



Assignment Dates

AFSC Job Title
Unit, Assignment Location

- 7/14/1966 to 11/15/1966

25230 Apprentice Weather Observer
Detachment 7, 24th Weather Squadron, Mather AFB, CA

Comments. Base weather station duties as assistant to the weather forecaster on duty. Operated the facsimile machine.
12/05/1966 - 03/15/1967: Attended 17-week Weather Observer course, ABR25231, Chanute AFB, IL. Class leader.
Graduated 2 weeks early.
- 4/6/1967 to 2/8/1969

25251 Weather Observer (Solar) then was re-designated as Solar Observer as assistant to the Solar Forecaster
Solar Forecast Center/AWS Space Environment Support System, NORAD Combat Operations Center, CO

Comments. Received, decoded, plotted, encoded and disseminated solar-geophysical information. Computed geomagnetic data, maintained graphic & pictorial solar displays; operated IBM 1130 computer system, card punch machine, O-47 tape to card machine, and teletype as part of SOFNET. Disseminated and provided solar and ionospheric reports via the teletype and telephone, especially including around the Great Solar Event of May 23, 1967/Solar Cycle 20 to and from the Solar Forecaster on duty.

Certain Defense information declassified in the early 1980s was made public in Aug. 2016, thanks to Dr. Delores Knipp who headed the research published in a Space Weather journal. We were on the brink of nuclear war with the Soviet Union on May 23, 1967, due to intense solar radio bursts which bracketed the frequency at which the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System radar sites operated at that time, resulting in a perceived jamming of those radar sites which was considered an act of war. Air Force nuclear-laden aircraft were immediately assembled and awaiting takeoff orders. Just in time, then-Capt. Arnold L. Snyder as the Solar Forecast Center duty forecaster on May 23, in conjunction with and in answering a concerning associated question from the adjoining weather detachment. provided the information needed to allow the planes to remain on the ground. I was blessed, honored and privileged to work alongside him and many associated Space Weather pioneers within the Solar Forecast Center at NORAD during 1967-1968.
- 3/22/1969 to 2/25/1970

25251 Weather Observer, Detachment NCOIC
OL 9, 11th Weather Squadron, 710th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron, Tin City AFS, AK

Comments. Promoted to SSgt at this site. Located on the Bering Strait. Additional assigned duties: Chaplain Representative, Disaster Planning Board, Building (Weather Station) Fire Warden, Security Post