

♦ POST-MONITOR ♦

Volume 5 Issue 3

SPECIAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE, 1947-1997

September/1997



Over the years
and at younger
ages ...
GS, E and O were
our gauges

But now we've
reached the best
of stages ... Being
one of AFTAC's
SAGES



Colonel Wigington
Commander



Colonel Shilkitus
Vice-Commander



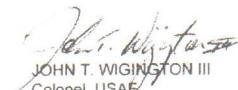
CMS Silhanek
Superintendent

Alumni, Welcome to the 50th Anniversary Celebration

provided by the AFTAC Command Section

Whether you are able to come to our celebration in person, or be here only in spirit, we welcome this opportunity to recognize, honor and thank you for what you have done, and continue to do, for the Long Range Detection System and AFTAC. We are a proud organization doing important critical work...we recognize the high service and standards we strive to meet today were set by those who proceeded us...YOU.

We appreciate you joining with us as we recognize and honor the past, and look forward to the future. Eventually we all become alumni, and when we do, we hope you will look at what we've done with our time and service and be as proud of us as we are of you; we will make every effort to sustain the legacy you have provided.


JOHN T. WIGINGTON III
Colonel, USAF
Commander


MICHAEL A. SHILKITUS, Colonel, USAF
Vice Commander


LARRY D. SILHANEK
Superintendent
AFTAC

U.S. AIR FORCE



The Time is Now The Place is AFTAC HQ's Air Force and LRD Celebrate 50th

submitted by the editors, information by Joe Goldian (also on Web)

We've made it, AFTACer's old and new, gather in person and spirit, from September 14th - 16th, to honor 50 years of AF and AFTAC accomplishments - to learn of current and ongoing programs and to view the future. Joe Goldian, your representative on the anniversary planning committee, members of that committee, and your association board, have all worked very hard to make this a memorable experience...We salute Joe, and prepare you for the excitement of the anniversary celebration on page 3, (left center-column)



The Time is the Near Future The Place is Baytree Country Club Association Golf/Meeting, Oct 10th

**AFTAC Alumni Association Golf Tournament
and General Membership meeting.**

submitted by Frank Hall

Mark your calendar for 10 October 1997 for 1230 PM at Baytree National Golf Links. At 1230, we will kick off the Fall golf outing and will immediately follow the tournament with the yearly general membership meeting on the verandah at Baytree with board President (pg 3, left column)

AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Association was formed in March 1985 and chartered later that year. It was created to provide a forum for those who wish to maintain an ongoing connection with the organization and its people, both active-duty and retired. Membership is open to current and former employees of all organizations associated with Long Range Detection (LRD) (AFMSW-1, 1009th SWS, AFOAT-1, 1035th FAG, and AFTAC), and any subordinate field detachment.

Florida chapter

Membership dues are \$10 per year (based on FY, 1 Oct.-30 Sep.), payable in October, or \$75 for a lifetime membership. You're encouraged to attend the regularly scheduled monthly meetings beginning at 5:30pm on the second Monday of each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC headquarters building (#989) at Patrick AFB., FL. For verification and information about the association, its meetings or membership, contact **Mary Welch** at (407) 494-6867 (daytime) (407) 259-0629 (evenings) or **Judy Milam** at (407) 494-3871 (daytime). Dues, membership applications, and other queries/information may be mailed to:

**AFTAC Alumni Association
PO Box 254892
Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892**

The association publishes a quarterly (Mar., Jun., Sep., Dec.) newsletter, the "Post-Monitor," (taking its name from the AFTAC active-duty publication, the "Monitor") (staff information below) and has a Webpage with association and alumni information - "<http://www.csihq.com/aftacalumni>", Webmeisters are **Dave Johnson** and **Mike Black**

Colorado chapter

Membership dues are \$5 per year, payable in February; this chapter also publishes a newsletter, "Echoes," and meets several times a year. For additional information contact Bill Schmied, (303) 367-0625.

AFTAC and Alumni Honorarium

There are several permanent and ongoing projects representing and honoring AFTAC people and history. Two of these, the "Hall of Heritage" (with information and artifacts) and the Photos/Biographies of Alumni who served AFTAC for 20 or more years, are housed in the AFTAC Headquarters building; another is an AFTAC display at the Encampment Wyoming Museum.

FLORIDA MEMBERSHIP REMINDERS

General Membership Meeting following golf tournament, Oct. 10th - Baytree Country Club
Dues Coming Due? - annual dues are paid in Oct. - if your membership is on a year-to-year basis, dues will be due Oct first. Thank you for maintaining your membership and supporting the Alumni Association efforts.

Your Newsletter Staff

Newsletter Editor(s): John and Chris Horsch
Information/Research/Proofing: Judy Milam and Mary Welch
Executive Review: Frank Hall
Technical Assistance/Scans: Dave Johnson
Roving Reporter(s): Clark and Ruth Creery
Publications: Carl Gailey and Swede Swansen

Straight from the Horsches' Mouth

"58-'87

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

Welcome to the 50th Anniversary Celebration and this special Post-Monitor dedicated to this event. We have geared this issue to the anniversary - posting stories about all things historical to AFTAC.

— the AFTAC Command Section has not only written a warm welcome for alumni in this issue, but has also made the headquarters available for guided tours for your pleasure and enlightenment

— the great series about the AFTAC history, concludes in this issue - and what a finish it is...one you'll remember, and we highlight some of the places where this AFTAC history is memorialized

As you know, we will be recognizing the twin events of the Air Force's and AFTAC's 50th anniversary over these next few days, and will be doing so with our modern day counterparts, the active-duty personnel. They will be showing you around the building and hosting most of the events you will enjoy. Please take time to enjoy their hospitality and recognize their accomplishments.

And we can't forget the association members that helped so much to put this together - that input was critical to all facets and certainly to the events geared to alumni participation. For the most part, these members were your board and their inputs on invitations, mixer arrangements, and, in general, making sure the alumni were well represented in anniversary meetings and preparation - and certainly we must recognize **Joe Goldian**, he was the alumni representative on the anniversary board (see our salute to him on the next page of this issue).

Enjoy the feast that's been prepared - , whether here in person or in spirit, and if you're not an association member but have enjoyed yourself and would like to support those that support you (current or future alumni), we'd be glad to help you "sign-up". and Welcome You.

The alumni association is now the proud parents of a scanner, and have given us the honor of giving it a home - this means that typed letters are more helpful than ever - but, as always, all inputs are encouraged and welcomed.

(Golf cont. fm pg 1) Tom Niquette presiding.

In May, we had 140 golfers participate and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. In fact, we felt that this was our best effort to date. With your help we can make the 10 Oct. event even better than the May tournament.

In May, we gave out over \$1800 worth of gifts to the players. We hope to match this in Oct. We encourage you to get your reservations in early as we have filled up the last three tournaments and we foresee the same occurring again in Oct. Specifics are:

DATE: Oct 10 1997

TIME: 1230 hours (12:30pm)

FEE: **\$36** (includes green fees, cart practice balls, food, drink and prizes) Food will be provided after the tournament. **Non-golfers:** If you are attending the general membership meeting, please let us know in advance if you would like to eat with us after the tournament. Cost is \$6.50 per person.

FORMAT: Four person select shot (scramble). Sign up as team or individual. Handicap will be established by team and handicapping concept will be posted for everyone to read. People over 55 will be hitting from the shorter tees to even up the game with the younger players.

For reservations call (first come, first served):

Frank Hall, 773-2430

Judy Milam, 494-3871



Joe was on active-duty from Jan. '68 to Sep. '91, mostly serving in the Seismic arena. As such he "covered a lot of ground," working over a broad range - from the Detachment level at several Pacific area assignments to the headquarters level working in the "ziproom," Seismic Data Review and Pre-TOS preparation, ending his active duty career on the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) as a Radiation Detection Equipment Specialist and Treaty Inspector. He has been active in the alumni association ever since. Joe is one of our "always there people" and has orga-

nized several golf tournaments. He most recently challenged his organizational skills for the association by being our representative on the AFTAC 50th Anniversary Celebration Board while at the same time serving as the Registrar for the Florida Youth Soccer Assn. There was no end to the demands, and places Joe had to be, to present our interests, ensuring we were "remembered" when plans were made for the festivities you're going to enjoy. So, thank him when you see him, I think you will agree that he has done a splendid job. For all of this, we salute you Joe. and we hope you're here to represent us at the 100th.

Anniversary Must-Do's

submitted by the editors - The following "Must-Do's" will give you a good blend of the past, present, and future of AFTAC

Building Tours

See the headquarters building, inside and out - from the "outback", on your own, to guided tours of the building to include the operations centers. It's all waiting to be shown to you and explained to you. There will be an unclassified briefing to "tell you all." The organized tours are well planned, - escorts will be active-duty personnel, so these tours will definitely be eye-openers; see if these "new troops" know as much, and work as hard, as the "old-timers."

If you have not been in the building for several years, you will not recognize it. From the moment you step into the front lobby and begin your escorted tour to all the many activities in the building, to the operations centers and some of the offices in between, you will be impressed. No area has been left untouched and everything has been done in an outstanding manner, as you would expect for AFTAC and its people.

One word of caution here, no cameras will be allowed, there will be a camera check station.

The Hall of Heritage

information was extracted from the "Directory of Florida Chapter Members" and from the editors minds

Don't miss seeing the "Hall of Heritage" if you're visiting the Headquarters building ... as a matter of fact, it would be hard to miss , since that's the first thing you see if you come in the front door and go down the south hallway. The "Hall" can take any amount of time you can devote to it ... from browsing to absorption, from 30 - 40 minutes to several hours.

The "Hall" was the brainchild of one of our past commanders, MGen. (Ret.) Clapper (he

was also the commander who initiated action to begin an "Alumni Association" ... he recognized the "Hall" would be a way to recognize AFTAC's important background, and the people, places and events that made AFTAC a critical national organization.

