

30

3 articles

Former POW

Colonel Zapinski commands 5th WWg.

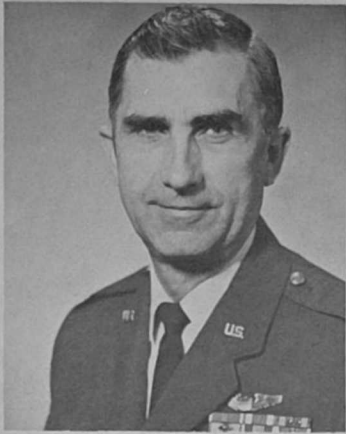
LANGLEY AFB, Va. - A former German prisoner of war assumed command of the 5th Weather Wing (WWg.) here October 1.

The new commander, Col. Leonard E. Zapinski succeeds Col. Walter A. Keils, who retired after serving more than 30 years in the military.

During World War II, Colonel Zapinski served as a B-17 pilot with the 8th Air Force in England. He was shot down on his 20th combat mission and spent 11 months as a prisoner of war in Germany.

Colonel Zapinski began his weather service career in 1947 and served until 1952 as an instructor in the Department of Weather Training at Chanute AFB, Ill. He commanded weather detachments at Kunsan Air Base and Taegu Air Base during the Korean War and later at Hamilton AFB, Calif., and Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y. Other assignments include duty as a 20th Weather Squadron operations staff officer in Nagoya, Japan and as the 21st Weather Squadron operations officer at Torrejon Air Base, Spain.

The colonel completed a two-year tour as assistant director of weather, DCS/Operations, headquarters, of the Strategic Air Command in June 1968 and then commanded the 26th Weather Squadron at Barksdale AFB, La. During 1970, he served in Vietnam as commander, 1st Weather Group and 7th Air Force staff weather office. He was DCS/Operations for Air Weather Service prior to his assignment to 5th Weather Wing.



Colonel Zapinski

Jenkins named outstanding instructor

CHANUTE AFB, ILL. - Walter M. Jenkins, a civilian instructor of Meteorology at the Department of Weather Training, United States Air Force School of Applied Aerospace Sciences, Chanute Technical Training here was named Outstanding Civilian Instructor of the Month for August.

Mr. Jenkins, a retired Air Force weather officer with 20 years service is a graduate of Florida State University and has a masters degree from the University of Illinois.

He is only the third man in history of the Department of Weather Training to have won the coveted award a second time. He previously won in February 1969.



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NOVEMBER 1973

53rd Weather Recon. Sq. gets Senter Award again

KEESLER AFB, Miss. - The 53d Weather Reconnaissance Squadron (WRSq.) here added another feather to its cap in the form of the Air Weather Service's Senter Award for 1972.

The Senter Award is presented to the weather reconnaissance, atmospheric sampling or cartographic unit that "best demonstrated a continuous ability to surpass established norms in the areas of mission accomplishment and operational readiness."

The award is named in honor of Lt. Gen. William O. Senter, former commander, Air Weather Service from 1950 to 1954.

The award was presented to Col. Lawrence E. Pennington, 53d WRSq., commander by Col. Anthony J.G. Timmermans, Jr., vice commander of the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing.

Selection of the 53d WRSq., was based on the unit's outstanding performance in accomplishing a

varied and difficult mission. Throughout the year 1972, the unit provided support for numerous worldwide projects. In the early part of the year, the squadron carried out Project Cold Clear (dispersal of fog) at Weisbaden AB, Germany. Through the winter months, the squadron stood vigilance on the treacherous east coast winter storms.

Significant contributions were made by the squadron toward scientific research with missions being flown in support of Project Stormfury, an experimental weather modification program. Also 53d crews flew a specifically modified C-130 in the testing of the airborne weather reconnaissance system. The unit also supplied aircraft and crews to the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratory for testing and refinement of the Omega windsonde, and instrument capable of measuring winds from aircraft flight level to the surface.

The 53d was tasked in 1972 to provide weather reconnaissance for operation Strong Express, an exercise of NATO Forces involving over 64,000 men, 300 ships and 700 aircraft. As a result of the squadron's efforts, a message of appreciation was forwarded by the commander in chief of Allied Naval Forces.

Throughout the 1972 hurricane season, the unit's accomplishments included 86 fixes on named storms in both the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. During the year, the Hurricane Hunters continued their weather support for American manned space flight, including the launch of Apollo 17.

The presentation of the Senter Award to the 53d WRSq., marked the fifth time in the nine years since the inception of the award that the Hurricane Hunters have earned such recognition. In two other years, the squadron was runner-up.

Academy appointments open

WASHINGTON D.C. (AFNS) - Sons of Air Force people are urged to seek admission at the U.S. Air Force Academy by applying for the presidential category for the Class of 1978, which will enter the Academy July 1, 1974. The deadline for the application is Dec. 15.

The presidential category is open to sons of regular and reserve members of the armed forces who are on active duty and have served

continuously on active duty for at least eight years.

In completing an application, a person should refer to an Air Force Academy catalog which has a format to be followed. A catalog may be requested by writing to the Candidate Advisory Service, USAF Academy, Colo. 80840. Also one may call the Academy Cadet Branch, 692-4631/2/3.

Airmen volunteers may get help now

Airmen who have been long-standing volunteers for an assignment to the Philippines and Guam and have not been selected by Air Force Military Personnel Center (AFMPC) may now receive help.

A research conducted has shown the reason they were not selected.

Their overseas tour preferences were reflected as "long" on their AF Form 392 "Airman Assignment Preference Statement." Since overseas selections are based on the "all others" or "unaccompanied tour" length, airman who volunteer for an assignment to the Philip-

pines or Guam must indicated "short" or "any" as the desired tour length on their AF Form 392. Because married airmen who desired an accompanied overseas tour at the Philippines or Guam reflected a preference for a long tour they were not selected.

In an effort to solve the confusion, specific procedures have been furnished to all Consolidated Base Personnel Offices (CBPO)

All persons who have volunteered and not been selected should contact their CBPO to get the straight scoop about the program.



Welcome Ladies

they heard about the RAPCON control center where they heard about the duties of an air traffic controller. After that they were escorted via elevator to the control tower where they could overlook the runways and taxi ramps. Then they were given a tour of a C-141 and a C-5 Galaxy and finally a visit to the 22d Air Force command post. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

TRAVIS AFB, Calif. -- A windy Saturday morning was the setting here recently when the wives of members of Detachment 2, 15th Weather Squadron was given a tour of some base facilities. The first stop on the tour was the weather station where the ladies met SSgt. Ernie Toop, who explained the duties of a weather forecaster. After a look at numerous maps and satellite photos the visitors were escorted into

Editorials

Happiness is Souls with Soles

by
MAC ground Safety Office

It has been determined that the platform shoes, recently introduced into the field of fashion for both men and women, are very hazardous footwear.

