

COURTESY OF FELIX MCLARNEY



403rd Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance Wing
Colonel Richard L. Hall, Commander

Presents

**MOUNT ST. HELENS
AWARD CEREMONY
16 MAY 1981**

Hosted by

304th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron
Colonel Thomas M. Jones, Jr., Commander
Major Michael J. Peters, Deputy Commander of Operations

Portland International Airport
Oregon

PROGRAM

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| Presentation of Colors | United States Air Force Color Guard <i>Bolling Air Force Base</i> |
| Arrival of Distinguished Guests | |
| Presentation of the Command | Colonel Thomas M. Jones, Jr. <i>Commander, 304th ARRS</i> |
| Introduction of Distinguished Guests | Master Sergeant Felix J. McLarney <i>First Sergeant, 304th ARRS</i> |
| National Anthem | 560th Air Force Band <i>Washington Air National Guard</i> |
| Presentation of Air Medals | Major General Sidney S. Novaresi <i>Special Assistant to the Commander, USAFR</i> Major General Richard A. Miller <i>Adjutant General, State of Oregon</i> Colonel R. G. Mortensen <i>Vice Commander, HQ 4th AF (AFRES)</i> |
| Presentation of Air Force Commendation Medals | Colonel Richard L. Hall <i>Commander, 403rd RWRW</i> |
| Precision Drill Performance | United States Air Force Honor Guard <i>Bolling Air Force Base</i> |
| Retirement of Colors | United States Air Force Color Guard |
| Departure of Distinguished Guests | |
| Dismissal of the Command | Colonel Thomas M. Jones, Jr. |

The 304th Air Rescue and Recovery Squadron (ARRS) became actively involved in a significantly historical event on 18 May 1980 when Mount St. Helens, a 10,000 foot volcano in southwestern Washington erupted blowing 1,200 feet off its top. Bellowing a plume of steam and ash 63,000 feet into the air and laying waste to everything within a 150 square mile area, Mount St. Helens had blasted its way into history as one of the most devastating volcanic eruptions known to man. Within minutes of the eruption, in the shadow of such awesome destruction, Air Force Reserve helicopters from the 304th ARRS were in the air and the search for survivors was on!

During the next three weeks, the 304th, supported by the 303rd ARRS, March AFB, California and the 305th ARRS, Selfridge ANGB, Michigan, had literally added a new chapter to the book of rescue. In the face of unprecedented challenges, their performance was extraordinary. Their humanitarian efforts, reflecting professionalism, courage and dedication, resulted in 61 saved lives.

The heroic response of the military and civilian personnel of the 304th to the eruption of Mount St. Helens reflects great credit upon themselves, their families and the United States Air Force Reserve.

AIR MEDALS

Colonel (Dr.) F. H. Brunstetter
Colonel Fred D. Walker
Lieutenant Colonel Thomas M. Jones, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel Deon E. Schroeder
Lieutenant Colonel Harris M. Stabenau
Lieutenant Colonel Charles H. Weidman, Jr.
Major William R. Andresevic
Major Paul D. Bennett
Major Pinar Crane, Jr.
Major William E. Hewes
Major Waldo P. Libby, Jr.
Major David E. Mullen
Major Ivan Nash, III
Major William D. Peden
Major Michael J. Peters
Major John M. Poorman
Major Larry A. Schick
Major David K. Wendt
Major Eugene D. White
Captain Louis J. Budge
Captain Michael W. Everitt
Captain Gene E. Garton
Captain James E. Holloway, Jr.
Captain Dean H. Hoach
Captain Clinton W. Hyde
Captain Thomas J. Nolan, III
Captain James H. Partridge, III
Captain Edward K. Saffer
Captain Frederick B. Stovel
Captain Michael K. Sullivan
Captain Robert J. Weed
Captain Thomas D. Young
Captain David A. Ziegler
First Lieutenant Charles A. Orr
First Lieutenant Richard P. Rittenhouse
First Lieutenant Paul Villery, III
Second Lieutenant Daniel C. Schneider, Jr.
Senior Master Sergeant John T. Colgate

Senior Master Sergeant Ronald W. Visser
Master Sergeant Michael A. Cooney
Master Sergeant Lawrence L. Morris
Master Sergeant Patrick Y. Riggs
Master Sergeant Byron W. Smith
Master Sergeant Russell W. Stone
Master Sergeant Harry J. Swanson
Master Sergeant Lawrence E. Vuk
Technical Sergeant Lancer V. Bettercourt
Technical Sergeant Monte R. Binger
Technical Sergeant Philip L. Brady, III
Technical Sergeant Scott Denton
Technical Sergeant Earl E. Edwards
Technical Sergeant Charles R. Ek
Technical Sergeant Richard M. Eselgroth, Jr.
Technical Sergeant Henry M. Gaunt
Technical Sergeant Thomas C. Hundshamer
Technical Sergeant Michael R. Jones
Technical Sergeant James E. Masoy
Technical Sergeant William E. Miller
Technical Sergeant Michael A. Muechtig
Technical Sergeant Donald A. Schaefer
Technical Sergeant George L. Seltridge
Technical Sergeant David B. Ward
Technical Sergeant Frederick G. Williams
Technical Sergeant Steven D. Wofford
Technical Sergeant Joseph M. Zink
Staff Sergeant David L. Brewer
Staff Sergeant Robert M. Dean
Staff Sergeant Richard A. Harder
Staff Sergeant Mitchell E. Johnson
Staff Sergeant James R. Keup
Staff Sergeant Jeffrey L. Murphy
Staff Sergeant David W. Olsen
Staff Sergeant Edward E. Sims
Staff Sergeant David C. Veitch
Staff Sergeant Rickie A. Warner
Senior Airman Robert W. Weaver

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDALS

Chief Master Sergeant Leslie E. Dunbar
Senior Master Sergeant Norman N. Marttala
Master Sergeant Ronald J. Carpenter
Master Sergeant George F. Cruz
Master Sergeant Jerald J. Darnah
Master Sergeant Dale H. Emerson
Master Sergeant James T. Mathews
Master Sergeant James L. Mertens
Technical Sergeant Richard S. Barnett

Technical Sergeant Constance M. Buffa
Technical Sergeant James A. Bush
Technical Sergeant Donald L. Ehl
Technical Sergeant Arthur J. Feiglon
Technical Sergeant Wesley A. Lohman
Technical Sergeant Robert D. McCreery
Technical Sergeant William J. Porzel
Staff Sergeant Eric N. Marchant