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FLOOD BULLETIN: FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

At ESSA News deadline, flood waters still raged at Fairbanks, Alaska. While the flood crest had passed, Weather Bureau forecasters said it would take days for the river just to return to the flood level.

ESSA personnel and their families were reported safe. The National Environmental Satellite Center's Command and Data Acquisition Station, 13 miles north of Fairbanks, is located on high ground and was described as looking like a "gypsy camp" as most of the NESCS employed families moved to that site.

The CDA station there was forced to cut the acquisition of satellite photos from 15 to 1 per day in order to conserve oil needed for power. The CDA station at Wallops, Va. has picked up most of the workload. Communication was still operating from the NESCS station and they were in touch with Weather Bureau personnel stranded at the Fairbanks airport. The airport was open but the road to the airport was flooded.

The C&GS Magnetic and Seismological Observatory located at the University of Alaska, five miles from downtown Fairbanks, is on high ground and reported unaffected by the flood.

ESSA CREW AIDS ACCIDENT VICTIMS

ESSA/RFF DC 6 39C was on the ramp at Pulliam Field, Flagstaff, Arizona, ready to taxi out when Captain Fred Werley saw a 250hp Commanche crash while attempting a takeoff. Captain Werley; Bradley Patten, flight engineer/crew chief; and Charles Travis, Electronic Technician were joined by Barry Fennell, Stephen Fazekas and Joe Rembisz, other crew members of the ESSA aircraft, in giving first aid and removing the injured. To get the four injured people to an ambulance, the men had to go up a muddy, rocky hill, and then cut barbed wire to get through and down an abandoned fire road one-half mile from the scene of the crash.

FORMER NORFOLK MIC DIES

Retired Air Force Col. John Joseph Murphy, head of the Norfolk WB from the early 1930's until 1942, died July 17. He had served with the Army Air Force in World War I and returned to military service in 1942 with the Weather Wing at Asheville, N. C.

PROJECT STORMFURY DRY-RUN STAGED



Seeding of hurricanes during Project Stormfury will be performed by A-6 Intruder aircraft from Navy Attack Squadron VA-35.

Planes and personnel from ESSA, the Navy and the Air Force staged a "dry-run" Project Stormfury Operation from August 8 through 10 from the Naval Air Station at Jacksonville, Fla. The purpose of the dry-run was to test procedures and equipment. ESSA's Research Flight Facility's two DC-6's, C-54, and B-57 from Miami participated along with the Navy's Super Constellations based at Jacksonville, the A-6 Intruder aircraft based at Oceana, Va. and the Air Force's C-130 and B-47 from Ramey Air Force Base, Puerto Rico.

WB MET. TECH. RESCUES GIRL

A ten year old Indian girl is alive today because of the efforts of the WB's James Fair. Mr. Fair and his wife were returning by boat from an Air Force open house at Tatalina Air Force Station near McGrath, Alaska, when they pulled the young girl out of the raging Kuskokwim River. The girl had floated down river from a shipwrecked boat.

C&GS PUBLISHES EARTHQUAKE VOLUME

The C&GS has published a second volume on the great Alaskan earthquake of 1964 entitled "The Prince William Sound, Alaska, Earthquake of 1964 and Aftershocks (Volume II, Part A)." The book contains analytical engineering studies on the structural damage effects of the largest earthquake recorded on the North American Continent in recent times.

BOULDER HAS NEW COMPUTERS

The IER Boulder Laboratories have acquired an advanced computer that can accommodate 24 users simultaneously. The 940, as it is known, will process scientific and administrative data for ESSA and the National Bureau of Standards. In another upgrading of the Boulder Laboratories' computer capability, the Control Data 3600 was modified into a faster (by 30%) 3800.

FIRST OF NEW AERONAUTICAL CHARTS PUBLISHED

The first two of a new series of sectional aeronautical charts, Washington and Charlotte, have been published by C&GS. Innovations on the new charts include back-to-back printing for greater coverage; a folded 5 by 10-inch size for convenient use and stowage; relief shading to emphasize form of terrain; extensive use of pictorial symbols; and inset enlargements of selected terminal areas.

