

Snow Forecast in SFO

In 1967 and early 1968 I had the privilege of working with a fine, fine group of Navy weathermen (AG's) while stationed at Fleet Weather Central, Alameda. I am referring to the LDOs and AGCs who learned to ply their trade at 'B' School in Lakehurst.

I was standing the day watch on March 11, 1967. It had been determined that a cold core low located off of the Oregon coast was moving south on a 180 degree course and would pass to the west of the Bay area early the next a.m. All of us watch standers had been agreed on that movement for several days. Calling for rain, of course. So, about 24-hours prior, I changed the forecast from rain to snow flurries.

The oncoming watch section was LT ___ and AGCS ___. When they saw my snow forecast, they hooted, sneered and were downright ugly. I was only able leave for home after wagering \$2 with each of them. Oh, CLIMAT indicated that it had been 30 years since snow had been recorded at sea level in the Bay area.

It snowed that night.

On relieving the watch the next day, I hung up a poster entitled "ye olde forecast shoppe – p. grisham, prop." Sadly, I was forced to embarrass and further belittle the LT and CPO before they would pay up. {Names withheld – kinda}

Submitted by LT Paul O. Grisham, USN RET