

Air Force Weather Agency



Mission

The mission of Air Force Weather Agency is to arm our Nation's forces with essential air and space environmental intelligence, training, and technical services to ensure battlespace awareness and decision superiority - anytime, anywhere. AFWA is a Field Operating Agency, reporting to United States Air Force Director of Weather, Deputy Chief of Staff Air and Space Operations (USAF/A3O-W).

Personnel and Resources

AFWA manning consists of more than 950 active duty, reserve, civilian and contract personnel and is headquartered on Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. AFWA executes a \$175 million annual budget.

Organization

AFWA is organized into a headquarters element, consisting of staff agencies, five directorates, two subordinate centers, and five solar observatories.

The OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE (**XO**) directs the HQ AFWA scheduling and production of quality, worldwide, mission-tailored, terrestrial and space weather products 24-hours a day to meet the requirements of the President, Department of Defense, unified commands, combat forces of the Air Force and Army, and national intelligence community. This includes the DoD's only space weather analysis and forecast center.

The directorate oversees AFWA's back-up of five national centers: Aviation Weather Center; Storm Prediction Center; Washington Volcanic Ash Advisory Center; Space Environment Center; and the National Center for Environmental Prediction.

The COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION DIRECTORATE (**SC**) manages worldwide weather communications systems for Air Force Weather; ensures operational control and information assurance through the Network Operations and Security Center; tracks and assesses network activities and Time Compliance Network Orders; and manages the Information Assurance Awareness Program analyzing COMSEC, COMPUSEC, and EMSEC security standards. The SC also operates HQ AFWA's data processing resources, develops and maintains software running on HQ AFWA computer systems, and establishes and oversees information management policies and practices across AFWA.

The PLANS AND PROGRAMS DIRECTORATE (**XP**) Directs the planning, programming, budgeting, development, acquisition, engineering, configuration management, modification, installation, integration, logistics, and life cycle support of all standard weather systems and computer processing equipment.

The AIR AND SPACE SCIENCE DIRECTORATE (**DN**) directs efforts to improve the terrestrial and space weather information provided to Air Force, Army, and joint operations through exploitation of science and technology; implements new capabilities and products based on operational shortfalls; directs and coordinates Air Force Weather training initiatives and programs.

The OPERATIONS ANALYSIS DIRECTORATE (**OA**) provides technical guidance to the AFWA Commander and staff for policy development and staff functions related to planning, programming, integration and maintenance for Air Force Weather meteorological, communications and computer systems.

Subordinate Units

AIR FORCE COMBAT CLIMATOLOGY CENTER, located at Asheville, N. C., uses historical weather data to develop and produce special weather-impact information used in planning and executing worldwide military operations of the Department of Defense and allied nations and in engineering weapon system design and employment.

AIR FORCE COMBAT WEATHER CENTER, located at Hurlburt Field, Fla., develops, evaluates, exploits, and implements new tactics, techniques, procedures, and technologies across Air Force Weather to enhance the effectiveness of Air Force, Army, Special Forces, joint, and combined operations.

History

AFWA traces its heritage to the organization of the Meteorological Service of the Signal Corps during World War I. On July 1, 1937, the Secretary of War transferred responsibility for weather services to the Army Air Corps. The official lineage of AFWA began April 14, 1943, when the Army Air Forces organized and activated the Weather Wing, which quickly established itself at Asheville, N.C. In 1945, the Army Air Forces redesignated the Weather Wing the Army Air Forces Weather Service and in early 1946, the service moved to Langley Field, Va. On March 13, 1946, it was redesignated the Air Weather Service and assigned to the Air Transport Command, followed soon thereafter with a move to Gravelly Point, Va.

With the formation of the United States Air Force in 1947, Air Weather Service assumed the responsibility of worldwide weather reporting and forecasting for both the Air Force and the Army. In 1948, Air Weather Service moved to Andrews Air Force Base, Md., and was assigned to the newly activated Military Air Transport Service, which was later redesignated Military Airlift Command. Air Weather Service relocated to Scott Air Force Base, Ill., in 1958, where it remained for nearly four decades. The Air Force designated Air Weather Service a Field Operating Agency and re-assigned it to Headquarters United States Air Force, in 1991. On Oct. 15, 1997, Air Weather Service was redesignated the Air Force Weather Agency and relocated to Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Awards and Honors

2000 Air Force Association Theodore Van Karman Award

Air Force Organizational Excellence Award

May 1, 1984 - Apr. 30, 1986; May 1, 1986 - Apr. 30, 1988; Sep. 1, 1993 - Sep. 30, 1995; Oct. 1, 1995 - Sep. 30, 1996; Sep. 1, 1996 - Sep. 30, 1998; Oct. 1, 1998 - Sep. 30, 1999; Oct. 1, 1999 - Sep. 30, 2001; Oct. 1, 2001 - Sep. 30, 2003

World War II American Theater Service Streamer

Air Force Weather Agency Commanders

Col. John M. Lanicci	Jun. 2, 2004	Brig. Gen. Thomas A Aldrich	Jul. 30, 1973
Col. Charles L. Benson, Jr.	Aug. 5, 2002	Brig. Gen. William H. Best, Jr.	Jul. 27, 1970
Col. Robert H. Allen	Nov. 13, 2000	Maj. Gen. Russell K. Pierce, Jr.	Oct. 6, 1965
Col. Charles W. French	Sep. 25, 1998	Brig. Gen. Roy W. Nelson, Jr.	Mar. 13, 1963
Col. John L. Hayes	Oct. 15, 1997	Brig. Gen. Norman L. Peterson	Nov. 1, 1959
Col. Joseph D. Dushan	May 18, 1995	Maj. Gen. Harold H. Bassett	Nov. 13, 1958
Col. Frank J. Misciasci, Jr.	May 28, 1993	Col. Norman L. Peterson	Mar. 28, 1958
Col. George L. Frederick, Jr.	Mar. 21, 1991	Maj. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman, Jr.	Apr. 23, 1954
Brig. Gen. John J. Kelly, Jr.	Jul. 1, 1988	Maj. Gen. William O. Senter	Aug. 1, 1950
Brig. Gen. George E. Chapman	Jul. 30, 1982	Brig. Gen. Donald N. Yates	Jul. 1, 1945
Brig. Gen. Albert J. Kaehn, Jr.	Aug. 17, 1978	Col. James W. Twaddell, Jr.	Mar. 15, 1945
Brig. Gen. Berry W. Rowe	Aug. 6, 1975	Col. William O. Senter	Apr. 14, 1943
Brig. Gen. John W. Collens III	Feb. 15, 1974		