BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER
ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE
INSTRUCTION 15-101

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Weather

WEATHER SUPPORT INSTRUCTION

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This instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive (DAFPD) 15-1, *Weather Operations; Air Force Manual* (AFMAN) 10-206, AFPD 11-2, *Aircrew Operations; Operational Reporting; Department of the Air Force Instruction* (DAFI) 10-2501, *Emergency Management Program; Robins Air Force Base Instruction 10-2, Emergency Management Plan*; *Air Force Handbook* (AFH) 11-203, Volume 1, *Weather for Aircrews; Department of the Air Force Manual* (AFMAN) 15-111 *Surface Weather Observations*; AFMAN 15-124, *Meteorological Codes*; DAFI 15-129, *Air and Space Weather Operations*; AFMAN 11-202, Volume 3*, Flight Operations*; AFMAN 13-204, Volume 3, *Air Traffic Control*; AFMAN 11-210, *Instrument Refresher Program; Radar, Airfield, and Weather Systems (RAWS) Restoral Maintenance memorandum*. This instruction establishes responsibilities and weather support procedures. It also provides general information for weather services, including weather observations and forecasts, weather warnings, watches, and advisories, space weather data, information dissemination, and base-wide reciprocal support. This instruction applies to units assigned to Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, 78th Air Base Wing, 116th Air Control Wing, 461st Air Control Wing, 5th Combat Communications Group, 339th Flight Test Squadron, subordinate units, 472d Electronic Combat Squadron, 53rd Combat Airfield Operations Squadron and units assigned, attached, or supported by Robins Air Force Base. This publication may be supplemented at any level, but all direct supplements must be routed to the OPR of this publication for coordination prior to certification and approval.

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This document is substantially revised and must be completely reviewed. Major changes include: change of weather operations governing document to DAFI 15-129, changing weather flight hours to match air traffic control hours, the removal of all mentions of E8 platform, adjusting TAF & MWP issuance times, the consolidation of 5 CCG and 53 CAOS under the 461 ACW, and the removal of integrated exercise support for non-78 ABW entities.

Chapter 1

WEATHER FLIGHT (WF) INTERACTIONS

1.1. General. The 78th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight (78 OSS/OSW) provides and/or arranges for weather support to the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC), Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex (WR-ALC), 78th Air Base Wing (78 ABW), 116th Air Control Wing (116 ACW), 461st Air Control Wing (461 ACW), 339th Flight Test Squadron (339 FLTS), 472d Electronic Combat Squadron (472 ECS), subordinate units, and units assigned, attached, or supported by Robins Air Force Base (AFB). The 78th OSS/OSW is commonly referred to as the Weather Flight (WF) throughout this document and is the focal point for all weather-related issues on Robins AFB. This instruction will be reviewed and revised no greater than biennially or in accordance with (IAW) host/parent unit procedures if the time is less than biennially.

1.1.1. **Documentation.** Weather Flight Leadership will develop, document and manage the Weather Support Document, parent/host and tenant organization support requirements to include, but not limited to: aviation selected special weather report (SPECI)/amendment criteria, WWA criteria, required lead-times, and notification requirements. (T-3)

1.2. Concept of Operations.

1.2.1. **Meteorological Watch (METWATCH).** METWATCH is a deliberate, continuous process for monitoring terrestrial weather or the space environment in an area or region. The purpose of a METWATCH is to identify when and where observed conditions significantly diverge from forecast conditions, determine courses of action to update or amend a forecast product or group of products, and notify designated agencies. The WF performs a continuous METWATCH for Robins AFB.

1.2.2. The WF is the primary source of tailored weather services in support of 78 ABW, 116 ACW, 461 ACW, 339 FLTS, 472 ECS, various headquarters elements, and transient aircrews. The WF will make every effort to ensure that mission-limiting weather is anticipated and exploited, and that safety and resource protection are maintained.

1.3. Responsibilities.

1.3.1. General responsibilities of the WF are outlined in DAFI 15-129.

1.3.1.1. The WF issues the Robins AFB Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) and will create Mission Weather Products (MWPs) that fuse theater scale products with local mission requirements to enable the direct inject of weather impacts into warfighter planning and/or execution. The WF will also provide flight weather briefings for the 116 ACW, 461 ACW, 339 FLTS, 472 ECS and transient aircrews IAW the WF duty priorities listed in **Table 1.1**.

1.3.1.2. For Air Mobility Command Weather briefings, Per DAFI 15-129, aircrews will obtain briefings from the 618 AOC (TACC)/XOW for Air Mobility Command missions.

1.4. Duty Priorities. IAW DAFI 15-129, the WF has created the following duty priorities. Flight personnel will use good judgment in complying with these duty priorities, especially when there is imminent danger to life and/or property.

Table 1.1. The 78 OSS/OSW Duty Priority Listing.

Priority	Duties
1	Wartime Defense of the Duty Site/Location
2	Perform WF Emergency War Order (EWO) Taskings (e.g., Deploy Personnel)
3	Execute Evacuation/Continuity of Operations Plan
4	Issue/Disseminate Imminent Hazardous Weather Warnings
5	Respond to Aircraft/Ground Emergencies
6	Issue/Disseminate Imminent Weather Advisories
7	Respond to PMSV Calls Supplementation/Backup
8	Disseminate Weather Observations
9	Disseminate Urgent PIREPs (UUAs)
10	Disseminate Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts
11	Provide Flight Weather Briefings
12	Collaborate WPs with Supported Units
13	METWATCH/Amend Weather Products
14	Respond to Support Assistance Requests (SARs) or Requests for Information
15	Provide Staff Briefings/Non-Standard WPs
16	Accomplish Weather Functional Training
17	Accomplish Administrative Tasks

1.5. Hours of Operation & Contact Information.

1.5.1. **Weather Flight.** Airfield and mission services are provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. WF services are on-call status during airfield closure (e.g. federal holidays/approved closures). Airfield and staff services are available during normal duty hours (0800L-1600L) or as coordinated.

1.5.1.1. During airfield closures, the WF Duty Forecaster (DF) is in on-call status, unless there is significant weather occurring or forecasted as laid out in **Table 2.7.**, scheduled missions or transient flights with a PPR. The DF will notify the Robins ATC Tower, Airfield Management Operations, and the Robins Command Post prior to going into on-call status and can be contacted via the 24/7 cell phone at (478) 960-8471.

1.5.2. Contact Information.

1.5.2.1. **WF: (** 478) 926-3573 / DSN 468-3573 / On call Cell (478) 960-8471

1.5.2.2. **WF Alternate Operating Location (AOL):** (478) 960 8471 / DSN 468-0516

Chapter 2

AIRFIELD WEATHER SERVICES

2.1. General. Airfield services include those actions that affect the Robins AFB aerodrome (defined within 5 statute miles of the airfield) or the base.

2.2. Observations. Per AFMAN 15-111, Robins AFB is an automated station, and observations will be taken and disseminated automatically by the AN/FMQ-19. The Duty Technician will only augment the automated system to supplement or back-up the AN/FMQ-19. Automated and augmentation processes are outlined in paragraphs **2.2.6** and **2.2.7**. The following types of observations are created and disseminated:

2.2.1. **Aviation Routine Weather Report (METAR).** The METAR is a routinely scheduled observation containing a complete report of wind, visibility, runway visual range, present weather and obscurations, sky condition, temperature, dew point, and altimeter setting collectively referred to as "the body of the report." In addition, encoded and/or plain language information that elaborates on data in the body of the report may be appended to the METAR. METARs are disseminated both locally and longline between H+55 to H+59 past the hour.

2.2.2. **Aviation Selected Special Weather Report (SPECI).** The SPECI is an unscheduled observation completed and transmitted when any of the Robins AFB special criteria listed in **Attachment 2** are observed. The SPECI will contain all elements found in a METAR plus additional remarks that elaborate on data in the body of the report. All SPECI reports will be prepared and transmitted as soon as possible after the relevant criteria are observed. **Attachment 4** contains an example of SPECI weather observation.

2.2.3. **Aviation Selected Local Weather Report (LOCAL).** LOCAL observations are unscheduled observations not meeting SPECI criteria. The WF will only take single element LOCALs for altimeter setting changes when the AN/FMQ-19's pressure sensor is inoperative. LOCAL observations are only transmitted to Robins AFB customers.

2.2.4. **Official Observing Points.** The location of the AN/FMQ-19 automated observing system is deemed as the official observing point at Robins AFB. During periods of observing augmentation, the observation site will be identified and marked appropriately.

2.2.5. Observing Point Limitations.

2.2.5.1. The AN/FMQ-19 sits at a lower elevation than surrounding terrain and fog may pool around the sensors making visibility readings unrepresentative.

2.2.5.2. Augmented observations taken from the observation point do not allow the observer to see the entire aerodrome. Ramp floodlights hamper observations at night, and buildings located 1/16 to 3/8 of a mile from the observation point obscure the western horizon. Lightning may not be seen due to distance, low clouds, or poor visibility. Thunder may not be heard because of flight line noise.

2.2.5.3. Augmented observations taken at the AOL are degraded because the view to the east is blocked by hangars and buildings.

2.2.6. **Automated AN/FMQ-19 Observation.** An automated observation is any observation having been evaluated, prepared, and transmitted by an observing system without human

intervention. In automated mode, the AN/FMQ-19 observing system will record and disseminate weather observations. The AN/FMQ-19 uses time averaging of sensor data. In an automated observation, sky condition will be an evaluation of sensor data gathered during the 30-minute period ending at the actual time of the observation. All other elements evaluated are based on sensor data that is within 10 minutes or less of the actual time of the observation.

2.2.7. **AN/FMQ-19 Augmentation.** Augmentation is the process of having certified weather personnel manually add or edit data to an observation generated by the AN/FMQ-19. Weather flight personnel are not required to augment the AN/FMQ-19 when the airfield is closed, except when tornadic activity is occurring or forecast to occur. The two augmentation processes used are supplementation and back up. The WF reserves the right to augment the AN/FMQ-19 based on sound Risk Management (RM) principles as they relate to safety of lives and resources.

2.2.7.1. **Supplementation.** Supplementation is the process of manually adding meteorological information to an observation generated by the AN/FMQ-19 that is beyond the system's capability to measure and report. For example, the AN/FMQ-19 cannot sense a tornado or hail.

2.2.7.2. **Supplementation Procedures.** Weather flight personnel will supplement observations when the airfield is open and the weather conditions in **Table 2.1** are observed.

Table 2.1. Mandatory Supplemental Weather Conditions for Robins AFB.

Summary of Mandatory Supplementary Weather Conditions – Body of Report (Note 1.)
Tornado (+**FC**) (Note 2) (Note 3)
Funnel Cloud (**FC**) (Note 2) (Note 3)
Waterspout (+**FC**) (Note 2) (Note 3)
Hail (**GR**) (>=1/4 inch hail only per local warning criteria)
Volcanic Ash (**VA**)
Ice Pellets (PL)
Mandatory Supplementary Weather Conditions - Remarks Section of Report (Note 1.)
Funnel Cloud **(Tornadic Activity _B/E(hh)mm LOC/DIR_(Mov))** (Note 2)
Snow Depth (Note 4) (only during airfield operation.)
Tower Visibility (Note 6)

NOTES:
1: *References for coding of augmentable weather conditions are in AFMAN 15-111 Chapter 13.*
2: *The immediate reporting of funnel clouds takes precedent over any other phenomena.* **3:** *Log on to AMOS and be prepared to supplement for tornadic activity anytime a weather watch or warning has been issued for the phenomena.*
4: *All Remarks and Additive Data references are provided in AFMAN 15-111 Attch.3.*
5: *Forecaster will initiate back-up procedures during periods of false freezing precipitation until the issue is properly corrected or conditions no longer warrant special consideration.* **6**: *Include a tower visibility remark in the next METAR or SPECI when either the surface*

prevailing visibility or the control tower visibility is less than 4 statute miles (6000 meters) and the control tower visibility differs from the surface prevailing visibility by a reportable value.

2.2.7.3. **Backup.** Backup is the process of manually providing meteorological data and/or dissemination of an AN/FMQ-19 generated observation when the primary automated method is not operational or unavailable due to sensor and/or communication failure.

2.2.7.4. **Backup Procedures.** In the event of AN/FMQ-19 malfunction or failure, back-up procedures will be implemented during airfield operating hours and/or if tornadic activity is occurring or forecast to occur. Weather flight personnel will use manual observing procedures when performing back-up operations. When backup of the AN/FMQ-19 is required, the WF will encode and disseminate METAR and SPECI observations IAW AFMAN 15-111, Table 3.1. When utilizing back-up equipment, all wind and pressure values must be estimated. Weather flight leadership has developed RM-based procedures beyond the standard back-up process outlined in AFMAN 15-111, and WF observers are authorized to make risk control decisions accordingly.