Some safety minded experts have even declared that the platform shoe could cause more highway accidents than bald tires, and are considered the worst driving shoe ever.

Driving a car, or even riding a bicycle in them, just doesn't mix. They can lead to dangerous miscalculation in speed and braking judgement.

The four to five-inch high platforms make it very difficult to shift the foot from the accelerator to the brake in an emergency.

A clog in the wheel awaits bike buffs. In short, they don't pedal very well. The extreme height, weight and

rigidity of shoe decreases mobility, balance and speed.

As a result, the wearer has reduced sensitivity and, therefore, subjects himself to serious injuries while performing any task.

The platform sole and heel patterns differ considerably from regular styles, thus increasing the hazards of the fancy footwear when one attempts fancy footwork such as dancing, running, or even walking up and down stairs.

You be the judge, buy them if you must, but please use discretion about wearing them.

"Happiness is souls with soles, with soles, with soles."

Skill update conference

Race relations facilitators from nine Military Airlift Command bases gathered at Scott AFB, Ill., Aug. 20 for a six-day conference aimed at providing guidance in the use of new techniques for creating a more professional race relations education course.

Titled "Skill Update Conference for Race Relations Education Instructors," the conference delved into transactional analysis, simulation games and student motivation. Minority history and contemporary thought were also topics for discussion.

The program focused on improving the instructor's teaching skills, and adding depth to their knowledge and understanding of

race relations.

A highlight of the program was the presentation given by Col. Paul Whelan, from the Air War College, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala. He gave a charged and dynamic talk titled "Motivation and You, The Second Time Around."

Another favored speaker was Professor Harvey Taylor from the Institute of Ethnic Studies at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville. He spoke on recent history and contemporary philosophies in the Mexican-American community.

In addition, the Illinois Commission on Human Relations provided enlightening techniques in small group dynamics.

Reactions from the conferees were favorable. 1st. Lt. Eric N. Moore, of the Scott AFB Race Relations Education Office, commented, "So far, so good. One of the problems we discussed was the rapid turnover in social actions of officers -- there's a lot of crossfeed and interchange of ideas and techniques between the facilitators attending."

Another conferee praised the presentation on transactional analysis. "Very good -- wish we had more time to go into the subject."

According to TSgt. Richard W. Matz of the MAC Social Actions Office, MAC is the only command to sponsor this type of conference.

Calorie "Banking"

by
Col. William R. Lagergren
Hospital Commander
Ching Chuan Kang, ROCAB, Taiwan

(EDITORS NOTE: The following editorial was adapted from PACAF News Service)

Obesity means different things to different people. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's standards for weight are obviously higher and, therefore, more selective than those of the surgeon, who feels somewhat fortunate if his patients have not qualified for a circus as "the fat boy." Indeed, if the Metropolitan Life figures are used, upwards to 35 per cent of military people would be considered obese.

Normally, one should not consider obesity as a disease. It is sim-

ply a factor of calorie "banking." Just as the liver stores about 1,200 calories as sugar for emergency situations, the fatty tissue stores calories as fat for important purposes, such as long-term food supply.

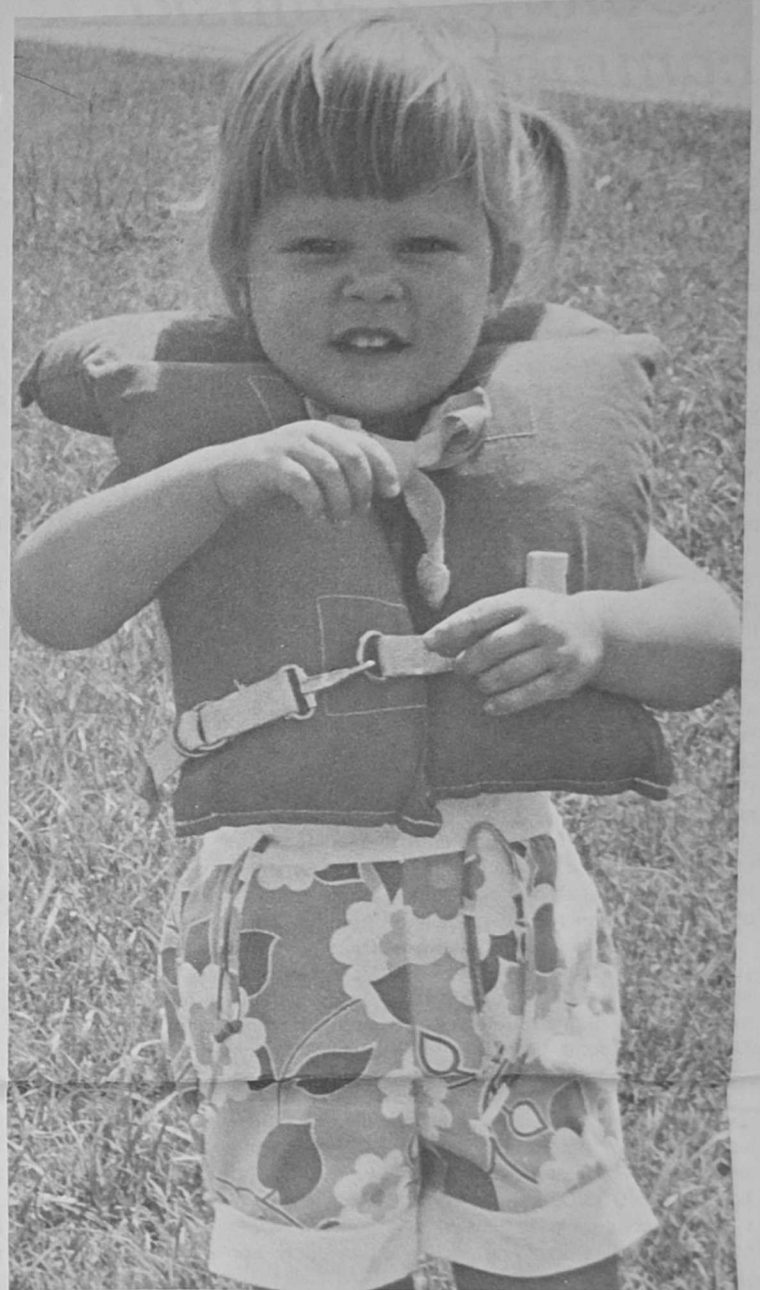
But storing fat and "hoarding" it are two different matters. Like smoking or drinking, pleasure eating can be harmful if it is done to excess. Obesity results from either over-eating or from underactivity, or a combination of both; and if it is prolonged over the years it can impair healthy and shorten life.

