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ESSA TO ROLL OUT RED CARPET

Over 200 ESSA facilities will participate in the "open house" activities celebrating ESSA's first anniversary July 13. Highlight of the anniversary will be the commissioning of the USC&GSS Oceanographer, the United States' newest and finest oceanographic research vessel. The commissioning ceremonies will take place on July 13 at 2 p.m. in the Washington Navy Yard in the presence of high Government officials and invited guests. On succeeding days, July 14, 15, 18, 19, and 20, Oceanographer will be open for organized tours of ESSA employees and at certain times for public tours.

SECRETARY CONNOR COMMENDS WEATHER BUREAU

Secretary of Commerce John T. Connor congratulated Richard Garrett, meteorologist-in-charge of the Topeka, Kan., Weather Bureau office, on the excellent



warnings issued by the WB in advance of the Topeka tornado of June 8, last week in Washington. The tornado was probably the most damaging ever to affect a major United States city. The Mayor of Topeka publicly acknowledged that loss of life was held to a minimum by the WB's effective warnings. A tornado watch was issued eight hours in advance of the tornado by the WB's National Severe Storms Forecast Center at Kansas City, Mo. The tornado was sighted at 7:02 p.m., and the Topeka

WB provided a minimum of 13 minutes for residents to take shelter.

BRONZE MEDALS PRESENTED TO ESSAites

Bronze medals for superior service, the highest honor a Department of Commerce bureau can confer upon an employee, have been awarded to the following Weather Bureau field personnel: Joseph J. Brumbach, state climatologist for Connecticut and Rhode Island, cited for "meritorious authorship and superior contributions to agriculture while serving as State Climatologist"; Norman L. Canfield, Eastern Regional climatologist, cited for his "many years of providing exceptionally high level of quality control for marine climatological data"; Rosalyn Ebenholtz, secretary at the WB's Eastern Regional headquarters in New York City, cited for "outstanding competence and devotion to duty for many years for the Weather Bureau Eastern Region"; and George L. Poole, supervisor of the WB's Atlantic Weather Project, cited for sustained performance of the highest quality as supervisor of the project. Additional Bronze Medal presentations to other ESSA field employees will be made at later dates.

GEOMAGNETIC CENTER DRAWS TOURS

Fredericksburg Geomagnetic Center, Coast and Geodetic Survey's primary geomagnetic observatory and laboratory, will hold open house on July 13, ESSA's first anniversary. Located at Corbin, Va., about 10 miles south of Fredericksburg, the Center will feature guided tours for local business and civic leaders and other interested groups and will show a movie, "Magnetic Force". The Center will be open to the public until 8:00 p.m. in order to accommodate visitors who could not come during normal working hours.

BARROW TO OBSERVE ANNIVERSARY

In recognition of ESSA's first anniversary, Coast and Geodetic Survey's Barrow Observatory will hold an open house at the Arctic Research Laboratory (ARL) at Barrow, Alaska, on July 9. Visitors, including inhabitants of a nearby Eskimo village and ARL scientists and staff, will see an instrument display and two films, "Helping Man Find His Way" and "Tsunami". The program will be conducted by John B. Townshend, College Observatory Chief, and Patrick J. Clarke, Barrow Observatory Chief. Plans are underway to hold open house at other ESSA observatories on July 13.

ESSA HANDBOOK ISSUED

The new ESSA Organization Handbook, complete through the organization's six levels, has been published in two parts by the Management and Organization Division with an effective date of July 1. For the first time since the formation of ESSA, the handbook, containing over 1366 pages, officially establishes complete ESSA organization through its last echelon. Hereafter, changes to ESSA organization will be issued as revised pages to the handbook. The new publication is being distributed through fourth-level organization and may be borrowed from those offices.

OUTSIDE INTERESTS EYED

Each ESSA employee will receive a copy of Department of Commerce Order 77, dated May 10 (reproduced as change no. 24 to the Employee Handbook), which supersedes all Department and Bureau issuances on employee responsibilities and conduct. The new order requires all employees to sign ESSA Form 58, "Statement of Employee Relative to Outside Interests and/or Activities". Complete instructions on procedures have been sent to offices, divisions, and marine centers. Personnel offices distributing the order and ESSA Form 58 will account for the receipt of Form 58 from each employee. Employees in GS-15, in procurement work, etc., who are required to prepare Forms CD-219 or CD-220, were issued a separate instruction memorandum.

IES SCIENTIST IS BOARD MEMBER

Dr. Dean S. Carder, head of the Theoretical Studies Group of the Earthquake Mechanism Laboratory, Institute for Earth Sciences, has been appointed a member of a special Board of Consultants to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha, Neb., district. The board has been organized to advise the Army on future operations of a deep waste-disposal well at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal near Detroit. One point of concern is the numerous small earthquakes occurring in the general vicinity of the arsenal.

ESSA/FAA SHARE RADAR

A joint ESSA-Federal Aviation Agency radar weather facility has been established at the Salt Lake City Air Route Traffic Control (ARTC) Center. ARTC radar systems, designed primarily for controlling aircraft, will be used to locate and track significant precipitation areas over a 300,000 square mile area of the Intermountain West. The weather radar data will assist Weather Bureau meteorologists in providing aviation and public forecasts and warnings. The first year of operation, beginning July 1, will be a pilot program using a limited WB staff to evaluate the effectiveness and operational feasibility of the plan.