2.3. Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) Support. The Robins AFB TAF will be produced and disseminated by the WF IAW AFMAN 15-124, DAFI 15-129 and the Robins AFB Installation Data Page. TAFs are valid for 30 hours and are applicable to the area within 5 nautical miles of the Robins AFB Airport Reference Point, and are issued at 1100Z, 1900Z, and 0300Z. TAFs will not be produced when the airfield is closed. **Attachment 4** contains examples of the TAF format.

2.4. Resource Protection Support & Warnings, Watches and Advisories (WWA). Resource protection is accomplished by the WF. Watches and warnings provide advance notice of weather events posing a hazard to life or property. Advisories provide specific notice to an operational agency of environmental phenomena with the potential to impact operations. The goal is to provide the best possible resource protection to Robins AFB. If the WF is closed, a forecaster will remain on recall duty for resource protection actions. Customer responses to WWAs are listed in **Attachment 5**.

2.4.1. **Significant Weather Messages.** Significant weather messages are issued by the WF when WF leadership believes weather conditions warrant an additional level of preparation and a “heads up” above and beyond that provided by a watch, warning, or advisory. Examples of conditions requiring a WF significant weather message include a widespread threat of severe weather or the threat of freezing precipitation and/or snow.

2.4.2. **Tropical Weather Briefing.** Tropical Weather Briefings are issued by the WF when WF leadership, using National Hurricane Center (NHC) forecasts and guidance, believes a tropical system warrants an additional level of preparation. Briefings are emailed twice a day during an active tropical system and include satellite, NHC forecast cone, Robins AFB 5-day outlook, river flood stage, and impact assessment.

2.4.3. **Weather Watches.** A weather watch is a special weather notice sent to installation personnel/supported units that advises of a **potential** for environmental conditions of such intensity as to pose a hazard to life or property. They are used by installation key leaders and personnel/supported units to make force protection and risk management decisions. Watches are issued for a 5NM radius of the Robins AFB runway complex and are defined in **Table 2.2**.

Table 2.2. Weather Watches.

Criteria	Desired Lead Time
Tornado	As Potential Warrants
Severe Thunderstorm	
Damaging Winds (≥ 50 Knots) -AND/OR-	As Potential Warrants
Damaging Hail (≥ 3/4 Inch)	As Potential Warrants
Moderate Thunderstorm	
High Winds (≥ 35 Knots but < 50 Knots) -AND/OR-	As Potential Warrants
Large Hail (≥ 1/4 Inch but < 3/4 Inch)	As Potential Warrants
Tropical Storm Effects	
High Winds (≥ 33 Knots but < 64 Knots) -AND-	See Notes 1 & 2
Heavy Rain (≥ 2 Inches) -AND-	
Conditions for Tornadoes	
Hurricane Effects	
Damaging Winds (≥ 64 Knots) -AND-	See Notes 1 & 2
Heavy Rain (≥ 2 Inches) -AND-	
Conditions for Tornadoes	
Damaging Winds (≥ 50 Knots) – not associated w/ t-storms	As Potential Warrants
Strong Winds (≥ 35 Knots but LT 50 Knots) – not associated w/ t-storms	As Potential Warrants
Freezing Precipitation (Any Intensity)	As Potential Warrants
Heavy Snow (≥ ½ Inch Accumulation in 12 Hours)	As Potential Warrants
Heavy Rain (≥ 2 Inches Accumulation in 6 Hours)	As Potential Warrants
Lightning (Within 5 Nautical Miles of the airfield)	30 Minutes
NOTE: **1:** *Issued 72 hours in advance of the earliest predicted onset of 34 knots (Tropical Storm Effects) or 64 knots (Hurricane Effects) indicated by TC-TAP.* **2:** *Will remain valid until base has not been included in 34 or 64 knot wind thresholds on last 3 TC-TAP updates. Once issued, the only additional watch to be included is lightning.*	

2.4.4. **Weather Warnings.** A weather warning is a special notice to Robins Air Force Base personnel/supported units when an established weather condition of such intensity as to pose a hazard to life or property **is occurring or is expected to occur**. Weather warnings provide concise information outlining environmental threats and are used by commanders and personnel to make RP decisions and take protective action. Warnings are issued for a 5NM radius of the Robins AFB runway complex and are defined in **Table 2.3**. Deviations from the standard warning criteria and lead times located in DAFI 15-129 are based on Robins AFB requirements and have been coordinated with all Robins AFB customers.

Table 2.3. Weather Warnings.

Criteria	**Desired Lead Time**
Tornado	15 minutes
Severe Thunderstorm	
Damaging Winds (≥ 50 Knots) -AND/OR-	60 minutes
Damaging Hail (≥ 3/4 Inch)	60 minutes
Moderate Thunderstorm	
High Winds (≥ 35 Knots but < 50 Knots) -AND/OR-	60 minutes
Large Hail (≥ 1/4 Inch but < 3/4 Inch)	60 minutes
Tropical Storm Effects	
High Winds (≥ 33 Knots but < 64 Knots) -AND-	See Notes 1 & 2
Heavy Rain (≥ 2 Inches)	
Hurricane Effects	
Damaging Winds (≥ 64 Knots) -AND-	See Notes 1 & 2
Heavy Rain (≥ 2 Inches)	
Damaging Winds (≥ 50 Knots) – not associated w/ t-storms	60 minutes
Strong Winds (≥ 35 Knots but < 50 Knots) – not associated w/ t-storms	60 minutes
Freezing Precipitation (Any Intensity)	60 minutes
Heavy Snow (≥1/2 Inch Accumulation in 12 Hours)	60 minutes
Heavy Rain (≥2 Inches Accumulation in 6 Hours)	120 minutes
NOTE: **1:** *Issued no earlier than 50 hours in advance of the earliest predicted onset of 34 knots (Tropical Storm Effects) or 64 knots (Hurricane Effects) indicated by TC-TAP.* **2:** *Will remain valid until observations have consistently shown for 3 hours that tropical storm or hurricane conditions are no longer occurring. Once issued, the only*	

additional warnings to be included are lightning and tornado.	

2.4.5. **Observed Weather Warnings.** Lightning warnings are the only type of observed warnings issued for Robins AFB. A lightning warning is not issued until lightning is observed, either visually or via the FMQ-19, within a 5NM radius of the Robins AFB runway complex. The lightning warning will remain valid until lightning is no longer observed within 5NM for at least 15 minutes. Exception: A lightning warning will not be cancelled if a thunderstorm is within 5NM (as indicated on radar).

2.4.6. **Observed Weather Advisories.** Issued by the WF, observed weather advisories are special notices sent to supported customers alerting them that a predefined weather event, which may impact operations, is occurring on Robins AFB. Advisories are issued and cancelled as soon as the event is no longer occurring, except for lightning, crosswinds, and airframe frost, which must cease to occur for 15 minutes. Observed weather advisories can be found in **Table 2.4**.

Table 2.4. Observed Weather Advisories.

Criteria	Desired Lead Time
Lightning within 10 NM	Observed
Temperature < 20°F	Observed
Crosswinds ≥ 15 Knots (Not associated with Thunderstorms) [1]	Observed
Frost [2]	Observed
Fighter Index of Thermal Stress (FITS) Condition[3]	Observed

NOTE:
1: *Issued when crosswind reaches 15 knots and cancelled when crosswind drops below 15 knots for at least 15 consecutive minutes.*
2: *Issued when Frost is observed on any surface.*
3: *FITS is based and relative humidity and temperature. Use the FITS chart (Atch 1) and issue the advisory for **CAUTION** or **DANGER**. Cancel when criteria is no longer met. This will NOT be issued when the airfield is closed.*

2.4.7. **Forecast Weather Advisories.** Forecast weather advisories are special notices sent to supported customers that provide advance notice of a predefined weather event that may impact operations. Forecast advisories are issued for a 5NM radius from the center point of the Robins AFB runway complex. Forecast advisories, with their desired lead times, are contained in **Table 2.5**.

Table 2.5. Forecast Weather Advisories.

Criteria	Desired Lead Time
Freezing Temperatures (≤ 32°F)	4 hours
Winds ≥ 20 Knots but < 35 Knots	30 minutes

2.4.8. **WWA Numbering Scheme.** Advisories, watches, and warnings are numbered consecutively by identifying the type of weather message (watch, warning, or advisory) followed by a five-digit number. The first two numbers indicate the current month while the next three numbers indicate the sequence number. For example, the message "Weather Warning 02-005" means the month is February (02) and this is the fifth (005) warning issued in the month. The message "Weather Advisory 12-013" means the month is December (12) and this is the thirteenth (013) advisory issued in the month. Examples of different messages are contained in **Attachment 4**.

2.4.9. **WWA Upgrades/Downgrades.** WWAs will be upgraded (e.g., winds increase from 35 knots to 50 knots) or downgraded as required. Upgrades should meet the desired lead times specified in Tables **2.3** and **2.5**. Only one warning will be in effect at a given time (and may include multiple criteria) except for forecast tornado warnings and/or observed lightning warnings. Tornado and lightning will be separate warnings. Except tornado and lightning warnings, if a warning is issued for one criteria and it becomes necessary to warn for another criteria, a new warning and new number will be issued, to include all criteria expected. A separate valid time may be specified for each criteria if necessary.

2.4.10. **WWA Amendments.** When WWAs require a change, an amendment will be issued.

2.4.11. **WWA Extensions.** WWAs may be extended based on the forecaster's assessment.

2.4.12. **WWA Cancellation.** WWAs are cancelled when the weather phenomena are no longer occurring or expected to occur. WWAs not amended or cancelled will automatically expire at the end of the valid period. See paragraph **2.4.4 and 2.4.5** for specifics on crosswinds, airframe frost and lightning cancellation exception.

2.5. Dissemination Process.

2.5.1. **Observations.** Observations taken by either the AN/FMQ-19 automated observing system or the weather technician are disseminated via JET SCA. When JET SCA is non-operational, the WF will disseminate observations longline through BIFROST/AFWEBS. Locally, observations will be relayed by the WF to the following organizations when JET SCA is nonoperational (noted on a local dissemination log), in order of priority listed in **Table 2.6**.

Table 2.6. Notification Priority.

1. Robins Tower hotline
2. Robins Command Post, DSN 497-2612, Comm (478) 327-2612 **(As requested)**
3. Airfield Management Operations, DSN 468-2114, Comm (478) 926-2114 **(As requested)**
4. 116 Airfield Management, DSN 241-2461, Comm (478) 201-2461 **(As requested)**

2.5.1.1. All surface observations will be relayed in this format and order:

2.5.1.1.1. Type of observation/Time (e.g., METAR, SPECI, LOCAL).

2.5.1.1.2. Sky Condition.

2.5.1.1.3. Visibility/Present Weather.

2.5.1.1.4. Temp/Dew Point.

2.5.1.1.5. Winds (Direction in degrees magnetic and Speed).

2.5.1.1.6. Altimeter.

2.5.1.1.7. Remarks.

2.5.2. **TAFs.** The WF disseminates TAFs via BIFROST. If BIFROST is non-operational, the WF will disseminate the information locally if requested. When the TAF is unavailable, Robins AFB customers may reference WF-produced products (e.g., the current web-based aviation MEF) through the WF homepage.

2.5.3. **National Weather Service (NWS)-Issued Flood Watches and/or Warnings.** The WF, as applicable, monitors in real time, NWS-issued flash flood information for the Robins AFB area (Bibb & Houston Counties) as well as river flooding threats when the Ocmulgee River in Macon is forecasted to reach the Moderate Flood Stage of 26 ft. Data is accessible via a direct link on both the WF and installation Emergency Operations Center share-point sites. Additional information can be coordinated upon request.

2.5.3.1. **NWS-Issued Fire Watches and/or Warnings.** The WF, as applicable, monitors, NWS-issued fire information for the Robins AFB area (Bibb & Houston Counties). Data is accessible via a direct link on both the WF and installation Emergency Operations Center share-point sites.

2.5.4. **WWAs.** The WF will issue WWAs via BIFROST. After issuance, BIFROST will automatically send calls to Robins Tower, Robins Command Post, and AMOPS to ensure receipt. Upon receiving the watch, warning, or advisory information, the Robins Command Post will disseminate the information through Installation Warning System Emergency Notification System IAW AFMAN 10-207 and AFMC Guidance for operating Installation Warning System Alerts; and if inoperative, manual notification will be accomplished using Command Post weather Quick Reaction Checklists.

2.5.4.1. **Lightning Warnings.** All lightning warnings are redundant dissemination by the Robins Command Post to the base populace via the Giant Voice (GV) and allow members on base to be prepared for dangerous weather.