One investigation indicates that

the mortality ratio for obese individuals ranges from one and one-fourth to one and three-fourths times that of nonobese individuals. It is commonly known that obese people are more prone to heart and kidney disease and to diabetes; but it is not commonly known that they suffer a significant increase in deaths from accidents. Possibly this is due to their reduced agility.

Think of this! The same science which offers mankind the chance to over-throw infectious diseases and cancer, likewise offers a greater opportunity -- through abundance and numerous labor-saving devices -- for obesity.

A letter to the Editor



Karyn

The picture shows my daughter, Karyn, wearing her life preserver in a grassy field. That is unreasonable; everyone knows life vests are for wear while boating. One week earlier Karyn was wearing her life preserver when she fell off a dock into 25 feet of water. Life preservers are not just for boats. Neither are they only for summer. They are for anytime you, or especially your children are around deep water. No life preserver may be for-ever.

Raymond A. Kandle
Det. 16, 3d WWg.,
Unit Safety Officer

AIR WEATHER SERVICE

OBSERVER

The Air Weather Service OBSERVER is an official Class 5 Air Force newspaper published monthly for personnel of the worldwide Air Weather Service of the Military Airlift Command and under the supervision of the Office of Information, Headquarters, Military Airlift Command, Scott AFB, Ill., 62225. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Air Force.

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BRIG. GEN. THOMAS A. ALDRICH
Commander, Air Weather Service

ALBERT H. SWIHART
Editor

Births in AWS

Niles, SSgt. and Mrs. Jack H., a son, Jason J. September 20. Father is assigned to Det. 8, 15th WSq., McClellan AFB, Calif.

Brown, Sgt. and Mrs. Michael P., a daughter, Marie Pauline, July 29. Father is a weather observer assigned to Det. 17, 20th WSq., Yokota AB, Japan.

Powell, Capt. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Twin daughters, Amanda Charlotte and Sandra Annette, September 6. Father assigned to Det. 6, 2d WWg., Stuttgart Airfield, Germany.

Schmitt, Capt. and Mrs. Harold R., a son, Kevin. Father is assigned to Det. 11, 3d WWg.

Schuster, Sgt. and Mrs. Daniel D., a son, Brett Patrick, September 1. Father assigned to Det. 8, 3d WWg., Griffiss AFB, N.Y.

Reamer, 2nd Lt. and Mrs. Frederick S., a son, Scott Earl, July 10. Father assigned to Det. 41, 12th WSq., Ft. Lee, Va.

Hughes, A1C and Mrs. Terry Lee, a daughter, Katherine Elizabeth, September 21. Father assigned to Det. 5, 3d WWg., Malmstrom AFB, Mont.

Crass, 1st Lt. and Mrs. Cary W., a daughter, Dawn Renee, October 5. Father assigned to 54th WRSq., Andersen AFB, Guam.

Two captains get Merewether Award



Gen. Robins, Capts. Arnold, Olsen

NIMITZ HILL, Guam — During a recent visit to Det 1, 1st WWg., Lt. Gen. Jay Robins, MAC vice commander presented the Merewether Award for 1972 in a brief ceremony at Nimitz Hill, Guam, to Capt. Charles P. Arnold and Charles C. Olsen.

This award is presented annually to any Air Weather Service individual who makes a significant technical contribution to military meteorology; and is named in honor of Col. Arthur F. Merewether AAF Weather Section chief from 1940 to 1942.

In a letter of congratulations, former Air Weather Service Commander Brig. Gen. William H. Best, Jr., said Captains Arnold and Olsen exhibited brilliant insight and personal initiative in developing and implementing an analytical technique which has contributed significantly to satellite meteorology in Western Pacific.

AWRS people complete ground training



TALKING IT OVER are 1st Lt. Henry M. Turk and Maj. Dennis M. Werking at the navigator flight station. Lieutenant Turk is a member of the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron at Keesler AFB, Miss., and Major Werking is assigned to the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing at McClellan AFB, Calif. (Photo courtesy of Kaman Aerospace Corp.)

Selected aircrew and maintenance personnel from the 53rd WRSq. have recently graduated from ground training courses on the operation and maintenance of the new Airborne Weather Reconnaissance System (AWRS).

The training was conducted at the Bradley Field, Conn. plant of the KAMAN Aerospace Corporation, the systems developer.

Dick Reynolds, the training director for the AWRS program at Bradley Field stated that the Air Force personnel did an excellent job of learning the system which was conducted in seven courses covering subjects from; Inertial and Omega Navigation systems, MET/ARE maintenance, and communications equipment to the operation and functions of the navigator,

ARWO, and Weather Observer equipment on board the aircraft.

The training was put to use in the category II testing of the system which began in mid-September at Westover AFB, Mass. During the Category II testing all operation and maintenance of the equipment is being accomplished by AWS personnel.

Also attending the training sessions were members of 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing, Air Training Command, Air Force Logistics Command; in preparation of their involvement in the future training, management and procurement of the system based on the outcome of the comprehensive testing program at Westover.



CHECKING A MAGNETIC TAPE RECORDER are TSgt. Richard Hall and MSgt. Ernest A. Ziegler. Sergeant Hall is a member of the 53d Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, Keesler AFB, Miss and Sergeant Ziegler is assigned to the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, McClellan AFB, Calif. Jim White, an instructor with the Kaman Aerospace Corporation watches the operation. (Photo courtesy of Kaman Aerospace Corp.)



WATCHING AND LISTENING INTENTLY to instruction are SSgts. Prestly J. Shaver, William T. Renn, Robert D. Young and TSgt. Jimmy R. Smith (seated). All the men are members of the 53d Weather AFB, Miss. Pointing to an ORC Omega Receiver Converter is Terry Provost, an instructor for the Kaman Aerospace Corporation. (Photo courtesy Kaman Aerospace Corp.)

Pearls from the Palace

Air Staff training Program

by
Maj. David E. Smart

Have you ever desired to be assigned to the "headshed" so you could participate in the decision-making process? Well, such an opportunity may be in the offering under the ASTRA Program if you are eligible and apply.

ASTRA is an informally structured program for junior officers operated on the education-with-industry or management-intern concept. Participating officers are assigned for 12-month controlled tours to HQ USAF (Air Staff) agencies at the Pentagon, Air Force Inspection and Safety Center at Norton AFB, CA or Air Force Military Personnel Center at Randolph AFB, TX. The main objective of the program is to develop a potential resource of highly competent Air Force managers and planners by stimulating the early career growth of some of our more promising young officers. This is accomplished through the exposure of a few exceptionally capable junior officers each year to the complexities of HQ USAF management and decision-making activities, followed immediately by reassignment back to the operational level. Emphasis throughout the program is on active participation in, rather than simply observing, current Air Staff projects.

Outstanding career-minded junior officers are selected through individual applications or supervisor/MAJCOM nominations (individuals must still apply) which are forwarded to the Air Force Military Personnel Center for central screening and selection action.

