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WATKINS TO COMMAND FAIRWEATHER



Cdr. John B. Watkins, Jr., has been appointed commanding officer of the Coast Survey's newest vessel, the USC&GSS FAIRWEATHER. Cdr. Watkins has served aboard the USC&GS Ships HILGARD and SURVEYOR, and as commanding officer of the HODGSON and PATHFINDER. While chief of the air-port surveys section at C&GS headquarters, he received the Commerce Department's Silver Medal. Lt. Cdr. Ray M. Sundean, who joined the Coast Survey in 1958, will be the ship's executive officer. LCDR. Sundean served as navigator and

field operations officer for two years aboard the USC&GSS PATHFINDER before being assigned to the FAIRWEATHER. Prior to that, he was chief of the Coast Survey's Pacific Tide Party in Honolulu, served on the HODGSON and PATHFINDER, with a photogrammetric field party, and as aide to the Coast Survey Director. Cdr. Sundean holds a civil engineering degree from the University of Washington.

INTERNATIONAL LINK DISCUSSED

Communications experts from the meteorological services of several countries met at WB headquarters March 6-8 to discuss technical and procedural problems associated with the Washington-Offenbach (Germany) cable circuit on which weather data are exchanged internationally. Meeting with members of the WB's National Meteorological Center and Communications Division were: A. A. Worthington and E. J. Bell, United Kingdom; A. M. Sonnet and J. Labrousse, France; and P. Wusthoff and W. H. Bopp, Germany.

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CAPTAIN WARDWELL RETIRES



Captain Arthur L. Wardwell, former commanding officer of the USC&GSS OCEANOGRAPHER, has retired after more than 37 years of service. During his more than three decades at sea, Capt. Wardwell served on 10 Coast Survey vessels, and commanded the USC&GSS SOSBEE and PATHFINDER, in addition to the OCEANOGRAPHER. His early years with the Coast Survey were spent with various geodetic and photogrammetric parties in more than half the states. Other assignments included office duty in Washington, D.C., Norfolk, Va., Seattle, Wash., San Francisco, Calif., and Tampa, Fla.

AVIATION METEOROLOGISTS TO MEET IN LONDON

ESSA will be prominently represented at the Scientific and Technical Conference on Aeronautical Meteorology, which will be held in London from Mar. 18-29. The conference, convened by the World Meteorological Organization under the leadership of its Commission for Aeronautical Meteorology (CAeM), will take the form of three symposia dealing with meteorological problems affecting civil aviation operations. About 200 experts from all parts of the world are expected to attend. N. A. Lieurance, Director, Aviation Affairs, and now President of CAeM, will deliver the introductory address at the conference opening, and will also be chairman of the symposium dealing with meteorological information for supersonic aircraft. Opening papers on selected topics will be presented by Dr. Karl Johannessen, Associate Director, Weather Bureau; R. W. Knecht, Deputy Director, Environmental Research Laboratories; F. G. Finger, Chief, Upper Air Branch, NMC; and DeVer Colson of SDO, Weather Bureau.

C&GS VESSEL TRANSFERRED TO KOREA

The USC&GSS HODGSON, decommissioned last year, will be transferred today to the Republic of Korea in a ceremony at the Coast Survey's Pacific Marine Center in Seattle. The HODGSON, to be renamed "Hydrographic Survey Ship No. 3," is the first vessel to be transferred to another government by C&GS. Rear Admiral Norman E. Taylor, director of the Marine Center, will present the ship to the director of the Hydrographic Office of the Republic of Korea, who has arrived from Seoul with a crew to man the vessel. The HODGSON will be outfitted for her trans-Pacific voyage in Seattle, and is scheduled to sail for Korea in April.

HYDROLOGISTS TO CONFER NEXT WEEK

A Regional Hydrologists Conference will be held at WB headquarters March 18-22. Discussing hydrologic operations in general and flood forecasting in particular with headquarters' personnel will be Regional Hydrologists Al Kachic, Eastern Region; Richard J. MacConnell, Southern Region; Verne Alexander, Central Region; and Jerome van de Erve, Western Region.

SIGNS OF VOLCANIC ACTIVITY SOUGHT IN ESSA PHOTOS

Smithsonian representatives visited the National Environmental Satellite Center, March 6, in search of ESSA satellite pictures showing evidence of undersea volcanic activity near Tonga Island on Dec. 12, 1967. The undersea eruption shot lava 4,000 feet above sea level. Indications of smoke in the ESSA 3 pictures are to be compared with the APT pictures received at Honolulu on Dec. 12.

REACTORS DESIGNED TO RESIST TORNADOES

Tornado probabilities for various points in the United States, developed by H. C. S. Thom of the Environmental Data Service, are important factors in the design planning of nuclear reactors. The use of nuclear reactors has been increasing rapidly in recent years. They must be designed to resist the wind speeds and pressure drops associated with tornadoes, because the risk of radioactive pollution as a result of structural failure is so great.

ESSA AT WORK

Instrument maker Donny R. Sharp (seated) and mechanical engineer Ole K. Schmidt (standing), both of C&GS' Engineering Division, operate a marigram scanner that reads tide records received from all over the world.



CSC ISSUES REGULATIONS ON OVERTIME TRAVEL

The Postal Revenue and Federal Salary Act of 1967 provides that travel time outside of scheduled hours of work will be considered to be hours of work when: (1) the travel involves the performance of work while traveling; (2) the travel is incident to travel that involves work while traveling; (3) the travel is carried out under arduous conditions; and (4) the travel results from an event which could not be scheduled or controlled administratively.

The Civil Service Commission has issued regulations on the administration of these provisions of the Act. The Commission has defined the criteria of "hours of work" through the following examples:

"Under the amended regulations, an employee shall be paid for time in travel status outside of his regular work schedule if the travel involves the performance of work while traveling (such as an ambulance attendant taking a patient to a hospital); is incident to travel that involves performance of work while traveling (such as a truck driver riding in a truck to a destination to pick up another truck and drive it back to his original duty station); is carried out under arduous conditions (such as an employee traveling to a forest fire by foot, horseback, or in the back of a truck over rugged terrain); or results from an event which could not be scheduled or controlled administratively (such as an employee traveling to an isolated installation to make emergency repairs on navigation-aid equipment)."

ESSA's policy on travel time compensation is coincident with the intent of the legislation. If the event is capable of being scheduled and controlled, the travel will be performed within the basic work week; if the event cannot be controlled and the travel is scheduled outside the basic work week, such travel will be considered to be hours of work.

BOON COMPLETES MASTER'S WORK

Lt. John D. Boon, III, has been commended by Admiral Tison for completing the required work for his master's degree in Marine Science, largely through his own efforts without office support. The degree will be granted by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science through the College of William and Mary at Williamsburg.

COULTER NAMED SECTION CHIEF

David R. Coulter, formerly Quality Control Officer at Kansas City, is the new chief of the WB Eastern Region's Aviation Section.



LIPPOLD TO HEAD TRIANGULATION DIVISION

Cdr. Herbert R. Lippold, Jr., former chief of the Geodesy Division's Technical Planning and Operations Branch, has been named chief of the Satellite Triangulation Division at C&GS headquarters. Cdr. Lippold will supervise Coast Survey's satellite triangulation teams engaged in establishing a worldwide geodetic network.

GRAVIMETER INSTALLED AT OBSERVATORY

A recording gravimeter was recently installed at the Coast Survey's College Alaska Observatory by the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics as part of its earthtide studies. Instruments are also being installed at Manaus, Brazil, and Boulder, Colo.

ESSA EMPLOYEES ATTEND RADAR COURSE

Seventeen ESSA students began a special four-week course in radar meteorology at the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla., on Mar. 4. The course, directed by Prof. Homer Hiser, is designed for employees who will man WSR-57 radars or have an interest in applying radar to meteorology. Enrollees are: Ashael F. Burnham, Missoula, Mont.; Reese Otts, Charleston, S.C.; Lucy Stowe, Cape Hatteras, N.C.; Clifford Goodall, Wilmington, N. C.; Phillip W. Ackerman, Miles B. Lawrence, and Robert J. Rowlee, Miami, Fla.; Cleveland Holladay and Ed Higdon, Athens, Ga.; Gerald Clemons, Key West, Fla.; Victor W. Hoffman, Atlanta, Ga.; Richard W. Lyle, Fort Worth, Tex.; Brantley Christian, Nashville, Tenn.; Michael Brooks, Robert C. Carter, St. Louis, Mo. In addition to the ESSA students, Donald Ball of the Canadian Meteorological Service in Toronto, and Lt. Astor J. Sycuro, Naval Air Station, New York, are also enrolled.

EMPLOYEE CLUB SCHEDULES ELECTION

The ESSA Employees Association of the Washington area will hold its annual elections for Council Delegates this month and urges employees to participate, by running for office as well as by voting. ESSA encourages employee welfare and recreation associations, and its policy is that supervisors permit club representatives to participate in meetings and projects on official time, whenever possible.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH C&GS

C&GS satellite triangulation parties are now operational at worldwide stations Ft. Lamy, Chad; Johannesburg, South Africa; Tristan da Cunha Island; and Dakar, Senegal.

SATELLITE PHOTOGRAPHS TORNADO ACTIVITY

The ATS-III satellite was programmed to photograph possible tornado activity over Mexico and southern Texas on Mar. 10, and reported tornado outbreaks in Louisiana and Mississippi on Mar. 11. The photography is part of the cooperative effort to film potential tornado weather over the United States.

ADMINISTRATOR SPEAKS TO FORESTERS

Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator, delivered the keynote address before the Joint Conference of the American Meteorological Society and the Society of American Foresters in Salt Lake City, on March 13. Dr. White's remarks were on "Fire, Water and Weather."

CALIFORNIA TIDAL SURVEY PLANNED

An extensive 26-hour tidal and current survey of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta area is planned by C&GS and other agencies on March 28-29. The project will provide data for the California Water Project, and other water quality, waste disposal, and pollution studies.

LOSS OF MAGNETIC FIELD PREDICTED

Dr. Keith L. McDonald, Earth Sciences Laboratories research physicist, speaking at a recent ERL seminar, said that the magnetic fields which protect the earth from solar and cosmic radiation are weakening toward an expected reversal, and loss of the shield could result in radiation mutation. A joint study by Dr. McDonald and Robert H. Gunst of C&GS indicates that the present rate of decay in the field strength will substantially reduce the dipole magnetic force by the year 3991.

FORECASTERS TO CONVENE AT SILVER SPRING

In-house training courses for forecasters will be held at Weather Bureau headquarters beginning Apr. 1 and Apr. 29. Fifty employees will attend the 3-week courses to improve their skill in using National Meteorological Center products. Twenty instructors from NMC, the Weather Analysis and Prediction Division, the Data Acquisition Division, and SDO's Techniques Development Laboratory will lead various phases of the training course.

SEISMOLOGISTS PARTICIPATE IN ROCKET FUEL TEST

C&GS seismologists participated in a special project at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., on Feb. 26, to evaluate possible hazards incurred in an accidental rocket explosion. A liquid propellant rocket fuel combination equal to the fuel supply of a Titan rocket was detonated.

LINDSAY TO FORECAST FOR SOARING MEET

Charles A. Lindsay of the WB Washington Forecast Center will be the U. S. soaring team's meteorologist during the world championship meet, on which 30 nations will compete at Leszno, Poland, June 2-23. Lindsay is also scheduled to receive an award for presenting the best meteorological paper at the last championship match, held in England in 1965.

COOPERATIVE OBSERVER DIES

George W. Richards, cooperative observer for the Weather Bureau for 66 years at Maple Plain, Minn., died Feb. 28. He never missed a day of service for 60 of the 66 years that he worked as an official observer. In 1951, Mr. Richards was given a special citation by the Secretary of Commerce when the WB named him as representative of the nation's 10,000 volunteer observers.

PEDDIE COMPLETES ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

Norman Peddie, C&GS geophysicist, has returned to headquarters after leading a group of scientists from the United States and foreign universities over an 800-mile track of previously unexplored territory on the 1967-68 phase of the South Pole - Queen Maud Land Over Snow Traverse in Antarctica. In addition to serving as group leader, Mr. Peddie was also navigator and magnetics observer.

DAVIDSON TO SURVEY SAN DIEGO BAY

In mid-March, the USC&GS Ship DAVIDSON, commanded by Lt. Cdr. K. William Jeffers, will begin a survey of the tidal currents in San Diego Bay, Calif. The survey will provide up-to-date information on the velocity and direction of tidal currents at six locations in the bay.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR MET. TECHS



Clem D. Richardson, Jr.'s appointment as official in charge of the Waco, Tex. airport station is the first of its type under a new Weather Bureau policy opening such positions to meteorological technicians at grades above GS-9. This policy extends the career ladder for this group of employees.

SERVICE AWARDS

Washington-area ESSA employees eligible for length-of-service awards during the period October 1967 - March 1968 include: 40 years - Louis P. Harrison. 30 years - M. Alicia Winn. 25 years - William A. Kunning, Dr. William H. Klein, Raymond A. Green, Curtis W. Crockett, Edwin B. Fawcett, James D. Ellis, Vernon L. Peterson, Priscilla R. Odor, Donald M. Hanson, Buel J. Stevenson, Albert A. Poulin, Ralph M. Zink, Robert A. Pryce, Willard A. Kuncis, Kendall L. Svendsen, Capt. Miller J. Tonkel, Robert E. Randle, Friason G. Travis, Lois M. Logan, Abraham Nagelberg, Charles M. Agnew, P. Alexander, Corine J. Ford, Edward R. Bland, Jr., Thelma L. Briscoe, Capt. Robert C. Darling, Richard R. Ross, Norwood Sherron, Herman W. Frome, Gerald L. Barger, Arthur W. Johnson, Lee M. Mace, Arthur R. Hamilton, Joseph Schwarz, Jeter P. Battley, Jr., Newton Lieurance, Eugene Voneski, Merle R. Whitney, Jr., Howard D. Wolfe, Richard A. Nugent. 20 years - Saul C. Berkman, Joseph S. Cosby, Jr., Helen P. Koka, James E. Morris, Charles R. Lewis, Paul E. Lees, Alice E. Goldsmith, Paul E. Ruest, John L. Strong, George P. Casely, James A. Cunningham, Woodford W. Schafer, R. W. Tomlinson, Charles F. Lewis, Rutlage J. Brazee, John T. Gallowan, Raynard Cardascia, W. H. Jackson, Jr., Lewis J. Baker, Jr., and David W. Holmes.

CORRECTION

EDS' National Weather Records Center in Asheville, N.C., selected to receive the N.C. Governor's award for hiring the handicapped, employs 95 handicapped persons rather than 200 as reported in ESSA NEWS, Vol. 4, No. 10, March 8.

LOOKING FOR A TAX REFUND?

If you live in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia or District of Columbia -



File your return by APRIL 5 and help us help you receive your refund in 5 WEEKS - If you make sure your return is correct.

About 70% of all errors on tax returns are mistakes in addition and subtraction or incorrect social security numbers.

Mail your return directly to the Internal Revenue Service, Philadelphia, Pa. 19155.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO FILE EARLY.

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, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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