2.5.4.2. **Tornado Warnings.** The Robins Command Post has the sole responsibility to activate the Giant Voice/base siren when a tornado warning is issued. The Robins WF will provide a courtesy call to the Robins Command Post when a Tornado Warning is issued.

2.6. Cooperative Weather Watch (CWW). The WF and Robins Tower have established a CWW as required by AFMAN 13-204v3, *Air Traffic Control,* and AFMAN 15-111. The CWW is the process for Robins Tower personnel to report significant weather events or changes in weather conditions to the Duty Technician (DSN 468-3573) as outlined in **Chapter 4**.

2.6.1. The WF is responsible for developing/maintaining a CWW training that includes, but is not limited to:

2.6.1.1. Local weather conditions

2.6.1.2. PIREP reports

2.6.1.3. Procedures for Robins Tower personnel to determine prevailing visibility, report changes in tower prevailing visibility when less than 4 statute miles and differs from surface prevailing visibility, and any occurrence of previously unreported weather

conditions that could affect flight safety or be critical to the safety or efficiency of other local operations and resources.

2.6.2. The WF will train all Robins Tower personnel on the CWW program. Training will include a written evaluation with a minimum passing score of 80%. Training must be completed prior to the controller receiving their first position certification in the tower.

2.6.2.1. Document limited weather observation certifications for all Robins Tower personnel on AF IMT 3622, *Air Traffic Control/Weather Certification and Rating Record*.

2.6.3. The NCOIC, Air Traffic Control Training and Standardization (TSN) is responsible to develop CWW and tower visibility observation refresher training and administer an annual written evaluation for all Robins Tower personnel.

2.6.3.1. Document annual refresher training on DAF Form 1098, *Special Task Certification and Recurring Training*.

2.7. Phone Patch Support. Contact the duty forecaster (DF) at DSN 468-3573 or the Robins Command Post DSN 497-2612/Commercial (478) 327-2612 for phone patch. Local Flight Information Publication (FLIPs) also document procedures for in-flight aircrews to receive real-time weather information.

2.8. Emergency Action(s) Response.

2.8.1. **Aircraft Mishap.** When notified of an aircraft mishap, the WF will initiate a save of applicable data used in the development of any weather products provided and will give this data to investigating agencies upon request.

2.8.2. **Severe Weather Action Procedures (SWAP).** The WF will initiate SWAP in accordance with criteria listed in **Table 2.7 and IAW ASOP 02.** The DF will notify WF leadership of SWAP activation during normal staff duty hours. During non-duty hours, the WF standby forecaster may activate SWAP when conditions listed in **Table 2.7** have been met.

Table 2.7. Conditions Requiring SWAP Activation.

Weather Condition	Desired Notification / Activation Lead Time
1. One of the following Weather Watches is issued:	
Tornado	As potential warrants
Severe Thunderstorm (Winds > 50 Knots and/or Hail > ¾ Inch)	As potential warrants
Damaging Winds (≥ 50 Knots) – not associated with t-storms	As potential warrants
Freezing Precipitation (any intensity)	As potential warrants
Tropical Storm Effects/Hurricane Effects	See Notes 1& 2
2. One of the following Weather Warnings is issued:	
Tornado	15 minutes
Severe Thunderstorm (Winds > 50 Knots and/or Hail > ¾ Inch)	60 minutes
Damaging Winds (≥ 50 Knots) – not associated with t-storms	60 minutes
Freezing Precipitation (Any intensity)	60 minutes
Tropical Storm Effects/Hurricane Effects	See Notes 1& 2

3. One of the following weather watches or warnings is issued by the National Weather Service (NWS) or Storm Prediction Center (SPC) for Houston County:	
Tornado Watch/Warning	When Issued
Severe Thunderstorm Watch/Warning	When Issued
Any Winter-Weather Related Advisory, Warning, or Watch	When Issued
4. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, such as a communications line failure, or a critical equipment outage at either the OWS or WF, the WF will implement SWAP at the OWS's request.	
5. Any other event or situation that the Duty Technician deems necessary for notification.	
NOTE: **1:** *Issued no earlier than 50 hours in advance of the earliest predicted onset of 34 knots (Tropical Storm Effects) or 64 knots (Hurricane Effects) indicated by TC-TAP.* **2:** *Will remain valid until observations have consistently shown for 3 hours that tropical storm or hurricane conditions are no longer occurring. Once issued, the only additional warnings to be included are lightning and tornado.*	

2.8.3. **WF Forecaster Recall Requirements.** The WF forecaster will be notified/recalled under the following circumstances laid out in SSOP 08 and must report to duty within 30 minutes:

2.8.3.1. Any special mission arrives on station. AMOPS will notify the standby forecaster of any unplanned/changed special mission arrivals.

2.8.4. Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High-yield Explosive (CBRNE) Response.

2.8.4.1. If surface observations or alphanumeric forecasts are requested, make sure that observations and forecasts provided are representative of the location/time of the CBRNE event.

2.8.4.2. Work closely with Emergency Management or other functions to ensure the supported commander gets a consistent picture.

2.8.4.3. Upon request from Emergency Management or any other agency, obtain/provide Chemical Downwind Messages from BIFROST.

2.8.5. On call procedures

2.8.5.1. The WF will be in an On call posture during weekends and scheduled airfield closures. The standby forecaster will notify mission partners and get confirmation prior to the weather station closing/opening.

2.8.5.2. The WF will be opened prior to all arrivals and departures or scheduled flights. The duty forecaster will open/close in conjunction with ATC/OSAT personnel.

2.8.5.3. The Duty Forecaster will report to the weather station when the possibility exists for severe weather action plan (SWAP) criteria, any convective activity within 5NM, and lightning within 5NM.

2.8.5.4. For any airfield openings, Airfield Management Operations will notify the on-call forecaster as soon as possible via the 24/7 cell phone.

2.8.5.5. The standby forecaster can be reached using the 24/7 cell phone at (478) 960-847.

Chapter 3

MISSION INTEGRATION

3.1. General. The WF supports the Robins AFB flying and non-flying missions. This chapter identifies the flying and non-flying missions, and the weather support provided.

3.2. Flying Missions. The WF will provide weather support to the flying units listed in **Attachment 6**.

3.3. Mission Weather Products (MWPs). MWPs fuse theater scale products with local mission requirements enabling the direct injection of weather impacts into warfighter planning and/or execution. MWPs are tailored to individual customer requirements and include flight weather briefings, mission planning briefs, and any other weather products prepared to meet the needs of a supported unit. MWPs are developed using the Administrative and Operational Mission Execution Forecast Process outlined in DAFI 15-129 and supplemented by the WF's internal Mission Execution Forecast Process. The result is a product designed to provide timely, accurate, and relevant weather intelligence to various customers.

3.3.1. **Web-based Aviation Mission Execution Forecast (MEF).** The web-based aviation MEF is designed to provide critical go/no-go weather information for all phases of local flying customers' sorties within the state of Georgia (see **Attachment 7** for sample product). It includes Take-Off/Landing Data (TOLD), solar/lunar data, flight hazards, and flight level winds for supported customers' mission operating areas. The MEF is available through the WF share-point site: **https://usaf.dps.mil/teams/78thOSSWeatherFlightSharePoint/SitePages/EventPlanHome.aspx** (under "Aviation Weather" Page). In the event of a Local Area Network (LAN) outage, the MEF will be emailed to the appropriate flying squadrons.

3.3.1.1. **Issue Times.** The MEF will be issued during normal duty hours 1100Z, 1900Z, and 0300Z. The MEF will be issued when required during weekend closure/standby shifts.

3.3.1.2. **Amendments/Updates.** The MEF will be monitored continuously and updated as required. The MEF will be amended when the TOLD is out of category, a threshold changes and/or the Route/Orbit/AR forecast is no longer representative of current or forecasted conditions and could adversely impact the scheduled sortie.

3.3.1.3. **Formal Briefing.** Air crews will call the WF duty technician at DSN468-3573 to receive any updates to the MEF and gain a full understanding of expected weather impacts to their mission. Air crews will call no earlier than 120 minutes prior to departure and no later than 90 minutes before their designated take-off time to receive their briefing.

3.3.1.4. **Forecast Area.** The MEF encompasses the meteorological conditions for the state of Georgia split into four sections, NW GA, NE GA, SE GA, SW GA, with RAFB in the center. For missions outside the Georgia borders, flight crews must request a 175-1 for accurate forecasts for their route of flight.

3.3.2. **Flight Weather Briefings (175-1s).** Weather personnel will provide verbal or traditional flight weather briefings (DD Form 175-1, *Flight Weather Briefing*) to air crews as requested and in accordance with the flight's duty priorities as listed in **Table 1.1**. Briefings will be provided either at the weather station or via phone/email. **NOTE: Weather briefings**

are for official use only and will not be emailed to personnel email accounts. The WF requires two hours' advance notice of any briefing requests. The primary submission method is through AFW BIFROST, as a backup personnel can request DD 175-1s by calling DSN 468-3573.

3.3.2.1. Out-of-station mass briefings for special missions require 72 hours advance notice, are subject to staffing availability, and must be coordinated with weather flight leadership by phone (DSN 468-0992/5749/0383). Transient aircrews can receive flight weather briefings from the WF.

3.3.3. **Tropical Weather Message.** When tropical systems are anticipated to have an impact on Robins AFB, the WF will issue a tropical weather message. This statement provides three to five days advanced notice of potential storm impacts. Additionally, it contains all the latest information regarding the movement and forecast track of the storm, as well as the expected impact on Robins AFB. The tropical weather message will be provided via email to base leadership and will be updated as needed (usually once per day) or more frequently if directed by the Installation Commander.

3.3.3.1. **Tropical Cyclone-Threat Assessment Product (TC-TAP).** The 557th Weather Wing will issue a Tropical Cyclone-Threat Assessment Product (TC-TAP) for Robins AFB when the base is expected to receive sustained winds $\geq$ 35-knots during the next 96 hours as a result of a tropical cyclone. The TC-TAP is coordinated between the 557th WW and WF and will contain at a minimum the start and end time of 35 and 50 knot winds, the peak wind speeds expected, and the storm's closest point of approach to Robins AFB. DAFI 15-129 states that OWSs and WFs will not deviate from the official National Hurricane Center (NHC) forecast track or intensity but may tailor impacts to Robins AFB based on experience, training, and local terrain effects. If a TC-TAP is in effect, WF personnel will not deviate from the product when advising base leadership.

3.3.3.2. **Hurricane Briefings.** The WF will provide the most up-to-date weather briefings regarding any tropical cyclone activity anytime deemed necessary by the Crisis Action Team (CAT), Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and 78 ABW leadership. Additionally, the WF will provide weather briefings to the Robins AFB Mission Partner Senior Leadership, WR-ALC leadership, 116 ACW, 461 ACW, and 472 ECS upon request.

3.4. MISSIONWATCH. This is a deliberate process for monitoring terrestrial weather and/or the space environment for specific mission-limiting environmental factors. The WF's main tool to accomplish this task includes knowledge of flight schedules, tactics, and close contact with Operations Supervisor. Other meteorological and commercial data sources will be used to accomplish this task at the discretion of the Duty Technician. During rapidly changing weather, the WF will amend/update MWPs as required and contact the applicable agencies to pass on critical changes and recommend alternatives to exploit mission weather. Forecasters continually monitor the flight routes of each mission departing and returning to Robins AFB and will immediately notify the aircrew if weather develops in their route that was not previously briefed/forecast. The WF will perform flight and route MISSIONWATCH for transient flights departing Robins AFB that were briefed by WF personnel.

3.5. Post-Mission Analysis / Feedback. Per DAFI 15-129, units that regularly utilize weather support from the WF will provide post-mission/utilization feedback, when possible. Formal/informal feedback methods include:

3.5.1. Email and/or phone calls to the flight commander or flight chief.

3.5.2. Routing through the base mail system.

3.5.3. In-person feedback in conjunction with briefings.

3.6. Transient Aircrew Support. Weather technicians will provide or arrange for weather support for transient air crews IAW the duty priorities listed in **Table 1.1**. The WF will provide flight weather briefings (175-1s), and/or updates to air crews.

3.7. Non-Flying Missions. The WF provides timely resources and personnel protection (WWAs) to all of Team Robins. Specific support to non-flying missions is identified in **Chapter 4.**

3.7.1. Specialized weather information can be provided to support any DoW non-flying mission upon request. Weather information will not be released to non-DoW agencies or the general public without approval from the 78th ABW Public Affairs and 78 ABW/JA Legal office. Any questions/ clarifications will be coordinated through the WF commander and/or flight chief at (DSN 468-5749 or DSN 468-0992).