ASTRA started in FY69 with a program of 30 officers and has since expanded to an annual authorization of 75 officers. Weather has had two officers for ASTRA, one each year since our first quota in FY73. The weather officers are assigned to the Air Staff agency for weather in the Pentagon (HQ USAF/PRW) in Duty AFSC 2511. Thus far the weather officer personnel assignments have begun in December, and this timing will most likely be continued.

Eligible weather officers may apply for the program by entering "ASTRA" in the special duty assignment section (block 390 of the current edition of AF Form 90 (Oct 1970). Further details may be found in Chapter 8 of AFR 36-20, Officer Assignments and in the Air Force Officers' *Career Newsletter*, Volume V, Number 8.

Weather officers who are interested in the ASTRA program, and who have not yet submitted their applications, are encouraged to apply without delay. This is an outstanding program offering the junior officer a considerable insight into very high level management and decision-making processes. Any questions that cannot be answered at base level (CBPO) should be addressed to Major David E. Smart, AF-MPC/DPMRCS2W, Randolph AFB, TX 78148, Autovon 487-2138/4480.

Weather Officer instructors needed

If you are a Lieutenant, Captain, or Major, and desire instructor duty in ATC, now is the time to volunteer. The following bases will have vacancies as indicated below:

BASE/REQUIREMENT MONTH
Chanute AFB, Ill. Apr.-Sep. 1974
Craig AFB, Al. Apr. 1974
Moody AFB, Ga. Jul. 1974
Randolph AFB, Tex. Jul. 1974
Reese AFB, Tex. Apr. 1974
Sheppard AFB, Tex. May 1974
Webb AFB, Tex. Sep. 1974
Williams AFB, Ariz. Apr. 1974

APPROXIMATE REQUIREMENTS

RANK	NUMBER
Lt/Maj	5
Lt/Capt	1
Lt/Capt	1
Lt/Capt	1
Lt/Capt	1
Lt/Capt	1
Lt/Capt	1
Lt/Capt.	1

Officers interested in volunteering for this duty must have two years on station as of the requirement month. They should submit their applications through their servicing CBPO IAW AFR 36-20, chapter 8. Officers who have an approved DOS, are on an assignment, or have been nominated/pending another type of special duty assignment, are not eligible to apply.



RAMSTEIN AB, Germany - Capt. Robert C. Martin, commander Detachment 4, 31st Weather Squadron accepts a certificate of achievement on behalf of the detachment for their outstanding terminal forecasting record over the first half of 1973. This was the first

time the unit has received the award. Col. (Brig. Gen. selectee) Charles E. Word, commander 81st Tactical Fighter Wing presented the certificate. (U.S. Air Force Photo.)

Weatherman wins honors in Jumpfest

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. - MSgt. Juan Longoria, NCOIC of the Special Operations Weather Team, Detachment 75, 5th Weather Wing here led the way with the individual first place honors for static line jumpers during the 4th Annual Military Jumpfest in late September.

The jumpfest, sponsored by the

1st Special Operations Wing was probably the largest jumpfest in the world with more than 400 jumpers participating and making 1,500 jumps during a two-day period.

Sergeant Longoria led the way with his total time from landing to center circle a mere six seconds, including two dead center hits out

of three possible jumps.

As a team the Special Operations Weather Team was locked in first place until a bad chute knocked them off the top. The team was composed of Capt. Michael S. Kuzmack, Sergeant Longoria, SSgts. Charles S. Irby and Richard E. Walker.

AAFES offers order service

Thousands of long-playing record albums and prerecorded tapes are available to Army and Air Force Exchange Service customers worldwide, thanks to a new catalog ordering service program.

The special order service allows a customer to select any title of his choice for quick delivery by mail to his local exchange outlet at a significant savings off suggested retail prices.

The catalog program - provided to AAFES by Find Service International - became available in overseas exchanges last summer. Since then, customer orders have jumped from about 25 a week to more than 500. The program also has been available in selected areas of the United States.

Beginning in early spring, the catalog program was offered in record and tape departments of exchange retail outlets all over the world.

Customers will be able to order records albums, eight-track tape cartridges, cassettes and open reel tapes. Special orders will be filled within 24 hours after they are received by the suppliers. Domestic orders are sent by regular mail. Oversea orders go by air parcel post.

The special order program will provide updated title catalogs to exchanges in January, May and Oc-

tober of each year and monthly updating supplements. All titles listed in the catalog will be on hand and ready for immediate shipment by the supplier.

Customers may order any record or tape not listed in the catalog provided they know the title, label name and recording number of the album or tape, if possible.

"The record and tape department is one of the most often

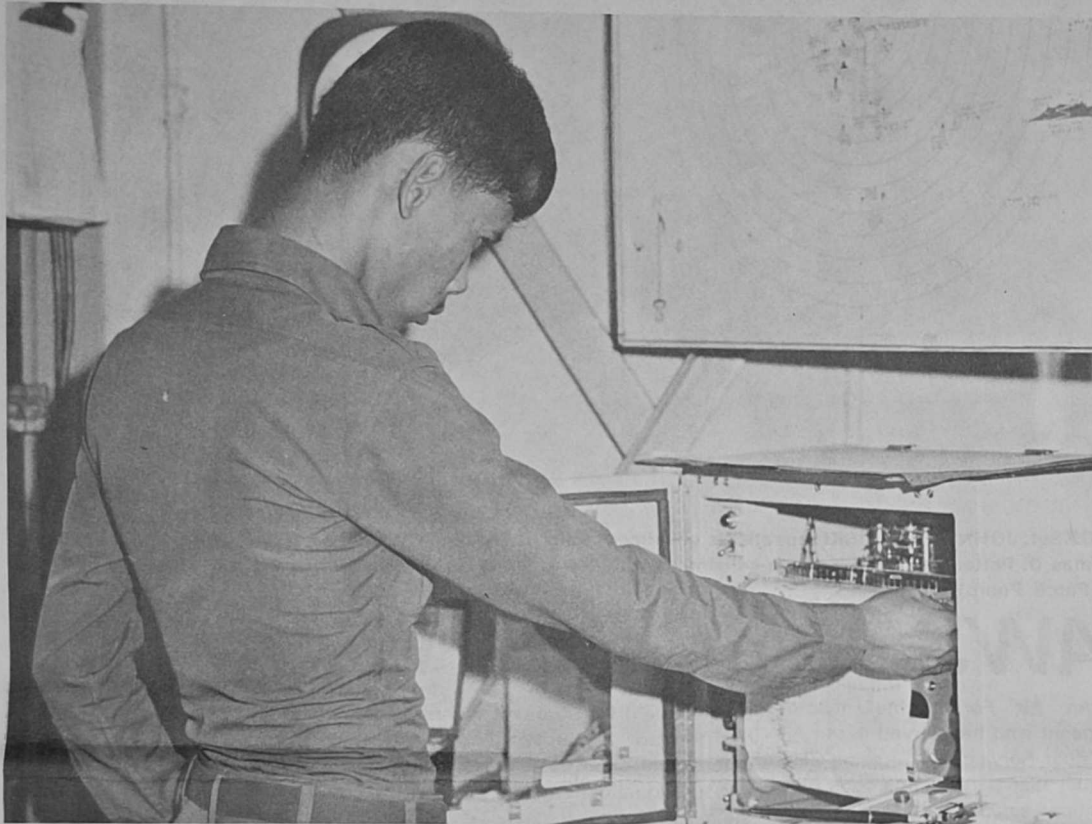
visited in the exchange," said an AAFES spokesman, and one that we've worked hardest to improve.

