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ESSA SATELLITES DO BANG-UP JOB

ESSA 1 and 2 continue to operate perfectly, furnishing global photographic coverage. Four tropical vortices, two in the Indian Ocean and two in the southwest Pacific, were tracked by ESSA 1, and 62 advisories on these storms were sent to meteorological services of eight foreign nations by the National Environmental Satellite Center (NESC). For the past two weeks, NESC has received photographs from ESSA 2's Automatic Picture Transmission cameras during at least three satellite orbital passes each day.

MOVING EXPENSES MAY BE PAID

Should an employee find it necessary to change his place of residence because of a permanent change of station within the metropolitan area, he may be entitled to move at Government expense, depending on the circumstances. It will be the Administration's policy to authorize moving expenses when fully justified as being in the Government's interest after consideration of public transportation facilities and the distance and commuting time between: present residence and present duty station; present residence and new duty station; and new home and new duty station. Requests for authorization should be made to the Director of Administration for review and decision. Employees will be allowed a one-year period from the date of relocation to file applications.

C&GS SHIPS LOOK FOR TROUBLE

ESSA (C&GS) ships Wainwright and Hilgard began an extensive investigation for sunken wrecks and other underwater hazards in lower Chesapeake Bay last week. The vessels will work as a team to locate underwater obstructions hazardous to navigation which lie within five miles offshore generally in the area between Cape Henry and Newport News, Va. When an obstruction is found, the water depth over its highest point and an accurate site location will be recorded for subsequent C&GS nautical charts.

AIRCRAFT CHASES COLD FRONT

A specially instrumented Research Flight Facility aircraft has completed two flights to gather comparative atmospheric data over land and ocean areas. Sponsored jointly by ESSA and the Atomic Energy Commission, the flights followed a fast-moving cold front out to sea, covering areas of the United States' northeastern coast and the Atlantic Ocean. Scientists recorded information on wind, temperature, humidity, and air pressure at different altitudes, as well as radio-activity measurements and samplings of such atmospheric properties as ozone, carbon dioxide, and tritium -- first over land masses and then over the ocean. Dr. Lester Machta, Acting Director of ESSA's Institute for Atmospheric Sciences, was in charge of ESSA's experiments for the flights. Investigation results may indicate how much of the measured atmospheric constituents are transferred to the ocean's surface in non-rainy periods.

SATELLITES HELP PINPOINT DISTANCES

ESSA's Coast and Geodetic Survey is conducting a five-country satellite triangulation program, headed by Captain Lawrence W. Swanson, aimed at increasing man's knowledge of the size and shape of the earth. Four-man teams in Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Scotland, and Denmark are now engaged in the project and when combined with a similar effort in Canada will aid in finding more exact distances between North America and Europe. The program, using Echo I and Echo II for observations, will set up a mathematical base which will enable surveyors to pinpoint exact horizontal and vertical positions on the two continents.

ESSA REVIEWS AVIATION SERVICES

An Aviation Service Operations Meteorologist (ASOM) conference will be held next week in Kansas City, Mo. ESSA Director of Aviation Affairs Newton A. Lieurance will attend along with other ESSA personnel and the regional ASOM's. Agenda items include a discussion of aviation weather services and the new FAA/ESSA agreement.

WAVES WORTH WATCHING

When ESSA 1 and 2 photograph mountain-wave clouds, aircraft reports will be collected from the cloud areas in a new program currently under way. Upon receipt of a satellite photograph which shows mountain waves, the National Environmental Satellite Center calls the Salt Lake City Forecast Center to request pilot reports from the specific area within a given time period. The Forecast Center in turn notifies the Federal Aviation Agency regional office at Salt Lake City. The program has been extended into Colorado with WB's Harry Foltz, Washington, D. C., attending Colorado State University on a WB scholarship. He is participating in a study to establish synoptic climatology of flight conditions when mountain waves are present and to examine the possibility that mountain waves are associated with clear air turbulence.

C&GS TO PRODUCE WB RADAR CHARTS

The Aeronautical Chart Division of the C&GS is now responsible for production of weather plotting charts, and the WB recently requested seven new weather plotting charts to start the new program.

FAA PILOTS MAKE WEATHER OBS IN TEST PROGRAM

Federal Aviation Agency flight inspection pilots operating in the Eastern Region are radioing hourly weather observations to flight service stations in a test program to determine the value of such reports in weather briefing and forecasting services to general aviation pilots. FAA pilots report the presence of turbulence, thunderstorms, visibility under five miles, cloud ceilings under 5,000 feet and any unusual weather conditions which might affect flight safety. The test program will continue through May 15.

VIRGINIA GETS CLIMATOLOGIST

Morton H. Bailey has been appointed State Climatologist for Virginia and will be located on the campus of Virginia Polytechnic Institute at Blacksburg. Bailey's previous assignment was in the Republic of South Africa with the Weather Bureau.