3.8. Space Weather Impacts. The WF provides space impacts on their MWPs. An example of the daily discussion is provided in **Attachment 8.**

Chapter 4

STAFF INTEGRATION

4.1. General. Staff integration functions are accomplished by WF leadership and include meteorological functions (briefings), ensuring the WF is trained and equipped for day-to-day operations, and cultivating relationships with base agencies to ensure WF support is optimal.

4.2. Staff Meteorological Functions. Staff meteorological integration functions aid leadership in identifying and understanding specific weather and environmental impacts. The WF is available to assist commanders in assessing weather support requirements and impacts to operations. Examples of staff meteorological functions provided are:

4.2.1. **Staff Briefings.** Staff weather briefings for 78 ABW, Robins AFB Mission Partner Senior Leadership, WR-ALC, 472 ECS, 116 ACW, and 461 ACW will be provided as requested. Standard information includes a surface analysis, satellite/radar image, and local five-day weather outlook. Briefing slides may be tailored to meet specific weather requirements.

4.2.2. **Installation Control Center (ICC) Briefings.** The WF will provide weather briefings as required during Crisis Action Team (CAT) / Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activations.

4.2.2.1. When the CAT and/or EOC are activated, the WF will receive notification via C2IMERA and AtHoc and will prepare a "standard" weather briefing consisting of local surface analysis, satellite/radar image, and five-day weather outlook. Specific requirements beyond these standard slides will be requested by the function being activated. This includes exercises, natural disasters, severe and/or tropical weather events, and deployment briefings.

4.2.3. **Instrument Refresher Course (IRC) Briefings.** The WF provides IRC briefings as required by course scheduling in accordance with AFMAN 11-210 (*Instrument Refresher Program)* and DAFI 15-129. The weather portion of the briefing consists of an overview of the WF's Airfield and Mission Services, WF capabilities and responsibilities, resource protection, seasonal/regional weather, and space weather impacts (when applicable). The WF requires host units to request these briefings on an as-needed basis.

4.2.4. **Pre-deployment Planning Briefings.** The WF will provide pre-deployment weather briefings as requested. Briefing content will be tailored to meet customer requirements. For example, an aviation unit will receive weather impacts at the deployed location on their flying mission, in addition to the standard surface weather information usually presented to ground units. A ground-based unit will receive a briefing on surface temperatures, wind speed, potential for blowing sand and dust, and precipitation.

4.2.5. **Climatology Services.** Upon request from an authorized agency, the WF will provide specific climatology data for Robins AFB and other locations. Requests may be made to WF leadership (DSN 468-0992/5749).

4.3. Staff Integration Functions. Weather flight leadership will make every effort to ensure that the unit is adequately resourced to meet both operational and staff requirements. In addition to leadership and management of unit activities, members will also function as a direct interface with

supported unit commanders and staff, and will provide direct support to command, control, and planning functions. Specific integration with base agencies is outlined below.

4.3.1. **Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command (HQ AFRC).** The WF will provide AFRC Crisis Action Team briefing support in the event AFRC/A3 cannot provide such support. The WF requires 48-hour advance notice for exercise support of this type.

4.3.2. **Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex (WR-ALC).** The WF will:

4.3.2.1. Provide technical advice on weather to support problems or requirements.

4.3.2.2. Will provide monthly climatology for Robins AFB when requested.

4.3.3. **78th Air Base Wing (78 ABW).** The WF will:

4.3.3.1. Where applicable, prepare the necessary weather annex/appendices for Robins AFB Contingency Plans.

4.3.3.2. Respond to aircraft mishaps as outlined in Robins AFB Installation Emergency Management Plan 10-2 (IEMP 10-2).

4.3.3.3. Assist in periodic exercises tailored to upcoming seasonal weather or other environmental concerns and educate base agencies on the purpose and applicability of weather watches, warnings, and advisories.

4.3.4. 7**78 CES/CEXM.** The WF will provide local weather data, chemical downwind messages, effective downwind messages, and/or upper air winds as requested. DAFI 10-2501, *Emergency Management (EM) Program*, outlines WF actions for major accidents, natural disasters, and incidents involving terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

4.3.4.1. In accordance with DAFI 10-2501, the WF will assist in developing Hazard Appendix 16.0 Natural Meteorological - IEMP 10-2.

4.3.4.2. In accordance with the 778th CEG Contingency Response Plan, the WF will contact CE Customer Service at DSN 468-5657 whenever surface temperatures are forecast to drop below 25 degrees Fahrenheit for more than four hours and below 15 degrees Fahrenheit for more than four hours.

4.3.4.3. In accordance with the IEMP 10-2, Hazard Appendix 16.2 Local Flood Actions, the OSS/OSW monitors real time data regarding NWS-issued flood watches/warnings for the Robins AFB area (Bibb & Houston Counties)

4.3.5. **78 LRS/LGRD.** The WF will provide weather information as requested by the Installation Deployment Officer (IDO) to support base exercises and real-world deployments. A minimum of three hours' notice is required to gather climatology for potential destinations.

4.3.6. **78 ABW/CP.** The WF will:

4.3.6.1. Notify the Robins Command Post whenever the base weather station is evacuated and/or the AOL is evacuated.

4.3.6.2. Coordinate with the Robins Command Post for weather-related GEN-12 and provide the Robins Command Post with any pertinent weather information.

4.3.6.3. Notify the Robins Command Post when BIFROST IWWC outages occur, requiring back up notification procedures.

4.3.7. **78 ABW/JA.** The WF will:

4.3.7.1. Refer all requests or subpoenas for weather information or records, including requests for WF response actions to severe/adverse weather causing damage or injury that may be associated with civil claims, FOIA requests, safety boards or court action to 78 ABW/JA.

4.3.8. **78 OSS/OSAT.** The WF will:

4.3.8.1. Participate in the CWW program (see **paragraph 2.6**.).

4.3.8.2. Provide notification of all forecasted weather watches, warnings, and advisories via Integrated Weather Warning Capability (IWWC), telephone, e-mail, or in-person during airfield hours of operations.

4.3.8.3. Notify Robins ATC Tower whenever the base weather station is closed, the duty technician goes on standby duty, and/or the base weather station is evacuated and moved to the AOL facility.

4.3.8.4. WF leadership will participate as a member of the Airfield Operations Board as directed in AFMAN 13-204v3.

4.3.8.5. Monitor the AN/FMQ-19 readings and perform RM based augmentation procedures and clearly defined duty priorities that include augmentation. In all cases, the highest priority will be flight safety.

4.3.8.6. Reevaluate the weather conditions whenever a reliable source (e.g. Robins Tower, pilots, local law enforcement, etc.) reports weather conditions different from the last disseminated observation (e.g. different ceiling height, visibility, present weather, etc.).

4.3.8.7. Relay PIREPs to Robins Tower considered significant to flight operations.

4.3.8.8. During back-up of the visibility sensor, use Robins Tower values of prevailing visibility as a guide in determining surface prevailing visibility when view is obstructed. The presence of a surface-based obscuration, uniformly distributed to heights above the level of the tower is sufficient reason to consider the weather unit's prevailing visibility to be the same as the control tower level.

4.3.8.9. Notify airfield leadership when continuous RVR reporting is needed during airfield closure hours to ensure the system is left on to properly report RVR conditions.

4.3.8.10. Notify Robins Tower when JET SCA, AN/FMQ-19 becomes inoperative and when winds are estimated.

4.3.8.11. Ensure personnel are in place with active TAF, and Observation before opening during a scheduled closure.

4.3.9. **78 OSS/OSAM.** The WF will provide notification of weather watches, warnings, and advisories via IWWC/telephone/or e-mail, and will notify AMOPs whenever the base weather station is closed, the duty technician goes on standby duty, and/or the base weather station is evacuated and moved to the AOL facility.

4.3.10. 461st Air Control Wing (461 ACW). The WF will:

4.3.10.1. Provide in-person briefings as manning allows, on request and with 48 hours' advance notice for the following 461 ACW functions:

4.3.10.1.1. Crisis Action Team Activations.

4.3.10.1.2. Higher Headquarters (HHQ) missions.

4.3.10.1.3. Exercises and inspections requiring WF support products.

4.3.10.1.4. Upon request, provide initial pre-deployment briefing, including a 5-day forecast for the location of interest for the 461st ACW and subordinate units located at Robins AFB. Additional weather support during the exercise will be as requested or coordinated.

4.3.10.1.5. Provide real-world deployment briefings as needed, 48-hour notification when possible.

4.3.11. 472 Electronic Combat Squadron (ECS)

4.3.11.1. Provide in-person briefings on request and with 48 hours' advance notice for the following BACN functions:

4.3.11.1.1. Crisis action team activation.

4.3.11.1.2. Higher Headquarters (HHQ) missions.

4.3.11.1.3. Exercises and inspections requiring WF support products.

4.3.11.2. Provide 175-1s as requested.

4.3.11.3. Provide a Flight Weather Forecaster, as manning allows, to work at the Operations Desk during active flying.

4.3.11.4. Provide training in utilization of AFW BIFROST operations user functions.

4.3.12. **All Supported Flying Units (472 ECS, 339 FLTS).** The WF will provide services as outlined throughout this publication.

4.3.13. **78 OSS/OSM.** The WF will:

4.3.13.1. Perform Monthly PMI on the TMQ-53, Micro Weather Sensor, IWOS and inform 78 OSS/OSM when maintenance is completed for tracking purposes.

4.4. Reciprocal Support.

4.4.1. **78 ABW/PA** will:

4.4.1.1. Coordinate tours of the base weather station by community groups and others with the Flight Commander (DSN 468-5749) or Flight Chief (DSN 468-0992).

4.4.1.2. When requested/needed, arrange for severe weather warnings to be displayed on base marquee systems.

4.4.1.3. When requested, provide approval of public release of weather information.

4.4.2. **78 OSS/OSAT** will:

4.4.2.1. Participate in the CWW Program (See **paragraph 2.6**.). Each Robins Tower member will be required to pass a written exam and receive an orientation of the weather facilities.

4.4.2.2. Notify WF when tower's prevailing visibility decreases to less than 4 statute miles or increases to 4 statute miles or more, and the tower prevailing visibility is different from the surface prevailing visibility.

4.4.2.3. Solicit aircrews for PIREPs, when able, and relay information to WF.

4.4.2.4. Notify WF if hail, tornado or funnel cloud is observed.

4.4.2.5. Report any other previously unreported meteorological condition that could affect flight safety or be critical to the efficiency of other local operations and resources to the WF.

4.4.2.6. Provide control tower orientation training for weather personnel.

4.4.2.7. Assist WF in disseminating weather information, as priorities permit, when evacuation of the Weather Station is directed.

4.4.2.8. Notify the WF of any scheduled Airfield closures.

4.4.3. **78 OSS/OSAM** will:

4.4.3.1. Notify the WF immediately of all aircraft emergencies, incidents, or accidents.

4.4.3.2. Notify the Weather Flight Chief or Flight Commander of all changes to published approach weather minimums at Robins AFB (published in FLIPs). The WF will provide amendments/updates to this document and update all internal SOPs based upon changes in the FLIPs.

4.4.3.3. Advise the WF of all changes in the active runway condition (e.g., wet or dry).

4.4.3.4. Contact the on-call DF when flying operations and Transient PPRs require.

4.4.3.5. Notify the on-call DF 478-960-8471 of changes to opening times during approved airfield closures.

4.4.4. **78 OSS/OSM** will:

4.4.4.1. Provide, coordinate, and/or arrange for the installation, maintenance, and repair of weather communication equipment except for that maintained by contract (e.g., JET SCA).

4.4.4.2. Notify responsible service agencies of outages.

4.4.4.3. Coordinate with off-base agencies to repair off-base communication lines.

4.4.4.4. Ensure a single 24-hour point of contact for reporting outages.

4.4.4.5. Maintain equipment, documentation, and technical orders for the following meteorological equipment:

4.4.4.5.1. Weather Surveillance Radar-1988, Doppler (WSR-88D).

4.4.4.5.2. Automated Observing System (AN/FMQ-19).

4.4.4.5.3. Tactical Meteorological System (TMOS/TMQ-53) documentation only.

4.4.4.5.4. Advanced Micro Weather Station (AMWS-625) documentation only.

4.4.4.6. Coordinate with the Duty Technician before any routine maintenance is performed on weather observing equipment (e.g., AN/FMQ-19, WSR-88D).

4.4.4.6.1. If maintenance on the AN/FMQ-19 requires liquid to be added to the rain gauge, record and report the amount of liquid to the Duty Technician.

4.4.4.6.2. Perform routine maintenance and cleaning of all AN/FMQ-19 sensors per prescribed periodic maintenance inspection (PMI) schedule.

4.4.4.6.3. Respond to equipment outages IAW **Table 5.2**. Equipment Restorative Priorities.

4.4.4.6.4. Will assist weather flight with site survey, power acquisition, and frequency allocation if supplemental TMQ-53 procedures are required during an FMQ-19 outage longer than 72 hours.