The idea began around 1985/86 (about the time the association was formed) and some actions began immediately. An action officer was assigned, Maj. Dudley Townsley, this was given to him as an additional duty and the initial thrust was to get pictures, artifacts, etc., sent into the headquarters for storage and later, to be displayed. The "Hall," and its status, were certainly given additional impetus when it was decided to have an AFTAC Alumni Reunion, to be celebrated in 1987 ... as a matter of fact much of what you see today was in place for that reunion.

The "Hall of Heritage" is a tribute to those individuals who have made AFTAC what it is today. There are photographs of past and present Commanders, Technical Directors and Senior Enlisted Advisors in the hallway outside the Command Section. The first floor hallways are lined with picture collages, plaques and scrapbooks of many of AFTAC's detachments and field units, denoting significant historical events. Trophy cases in the front lobby display a variety of models, exhibits, original equipment and other memorabilia from the past which contributed to our history and merit a place of honor.

The "Hall" is an ongoing project. Any photos, exhibits, displays, models or significant memorabilia from the past that you would like to donate can be sent to the AFTAC Alumni Association. Personal photographs will be copied and the originals returned to the donor.

The 20-plus Year Photo Exhibit

These photos were an idea our recent past commander, BGen. Shaffer, initiated. Many eligible people have cooperated and provided their picture and biography to be displayed ... these can be seen on the ground floor of the AFTAC Headquarters building.

If you are eligible, please consider adding your picture and biography to the collection by contacting the Alumni Association for further information.

AFTAC Display, Encampment Wyoming Museum

Extracted from information provided by Bill Braukman

A little out of the way, but worth the trip, is a small town in Southern Wyoming near the Colorado border. This town has gone through several metamorphosis, having been a coal town of 80,000, to being nearly a ghost town of about 50 year round residents to what it is today - a logging town of 600 people with a museum well worth visiting, and therein you will find the work of Bill Braukman and people from the Colorado AFTAC Alumni - they have saved a piece of AFTAC in this small town.

They began working on this when Bill visited (he had been stationed there in '51-'53) in April '90 and saw the town's small museum. Through good horse trading, some twisting of arms, and contributions from Teledyne and former Detachment Personnel, he was able to come up with an original "big" Benioff (400 lbs), an equipment rack, a helicorder, amplifiers, developercorder, etc., to place in this museum. An AFTAC Worldwide Directory is also maintained and well used by visiting alumni. Dedication ceremonies were in the Spring of '91 and attracted ranchers, town folks and former AFTACers.

Be sure to pay the museum, and the AFTAC exhibit, a visit if you're ever in the area, and enjoy what Bill Braukman and the others have assembled here.

feedback ... to our LRDM series

St. Augustine, FL

3/14/97

Dear Friends:

Your mailing label reminded me that I had not made payment of my dues last October, so I correct that oversight herewith by check enclosed

Your review of our past history in the "Big Story" was interesting. I was part of that history in Project B-20 starting in 1950 in Panama and then in Headquarters from 1952 to 1956 involved in Project B-20 and the Balloon Program so enjoyed it greatly.

Back then we liked to think that we were in the business of the five senses:

- 1) smell (filtration sampling)
- 2) hear (acoustic)
- 3) feel (seismic)
- 4) see (electromagnetic)
- 5) taste (Project B-20)

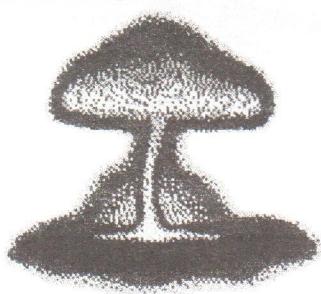
We all know that duty with AFOAT-I was

serious and lots of work, but there were lots of laughs too. I have several stories I remember and would like to share. However, to avoid overloading your readers I'll recount only one for now-more later.

A new Commanding General, General Hooks I think, was getting his first walk-around in our headquarters Tempo T building on Constitution Avenue. As he passed through his office he remarked how stark the view was out of his drab windows. He then continued his escorted walk-around though the rest of the Headquarters. While he was continuing his tour the enterprising Major in charge of the facility housekeeping performed a quick miracle and had new drapes on the General's windows by the time he returned 2 hours later. The General saw the drapes and had them removed immediately not wanting to disturb the Spartan atmosphere of the Headquarters. Of course the Major was disappointed to have his beautification project die such a quick death.

Sincerely,

Bob Huffman editors - we were in AFTAC for almost 30 thirty years and this is the first time we've seen the clever "five senses" idea, and thanks for your entertaining story



And now..."From the Beginning," A History of the LRDM...and beyond

Submitted by Mary Welch - This article is the last in a series. The information has been extracted and sanitized from official historical and archive records and, for this segment only a number of selected published articles that previously appeared in the unit newsmagazine, *The Monitor* were used. While individuals may have first-hand knowledge of the specifics of an event or activity which contradicts this narrative, the official record or published article is the information source for this series. The sheer volume of information, and the continued classified nature of the documentation, eliminate reference to much of the organization's technical and scientific accomplishments. The absence of unit activation/inactivation orders within the official records was the most significant problem. In some cases, we just don't know when a field unit became operational or ceased to exist. This series was not intended to provide an "official unclassified history" of the Long Range Detection (LRD) mission — that task has been completed by a professional contractor. This information here has been assembled for general reading only.

As the 1035th field Activities Group/Air Force Technical Applications Center (AFTAC) started the 1970s, major changes and adjustments immediately began to occur. Some technical programs were terminated, others were curtailed. Several field units were inactivated, and one Squadron Headquarters was discontinued. And, by mid-1971 over 350 manpower spaces were eliminated.

The 1970 infrastructure of the 1035th FAG/AFTAC Washington DC office was relatively simple: Command Section; Special Staff Elements; and two Directorates. The LRD mission responsibilities and taskings were aligned under the Science and Technology Directorate (TD). Seven divisions (Infrasonics, Geophysics, Nucleonics, Diagnostics & Radio Propagation, ionospheric, Radio-metrics, and the VELA Seismological Center) provided the scientific and technical expertise, as well as the research and development project proposals, to enhance and expand the field equipment supporting the LRD mission into this new decade. Operations and Support Directorate (OS) was comprised of five divisions responsible for operating and supporting the specialized equipment developed by the TD. Included in the OS structure was the Data Reduction, Personnel, Materiel, Plans and Programs, and Operations Divisions. There were three Special Staff Elements: Comptroller, Administration, and Inspector General.

Only four technical squadrons remained in the field to supervise the detachments and operating locations: 1155th TOS at McClellan AFB CA; 1156th TOS at Wheeler AFB HI; 1157th TOS at Wiesbaden, Germany; and 1159th TOS at McChord APB WA. The fifth technical squadron (1158th TOS at Albrook AFB, Panama) was inactivated on 30 March 1971. The units previously supervised by the 1158th were transferred to the 1159th.

Ten field detachments (dets) had been inactivated since August 1970: Det 352 (12 Aug 1970); Det 446 (31 Oct. 1970); Det 519 (6 Dec. 1970); Det 509 (12 Dec. 1970); Det 517 (8 Jan. 1971); Det 514 (18 Jan 1971); Det 601 at the Nevada Test Site (31 Mar 1971); Det 207 at Eielson AFB AK (30 Jun 1971); Det 278 at Fort Wainwright AK (30 Jun. 1971); and Det 424 at Maui, HI (30 Jun. 1971).

By the end of June 1971, the organization only had 13 active scientific techniques: Seismic (B), Debris Collection (C), Whole Air Sampling (D), Geophysical Diagnostics (F), Magnetic (H), Acoustic (I), Debris Analysis (L), Hydroacoustic (O), Electromagnetic Pulse (Q), Vela Satellite System (T), Very Low Frequency Phase (U), High Frequency Radio (W), and Atmospheric Fluorescence (Z).

Overall telecommunications and special ancillary communications requirements of the 1035th/AFTAC were provided by the AF Communications Service. Det 1 of the 2044th Comm Group specifically provided service to the headquarters building in VA.

Support to the field units was provided by existing military base communication facilities. For those field units without existing base facilities, the AFCS installed the required equipment specifically for the 1035th/AFTAC units and furnished the operators. In some instances, commercial lines had to be used to transmit messages, but the terminals remained under the control of a military or other US government activity.

By mid-December of 1970, the 1035th/AFTAC had lost 156 manpower positions from the 2848 authorized allocations. This reduction was due, in part, to the overall AF effort to reduce 126 spaces across the board. The additional 30 manpower slots came from personnel reductions at the three organizational laboratories. By March 1971, an additional 120 manpower spaces were deleted (including 40 foreign civilian positions), and the closure of the 1158th Tech Ops Sq resulted in the loss of an additional 93 spaces by May of 1971. The final structure of authorized manpower positions for the 1035th/AFTAC at the end of 1971 was: 383 Officers authorized, 400 assigned; 1983 Enlisted authorized, 2133 assigned; and 113 Civilians authorized, 143 assigned.

During the early part of 1971, the Operations Division designed and executed a comprehensive test to determine which field techniques, if any, could be operated without supervision (unattended) or with minimal supervision. The techniques investigated were: Seismic (B), Magnetotelluric (H), Acoustic (I), Hydroacoustic (O), Electromagnetic Pulse (Q), Very Low Frequency (U), High Frequency Radio (W), and Atmospheric Fluorescence (Z). The tests started on 27 February 1971, and the final report was published on 26 October 1971. The report recommended that such a change be initially implemented as a minimum supervision operation, under a two-man concept. Provisions for periods of unattended operation should be a mandatory consideration in the design and procurement of follow-on technique equipment.

