

# 17<sup>th</sup> OPERATIONAL WEATHER SQUADRON



## MISSION

### LINEAGE

17<sup>th</sup> Weather Squadron (Regional Control) constituted, 31 Aug 1942  
Activated, 18 Sep 1942  
Disbanded, 10 Feb 1945  
Reconstituted and redesignated 17<sup>th</sup> Weather Squadron, 24 Jul 1969  
Activated, 15 Jan 1970  
Inactivated, 30 Jun 1972  
Activated, 1 Apr 1980  
Inactivated, 30 Sep 1991  
Redesignated 17<sup>th</sup> Operational Weather Squadron, 12 Oct 2000  
Activated, 27 Oct 2000

### STATIONS

McClellan Field, CA, 18 Sep 1942  
Auckland, New Zealand, 22 Nov 1942  
Noumea, New Caledonia, 20 Jan 1943  
Hickam Field, Territory of HI, 29 Nov 1944  
Travis Air Force Base, CA, 15 Jan 1970  
Travis Air Force Base, CA, 1 Apr 1980  
Hickam Air Force Base, HI, 27 Oct 2000

### ASSIGNMENTS

Army Air Forces, 18 Sep 1942

United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, 20 Jan 1943  
Thirteenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1943  
United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, 20 Dec 1943  
Army Air Forces, Pacific Ocean Area, 1 Aug 1944  
1<sup>st</sup> Provisional Weather Group, 4 Sep 1944  
7<sup>th</sup> Weather Wing, 15 Jan 1970  
7<sup>th</sup> Weather Wing, 1 Apr 1980  
502<sup>nd</sup> Air Operations Group, 27 Oct 2000

## **COMMANDERS**

Cpt Ernest W. Ruppelt, 18 Sep 1942  
Cpt Claude N. Hall, 1943  
Maj Dewitt N. Morgan, Jun 1944  
Cpt Andrew G. Irick, Sep 1944  
LTC Anthony J. G. Timmermans, 15 Jan 1970  
LTC Roddee E. Lord (Temporary), 27 Nov 1970  
Col James E. Smith, 7 Dec 1970  
LTC Clarence A. B. Warfel, 1 Apr 1980  
LTC Bobby D. Underwood, 1 Jun 1981  
LTC Thomas K. Klein, 26 Jul 1982  
LTC Jerry E. Albrecht, 6 Jun 1983  
LTC Gerald J. Gayvert, 21 Jun 1985  
LTC Joseph J. Butchko, 1 Sep 1986

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater

### **Campaign Streamers**

None

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

None

### **Decorations**

None

## **EMBLEM**



The four stars and the blue background represent the Southern Cross constellation and the midnight sky, as observed in the area where the squadron is stationed. The red lightning flash against the yellow, sky denotes the sudden tropical storms common to that region. The white anemometer, the universal symbol of weather forecasting, depicts the squadron's function. (Approved, 8 July 1944)

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## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

The 17th Operational Weather Squadron at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, has completed its consolidation of weather units in the Pacific region with the recent inactivation of the 11th OWS at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. The 17th OWS began this consolidation, an effort designed to save money and manpower, in 2006, merging with the 20th OWS formerly at Yokota AB, Japan. Airmen of the 17th now provide all weather support for US Pacific Command, US Forces Korea, PACAF, US Army Pacific Command, PACOM Special Operations Component, and US Pacific Fleet.

Det 1, Tinker AFB OK  
Det 2, Travis AFB, CA  
Det 4, Altus AFB, OK  
Det 6, Hill AFB, UT  
Det 7, Kelly AFB, TX  
Det 8, McClellan AFB, CA  
Det 11, McChord AFB, WA  
Det 14, Norton AFB, CA  
Det 20, Little Rock AFB, AR  
Det 29, Buckley ANGB, CO

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Air Force Order of Battle  
Created: 29 Mar 2011  
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Sources

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