4.4.5. Robins AFB Command Post (78 ABW/CP) will:

4.4.5.1. Disseminate weather warnings, watches, and advisories according to local procedures.

4.4.5.2. Notify the WF when any other agency or credible source (e.g. Fire Department, Houston County Emergency Management, or Georgia State Patrol) reports a funnel cloud, tornado or any other significant weather event. Immediately activate the Giant Voice/base siren when a tornado warning has been issued by the WF.

4.4.5.3. Include the WF on their dissemination/notification list for any weather related OPREP-3s or incidents.

4.4.5.4. Back up BIFROST IWWC WWA outages with local base notification procedures.

4.4.5.5. Coordinate with the Weather Flight to add any requested units to the BIFROST automated notification system.

4.4.6. 78 ABW Communications Directorate (78 SC) will:

4.4.6.1. Provide, coordinate, and/or arrange for the installation, maintenance, and repair of weather communication circuits except for equipment maintained by contract.

4.4.7. **78 SFS Base Defense Operations Center (BDOC)** will promptly inform the WF of any hazardous weather (tornado, hail, winds, etc.) observed or reported by Security Forces personnel.

4.4.8. **78th Medical Group (78 MDG)** will conduct occupational and environmental monitoring IAW DAFI 48-151, Thermal Stress Program.

4.4.9. **78 ABW Staff Judge Advocate (ABW/JA)** will review all requests for weather information that are associated with civil claims or court cases and provide approval for public release of weather information.

4.4.10. 472 ECS, and 339 FLTS will:

4.4.10.1. Notify the DF of current and planned weather alternates and any special considerations affecting duration of tour (e.g., weather categories, exercise/deployment considerations, etc.)

4.4.10.2. For BACN HHQ missions, 472 ECS will relay information on details of route of flight, area of operations, and divert fields to the WF NLT 48 hours prior to mission take-off.

4.4.10.3. Notify the WF of required additional support as soon as it becomes known to include monitoring of alternate observations/forecasts and tracking of previously unspecified weather criteria.

4.4.10.4. Provide timely notification of changes to scheduled operations that affect weather support requirements as soon as changes are identified.

4.4.10.5. Provide the WF a weekly/daily flying schedule via fax, email, or webpage. At a minimum, the schedule must include take-off and landing times, orbit/route name and valid times, and flight level.

4.4.10.6. Provide PIREPS either directly to the WF via phone (DSN 468-3573) or PMSV (349.85) or through the Robins Tower. PIREPs will include the location and flight level of the aircraft, time of the observation, type of aircraft, and a description and the extent of meteorological elements. Conditions at takeoff, en-route, and upon arrival at the destination are requested.

4.4.10.7. Provide post-mission feedback to the WF for all missions, especially those considered non-effective due to weather. See **paragraph 3.5** for more details.

4.4.10.8. Include weather feedback link, via ICE, with other debrief forms.

4.4.10.9. Provide guidance (at least 2 weeks in advance) to the WF regarding any weather training/educational requirements (or changes in requirements), if applicable.

4.4.10.10. Coordinate with WF leadership to schedule in-person briefings for deploying aircrews, providing at least 48 hours' notice.

4.4.11. **Airfield Operations Flight Information Publication (FLIP) Manager.** The FLIP manager will submit FLIP updates provided by the WF to Air Force Flight Standards Agency/Operating Location-D (AFFSA/OL-D).

4.4.12. All Weather Support Recipients will:

4.4.12.1. Notify the WF of any problems with their BIFROST accounts.

4.4.12.2. Notify the WF when new weather support requirements are identified.

4.4.12.3. Coordinate changes/additions to weather support requirements as soon as possible.

4.4.12.4. Provide a minimum of 48-hour notice for known weather support requests entailing out-of-station support.

4.4.13. 461st Air Control Wing (461 ACW) will:

4.4.13.1. Provide 48hr advanced notice when requesting climatological and pre-deployment briefs.

Chapter 5

WEATHER EQUIPMENT

5.1. General. This chapter provides a brief description of the meteorological and communications equipment used by the WF. Additionally, it provides information on back-up systems, maintenance, and restoral priorities.

5.2. Meteorological Equipment. The WF uses advanced meteorological equipment to determine the current state of the atmosphere. These critical systems provide customers with the most timely, accurate and relevant weather intelligence possible.

5.2.1. **AN/FMQ-19.** The AN/FMQ-19 samples, measures, and reports: temperature, wind speed and direction, visibility, cloud base height and amount of coverage, pressure, liquid equivalent precipitation accumulation, ice accretion during freezing precipitation and lightning strikes. These measurements are processed to create properly formatted, fully automated observations that comply with applicable various reporting standards and protocols defined by the Federal Meteorological Handbook (FMH-1), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), National Weather Service (NWS), and military reporting standards.

5.2.2. **Radar.** The KJGX Radar Site is a DoW-owned Long Range NEXRAD Doppler Radar. This radar completes a 360º scan of multiple elevations every 6-12 minutes and images are produced with Gibson-Ridge (GR) Level 3 software. When the KJGX radar is inoperable, two nearby radars may be used for backup: Peachtree City (KFFC) and Valdosta (KVAX).

5.2.2.1. **Unit Radar Committee.** IAW DAFI 15-129 The weather flight supports an installation responsible for maintenance of the WSR-88D and issues host installation WWAs, therefore the WF is designated as the DAF representative/voting member on the URC (Unit radar committee) for the NEXRAD site in Jeffersonville GA.

5.2.2.1.1. The WF will attend, either virtually or in person, the URC meetings to address requirements and operational concerns.

5.2.2.2. **GIBSON-RIDGE (GR) Software.** The WF utilizes GR Software as its primary source of radar data. Weather technicians use the software to analyze complex radar signatures and obtain detailed information on storm intensity, movement, internal circulation, and general wind flow. Weather technicians will routinely incorporate the latest radar information into Mission Weather Products and Resource Protection actions. Back-up sources for radar are available through the Air Force Weather-Web Services (AFW-WEBS), NWS Forecast Office radar displays, the College of DuPage radar site, and Weather Tap websites.

5.2.3. **Lightning Detection.** Allison House provides the WF with national lightning data. Back-up sources of national lightning data are available through the Air Force Weather-Web Services (AFW-WEBS/BIFROST) and Lightning Maps websites.

5.2.4. **Kestrel Weather Sensor.** The Kestrel Weather Sensor is a hand-held device that provides temperature, dew point, wind speed/direction, and pressure readings. The Kestrel is the primary source of backup meteorological data during AN/FMQ-19 outages.

5.2.5. **TMQ-53 Tactical Meteorological Observation Station.** The TMQ-53 is a Tactical meteorological Station that can be palatized and deployed. The sensors samples, measures, and reports: temperature, wind speed and direction, visibility, cloud base height and amount of coverage, pressure, liquid equivalent precipitation accumulation, ice accretion during freezing precipitation and lightning strikes. In addition to being deployable, the TMQ-53 can be set up for home station AN/FMQ-19 backup.

5.2.6. **MWS-M625 Micro Weather Station.** The MWS-M625 is a rapidly deployable and movable weather station sensing temperature, pressure, humidity, precipitation, cloud ceiling, wind speed and direction, visibility, dust accumulation, and lightning.

5.3. Communications Equipment. The following systems form the backbone of the WF communications network.

5.3.1. **Joint Environmental Toolkit (JET) SCA.** As discussed in **paragraph 2.5**., JET SCA is the primary system for disseminating observations. When JET SCA is out-of-service, telephones are used to contact key aircraft controlling agencies.

5.3.2. **Phones/Hotlines.** Phones and direct lines are primarily used for rapidly passing along critical, time-sensitive information; but they also serve as a backup for passing along information when other dissemination systems fail.

5.3.3. **LAN.** The WF relies heavily on the local area network to guarantee the timeliness and accuracy of weather intelligence to its customers.

5.4. Maintenance. **Table 5.1** identifies which organizations provide preventive maintenance and repairs for weather and communications equipment.

Table 5.1. Equipment Maintenance.

Organization	Equipment
78 OSS/OSM (RAWS Maintenance)	AN/FMQ-19 / WSR-88D Radar
Program Management Offices	Fielded Systems
78 ABW/SC (Telephone Systems)	Phones/Hotlines
78 ABW/SC (Network Maintenance)	LAN/Internet Connectivity

5.4.1. **Restoral Priorities.** Per RAWS Restoral and Maintenance Procedures memorandum, the priorities for restoring critical systems exist in the event that a natural disaster or any other anomaly simultaneously impact systems base wide. Significant indicates a situation where the equipment is completely inoperative, while minimal means the equipment is in limited operation. The priorities for weather equipment are listed in **Table 5.2** (priorities may be adjusted based on forecasted weather):

Table 5.2. Equipment Restoral Priorities.

Equipment	Organization	Response Times Significant/Minimal
WSR-88D; AN/FMQ-19 (Wind, visibility, and ceiling sensors immediate, all others next duty day)	78 OSS/OSM	Immediate/Next duty day
LAN/Internet Connectivity/Phones/Hotlines	78 ABW/SC	12 hours

OHARI J. HEMPHILL, Colonel, USAF
Commander

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

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AFMAN 15-111, *Surface Weather Observations*, 12 March 2019

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

AFB—Air Force Base

AFFSA—Air Force Flight Standards Agency

AFMC—Air Force Materiel Command

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

AFTR—Air Force Training Records

AFWA—Air Force Weather Agency

AFW-WEBS—Air Force Weather-Web Services

AGL—Above Ground Level

AMOPS—Airfield Management Operations

AMOS—Automated Observing SystemAOL—Alternate Operating LocationAOR—Area of Responsibility

ATC—Air Traffic Control

BACN—Battlefield Airborne Communications Node

BWW—Basic Weather Watch

CAOS—Combat Airfield Operations Squadron

CAT—Crisis Action Team

CB—Cumulonimbus

CBRNE—Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High-yield Explosive

CC—Commander

CES—Civil Engineer Squadron

CONUS—Continental United States

CWW—Cooperative Weather Watch

DA—Density Altitude

DAFI—Department of the Air Force Instruction

DPC—Deployment Planning Cell

DSNT—Distant

EOC—Emergency Operations CenterESTMD—Estimated

EWO—Emergency War Order

FAA—Federal Aviation Administration

FITS—Fighter Index of Thermal Stress

FLIP—Flight Information Publication

FTU—Formal Training Unit

GPS—Global Positioning System

GR—Gibson-Ridge

GSU—Geographically Separated Unit

HF—High Frequency

IAW—In Accordance With

ICAO—International Civil Aviation Organization

ICC—Installation Control Center

IRC—Instrument Refresher Course

IWWC—Integrated Weather Warnings Capability

FRQ—Frequent

JET—Joint Environmental Toolkit

KT—Knots

LAN—Local Area Network

LRS—Logistics Readiness Squadron

LTG—Lightning

LWR—Lower

MEF—Mission Execution Forecast

MEFP—Mission Execution Forecast Process

METAR—Meteorological Terminal Aviation Routine Report

METCON—Meteorological Conference

METSAT—Meteorological Satellite

METWATCH—Meteorological Watch

MOV—Moving

MOVD—Moved

MWP—Mission Weather Product

NWS—National Weather Service

OHD—Overhead

OPS SUP—Operations Supervisor

OPR—Office of Primary Responsibility

OSA—Airfield Operations Flight

OSKX—Weapons and Tactics Branch, Contingency Operations

OSS—Operations Support Squadron

OWS—Operational Weather Squadron

PA—Public Affairs

PA—Pressure Altitude

PIREP—Pilot Report

PK WND—Peak Wind

PMSV—Pilot to Metro Services

POC—Point of Contact

RDS—Records Disposition Schedule

RVR—Runway Visual Range

RWY—Runway

SE—Safety Office

SFS—Security Forces Squadron

SM—Statute Mile

SOP—Standard Operating Procedure

SPECI—Special Weather Report

SWAP—Severe Weather Action Procedures

TACC—Tanker Airlift Control Center

TAF—Terminal Aerodrome Forecast

TCU—Towering Cumulus

TWR—Tower

UFN—Until Further Notice

UHF—Ultra High Frequency

UNKN—Unknown

VFR—Visual Flight Rules

VHF—Very High Frequency

VIS—Visibility

WF—Weather Flight

WMO—World Meteorological Organization

WSHFT—Wind Shift

Attachment 2

SPECIAL WEATHER OBSERVATION CRITERIA

A2.1. A Special weather observation will be taken and disseminated for the listed criteria: FLIP criteria updates may cause temporary changes to the reportable values listed below.

