures and surface visibility. The first was to protect his troops from frost bite. The second was so he could adjust patrol patterns if fog reduced visibility. This particular warfighter didn’t have much need for the forecast amount of cirrus in the TAF.

Use every opportunity to put your weather information in a form most useful to the warrior. It is very different from the content and format most useful for another weatherman.

During aircrew and stand-up briefings, emphasize environmental impacts in mission terms, rather than limiting yourself to a recitation of “weather-ese.”

Another bit of free advice: be as specific as possible. “Partly to mostly cloudy, occasional intermittent rainshowers in the vicinity” doesn’t really hack it with the warrior community.

A Strategic Air Command general once told Col. Bob Gottuso, former 3rd Weather Wing commander, that he thought service organizations, weather included, suffered from “the

See EXPLOIT,
continued on Page 23

Take Time To Reflect

Sharpen Your Focus On What You Do For The Warfighter

The Air Force has entered its 50th year of existence. Several events have occurred here in Washington, D.C., to commemorate the event.

On Sept. 16, Secretary of the Air Force Sheila Widnall, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald Fogleman, and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force David Campanale paid their respects at the graveside of Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold. With a few hundred people in attendance, they discussed the Air Force of the past, present, and the future.

Then, on Sept. 17, in the Pentagon courtyard, Secretary Widnall, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff General Thomas Moorman, and CMSAF Campanale led a ceremony for the Air Force personnel assigned to the Pentagon. You can read about that event on the Air Force Home Page (<http://www.af.mil>).

The Air Force Association also held a banquet Sept. 18 in conjunction with their annual conference. Consider that 50 years ago, the Air Force Association founding fathers — people like Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, Jimmie Stewart, Clark Gable, and then-actor Ronald Reagan — chartered the organization to promote aerospace power and a strong national defense, support the needs of the Air Force and Air Force people, and to explain the needs to the American people.

I'd like to highlight that, in the 50th year of the Air Force and the Air Force Association, the Association's Chairman of the Board is an enlisted person, retired Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Jim McCoy.

Over the next year the Air Force will conduct events like these on every Air Force installation, celebrating our "Golden Legacy and Boundless Future." Take time

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

and join in — reflect on the last 49 years and project into the next 50.

At one of the ceremonies, CMSAF Campanale cited two events that shaped our Air Force — equal opportunity and the all-volunteer force. As I reflect on his words, I think back on my career and what those two changes have meant to Air Force Weather.

From the segregated force of the past to the opening of nearly all career fields to women, we have seen significant changes. As for the equal opportunity in Air Force Weather, currently we only have one function in Air Force Weather closed to any group — parachuting in direct support of special operations is closed to women.

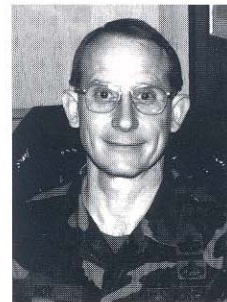
"Over the next year the Air Force will conduct events like these on every Air Force installation, celebrating our 'Golden Legacy and Boundless Future.' Take time and join in — reflect on the last 49 years and project into the next 50."

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

That does not mean that women cannot be parachutists. On the contrary, we need volunteers of either gender to fill vacancies at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Are there still problems, people denied opportunities because of gender or race? — I would be remiss if I said no. But help us work those issues by making sure they are identified, and then resolved.

For my 26 years, the Air Force has been an "all volunteer" force — I will concede that the "volunteering" may have been because there was a draft and some folks



preferred the Air Force over some other service. I'll also admit that is how I ended up in the Air Force. I also "volunteered" for weather — not! It wasn't even available when I selected my "choices." My orders out of basic training led me right to Chanute AFB, Ill., and weather school.

The volunteer force has changed our way of life. All volunteers led us to our new dormitory standard. One result of the all-volunteer force that I have noticed is that the "average" 18-year-old doesn't know what the military is about and neither do his parents.

An article in the *Pentagram*, a publication here at the Pentagon, states: "Visions of troops in faraway locations conducting peacekeeping missions have an impact, not only on potential recruits, but on parents as well. For the past year (recruiters) have had to 'recruit' as many parents — many who grew up in the Vietnam era — as sons and daughters. They don't want their kids exposed to that danger."

How does that affect weather? The volunteer pool is getting smaller, and we're competing with many other career fields that need equally talented people. As we reduce the size of the Air Force, the Air Force Weather force will assuredly get smaller, too.

All of this causes us to look inward at our mission, and our role in the Air Force, continually sharpening our focus on what we do for the warfighter — then train to do it. I predict that you'll see, over the next few months, dramatic changes in our philosophy of support. That philosophy will permeate everything from research and development to acquisition to weather operations.

As we move into the 50th year and then into the next 50, take time to take stock of where we've been, where we are, and where we're going, both as an Air Force and Air Force Weather. Have a great 50th anniversary year.

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — The 1996 Air Force Personnel Survey, designed as a follow-up to the 1995 Quality of Life Survey, is giving Air Force leaders an in-depth look at how bluesuiters and their civilian counterparts worldwide view the assignment and evaluation systems, as well as civilian recognition, training and career programs.

“When we did the Quality of Life Survey last year, we were asking for feedback on some programs that only had been in place for a few months,” said one behavioral scientist here who helped with both surveys. “This year’s survey allowed us to follow-up with more specific questions in an effort to gain more insight into how those programs are operating.”

To ensure that the Air Force was “doing the right things right,” Secretary of the Air Force Sheila E. Widnall and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman asked personnel officials to get a report card from service members on some of the service’s programs.

“We found out last year that we continue to take great care of our people while meeting our nation’s defense interests,” General Fogleman said. “What we didn’t get a good handle on was how the programs we’re using were doing. This survey has helped us grasp our effectiveness in helping people accomplish their missions.”

The Air Force, according to the survey, continues to attract and keep good people, and their job satisfaction is high.

- 72 percent of the officers planned to make the Air Force a career.

- 62 percent of the enlisted force intended to stay until retirement.

- 84 percent of civilian employees reported they will stay until eligible to retire.

Using a set of questions to measure job satisfaction, all grades reported positive job satisfaction with those in higher grades reporting higher satisfaction.

Assignments/TDYs

The survey provided insight into the key area of operations tempo. Fewer enlisted mem-

...And The Survey Says...

1996 Air Force Personnel Survey Results Giving Air Force Leaders Valuable Insight

bers and civilian employees reported going on temporary duty assignments during the past 12 months and officers reported about the same number of TDYs (five or fewer) this year as last.

Rated officers were the only group to show an increase in the number of TDYs taken in the past 12 months.

The overall perception of the assignment systems improved in 1996 for both officer and enlisted personnel following changes made to each system. Eighty percent of the officer corps and 70 percent of the enlisted force said they knew how the assignment system impacting them works and are more positive about the assignment systems since last year.

Most officers reported they believe the job advertisement systems are effective. About half the officers said the

change in the officer assignment system to make all officers eligible for a non-voluntary PCS assignment after three years time on station or at the end of a controlled tour would not have a negative impact on their career.

Almost two-thirds of the officer and enlisted personnel reported they would take advantage of the Follow-on/Homebasing Program if they were selected for a short tour. Of those who said they would not take a follow-on/homebasing assignment, the majority said they wanted to keep their assignment options open. Officers stated officer professional development and their assignments are inseparable and the vast majority believe there is a direct link between assignment history and promotions.

What is important to enlisted per-

sonnel in an assignment differs from what is important to officers. Enlisted members cited geographic location as the most important factor in an assignment while officers said jobs which foster continuing professional development. In fact, 40 percent of the officers said they made their latest PCS move for "professional reasons."

Evaluations

The officer and enlisted evaluation systems, which underwent several changes as the result of review boards that met in late 1994 and early 1995, were viewed more positively this year.

The evaluation system for officers in 1995 added feedback for all officers, narrative comments - in bullet format on "Promote" promotion recommendation forms for below-the-zone candidates, and several other changes. This year, 55 percent said the evaluation system is as fair as it can be—compared to 43 percent in 1995.

The vast majority of officers also said the quality of writing on an OPR is as important as job performance itself. Enlisted members who rated the evaluation system as unfair were concerned with inflated ratings, its perceived subjectivity, and its direct association to the enlisted promotion system—and believed the system was most unfair to good performers.

Educating the force about the evaluation system is the key to the improved

view by officers, say personnel officials. The Air Force, through briefing teams, articles, and training guides, concentrated on getting more information to officers and their efforts apparently paid off. More than 70 percent of the officer corps said they believed there was enough information available to explain the OES, and over half indicated that their raters had taken the time to explain how the evaluation and promotion systems worked.

Feedback was rated by officers and enlisted personnel as very positive.

"More individuals reported receiving feedback from their supervisor this year than last, and most believed the feedback was accurate and honest," said personnel officials. "Enlisted members said feedback provided them a better understanding of their supervisor's expectations and resulted in them having a better understanding of their overall job performance."

This year's survey eliminated some vagueness when asking military members about their inputs to the performance reports, said survey officials.

"Last year's survey results provided a finding that suggested over half of the officers wrote their own OPRs and PRFs," an AFPC official said. "This year, asking the question in more detail, most officers reported they provide input to their supervisors for their evaluations, but only 11 percent said they provided a draft to their supervisor at the supervisor's request. Only four percent

of the enlisted members said they provided a draft EPR at the request of their supervisor."

Civilian needs

Through the survey, 56 percent of the service's civilian employees indicated they would like more training with the percentage decreasing as employees reached higher

grades. Most indicated they required training on the technical requirements of their work and working on a personal computer.