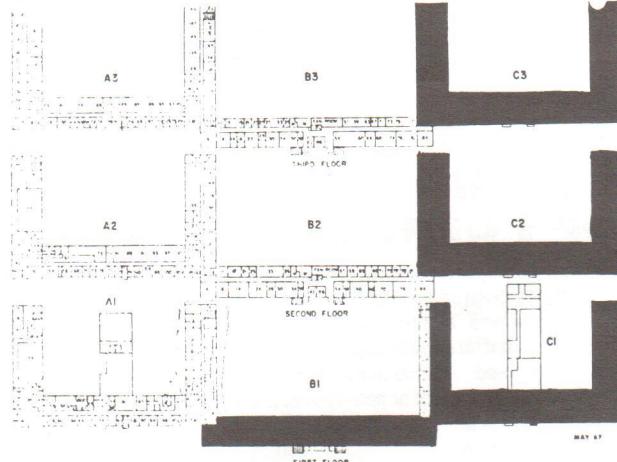
THE MOVE TO FLORIDA Several noteworthy events occurred during 1972, the most significant was the relocation of the 1035th/AFTAC headquarters operation from Alexandria, VA (6801 Telegraph Road) to Patrick AFB FL. In a letter dated 19 January 1972, the Air Force Chief of Staff directed the relocation. Within six days, Lt Colonel Leslie I. Lanham (of the Plans & Programs Division) had been designated the project officer.

Leading a team of 15, Lt Colonel Lanham headed out for Patrick on 7 February 1972, to review the overall facilities and accommodations. After the initial orientation and discussions with the AF Systems Command and AF Eastern Test Range representatives, two buildings appeared to be suitable--Building 989 and Building 425. Regardless of the final selection (989 or 425), extensive renovation would be required. The lack of any possibility for future expansion ultimately led to the rejection of Building 425.

The initial Relocation Review Group from 1035th/AFTAC consisted of the following individuals:

Lt Colonel Leslie I. Lanham, Mr. Doyle L. Northrup, Colonel Richard I. Barrett, Colonel James W. Buehler, Colonel William L. Walker, Lt Colonel Albert P. Davis, Lt Colonel Raymond R. Keys, Major Robert F. Lockwood, Major Edward W. Martin, Major Jarrell S. Mitchell, Major Richard L. McManus, Major Donald L. Whalen, Major Raymond E. Bratcher, Major Daniel C. Deibler, Captain Robert M. Armstrong, and MSgt Robert L. Stoeckert

At the end of the negotiations with the Patrick AFB representatives, the 1035th/AFTAC was provided three floors of C-Wing and one floor of B-Wing in Building 989 (Technical Laboratory) to house the Virginia contingent. The designated area amounted to approximately 86,000 square feet of space. The building itself had been constructed in the 1957-1959 time frame, at a cost of \$7.6 million, and had approximately 190,000 square feet of floor space.



Prior to the move from Virginia, the organization had a minor identification adjustment. Special Order G-90, 26 June 1972, changed the 1035th Field Activities Group to the 1035th Technical Operations Group (TOG), with an explanation that the 1035th TOG operates and maintains the USAEDS, and AFTAC establishes policy for the accomplishment of the mis-

sion.

The forthcoming relocation prompted the finalization of other pending field actions: Det 203 (Elmendorf AFB AK) was inactivated on 31 December 1971; Operating Location GN (Elmendorf AFB AK) was activated on 1 January 1972. Dets 141 (Glenrock, WY), 142 (Encampment, WY), and 200 (Albrook AFB CZ) were inactivated 30 June 1972. Operating Location GO (Albrook AFB CZ) was activated 1 July 1972. Det 1, 2044th Comm Sq, was not designated to move to Patrick AFB when the relocation commenced, but personnel attached to Det 25, 6th Weather Wing, would relocate to Det 11, 6th Weather Wing. The 1035th/AFTAC was scheduled to totally vacate the Virginia facility and turn over the building to the new occupants by 15 October 1972.

Additional manpower reductions during FY 1972 resulted in the following figures: Officers Authorized - 371, Assigned - 329; Enlisted Authorized - 1767, Assigned - 1670; and Civilians Authorized - 116, Assigned - 87. A mini-reorganization of the HQ on 8 October 1971 had already resulted in the elimination or 16 civilian positions - 11 of which were occupied. The civilian positions lost were: 2 PL-313s, 1 GS-15, 1 GS-14, 1 GS-13, 1 GS-11, 2 GS-9, 3 GS-6, and 5 GS-5. In anticipation of the move to Florida, 50 civilian employees were notified and offered the opportunity to accompany their positions to Patrick AFB; 28 civilians accepted the offer, 22 declined. An additional five civilian positions remained in the Washington DC area to support the VELA program.

In July 1971, the 1035th Field Activities Group had requested that AFTAC be excluded from the provisions of Executive Order 11491, which permitted employee unions to be active in government agencies. The basis for the request was that the provisions of the EO would be inconsistent with national security requirements and considerations. The request was approved via letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) on 12 June 1972.

Sometime during Fiscal Year 1972, AFTAC was tasked by the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) to conduct special aerial missions as directed. Designated as Operation PONY EXPRESS, AFTAC special equipment operators (SEOs) would deploy, usually to Midway Island in the Pacific area, and conduct their flights on specially equipped and



modified C-118 or C-54 aircraft from that location. This special operation continued with AFTAC for more than 20 years, and the WC-130 aircraft was added to the

mission fleet.

The AFTAC HQ operation at 6801 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA, ceased operation at 0600 hours, 24 August 1972, and simultaneously became operational at the new location, Patrick AFB FL. With the relocation to Patrick AFB basically completed, some realignment of responsibilities in the HQ was implemented. Within the Science and Technology Directorate, the six major elements were reduced to five and provided new office symbols; i.e., TD-1, TD-2, TD-3, etc. The Infrasonic Division was eliminated on 15 November 1972, and the Acoustic Technique (I) responsibilities were transferred to the Ionospheric Division. Subsequently, the Ionospheric Division was redesignated the Atmospheric Division. But, by 1 January 1973, the divisions numerical designators were changed to letters, and the Directorate division structure was aligned as follows: Geophysics Division (TG), Diagnostics Division (TN), Ionospheric Division (TA), and Radiometrics Division (TR).

By the end of Fiscal Year 1972, six of the 17 Electromagnetic Pulse (Q) stations had been identified for termination. The stations closing were: Det 328 (Karamursel, Turkey), Det 329 (Hohes Moor, Germany), and Det 175 (Fairchild AFB WA) on 31 Aug 1972; Det 430 (Woodbourne AB, New Zealand) on 15 Mar 1973; Det 125 (Edwards AFB CA) on 31 May 1973; and Det 433 (Tutuila, American Samoa) on 1 May 1973.

DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW On 14 March 1973, Mr. Philip E. Hilbert (Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force), proposed a general policy review of retaining the classified mission of AFTAC overseas units. One of the driving forces for this proposal was the forthcoming consolidation of the AFTAC seismic operation in Korea and Thailand. The second driving force was the desire of the Australian government to reveal the mission of two AFTAC stations in that country.

By April 1973, the formal direction for the review had been given to the AFTAC Commander (BGen William R. Goade). The AFTAC Vice Commander was designated the OIC for the security policy review and the Military and Political Affairs Branch was appointed the staff element to perform the initial review. Similar security policy reviews had been initiated in 1966 and 1968. The 1966 review/declassification action had been delayed until the 1967-1968 time frame. The 1968 security review/declassification effort had concluded with a recommendation that no declassification action be taken. The 1972 directed security policy review determined the following mission taskings could be declassified: -- Detect possible nuclear explosions and provide positive identification of these events as nuclear. -- Monitor the provisions of Safeguard 'D' of the Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty of 1963, and possible future agreements limiting underground testing. -- Identify natural events, such as earthquakes.

etc., thus removing the suspicion that they are nuclear. -- General information about the B, C, D, I, L, Q, and T techniques, excluding capabilities.

ICON RETIRES In the midst of the activity surrounding the partial declassification, AFTAC prepared for the loss of one of the founders of the Long Range Detection mission. Mr. Doyle L. Northrup, the Technical Director of AFTAC retired after more than 33 years of federal service. Mr. Northrup had been recruited in 1948 by the Air Force Material, Special Weapons Group (AFMSW) to help develop a long range detection apparatus. Originally, Mr. Northrup was Chief of the Scientific Division and Assistant Technical Director to Dr. Ellis A. Johnson (Technical Director). When Dr. Johnson resigned in July 1948, Dr. George H. Shortley assumed the responsibilities of Technical Director, but left the organization about two months after appointment. Mr. Northrup was designated the Technical Director shortly thereafter (early 1949) and remained in that position until his retirement in June 1973. Mr. Northrup's international stature in the scientific community resulted in his appointment as technical advisor to the United States delegation to the Geneva Conference on the cessation of nuclear testing.



Geneva, President Eisenhower awarded him the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service along with Werner Von Braun and others.

On 24 April 1974, the organization formally incorporated the acronym "EL" (Equipment Location) in the field operation identification scheme. The designation denoted the sites where equipment only was located and operated by contract personnel. This new designation was incorporated into several field realignments: Det 371 (Thule AB Greenland) was converted to an EL on 31 March 1974, because of the removal of the I technique; Det 401 (Clark AFB PI) was redesignated Operating Location CV on 15 June 1974, to coincide with the removal of the I Detachment; Det 433 (American Samoa) was inactivated on 30 September 1973; Det 359 (Germany) was identified for inactivation 1 June 1974, because of the removal of the I technique;

In recognition of his scientific achievements and his contributions to national security, Mr. Northrup was presented numerous awards from the Navy, Air Force, and Secretary of Defense during his career. Finally, for his leadership and counsel to the US delegation in

Det 324 (classified location) was downgraded to an OL on 30 November 1973 (because of the removal of the I technique) and converted to an EL on 24 April 1974. On 1 July 1973, there were 16 Acoustic (I) stations operating; by the end of June 1974, only six sites remained operational, and the technique was slated for complete phase-out of the AEDS by 30 June 1975.

PARTIAL DECLASSIFICATION During the period 1 July 1974 - 31 December 1975, several significant events occurred that had an impact on the overall AEDS operation:

-- In addition to the responsibilities of monitoring Safeguard (d) of the 1963 Limited Test Ban Treaty, two new treaties were pending ratification by the Senate--Threshold Test Ban Treaty (TTBT) and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty (PNET).

-- India became the sixth member of the "nuclear club", the other five being the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, France, and China.