A2.1.1. **Visibility.** When the prevailing visibility decreases to less than or, if below, increases to equal or exceed any of the values listed below:

Table A2.1. Visibility Levels.

3 SM - AFMAN 15-111	**1 5/8 SM -** AFMAN 15-111/FLIP	**1 SM** - AFMAN 15-111/FLIP
2 3/4 SM - FLIP	**1 1/2 SM -** AFMAN 15-111/FLIP	**3/4 SM** - AFMAN 15-111/FLIP
2 SM - AFMAN 15-111/FLIP	**1 3/8 SM -** FLIP	**5/8 SM** - FLIP
1 7/8 SM - FLIP	**1 1/4 SM** - FLIP	**1/2 SM** - AFMAN 15-111/FLIP
1 3/4 SM - FLIP	**1 1/8** - FLIP	**1/4 SM** - AFMAN 15-111/FLIP

A2.1.2. **Ceiling.** When the ceiling forms or dissipates below, decreases to less than, or if below, increases to equal or exceed any of the values listed below:

Table A2.2. Ceiling Levels.

3000 ft - AFMAN 15-111	**600 ft** - FLIP
2000 ft - AFMAN 15-111	**500 ft** - AFMAN 15-111/ FLIP
1500 ft - AFMAN 15-111	**400 ft** - FLIP
1000 ft - AFMAN 15-111	**300 ft** - AFMAN 15-111
900 ft - FLIP	**200 ft -** AFMAN 15-111/FLIP
800 ft - AFMAN 15-111	**100 ft -** AFMAN 15-111/FLIP
700 ft - AFMAN 15-111/ FLIP	

A2.1.3. **Sky Condition.** A layer of clouds or obscuring phenomena aloft is observed below 900 ft and no layer aloft was reported below 900 ft in the previous METAR or SPECI.

A2.1.4. Wind.

A2.1.4.1. Wind Shift. Wind direction changes by 45 degrees or more in less than 15 minutes and the wind speed is 10 knots or more throughout the wind shift.

A2.1.4.2. Squall. A strong wind characterized by a sudden onset in which the wind speed increases at least 16 knots and is sustained at 22 knots or more for at least 1 minute.

A2.1.5. **Volcanic Ash.** Eruption or volcanic ash cloud first noted.

A2.1.6. Thunderstorm.

A2.1.6.1. Begins or ends. (A SPECI is not required to report the beginning of a new thunderstorm if one is currently reported.)

A2.1.7. Precipitation.

A2.1.7.1. Hail begins or ends.

A2.1.7.2. Freezing precipitation begins, ends, or changes intensity.

A2.1.7.3. Ice pellets begin, end, or change intensity.

A2.1.7.4. Any other type of precipitation begins or ends. **NOTE:** Except for freezing rain, freezing drizzle, hail, and ice pellets, a SPECI is not required for changes in type (e.g., drizzle changing to snow grains) or the beginning or ending of one type while another is in progress (e.g., snow changing to rain and snow).

A2.1.8. **Tornado, Funnel Cloud, or Waterspout.**

A2.1.8.1. Is observed and/or disappears from sight or ends.

A2.1.9. **Runway Visual Range (RVR).** The WF will provide RVR output according to the specifications listed in **Table A2.3**.

Table A2.3. RVR Reporting RVR for active runway decreases to less than or, if below, increases to equal or exceed:

6000 ft - AFMAN 15-111	**2000 ft** - AFMAN 15-111
5500 ft - FLIP	**1600 ft -** AFMAN 15-111
5000 ft - AFMAN 15-111/FLIP	**1200 ft -** AFMAN 15-111
4000 ft - AFMAN 15-111/FLIP	**1000 ft** - AFMAN 15-111
3500 ft - FLIP	**600 ft -** AFMAN 15-111
2400 ft - AFMAN 15-111/FLIP	**RVRNO -** AFMAN 15-111

A2.1.9.1. Prevailing visibility is first observed $\leq$ 1SM/1600 meters, and again when prevailing visibility goes above 1SM/1600 meters.

A2.1.9.2. RVR is first determined as unavailable (RVRNO) for the active runway, and when it is first determined that the "NO" report is no longer applicable, provided conditions for reporting RVR still exist. For example, if the active runway is 33, and the runway 33 visibility sensor is inoperative, the runway 15 sensor **may not** be used to back-up RVR. The RVRNO remark must be appended to column 13.

A2.1.10. **Upon Resumption of Observing Services.** Take, disseminate, and record a SPECI within 15 minutes after returning to duty following a break in observing coverage or augmentation if a METAR was not filed as scheduled during the preceding 15-minute period.

A2.1.11. **Aircraft Mishap.** When operating in back-up mode, a SPECI will be taken immediately following notification or sighting of an aircraft mishap at or near the observing location unless there has been an intervening observation. This SPECI will be identified by including (ACFT MSHP) in remarks on the AF IMT 3803/3813 only. This remark will not be transmitted locally or longline.

A2.1.12. Any other meteorological situation that, in the weather technician's opinion, is critical.

Attachment 3

TERMINAL AERODROME FORECAST (TAF) SPECIFICATION AND AMENDMENT CRITERIA

A3.1. Specification Criteria. The TAF will specify the time of occurrence, the duration, and the intensity (if applicable) of expected weather conditions. The following weather criteria will be specified in the TAF if expected to occur during the forecast period:

A3.1.1. Ceiling and/or visibility is forecast to decrease to less than, or if below, is forecast to equal or exceed any of the following levels:

Table A3.1. Ceiling/Visibility Forecast Levels.

Ceiling	Visibility	Category
≥ 2,000 FT	≥ 3 SM (4800 M)	E
< 2,000 FT but ≥ 1,000 FT	< 3 SM (4800 M) but ≥ 2 SM (3,200 M)	D
< 1,000 FT but ≥ 700 FT	< 3 SM (4800 M) but ≥ 2 SM (3,200 M)	C
< 700 FT but ≥ 200 FT	< 2 SM (3200 M) but ≥ 1/2 SM (800 M)	B
< 200 FT	< 1/2 SM (800 M)	A

A3.1.2. Wind:

A3.1.2.1. A change in wind speed of 10 knots or more.

A3.1.2.2. A change in the onset, duration, and intensity of wind gusts.

A3.1.2.3. A change in prevailing wind direction of more than 30 degrees when the predominant wind speed or gusts are expected to be more than 15 knots.

A3.1.3. Icing, not associated with thunderstorms, from the surface to 10,000 feet Above Ground Level (AGL).

A3.1.4. Turbulence (for Cat II aircraft), not associated with thunderstorms, from the surface to 10,000 feet AGL.

A3.1.5. Any weather warning criteria (that can be specified in the TAF) that is expected to occur during the forecast period (onset, duration, and intensity).

A3.1.6. Altimeter Setting. The onset of altimeter settings meeting or exceeding 31.00 INS or altimeter settings 28.00 INS or less. If less than the threshold specified when altimeter settings equal or exceed the thresholds, if greater than, specify when altimeter settings will decrease to equal or less than the thresholds.

A3.1.7. Any forecast weather advisory criteria (that can be specified in the TAF) that is expected to occur during the forecast period (onset, duration, and intensity).

A3.1.8. Thunderstorms (onset and duration).

A3.1.9. Temporary conditions (onset and duration).

A3.1.10. Changes to predominant conditions (onset, duration, and intensity, if applicable).

A3.2. Amendment Criteria. Forecasters will ensure the TAF is representative of expected or actual conditions. Forecasters will amend the TAF for the following:

A3.2.1. Temporary Conditions:

A3.2.1.1. Amend if temporary conditions become predominant.

A3.2.1.2. Amend if temporary conditions do not occur during the cardinal hour as forecast.

A3.2.1.3. Amend if temporary conditions are no longer expected to occur.

A3.2.2. Changes to Predominant Conditions (BECMG or FM group). Amend if forecast change conditions occur before the beginning of the specified period of change and are expected to persist, do not occur within 30 minutes after the specified time, or are no longer expected to occur.

A3.2.3. Representative Conditions. Amend if forecast conditions are not considered representative of existing or forecast conditions and amending the forecast improves safety, flight planning, operational efficiency, or assists in-flight aircraft.

A3.2.4. When the ceiling and/or visibility is observed, or later forecast, to increase to or exceed, or decrease to less than any of the levels listed in **Table A3.1** and was not specified in the TAF.

A3.2.5. Winds:

A3.2.5.1. If the difference between the predominant wind speed and the forecast wind speed is 10 knots or more.

A3.2.5.2. If wind gust speed is in error by 10 knots or more.

A3.2.5.3. If prevailing wind speed is in error by more than 30 degrees AND the winds are more than 15 knots.

A3.2.6. Icing, if beginning or ending of icing meets, exceeds, or decreases to less than moderate (or greater) intensity and was improperly specified in the forecast.

A3.2.7. Turbulence, if the beginning or ending of turbulence meets, exceeds, or decreases to less than moderate (or greater) intensity and was improperly specified in the forecast.

A3.2.8. Weather Warning Criteria.

A3.2.8.1. If weather warning criteria occurs, or is expected to occur, during the forecast period, but was not specified in the forecast.

A3.2.8.2. If weather warning criteria is specified in the forecast but is no longer expected to occur during the forecast period.

A3.2.9. Altimeter Setting.

A3.2.9.1. If the altimeter setting meets or exceeds, or if above, drops below 31.00 INS and was not specified in the forecast.

A3.2.9.2. If the altimeter setting drops below, or if below, increases to or above 28.00 INS and was not specified in the forecast.

A3.2.10. Forecast Weather Advisory Criteria (for amendable TAF criteria).

A3.2.10.1. If forecast weather advisory criteria occurs, or is expected to occur, during the forecast period, but was not specified in the forecast.

A3.2.10.2. If forecast weather advisory criteria is specified in the forecast but is no longer expected to occur during the forecast period.

A3.2.11. Thunderstorms. If the start or end time of the thunderstorm is incorrectly specified.

Attachment 4

SAMPLE WEATHER PRODUCT DISSEMINATION FORMAT/INTERPRETATION OBSERVATION/TAF/WWAS

A4.1. Sample Weather Observation.

Table A4.1. Sample Weather Observation.

1 2 **3** 4 **5** 6 **7** 8 **9**		
SPECI KWRB **221506Z** AUTO **17013G22KT** 2SM **RVRNO** TSRA **BKN015CB**		
09/08 **A2999** RMK AO2 TS OHD MOV NE		
10 **11** 12		
Body of Report and Remarks		
Group	Reference	Brief Description
Type of Report	A4.1.1.	Indicates type of report.
Station Identifier	A4.1.2.	A four-character group used to identify the observing location.
Date and Time of Report	A4.1.3.	Date and time of the report.
Report Modifier	A4.1.4.	A report modifier **(COR**) identifying report as a correction, or **AUTO** indicating the weather observation is a fully automated report with no human intervention.
Wind	A4.1.5.	Indicates wind direction and speed. Gusts are appended if available.
Visibility	A4.1.6.	Provides prevailing visibility from the designated point of observation in statute miles (CONUS) or meters (OCONUS).
Runway Visual Range	A4.1.7.	10-minute RVR or varying RVR in hundreds of feet or meters.
Present Weather	A4.1.8.	Any weather occurring at the observing location, obscurations to vision, or other phenomena.
Sky Condition	A4.1.9.	State of the sky in terms of sky cover, layers and heights, ceilings and obscurations.
Temperature and Dew Point	A4.1.10.	Measure of hotness/coldness of ambient air. Dew point measures saturation point temperature.
Altimeter	A4.1.11.	Indicates altitude above MSL of an aircraft on the ground.

Remarks	A4.1.12.	Remarks generally elaborate on parameters reported in the body of the report and will be included in all METAR and SPECI observations.

A4.1.1. **Type of Report.** METAR or SPECI.

A4.1.2. **Station identifier, also called the ICAO.** This code identifies the location of the observation (in this case Robins AFB).

A4.1.3. **Date and Time of Report.** This is in Zulu (GMT) of the last element of the observation.

A4.1.4. **Report Modifier.** The report modifier can be either of the following two elements:

A4.1.4.1. COR is entered into the report modifier group when a corrected METAR or SPECI is transmitted.

A4.1.4.2. AUTO identifies the report as a fully automated report with no human intervention.

A4.1.4.2.1. AUTO is automatically included in reports when the weather technician signs off the AMOS indicating the observations are no longer being augmented.

A4.1.4.2.2. AUTO and COR will not be seen in the same observation. If the term COR is used, the observation cannot be reported as AUTO, since a weather technician is manually correcting the observation.

A4.1.5. **Wind.** The true direction the wind is blowing from encoded in tens of degrees using three figures. Directions less than 100 degrees are preceded with a "0." The wind speed is entered as a two or three digit group immediately following the wind direction.