A goal of this year's survey was to find out the concerns of civilian employees regarding the perceived lack of recognition in their job, survey officials said. Most civilian employees wanted to receive the top promotion appraisal rating as their reward for good job performance.

Supervisory feedback was viewed as constructive by civilian employees and indicated feedback addressed both strengths and weaknesses. However, feedback other than at the close of the rating period was received by only about half the civilians. Only one in five identified themselves as supervisors and almost a quarter said their supervisor is a military member.

Almost all of the career registrants who are a part of the service's 19 career programs recommended career program registration to other civilian employees eligible to register in career programs. "More than half of those responding said they believed that upper-level management supported the career programs," the survey official said.

"They also feel they're getting the support they need." Of those career registrants who called AFPC with questions about career programs, about half in every case said administrators were helpful in responding to employee's requests, explaining career/job opportunities, and explaining training and educational opportunities.

The 1996 survey, officials here say, has given the Air Force a baseline to evaluate the assignment and evaluation systems.

"We'll continue to ask those who are affected by these programs for their input," an AFPC official said. "We are already turning our attention to designing a survey for 1997 that will cover more topics including retirement, housing, and pay issues. The more who take part in these surveys, the more information our military and political leaders have."

"More individuals reported receiving feedback from their supervisor this year than last, and most believed the feedback was accurate and honest. Enlisted members said feedback provided them a better understanding of their supervisor's expectations and resulted in them having a better understanding of their overall job performance."

Air Force Personnel Center officials



Faces Of Weather

Williams, Losey, Johnson, and Ellsworth

The photo at the end of this story was taken in 1927 by a photographer who rose early thinking he would catch the even earlier-rising weathermen before take-off.

Since this photo was taken after they landed he was obviously unsuccessful! They told the photographer they had already flown high enough to witness daybreak twice — once in the air and then again on the ground.

Here are some famous “Faces of

by Ms. Lil Wilbur
Air Weather Service
Chief of History

Weather.” How many are familiar to you?

Capt. Randolph “Pinkie” Williams, who was on the cover of the August edition of the OBSERVER, and Capt. Robert M. Losey are just two of the original 22 officers who made up Air

Weather Service’s “Early Years.”

Williams, a meteorologist, graduated from balloon and airship school at Scott Field, Belleville, Ill., in 1928. He flew with Capt. Orvil A. Anderson in a balloon flight on April 21, 1935, making a stratospheric flight to find out if Scott Field would be a suitable place for launching the Explorer II.

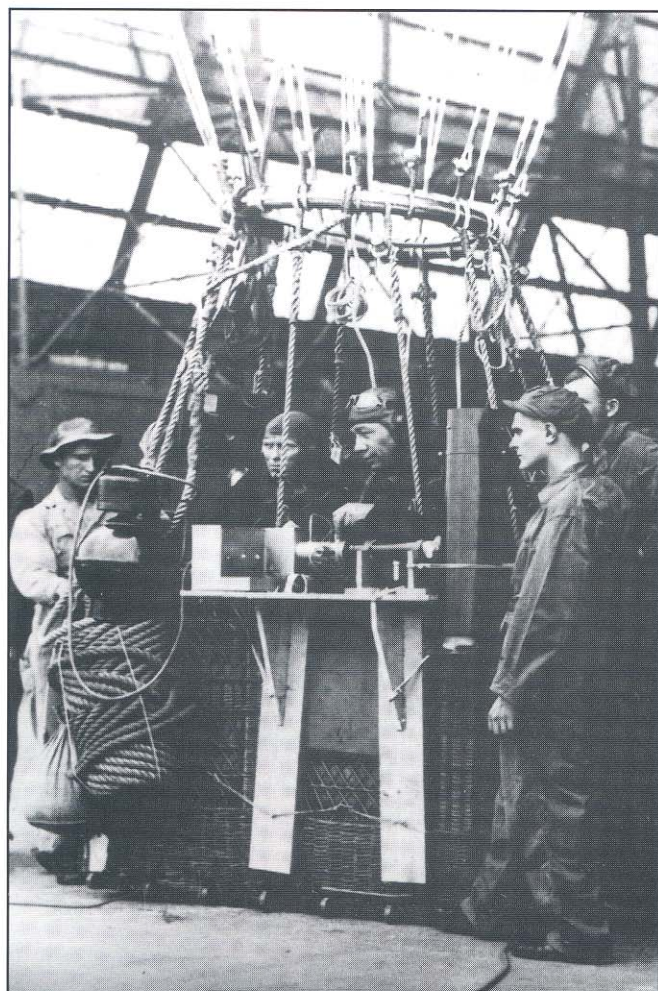
Williams had a tremendous impact on the transfer of weather from the Army to the Air Corps. Williams was killed on September 5, 1944 while on a photo reconnaissance flight over France.

Losey Street, right outside the



front door of Headquarters Air Weather Service, was named for Capt. Robert M. Losey, a pilot and West Point graduate.

The young officer came into the weather arena as a first lieutenant working the weather desk when meteorology became a viable weather function.



All photos courtesy of the AWS History Office

Capt. (later colonel) Randolph P. “Pinkie” Williams (left, in ballon basket) and Capt. Orvil Anderson return from taking weather observations above Scott Field, Ill. (later Scott AFB). Williams was the first commander of the then-Army Air Corps Weather Service.



Capt. Robert M. Losey

He has been acknowledged as the first modern commander of Air Weather Service. He provided assistance to Maj. Gen. Oscar Westover in the organization and formation of three weather regions.

However, once all the administrative planning was underway, he began getting restless and asked Brig. Gen. Henry “Hap” Arnold for permission to go to Finland to observe the effects of winter weather on war operations first-hand.

As you read in the August *OB-*

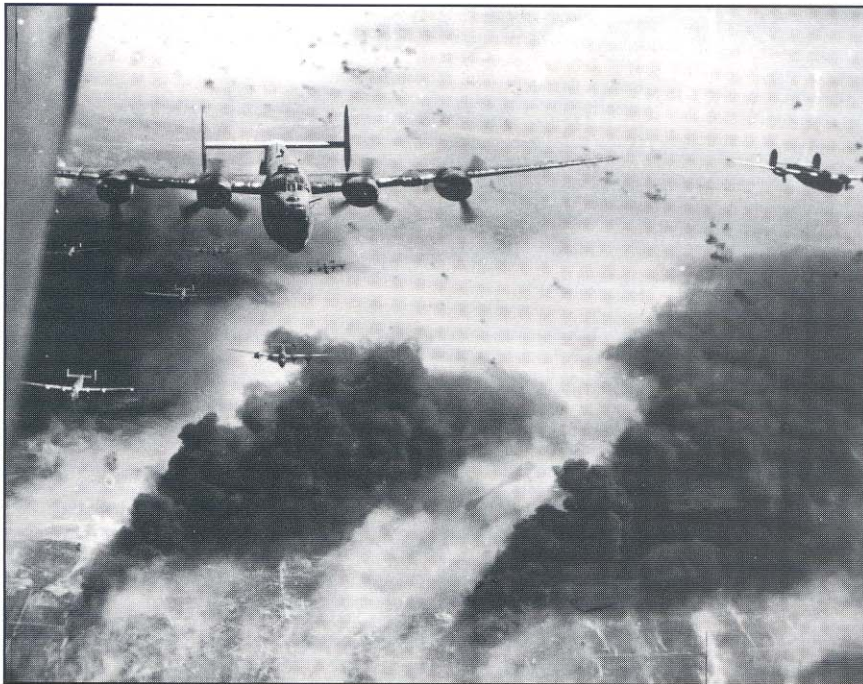


Photo courtesy of Bill Green

B-24 "Liberator" bomber aircraft during the raid over Ploesti, Romania, during World War II.

SERVER, he was the first military officer to be killed by hostile action during WW II while in the service of the United States.

Capt. Leon Johnson (who eventually became a four-star general), was a West Point graduate and commander of the Second Weather Squadron in the

late 1930's.

He played a key role in the Ninth Air Force-led Ploesti Raid. An assault of this magnitude had never been carried out before with B-24 aircraft flying at altitudes within 550 feet of the target!

As a commander of one of the four

groups leading that raid, Johnson was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The name "Ellsworth" is probably familiar to most Air Force personnel, military and civilian.

Col. Richard E. Ellsworth contributed to the war effort in World War II as Commander of the 10th Weather Squadron in the China-Burma-India Theater.

However, his expertise in flying was called upon in perfecting night flying techniques across the treacherous Himalayas, commonly referred to as the "hump."

Ellsworth rose to the rank of brigadier general and was killed in 1953 while still on active duty. Ellsworth AFB, Rapid City, S.D., is the only active Air Base named for a weather person.

Mary Scantland was a young woman who had been part of the WASP forces during WW II and completed her training as a weather observer, then continued on to forecaster school as a corporal and was eventually commissioned. Mary was highlighted in our March "Women in Weather" segment of the Observer.

Air Weather Service celebrates its 60th Anniversary in July 1997, so expect some more looks back at where and how we began.



Col. Richard E. Ellsworth



An Army Air Corps pilot and Army Signal Corps weather forecaster beside a DeHavilland DH-4 at Scott Field, Ill., in 1927, following the daily early-morning flight to gather weather data.

Did You Know is brought to you by the Air Weather Service History Office. Materials used come from various sources including AWS historians past and present. If you have stories, artifacts, old emblems, photos, etc., please contact Ms Wilbur at E-Mail "wilbur@hqaws.safb.af.mil" or call (618) 256-5654, ext. 258 or DSN 576-5654, ext. 258.



