



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
DETACHMENT 4, 18TH WEATHER SQUADRON (ACC)
FORT CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY**

13 January 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR INBOUND

FROM: DET 4, 18 WS
G7135 H Avenue
Fort Campbell, KY 42223

SUBJECT: Fort Campbell Assignment

1. Congratulations on your assignment to the Detachment 4, 18 Weather Squadron. We are a detachment geographically separated from our headquarters, the 18th Weather Squadron, located at Fort Bragg, NC. We are also Air Force Weather's largest unit below a squadron. We truly set the standard for all other Battlefield Weather Dets. Our primary mission is to support the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), its three Combat Brigade Teams, and the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade by providing highly skilled, physically and mentally fit Battlefield Weather Airmen in direct support of Overseas Contingency Operations. Our day-to-day mission focuses on the airfield services at the two airfields/helipads on the Fort Campbell installation, integrating with our supported units, and training for tactical weather operations. We have a very exciting and complex mission with opportunities to support or perform air assault missions, UAS operations, and aircraft maneuver operations. Physical training is quite intense at Det 4, so get ready and prepare yourself physically and mentally. You also have the opportunity to train for and attend the U.S. Army Air Assault Course. This advanced Army training is integral to our operations and to understand the mission of our supported Division...the ONLY Air Assault Division in the world. There are other opportunities for advanced Army training such as Pathfinder, SPIES/FRIES, and even Airborne/Ranger School for a very select few. I believe you will find your assignment to Det 4 the most exciting and rewarding assignments in your Air Force career; I know I have and I can't wait to welcome you to the team.

2. You will be assigned a sponsor who will assist you in making your move to Fort Campbell a smooth one. Their letter or email will contain more detailed information on our unit and life in Clarksville, TN.

3. If you need anything during your transition, contact us at DSN 352-4231, commercial 270-412-4231. Again, welcome to the Detachment 4, 18th Weather Squadron; we look forward to your arrival!

TODD L. BLUM, Maj, USAF
Commander



18th WEATHER SQUADRON PATCH



SIGNIFICANCE

Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The parachute is representative of the squadron's support of Army Airborne forces. The lightning bolt indicates the unit's ability to rapidly deploy to provide weather support, while the fleur-de-lis alludes to the unit's heritage from the Army Signal Corps in France, during WWI.

18th WEATHER SQUADRON UNIT HISTORY

1942 – 18th Weather Squadron activated at Bolling Field, Washington DC. (2 May 1942)
1942 – 18th Weather Squadron moved to England (July 1942)
1944 – 18th Weather Squadron moved into France (December 1944)
1945 – 18th Weather Squadron moved to Wiesbaden, Germany (26 October 1945)
1948 – 18th Weather Squadron units supported the Berlin Airlift
1960 – 18th Weather Squadron deactivated at Wiesbaden, Germany. (3 October 1960)
1994 – 18th Weather Squadron reactivated at Fort Bragg (1 Jul 1994)
2003 – 18th Expeditionary Weather Squadron established in Kuwait in support of the opening stages of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.
2007 – UFN 18th Expeditionary Weather Squadron established in Baghdad, Iraq in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.
2008 -- 18th Weather Squadron assumed command of weather teams previously assigned to ASOSs. This added Detachments at Fort Campbell, Fort Drum and Fort Stewart and Fort Polk to the squadron.

Since reactivation the unit has participated in Operations RESTORE and UPHOLD DEMOCRACY in Haiti, RESTORE HOPE in Somalia, JOINT ENDEAVOR and JOINT GUARD in Bosnia, SAFE BORDER in Ecuador, SOUTHERN WATCH in Saudi Arabia, ENDURING FREEDOM in Afghanistan and IRAQI FREEDOM in Iraq.

DETACHMENT 4 PATCH & HERITAGE



The Air Force Forecasters have been providing weather support to the 101st Airborne since before WWII. We were then known as the Army Air Corps. At H-hour minus five, on 6 June 1944, Sgt Charlie Staub parachuted into Normandy with the Screaming Eagles. His mission was to relay weather conditions from the front lines to ships offshore. He jumped 600 feet into the hedgerows with the 502d Parachute Infantry Regiment. Linking up with troops from the 506th, they were making their way toward the rally point when German soldiers fired on them. Sgt Staub sustained three rifle wounds and was eventually knocked unconscious by a grenade...before he could transmit his first weather observation. Sgt Staub went on to serve with distinction with his division during the Korean War, where he voluntarily traveled through guerrilla infested areas to inspect and repair weather equipment.

Today Det 4 continues to provide weather support in garrison and down range with the 101st "Screaming Eagles" Airborne Division (AASLT), the 101st (Wings of Destiny) and the 159th (Eagle Thunder) Combat Aviation Brigades as well as the 1st (Bastogne), 2nd (Strike) and 3rd (Rakkasans) and 4th (Currahee) Brigade Combat Teams.

DETACHMENT 4 MASCOT

When the detachment separated from the 19 ASOS and was established 1 Oct 08, the unit moved into a temporary building, the "admin trailer", behind the 19 ASOS. Living under that trailer was a very stubborn and fat groundhog. His determination and ability to evade numerous pest control workers has come to embody Det 4's fighting spirit (but not his PT habits). The Detachment's second Commander and Det Superintendent devised a plan to honor the unit's mascot with a stuffed groundhog statue. The groundhog holds a Kestrel aloft in a pose originally struck by the Det's own Mr. Rohl on the cover of Observer Magazine during the initial stages of OIF.