ATHENS WB REMAINS IN ACTION DURING BLACKOUT

When lightning struck near the Athens, Ga., WB airport station on June 30, commercial power service was interrupted for 14 hours. The Athens station has a complete backup power system, however, and all station operations including the radar continued normally.

PATHFINDER AIDS ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The USC&GSS PATHFINDER has been asked by the Alaska Department of Highways to help in plans for a proposed highway. If a suitable harbor site can be found in the McNeil Cove area, 70-80 miles of unnecessary construction could be avoided.

ELTANIN WEATHER PROGRAM TO CONTINUE

The WB has received a grant from the National Science Foundation to continue the meteorological research program aboard the Antarctic Research Ship USNS ELTANIN during the current year. The grant will support a program of surface and upper-air observations, radiation soundings, comparative rain-gage measurements, and carbon dioxide sampling. The two Bureau men aboard the ship will also prepare forecasts to assist daily scientific operations.

ALGERMISSEN ATTENDS SEISMOLOGY PANEL

Dr. S. T. Algermissen, chief of the Geophysics Research Group, C&GS Office of Seismology and Geomagnetism, attended a meeting of the Seismology Panel, NAS-NRC Committee on the Alaska Earthquake. The meeting took place in San Francisco on Aug. 1.

WB AND TVA PLAN FUTURE WORK

WB personnel met with officials of the Tennessee Valley Authority at Knoxville, Tenn., on July 21 to prepare a work plan outlining the services the Bureau will provide to that agency during the current fiscal year. This is a service project of long standing which is updated annually. Attending the meeting were Perry Landgren, MIC, Knoxville; C.T. Watson, Principal Assistant, Knoxville; C.E. Holsapple, Southern Region; R.J. MacConnell, Regional Hydrologist; and Harry L. Swift, WB headquarters.

INTERNATIONAL GROUP STUDIES AT NMC

The National Meteorological Center hosted seven foreign fellowship holders during July -- Achmad Sukander, Surabaya, Indonesia; Abdul Achekzi, Kabul, Afghanistan; Jan Milicki, Gdynia, Poland; Rodrigo de la Ossa, Costa Rica; Obaid Siddiqui, Karachi, Pakistan; Rafael Almazan, Mexico; and Wiwit Sutayanon, Dhonburi, Thailand. Their fellowships at NMC ranged from one week to three months.

COAST PILOT FIELD INSPECTIONS CONTINUED

Lt. Bobby Edwards has completed Coast Pilot field inspection from San Diego, Calif., to the Columbia River, covering almost 1,200 miles of coastline. Lt. Edwards will return to Rockville at the end of the year to prepare a new 1968 edition of U. S. Coast Pilot 7. Officers of the USC&GSS McARTHUR will do the Coast Pilot field inspection of Hawaii.

MORE MEN FOR CANAL PROJECT

Four electronic technicians have been added to those already working in Panama and Colombia in conjunction with the Inter-oceanic Canal Project. Those selected for the two-year tour are George Steinberg, Atlantic City, New Jersey; Mamoru Shibata, Kwa-jalein, Hawaii; A. C. Middleton, San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Curtis Shute, who previously served in the Arctic.

SERVICE AWARDS

In the WB Eastern Region, the following employees are eligible for length-of-service awards this month. 40 years - Wilbur F. Lange, JFK New York. 35 years - Henry Rockwood, ERH; Robert C. Walker, Pittsburgh. 30 years - John F. Wall, Richmond. 25 years - Harry Temple, Albany; Joseph H. Richter, Charleston, W. Va.; Ola D. White, Harrisburg; Donald W. Dunlap, New Brunswick, N. J.; Raleigh A. Marshall, Norfolk; and Jesse A. Mathers, Jr., Wallops Island.

AID AT SEA

The helicopter platform on the USC&GSS SURVEYOR made it possible to provide emergency medical aid to a native boy in Alaska. The patient was brought aboard by a helicopter, given emergency treatment, and then flown to Anchorage for hospitalization.

Items to be considered for ESSA NEWS must be received by Friday to be considered for publication the following Friday. Send material to: Office of Public Information, Bldg. 5, Rm. 804, ESSA, 6010 Executive Blvd., Rockville, Md. 20852.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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