-- On 1 August 1975, AFTAC implemented another partial mission declassification, openly acknowledging that the United States possessed a long range Atomic Energy Detection System (AEDS); the Air Force departmental responsibility and management of the AEDS; and that the 1035th/AFTAC was the organization with operational responsibility. Some related activities were declassified, including the seismic operation and nuclear explosion detection. The relationship of AFTAC to its detachments or operating locations when the foreign geographical area was revealed remained classified. The exceptions were the dets/OLs in Australia, Korea, or the Philippines, which were declassified. The fact that the AWS and SAC routinely sampled radioactivity in the atmosphere was declassified, and information that the McClellan Central Laboratory at the 1155th Tech Ops Sq was engaged in part in radiochemical analysis was declassified.

-- The other impact to AFTAC's operation was the final elimination of two of our ground based systems (acoustic and electromagnetic) from the AEDS network, and an increased reliance on the satellite technique.

-- The 1157th Tech Ops Sq moved from Wiesbaden AB Germany to Lindsey AS Germany in December 1975. The move was required because the Squadron facilities at Wiesbaden were being turned over to the US Army.

On 30 June 1976, HQ COMD was disestablished by direction of the Secretary of the Air Force. This action had an impact on AFTAC since the organization came under HQ COMD for MAJCOM administrative support. After considering several proposals (including the designation of AFTAC as a Separate Operating Agency), AFTAC was resubordinated to the Air Force Systems Command for administrative support on 1 July 1976. AFTAC-Air Staff relationships remained unchanged by this action.

DILEMMA AT DET 423 AND 415 Simultaneously, the future of some of AFTAC's field stations was under

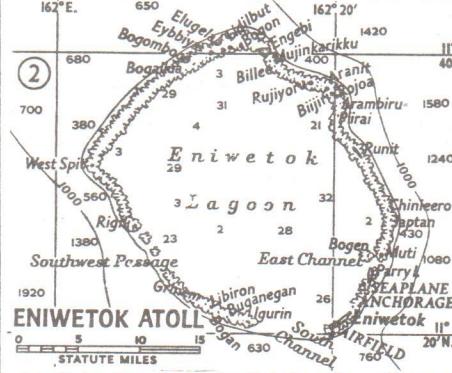
serious debate. At Detachment 423 (Mindanao PI), proposals that the Government of the Philippines operate the station on its own were dismissed by the Government of the Philippines (GOP), but they had no objection to the USAF continuing to operate the facility. The declassification of the unit in August 1975, eliminated the possibility that an enterprising journalist or political figure would discover a 'secret' installation located on the property of the Del Monte Pineapple Plantation. There were additional concerns surfacing though because of the activity generated by Moslem dissidents opposed to the government of President Marcos. The political situation on the island of Mindanao was not the best, but the area around the Del Monte Plantation remained relatively quiet.

Similarly, the future of our seismic station at Chiang Mai, Thailand (Det 415) was uncertain. The Royal Thai Government (RTG) had announced earlier that all US forces would have to be withdrawn from Thailand by 19 March 1976. Our Embassy in Bangkok proposed that the US transfer control of the US stations at Chiang Mai, Ko Kha, and Ramasus to the RTG, with the provision that the stations would continue to be operated by the USAF under the terms of the existing agreements. The RTG Ministry of Foreign Affairs accepted the offer. A ceremonial turnover date of 13 March 1976 was established for Chiang Mai and public release statements were drafted. The ceremonial turnover did not occur and negotiations continued between the US Government and the RTG. On 20 March, the RTG directed that all residual US forces be removed from Thailand within 120 days and AFTAC began planning for the withdrawal of our personnel and the closure of the facility by 15 June. During this period of controversy operations at the Det were suspended. Negotiations continued at a slow pace and there were several visits made to Chiang Mai by ranking officers of the Royal Thai Navy. On 8 June (seven days before the scheduled facility closure), the Embassy advised AFTAC that the RTG had agreed "to take over and operate the seismic station at Chiang Mai." The Prime Minister also indicated that he did not consider the "product" useful to Thailand; therefore, AFTAC would have to pay all operating costs. The Joint Chief of Staff (JCS) issued an execute message stating that the seismic station would remain open pending completion of new operating agreements. The formal turnover of the seismic station to the Thais would require a government-level Exchange of Notes and a working level Memorandum of Understanding. An AFTAC representative would be required to travel to Bangkok to take part in the technical and political negotiations. Major Dick J. Petersen (Chief of the International Affairs Branch) traveled to Bangkok to participate in the negotiations, which lasted from 27 June through 23 July. Overall, relations between the Thai and US negotiators were very cordial and no major problem areas arose. But, AFTAC's hopes for an early signing

of the MOA and MOU did not materialize. The documents were formally signed on 29 December 1976, and the responsible Thai Agency was the Hydrographics Department of the Royal Thai Navy. Limited operations at the Det resumed in April 1977.

The next major problem tackled by AFTAC during 1976 was a management plan for Reporting Identifier (RI) 99125 career field. The plan was developed and staffed, breaking out the 99125 force into three different specialties: 1. 99104: (System Repair Technician) to handle maintenance and engineering, 2. 99105: (Scientific Measurements Technician) to handle operations and analysis, and 3, 99106: (Scientific Laboratory Technician) to perform airborne and laboratory duties.

ENIWETOK The period 1 January - 31 December 1977



proved to be very busy for 1035th/AFTAC. AFTAC participated in a joint service project, supervised by the Defense Nuclear Agency, that involved a radiological cleanup of the Eniwetok Atoll in the Marshall Islands. Operating Location (OL) CL was established to provide administrative and staff supervision of the AFTAC laboratory contingent committed to the project. The Eniwetok radiation laboratory was managed and operated by the Department of Energy through a contractor, Eberline Instrument Corporation, using lay Air Force and Navy technicians. The two radiochemists and one measurements/data evaluation technician provided by AFTAC formed the nucleus of the 14 military members of the laboratory group. AFTAC participation in the project began in July 1977 with the arrival of the first AFTAC technicians. During the mobilization phase—which ended 15 November 1977—the modular laboratory units were assembled and equipped, laboratory procedures refined, trial samples and result data produced, and representative sampling techniques developed. Procedures for processing and analyzing field collected personnel monitoring samples; i.e., air samples and nose swipes were also developed. Results from these analyses were provided to the health physicists in the Radiation Control Division of the Joint Task Group.

With the onset of the cleanup phase, radiological characterization of the contaminated islands began and continued through April 1978. Follow-up soil sampling/analyses were made after each contaminated soil removal effort. These analyses provided data upon which decisions were made about additional soil removal actions or were retained for use in the certification of the cleanup operation.

A major effort of the Eniwetok radiation laboratory during the latter part of the year involved the plutonium burial crypt on the island of Aomon (Sally). Sampling and analyses for initial characterization and again following debris removal from the crypt provided the data for confirmation of cleanup and final documentation of this project activity. All samples collected during the Eniwetok cleanup project were to be placed in a storage library in Nevada. Sterilization and packaging of the samples for storage was initiated. Determining agricultural requirements and securing approval from the states the samples were to transit caused the late start date for the activity.

CONVERSION AT DET 421 The major issue in Australia continued to center on the negotiations that would lead to the conversion of our seismic station at Alice Springs (Det 421) to a jointly manned station in conjunction with the Australian Department of Science. The only real negotiating point at the beginning of 1978 concerned a commitment from the Government of Australia (GOA) that they would accept certain financial arrangements. The GOA did agree that they would pay the salaries of Australian personnel assigned to the station and that they would pay for any modification to the station that resulted from their own requirements.

With all negotiating terms agreed to, a formal Exchange of Notes were signed on 28 February 1978, with an effective date of 2 March 1978. The USAF and the Australian Department of Science were identified as the cooperating agencies. The Exchange of Notes also declassified the operation and purpose of the station which became known as the Joint Geographic and Geophysical Research Facility (JGGRS).

On 1 March, the GOA Minister of Science made a public pronouncement on the JGGRS and his Ministry dispatched invitations to the press media and various groups to visit the joint facility on 22 March, a date established as an "open house" at the station. The "open house" was such a success that for several months thereafter, a variety of governmental and public interest groups visited the station. The public tours normally occurred on Saturday morning when there would be a minimal impact on the operation of the station. By the end 1978, the JGGRS was operating smoothly. Though it was now a "joint" station, Alice Springs has remained a unilateral "blue suit" operation since the Australians did not choose to assign any of their personnel to the site.

POLITICAL UNREST AT DET 333 The in-country political upheaval/struggle resulted in the termination of operations at Detachment 333 (classified), which had been in business and functioning since December 1964. Events at Det 333 had gained momentum throughout 1978, as sporadic demonstrations by groups opposed to the country leaders turned into virtual open warfare in the streets of the major cities.

AFTAC's only political initiative occurred in March 1978 when a request was submitted through the

Department of State to our Embassy to install "J" station equipment at the Det. The deteriorating political situation placed our efforts in abeyance. Open street demonstrations and bloody clashes with security forces became common by September 1978, and continued at an increasing tempo. By early December, it became increasingly difficult for Americans to live in-country. Shortly thereafter it became necessary to evacuate the dependents to designated safe-haven areas. By the end of the year, the situation in country was grim, with troops and police visible in the city during the daylight hours and the sounds of gunfire dominating the night. The AFTAC Commander notified the Detachment to temporarily cease operations. The Detachment had ceased operation on 6 January 1979--originally on a temporary basis, in anticipation that the ensuing political unrest and anti-American attitude would wane and the Det could reopen. When the sitting government was overthrown and replaced by a violent anti-American regime, the Det was officially inactivated.

AFTAC BECOMES DIRECT REPORTING UNIT On 1 October 1980, HQ 1035th Tech Ops Gp was redesignated HQ Air Force Technical Applications Center (AFTAC). Concurrent with this change, AFTAC was relieved from its assignment to Air Force Systems Command (AFSC) and made a Direct Reporting Unit (DRU) of the USAF. Simultaneously, the 1035th's three subordinate units (the 1155th, 1156th, and 1157th Tech Ops Squadrons) were assigned to HQ AFTAC. For a number of years, AFTAC had operated as a "miniMAJCOM." And, since 1960, AFTAC had operated its own Consolidated Base Personnel Office (CBPO).

