



NEWS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE • Environmental Science Services Administration

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A Message From Dr. White About ESSA News

I would like to see ESSA NEWS be a vital, interesting newsletter for the rapid dissemination of all types of information about our programs, our activities, and our people. Good communications among ourselves are essential if we are to understand what ESSA is attempting to accomplish and if we are all to feel part of our new venture. ESSA NEWS is not intended as a headquarters organ--although it serves for headquarters announcements. It is not intended as a catalogue of attendance at meetings, although such information is of interest and will be reported. It is not intended as the principal medium for communication of Government regulations, although they will be reported when they are of significance. It IS intended as your news organ to report on your activities, your accomplishments, on items of direct and immediate concern to you. I urge you to participate directly by providing news items and suggestions for items. ESSA NEWS correspondents have been designated at the Weather Bureau. Similar correspondents will soon be named at other ESSA components.

If there is any reasonable information or reasonable questions you want answered, write to the Editor, ESSA NEWS, and we'll try to provide the answers.

Let's make ESSA NEWS a journal you want and look forward to receiving.

Robert M. White

DR. WHITE TO ADDRESS TECHNOLOGY CONGRESS • Dr. Robert M. White is one of a number of distinguished speakers scheduled to address the International Congress on Air Technology, which is meeting at Hot Springs, Arkansas, from November 15 through 18. The four-day forum will be attended by nearly 1,000 of the world's foremost Government and industrial experts on winged aircraft technology. Secretary of Commerce John T. Connor will deliver the keynote address on the opening day of the symposium. On Thursday, Dr. White will speak on the subject, "Aviation and Its Flight Environment." ESSA representatives attending the Congress include DeVer Colson, Weather Bureau; Frank E. McClung, Coast and Geodetic Survey; Dr. Harold Crutcher, Environmental Data Service; and Ann Cook, ESSA Office of Public Information.

R&D MANAGEMENT GROUP ELECTS HAHN • Walter A. Hahn, ESSA Director of Planning and Program Evaluation, has been elected chairman of the College on Research and Development Management, a component of The Institute of Management Sciences. In this case, the term "college" denotes a community of interests. The College's activities are international in scope, including meetings, symposia, and publications on R&D management. Mr. Hahn has just completed a five-year term as a member of the conference committee of the National Conference on the Administration of Research, an annual invitational meeting of key research executives from Government, industrial, and university laboratories, which provides a forum for discussion of mutual problems in administration of science and engineering activities.

RETIREMENT ANNUITY INCREASE • The President has signed a bill which provides for the extension of the 8.1 percent increase in annuity benefits to employees who retire not later than December 30, 1965. An earlier bill granted the increase only to employees retiring on or before November 30. Employees whose retirement date falls between December 19 and December 30, 1965, will receive their lump-sum leave payment in calendar year 1966, and that payment will be taxable in calendar year 1966. The lump-sum payment to those who retire before December 19 will be paid and subject to calendar year 1965 taxes. Due to the number of retirements which will be handled at this time, there will be a delay in receipt of the initial annuity payment. Application for retirement, together with information regarding continuation of coverage under the Group Life Insurance and Health Benefit Plan, should be submitted as early as possible to Personnel Division, Room 224, Building No. 5, Washington Science Center.

SEAGOING WEATHER STATION BEGINS DEEP WATER TESTS • The ESSA Weather Bureau's first Marine Automatic Meteorological Observing Station (MAMOS) has been anchored in the Gulf of Mexico for engineering tests. MAMOS, an unmanned raft carrying a number of weather recording instruments, is designed to automatically report weather conditions to shore stations on a regular schedule and alert forecasters to storm conditions which might endanger populated areas of ships at sea. (A similar device--the Navy-operated NOMAD--gave the gulf coast area 24 hours' warning of hurricane Ethel in 1960.) MAMOS was moored on October 26, at a site approximately 150 miles southeast of Galveston, Texas, where the sea depth is 650 fathoms.

C&GS GEOPHYSICIST ON ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION • Douglas Elvers, an ESSA Coast and Geodetic Survey geophysicist, is scheduled to join the forthcoming Over-Snow Traverse in the Plateau region of Antarctica. The traverse party, composed of a number of scientists from various agencies, institutes, and universities, will travel over a 1,200-mile zig-zag course from the approximate center of the continent to approximately 80 degrees S. latitude and 40 degrees E. longitude. Mr. Elvers will make vector measurements of the earth's magnetic field at frequent intervals along the route and serve as the traverse navigator on this expedition sponsored by the National Science Foundation.

