

## WEST TEXAS COLLECTION

### National Weather Service of San Angelo Collection

24.5 linear feet

**Record ID:** A-20

**Donor:** National Weather Service of San Angelo

**Acquisition:** Gift

**Access:** Open for research

**Restrictions:** None

**Citation:** National Weather Service of San Angelo Collection, West Texas Collection, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX

#### **Administrative/Biographical History:**

The Weather Bureau opened its San Angelo office with six full-time employees on 31 October 1947 on the second floor of the Mathis Field terminal. The duties included issuing local weather forecasts, severe weather warnings for 14 West Texas counties, and recording manual weather observations 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. From June 1953 to July 1954 the staff was reduced to four employees who covered operations 16 hours a day.

On 23 June 1954 the first weather radar was installed at Mathis Field. This enabled the Bureau to resume 24 hour operations. The first weather radar used at the Weather Bureau in San Angelo was a World War II aircraft radar originally designed to locate targets during bombing runs. Known as the APS-2, this radar was considered surplus and sold to the Weather Bureau for \$1.

On 22 July 1965 the office was moved into a building south of the control tower. This would remain their home for the next 30 years. During those years the Weather Bureau was renamed the National Weather Service.

#### **Scope and Content:**

The collection includes ledgers which contain data compiled by the National Weather Bureau at Mathis Field from 1948-1988. Collection contains surface weather, observations, climatological data, and local climatological summaries with comparative survey. Information is arranged by year.