AIR FORCE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

Lt. Col. Michael Jamilkowski, HQ AWS/SY, Scott AFB, Ill. (5th OLC)
 Lt. Col. Dave McClurkin, HQ AETC/XOSW, Randolph AFB, Texas (4th OLC)
 Senior Master Sgt. John T. Carty, Det. 4, 617th WS, Traben Trarbach, Germany, (1st OLC)
 Master Sgt. D. Natoli, Det. 7, 617th WS, Grafenwoehr, Germany
 Master Sgt. David P. Seibert, 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
 Lt. Col. Robert Miller, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif. (1st OLC)
 Maj. Robert Dunmire, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif. (1st OLC)

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

Tech. Sgt. Todd Barrett, Det. 1, 617th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Willie Chisholm III, Det. 1, 617th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Jeff Maytes, Det. 1, 617th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
 Tech. Sgt. Gary D. Mercer, Det. 10, 617th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Senior Airman Daniel D. Henderson, Det. 6, 617th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Senior Airman Abilene Weaver, Det. 6, 617th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Randall Brooks, Det. 2, 617th WS, Hanau, Germany (1st OLC)
 Tech. Sgt. Steven Pratt, 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.
 Capt. Bryan E. Adams, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
 Tech. Sgt. Stephen W. Kammerer, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama (1st OLC)
 Staff Sgt. Shawn Dahl, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

1st Lt. Robert Leejoice, Det. 2, 617th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Dave Nast, Det. 2, 617th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Alex Hubert, Det. 2, 617th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Senior Airman Thomas Hakes, Det. 2, 617th WS, Hanau, Germany

AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

Senior Airman Lloyd Weber, Det. 10, 617th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Senior Airman John Hannah, 6th OSS/OSW, MacDill AFB, Fla.
 Airman 1st Class Michelle C. Versailles, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama
 Staff Sgt. Brent Giles, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

1st Lt. Robert Leejoice, Det. 2, 617th WS, Hanau, Germany

AERIAL ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

Staff Sgt. Thomas E. Ziprich, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama (8th OLC)

AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD

17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.
 6th OSS/OSW, MacDill AFB, Fla.

AIR FORCE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Senior Airman Kelly J. Lawless, Det. 10, 617th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany
 Tech. Sgt. Duane M. Limberg, Det. 4, 617th WS, Traben Trarbach, Germany
 Staff Sgt. Roger Finley, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

PROMOTIONS

Eric J. Barela, Det. 2, 617th WS, Hanau, Germany
 Jane M. Mahinske, 203rd WF, Fort Indianatown Gap, Pa. (ANG)
 James B. Robinson, 181st WF, Dallas, Texas (ANG)
 Cindy Rosa, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

Grace A. Chapin, 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
 Heidi S. Strader, 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska

John H. Walzbilling, 116th WF, McChord AFB, Wash. (ANG Academy of Military Science graduate)



Irving A. Taylor, Det. 4, 617th WS, Traben Trarbach, Germany
 Todd Barrett, Det. 1, 617th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany
 Mitchell K. Ellis, 107th WF, Selfridge ANGB, Mich. (ANG)
 George E. Ferriter, 126th WF, Milwaukee, Wisc. (ANG)



Richard C. Buttrick, 202nd WF, Otis ANGB, Mass. (ANG)
 Harry Lind, Jr., 334th TRS/TTMVD, Keesler AFB, Miss.
 David Johnson, 334th TRS/TTMVD, Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Raymond Bigler, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.



David Donahue, A Flt., 617th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
 William R. Baird, 140th WF, Willow Grove, Pa. (ANG)
 Lamar R.D. Belton, 140th WF, Willow Grove, Pa. (ANG)
 Mark J. Blevins, 165th WF, Louisville, Ky. (ANG)
 Paul E. Buschow, 209th WF, Austin, Texas (ANG)
 Matthew B. Butcher, 181st WF, Dallas, Texas (ANG)
 Eric M. Hancock, 113rd WF, Terre Haute, Ind. (ANG)
 Shawn M. Harvey, 131rd WF, Westfield, Mass. (ANG)
 Michael A. Koenig, 127th WF, Topeka, Kan. (ANG)
 John F. Null, 113rd WF, Terre Haute, Ind. (ANG)
 Kimberly E. Stuart, 126th WF, Milwaukee, Wisc. (ANG)
 Burtice G. Wood, 5th OSS/OSW, Minot AFB, N.D.
 Barbara A. Corsello, 5th OSS/OSW, Minot AFB, N.D.
 Victor L. Waldron, 5th OSS/OSW, Minot AFB, N.D.
 Gary R. White, 5th OSS/OSW, Minot AFB, N.D.
 Dax J. Davis, 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
 Roger Fibley, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.
 Jose Cortez, 57th OSS/OSW, Nellis AFB, Nev.



Joni Spence, Det. 3, 617th WS, Illesheim, Germany
 Stacy L. Wolfensperger, 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz. (below the zone)
 Brent A. Bunger, 123rd WF, Portland, Ore. (ANG)
 Holly S. Martin, 131st WF, Westfield, Mass. (ANG)
 Leon H. Schendel, 123rd WF, Portland, Ore. (ANG)
 John F. Spangenberg, 126th WF, Milwaukee, Wisc. (ANG)
 Ginger D. Sutton, 125th WF, Tulsa, Okla. (ANG)
 Elizabeth Struder, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas (BTZ)
 Charles Sernik, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas (BTZ)
 Christine Phillips, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas (BTZ)



Thanh T. Juynh, 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
 Marjorie L. Durkes, 127th WF, Topeka, Kan. (ANG)
 Melissa A. Murphy, 5th OSS/OSW, Minot AFB, N.D.
 Yasmeen A. Wilson, 5th OSS/OSW, Minot AFB, N.D.
 Daniel Clarke, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas
 Kenny Sutton, 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
 Angela Wills, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.



Jason B. McNulty, Det. 1, 617th WS, Bad Kreuznach, Germany

HAILS AND FAREWELLS

Lt. Col. Larry Becker — to HQ AETC/XOSW, Randolph AFB, Texas, from 617th ASOG, Heidelberg, Germany
 Capt. Leanne Sietarz — to HQ AETC/XOSW, Randolph AFB, Texas, from AFIT, North Carolina State
 Capt. Kurt Brueske — to U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo., from HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
 Maj. Mark Levisky — to HQ USAF, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., from HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
 Capt. Ted Nelms — to HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii, from Yokota AB, Japan
 Airman 1st Class Thanh T. Juynh — to U.S.A.F. Academy Prep School, Colo., from 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
 Senior Airman Brian M. Voight — to Germany, from 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
 Maj. Susan V. Lindsay — to 159th WF, Camp Blanding, Fla., from 123rd WF, Portland, Ore. (ANG)
 Capt. Bradley K. Fujii — to 199th WF, Wheeler AAF, Hawaii, from 195th WF, Channel Island, Calif. (ANG)
 Airman Kindie L. Davis — to 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Tech. Sgt. Steven Pratt — to 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga., from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
 Airman 1st Class Robert E. Mims, Jr. — to Fort Carson, Colo., from 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.
 Senior Airman Mark R. Wilson — to Camp Stanley, Korea, from 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.
 Airman 1st Class Rodney Hattery — to 6th OSS/OSW, MacDill AFB, Fla., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Airman 1st Class Julianne Buerkert — to 6th OSS/OSW, MacDill AFB, Fla., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Airman Jelani Brooks — to 6th OSS/OSW, MacDill AFB, Fla., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Tech. Sgt. Wasyl Hewko — to 6th OSS/OSW, MacDill AFB, Fla., from Fort Riley, Kan.
 Staff Sgt. Antonio Vieira — to 6th OSS/OSW, MacDill AFB, Fla., from Fort Bliss, Texas
 Airman 1st Class Sherita D. Douglas — to 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama, from Robins AFB, Ga.
 Airman 1st Class Michelle C. Versailles — to 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama, from Sheppard AFB, Texas
 Airman 1st Class Kristin L. Koehl — to 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama, from Eglin AFB, Fla.
 Airman John T. Sheedy — to 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama, from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 2nd Lt. Rayna M. Doggett — to 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama, from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Staff Sgt. Robert Duff — to Germany, from 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas
 Tech. Sgt. Pamela Eversley — to Korea, from 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas
 Master Sgt. Mark B. Miller — to Learmonth Solar Observatory, Australia, from 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
 Senior Airman Patrick M. McDonald — to AFGWC, Offutt AFB, Neb., from 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
 Staff Sgt. Shawn Dahl — to Ramey AS, Puerto Rico, from 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