"Considering the wide variety of musical tastes of our customers and the sometimes remote locations and limited size of our retail outlets, it has been impossible, however, to satisfy everyone. We think the new Find special order program for all records and tapes will be good news to customers everywhere."



YOKOTA AB, Japan - SSgt. Louis M. Drury, a maintenance technician with the 20th Weather Squadron here makes an adjustment to the AN/FPS-77 Console Line Voltage Regulator. Sergeant Drury received a \$200 suggestion award which resulted in proper procedures appearing in the technical order and assured proper equipment testing with a reduction of equipment down time. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

Thailand airmen take observer jobs



CHECKING A GRAPH - A3C Pramote Sahul of the Royal Thai Air Force checks the graph made by a wind measurement device. Wind speed and direction are obtained and recorded. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

DET 12, 10th WSq.—Weather is a part of life we often take for granted. A click of the radio dial and ... "The forecast calls for continued partly cloudy skies with rain-showers or thunderstorms ..." But, what's behind it all? The forecast, of course, is the finished product, a prediction based on existing weather conditions. The job of watching and reporting these conditions is the weather observers.

Here, a unique situation exists in that the US Air Force observers of Det 12, 10th WSq. do none of the actual observing. That responsibility is in the hands of the Royal Thai Air Force observers who have training similar to that received in an Air Force technical school. They undergo more than 240 hours of classroom training in a broad range of subjects. Upon completion, they are awarded a three-skill level and a high school diploma.

From a representative observation site (ROS), located one floor below the control tower, the Thai observer has a clear view of the airfield and surrounding area. Within the site is equipment comparable to that used by the majority of stateside stations. A rotating beam ceilometer gives a radarlike presentation of cloud bases, altimeter settings are determined from an aneroid barometer and the "GMQ-20" and "TMQ-11" record wind direction and speed, temperature and humidity, respectively.

Visibility and intensity of precipitation are determined by the "guesstimate" method eyesight - which is quite accurate. Should any of this equipment fail, the observer can take over and provide

necessary data. During normal weather, an observation is compiled and transmitted to base agencies once each hour. Should conditions change to meet certain standards, special observations are taken to alert the forecaster to weather which may interfere with normal base operations.

Once the Thai Air Force observer has taken and relayed an observation, his American counterpart goes to work in the Base Weather Station. The first job of the Air Force observer is to transmit the observation "longline" to Korat Weather Relay. From there it is passed to Global Weather Council at Offutt AFB, Neb., where it becomes immediately available to all Air Force stations.

Here, the observation is filed, along with similar reports from throughout Southeast Asia. As the situation demands, this data is used in the plotting of maps and other aids to the forecaster. Maps received from Weather Central are also posted for easy reference. Two teletype circuits located at the weather station are monitored by the observer for data from other stations - radar and pilot reports, warnings and forecasts - anything which might have an effect on the weather here. A moisture-sensitive radar set glows 24-hours a day, "painting" any thunderstorms or rainshowers within a 125-mile radius.

It is the study of this data which enables the forecaster to forecast. The Thai/American observing program here is a combined effort to produce a good, reliable product...and it works.



DARN TELETYPE- Learning is a part of the game, Sgt. Wathama Eaimanan of the Royal Thai Air Force learns to operate a teletype machine under the guidance of SSgt. Robert E. Doucette, Detachment 12, 10th WSq. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



GIVING INSTRUCTION - Sgt. Donald K. Rowe, Det. Thai Air Force weather service plot a chart. (U.S. Air 12, 10th WSq., aids Sgt. Prasan Ounrueng of the Royal Force Photo)

Would You Believe....

MSgt. Kurt H. Rauh, Det. 21, 2d WWg., was selected as the Outstanding Weather Equipment Maintenance NCO of the Year for the Period July 1 1972 to June 30, 1973. The sergeant was cited for his superb maintenance and modification work on highly complex electronic equipment used to acquire and process satellite data.

Det. 16, 31st WSq., received the 2d WWg., Outstanding Weather Equipment Maintenance Unit Award for overall managerial and technical excellence in the maintenance of a variety of modern weather equipment.

A1C Terry W. Stafford and A1C June E. Goerres were married October 1 at Edwards AFB, Calif. Both are assigned to Det. 21, 6th WWg., at Edwards.

Lt. Col. Charles E. Hill, chief of the TAC Weather Support Unit at Langley AFB, received the TOP EIGHT AWARD. The plaque is presented to senior key persons who provide outstanding support to 8th AF. Colonel Hill was Det. 2, 1st WWg., commander and senior weather officer of 8th AF at Andersen AFB, Guam from July 1971 to July 1973.

