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EDS DIRECTOR TO RETIRE

Dr. Helmut E. Landsberg, Director of the Environmental Data Service, will retire on December 30 to join the faculty of the University of Maryland as a research professor. Dr. Landsberg has headed the Nation's climatological program since 1954 when he became Director of the Weather Bureau's Office of Climatology. After the formation of ESSA, he was appointed Director of EDS. A native of Germany, Dr. Landsberg came to the United States in 1934 and held posts with Pennsylvania State University, the Air Force, the Joint Research and Development Board, and the Geophysics Research Directorate before his appointment to the Weather Bureau. Among the numerous honors and awards he has received is the Department of Commerce Gold Medal, which he won in 1960 for his major contributions to meteorology and climatology, highly distinguished authorship, outstanding direction and stimulation of research and development in climatology, and exceptional service as Director of the Office of Climatology.

'LOOK MA, NO SKIPPER'

Maneuverability tests of a remote-controlled hydrographic launch are being run in Chesapeake Bay to determine the value of remote launch units in hydrographic surveys. The specially equipped experimental launch is being tested by the Ocean Engineering Branch of the Coast Survey's Engineering Division. Once maneuverability tests are completed, the program will begin experiments on telemetered depth and position information from launch to controlling survey vessel.

SPECIAL UPPER-AIR OBSERVATIONS UPCOMING

The Weather Bureau Airport Station at Buffalo, N.Y. will be making special upper-air and radar observations during December and January to provide data for a Great Lakes Snow Storm Study conducted by Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory under ESSA Sponsorship.

NESC SYSTEMS DIRECTOR PUBLISHES BOOK

"Langley, Man of Science and Flight", written by J. Gordon Vaeth, Director of System Engineering, NESC, was published in November by Ronald Press Co. of New York.

ESSA TO USE ATS COM SYSTEM

NASA's Applications Technology Satellite, launched Dec. 6 and destined for a 22,300-mile-high earth-synchronous orbit, contains a cloud camera developed as a cooperative ESSA-NASA project, with the University of Wisconsin and the Santa Barbara Research Center participating under ESSA contracts. When the satellite reaches 151 degrees West longitude over the Equator, the camera will scan the Pacific Ocean area from Australia to the west coast of the United States, between 50 degrees North and 50 degrees South. The pictures received at NASA's Mojave, Calif., ground station will be recorded on magnetic tape for evaluation and analysis by NESC and the University of Wisconsin. The satellite's communications systems will be used by ESSA to collect and relay hydrologic data from remote, automatic stations and to transmit processed weather information between continents. Facsimile products prepared by NMC and NESC will be transmitted to the spacecraft for relay to APT receiving stations. APT stations from the east coast of the United States to mid-Australia will be able to receive facsimile transmissions.

RETIREES TO GET PAY BOOST

Retired Federal employees and survivors will automatically receive a 3.9 percent cost-of-living increase as of Jan. 1, 1967, to be included in checks received in Feb. 1967. Employees who retire on or before Dec. 30, 1966, will be entitled to this increase, plus an additional one percent authorized under PL 87-793 of 1962 - a total increase of 4.9 percent. Those seeking disability retirements must be in leave-without-pay status before the close of business on Dec. 30 to qualify for the cost-of-living increase.

CAT PANEL CHARTS ESSA'S ROLE

An ESSA Clear Air Turbulence Advisory Panel has been appointed by Dr. White to assist the Office of Aviation Affairs in developing ESSA's role in CAT programs. Dr. W. O. Davis of the Office of Science and Engineering is Panel Chairman; other members are Dr. J. P. Kuettner (NESC); Charles F. Roberts (WB); DeVer Colson (WB); and R. N. Culnan (IER). Director of Aviation Affairs N.A. Lieurance will serve as ex officio member. The panel will recommend ESSA's course of action after reviewing user needs, the state of the art, and proposed research and development programs.