Staff Sgt. Brent Giles — to Offutt AFB, Neb., from 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.
 2nd Lt. Michael Darwin — to 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D., from Officer Training School
 Senior Airman Louis Gonsalves — to 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Senior Airman Tom Teague — to 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Airman Stacey Stimac — to 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Airman 1st Class Fara Barnes — to 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D., from Ellsworth AFB, S.D.
 Senior Airman John Kubis — to 607th WS, Yongsan AIN, Korea, from Tinker AFB, Okla.
 Master Sgt. Donald Schmidt — to HQ AWS/PA, Scott AFB, Ill., from University of Oklahoma, Okla.
 Tech. Sgt. Stephen McConnell — to Vandenberg AFB, Calif., from 607th WS, Yongsan AIN, Korea
 Tech. Sgt. Kim Danielson — to Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., to 607th WS, Yongsan AIN, Korea
 Staff Sgt. James Daniels — to Bad Kreuznach, Germany, from 607th WS, Yongsan AIN, Korea
 Master Sgt. Matthew Kline — to Camp Stanley, Korea, from HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.
 Master Sgt. Daniel Porter — to Camp Humphreys, Korea, from Shaw AFB, S.C.
 Master Sgt. Timothy Dodd — to HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill., from Camp Stanley, Korea
 Master Sgt. Dana Shifflet — to Tinker AFB, Okla., from Camp Page, Korea
 Master Sgt. Kevin Cummings — to Yongsan AIN, Korea, from Little Rock AFB, Ark.
 Maj. Charles Davenport — to Yongsan AIN, Korea, from HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill.
 Maj. Bruce Mitchell — to Camp Red Cloud, Korea, from Kirtland AFB, N.M.
 Capt. James Everitt — to Camp Humphreys, Korea, from Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
 Tech. Sgt. Pamela Eversley — to Yongsan AIN, Korea, from Fort Hood, Texas
 Tech. Sgt. Joe LeBouff — to Yongsan AIN, Korea, from AFCC, Scott AFB, Ill.
 Tech. Sgt. Richard Vogel — to Yongsan AIN, Korea, from Osan AB, Korea
 Capt. Steves DeSordi — to 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., from University of Utah (AFIT)
 Staff Sgt. Scott Bradley — to 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., from Ramstein AB, Germany
 Senior Airman Scott Jones — to 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Senior Airman Donald Smith — to 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Airman Daravanh Vongsavanh — to 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Airman William Funk — to 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., from Keesler AFB, Miss.
 Capt. Ann Koch — to Falcon AFB, Colo., from 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.
 Capt. Keith Forman — to HQ AWS, Scott AFB, Ill., from 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.
 Staff Sgt. Jose Chavarria — to Osan AB, Korea, from 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.
 Staff Sgt. Chad Deal — to OTS, Maxwell AFB, Ala., from 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

RETIREMENTS

Chief Master Sgt. Robert F. Brooks, HQ USAF/XOW, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
 Lt. Col. Dave McClurkin, HQ AETC/XOSW, Randolph AFB, Texas
 Lt. Col. Robert Hughes, HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
 Master Sgt. Steve Broderick, HQ PACAF/DOWX, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
 Master Sgt. David P. Seibert, 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
 Tech. Sgt. Scott T. Klaiber, 56th OSS/OSW, Luke AFB, Ariz.
 Senior Master Sgt. Ronald G. Wiles, 120th WF, Buckley ANGB, Colo. (ANG)
 Master Sgt. Stanley E. King, 154th WF, Little Rock, Ark. (ANG)
 Lt. Col. Robert Miller, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.
 Maj. Robert Dunmire, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

RE-ENLISTMENTS

Staff Sgt. Frank J. Klein, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama

SEPARATIONS

Sgt. John C. Jobrey, 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
 Senior Airman Douglass MacPherson, 607th WS, Yongsan AIN, Korea
 Senior Airman John Murphy, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.
 Senior Airman Debra Garrow, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

EDUCATION

NCO Academy

Tech. Sgt. Daniel T. Ebbert, Det. 9, 617th WS, Hohenfels, Germany
 Tech. Sgt. Matthew D. Mead, Det. 2, 50th WS, Sagamore Hill Solar Observatory, Mass.
 Tech. Sgt. Scott F. Thomas, 156th WF, Selfridge ANGB, Mich. (ANG)

Airman Leadership School

Senior Airman David Donahue, A Flt., 617th WS, Heidelberg, Germany
 Senior Airman Michael T. Ivey, Det. 7, 617th WS, Grafenwoehr, Germany
 Senior Airman Dan Goldin, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D. (Levitow Award)

Bachelor of Science degree, Business Management

Master Sgt. Irving A. Taylor, Det. 4, 617th WS, Traben Trarbach, Germany

Bachelor Of Science degree, Business Administration

Master Sgt. Allan Cecil, 156th WF, Charlotte, N.C. (from Belmont Abbey College) (ANG)

Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics

Senior Airman June Rodriguez, 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga. (Summa Cum Laude, from CSU)

ANG Army Tactical Skills Course, Camp Blanding, Fla.

Lt. Col. Raymond P. Stickler, 113th WF, Terre Haute, Ind. (ANG)
 Maj. Mark E. Finley, 113th WF, Terre Haute, Ind. (ANG)
 Master Sgt. Douglas Greenwell, 113th WF, Terre Haute, Ind. (ANG)
 Master Sgt. Charles A. Olden, 113th WF, Terre Haute, Ind. (ANG)
 Tech. Sgt. Patrick B. King, 207th WF, Indianapolis, Ind. (ANG)
 Tech. Sgt. David M. Thompson, 113th WF, Terre Haute, Ind. (ANG)
 Staff Sgt. David S. Decker, 113th WF, Terre Haute, Ind. (ANG)
 Staff Sgt. Coleen M. Haskell, 120th WF, Buckley ANGB, Colo. (ANG)
 Senior Airman Matthew A. Crouch, 120th WF, Buckley ANGB, Colo. (ANG)

AWDS Systems Manager Course

Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Morris, 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.

1st Lt. Tamara Parsons, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

2nd Lt. Richard Gonzalez, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Weather Satellite System and Photo Interpretation Course

Senior Airman Charles Cabanero, 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.

Senior Airman Donald Smith, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Air Command and Staff College

Maj. Kenneth Carey, Yongsan AIN, Korea

Able Forecaster and Advanced Weather Course graduates (Class 960610)

Senior Airman Lonnie Clute — to McChord AFB, Wash.

Senior Airman Staci Coleman — to Langley AFB, Va.

Staff Sgt. Lori Flinn — to Louisiana National Guard

Senior Airman Dawn Ross — to Laughlin AFB, Texas

Staff Sgt. Luis Saavedra — to Altus AFB, Okla.

Airman 1st Class Kelly Senchuk — to Columbus AFB, Miss.

Able Forecaster and Advanced Weather Course graduates (Class 960802)

Staff Sgt. Nathan Dixon — to Offutt AFB, Neb.

Airman 1st Class David Eisler — to Dyess AFB, Texas

Tech. Sgt. Kyle Jeter — to Fort Eustis, Va.

Senior Airman Eric Johnson — to Peterson AFB, Colo.

Staff Sgt. Todd E. Morris — to Tyndall AFB, Fla.

Senior Airman Kelly Ryan — to Edwards AFB, Calif.

Senior Airman Larry Shelvy — to Heidelberg, Germany

WSR-88D PUP Managers Course

1st Lt. Michael Mills, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Staff Sgt. Scott Bradley, 30th WS, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

AWARDS

617th WS/ASOG Company Grade Officer of the Year (1995)

Capt. Edward C. Melton III, HQ 617th WS, Heidelberg, Germany

617th WS Company Grade Officer of the Quarter (Oct.-Dec. 1995)

1st Lt. Gail M. Pfeifer, Det. 3, 617th WS, Illesheim, Germany

617th WS Company Grade Officer of the Quarter (Jan.-March 1996)

Capt. Eric J. Barela, Det. 2, 617th WS, Hanau, Germany

617th WS/ASOG Senior NCO of the Year

Master Sgt. Charles G. Vinson, Det. 10, 617th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany

617th WS WS/ASOG Senior NCO of the Quarter (Oct.-Dec. 1995)

Master Sgt. Charles G. Vinson, Det. 10, 617th WS, Giebelstadt, Germany

617th WS Senior NCO of the Quarter (Jan.-March 1996)

Master Sgt. Udell F. Mentola, Det. 5, 617th WS, Katterbach, Germany

617th WS/ASOG NCO of the Year

Staff Sgt. Scott A. Price, OL-D, 617th WS, Kaiserslautern, Germany

617th WS NCO of the Quarter (Oct.-Dec. 1995)

Staff Sgt. Robert M. Pucci, Det. 9, 617th WS, Hohenfels, Germany

617th WS NCO of the Quarter (Jan.-March 1996)

Tech. Sgt. Scott B. Kidder, Det. 6, 617th WS, Wiesbaden, Germany

617th WS Airman of the Year

Senior Shawn P. Peno, A Flt., 617th WS, Heidelberg, Germany

617th WS Airman of the Quarter (Oct.-Dec. 1995)

Senior Airman Nicholas A. Ditando, Det. 5, 617th WS, Katterbach, Germany

617th WS/ASOG Airman of the Quarter (Jan.-March 1996)

Senior Airman Derrick D. Gurley, OL-C, 617th WS, Stuttgart, Germany

ACC Superior Performance Award (to Hurricane Weather Team)

17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.

24th WS/24th Operations Group Officer of the Quarter (Jan.-March 1996)

2nd Lt. Robert A. Stenger, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama

24th WS/24th OG Senior NCO of the Quarter

Master Sgt. Kenneth Kingsbury, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama

24th WS/24th OG/24th Wing NCO of the Quarter

Staff Sgt. James M. Vinson, 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama

24th WS Airman of the Quarter

Senior Airman Wesley A. Freese, Jr., 24th WS, Howard AFB, Panama

3rd OG Company Grade Officer of the Quarter

Capt. Mark B. Miller, 3rd OSS/WE, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska

319th OG NCO of the Quarter

Staff Sgt. Roger Finley, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

319th OSS/OSW Airman of the Quarter

Airman Leticia Garcia, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

55th OG NCO of the Quarter (April-June 1996)

Tech. Sgt. James Branda, 55th OSS/OSW, Offutt AFB, Neb.

55th OSS Airman of the Quarter

Airman 1st Class Laura Liedtke, 55th OSS/OSW, Offutt AFB, Neb.

MISCELLANEOUS

Accepted to Officer Training School

Senior Airman June Rodriguez, 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.

Accepted to Airman Education and Commissioning Program

Senior Airman Jerome Hernandez, 97th OSS/DOW, Altus AFB, Okla.