During the period of renegotiations with AF Systems Command for MAJCOM support, the AFSC Commander (General Alton D. Slay) proposed to the AF Chief of Staff (General Lew Allen, Jr.) that the AFSC and AFTAC relationship be "normalized." Ultimately, the proposed AFSC changes would have given AFSC command control and would have increased administrative control over AFTAC. The Chief of Staff rejected the AFSC proposal, but as an added measure, General Allen directed the SAF/IG (Lt General Howard M. Leaf) to conduct an organizational study of AFTAC. The conclusions of the study resulted in several recommendations/options, including: establishing AFTAC as a Separate Operating Agency; assigning AFTAC to a Pentagon support group; aligning AFTAC under the Air Staff (like other Air Staff agencies); establishing a special code to identify AFTAC, etc. All options were evaluated, and the final decision was to designate AFTAC a direct reporting unit, reporting to the Air Staff. On 16 June 1980, General Lew Allen, Jr. dispatched a letter to General Slay (AFSC) and Colonel Robert A. Meisenheimer (AFTAC) informing them officially that AFTAC was to become a DRU. This was followed a week later, 23 June 1980, by a Department of Air Force letter ordering AFTAC to become a DRU on 1 October 1980. This letter also officially redesignated HQ 1035th Tech Ops Gp as

HQ Air Force Technical Applications Center.

VELA CLOSES The VELA Seismological Research Center was established on 1 August 1963, as a separately organized element of AFTAC. It functioned as a national unclassified seismic research facility under the operational control of AFTAC. Through the years, the element had many designations: VSC when it was created; Operating Location (OL) AS on 1 July 1972; Detachment 095 in the mid-1970s and start of the 1980s; and finally Operating Location (OL) VE on 1 October 1982. By 1983, it was determined that VELA had "completed its assigned mission," and on 30 September 1983, OL VE (Alexandria, VA) was inactivated.

Additional restructuring was in progress throughout the command during 1983. For years, the 1155th Tech Ops Sq had no subordinate units; however, on 1 June 1983, three Equipment Locations (ELs) were assigned to the McClellan AFB unit. EL 206 (Point Barrow, AK), EL 461 (Shemya AFB AK), and EL 462 (Kotzebue AFS AK) were realigned under the 1155th TOS, and a fourth unit--EL 371 (classified location) was realigned on 1 July 1983.

1155th RENAMED On 1 March 1984, the 1155th Technical Operations Squadron was officially redesignated the Technical Operations Division. This action concluded a quest initiated by Colonel A. L. Pavik (Commander of the 1155th TOS) during the summer of 1983. For many years there had been a general consensus that the 1155th had been erroneously categorized as a squadron, when the major field offices (Western, Eastern, and Central) had been redesignated on 1 July 1960. The size, rank structure, diversity of functions, and level of responsibilities at the Western Field Office (1155th TOS) was unrelated to the size, functions, and level of responsibilities of the other two units--Eastern Field Office (1156th) and Central Field Office (1157th TOS). The Department of the Air Force (DAF) approved the name change in their letter dated 7 March 1984, with an indicated effective date of 1 March 1984.

CHERONBYL (Summarized from a story written by SMSgt David E. Verzil) To members of this command, Chernobyl rapidly became one of the largest and most noteworthy mission efforts in years. Operations against the Chernobyl reactor event began three days after the reactor exploded on 25 April 1986. A WC-135 departed McClellan AFB CA for Mildenhall England on 29 April and contacted debris north of Scandinavia. It was only the first of 42 air sampling sorties that would be flown all over the globe with WC-135, WC-130, and B-52 aircraft. What the first mission encountered was a visible cloud of debris about seven miles in diameter and more than 500 feet thick. The cloud gave the flight crew inflight positive readings, normally only encountered after atmospheric nuclear explosions. Over the next 10 days, mission aircraft would encounter Chernobyl debris from the Pacific Ocean to Europe and the Medi-

ranean. Operations were planned 24-hours a day by headquarters mission planners, using information provided by the command's weather forecasting experts. So superbly was their job done that 32 missions collected debris from around the globe.

At McClellan and the field laboratories, preparations had been underway to handle the large influx of samples. More than 670 flight papers and 700 gas spheres would swamp the laboratories through the next 10 days, requiring around-the-clock operations at McClellan. Information was continually crossfed to other government agencies. The Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) received constant advisories so that it could restrict flights if necessary. The Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency were kept informed as debris approached US territory.

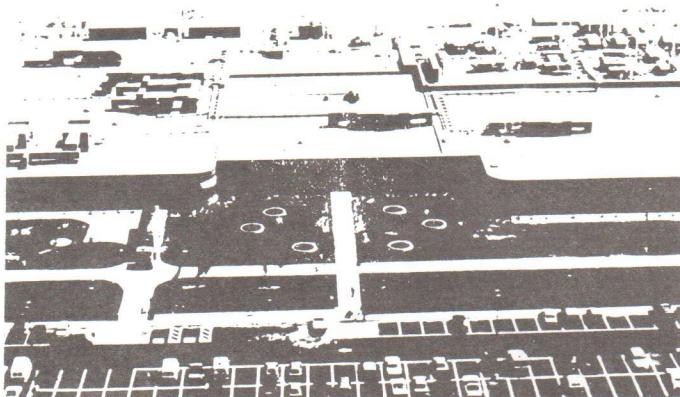
The command came through with unmatched performance and provided data of international importance. The command also received unprecedented recognition. Letters or messages of appreciation were received from many quarters, including Mr. Lee Thomas, head of the Presidential Task Force for Chernobyl; the Secretary of Defense; the Director of the FAA; and the USAF Chief of Staff.

OSIA Six AFTAC personnel were assigned to the INF (Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces) On Site Inspection Agency's (OSIA) list on 1 September 1986. Six additional AFTACcer were slated to be selected for the OSIA teams in the future. For the initial base-line inspection of the 133 Soviet sites, twenty 10-person teams were deployed from gateways in Japan and Germany. After completion of the initial inspections the teams will conduct short-notice inspections and observe missile elimination. AFTAC personnel operated new radiation detection equipment allowed by the INF treaty during short-notice inspections in the Soviet Union. And, in July 1988, an AFTAC team traveled to Sandia Laboratories (in Albuquerque, NM) to assist in the development of the new equipment. AFTAC personnel deployed to the Soviet Union with a US team to benchmark the equipment against actual Soviet missile systems. This data is used during INF inspections. Even today (1997), AFTAC personnel deploy approximately 10 to 15 times per year with the OSIA teams to participate in short-notice INF inspections.

RUSSELL BUILDING DEDICATED On 19 August 1988, one of the most significant milestones in AFTAC history occurred at McClellan AFB CA, when the Technical Operations Division dedicated the new Russell Building. The ribbon cutting ceremony signified the beginning of a new chapter in the long and proud history of TOD and the AFTAC.

The Russell Building, named for Colonel Irving J. Russell, the first directory of the McClellan Central Laboratory, houses all TOD activities except logistics, maintenance, and supply which remained in Building 626 at McClellan AFB. The project cost \$18 million, and provides TOD with a unique 120,000 square foot

structure. Among many special features, the Russell Building includes a radio frequency shield, complete grounding system throughout, and detached facilities for gas cylinder, chemical and hazardous waste storage. A glass atrium in the central courtyard provides a pleasant setting for breaks. Preparation of the building involved many different contractors and McClellan base support agencies. More than 175,000 feet of telephone cable with some 400 phone jacks had to be installed along with fire alarms, computer cables special electrical power and numerous other requirements.



Moving the only low-level radioactivity measurement laboratory in the Department of Defense was in itself a unique challenge. Some one-of-a-kind mass spectrometers had been in place at TOD for more than 30 years. Other equipment such as microprobes and scanning electron microscopes were so delicate the moves were supervised by the manufacturers from France and Japan.

DETACHMENT 459 - 489 CONNECTION On 30 September 1986, Det 459 (Pinedale, WY) was inactivated. Established and activated in 1957, the function at Pinedale was one of AFTAC's oldest field stations. The closing was the result of recent advances in technology, rendering the site redundant to existing and planned seismic capabilities, as well as cuts in the Defense budget. While the site's communication center ceased operations on 30 June 1986, and an official closure ceremony was conducted on 5 August 1986, the CRB doors were not closed for the final time until 30 September. The site was taken over by United States Geological Survey (USGS) elements for continued seismic operations and, while most equipment was removed and reused by AFTAC to meet other mission requirements, the short period seismometers and associated equipment were left in place for future USGS use.

In February 1986, during the early stages of AFTAC's inactivation of Det 459, USGS officials notified AFTAC of their desire to explore the possibility of using the Det site after AFTAC's departure. The USGS desire was based on the availability of real-time data to be used for development and testing of their seismic processing system for Spain. Subsequently, the USGS

inquired as to the possibility of AFTAC leaving the seismic sensors and associated equipment in place. Based on the benefit to be derived from the availability of digitized data from the Det's location, worth well more than the cost of equipment to be excessed to USGS (approximate value was \$62,000), and considering that availability of this data would require no AFTAC site manning/operation costs, AFTAC approved the proposed USGS takeover of the site and the associated equipment transfer.

The Pinedale station was actually located approximately 18 miles southeast of Pinedale in the community of Boulder, WY. The site occupied a total area of about six acres. The CRB was built in 1957, and located on land originally leased from Boulder rancher Milford Steele. The original instrumentation was installed on land leased from Dennis Mitchell, Henry Hittle, Milford Steele, John Vible, and James King, and consisted of five vaults which contained a surface instrument (surface array system) to measure short period earth motion. The station commenced operations on 8 December 1958 as Team 162. The Team 162 designation was discontinued on 30 June 1960, and the operation was renamed Detachment 162. In 1966, three short period component instruments capable of measuring vertical or horizontal earth motion were installed, expanding the surface instrument total to nine. Another name change occurred in 1973, and Detachment 162 was redesignated as Detachment 459 (19 February 1973).

