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ESSA BUDGET SET FOR FY'67

The Congress has completed action on the fiscal year 1967 appropriations. The House allowed \$1,286,390,000 for the Department of Commerce, a reduction of \$8,152,000 below the fiscal year 1966 level and \$180,495,000 below the amount requested for 1967. The House allowed ESSA an increase of \$6,267,000 over the 1966 available funds.

In view of the President's desire to keep Federal expenditures down, the Secretary of Commerce appealed only \$10,815,000 of the \$180,495,000 House reduction. ESSA's portion of this appeal was \$8,015,000. The Senate restored \$930,000 of the ESSA amount. Final action of the House-Senate conferees resulted in a \$250,000 increase over the House allowance which is earmarked for increased Research and Development effort in weather modification.

The 1967 appropriation requests and the action taken by Congress follows:

<u>Appropriations</u> <u>(\$ in thousands)</u>	<u>1967</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>1967</u> <u>House</u> <u>Action</u>	<u>1967</u> <u>Senate</u> <u>Action</u>	<u>1967</u> <u>Conferees</u> <u>Action</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>over</u> <u>FY 1966</u>
Salaries & Expenses	\$101,635	\$99,400	\$99,830	\$99,400	\$+1,837
Research & Development	22,450	20,000	20,500	20,250	+884
Research & Development (Special Foreign Currency Programs)	500	500	500	500	-
Facilities, Equip- ment, & Construc- tion	7,025	6,000	6,000	6,000	+1,847
Satellite Opera- tions	<u>33,585</u>	<u>27,000</u>	<u>27,000</u>	<u>27,000</u>	<u>+1,952</u>
Totals	\$165,195	152,900	153,830	153,150	\$+6,520

GULF TESTS SCHEDULED

The Coast and Geodetic Survey and the Institute for Earth Sciences are cooperating with scientists of the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest at Dallas, in a series of tests in the Gulf of Mexico to obtain new information on the composition of the earth. High explosives are being detonated along the sea bottom in a 100-mile-long area southeast of Galveston, Tex. Shock waves from the explosions penetrate through the earth's crust and are recorded on magnetic tape.

TOPSIDE SOUNDING BY ESSAite

SCIENCE magazine, Oct. 14 issue, carries a feature headlined "Ionospheric Topside Sounding," by W. Calvert of the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and Aeronomy, Boulder, Colo. The article reports how satellite observations of radio echoes are providing a picture of structure in the upper ionosphere.

STETSON APPOINTED SECURITY OFFICER

Thomas W. Stetson has been appointed ESSA Security Officer succeeding Donald J. Denion. Denion will serve as acting deputy Security Officer in addition to his duties as chief of Office Services Branch, Administrative Operations Division.

ROBOT IS STERLING WEATHERMAN

A new apparatus called a "precipitation type detector" is currently undergoing tests at the Weather Bureau's test laboratory at Sterling, Va. The new weather eye can differentiate between rain, snow, dew, frost -- and even freezing rain under some conditions. Developed by WB's Richard C. Peck, the device will be used in automatic reporting systems. The instrument's sensors emit electrical impulses, related to the type of precipitation, which are fed into computerized automatic weather reporting systems for transmission over high-speed teletype networks.

COMPUTERS ARE BIG BUSINESS IN ESSA

ESSA now operates a total of 26 electronic computers, the largest number in any Department of Commerce agency. They range in size from the CDC 6600 in Suitland, Md., to a PAB 250 in Jicamarca, Peru, and are valued near \$40 million. Estimated operating costs for Fiscal Year 1967 will amount to \$8.5 million.

FM WEATHER UPCOMING

The first of 15 VHF-FM radio stations scheduled for Weather Bureau use along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts next year has been received from the manufacturer and is being checked-out at the Weather Bureau's Silver Spring, Md., headquarters. The system consists of two 330-watt transmitting stations, one smaller "table" station, and a special control station. A feature of the system is a continuous broadcast of weather warnings, forecasts, and reports prepared and tape recorded by the Weather Bureau. Systems have been ordered for Weather Bureau facilities at Washington, D.C.; Miami; Boston; Norfolk, Va.; Atlantic City, N.J.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Charleston, S.C.; Providence, R.I.; Wilmington, N.C.; New Orleans; Tampa, Fla.; Galveston, Tex.; Corpus Christi, Tex.; Lake Charles, La.; Brownsville, Tex.; and the National Meteorological Maintenance Training Center in Kansas City.

ESSA'S ELDEST SHIP RETIRES

The USC&GS Ship HYDROGRAPHER, oldest vessel in the ESSA fleet, will be decommissioned soon at the C&GS Atlantic Marine Center in Norfolk, Va. The HYDROGRAPHER was commissioned in 1931 and during her 35 year career saw active service in World War II in the Pacific with the Navy.

WEATHER BUGS BUGS

Jack Riley, chief, Weather Analysis and Prediction Branch, Weather Bureau Southern Region, reported on ESSA Weather Bureau studies showing the influence of weather on pesticide placement, activation, and degradation at the interdepartmental pesticide symposium held in Washington, Oct. 18. Riley addressed representatives of the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Health, Education and Welfare, Interior, Federal Aviation Agency, Food and Drug Administration, Atomic Energy Commission, and the Federal Committee on Pest Control.

FUTURE WX SATELLITES DISCUSSED

David W. Holmes, chief, Ground Station Systems Branch of the National Environmental Satellite Center, Suitland, Md., was a guest speaker last week at the Syracuse, N.Y., section of the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers. Holmes spoke about present and future satellite programs.

YOUTH WX INTEREST AIDED BY MIC



Worcester, Mass., now has some 26 observant young people who assist the local Weather Bureau office by keeping records and weather-watching. Guided by George L. Courville, MIC, Worcester WBAS, the nucleus of the group was formed in November 1965. It now has a network of units located in 23 towns in the Worcester vicinity and is still growing. These budding meteorologists, from 10 to 14 years of age, are instructed by Courville who also designed their meteorological equipment. Photo shows 11-year-old Chris Turner, tyro meteorologist, beside a backyard model weather station. Young Turner is the son of William L. Turner, a forecaster at Worcester's WBAS.

VETERAN RETIRED WB EMPLOYEE DIES

William Weber, a retired Weather Bureau employee and long-time Washington resident, died Oct. 22 after a heart attack while visiting here. Weber retired in 1952 as WB's chief of business administration after more than 52 years of Federal service. At that time he and his wife moved to St. Petersburg, Fla. During his WB career he wrote several Government publications about the Bureau and did liaison work between the WB and Congress.

GOOD FRIEND OF WB DIES

Robert C. Edson, head of the American Red Cross disaster relief program for the last 11 years, died Oct. 22 at his home in Greenbelt, Md. He was believed to have suffered a heart attack. Edson was an acknowledged disaster relief expert who participated in operations in almost every state. He had served as Director of Disaster Services since 1955, longer than any other person. Edson was well known among many veteran Weather Bureau employees who worked with him during natural disasters.

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 804, Bldg. 5, WSC, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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