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FIRST IGOSS CONFERENCE HELD IN PARIS

Dr. Richard E. Hallgren, Director, Office of World Weather Systems; Dr. Harris B. Stewart, Director, ESSA Atlantic Oceanographic Laboratories; Capt. James Hodgman, U.S. Coast Guard; and John J. Schule, Jr., U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office, attended the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's Working Committee for an Integrated Global Ocean Station System (IGOSS) in Paris, early in April. The purpose of IGOSS is to provide extensive and timely information on, and prediction of, the state of the oceans, and to support research so that nations can provide improved oceanographic services to increase the safety and efficiency of their marine activities. Recommendations of the working committee were that IGOSS be planned and operated closely with the World Weather Watch; that the observational network, comprising all types of ocean data stations, including buoys, ships, and satellites, be developed for timely transmission of data to user nations; and that designated centers for collection, processing, retrieval and dissemination of data be established. It was agreed that the first phase of the general IGOSS plan be submitted for approval to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization in 1969, and the second phase implementation program be submitted for approval in 1971.

Secretary of Commerce C. R. Smith visited ESSA's Suitland, Md., facilities on April 16. Shown left to right: C. R. