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58 ESSA

CARTOGRAPHIC & GEODETIC SURVEY

**ESSA**  
**NEWS**

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### ESSA 4 UP; ONE CAMERA OUT

ESSA 4 was successfully launched at 9:32 a.m. PST, January 26, from the Western Test Range in California. Its orbit has an apogee of 894 statute miles and a perigee of 822 statute miles. The satellite crosses the Equator, southbound, at 9:19 a.m. local sun time. ESSA 4 has two automatic picture transmission cameras, one of which failed on Jan. 28. The other camera is operating well, and pictures have been received.

### SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENTISTS CONFER

Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator, delivered the keynote speech at a joint ESSA-University of Colorado conference held in Boulder from Jan. 31 - Feb. 2. The conference brought social and physical scientists together to discuss the role of the social sciences in solving problems of the physical environment. Included on the agenda were such topics as smog and water pollution, weather modification, valuation of public goods, economics and the quality of the environment, and the possibilities for synthesis between the physical and social sciences. In his talk, Dr. White identified some environmental service problems which social and physical scientists might solve through combined efforts.

### SYLAR HEADS L.A. FIELD OFFICE

Roy M. Sylar is the new chief of C&GS' Los Angeles field office, succeeding Captain Philip A. Weber who has retired. Mr. Sylar has been with C&GS since 1931 and for the past six years was a program coordinator at Survey headquarters.

### BOWIE DECOMMISSIONED

The USC&GSS Bowie was decommissioned on Feb. 1 after more than 20 years of service on hydrographic and current surveys in San Francisco Bay, the Columbia River, Puget Sound and adjacent waters, and in Alaskan waters. Her last commanding officer, Lt. Cdr. J. G. Grunwell, and her 28 officers and men have been transferred to other Survey vessels.

### **SUMMER HIRING RULES ANNOUNCED**

Summer jobs as clerks, stenographers, typists, office machine operators, and aids (laboratory, science, and engineering) will be filled from the Office and Science Assistant Examination. The deadline for requesting this examination was Jan. 9; notices of rating will be mailed by Mar. 1. Both 1966 and 1967 eligibles will receive applications and filing instructions. Applications must be filed by April 15 with the Interagency Boards of Civil Service Examiners located throughout the country, rather than with the agencies. Sons and daughters of Department of Commerce employees may be hired for positions under this examination, if no other eligible with the same or higher rating is available for appointment. They may not be appointed to other summer jobs in the Department.

### **ITSA TRAINS ENSIGNS FOR GLOBAL FLARE PATROL**

Two USESSA ensigns are studying solar flares and related matters at ITSA's Space Disturbance Forecast Center. Ensigns Malcolm Macfarlane and Jonathan Carr are being trained as part of a program for providing solar forecasters for a global flare patrol network to be operated by the institute. After a brief, intensive course, they will work in solar forecasting programs at Boulder for a year and a half.

### **ESSA/FAA POOL RADAR DATA**

A newly established ESSA/FAA weather radar facility at Salt Lake City gathers data from seven radar systems covering a major portion of the intermountain West and prepares composite maps of the radarscope overlays. The composites are transmitted by facsimile to the WB Salt Lake City forecast center and to the IAS Field Research Office at Las Vegas. Preliminary results in this test program have been excellent.

### **FIELD PARTIES ON THE MOVE**

A C&GS airport survey party, headed by John J. Cain, is scheduled to arrive in Concord, Calif., about February 6 for a survey of Buchanan Field. Information obtained during the 4-week survey will appear on an Airport Obstruction Chart, used by the FAA in planning operational procedures for arrival and departure of aircraft.

Geodetic field party G-21, under L. Gilbert Burdine, will be in the Austin, Tex., area for the next 3 months, working on the precise transcontinental traverse.

### **CLIMATOLOGIST DRAWS OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENTS**

David Smedley, chief of EDS' Foreign Branch, will leave in mid-February for a detail to the World Meteorological Organization as manager of a project to improve Caribbean meteorological services. After 3 months, Mr. Smedley will return to EDS and later will begin a 2-year tour of duty in Barbados. A Regional Meteorological Institute will be established at Barbados to provide training, research, data processing, and instrument calibration and repair; and a network of weather radars and agricultural weather stations extending through the island chain from Guyana to Jamaica will be set up. Mr. Smedley will be assisted by five experts, to be selected by WMO, in the fields of climatology, hydrometeorology, agrometeorology, aerology, and electronic and equipment installation and maintenance.

### **PAPERWORK MANAGEMENT MERGED**

In order to bring together the two groups working on directives, correspondence manuals, forms design and control, records management, and mail delivery, the Administrative Controls Branch was transferred from the Management and Organization Division to the Administrative Operations Division of the Office of Administration and Technical Services, effective February 1, 1967. The Branch's new routing number is AD14 (the former number was AD31).

### **PHOTOGRAMMETRY MEETING SET FOR ANCHORAGE**

The Alaska region of the American Society of Photogrammetry will hold its second annual convention in Anchorage, Feb. 15 - 17, in conjunction with the Society of Professional Land Surveyors. Phillip Gardner, of Weather Bureau Regional Headquarters, is president of ASP's Alaska region; Commander E. W. Richards, C&GS' Alaska field director, is vice president; and Alice Weber, wife of G. Philip Weber, meteorologist in charge of the WB forecast center, is second vice president.

### **AIRGLOW AUTHORITY RETIRES**

Dr. Franklin E. Roach, acting director of ITSA's Aeronomy Laboratory and an international authority on airglow, has retired after a 25-year Government career which included service with the Office of Scientific Research and Development, the Naval Ordnance Test Stations at Pasadena and China Lake, the National Bureau of Standards, and ESSA. Dr. Roach is now a principal investigator on the University of Colorado's study of unidentified flying objects.

### **ALL IN THE FAMILY**

The Weather Bureau pitched in to help the Coast Survey during a recent emergency in the Alaska region. The C&GS tide station at Shemya was damaged in a December storm, when a loose section of pier punctured the front of the building and water washed into the tide house. Prompt action by John Sossamon, technician in charge of the Shemya WB station, saved the tide gage, nitrogen pressure gage, and transmitter. Working in very bad weather, Mr. Sossamon and his staff removed this equipment from the building, earning well-deserved commendation from Commander E. W. Richards, Alaska field director, C&GS.

### **TWO AGENCIES MAP SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE CLIMATE**

Dr. Harold L. Crutcher of EDS' National Weather Records Center (NWRC), Asheville, N.C., recently visited the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), at Boulder, Colo., in connection with a cooperative NWRC-NCAR project to produce climatological mean maps of the Southern Hemisphere.

### **EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK DISTRIBUTED**

A revised ESSA Employee Handbook is now being distributed to all regular, non-temporary ESSA employees. The Handbook, a ready reference to information on employment with ESSA, will be kept current as changes occur.

### **FLOATING WB STATION NEARS NORTH POLE**

Ice Island T-3, where the Weather Bureau is conducting an observing program under the aegis of the Office of Naval Research, may soon reach the top of the world. At the end of January, the island was about 685 miles from the geographical North Pole, at 78° 33.9' N, 175° 52' W, and drifting toward the north-northeast.

### **EXTRACURRICULAR HONORS**

Richard D. Tarble, Hydrologist in Charge of the Sacramento, Cal., WB Forecast Center, has been appointed Rapporteur for Hydrometeorology for the World Meteorological Organization, Regional Association IV (North and Central America). Mr. Tarble will review hydro-meteorological activities of regional interest and recommend action to promote these activities.

D. K. Bailey of the Space Disturbances Laboratory (ITSA) was installed as president of the Denver-Boulder Chapter of the Research Society of America at the chapter's January meeting. Dr. Kenneth Davies of the same laboratory is vice-president.

### **NEW OFFICERS GET PACIFIC CRUISE**

Three newly commissioned officers are looking forward to a variety of climate and professional experiences in their first assignments. They are Ensigns Birchell C. Eversole, Jr., Phoenix, Ariz.; Steven S. Nakao, Waihuki, Hawaii; and George B. Wharton, Jr., Fairbanks, Alaska. As junior officers aboard the USC&GSS Surveyor, they are sailing from Seattle to the Line Islands south of Hawaii, where the ship will undertake a special meteorological and oceanographic assignment in cooperation with the National Science Foundation, and then to Islas de Revilla Gigedo off the west coast of Mexico for ocean bottom photography and dredging. Upon her return to Seattle in early May, the ship will resupply for an Alaskan cruise.

### **WB MEN JOIN FACULTY AT UTAH U.**

Hazen H. Bedke, Director, Weather Bureau Western Region, and Leonard W. Snellman, Chief, Scientific Services Division, have been appointed part-time instructors at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. Mr. Bedke will conduct an evening course in oceanography, and Mr. Snellman will lecture on meteorological subjects.

### **SEMINAR HELD AT SATELLITE CENTER**

The National Environmental Satellite Center held a seminar Jan. 18-20 on the present status and future prospects of the SINAP (Synoptic Input to Numerical Analysis and Prediction) problem. The seminar was attended by representatives of universities, other Federal agencies, and private industry, as well as by ESSA personnel.

### **CAMPBELL ATTENDS CSC COURSE**

Joel B. Campbell of C&GS' Office of Seismology and Geomagnetism has completed a two-week training program in international affairs and Federal operations, held at the Civil Service Commission's Executive Seminar Center at Kings Point, N. Y.

### **POPE HONORED FOR SCHOLARSHIP**

The "Kaarina and Uleikka Heiskanen Junior Award" for outstanding work in the Graduate School at Ohio State University has been presented to Allen J. Pope, a member of the C&GS Research Group, Office of Geodesy and Photogrammetry. Pope, a candidate for a Ph.D. in Geodetic Science, was also elected to O. S. U.'s Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi.

### **JR. FORECASTERS WELL EQUIPPED**

Representatives of three New York-area Weather Bureau offices, visiting Lakeland High School at Scrub Oak, N. Y., were amazed to find a complete weather station, including teletypewriter circuits A and C, recording instruments, and a working World War II-vintage radar which had been donated by the Air Force. The school's weather club has more than 150 members who take hourly observations between 7 A.M. and 5 P.M. each day, plot and analyze current surface and upper-air weather maps, and make forecasts. The Weather Bureau has contributed thousands of outdated maps and charts to the project.

### **FIELD PARTY FINDS HIDDEN PERILS**

A seven-man C&GS field party, working under the direction of Lieutenant Gerald M. Ward, has discovered rocks and shoals just a few feet below the surface of the waters around Cape Ann, Mass. The previously unknown navigational hazards have been published in the "Weekly Notice to Mariners" and are being noted by C&GS on all copies of Charts 233 and 243 covering the area.

### **FAA CHIEF LAUDS WB INSTRUCTOR**

Bruce M. Aikens, WB instructor at the FAA Academy, Oklahoma City, has received a personal letter of commendation from General McKee, FAA Administrator, for his outstanding weather presentation at an instructor pilot refresher clinic held in December at Salt Lake City.

### **OCEANOGRAPHER READIED FOR GLOBAL TRIP**

Thomas J. Hickley, chief of C&GS' Engineering Division, and R. R. Ross, general engineer, visited the Oceanographer at Jacksonville to review instrument and communications problems in preparation for the ship's round-the-world trip. They also visited Nova University at Fort Lauderdale to evaluate a mobile marine laboratory.

### **SATELLITE WORKSHOP SET FOR SALT LAKE CITY**

Vincent Oliver, chief of NESC's Applications Group, will lead a weather satellite workshop at Salt Lake City, Feb. 6-10, and conduct a series of lectures on the interpretation of Automatic Picture Transmission photographs. Weather forecasters and hydrologists from the larger stations in the WB Western Region will attend. WB forecasters from Colorado and New Mexico and members of the Air Weather Service have also been invited.

### **FIRST FOG SEEDING AT ANCHORAGE**

The first experimental seeding of supercooled fog at Anchorage International Airport was conducted on Jan. 13. Two members of the WB Regional Headquarters' staff -- Dr. Edward Diemer, chief of Scientific Services, and John Kuhn, chief of Aviation -- were on the committee which developed plans for the project. Before the experiment, visibility was below landing minimum, with the top of the fog near 900 feet. After a seeding run at 400 feet, above-minimum conditions were reached and two international carriers landed. When visibility lowered again, the experiment was repeated successfully.

### **HODGSON COMMANDER COMMENDED**

Commander John B. Watkins, Jr., commanding officer of the Hodgson, has received a special commendation from Rear Admiral James C. Tison, C&GS Director, for the quantity and quality of Coast Pilot reports he submitted in connection with his work in Prince William Sound, Alaska, in 1966. Coast Pilots are a series of books containing a wide variety of information for navigators, including outstanding landmarks, channel and anchorage peculiarities, and dangers. Cdr. Watkins' reports, Adm. Tison said, were particularly important because of the many changes which occurred in the area during the 1964 earthquake.

### **WB MEN TEACH FIRE FIGHTERS**

W. B. Krumm, Western Fire-Weather Coordinator at WB Western Region Headquarters, and Mark Schroeder, Fire Weather Research Meteorologist at Riverside, served as visiting instructors at the U.S. Forest Service 1967 National Fire Behavior Course, for Forest Service fire-control trainees, held at Marana Air Park, Ariz., Jan. 16 - 27. Mr. Krumm, Charles E. Syverson (WBAS Boise), and William Sullivan (WBAS Denver) will be instructors for a similar course held at Denver in late February by the Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management.

### **GROUP EYES CHANGES IN "NOTICE TO MARINERS"**

Captain Lorne G. Taylor, chief, and Herman C. Anderson and William P. Shook of the Marine Chart Division, represented C&GS at a series of meetings with the U. S. Navy Oceanographic Office and the U. S. Coast Guard to plan improvements in the "Weekly Notice to Mariners". A task force has now been appointed to study the feasibility of standardizing the publication's text and format.

### **OUT OF THE DEEPFREEZE**

Two geophysicists of C&GS' Geomagnetism Division, Robert R. Mallis and Robert H. Geissel, have returned from one-year assignments in Antarctica. Mr. Mallis was at the South Pole, where he participated in the geomagnetism and seismology programs. At the Plateau Station, Mr. Geissel installed and maintained a new flux-gate-type magnetograph designed for Antarctic operation.

### **SRO AT KANSAS CITY WEATHER COURSE**

Ed Provost and Dave Coulter of the National Severe Storms Forecast Center, Kansas City, gave a highly successful aviation weather seminar to 250 pilots in the Kansas City area, Jan. 19.

### **REPORT ACCIDENTS PROMPTLY**

Milton S. Aronstam, ESSA's Safety Engineer, asks you to report on-the-job injuries and accidents promptly, in accordance with ESSA Circular 66-73, of Oct. 11, 1966. This procedure benefits everyone, because early treatment speeds recovery and because the condition which led to the accident can be corrected quickly, thus avoiding more injuries and more report forms.

### **SERVICE AWARDS**

IER employees who received 25-year service awards in January were: Albert H. Oshiver, Physical Oceanography Laboratory, IO; Charles H. True, National Hurricane Research Laboratory, Miami, and Marshall G. Hatch, Research Flight Facility, Miami, IAS; Robert W. Gorseline, Geoacoustics Group, and Maurice Vetter, Tropospheric Telecommunications Laboratory, ITSA; and Margaret Bivans and Virginia Near, IER. Aboard the USC&GSS Surveyor, service awards went to John G. Hardy, 25 years; Elisha Roberts, Jr., Jerry Randall, Roy Baltazar, and Grant S. Hurd, 20 years. Length-of-service awards will be presented in February to the following employees of the WB Southern Region...Claude K. Vestal, Fort Worth, 30 years. Lorenzo D. Wirt, Fort Worth; Charles M. Crouch, Amarillo; Daisy L. Wilson, Little Rock; Reynolds C. Hilley, Macon, Ga.; James E. Lunney, Midland, Tex.; C. Hugh Snyder, Oklahoma City; and Frank L. Sewall, San Antonio, 25 years. John F. Michaels, Albuquerque, 20 years.

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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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