

BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE E. CHAPMAN

Retired July 1, 1988.

Brigadier General George E. Chapman is commander of the Air Weather Service, with headquarters at Scott Air Force Base, Ill. With a force of nearly 5,000 people, he manages a worldwide system of military weather and space environmental facilities, providing support to the Air Force, Army and designated Department of Defense agencies.

General Chapman was born in Detroit in 1934. He received a bachelor of science degree in meteorology from Texas A&M University in 1965 and a master of science degree in meteorology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1969, both through the Air Force Institute of Technology program. He graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va., in 1972; completed the Industrial College of the Armed Forces by correspondence in 1975; and graduated from the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., in 1978.

He enlisted in the Air Force in July 1952, and subsequently attained the rank of staff sergeant before he was commissioned through Officer Candidate School in September 1959. He then served as weather officer at Laredo Air Force Base, Texas, until 1963. During that assignment he was assigned on an extended temporary tour of duty at Point Mugu Naval Air Station, Calif., where he worked with the developing weather satellite program, known as Television Infrared Observation Satellite. Following graduation from Texas A&M University, General Chapman served as weather staff officer at Headquarters 3rd Air Force, South Ruislip Air Station, England, and as a director of the Air Force Weather Service's terminal forecast facility, assigned to support Department of Defense installations in the United Kingdom, from 1965 to 1968.

After completing his master's degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he served as staff meteorologist at the Space and Missile Systems Organization, Los Angeles Air Force Station, Calif. In 1970 the general was assigned to the Republic of Vietnam, and served initially at Headquarters 1st Weather Group, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, and then as commander of Detachment 18, 30th Weather Squadron, Cam Ranh Bay Air Base.

From July 1972 to June 1975, General Chapman was assigned to Air Weather Service headquarters as chief, Analysis Division, and as director of operational evaluation. He then commanded the 25th Weather Squadron, Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas, until 1977 when he entered the Air War College.

Following graduation in 1978, the general was assigned to Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C., Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Research, Development and Acquisition, with duty as acting chief of the Aeronautical Systems Division and as special assistant for the Airborne Early Warning and Control System. In the latter role, he served as U.S. government agent for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Airborne Early Warning and Control Program, and as the U.S. representative to the NATO Program Management Office Technical and Configuration Committee and Board of Directors' meetings in Brunssum, Netherlands.

In July 1980 the general transferred to the Air Force Global Weather Central, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., as vice commander and in June 1981 he became commander of the unit. He assumed his present command in July 1982.

General Chapman's military decorations and awards include the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster and Air Force Commendation Medal.

He was promoted to brigadier general June 1, 1985, with same date of rank.

(Current as of October 1985)