Tech. Sgt. Edward Amrhein, 3rd WS, Fort Hood, Texas

BIRTHS

Thomas Dinkens, to Senior Airman Maritime and Michael Dinkens, 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.

Sabrina Benjamin Rodriguez, to Senior Airman June and Benjamin Rodriguez, 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga.

Emmaline Marie Murphy, to Airman Melissa and Jason Murphy, 5th OSS/OSW, Minot AFB, N.D.

Kendra J. Wills, to Airmen 1st Class Angela and William Wills, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

Aurora Lee Finley, to Staff Sgt. Roger and Brandy Finley, 319th OSS/OSW, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

Hakeem Abdullah, to Airman Angel Abdullah, 57th OSS/OSW, Nellis AFB, Nev.

MARRIAGES

Airman 1st Class Kathleen L. Liddle, 17th ASOS, C Flt., Fort Benning, Ga., to Airman

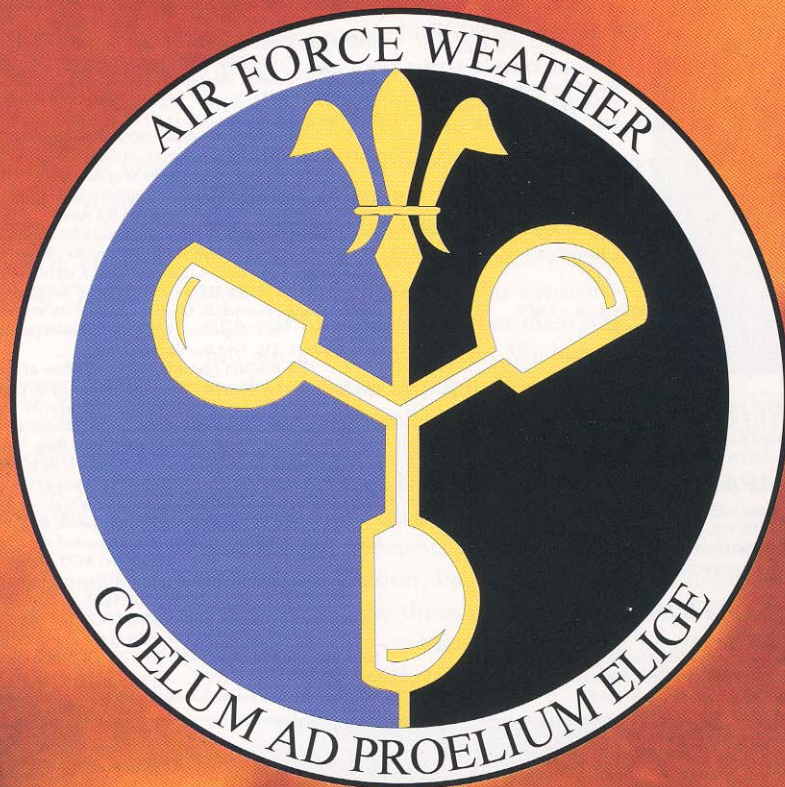
1st Class William M. Ferguson

Airman 1st Class Troy L. Misiak, 6th OSS/OSW, MacDill AFB, Fla., to Valerie L.

Gaspard

E-Mail salutes to "elliotts@hqaws.safb.af.mil". There is a two-month backlog in "Salutes" submissions, so please be patient -- your submission will appear as soon as possible.

AFW



"Choose The Weather For Battle"

VISION

The Warfighter's Choice for Aerospace Weather Information on Demand for Global Reach, Global Power, Global Awareness; Providing the Knowledge Needed to Own the Weather

The key elements of this vision are:

Warfighter's Choice:

This means our products are on time, every time, and of such high quality that the warfighters can rely on them with great confidence. Bottom line: the warfighters come to us for all their weather needs.

Aerospace:

Defined by Air Force Basic Doctrine as the entire expanse above the earth's surface. Its lower limit is the earth's surface, and its upper limit reaches toward infinity. The aerospace environment can best be exploited when considered as an indivisible whole.

Weather:

Our very foundation is in the physics of the atmosphere, space, and the sun. Highly trained operational meteorologists, space physicists, and technicians using state of the art instruments and prediction models in a common operating environment: common data elements, structure, symbols, objects, and processing.

Information:

Converting data into useful decision assistance to support U.S. and allied combat power. Leveraging emerging technologies and modeling and simulation capabilities that can provide warfighters a shared situational awareness and common understanding of the battlespace environment.

On Demand:

Providing decision makers, planners, warfighters, and weapons systems required information when it is needed. A global, seamless, user-driven infrastructure where information can be accessed when needed, in the right form and volume to satisfy user needs.

Knowledge:

A superior knowledge of the natural forces that shape the battlespace, from the surface of the earth to the sun.

Own the Weather:

Exploit superior knowledge of the battlespace environment to gain advantage over enemies. Anticipating and adapting to dynamic natural forces far ahead of adversaries.

AFGWC Rededicates Heritage Hall After Renovation Project

The Air Force Global Weather Center recently rededicated its Heritage Hall to Art Gulliver, a retired assistant director of operations at the center, who spent more than 38 years in weather operations.

“More than 150 people were on hand Aug. 28 to pay tribute to those whose contributions and sacrifices over the last 50 years have sustained AFGWC as a solid Air Force organization,” said Tech. Sgt. Ed Czopklewloz, assistant NCO in charge of CONUS severe operations.

The original dedication of the Art Gulliver Heritage Hall was in February 1988, during the tenure of Col. John Dierks, the 11th Commander of AFGWC.

Since that time, AFGWC has held everything from bake sales to fund-raiser shoe shines to Halloween contests there. “It was the closest thing we had to a lobby,” said current AFGWC Commander, Col. Jack Hayes.

However, after many years of heavy use, the area was clearly in need of renovation.

“We undertook a small project to

by Staff Sgt. Bertha Belton
55th Wing Public Affairs
Offutt AFB, Neb.

replace the ceiling tiles and carpet, but instead of just updating what we had, we decided to go a little further and give AFGWC members a first-class common area that belongs to everyone,” Colonel Hayes said.

“After two-and-one-half years of planning and designing, we finally began construction of the new Heritage Hall in January,” said AFGWC facility manager Richard Riederer. “The construction was finished in July, but there was still much work to be done. We had to finish the project by putting up the pictures and other collectibles in the display area.”

“Our heritage is important,” Colonel Hayes said. “It’s about continuity — and no one represents continuity better than Art Gulliver. For more than 30 years, he was the thread of continuity for AFGWC — whether mentoring young officers, enlisted and civilians, or



AFGWC Commander Col. Jack Hayes (left) assists Art Gulliver in cutting the ceremonial ribbon dedicating the new Heritage Hall.

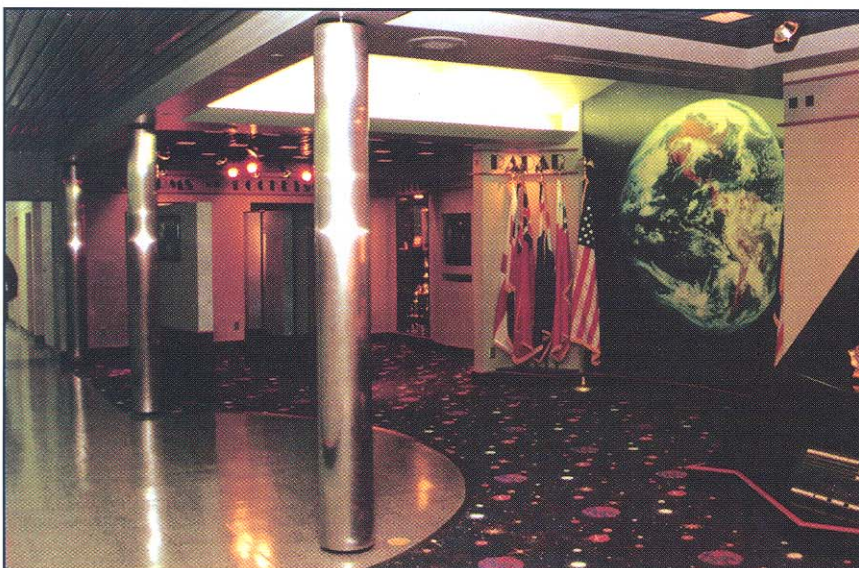
providing senior leadership the counsel needed on the issues of the day.”

Gulliver, however, attributes continuity to Col. Ralph Steele — the first 2nd Weather Squadron commander — whom he called the true father of AFGWC.

“Steele had the basic concepts which he never failed to tell you about — frequently,” Gulliver said. “They were very simple. His concepts were to gather all the weather data available as rapidly as possible and then provide that data to the customer expeditiously.”

“Heritage Hall will be the centerpiece of AFGWC,” Colonel Hayes said. “It will be where we showcase our people and our accomplishments — to match the quality of the people we have in the organization now and those who went before us.

“We ought to be able to walk through here with our visitors, families, and friends, and show them that we care about such things.”



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Tim Toth

The new Heritage Hall area at the Air Force Global Weather Center.

Develop Your Own Empirical Rules

How To Better Serve Your Customer -- The Warfighter

by retired Maj. Gen.
John W. Collens
Commander, AWS (1974-75)

In past editions of the OBSERVER, I offered tips on how to increase your forecasting skill score. I would like to close out my series of articles on “how to better serve the customer — the warfighter” with a story about my experiences in Taiwan from 1963-65.

We were a two-person detachment working within the intelligence section of Air Task Force 13, and with the Chinese Air Force (CAF) Weather Central. Mainland China was a data-denied area, except for major commercial airports and observatories.

