

SURF 'N TURF JUN 89

News

Geodetic Survey Group to mark 30 years of history

by Carol McCaig

The Geodetic Survey Group has been providing geodetic data for the testing development and operation of DoD weapons systems for the last 30 years.

Going through many name changes since its early beginnings, it evolved out of the old Detachment 1, 1373rd Mapping and Charting Squadron, 1370th Photomapping Wing, first at West Palm Beach AFB, Fla., then relocated to Orlando AFB, Fla., in 1958.

The organization acquired its "geodetic survey" distinction in 1959 when it became known as the 1381st Geodetic Survey Squadron (Missile). In those days, the unit's main function was to provide data for rapidly developing inter-

mediate range and intercontinental ballistic missile systems such as the Jupiter, Matador, Mace, Thor, Titan, Atlas and Minuteman.

The unit relocated in 1965 to its present home at F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming, a move that provided better access to its projects, in particular the Minuteman missile.

The unit's name was changed to the 1st Geodetic Survey Squadron and, eventually, it became known simply as the Geodetic Survey Squadron when it became part of the newly-formed Defense Mapping Agency in 1972.

On January 1 of this year, the Geodetic Survey Squadron became the Geodetic Survey Group when it was elevated organizationally to department-level status within the DMA Hydrographic/Topo-

graphic Center.

The group employs civilian, Air Force and Army personnel at F.E. Warren AFB as well as at four detachments serving Vandenberg AFB, Calif., White Sands Missile Range, N.M., Holloman AFB, N.M., and Patrick AFB, Fla. In addition, a 65-member division operates within DMAHTC facilities in Brookmont and two geodesists serve continuously at Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific Ocean's Marshall Islands.

The Group currently supports such weapons systems as the Peacekeeper, Peacekeeper Rail Garrison (Test), Small ICBM, B-1B Bomber, the Air and Sea launched Cruise Missiles, and U.S. Air Force fighter aircraft.

The Geodetic Survey Group will celebrate these thirty years of vital service to

the nation's defense June 15 and 16. Activities will include an open house, dinner, retreat ceremony, golf tournament and picnic.

All former members of the Geodetic Survey Group or its predecessor units are invited to participate in all events to help celebrate this important milestone in the unit's history.

If you know of people who have ever been assigned to the Group or its predecessors, please pass along an invitation for them to attend.

Contact Chief Master Sergeant Abraham at (307) 775-2806 or AUTOVON 481-2806, or Bob Wideman at (307) 775-2717 or AUTOVON 481-2717 to RSVP and make appropriate arrangements.