The station's mission was declassified in 1974. Throughout the years, Det 459 has had as many as 27 personnel assigned to accomplish its 24-hour-a-day mission, but the manning was significantly reduced in the spring of 1985 when manned operations were lowered to eight hours a day. By closure, the manning had been reduced to nine individuals. Fortunately, this closure was not permanent. The site was reactivated in 1989 as a research and development operation. In a special flag-raising ceremony on 21 August to mark the beginning of activity for the five person operation, the Pinedale Seismic Research Facility was designated as Detachment 489. Approximately 35 people from the facility and the Pinedale, WY community attended the ceremony, which was followed by a tour of the facility and a luncheon. Although building renovations were still in progress at the time of the August 1989 ceremony, the first research project--sponsored by Research Projects Agency (DARPA). This project involved work with INTELSEI, the prototype intelligent seismic terminal. AFTAC members assigned to the detachment test seismic equipment and software developed by AFTAC, DARPA, the Department of Energy, and the US Geological Survey (USGS).

DEVELOCORDERS CEASES OPERATION The old system used by AFTAC to monitor nuclear explosions underground displayed its last signal on 5 January 1990. After more than 30 years of service, the nine

Teledyne Geotech developcorders operated and maintained by the AEDC (Atomic Energy Detection Center) were shut down at 7:00 PM. The HQ developcorder system, frequently referred to as the "Zip Room," received analog seismic data from a worldwide network of sensors, processed and displayed the data, which was analyzed by scientific measurement technicians assigned to the AEDC. The primary seismic analysis mission switched from the developcorders to the TOS (Technical Operations Subsystem) in August 1989, after the new system was declared fully operational. Dual operation of both systems continued until October 1989, with developcorder data used as a backup until December 1989. The data continued to be received but was no longer monitored for real-time analysis.

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT (Summarized from an article written by SSgt David Heiser) Detachment 489, Pinedale WY, received a call from the White House Communications Agency on 29 June 1992, saying they wanted to bring a few people and some equipment to support **President George Bush** during his three-day fishing trip to Wyoming. The detachment found out it would be hosting a major production and would soon become the Presidential Communications Center. This entailed the influx of 42 people, 14 rental cars, 30,000 pounds of equipment, three rental trucks and one dark blue Suburban, filled to the gills with communications equipment, they called "Road Runner."

Detachment members had one week to prepare from the initial phone call before the WHCA staff actually arrived. A microwave telephone link, containing about 500 pounds of equipment and a solar panel, was hauled to the top of a mountain using det all-terrain vehicles.

From the beginning it was clear the president wouldn't visit the det. And on 15 July, the road in front of the det was closed and the president drove by on his way to a fishing hole. The next day started as the one before, except that about 10:30 AM, the det was asked if the White House folks could use the conference room. Several people came to look at it, but decided it was too small. Then the det was informed the president would have a news conference in the field directly behind the det that afternoon. At that point, what had been controlled chaos became uncontrolled. The WHCA staff, Secret Service, and the det had three hours to prepare for a visit by the president.

Secret Service and explosive ordnance disposal experts were the first on the scene. They went over the entire installation (including the people) looking for explosive devices. Meanwhile, the WHCA and det personnel ran phone lines to the Det Commander's (Captain Mike Hines) office for the president's "temporary" Oval Office, in case of any important phone calls. Word was then passed that Captain Hines would greet the president as he exited his vehicle. The remaining det personnel would be allowed to photograph him from an excellent vantage point, but wouldn't

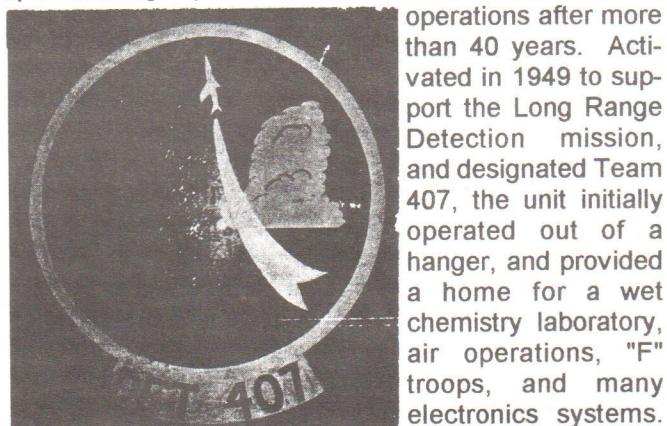
meet him. The president arrived and Captain Hines welcomed him to the det. The news conference lasted about 15 minutes. Then President Bush walked over to the det members saying he wanted to thank his hosts. He talked briefly to and shook each member's hand, then asked if they would like to have some photos. Not a single person turned him down. Each member had individual pictures taken with the President, as well as a group photo.



Members of Detachment 489 pose with the president. From left to right are SSgts. Randy Taylor and Bob Cornell, Sgt. Jeffrey Albert, SrA. John Kelleher, the president, Capt. Mike Hines and SSgt. David Heiser.

The Det visitor book was retired to the Det's display case. The book lies open to a page which says, *"Thanks for your hospitality, Good Luck."*, signed, George Bush.

DETACHMENT CLOSES (Summarized from an article written by Steve Ellingson) In December 1992, Det 407 ceased



operations after more than 40 years. Activated in 1949 to support the Long Range Detection mission, and designated Team 407, the unit initially operated out of a hanger, and provided a home for a wet chemistry laboratory, air operations, "F" troops, and many electronics systems.

It also housed large supply and maintenance sections. During the early years, the number of personnel supported started at about 70 and raised to 160 in 1962.

The last sampling mission was flown on 1 December 1992. Later the plane was downloaded; spheres and papers were processed and final sample measurements were started. The next day, data from the last flight was completed and the last gas sample was readied for return to the historical files.

DEDICATION CEREMONY HONORS AFTAC ICON
In a special ceremony on 8 December 1992, AFTAC paid tribute to one of its true pioneers. The HQ Command Conference Room was formally designated the **WALTER SINGLEVIGH CONFERENCE ROOM** in

memory of its former Director of Nuclear Technology. Mr. Singlevich passed away on 14 August 1992, in Chapel Hill, NC, from complications resulting from major surgery in June 1992.



Mr. Singlevich was a pioneer in developing AFTAC into the premier treaty monitoring organization in the United States, joining the Long Range Detection mission in its infancy in

1952. Prior to his assignment with the LRD mission group, Mr. Singlevich was a member of the Manhattan Project at Oak Ridge, TN, and at the plutonium production facility at Hanford, WA. During his 40 years of service with the Long Range Detection mission, Mr. Singlevich participated in planning the negotiations which led to the ratification of the Limited Test Ban Treaty. The White House issued him a special citation for his contributions to the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency during treaty negotiations.

AFTAC CBPO CLOSES Officially authorized and designated as a Consolidated Base Personnel Office (CBPO) since 1972, AFTAC disbanded the 43-person function in late 1992. Although the Headquarters maintains a small (4-person) liaison function, their primary mission now consists of monitoring awards and decorations, officer and enlisted performance reports, annual awards, and special assignment recommendations and management actions for the 9S (formerly '99') career field. AFTAC members now receive all personnel related services from their local base military personnel flights (MPF) or their unit orderly rooms. As a matter of interest, AFTAC's authorized manning over the last 37 years was as follows: 1960 - 831; 1970 - 2,848; 1980 - 1,318; 1990 - 1,403; 1997 - 978

AFTAC UNIT GRANTED FREEDOM OF ENTRY With the Air Force theme song wailing amidst a sea of celebration, members of Det 421, AFTAC, stood tall and proud during a ceremony marking a historic event for Australia and the United States Air Force. Located in the heart of the Australian outback, Alice Springs became the first town in Australia to grant "Freedom of Entry" to a United States military unit. His Worship Andy McNeill, Alice Springs Mayor, granted the honor to the det which has been based in the town for 40 years. Dating back to medieval times, the granting of permission for a formed body of armed men to enter a city became a mark of the trust and confidence in which

that body was held by its citizens. During July 1995, the action of a city conferring upon a military unit



Detachment 421 marches into the town of Alice Springs at the Freedom of Entry parade.

"Freedom of Entry with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing and colors flying" is to accord the highest honor the city can bestow upon that unit.

RUSSIAN OFFICERS VISIT AFTAC AND TOD During the period 11-22 November 1995, AFTAC and TOD played host to three Russian military officers who visited the US recently to participate in the Arms Control Conference at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. The visit to AFTAC headquarters included briefings, discussions of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and a tour of the operation centers. The group also got a close-up look at TOD's operations including the McClellan Laboratory--AFTAC's nuclear sample analysis lab--and sampler and maintenance facilities. That was followed by a visit to Lajitas, TX, for a capabilities demonstration at the Lajitas seismic array. Lajitas is the prototype for the seismic arrays AFTAC will install worldwide for CTBT monitoring as part of an international effort.

CHANGES AT DETACHMENT 313 After six years of planning and negotiations, the Sonseca Seismological Station, home to AFTAC's Detachment 313, was turned



Col. Glen Shaffer, AFTAC commander, and the Ricardo Diaz Zoido, director of the Spanish National Geographic Institute, sign copies of the Memorandum of Understanding giving the Spanish government control of Det. 313.

over to the Spanish government. The station was the last

installation in the 1988 Defense Cooperation Agreement to be turned over. Others included Torrejon AB and Zaragoza AB. The turnover on 18 January 1996, means that the Spanish government now owns the buildings and land at the site. The ten AFTAC personnel assigned there will be responsible only for the seismic equipment. After a year, the AFTAC personnel

will draw down significantly.

The fanfare and political attention given this event rivaled the likes of major diplomatic and national-level events. The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, in Madrid at the Spanish Foreign Ministry, was covered by three major Spanish television networks. The following day at Sonseca, members of Detachment 313 formed up and cleared the compound as a sign of the American presence leaving.

INTO THE FUTURE (*Summarized from an article written by Dr. Ellen Herron*) On 24 September 1996, President Clinton signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. This action may prove to be equally important in the history of nuclear proliferation, not to mention its impact on AFTAC. A new era in treaty monitoring began with this signing, bringing new challenges and opportunities to AFTAC. Within the next 30 months, when the CTBT is expected to enter into force, AFTAC must bring a new operational system on line which can expand to meet the US requirements for monitoring this CTBT. This system will then grow to meet current design capabilities in the year 2000. It's a very ambitious challenge, involving not only seismic monitoring capabilities, but also hydroacoustic, infrasonic, radionuclide, and satellite assets in ways they have not previously been used to report to the national verification authorities and policy makers.