INTERNS EYE OLD EQUIPMENT

Eight Department of Commerce management interns, under the leadership of Dr. R. H. Jordan of the National Bureau of Standards' Technical Analysis Division, are participating in an eight-week study to develop and evaluate alternative policies for replacing ESSA's technical equipment and facilities as they wear out or become obsolete. The interns will develop models for determining when equipment replacement is most economical and will test the models by applying them to specific systems such as the weather radar, upper-air, and ionosonde networks. Dr. William Dorfman of ESSA's Office of Planning and Program Evaluation is assisting in the study.

WALLOPS ISLAND AIR MASS STUDIED

The Institute for Oceanography's Sea Air Interaction Laboratory conducted a major field study off Wallops Island, Va., during the week of Nov. 13. Investigating the changes in an air mass as it moves from land to sea, the Laboratory used a variety of instruments including a new boundary layer instrument package (BLIP) developed by the Laboratory staff for direct measurement of temperature, humidity, and wind speed from the sea surface up to several hundred meters. NASA and New York University ships participated in the experiment, and observers from the University of Washington, Florida State, and NYU were on the scene.

ULTRASONICS SCAN RIVER BOTTOMS

The Pacific Marine Center at Seattle is assisting the Bureau of Public Roads by calibrating and testing an ultrasonic device that traces the contours of so-called "scour holes" created in river bottoms by currents or tides. During the tests, the meter will be mounted on a pier of the Youngs Bay Bridge at Astoria, Oregon, and a C&GS hydrographic launch will obtain sonar profiles of the river bottom for comparison with the measurements made by the meter. Ensign Lance W. Pape, Boatswains Mate James L. Stringham, and Electronic Technician Daniel J. Twohig of the Pacific Marine Center will perform the hydrographic examination in cooperation with personnel from the Bureau of Public Roads and the Oregon State Highway Department.

PILOTS BENEFIT FROM SATELLITE PIX

Since Dec. 2, pilots leaving New York's John F. Kennedy Airport on intercontinental flights have received satellite cloud photographs as part of their weather briefing. The pictures, prepared and distributed as a joint NESC-WB experiment, give crews vital information on the exact position and structure of storms, weather fronts, and other phenomena which may affect flight planning and passenger comfort.

PROMINENT OCEANOGRAPHER DIES

George F. Jordan, 63, prominent as an oceanographer with the Coast and Geodetic Survey for 37 years, died on October 16 at Lake Worth, Fla., where he had lived since his retirement in 1962. In 1962, Mr. Jordan received the Department of Commerce Exceptional Service Award for outstanding contributions in his field. He received Commerce's Meritorious Service Award in 1953.

SERVICE AWARDS

Length of service awards were presented to the following employees of the C&GS Office of Aeronautical Charting and Cartography: F. T. Leyden, Sr., 35 years; Bernard F. Cooke, G. K. Emminizer, Jr., Robert D. Goodrich, and Max Sachs, 30 years; John F. Armstrong, J. Lewis Bowers, Jerome Browne, William R. Burke, Bernard R. Conroy, Charles H. Davies, William L. Divney, Frank F. Fisher, William R. Gale, Melvin M. Gienau, Frederick L. Heiden, Walter J. Hollohan, Filip F. Junek, Irvin W. Luskey, Jr., N. F. Sampogna, Odessa S. Scales, Albert O. Schmitz, Robert W. Smith, George V.J. Thomas, Harold G. Williams, Joe F. Wilson, and Paul Wong, 25 years; Catherine M. Allen, Wayne N. Anders, Carl W. Au, Jack E. Davis, Philip C. Domras, George C. Holmes, Donald R. Kramer, Elroy A. Lucas, Aurore A. Lafrenaye, Stanley L. Reed, Thomas E. Shirley, Donald J. Smith, and Francis B. Tosh, 20 years; Melvin A. Cabness, Lincoln E. Carlson, Paul D. Carter, Oscar Chapman, James Dewitt, Marvin Emminizer, William Fultz, Jr., Annie P. Langley, Thelma H. Love, and Charles T. Russell, 15 years. James Piner of the C&GS Ship Construction Group received a 35 year award.

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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