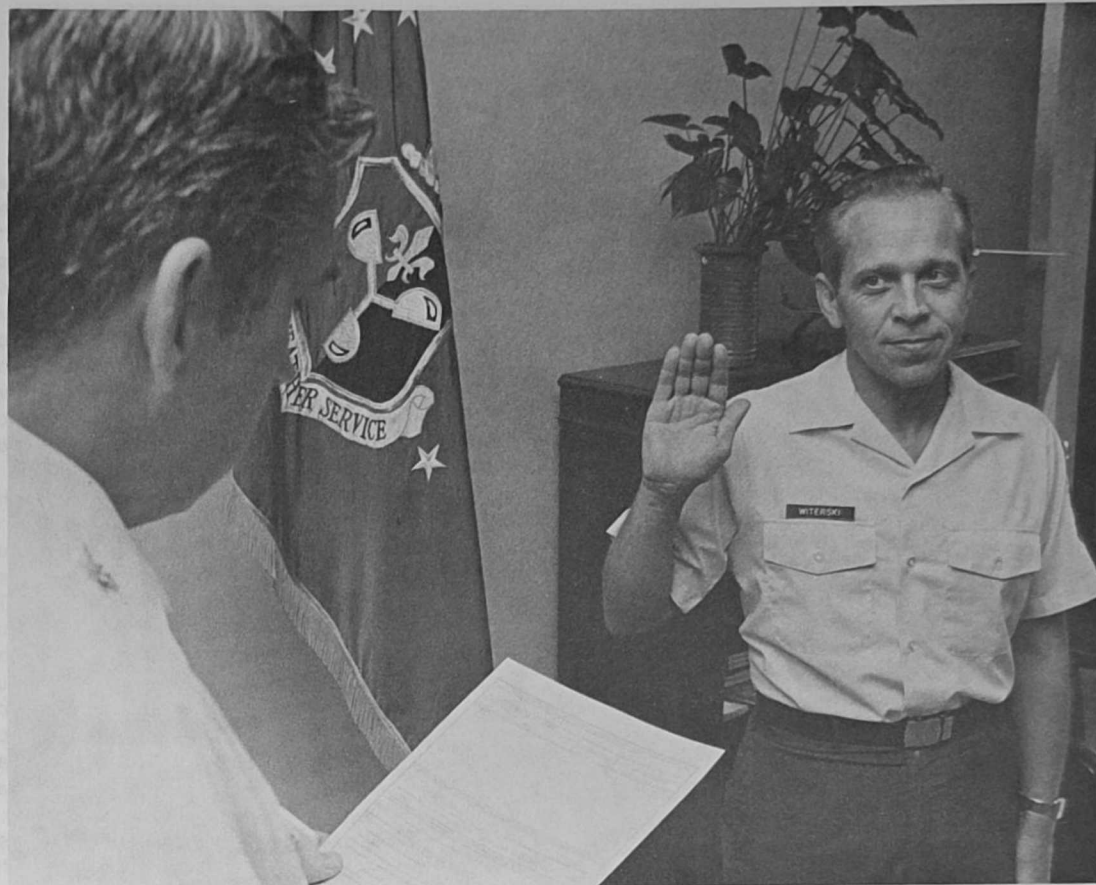
Maj. Thomas D. Murphy was presented the Meritorious Service Medal recently and **Capt. Michael A. Freiband** and **SSgt. Dudley N. Bexley, Jr.**, were presented Air Force Commendation Medals. All three men are members of the 10th WSq., Udorn Airfield, Thailand.

MSgt. Michael A. Ostrov, Det. 25, 5th WWg., Howard AFB, C.Z. was a distinguished graduate of class 74-2 of the MAC NCO Academy and Norton AFB, Calif.

TSgt. Forrest E. Smith, Det. 2, 7th WSq., Maurice Rose AF, Germany was a distinguished graduate of class 74-2 of the MAC NCO Academy at Norton AFB, Calif.

SSgt. David E. Buerk, 11th WSq., Elmendorf AFB, Alaska was presented the Academic Award upon completion of the 76th class of the Alaskan Air Command Noncommissioned Officer Leadership School. He is a weather observer with the squadron.

The following persons of the 1st WWg., at Hickam AFB, Hawaii received awards during a recent ceremony. **Capt. James Kerlin**, the Bronze Star; **Majors Hans-Joachim Fischer** and **Joseph A. Schmitt**, Meritorious Service Medals; **Captains John S.S. Kim** and **Sgt. Ricarte B. Valenzuela** Air Force Commendation Medals. During the same ceremony **Lt. Col. Leroy C. Johnson** and **Maj. Joseph A. Schmitt** and **SMSgt. Robert S. Pack** retired.



CMSgt. JOHN P. WITERSKI repeats his enlistment oath as (AWS Air Weather Service vice commander **Col. Thomas D. Potter** administers the re-enlistment oath. Sergeant Witek has been in the AWS since 1958. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

AWS chief observer re-ups

An Air Force chief master sergeant who has served in the Air Weather Service (AWS) since September 1956 plus holding other duty positions since his initial enlistment in 1948, re-enlisted here recently.

CMSgt. John P. Witek, AWS's chief Weather observer, enlisted in the Air Force July 12, 1948 upon graduation from Lackawanna High School, Lackawanna, N.Y.

Following basic military training at Lackland AFB, Tex., he attended the Air Force band school at Bolling AFB, Md., after which he was assigned to the Air Force Band at Langley AFB, Va. until June 1950.

Prior to starting his career as an AWS observer at Chanute AFB, Ill. in September of 1956, Sergeant Witek also served as a language technician with the U.S. Air Force Security Service (USAFSS). While assigned in this command he graduated with honors from the Army language school, Presidio of Monterey Calif. and completed the USAFSS's traffic analyst course at Brooks AFB, Tex.

Sergeant Witek is an honor graduate of the Military Airlift Command (MAC) NCO Academy. In addition to completing the basic and advanced observing courses at

Chanute AFB, Ill., Sergeant Witek has served as an observer or detachment chief observer at eight various locations including Ramstein AB, Germany.

His decorations and awards include the Army Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster and three Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards and Good Conduct Medals each.

Sergeant Witek's Air Force Commendation Medal came as a result of the improvement of a weather detachment at Plattsburgh N.Y. The overall rating of this station was restored to the highest

level under Sergeant Witek's leadership.

Sergeant Witek and his wife, the former Helen Keller of West Berlin, Germany, have two children Glenn, 15, and Sonja, 14. The Witek family is active in scouting and other youth programs. They also take an interest in music. During his days with the Air Force Band, Sergeant Witek played clarinet and other various wood wind instruments. He still teaches a few accordion lessons.

The whole family also enjoys bowling, but spend most of their free time in the outdoors; hiking, fishing and camping.



Lt. Col. Willard A. Couch, commander of the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing, accepts the Award of Honor of the National Safety Council from **Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Aldrich**, commander of the Air Weather Service. The award ceremony was held recently. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

9th WWg. receives NSC award of honor

MCCLELLAN AFB, Calif. -- The 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing (WRWg.) received the National Safety Council award of Honor during a ceremony held here recently.

The award is the highest given by the National Safety Council and recognized excellence in ground safety achievements.

Lt. Col. Willard A. Couch, commander of the 9th WRWg., accepted the award for the wing. **Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Aldrich**, commander of the Air Weather Service, presented the award.

General Aldrich said, "The com-

mendable record is evidence of outstanding individual effort by all members of the 9th WRWg., to consistently emphasize safe operations."

During the period of time for which the award was given, units of the wing were located in eight different locations throughout the world from Puerto Rico, to Eielson AFB, Alaska.

These varied geographic locations were credited by the commander as a severe test of the ability of the wing to combine operational effectiveness with safety.

Air Force needs help in hiring

U.S. Air Force Recruiters are urgently needed in New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, District of Columbia and Virginia. Contact your CBPO Special Assignments section, or contact **MSgt Willis** at autovon Ext: 440-3928/2522.