YORK RIVER FLOW EYED

A three-week study of the York River, Va., began recently by C&GS's ship Marmer, commanded by Lt. R. Lawrence Swanson. Of special interest to communities such as Norfolk, Newport News, Williamsburg, Yorktown, Gloucester, and West Point, the study will measure river velocity and direction at nine locations between Yorktown and Westpoint. Results will be processed in the C&GS's Rockville, Md., headquarters for inclusion in "Tidal Current Tables, Atlantic Coast of North America."

FOREIGN WEATHER DATA EXCHANGED

South American weather data are being transmitted to Europe via Washington and New York beginning this month. Information received at the National Meteorological Center (NMC) at Washington on a direct radio teletypewriter circuit from Brasilia and is relayed through New York City to Europe on the cable circuit to Offenbach, Germany. Also, African weather data are transmitted from Nairobi to Offenbach, which relays the information to NMC. These foreign data are especially useful to the Weather Bureau's Spaceflight Meteorology Group in its support of the manned Gemini flights.

TOP SCIENTISTS MEET

C&GS scientists presented papers at the annual national meeting of two scientific associations last week in Washington -- the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping and the American Society of Photogrammetry. Technical information is exchanged between the entire scientific community of oceanographers, photogrammetrists, geodesists, engineers, mathematicians, physicists, geologists, and foresters.

SPECIAL STRATOSPHERIC CHARTS MADE

A special series of stratospheric charts have been completed through the combined efforts of the National Meteorological Center and the Atmospheric Analysis Laboratory. The series include daily and monthly-mean analyses of Northern Hemisphere 100-, 50-, 30-, and 10-millibar charts for the period of International Years of the Quiet Sun, 1964-65. Charts are available on 35-mm unspocketed microfilm and the corresponding grid point values of the analyses on magnetic tapes and punched cards. Send requests to the Director of National Weather Records Center, Asheville, N. C.

FOSSIL FUEL FUMES FOUL AIR

A meeting to plan ESSA's carbon dioxide monitoring program has been held at Boulder, Colo., in the Atmospheric Physics and Chemistry Laboratory of the Institute for Atmospheric Sciences. As the first stage in the program, several stations will be set up over the globe to assess the worldwide increase of carbon dioxide due to burning fossil fuel.

SAVINGS BOND HOLD UP SOLVED

Budget and Finance's acting chief John M. Amstadt advises that the recent delay in the delivery of Savings Bonds was due to a change-over in the employees' numbering system. During the month delivery of bonds will again become current.

CO-OPS 12,000 STRONG

ESSA's Environmental Data Service has published a bulletin, "The Cooperative Weather Observer," describing the Weather Bureau's volunteer weather observer program and giving a biographical sketch of those observers with 30 and more years of service. The WB has enlisted over 12,000 volunteer observers throughout the country to take daily weather observations which are used to determine and define the climates of the country.

ESSA KEEPS FLOOD WATCH

ESSA's Weather Bureau River Forecast Center in Kansas City, Mo., is keeping a careful watch for possible flooding along the upper Mississippi River and the Red River of the North. About seven inches water-equivalent of snow lies on the ground in this area, and when it melts, river levels are expected to exceed 1965 flood levels above Minneapolis and along the Red River of the North.

AWARDS AND REWARDS

Upcoming in April for length-of-service awards in the Central Region are: Harold L. Julien, WBAS Lansing, Mich., and Edward J. Fencil, WBAS Waterloo, Iowa, 35 years. Donald L. Mark, WBAS Muskegon, Mich; Kenneth C. Tillotson, WBAS Denver; and Melvin E. Velz, WBAS Denver, 25 years. Edward Lazar, WBFC Chicago; Frederick J. Miles, WBAS Detroit; Florence A. Swigert and Joseph P. Johnston, NSSFC Kansas City, Mo., 20 years. Superior performance awards have been given to Dorothy A. Clements, C&GS, \$100; Mildred Mc Col-lum, Weather Bureau, \$100; Waldemar Mitchell, C&GS, \$250; and Geneva Stanley, C&GS, \$100. Awards for adopted suggestions were given to James F. Ball, C&GS, \$20; William J. Hagerty, NMC, \$15; Marie S. Vardis, C&GS, \$25; Inez Waynes, C&GS, \$25; Peter L. Ottman, NMC, \$15; Tony S. Mandich, C&GS Surveyor, \$25; Alva W. Pyle, C&GS, \$15; and Russell J. Pate, Portsmouth, Va., \$25.

GRAND RAPIDS GETS NEW MIC

James W. Zoller is the new Meteorologist in Charge of the Weather Bureau Airport Station at Grand Rapids, Mich. Zoller formerly was with the WB at Anchorage, Alaska.

GET THE FAMILY TO HELP TOO



As we go to press we have received only nine entries in our "Name the Magazine Contest," (ESSA News Number 8, March 11). Send in as many entries as you like and increase your chances to win the \$50 prize for the best name. The contest is open to all ESSA employees and members of their families except those connected in any manner with the Office of Public Information. Send entries to arrive not later than April 15, 1966, to the Editor, ESSA News.

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 1021, Bldg. 5, WSC, Rockville, Md. Phone (301) 496-8193.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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