WEATHER PERSONNEL TRAIN AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA • Ten ESSA Weather Bureau employees are studying agricultural meteorology at the University of California during the current fall semester. Included in their full-time training programs are such courses as climatology, micrometeorology, statistics, soil science, plant physiology, pathology, and entomology. The employees are George Fugate, Sacramento; Benjamin M. Quattlebaum, Jacksonville; G. Alan Johnson, Lubbock, Tex.; Edward T. Sjoberg, St. Louis; Ronald Willis, Houghton Lake, Mich.; Robert E. Cardinal, Klamath Falls, Oreg.; George E. Start, Yakima, Wash.; Grayson V. Cordell, Great Falls, Mont.; Robert Vasek, Honolulu; and John Kline, Twin Falls, Idaho.

CONTRACT LET FOR GREAT LAKES ATMOSPHERE STUDY • Under an Institute for Atmospheric Sciences contract, the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory, Inc., of Buffalo, New York, has agreed to study interactions between the Great Lakes and the atmosphere. The firm will investigate snowstorms in the Great Lakes region which occur during outbreaks of cold polar-continental air across the unfrozen lakes, as part of a larger study which will provide the basis for evaluating the possibility of modifying these storms.

WMO SEMINAR TO BE HELD IN COSTA RICA • Gordon E. Dunn, the ESSA Weather Bureau's Chief Tropical Meteorologist at Miami, will serve as co-director of the World Meteorological Organization's Seminar on Aeronautical Meteorology in Latin America. Dr. Jose Colon (Meteorologist in Charge at San Juan) and Silvio Simplicio (of the Eastern Regional Office) will assist Mr. Dunn at the seminar, which will be held in San Jose, Costa Rica, from November 29 to December 18.

SYMPOSIUM ON ELECTROMAGNETIC SENSING FROM SATELLITES • An International Symposium on Electromagnetic Sensing of the Earth from Satellites will be held at Miami Beach from November 22 to 24. The symposium will include discussions on sensing of terrain, ocean surface properties, ice and snow, the atmosphere, and of atmospheric gases, clouds, and particulate matter. Among the various papers to be presented is one on cloud top and surface temperature soundings, co-authored by F. Saiedy of the University of Maryland and D.K. Wark and D.T. Hilleary of ESSA's National Environmental Satellite Center.

HURRICANE CONFERENCE • ESSA scientists will play a prominent role in the Fourth Technical Conference on Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology, which meets at Miami from November 22 to 24. Papers will be presented by R. Cecil Gentry, Harry F. Hawkins, Banner Miller, Stanley L. Rosenthal, M.A. Lateef, D.T. Rubsam, and Clark L. Smith, all of the National Hurricane Research Laboratory; by Harlan W. Davis and the staff of the Research Flight Facility; by Joanne Simpson and the staff of Project Stormfury; by Arnold Sugg of the National Hurricane Center; and by Chester P. Jelesnianski, Alexander Sadowski, Charles R. Holliday, Harold A. Bedient, Joseph Vederman, George

H. Hirata, Edmund J. Manning, L.W. Vanderman, William H. Haggard, Harold L. Crutcher, Georgia C. Whiting, Eugene W. Hoover, H. McClure Johnson, George W. Cry, Frank B. Lipps, Lester F. Hubert, M.A. Alaka, and Robert E. Lynde. Dr. D. Lee Harris, Gordon E. Dunn, Dr. Robert H. Simpson, and Dr. R. Cecil Gentry will serve as chairmen of various sessions.

DIRECTOR OF AVIATION AFFAIRS MAKES POLAR FLIGHT • N.A.

Lieurance, ESSA's Director of Aviation Affairs, served as an official scientific observer for a 40-hour round-the-world flight, which was scheduled to begin on November 14. Plans called for the Boeing 707 to depart from Honolulu and, flying at altitudes between 35,000 and 42,000 feet, take the Great Circle route over the Arctic to London, then to Buenos Aires, across the Antarctic continent to Christchurch, New Zealand, and back to Honolulu. The flight was sponsored by a non-profit organization to acquire scientific data around the world in a short space of time. Mr. Lieurance took air samples for CO₂ analysis, gathered ozone samples, photographed clouds, made observations of cloud tops, obtained wind and temperature profiles for the flight, took special observations of turbulence in jet stream areas, and evaluated weather services provided for the flight.

ABSENTEE VOTING, STATE OF TEXAS • Federal Employees who wish to cast absentee ballots in the 1966 elections in the State of Texas are advised by the Deputy Coordinator of the Federal Voting Assistance Program that they must either pay the poll tax, or register to vote for Federal offices only, by January 31, 1966.