A4.1.5.1. **Gust.** The wind gust is encoded in two or three digits immediately following the wind speed. The wind gust is encoded in whole knots using the units and tens digits and, if required, the hundreds digit.

A4.1.5.2. **Variable Wind Direction (speeds 6 knots or less).** Variable wind direction with wind speed 6 knots or less may be encoded as VRB in place of the direction.

A4.1.5.3. **Variable Wind Direction (speeds greater than 6 knots).** Wind direction varying 60 degrees or more with wind speed greater than 6 knots will be encoded. The variable wind direction group will immediately follow the wind group. The directional variability will be encoded in a clockwise direction. For example, if the wind is variable from 180 degrees to 240 degrees at 10 knots, it would be encoded 21010KT 180V240.

A4.1.5.4. **Calm Wind.** Calm wind is encoded as 00000KT.

A4.1.6. **Visibility.** The furthest predominant distance (at least 50% of the aerodrome) seen from the airfield reported in statute miles (CONUS) or meters (OCONUS).

A4.1.7. **Runway Visual Range.** An instrumentally derived value that represents the horizontal distance a pilot can see down the runway. RVRNO indicates that RVR information is not available during periods when prevailing visibility is 1 mile (1600 meters) or less or RVR is 6,000 feet (1830 meters) or less.

A4.1.8. **Present weather.** Any weather phenomenon occurring on the airfield. This is mandatory anytime, the visibility is less than 7 miles. **Table A4.2** lists the present weather codes:

Table A4.2. Weather Phenomena Codes.

Qualifier	Weather Phenomena			
Intensity Or Proximity	Descriptor	Precipitation	Obscuration	Other
- Light	MI (Shallow)	DZ (Drizzle)	BR (Mist)	PO (Developed Dust/Sand Whirls)
Moderate	PR (Partial)	RA (Rain)	FG (Fog)	SQ (Squall)
+ Heavy	BC (Patches)	SN (Snow)	FU (Smoke)	FC (Funnel Cloud, Tornado, or Water Spout)
VC (Vicinity)	DR (Low Drifting)	SG (Snow Grains)	VA (Volcanic Ash)	SS (Sandstorm)
	BL (Blowing)	IC (Ice Crystals)	DU (Dust)	DS (Dust Storm)
	SH (Showers)	PL (Ice Pellets)	SA (Sand)	
	TS (Thunderstorms)	GR (Hail)	HZ (Haze)	
	FZ (Freezing)	GS (Small Hail or Snow Pellets)	PY (Spray)	
		UP (Unknown Precip)		

A4.1.9. **Sky Condition and Cloud Height.** Describes the amount of clouds present at the airfield and the base of each cloud deck. They fall into the following categories:

A4.1.9.1. SKC/CLR – Sky Clear.

A4.1.9.2. FEW – 1/8 to 2/8 coverage.

A4.1.9.3. SCT – Scattered; 3/8 to 4/8 coverage.

A4.1.9.4. BKN – Broken; 5/8 to 7/8 coverage.

A4.1.9.5. OVC – Overcast; 8/8 coverage.

A4.1.9.6. VV – Vertical visibility; normally used during heavy fog, indicates the distance that weather personnel can see vertically upward into the obscuring phenomena.

A4.1.9.7. FEW000 – Surface-based obscuration.

A4.1.9.8. **Cloud Height.** Three-digit number provides the height of the base of the cloud in hundreds of feet (e.g., 015 equals 1,500 feet). The CB and TCU descriptors may be appended to the cloud height to indicate the cloud is a cumulonimbus or towering cumulus.

A4.1.10. Temperature and Dew Point (in degrees Celsius).

A4.1.11. **Altimeter Setting.** The pressure value to which an aircraft altimeter scale is set so that the altimeter indicates the altitude above mean sea level of an aircraft on the ground at the location for which the value was determined. The altimeter is measured in inches (INS) of mercury.

A4.1.12. **Remarks. Table A4.3** contains some of the most commonly seen remarks in observations:

Table A4.3. Remarks Listing.

AO2—Automated sensor indicator
CB—Cumulonimbus
DSNT—Distant
ESTMD—Estimated
FROPA—Frontal Passage
LTG—Lightning
LWR—Lower
MOV—Moving
MOVD—Moved
OHD—Overhead
PK WND—Peak Wind
PRESFR—Pressure Falling Rapidly
PRESRR—Pressure Rapidly Rising
RWY—Runway
TCU—Towering Cumulus
TWR—Tower
UNKN—Unknown
VIS—Visibility
WSHFT—Wind Shift
PA—Pressure Altitude
DA—Density Altitude

A4.2. TAF.

Table A4.4. Sample TAF.

KWRB 0113/0219 31005KT 9999 SCT015 SCT250 QNH3015INS
BECMG 0117/0118 12010KT 4800 SHRA SCT010 BKN025 OVC080 QNH3005INS TEMPO 0119/0122 VRB10G20KT 1600 TSRA SCT008 BKN015CB OVC030 T24/0120Z T10/0210Z

A4.2.1. The forecast follows the same general format as the observation with the following exceptions noted:

A4.2.1.1. **Valid Date/Time.** Forecasts are valid for a 30-hour period. In this example, the forecast is valid from the 1st at 1300Z until the 2nd at 1900Z.

A4.2.1.2. BECMG – This is a code to indicate the predominant conditions will change to (or become) the conditions listed in the line of the forecast. The conditions will change during the time period that follows the BECMG code (1700 to 1800Z in the example above).

A4.2.1.3. TEMPO – This code means the conditions listed on the line may occur temporarily anytime between the time frame following the TEMPO code (1900Z to 2200Z in this example).

A4.2.1.4. **Max Temp/Min Temp.** T24 indicates a maximum temperature in Celsius to occur on the 1st at 20Z. T10 indicates a minimum temperature of 10 Celsius to occur on the 2nd at 10Z (**Note:** M indicates a minus sign in front of the number: M05 = -5 C).

A4.3. Weather Warnings, Watches, and Advisories (WWAs).

Table A4.5. Sample WWAs.

1. OBSERVED WEATHER WARNING.

ROBINS AFB WEATHER WARNING 05-001
VALID 17/1921Z (17/1421L) TO UFN
OBSERVED LIGHTNING IS OCCURRING WITHIN 5NM OF ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE

2. FORECASTED WEATHER WARNING.

ROBINS AFB WEATHER WARNING 11-051
VALID 10/1500Z (10/1000L) TO 10/2200Z (10/1700L)
SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS WITH HAIL ≥ ¾ IN. (FORECAST VALUE 1 IN.) AND DAMAGING WINDS ≥ 50 KTS (FORECAST VALUE 65 KTS) IS FORECAST TO OCCUR AT ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE.

3. WEATHER WATCH.

ROBINS AFB WEATHER WATCH 05-015
VALID 15/1858Z (15/1358L) TO 15/2100Z (15/1600L)
POTENTIAL FOR TORNADIC ACTIVITY EXISTS AT ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE.

4. OBSERVED WEATHER ADVISORY.

ROBINS AFB WEATHER ADVISORY 09-037
VALID 08/1408Z (08/0908L) TO UFN
OBSERVED TEMPERATURE < 20F EXISTS AT ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE.

5. FORECASTED WEATHER ADVISORY.

ROBINS AFB WEATHER ADVISORY 02-012
VALID 10/0500Z (10/0000L) TO 10/1400Z(10/0900L)
TEMPERATURE < 32F IS FORECAST TO OCCUR AT ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE.

Attachment 5

CUSTOMER RESPONSE MATRIX.

A5.1. Customer Response Matrix.

Table A5.1. Customer Response Matrix.

Weather Phenomena	Lead Time	Impact	Customer Action
Tornadoes	15 Minutes	Personal injury; equipment damage	Seek shelter; hangar or divert aircraft
Severe Winds (≥ 50 Knots)	60 Minutes	Personal injury; flight hazard; equip. damage	Seek shelter; hangar, tie down or divert aircraft; secure flight line
Hail ≥ 3/4 Inch	60 Minutes	Personal injury; equipment damage	Seek shelter; hangar or divert aircraft; secure flight line; protect/cover equipment
Moderate Winds (≥ 35 Knots but < 50 Knots)	60 Minutes	Flight hazard; equipment damage	Point aircraft into wind; space out or tie down aircraft; secure flight line
Hail ≥ 1/4 Inch but < 3/4 Inch	60 Minutes	Personal injury; equipment damage	Seek shelter; hangar or divert aircraft; secure flight line; protect/cover equipment
Freezing Precipitation (Any intensity)	60 Minutes	Delay or cease operations	Cease flying and maintenance operations
Heavy Snow (≥ 1/2 Inch Accumulation in 12 hours)	60 Minutes	Delay or cease operations	Prepare aircraft for de-icing; cease flight line operations; cease facility and grounds maintenance
Heavy Rain (≥ 2 Inches Accumulation in 6 hours)	2 Hours	Delay or cease operations	Cease flight line operations; cease facility and grounds maintenance
Freezing Temperatures (< 32° F)	4 Hours	Personnel hazard	Limit outdoor exposure
Lightning potential within 5 Nautical Miles (Weather Watch)	30 minutes	Personnel hazard; delay operations	Evacuate personnel from flight line; divert or hold aircraft. Cease all explosives operations at locations (outdoor and indoor) not equipped with an LPS. Begin preparations to cease all explosives operations at outdoor locations equipped with an LPS.
Winds ≥ 20 Knots but < 35 Knots	30 minutes	Personnel hazard	Secure flight line; limit exposure to upper parts of aircraft; maintainers will wear harnesses

Crosswinds ≥ 15 Knots (Not associated with T-storms)	Observed	Flight hazard	No touch-and-go landings; E-11As potentially diverted
Lighting observed within 5 Nautical Miles	Observed	Personnel hazard; delay operations	Evacuate personnel from flight line; divert or hold aircraft. Cease operations and provide personnel protection equivalent to PTR distance from explosives locations (indoor and outdoor, to include parked explosives-laden conveyances and flight-line PES locations) which do not have an LPS; this includes providing protection equivalent to PTR for all locations within the PTR arc of a facility which does not have an LPS. Cease all explosives operations at outdoor locations equipped with an LPS.
Lightning observed within 10 Nautical Miles	Observed	Personnel hazard; delay operations	Prepare flight line for lightning and high winds

Attachment 6

FLYING UNITS SUPPORTED & MISSION LIMITING ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

A6.1. Mission Limiting Thresholds.

Table A6.1. Flying Units Supported.

Organization	Mission
472 Electronic Combat Squadron (ECS)	The 472 ECS operates the Battlefield Airborne Communications Node (BACN) weapons system, which consists of the E-11A and its Payload Control Element. The system is a combat proven Command and Control enabler delivering rapidly deployable air-to-air and air-to-ground data and communications bridging, range extension, and waveform translation to the COCOM enhancing situational awareness and critical tactical datalink operations across disparate networks to the joint and coalition warfighter.
339th Flight Test Squadron (339 FLTS) (F-15, E-8, C-5, C-130, C-17)	The 339 FLTS determines F-15, C-5, C-130, and C-17 aircraft airworthiness following programmed depot maintenance. The unit recovers non-airworthy aircraft from worldwide locations and performs oversight of all WR-ALC systems testing. The unit plans and executes development and qualification test and evaluation missions and provides technical expertise to operational commands and aircraft industries worldwide.

A6.1.1. **Airframe-Specific Weather Limitations. Tables A6.2 – A6.10** provide the general airframe weather limitations for supported aircraft based on AFMAN 11-202V3, *Flight Operations* and the limitations from aircraft specific AFPD 11-2.

Table A6.2. USAF General Flight Rules Weather Limitations.

(Ref: AFMAN 11-202V3)		
Weather Condition	Impact	Customer Action
Cig/Vis < 2,000 / 3	Alternate required	Add fuel to allow divert
Cig/Vis < 1,000/ 2, if MAJCOM approved	Alternate required	Add fuel to allow divert
Cig/Vis < 500 / 2	Terminal not suitable for alternate	Select another alternate

Table A6.3. F-15 Weather Impacts—Limiting Weather Thresholds.

Take-off/Landing Limiting Criteria	
Weather Phenomena	**Flying Impact**
Lightning within 5 NM	No airfield operations

Crosswinds & sustained ≥ 35 knots	No take-offs or landings
VIS ≥ 3SM / CIG ≥ 3000 ft	Initial Functional Check Flight (FCF) Minimum
VIS ≥ 3SM / CIG ≥ 1500 ft	Subsequent FCF Minimum
Freezing Precipitation	No take-offs or landings
Mission/En Route Limiting Criteria	
Thunderstorms	Avoid by 20NM above FL250 Avoid by 10NM below FL250
Icing (MDT and greater)	May operate for short periods in MDT icing; Never Severe Icing
Turbulence (MDT and greater)	Avoid observed MDT/SVR Turbulence

Table A6.4. C-5 Weather Impacts—Limiting Weather Thresholds.

