

113th WEATHER FLIGHT

MISSION

LINEAGE

113th Weather Flight
Activated, 1959

STATIONS

Terre Haute, IN

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

LTC Mark Finley, #2011

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

As if there were an omen of sorts operating in the beginning of 1959, the 113th Weather Flight was activated at Hulman Field and new commanding officer Maj Dean Lenon, with Air Force Advisor MSgt Brown, were recruiting for two officer and twelve enlisted personnel to fill the slots. Then, as if Mother Nature wanted to test not only the character of the Weather Flight but of all the National Guard units in the State of Indiana, some of most severe weather in many

years struck the area. First came torrential rains, then freezing temperatures moved massive ice floes down the Wabash, cresting over dikes and levees, threatening bridges and roadways. The town of West Terre Haute faced the grave consequences of a rampaging Wabash River. At the end of five days of an intensive around-the-clock, back-breaking, bone-chilling fight with the elements, the worst was over. There were 80,000 sandbags, piled four to eight feet high, which stretched for more than a mile along the river's edge and south side of West Terre Haute. Civil Defense, Army Guard and Reserves, penitentiary inmates and Air National Guard members voluntarily fought the battle under direction and leadership of Major Myers and his staff. With the civilian leadership of Civil Defense Director Joe Lowe and the help of hundreds of business and community governmental agencies the afflicted area was saved from major losses of life and property.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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