Our duties included advising when favorable aerial reconnaissance conditions existed; posting Taiwan on typhoon alert; and briefing the U.S.-Taiwan Defense Command (USTDC, a joint command led by a U.S. Navy vice admiral) when conditions were favorable for amphibious operations.

To meet these requirements, we had to acquire weather and sea conditions, data normally unreadable from in-the-clear sources.

Every day we plotted surface and constant pressure charts, analyzing and ultimately producing forecasts of cloud-free areas and surf conditions. These were mission-tailored forecasts for near those areas where Mainland China and the Nationalist China were in contention.

Unfortunately, the CAF Weather Central did not have the necessary

tools, DMSP satellite imagery was highly classified, and AFGWC’s products were not available to us. This left us on our own to develop empirical rules for the areas of interest to the warfighter.

Fortunately, we did not have to provide counter service to pilots, make “washday” forecasts, nor the many other chores that fall upon airbase/post forecasters. This left us to concentrate our efforts directly upon producing operational advice.

“We ended up plotting the isobars at half-millibar intervals through the area of interest and noting the observed sea condition with various spacings of those lines of pressure. Thus was born an empirical rule for the Taiwan Strait.”



*retired Maj. Gen. John W. Collens
AWS Commander (1974-75)*

I had been supporting aerial reconnaissance as both pilot and forecaster in some of my earlier assignments (Korea, Shaw AFB, S.C.; and Sembach AB, Germany), but now, my limited oceanography knowledge needed to be applied and techniques developed to support the USTDC. Thanks to the CAFWC, we routinely received the Nationalist Chinese Navy’s measurements of sea swells in the Taiwan Strait.

We observed that when there was a tight isobaric pattern with north-

erly winds, sea swell conditions increased in height and period. But information such as when, how much, and what indicators needed to be present, were necessary to make a forecast.

We ended up plotting the isobars at half-millibar intervals through the area of interest and noting the observed sea condition with various spacings of those lines of pressure. Thus was born an empirical rule for the Taiwan Strait.

Every morning we briefed the admiral and joint staff on these sea conditions and the expected forecast for the next 24 hours. From this advice, USDTC could determine whether the “good guys and bad guys” would engage each other in an amphibious operation.

Similarly, we briefed Air Task Force 13 on the feasibility of aerial reconnaissance over the areas of interest.

Following the Gulf of Tonkin incident that expanded the Vietnam War, our two-person detachment went on full alert that found us working 45 straight days, 12-hour shifts, one relieving the other. We were observers, map plotters/analyzers, forecasters and oceanographers.

You too can develop empirical rules that will enhance your forecasting skills’ scores. Capt. Frederick A. Eckel’s “Back to Basics” article in the July 1996 OBSERVER tells you how to start. I heartily endorse his advice. Try it and you will improve your score.

Your customers can then apply the label — “That’s one helluva good forecaster.”



Streamlining Maintenance Support

Tackling The Problems Of Maintaining Equipment

Weather people in the field often face problems obtaining maintenance for their equipment. Among the biggest problems encountered include too many divergent maintenance concepts, and the loss of a single point of contact for the customer to report hardware or software problems.

The way we support weather systems doesn't match up with the "train as you fight" concept. In other words, the way we do it in garrison or at the base weather station is totally different from the way we do it in the field.

We have dedicated Meteorological and Navigational Aids (METNAV) maintainers from the local communications squadron for the fixed airfield equipment on Air Force bases. Army posts in the Continental United States (CONUS) have contractor maintenance, while overseas Army support locations may have visits from a traveling maintenance team (TMT), "blue suiters," contractors, or some other variation.

Tactical systems, for the most part, undergo pre- and post-deployment checks. However, if they fail in the field, they receive no maintenance until the unit returns home, turns the item in for maintenance, and is able to obtain a replacement.

Location isn't the only variable in the different maintenance concepts we have for weather systems -- the type of system dictates how and who performs maintenance. Automated Weather Distribution System (AWDS) problems are coordinated with the Air Force Global Weather Center staff and contractors maintain the hardware and software.

The Small Tactical Terminal (STT) will be fielded under the operator maintenance

by Master Sgt. Richard Koch
Logistics and Configuration
Management

concept — some maintenance will come from within the weather unit.

The Tactical Forecast System (TFS) will have some form of contractor logistics support (CLS) which provides for contract depot services, in addition to contract maintenance.

Broken components of the Manual Observing System (MOS) are either returned to the manufacturer for repair or replaced, depending on cost. The Army maintains the Quick Reaction Communications Terminal (QRCT) and GOLDWING.

"The way we support weather systems doesn't match up with the 'train as you fight' concept. In other words, the way we do it in garrison or at the base weather station is totally different from the way we do it in the field."



**Master Sgt. Richard Koch
AWS Systems and Communication**

One of the primary reasons for the change from the dedicated Air Force maintainers to the mix we have today is the recent series of budget and manpower cuts. Prior to that, systems were fielded with a 20- or 30-year life expectancy after as much as a seven-year development and acquisition cycle. These programs were expensive, but we had the relative luxuries of time and money to train technicians, buy the spares, and create repair lines at depot facilities that would be in place for years.

Another reason relates to the rate of technological change we've experienced

over the past 15 or so years. We've evolved from the limitations of the Z-100s, to computer based training (CBT), CD-ROMS, and to Pentium-based clones with Internet access and E-mail. Weather systems have undergone a similarly rapid evolution. The faster technology develops, the faster the systems you have in hand will become obsolete. They become logistically unsupportable as the equipment suppliers convert production lines to produce current products and stop making parts for obsolete systems.

The future of maintenance for weather systems will likely be accomplished by contractors. HQ USAF/LGM is currently studying the potential policies of outsourcing and privatization of many base functions — including METNAV maintenance.

"Outsourcing" is the transfer of a function previously performed in-house to an outside provider. "Privatization" is the ultimate form of outsourcing in that control of a target business asset and associated activities are transferred from the public to the private sector. The use of contract maintenance and CLS may provide the customer interface that's lacking today.

The next generation of fixed and tactical weather systems are already in the planning stage. A first step will be to merge the TFS and AWDS software into a common baseline and place it on Air Force small computer workstations. This will allow for standardized data dissemination regardless of location: in garrison or in the field, same hardware, same software.

Contractors will maintain the merged TFS/AWDS hardware and software, but the communications backbone will be managed and maintained by the local

See SY,

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Industry Days A Success

Weather Industry Shows Its Wares At AWS



Air Weather Service enjoys a good relationship with the commercial weather industry, but the problem in the past has been arranging meetings between contractors and Air Force representatives.

So if you can't bring AWS to the weather industry, why not bring the weather industry to AWS?

That was the idea behind the first-ever AWS Industry Days Aug. 13-14, 1996, at the Scott AFB, Ill., Officers Club.

The seed for Industry Days was planted when a contractor put in a request to demonstrate a forecast platform used by Navy weather personnel.

But, instead of just bringing in one contractor, why not invite other contractors to provide demonstrations of their systems? Why not include weather people from the major commands to attend the demonstrations and provide feedback?

The result was a cross-section of the weather industry showing off the latest advances in forecasting and observing technologies. Word of Industry Days quickly spread throughout the weather industry, transforming it into a major event in AWS history, with

by Capt. Vicki Michetti
Future Weather Plans and
Programs Branch

more than 30 businesses participating.

Military representatives from all facets of the Department of Defense weather mission were also invited. Attendees included Air Force people from AWS and the major commands, Navy personnel, Army support personnel, and people from the Army Research Lab (ARL), Phillips Lab (PL), and NOAA's Forecast Systems Lab (FSL).

In the past, discussions between contractors and the Air Force were mostly one way, with AWS action officers providing briefings to contractors on their programs, and explaining where AWS planned to go in the future.

Industry Days provided a different twist, with the primary focus shifting to what the contractors could do for Air Force Weather. They provided briefings and demonstrations detailing where the weather industry is headed in the future. This was planned to help create an environment that encourages partnership with industry, so

industry and the Air Force move toward 21st century innovations as a team.

The AFW future relies on a solid modernization plan that includes moving to open architectures, common operating environments, and ensuring the highest degree



Photos by Staff Sgt. Steve Elliott

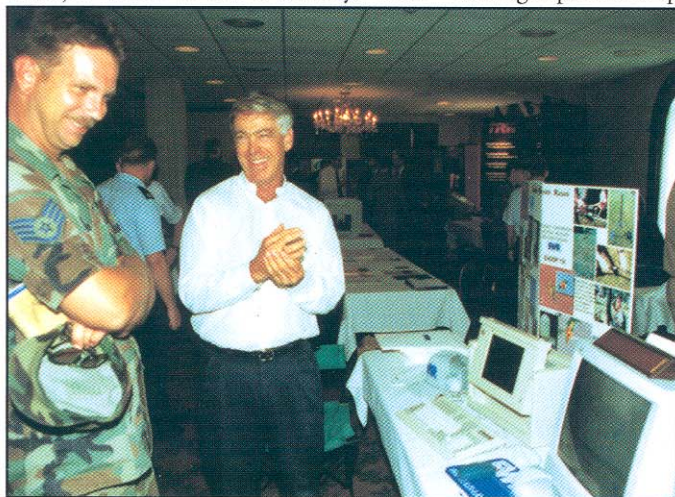
Jan Lonnqvist from Vaisala Inc., shows an automated weather observation system to Capt. John Schmit.

of interoperability between existing and planned systems.

The two-day event was a parade of state-of-the-art weather technology. At most trade shows, people hit the vendor tables to grab handouts and glossy brochures. This time, the military representatives aggressively interacted with the industry people, asking questions and getting "hands-on" experience with the different equipment that was available.