BARKSDALE AFB, La. - **Sgt. Richard A. Beard**, a weather observer with Det. 20, 3d Weather Wing here describes a teleprinter machine to two unidentified boy scouts. The detachment hosted 54 scouts and presented a class in weather so the scouts could complete their weather merit badge requirements. **Sgt. Beard** is scoutmaster of the Braksdale troop. The scouts were also given a tour of the weather station. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



YOKOTA AB, Japan - Receiving the First Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Force Commendation Medal is 1st Lt. David Clark, detachment forecaster with the 20th Weather Squadron here. Col. William Smurro, commander, 20th WSq., presented the award for meritorious service as a weather forecaster while he was assigned to Detachment 41, 12th Weather Squadron, Ft. Lee, Va., from Sept. 14, 1970 to June 15, 1973. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

Weather observers provide help during chute meet

FT. BRAGG, N.C. - Members of Detachment 3, 16th Weather Squadron here provided surface observations and PIBAL support to the first World Parachute Championship held here in August.

The meet was held at Sicily Drop Zone and teams from the United States, Canada, England, France, Germany and Australia participated.

World parachute championships are not new as the first championship meet was held in Yugoslavia in 1951. During that and

subsequent meets the championships were judged on accuracy in landing and style (maneuverability) in free fall. In 1965 during an international meet in Yugoslavia the baton pass was added.

During the meet this year here, teams competed in two events -- the four-man and ten-man star, in which teams raced against the clock in exiting the aircraft and joining hands forming a circle or star.



Ft. Bragg, N.C. -- Releasing a weather observer balloon in preparation for weather observations are Sgt. Paul Ferris and Marty Mindnich. Both men are weather observers with Detachment 13, 16th Weather Squadron here. They provided surface observations for parachutists during the World Parachute Championship meet here in August. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

Academy needs teachers

RANDOLPH AFB, Tex. (AFNS) - Qualified applicants are solicited for duty as instructors at the Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Gunter AFB, Ala.

Airmen in grades master sergeant through chief master sergeant - (including selectees) in any speciality are eligible to apply, if they meet the mandatory criteria outlined in AFR 39-11. Mandatory requirements include an overall evaluation of eight or nine on one's last five Airman's Performance Report, outstanding appearance and high moral standards. In addition, the standards are exceptional military bearing and conduct and good speaking voice with the ability to speak distinctly and communicate well with others.

The Senior NCO Academy, which opened in January, is designed to prepare selected Senior NCOs for positions of greater responsibility by improving and broadening their leadership and managerial capabilities and by expanding their perspective of the military profession.

The course is nine weeks long. There are five classes each year, with 240 persons in each class.

Film gives base trade information

RANDOLPH, AFB, Tex. (AFNS) - Airmen wanting to switch bases can get the facts from the latest Palace Flicks film report now available at all consolidated base personnel offices.

Palace Flicks No. 96, Airman Assignment Exchange Program, covers both the stateside and overseas versions of the airman assignment swap program.

Along with eligibility criteria and application procedures, the Air Force Military Personnel Center's newest super 8mm miniature movie production offers tips on how to find a trading partner. Also explained are possible reasons some airmen are reluctant to make a swap, such as the payment of moving expenses by the individual.

4,000 people visit station open house

RICHARDS-GEBAUR AFB, Mo. - Some 4,000 persons visited Detachment 14, 12th Weather Squadron during Operation Handshake here recently.

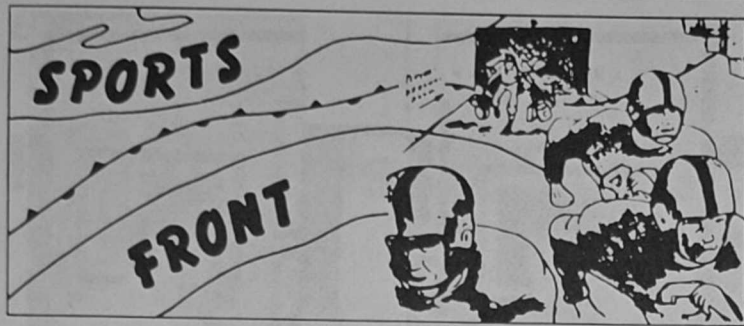
For the open house, the detachment built two display boards showing weather data and maps. The display also included a wind vane and transmitter, rawinsonde train, satellite photo display donated by National Weather Service and Air Force Global Weather Central. They also had a miniature theater where films on tornados were shown to the visitors.



YOKOTA AB, Japan - TSgt. Dwayne N. Burgess, weather forecaster, Detachment 17, 20th Weather Squadron was recently awarded a Suggestion Award Certificate for \$60 for his suggestion of the removal of an Autowriter Receiver. Sergeant Burgess describes to Maj. Charles Norman, chief forecaster, how one autowriter could suffice and save the Air Force \$592 annually. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



NIMITZ HILL, Guam -- Lt. Col. Hiroshi Nishimoto, former director of the Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC), displays a DAPP satellite mosaic of the July 1972 multiple typhoon situation. He received this display just prior to his reassignment to Headquarters, 1st Weather Wing, Hickam AFB, Hawaii in July 1973. Colonel Nishimoto was director of the JTWC during the two most active consecutive tropical storm seasons on record. They were 1971 and 1972 which has above normal multiple storm activity days. During July 1972, Phyllis, Rita, Susan and Tess signaled the greatest simultaneous outbreak of typhoons in the Western Pacific in over a decade, and set a record for the number of warnings issued during that month. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



AFGWC wins championship

OFFUTT AFB, Neb. - The Air Force Global Weather Central (AFGWC) Intramural Golf Team defeated the 3902d Air Base Wing Supply Squadron in a 36 hole play-off here at the Capehart Golf Course to win the Offutt Base Intramural Golf Championship. AFGWC team members are Ed Inman (team captain), Willie Brown, Bob Gronck, Leonard Allen, John Thomas, Dane Clark, Mike Campbell, Frank Crowe, Lynn LeBlanc and Doug Abbott.

1st WWg. golfer plays in worldwide tourney

HICKAM AFB, Hawaii--Philip L. Gerster has been adding to his already impressive record of accomplishments in golf while assigned to Air Weather Service's 1st Weather Wing.

He was a member of Hawaii's Air Force team that participated in the 1973 PACAF Golf Tournament at Kadena Air Base, Japan 18-21 August 1973. This tournament ended with Hawaii emerging as team champion and Gerster capturing the runner-up spot in the Open Division.

Gerster traveled to Norton AFB, Calif. August 28-31 as a member of the PACAF Gold contingent to compete in the 1973 Worldwide Air Force Gold Championship. During this tourney, Gerster's game was not up to par--pardon the pun-- Upon return to Hawaii he participated in the 1973 Hawaiian Interservice Championship, he took individual open medalist honors and was also a member of the Air Force team which captured the championship.

Det. 9 commander likes rifle firing competition

TYNDALL AFB, Fla. - A 37-year-old Hawaiian with a varied sports background has arrived for duty here as commander of Detachment 9, 12th Weather Squadron.