WEATHER SYMPOSIUM HELD IN CANADA

David Smedley, Environmental Data Service Foreign Branch chief, presented a paper and was co-author of another given at a weather symposium in Toronto this week. Sponsored by the Weather Data and Design Conditions Committee of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers, the symposium informed Society members about the types of meteorological services available to them, including an outline of ESSA's mission and services. Dr. P. D. McTaggart-Cowan, president of Simon Fraser University in British Columbia and former Canadian Meteorological Service Director, gave the keynote speech.

SOUTHERN TRANSFER IS COOL ASSIGNMENT

The first assignment of a member of ESSA's commissioned officer corps to the Antarctic scientific program has been announced. Lieutenant (j.g.) Richard V. O'Connell has reported to the Fredericksburg, Va., Geomagnetic Center for a five-month training period in preparation for a year's work at one of the Antarctic magnetic and seismological observatories operated by Coast and Geodetic Survey in cooperation with the National Science Foundation. He will be assigned to the observatory at either Pole or Byrd Station this November.

ITSA ISSUES SHORT-TERM FORECASTS

Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and Aeronomy (ITSA) scientists at Boulder, Colo., are proceeding with a program to issue short-term forecasts for the Defense Communications Agency's high-frequency radio links in Southeast Asia. Since high-frequency radio systems depend on the reflection of radio waves from the ionosphere, a radio operator must select a reliable frequency for a particular time of day. ITSA will provide hourly forecasts of maximum usable frequencies for three hours in advance, based on hourly ionospheric sounding data from Taipei, Manila, Bangkok, and Okinawa. The forecasting program development is directed by Dr. Ralph J. Slutz. ITSA staff members Thomas N. Gautier, Roger K. Salaman, John J. Pitts, and Edmond J. Violette have returned from a four-week trip to the Southeast Asia area to check ionosphere sounding equipment and to consult with Defense Communications Agency personnel.

OBSERVER RESIGNS AT 94

Walter D. Cannon, weather observer at the Campo, Calif., second-order aviation station, has resigned at the age of 94. He started observing for the Weather Bureau in 1952 at the age of 80, and the Western Region reports he has done a commendable job.

WEATHER BUREAU IS 75 TODAY

The Weather Bureau marks its 75th anniversary as a civilian agency of the Federal Government on July 1. The national weather service was established in 1870 when the Signal Service assumed responsibility for issuing weather warnings. In 1891, the Bureau became an agency of the Department of Agriculture and was transferred to the Department of Commerce in 1940.

ITSA OFFICIAL DISCUSSES LAW ENFORCEMENT

Vernon J. Zurick, senior liaison officer for the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and Aeronomy, attended the National Symposium on Science and Criminal Justice in Washington last week. As co-chairman of a study group on communications, Zurick met with police officials and communications experts to discuss law enforcement communications problems. Topics included transmission of alarm data, efficient use of radio frequency channels, and closed circuit television and teletypewriter equipment.

AWARDS

Length-of-service awards in the Weather Bureau's Southern Region for July are: Walter P. Roquemore, WBRH Fort Worth, Tex., 35 years. James N. Cannon, WBAS Lake Charles, La.; Shreves C. Goodwin, WBRH Fort Worth; James F. Hallman, WBAS Bristol, Tenn.; Perry M. Landgren, WBAS Knoxville, Tenn.; Harold S. McCrabb, WBRH Fort Worth; Millard E. McKinnie, WBAS Houston; Clarence W. Nolte, WBAS Wichita Falls, Tex.; Albert J. Rohlfs, WBO New Orleans; Henry F. Silsby, NHC Miami; Harry E. Yates, WBO Lakeland, Fla., 25 years. Carl M. Adamson, WBAS Montgomery, Ala., and Seymour Steiner, WBAS Jacksonville, Fla., 20 years. In the WB's Eastern Region, George V. Fortin, observer-in-charge at the WB office, Blue Hill Observatory, Mass., received his 25-year service pin.

COLLEGE GRADUATES RECEIVE ESSA CORPS COMMISSIONS



Captain Miller J. Tonkel, Chief of the Coast and Geodetic Survey's New York Field Office, participated in the graduation ceremonies of the State University of New York Maritime College last month, presenting orders to graduates being commissioned into the ESSA corps. Also in June he was a honored guest at the annual Port Washington, N.Y., Blessing of the Fleet.

ESSAite VISITS GERMANY, FRANCE

Dr. Harold W. Straub, chief of the Development Branch in Coast and Geodetic Survey's Engineering Division, spoke on clear air turbulence (CAT) at the Universities of Munich and Tuebingen in Germany during May. Also he attended the seventh Congress of the International Commission on Optics held in Paris and visited four German oceanographic institutes and six manufacturers of surveying and photogrammetric instruments.

Items to be considered for ESSA NEWS must be received by Friday for publication the following Friday. Send material to: Office of Public Information, ESSA, Room 810, Bldg. 5, WSC, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8431.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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