

4 WEATHER WING



MISSION

The 4 Weather Wing provided or arranged for aerospace environmental services and for technical advice on the effects of the environment on military systems and provide staff and operational support to North American Aerospace Defense Command, U.S. Space Command, Air Force Space Command, Air Force Systems Command, and U.S. Element NORAD, It managed the operation of worldwide solar observatories and insure that data are provided, as required, to supported agencies and to other Air Weather Service agencies as necessary. It provided procedural and technical guidance for all solar geophysical observing functions.

LINEAGE

4 Weather Wing established, 1 Jun 1959

Activated, 8 Aug 1959

Inactivated, 30 Jun 1972

Activated, 1 Oct 1983

STATIONS

Colorado Springs, CO

Ent AFB, CO, 26 Feb 1983

Peterson AFB, CO, 1 Oct 1983

ASSIGNMENTS

Air Weather Service, 8 Aug 1959

COMMANDERS

Col Kenneth A. Linder, 8 Aug 1959
Col Robert L. Sorey, Jun 1963
Col Robert R. Osborn, 16 Jul 1963
Col Richard M. Gill, 1 Aug 1963
Col Paul E. McAnally, 10 Aug 1967
Col Lewis J. Neyland, 22 Jan 1971
Inactive, 30 Jun 1972
Col Serhij Pilipowskyj, 1 Oct 1983
Col James K. Lavin, 1 Aug 1986
Col Gene J. Pfeffer, 26 Jun 1987
Col Charles H. Tracy, 16 Jun 1989

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
1 May 1966-30 Apr 1968

EMBLEM



The first emblem is symbolic of its mission to provide weather support for air defense activities. Against a background of deep blue to indicate the atmosphere and vast space (primary theater of Air Force Operations and weather phenomena), the North American continent is displayed to represent the North American Air Defense Command to which the

wing provides staff meteorological support and service. The sword pointing upward toward the potential enemy and the area of concern in weather support represents the armed defense force which is supported by the wing. The sun, the cloud, and the lightning bolt represent the basic natural forces considered in providing weather support. The sun's rays, associated with fair weather, also represent the peaceful goal of the air defense force, while the lightning, a symbol of foul weather, also represents the awesome and instantaneous striking power of the force which this wing supports. The emblem bears the Air Force colors of ultramarine blue and golden yellow, and the national colors of red, white, and blue. (Approved, 4 Jan 1959)

The second emblem is symbolic of the primary mission to provide atmospheric and solar weather support to air defense and space activities. The blue background indicates earth's atmosphere and deep space, the medium of the Air Force. The satellite represents the wing's mission to support the Space Command. The deltoids symbolize the wing's support to the broad range of research and development activities of the Air Force Systems Command, The sword is symbolic of the armed defense force supported by the wing and points to the sky, the shortest direct approach of a potential aggressor and the area of concern providing weather support. The sun, cloud, and lightning bolt are symbolic of the natural forces considered when providing weather support. The Air Force colors of ultramarine blue and golden yellow, and the national colors of red, white, and blue are used. (Approved, 18 Mar 1984)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

In addition to its headquartered staff in Bldg. 365 at Peterson AFB, the wing had headquarters offices at three other locations in the Peterson Complex. It has plans and program offices at USSPACECOM headquarters in Bldg. 1470 and AFSPACECOM headquarters in Bldg. 1. These offices provide staff weather support to their host headquarters.

4th Weather Wing managed the activities of 2nd Weather Squadron, the primary weather support squadron for AFSC. 4th WW had 16 detachments and seven operating locations worldwide. The detachments included the Air Force's network of solar observatories that provide solar flare alert notification and geophysical data. Solar flares causes disturbances in the Earth's space environment, affecting spacecraft and aerospace defense systems.

Det 1, Falcon AFB, CO

Det 2, South Hamilton, MA

Det 3, FPO Miami 34050

Det 4, South Hamilton, MA

Det 5, Hickam AFB, HI

Det 6, Peterson AFB, CO

Det 7, Falcon AFB, CO

Det 8, Brindisi, Italy

Det 9, Exmouth Australia

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.