Take-off/Landing Limiting Criteria	
Weather Phenomena	**Flying Impact**
Lightning within 5 NM	No airfield operations
Crosswinds ≥ 27 knots	No take-offs or landings
VIS ≥ 3SM / CIG ≥ 1500 ft	Initial FCF Minimum
VIS ≥ 3SM / CIG ≥ 1000 ft	Subsequent FCF Minimum
Freezing Precipitation	No take-offs or landings
Mission/ En Route Limiting Criteria	
Weather Phenomena	**Flying Impact**
Thunderstorms	Avoid by 20NM above FL250 Avoid by 10NM below FL250
Icing (MDT and greater)	May operate for short periods in MDT icing; Never Severe Icing
Turbulence (MDT and greater)	May operate for short periods in MDT/Avoid SVR
Volcanic Ash	Pilots Shall not Fly into Regions of Known or Reported Volcanic Activity

Table A6.5. C-17 Weather Impacts—Limiting Weather Thresholds.

Take-off / Landing Limiting Criteria	
Weather Phenomena	**Flying Impact**
Lightning within 5 NM	No airfield operations
Crosswinds ≥ 27 knots	No take-offs or landings
VIS ≥ 3SM / CIG ≥ 1500 ft	Initial FCF Minimum
VIS ≥ 3SM / CIG ≥ 1000 ft	Subsequent FCF Minimum
Freezing Precipitation	No take-offs or landings
Mission/ En Route Limiting Criteria	
Weather Phenomena	**Flying Impact**
Thunderstorms	Avoid by 20NM above FL230 Avoid by 10NM below FL230
Icing (MDT and greater)	May operate for short periods in MDT icing; Never Severe Icing

Turbulence (MDT and greater)	May operate for short periods in MDT/Avoid SVR and MDT mountain wave

Table A6.6. C-130 Weather Impacts—Limiting Weather Thresholds.

Take-off / Landing Limiting Criteria	
Weather Phenomena	**Flying Impact**
Lightning within 5 NM	No airfield operations
Crosswinds ≥ 35 knots	No take-offs or landings
VIS ≥ 3SM / CIG ≥ 1500 ft	Initial FCF Minimum
VIS ≥ 3SM / CIG ≥ 1000 ft	Subsequent FCF Minimum
Freezing Precipitation	No take-offs or landings
Mission / En Route Limiting Criteria	
Weather Phenomena	**Flying Impact**
Thunderstorms	Avoid by 20NM above FL250 Avoid by 10NM below FL250
Icing (MDT and greater)	May operate for short periods in MDT icing; Never Severe Icing
Turbulence (MDT and greater)	May operate for short periods in MDT/Avoid SVR and MDT mountain wave

Table A6.7. E-11A Weather Impacts—Limiting Weather Thresholds.

E-11A Limiting Weather Thresholds	
Take-off Limiting Criteria	
Weather Phenomena	**Flying Impact**
Lightning within 10NM	Takeoff w/ 472 ECS/CC approval
RVR 1600 ft	Takeoff minimum (takeoff alternate required)
RVR 600 ft with centerline lighting	Takeoff minimum w/ OG/CC approval & HHQ mission (takeoff alternate required)
If RVR is unavailable at the airfield, then Takeoff WX must be above lowest approach minimums	
Crosswinds ≥ 29 knots	Maximum for all jets
Crosswinds ≥ 24 knots Crosswinds ≥ 22 knots Wind in any direction ≥ 50 knots	Maximum limit for takeoff in 9001 Maximum limit for landing in 9001
Freezing Precipitation (Rain or Drizzle) Heavy Rain showers RCR	No T/O if adhering to surfaces deice IAW 11-2E-11V3 Avoid by 5 Miles ≥ 10 can be waived by OG/CC to ≥ 7
Enroute Limiting Criteria	
Thunderstorms (9001 & 9355) All others	Avoid by 20NM at and above FL250 Avoid by 25NM below FL250 Avoid by 20NM
Icing	May operate for short periods in MDT icing Never operate in reported SVR icing

Turbulence	Vacate MDT turbc if encountered Never operate in forecast/reported SVR turbc
Heavy Rain showers	Avoid, no limit
Mission Limiting Criteria	
Icing (MDT and greater)	May operate for short periods in MDT icing Never in reported severe icing No low altitude operations
Turbulence (MDT and greater)	Exit via the most expeditious method possible Never SVR turbulence
Landing Limiting Criteria	
Thunderstorms within 10 NM	Land w/ 472 ECS/CC approval & no lightning w/in 5NM
100 HAT & RVR 1000 ft w/HUD	Precision Approach Minimum

Attachment 7

MISSION EXECUTION FORECAST EXAMPLE

A7.1. Mission Execution Forecast Example.

Figure A7.1. Mission Execution Forecast Example.

ROBINS AFB MISSION EXECUTION FORECAST

****PLEASE COMPLETE MISSION FEEDBACK ON WEBSITE AFTER EACH MISSION****

CALL 468-3573/4095 FOR A VERBAL BRIEFING PRIOR TO TAKE-OFF

DATE:	08 Apr 2024
VERSION:	08 A
ISSUE TIME:	08/0900Z
FORECASTER:	SSgt Vanbuskirk

I. ROBINS TAKE-OFF/LANDING DATA (TOLD)

TIME: 08Z	Sky Con	VIS	WX	ALSTG	PA (FT)	WIND DIRECTION	WIND SPEED	X/WIND S	T °C	DP °C	Remarks
08Z - 12Z	SCT250	7	NSW	3008	139	150	08	00	11	9	
12Z - 15Z	SCT250	7	NSW	3018	74	150	08	00	14	11	
15Z - 18Z	SCT250	7	NSW	3016	83	150	08	00	18	12	
18Z - 21Z	SCT250	7	NSW	3010	128	150	08	00	22	12	
21Z - 00Z	SCT250	7	NSW	3010	128	150	08	00	25	12	
00Z - 03Z	SCT250	7	NSW	3011	120	150	08	00	23	12	
03Z - 06Z	SCT250	7	NSW	3013	102	150	08	00	19	13	
06Z - 08Z	BKN200	7	NSW	3011	120	150	08	00	17	13	LGT TURB 005-015

LEGEND: CIG < 010; VIS < 1 | CIG > 010 BUT < 020; VIS ≥ 1 BUT < 3 | CIG > 020; VIS > 3 | Freezing Level: 120

AOR ZONES (225 NM)

CLIMB WINDS

SFC - FL020:	13016KT
FL 020 - 050:	13016KT
FL 050 - 100:	24016KT
FL 100 - 150:	28016KT
FL 150 - 200:	23030KT
FL 200 - 300:	23060KT

NOTES

SOLAR/LUNAR DATA (LOCAL)

SUNRISE:	7:13	SUN SET	######		
MOONRISE:	7:06	MOON SET:	######		
% ILLUMINATION:	1%	BMNT / EENT:	6:18	20:54	

SPACE WEATHER IMPACTS

HF	NONE
UHF	NONE
GPS	NONE

AOR ZONE CEILING FORECAST

Time:	NW	NE	SW	SE
11Z - 14Z	250BKN350	SCT250	SCT250	SCT250
14Z - 18Z	SCT110	SCT250	SCT250	SCT250
18Z - 22Z	SCT110	SCT250	SCT250	SCT250
22Z - 00Z	SCT110	SCT250	SCT250	SCT250

II. AOR HAZARDS (CAT II)

Hazard	Intensity	Levels / Location	Timing
TS	NONE		
LLTB	LGT	005-015 / CENTRAL GA	08/08Z - 08/12Z
ULTB	NONE		
LLIC	NONE		
ULIC	NONE		

AIRCREW MUST ENSURE COMPLETION OF A VERBAL WEATHER UPDATE WITH WEATHER TECHNICIAN INITIALS PRIOR TO TAKE-OFF

KWRB WX: DSN 468-3573 / COM 478-926-3573	BRIEF TIME:	AIRCREW INITIALS:
ALT #'S: DSN 468-4095 / COM 478-960-8471	REBRIEF TIME:	WX BRIEFER INITIALS:

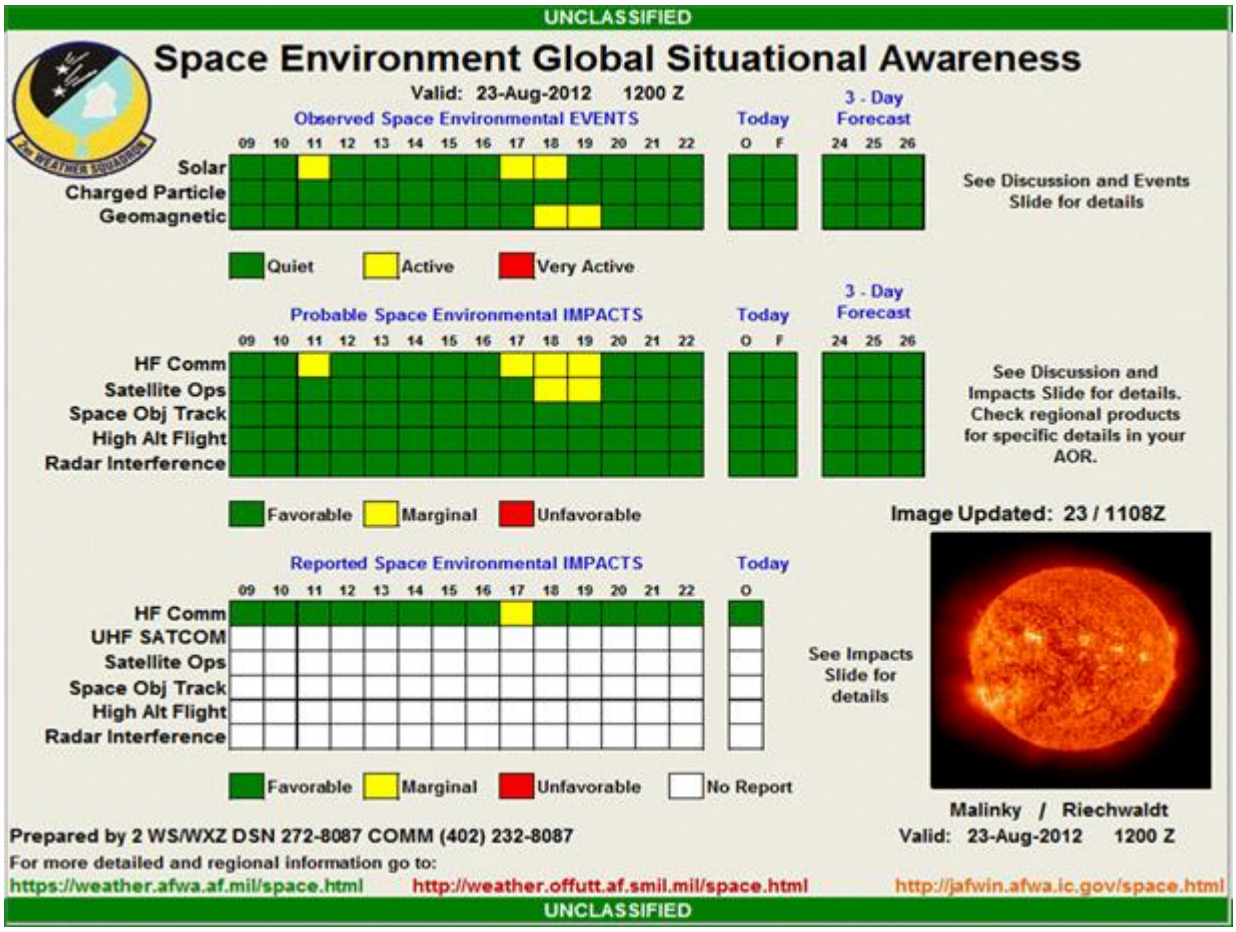
The 78th OSS/OSW provides continuous weather support for Robins Air Force Base with accurate and timely observations, forecasts, resource protection, and weather briefings to ensure success and safety of all base and flight operations

Attachment 8

SPACE WEATHER IMPACTS

A8.1. Space Weather Impacts.

Figure A8.1. Space Weather Impacts.



Attachment 9

RESOURCE PROTECTION AREA MAPS

A9.1. General. Most resource protection forecasts for Robins AFB are valid for 5 nautical miles from the center point of the runway complex. The area within the red ring on **Figure A9.1** below depicts this 5 nautical miles area. An observed thunderstorm advisory is valid for an area within 10 nautical miles of the airfield complex. This area is shown shaded in blue.

Figure A9.1. The 5 and 10 Nautical Mile (NM) Rings.