Attendees saw the latest in automated observing sensors from several contractors; a laser beam ceilometer with a range of up to 25,000 feet (the CT-12K only goes to 12,000 feet), acoustic and sonar sounders for atmospheric profiling, a tactical weather radar, and much more.

There were also many software-related forecast products on display. One interesting demonstration was two- and three-dimensional visualization capabilities



Les Ellason (right) of Ellason Weather Radar demonstrates a tactical weather radar system to an Air Force Weather person.

See XO,
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WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio —

A small team of Wright Laboratory researchers braved 100-plus mile-per-hour winds and torrential rains generated by Hurricane Bertha to confirm the benefits of their prototype in future hurricane forecasts.

Their prototype — a Global Positioning System-based dropsonde atmospheric profiling system — senses and relays wind, temperature and humidity in real-time. This information can help National Hurricane Center forecasters better predict the paths of future hurricanes.

The team, which is part of the Improve Precision Airdrop Capability, or ImPACT, program at the Flight Dynamics Directorate, boarded a WC-130 aircraft assigned to the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron (Hurricane Hunters), based at Keesler AFB, Miss., July 9, and left Homestead ARB, Fla., at 2 p.m., bound for the storm, then located east of the Bahamas.

“Launching a total of five dropsondes over a six-hour period, we proved sondes can now accurately measure hurricane-force winds as soon as they leave the aircraft — there was no delay in data coming back to us through our laptop receiver system,” said Capt. Steve Fiorino, Wright Laboratory staff meteorologist.

“We were concerned our instrument packs in the sondes

by Sue Baker
Aeronautical Systems Center
Public Affairs

might not do as well when soaked by Bertha’s heavy rains, but they outperformed our expectations.

What we were able to do — get real-time, flight-level information from the sondes — is something no other current sonde system can do,” Fiorino said. “This system is not an operational device yet, but it’s certainly good enough to be one.”

The team’s data was so good, researchers based at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration lab in Key Biscayne, Fla., eagerly latched onto it, said Maj. Jim Greer, program manager.

“The sondes we deployed, which use GPS (Global Positioning System) — versus older technology still installed in today’s weather-tracking aircraft — were able to show data from flight level (10,000 feet), to the ocean’s surface.”

Capt. Steve Fiorino
Wright Laboratory staff meteorologist

“The sondes we deployed, which use GPS — versus older technology still installed in today’s weather-tracking aircraft — were able to show data from flight level (10,000 feet), to the ocean’s surface,” Fiorino said.

“The National Hurricane Center, which we visited in Miami, while we were on location, also was very interested in our research results from the Bertha run.

“They’ll be going back to see how our data might have helped them improve their forecasts of the storm’s path — what we gath-

ered, on the periphery of Bertha, where the winds are most violent, is totally different from what they had.

“By giving us wind data every five seconds, our GPS dropsondes provided the most accurate details on the storm’s direction and intensity.”

Flying into and out of the eye of the hurricane four times, team members were tossed about by violent winds at regular intervals, said Giovanni Pagan, directorate test engineer.

“All in all, it was sort of calm, like flying on board a commercial airliner, except for the occasional turbulence, and the fact that we ate the whole time.”

The team landed safely back at Homestead at approximately 1 a.m. the next day.

During the Bertha-hunting mission, the team released five dropsondes, each valued at approximately \$500, Fiorino said.

“The whole system costs less than \$100,000, weighs about 100 pounds, is self-contained inside a 4-inch by 22-inch customized case, and is very portable.”

Working with researchers from Air Mobility Command, Air Combat Command and Air Force Special Operations Command, plus the Army lab at Natick and the Naval Air Warfare Center in Indianapolis, Ind., the team will be searching for new ways to use ImPACT, whether for predicting future weather or increasing airdrop accuracy, as part of Wright Laboratory’s continuing emphasis on dual-use technologies.

(Editor’s Note: This article was reprinted from the August 1996 INTERCOM, the magazine of the Air Force Communications Agency.)

Air National Guard Weather Jobs Open

The Air National Guard has openings for officers and enlisted, observers and forecasters.

104th Weather Flight, Baltimore, Md.: two forecasters, two observers.

105th WF, Nashville, Tenn.: one forecaster.

107th WF, Selfridge ANGB, Mich.: one forecaster.

110th WF, St. Louis, Mo.: one forecaster.

116th WF, McChord AFB, Wash.: two forecasters, two observers, one officer.

120th WF, Buckley ANGB, Colo.: one officer, three observers.

123rd WF, Portland, Ore.: two forecasters.

125th WF, Tulsa, Okla.: two officers, three forecasters.

127th WF, Topeka, Kan.: one forecaster.

131st WF, Westfield, Mass.: one officer.

146th WF, Pittsburgh, Pa.: one forecaster.

154th WF, Little Rock, Ark.: one forecaster.

164th WF, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio: one observer.

195th WF, Fort Hueneme, Calif.: one officer, four forecasters, one observer.

199th WF, Wheeler AAF, Hawaii: one officer.

202nd WF, Otis ANGB, Mass.: one officer, three forecasters.

208th WF, Minneapolis, Minn.: one officer.

210th WF, Ontario, Calif.: two forecasters.

For more information, contact Mr. Ted Houghton at DSN 278-8285.



First Global Image Of Total Atmospheric Ozone Obtained

Daily global mapping of the Earth's ozone layer from space has resumed with the acquisition of the first image from the U.S. Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer (TOMS) instrument aboard the Japanese Advanced Earth Observing Satellite (ADEOS) Sept. 12.

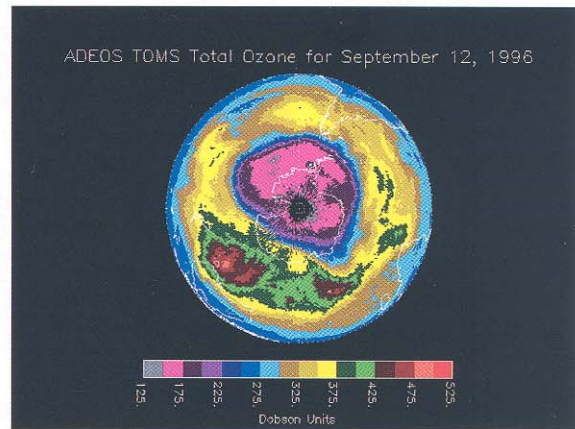
"We are extremely pleased with the quality of this first image," said P.K. Bhartia, TOMS Project Scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md. "We're looking forward to continuing our monitoring of the global ozone situation and especially the upcoming season in the Antarctic."

ADEOS continues the series of TOMS total ozone and volcanic sulfur dioxide observations that began with the Nimbus-7 satellite in 1978 and continued through the operation of a TOMS on a Russian Meteor-3 satellite, until that instrument ceased functioning in December 1994.

Data from another TOMS instrument flying on the recently launched NASA

TOMS-Earth Probe spacecraft complements the global ADEOS data by providing high-resolution imagery of atmospheric features related to urban pollution, biomass burning, forest fires, desert dust and small volcanic eruptions, in addition to ozone measurements.

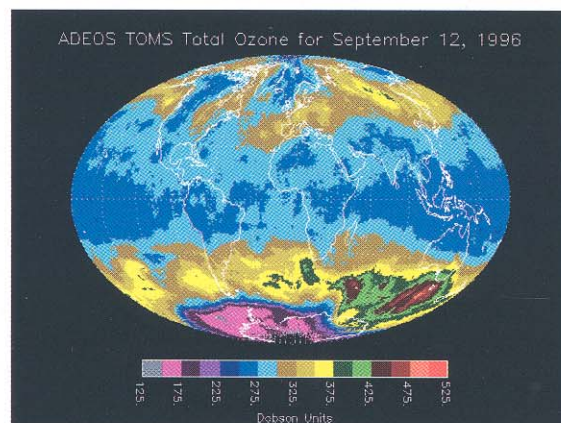
In recent years, the depleting effects of industrial chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) on



ozone were demonstrated through the sudden appearance of the Antarctic ozone hole and other, more gradual losses in global ozone. The principal mission of TOMS/ADEOS is to monitor global ozone trends during the period when CFC-related depletion is predicted to be near its maximum.

"Stratospheric concentrations of chlorine from CFC's are expected to peak near the end of the century and then decline as a result of the Montreal Protocol," said Arlin Krueger, Principal Investigator for the TOMS/ADEOS mission. "TOMS/ADEOS will help us track this prediction. It also will continue to measure the concentrations of sulfur dioxide in the atmosphere in the wake of volcanic eruptions, thus extending the existing database of more than 100 eruptions, including Mt. Pinatubo in 1991 and El Chichon in 1982."

TOMS complements four of the Japanese instruments on ADEOS. The Improved Limb Atmo-



spheric Sounder measures the vertical profiles of ozone and other trace gases in polar regions, while the Interferometric Monitor for Greenhouse Gases measures ozone beneath the orbital track, and the Retroreflector In Space determines trace gas profiles as ADEOS passes over ground-based laser stations. In addition, TOMS will provide information to help correct data from the Ocean Color and Temperature

Scanner for atmospheric absorption at visible wavelengths.

ADEOS is an international global change research mission of the National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA) that includes instruments from the U.S., Japan, and France, with investigators from many others. The satellite is a key part of an international environmental research effort that in-

oh, by the way *news you can use*

cludes NASA's Mission to Planet Earth (MTPE), a long-term, coordinated research program to study the Earth as a global

See **OBTW**,
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Air Force Weather Stan Eval Visit Schedule

The following is the Air Force Weather Standardization and Evaluation Team schedule, as of the end of August 1996.