The technical delegates who worked with the framers of the CTBT under the auspices of the United Nations selected locations around the globe to form the International Monitoring System. These stations will contribute data to an unclassified international data center for archive, exchange, and rapid preliminary analysis. Participating countries may elect, as the United States has done, to create a national data center which consolidates the contributions of that nation, conducts treaty monitoring to standards set by national policy makers, and serves as an unclassified data archive disseminating data shared through the International Data Center to that country's researchers. General Ronald R. Fogleman, USAF Chief of Staff, designated AFTAC to develop and operate the US National Data Center, in June 1996.

To meet the goals and objectives set by US policy and verification agencies, AFTAC has entered into a contract to install up to 20 new seismic arrays, around the world, between 1997 and 2001. The first of these arrays will be installed at Peleduy, Russia, next summer and will be typical of the new style of operation. It will be operated by the Russians under the terms of a recently signed memorandum of agreement and will send continuous data to the International Data Center so the data arrives there within 60 seconds of real time.

The US NDC at AFTAC will receive the data from the IDC within seconds after they arrive at the IDC. Plans are also underway to install two new hydroacoustic arrays, a network of southern hemi-

sphere infrasonic arrays, and 80 radionuclide collection sites. Most of these sites will be part of the International Monitoring System as well as the new USAEDS network. A few will contribute only to the USAEDS.

The next few years should be very exciting for AFTAC. Under the US NDC model, AFTAC will transition to accept data from stations we do not operate or control. AFTAC will develop new techniques and capabilities to monitor very small events which can be sensed only within 2,000 km of the source; and we will expand our analysis and data processing capabilities to automatically process twice as many events per day as we now do. AFTAC will also develop capabilities to share all raw data submitted to the international system with the US community.

This concludes the series...Happy 50th Anniversary



Welcome to the 14 - 16 September 1997 Fifteenth Anniversary of the Air Force and LRD. Many volunteers spent a lot of time assuring the success of this special occasion. Registrations for all the events scheduled during the Reunion are gratifying. As we go to press with this Newsletter for distribution at the Reunion, over 470 AFTACers, both active duty and retired, have signed up for the Evening Banquet on 15 September. We anticipate there will be some more signing up at the last minute. You can bet that on the night before the Banquet at the Icebreaker, where over 450 have signed up, there will be many stories told of historical and social events unique to the AFTAC experience. As you mingle with former associates and rekindle friendships that have cooled over the years, take time to also say Thank You to the Committee Members (too numerous to mention here) who contributed their energies to what has turned out to be the largest of all reunions since inception of the AFTAC Alumni Association.

The Registration Committee has done a superb job preparing the handouts you received when you checked in. The handouts provide the details for all the special events scheduled to make this 50th Air Force/LRD Anniversary and Alumni Reunion a truly special occasion. For those of you, like me, who have been out of uniform for awhile, the tailored unclassified tour of the Headquarters Building offers a great opportunity to get updated on what is happening in today's AFTAC. Participate, and you will most likely leave with a new perspective and appreciation of the sophisticated technology which has evolved over the years in performance of the Mission.

A morning of Golf on 16 September at nearby Baytree Country Club was specially arranged because the Patrick Golf Course is currently undergoing renovation. Afterwards, the End of Anniversary Celebration Picnic, will provide another opportunity to mingle, soak up some sun, food and suds, and share some more "stories" of bygone adventures of our memorable tours of duty within the AFTAC family. Be sure to wear your Alumni cap or shirt or buy them at the Picnic.

A short reminder, your Post-Monitor is always looking for additional inputs from you. We have received some great letters coming in from all over the country - keep it up. Share your AFTAC experiences - professional, social and personal. The point is - keep in touch, let us know what you are doing!

We can all be proud of our participation in LRD's illustrious fifty year heritage. Let's take this Reunion opportunity to relive and enjoy the camaraderie and check each other's expanding waistlines and/or receding hairlines - whichever the case may be. Look forward to saying Hi again to people we haven't seen for awhile - people we worked with as a team sharing a mutual respect, and whose company we enjoyed in accomplishing a mission of national importance.

Enjoy The Reunion!
Fred Van Dyck



BOARD MEETINGS

Alumni Association Board Members

President-Tom Niquette

Vice-Fred Van Dyck **Secretary-Judy Milam**

Treasurer-Carl Gailey **Membership-Mary Welch**
Activities-vacant **Publicity-Swede Swansen**

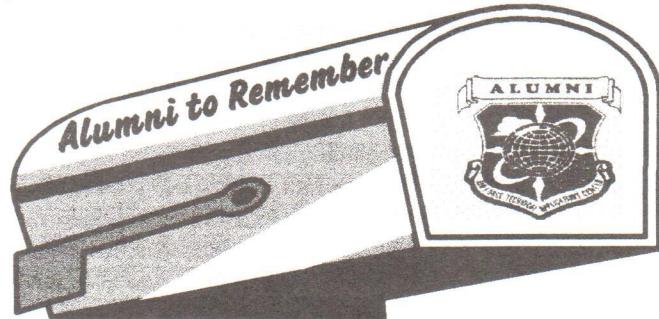
A Few Minutes from the Minutes

submitted by Judy Milam

JUNE 1997: Plans were reviewed for the 50th Anniversary; suggestions were made regarding presentation of awards. Alumni members were encouraged to volunteer to help with activities. The Alumni Association provided 10 coins that will be flown aboard a future shuttle mission and will be available for special presentations. The AFTAC Boosters Club will not be selling coins at the 50th Anniversary; the Alumni Association will order 800 limited edition Anniversary coins to have available for sale. We plan to purchase about 100

plastic mugs from the Boosters Club and make them available for sale to Alumni members. Clothing and memorabilia items were shipped to the Colorado Chapter in time for their annual picnic; they reported that about 50 people planned to attend. The Boosters Club has no more wooden nickels. It was suggested that we pass the cost of remailings along to members who fail to notify us of address changes; a notice will be included in the newsletter of this new policy. As of this meeting, Alumni membership was at 696 with 347 paid and 14 complimentary lifetime members. Significant interest in membership is being generated by the Internet Homepage. There are now 169 email addresses in the Homepage database and 3,451 people listed. There is also a jobs section on the Homepage. We're considering buying a used computer to use for official Alumni Assc.business, including keeping our address-label database current and to allow Internet access.

JULY 1997: Plans are underway for a 10 October Alumni golf tournament and annual general membership meeting at Baytree. Cost will be \$36. Latest figures for attendance at the 50th activities are (as of 29 July): 394 for the Alumni mixer, 386 for the banquet, 72 for golf, and 329 for the picnic. Clothing and memorabilia items have been ordered to ensure sufficient quantities for the 50th Anniversary.



Hopes of Health for...

Carey L Dobbins (see cybernote below)

Vince Bauman



In Memory Of

Mary H. Dobbins, June 17, 1997
 (see following cybernote)

Francis R. Fee, June 18, 1997
 (see obituary abstract, and following letter)

Edward R. Waldow, June 29, 1997
 (see following letter)

Col. (Ret.) James J. Romanchek, May 1997
 (HQ/SCP, Division Chief, ~1986 - ~1989)

May They Rest in Eternal Peace

obituary abstract provided by Marvin T. Ross (see letter below)
Francis Raymond Fee, retired Air Force Colonel, served with AFTAC from 1952 - 1955; he received several decorations, including the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star

The Mail Room

Any requests for action should be sent to **AFTAC Alumni Association, PO Box 254892-Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892**

Letters of a general nature, requesting no action, may be e-mailed to the editors, chrisjohn@juno.com

Letters may be edited for clarity and space; any opinions are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect Association belief or policy

Cybernote

6/27/97

Judy, I'm sure that you have received some of this same info from Mike Black but I want to add a couple of other details. My wife of 46 years, Mary H. Dobbins, passed away very suddenly on June 17, 1997. She died of a massive heart attack--no pain, just very sudden. Within about thirty minutes of her death I started a heart attack of my own and was sent to the hospital in the ambulance that was sent for her. My stay in the hospital was 5 days. Doing pretty good as of now. Please publish her death in the next newsletter. Please make sure my cancellation (for the 50th) is completed. Thanks.

Carey L Dobbins editors: Carey, thank you ...your family will be in our thoughts and prayers...

Melbourne, FL

July 3, 1997

Reunion Committee, Soon after I registered for the 50th Anniversary activities, I wrote a letter to Col. Frank Fee, alumni member whom I had worked for at AFOAT-1/1009th Special Weapons Sqdn. from 1952 to 55. I invited Col. Fee to stay with us if he was coming to the "Party." He wrote back and advised he had terminal bone cancer

and could not come.

I sent a self-addressed envelope and ask he have me notified when the end came. I received the notice in the mail yesterday from a friend.

Please put an appropriate notice about Col. Frank Fee in our newsletter.

I was in Hq. from 1951 to 55 and, as stated above, worked for Col. Fee three years. as his Staff Civil Engineer and Staff Procurement Officer. I retired from the USAF in 1968. Col. Fee was one of the best bosses I ever had. I had an article published in the newsletter a year or two ago. Sincerely,

Marvin T. Ross editors: thank you for letting us know and we look forward to seeing you at the reunion events

Culbertson, MT

7/28/97

Dear Alumni,

I'm writing you to let you know that my beloved husband, Edward R. Waldow has passed away on June 29, 97. I am enclosing a memorial leaflet with his picture on it.

We were both looking forward to the reunion in September of this year at Patrick AFB. As Ed was so fond of AFTAC I wanted you to let the Association know of his sudden passing away. Everyone who came in contact with Ed loved him as he loved people and was the most friendly, loving, caring, kind and gentle man anyone ever knew. Ed was 64 (Jan 1933 - Jun 29, 97). He was buried in Culbertson, MT, his home town of birth. Thank you, Sincerely,

Mrs. Edward R. (Betty) Waldow editors: thank you Betty, Ed will be remembered by many

Cybernote

eagle@cwnet.com

I did not know Ed Waldrow but appreciate the notification; however, what a wonderful concept it is to announce via E-mail the passage of our friends and fellow AFTACers.