PAY RAISES EFFECTIVE FROM OCTOBER 10 • The Federal Employees Salary Act of 1965, signed into law by President Johnson on October 29, will be effective retroactively to October 10. The legislation, among other things, provides a 3.6 percent pay increase for officers and employees paid under the General Schedule, including employees receiving a special rate under Section 504 of the Salary Reform Act of 1962, and those whose rates of compensation were fixed by administrative action and are not otherwise increased by the new law. Employees paid from ESSA headquarters received pay at the increased rates in their November 19 checks. Supplementary checks will be issued for the retroactive pay due. Other employees

will be advised by their payroll office as to when they will receive the increase. (Wage Board employees are specifically excluded from the provisions of the Act.) The new pay schedule is as follows:

FEDERAL CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

GRADE	PER ANNUM RATES AND STEPS									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
GS- 1...	\$3,507	\$3,626	\$3,745	\$3,864	\$3,983	\$4,102	\$4,221	\$4,340	\$4,459	\$4,578
GS- 2...	3,814	3,943	4,072	4,201	4,330	4,459	4,588	4,717	4,846	4,975
GS- 3...	4,149	4,289	4,429	4,569	4,709	4,849	4,989	5,129	5,269	5,409
GS- 4...	4,641	4,797	4,953	5,109	5,265	5,421	5,577	5,733	5,889	6,045
GS- 5...	5,181	5,352	5,523	5,694	5,865	6,036	6,207	6,378	6,549	6,720
GS- 6...	5,702	5,894	6,086	6,278	6,470	6,662	6,854	7,046	7,238	7,430
GS- 7...	6,269	6,476	6,683	6,890	7,097	7,304	7,511	7,718	7,925	8,132
GS- 8...	6,869	7,097	7,325	7,553	7,781	8,009	8,237	8,465	8,693	8,921
GS- 9...	7,479	7,733	7,987	8,241	8,495	8,749	9,003	9,257	9,511	9,765
GS-10...	8,184	8,464	8,744	9,024	9,304	9,584	9,864	10,144	10,424	10,704
GS-11...	8,961	9,267	9,573	9,879	10,185	10,491	10,797	11,103	11,409	11,715
GS-12...	10,619	10,987	11,355	11,723	12,091	12,459	12,827	13,195	13,563	13,931
GS-13...	12,510	12,945	13,380	13,815	14,250	14,685	15,120	15,555	15,990	16,425
GS-14...	14,680	15,188	15,696	16,204	16,712	17,220	17,728	18,236	18,744	19,252
GS-15...	17,055	17,645	18,235	18,825	19,415	20,005	20,595	21,185	21,775	22,365
GS-16...	19,619	20,297	20,975	21,653	22,331	23,009	23,687	24,365	25,043	.....
GS-17...	22,217	22,994	23,771	24,548	25,325	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
GS-18...	25,382	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Other provisions of the Act which will affect ESSA employees include the following:

Severance pay for regular employees with over one year's service who are separated through no fault of their own will be computed on the basis of one week's salary for each year of the first ten years of service, two week's salary for each year over ten, and an age adjustment allowance for each year over 40 years old.

General Schedule employees who are denied a within-grade increase because their level of competence is not acceptable will be able to appeal this supervisory determination to the Civil Service Commission.

To the maximum extent practicable, management is required to schedule travel to occur during an employee's normal duty hours.

The allowance for uniforms has been increased from \$100 to \$125.

NEW ESSA C&GS SHIP LAUNCHED • A 175-foot, 995-ton hydrographic survey vessel, the McArthur, was launched at Norfolk, Va., on Monday, November 15. David R. Baldwin, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Administration, was the principal speaker at the launching. The ship is named for Lt. William P. McArthur, a C&GS commissioned officer who conducted the first major survey of the Pacific Coast in the 1840's.

GULF TRAFFIC LANES TO BE MARKED ON NAUTICAL CHARTS • Because of the hazards posed by oil wells in the Gulf of Mexico, the ESSA Coast and Geodetic Survey will begin in 1966 to indicate "traffic lanes" for shipping on nautical charts of the area. The traffic lanes, known officially as "shipping safety fairways," will be approximately two miles wide and will extend from one to 125 nautical miles from the gulf coast. In these areas, no oil drilling will be permitted by the Army Corps of Engineers which has control over erection of structures in navigable waters. The fairways will provide safe lanes for shipping through waters containing nearly 2,000 oil wells and where nearly 50 ship collisions in the past two or three years have involved oil structures.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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