Sept. 30-Oct. 4	Fort Lewis, Wash.
Oct. 7-11	McChord AFB, Wash.
Oct. 21-25	Shaw AFB, S.C.
Nov. 4-8	Fort Belvoir, Va.
Nov. 18-22	Pope AFB, N.C.
Nov. 18-22	Tinker AFB, Okla.
Dec. 2-6	Fort Benning, Ga.
Jan. 6-10, 1997	Howard AFB, Panama
Jan. 13-17	Hill AFB, Utah
Jan. 27-31	Homestead ARB, Fla.



Photos by Master Sgt. Mark Anderson

Stan Eval team member Capt. Chan Keith prepares a final report on a weather station with Master Sgt. Bryan Goforth.



AFW Stan Eval team member Master Sgt. Richard A. Pratt talks with an observer at the Peterson AFB, Colo., weather station.

Feb. 2-14	Illesheim, Germany
	Katterbach, Germany
	Fort Stewart, Ga.
Feb. 3-7	Laughlin AFB, Texas
Feb. 24-28	Robins AFB, Ga.
March 3-7	Travis AFB, Calif.
March 10-14	Eielson AFB, Alaska
March 10-21	Fort Wainwright, Alaska
	Cannon AFB, N.M.
April 7-11	Grissom ARB, Ind.
April 7-11	Dover AFB, Del.
April 14-18	Langley AFB, Va.
April 21-25	Camp Humphreys, Korea
April 28-May 9	Kunsan AB, Korea
	Fort Bragg, N.C.
May 12-16	Fort Rucker, Ala.
May 19-23	Grand Forks AFB, N.D.
June 2-6	Columbus AFB, Miss.
June 2-6	Hohenfels AAF, Germany
June 16-27	Hanau AAF, Germany

(Note: Soto Cano has been deleted from the schedule)

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environmental system. The goal of MTPE is to allow people to better understand natural environmental changes and to distinguish between natural and human-made changes and impacts.

During its lifetime on Nimbus-7, TOMS helped make "ozone" a household word through its false-color images of the Antarctic ozone hole. Even after 14 years of operating the instruments, TOMS scientists are testing new concepts such as the monitoring of absorbing aerosols that are produced in fires, duststorms, and volcanic eruptions, estimation of ultraviolet (UV-B) radiation at Earth's surface, and detection of volcanic hazards to aviation. TOMS measures ozone by comparing the level of ultraviolet light emitted by the Sun to that scattered from the Earth's atmo-

sphere back to the satellite.

The first TOMS/ADEOS image is available electronically at the following URL: "<http://jwocky.gsfc.nasa.gov/adatoms/adeos.html>"

The TOMS program is managed by the Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD, for NASA's Office of Mission to Planet Earth, Washington, D.C.

AFGWC Becomes A 'Center'

Headquarters Air Force Global Weather Central at Offutt AFB, Neb., was officially renamed the Air Force Global Weather Center Oct. 1

The change resulted from an effort by the Air Force Directorate of Programs and Evaluation to standardize unit designa-



tions among Air Force organizations.

The name change is one of several that AFGWC has undergone throughout its history. AFGWC's forerunner, Offutt Weather Central, was created in 1957 by consolidating personnel from the USAF Weather Central at Suitland, Md., and the Strategic Air Command Forecast Center at Offutt AFB, Neb. Offutt Weather Central became the 2nd Weather Squadron in 1967, and was redesignated Air Force Global Weather Central July 8, 1969.

XO,

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ties for forecasting parameters. Imagine being able to picture the model output

(vorticity, winds, relative humidity, etc.) in three dimensions. An observer, forecaster or pilot could rotate the frame of reference and really "see" the state of the atmosphere.

Other software demonstrations in-

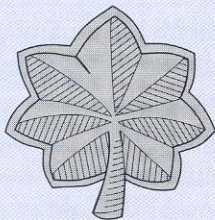
cluded radar networks, automatically updated charts, and continuous computer displays of current meteorological conditions.

Some companies showed a fly-through capability, plus an on-line help feature where the meteorologist can be geographically separated from the customers and go on-line to explain forecast information and answer general questions.

Everyone attending agreed that HQ AWS Industry Days was a success, and a win-win event for both the military and industry. The diversity of the technologies on display, both in equipment and software, were eye-openers for most military participants.

By taking a look at the future of military weather, industry representatives gained a clearer understanding of AFW needs. This can help define what the contractors can do to help AFW in the quest for seamless transitions to dynamic and robust systems, and meeting the challenge of information dominance in the future.

With industry's help, ideas from the field, and a vigilant look at future technologies, AFW can expect to remain on the cutting edge and be a force multiplier well into the 21st century.



Air Force Weather Lieutenant Colonel Selectees

The following are the results of the 1996 lieutenant colonel selection board:

NAME

David L. Bjornson

Ray M. Clark

Norbert R. Cordeiro

Michael L. Davenport

Robert L. Hamilton, Jr.

James T. Kroll

William G. Munley, Jr.

Loraine M. Pope

Jimason J. Rand

John R. Schneider

Mark R. Weadon

David J. Zdenek

LOCATION

Ramstein AB, Germany

Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

Kelly AFB, Texas

Scott AFB, Ill.

Fort Monroe, Va.

Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

Traben Trarbach, Germany

Nellis AFB, Nev.

McGuire AFB, N.J.

RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom

Scott AFB, Ill.

REALITY,

continued from Page 3

weather support — and it should fit on an easily deployable computer system. You also deserve a robust and reliable communications network that will allow you to concentrate, whether in garrison or deployed, on providing warfighter support, not establishing a link to the data you need.

5. We must provide the warfighter the knowledge needed to anticipate and exploit the seamless weather environment — from mud to the sun.

The sun is the engine that drives our weather — from ionospheric effects to the jet stream to soil moisture. Weather is our domain. We must understand the seamless weather environment and be ready to assist our operators so they anticipate and exploit the weather to ensure mission success. It's simple to say, and hard to do, but we must provide our operators the "knowledge needed to own the weather." To realize this, we

must make it an imperative to give all our people the training and "know-how" needed to meet this critical challenge.

6. We must champion Air Force Weather concepts -- synergy through teamwork.

Each of us has a critical role on the Air Force, Army, and AFW teams. The vision is the same whether we are assigned to a base, post, center, or headquarters staff. At every level, we must constantly strive to be the "warfighter's choice for battlespace weather information." We must work as an Air Force Weather team if we are to develop "better ways" to meet our warfighters' needs and ensure the best possible weather support for the Air Force and Army.

7. We must capitalize on technological innovations and national capabilities.

We must do things smarter, faster, and better with easier to use and maintain automation tools. We intend to fully exploit commercial-off-the-shelf technology and use other DoD, national, and some allied capabilities to allow us to rapidly provide new and much improved automation tools to everyone

who needs them. We cannot and will not try to reinvent the wheel — we will capitalize on the many high quality weather automation capabilities that already exist today.

We firmly believe these enduring principles will guide us in meeting the many challenges in the re-engineering effort ahead. But, we need your buy-in and we need your support to make this effort a success. To that end, I would solicit your inputs and thoughts, please pass them to me or Chief Master Sgt. Jim Hoy at the addresses given below.

In closing, like you, I am very proud to be a member of the Air Force and the Air Force Weather Teams. I remain excited about our future — it is a bright and demanding future. A future in which we will continue to move, with people first, to be the "warfighter's choice for battlespace weather information on demand...providing the knowledge needed to own the weather."

E-mail: lewisf@af.pentagon.mil or hoyj@af.pentagon.mil

Mail: Brig. Gen. Fred Lewis (or Chief Master Sgt. Jim Hoy), HQ USAF/XOW, 1490 AF Pentagon, Washington DC 20330-1490.

EXPLOIT,

continued from Page 3

service syndrome". If you didn't ask the right question, you wouldn't get the information needed to make a proper decision. For years, we weathermen have been telling aviators and

wing commanders about highs, lows, and fronts and not necessarily what they really needed to make proper operational decisions.

Our contributions to the Air Force are too vital to stop short of complete success. We need to recognize that, for a variety of reasons, the communications process is not being com-

pleted with many warfighting users.

We have two choices. One, we could throw up our hands in frustration. Two, we can do what we know to be right: step up to the challenge with pride, purpose, and professionalism.

WE are the ones to translate "Anticipate and Exploit" from a dream into operational reality.

SY,

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Communications Squadron's Base Network Control Center on Air Force Bases, a Deployed Network Control Center while in the field, or by the Global Command and Control System for Army applications. This will be the basis of the forecast system for the 21st Century.

The next generation of sensing equipment will make up the observing system for the 21st century. The functions of the discrete systems used today (FMQ-

8 for temp/dewpoint, CT-12K for cloud height, FMQ-13 for winds, etc.) will also be merged into a co-located sensor suite.

This sensor suite will perform all functions necessary to measure atmospheric conditions and process the information for display and dissemination by FS-21. The fixed and tactical sensor suites, although not physically identical, will be functionally identical. Contract maintenance or full CLS will be used for both fixed and tactical applications.

The goal as these systems are designed is to consolidate and standardize the sensing, display, and dissemination

equipment used by weather warriors in the next century. Fixed and tactical systems will be networked computers fed by sensor suites and communications.

The architectures will remain open, so we'll be able to exploit and incorporate technological breakthroughs while they're still new. One of the most important results will be a standardized concept of maintenance for fixed and tactical systems. Regardless of whether in garrison or in the field, the goal is one point of contact for the observer or forecaster to notify when a problem is experienced.