Robert M. Davis, Col. Ret'd editors: thanks Bob, we appreciate your note of thanks...we too feel it is appropriate to get this type of information out using all our communication resources

Wollstonecraft, NSW

4/1/97

Dear Ms Welch,

Thank you for all the information that you forwarded to me recently concerning the AFTAC Alumni Association and the anniversary celebrations in September 1997.

Please find enclosed a completed alumni membership application form and a check for \$75.00

being the chapter dues for lifetime membership.

At this point in time, I am unable to plan my next trip to Cocoa, as I was there last Christmas visiting Family in the area. However, business opportunities do mean that I may be in area around that time. I have marked the event on my calendar and will let you know if I'm able to attend closer to the date.

Thanks again for the information on AFTAC and the association. I look forward to being part of the group once again.

Sincerely

Robert E. Duval editors - thanks for joining us and we hope to see you

Simsbury, CT

5/7/97

Dear Alumni,

I noted with great interest your notice of the AFTAC 50th reunion set for September 14-16, 1997. Since I served with the 1009th SWS from 1951 1953, I was pleased to see that we were included in the event.

If you could send me any information concerning the registration, accommodations program and activities that will take place at this reunion, I would appreciate it very much. Several of us who were together in the 1009th SWS are planning attend but I do not have a firm number at this time. I will pass the information along to my buddies and see if we can't have a fine turnout for the 50th. Most of us haven't gotten together since we separated in 1953 so it will be a nostalgic event when we do get together. Thank you for any information you can furnish me. Very truly yours,

Jeremiah J. Collins editors - good to hear from you, we understand Mary Welch forwarded requested information on 5/19/97

Aurora, CO

4/29/97

I have been a member of the Colorado Chapter of the AFTAC Alumni Association since it was formed, and didn't feel a need to also belong to the Head Shed Chapter. Especially since my good buddy Bill Braukman used to let me have his copy of the Post-Monitor when he was through with it but now, since there is so much good stuff in the Post Monitor, he doesn't turn loose of his copy any more. Please sign me up as a Life Member of the AFTAC Alumni Association.

Chuck Butler, Bob Fernandes, and I were in the first draft of thirty "B" troops assigned to the 1009 in February 1949. We three made a career of AFTAC. Keep up the good work. Sincerely,

Ed Gardiner editors - thanks for the good words about the Post-Monitor, Ed...We appreciate that and so do the people that write the articles and give us such great support (scanning, reviewing, etc.); 1949, wow, how neat to be in the initial cadre

Roseville, CA

Enclosed are my 1998 dues. Absolutely enjoy reading the Post-Monitor and keeping up with AFTAC and those of us now in the "old-timers" category.

Al Spicci editors - thanks for the kind words, Al

Berkeley Springs, WV

Hi Gang,

Just a short note to say hi and send you our Lifetime Dues. Sorry we're late with the payment but since **Denny** retired in May it has been a big adjustment, as all of you well know. We headed out west to travel for several months and then we bought a house which really keeps us busy. Our new address is:

Dennis and Vicki Corbiser, Route 4, Box 492F, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411 - Phone, 304-258-8042

If any of you get up this way, please call or stop by, we're only two miles from I-70 at Hancock MD. We would love to have you visit and we hope to come your way sometime this summer.

Vicki and Denny Corbiser editors - so good to hear from you guys, and although we do not normally list writers addresses and phone #s.,the way your letter was written it seemed appropriate

Denver, CO

4/9/97

Dear Mary Welch

Per your long ago request, I've finally gotten around to sorting through my notes regarding the AFTAC display in Encampment.

At first I couldn't believe that this all started seven years ago and only by chance! It probably would not have come about except from the constant urging of my daughter, Mary. She is a high school science teacher and dedicated to promoting interest in science.

My correspondence file includes some twenty personnel in eight states and over 100 letters asking for information, equipment or funds for the museum and of course our numerous exchanges.

As you well know, I am not laconic Please feel free to edit the enclosed treatise any way and as much as you like. I doubt that anyone will be interested in reading three pages. Thank you again.

W. E. (Bill) Braukman editors - thank you for the information on the museum, and it was us who gave you this assignment several months ago. We have extracted some of the highlights earlier in this issue and will include all of the details in a later issue.



Important Dates

Association Board/Membership Meetings

All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. Meetings are scheduled (verify before coming) for the second Monday of each month (dates listed below):

WHEN: 1730 (5:30 PM)

WHERE: AFTAC HQ building

HOW: come to the lobby and a Board Member will meet, greet and escort

CALENDAR

September 1997

14th - 16th "50 Years of Long Range Detection" AFTAC Anniversary Celebration
(page one and the webpage)

October 1997

10th - Association Golf tournament/General Membership meeting/Election of Officers - Baytree Country Club - details inside, mark your calendar now

November 1997

10th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

December 1997

8th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

End of Month - Newsletter mailing

January 1998

12th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

February 1998

9th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

March 1998

9th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

End of Month - Newsletter mailing

April 1998

13th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

"Thanks for your readership and continuing support, may the sun shine on all your endeavors - see you next issue"



Shopping Center

Mail orders to: AFTAC Alumni Asc.

ATTN: Sales Staff

PO Box 254892

Patrick AFB FL, 32925-0892

Include additional \$3.00 for shipping and handling*

*no shipping and handling charged on logo pins

Thanks for your support!!

prepared by the editors from association minutes - also on webpage

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE (at publication)

ALUMNI PURCHASED

Logos are multi-colored

	Med	Lg	XL	XXL
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JACKETS (windbreakers), \$20

- Unlined/Royal Blue	2	2	4	2
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GOLF SHIRTS, with pocket, \$14

- Teal, dark	1	2	2	2
- Teal, sea	2	3	4	2
- Royal Blue	2	3	3	2
- Navy	2	4	4	3
- Red	1	3	3	1
- Maroon	2	3	4	1
- Jade	2	5	6	4
- White	2	4	4	2

T-Shirts, without pocket, \$7

- Sage	1	2	3	
- Jade	1	2	3	1
- Light Blue	1	2	3	1
- Royal Blue	1	2	4	2
- Navy	3	4	4	3
- Ash Gray	2	4	4	2
- Purple	1	2	2	
- Red	1	2	3	
- Fuchsia	1	1	3	

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

HATS - \$6 # Ceramic Mugs - \$7

- Green	12	Ceramic Mugs - \$7	7
- Gray	11	Bronze Coins - \$4	58
- Red	12	Logo Pins - \$3.25	~40
- Royal Blue	15	Logo Discs - \$5.50	~90
- Light Blue	15	Worldwide Directory (choice of cover photo) - \$25	
- Navy	15		

The following items were purchased by the Boosters Club and are also available-most say ALUMNUS (vs ALUMNI)

Sm	Lg	XL
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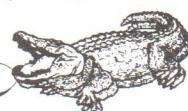
JACKETS, unlined/medium blue - \$20	2
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GOLF SHIRTS, Med. Blue/with pocket/white logo - \$14	17	13
--	----	----

GOLF SHIRTS, White/no pocket/multi-color logo - \$18	2
--	---

Hats, cotton - \$5 Med. blue 1	
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Alex sez ...



"YOUSE BETTER BITE ON THESE BARGAINS ..."

U.S. AIR FORCE



CONTENTS



NOTE: the web-like pound sign (#) identifies articles that are also featured on the association webpage - "cscihq.com/aftacalumni"

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Page 1 | - Command Section Welcome/Anniversary Celebration/Golf & Meeting |
| Page 2 | - Alumni Information (#) & Editorial |
| Page 3 | - Sage Salute/Anniversary "Must-do's" |
| Page 5 | - The LRD Series, "In the Beginning" Continues |
| Page 15 | - The Executive Board Writes |
| Page 16 | - Alumni to Remember/Letters |
| Page 19 | - Important Dates/Calendar (#)/Shopping Center (#) |
| Page 20 | - Contents - Address Label/Dues Due Notice |

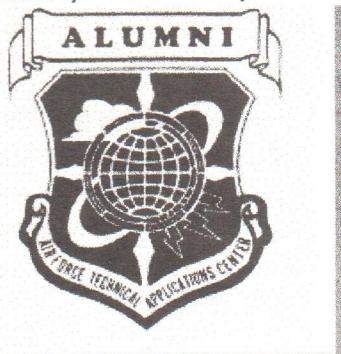
IMPORTANT NOTICE submitted by Swede Swansen, Publications - Please inform us of your new address when moving. The Postal Service doesn't forward newsletters, it sends us a postcard with your new address--postage due of course with an added fee. Those costs and the cost of reprinting newsletters are not included in your annual or lifetime dues. We feel it is fair to bill you to recover those costs. So, please advise us on your moves. Thank you.

Technical data - issue size, ~ 4mb, prepared on a Packard Bell 401CD (75MHz/8 & 850mb/14.4k/2xCD-ROM) pentium using MSPub95 software; printed on a Hewlett Packard DeskJet 682C; preparation/input/proofing time by the editors was ~ 80 enjoyable hours, a figure that does not include the unknown hours of preparation/typing/scanning/proofing by individual contributors/assistors on their articles/inputs

AFTAC Alumni Association
P.O Box 254892
Patrick AFB, Florida 32925-0892

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

The AFTAC Emblem symbolizes the unit and, when in color, contains the AF (blue and gold) as well as the national colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of AF operations; yellow, the sun and excellence of personnel. The globe indicates worldwide mission, locations and geophysical studies; the lightning and cloud depict study on natural phenomena and the compass points reflect the assigned tasks around the world. The rings around the globe symbolize electronic instrument readings and unity of purpose and display electronic measurements accomplished. The elliptical belt symbolizes the study of the atmosphere.



IN GOD WE still TRUST - ALL OTHERS, WE used to MONITOR!