The officer, Maj. Peter J. Britos, is no stranger to Tyndall. He was assigned here in 1958 and described that tour as "A second lieutenant learning and breaking into the weather business."

The major came here from Detachment 25, 5th Weather Wing (WWg.) at Howard AFB, C.Z., where he was chief forecaster. Prior to that assignment he was commander of Detachment 5 of the 5th WWg.

Other assignments have taken him to Japan, Vietnam and Hawaii.

He was an inspector of ground operations with Air Weather Service Inspector General Staff at Headquarters, Air Weather Service from 1967 to 1969.

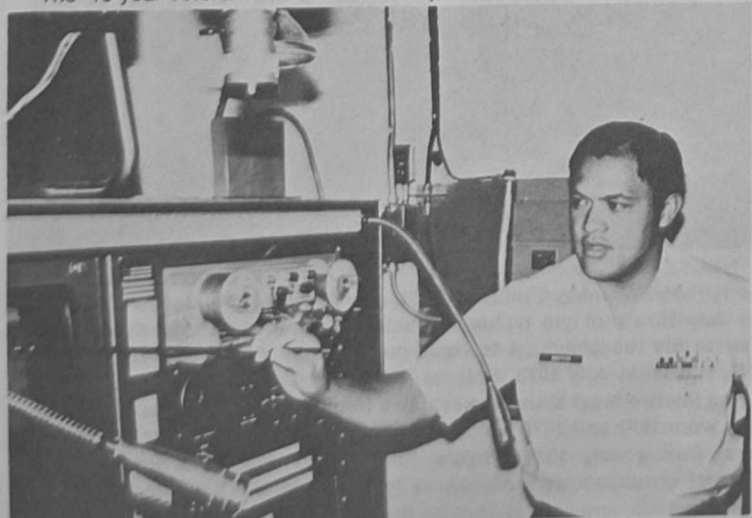
The 16-year-veteran has an in-

tensive interest in high power rifle firing competition. He has earned all three Excellence in Competition Badges during his shooting career. They include gold, silver and bronze badges.

Britos participated in the Air Force-wide High Power Rifle competition at Wheeler AFB, Hawaii in 1961 and in 1962 he captained the All Air Force High Power Rifle Team - Western Division at Lackland AFB, Tex., in 1962.

The major also has an interest in badminton competition. He won first and second place honors in singles and doubles tournaments for the USAF Southern Command during the last four years.

The major, his wife Miriam and their seven children traveled to Tyndall from their canal zone assignment in a mobile home. He said, "The 4,000 mile trip was very exciting and the scenery was majestic."



Major Britos



100,000 SAFE HOURS - A "Typhoon Chaser" aircrew of the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron arrives at Andersen AFB, Guam after a flight which put the squadron over the 100,000 hour mark in accident-free flying. Members of the crew included; (left

to right) 1st Lt. William E. Schepens, Capt. Michael A. Sotak, TSgt. Kenneth C. Suhr, 1st Lt. Michael L. Coleman, Maj. Curtis R. Nordan, Jr., 1st Lt. James R. Ahmann, Sgt. Phillip T. Taylor and 2nd Lt. Thomas J. Gindle. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

54th WRSq. flies 100,000 hours accident free over 11 yr. span

ANDERSEN AFB, GUAM - The "Typhoon Chasers" of the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron have completed 100,000 hours of accident-free flying over a span of 11 years.

Although several units have reached this mark, few are involved in the high-risk missions associated with typhoon reconnaissance.

Since the squadron was reactivated in 1962, "Typhoon Chaser" aircraft have made an estimated

5,000 flights into the centers or "eyes" of more than 300 tropical storms and typhoons. During that period an average of 30 tropical storms occurred in the Western Pacific annually. About 20 of these usually reach typhoon strength.

The squadron has been involved in other high-risk missions as well. During the past five winters, for example, 54th aircraft and crews have performed fog seeding operations in Alaska. Using

crushed dry ice, the "Typhoon Chasers" have been able to successfully disperse the dense fog which often closes the northern bases to air traffic.

On these missions, fog seeding aircraft make takeoffs when visibility is near zero and flying repeated low passes over the runway under instrument conditions.

Col. Leo B. Rice, commander of the "Typhoon Chasers", attributed the accident-free record to "dedicated and professional aircrews and maintenance personnel."

Det. 15 helps build new orphan dorm

OSAN AB, Korea - Crowded living conditions can really get a person down. Thanks to a joint effort between Det. 15, 20th Weather Squadron (WSq.) of the Air Weather Service (AWS) and U.S. Army's 38th Brigade and 2146th Communications Group here, a few orphans will no longer have this problem.

The orphans, living at the Got Dong San Orphanage near Osan AB were given this boost due to the efforts of Sgt. Richard R. Champion, a weather observer with Det.

15. The orphans now have a new dormitory capable of housing 12 children.

The funds needed for the construction came from contributions received from members for the three organizations, various groups and individuals in the United States and Korea and a carnival type picnic given for the 71 orphans by their military sponsors.

Many off duty hours were spent doing manual labor to assist the Korean craftsmen in building the dormitory.

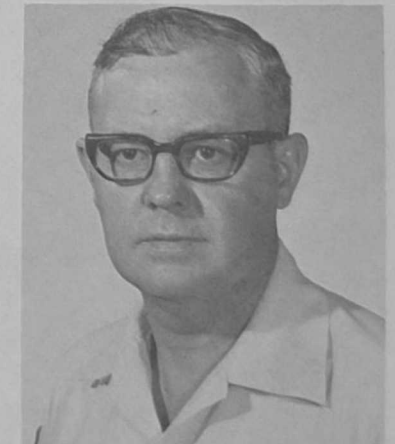
1st WWg. gets new home

HICKAM AFB, Hawaii--Hq, 1st Weather Wing moved to a new location on Hickam AFB during the last week of August. In its new location, the headquarters is centrally located in proximity to Command Liaison offices located in Hq. PACAF and Base Weather Station offices located in Base Operations - the distance to each is two blocks or less.

This is a big advantage since many man hours were lost in travel

time between the old location and Hq. PACAF or Base Operations - a distance of three miles.

Prior to moving, the new offices were given a facelift by the base civil engineers, i.e., new paint on all walls, tile on all floors, and some partitions constructed. The move of all equipment and furniture was accomplished by a local moving company contracted through the base procurement office.



CMSgt. Wollum

TRAVIS, AFB, Calif. -- After gathering credits for 20 years from six different colleges to get a bachelor's degree and then maintaining a straight "A" average for three years, CMSgt. Everett Wollum received a master's degree in business administration from Golden Gate University. The sergeant is chief forecaster at Detachment 2, 15th Weather Squadron here. He plans to use his education in a second career after his retirement from the Air Force. (U.S. Air Force Photo)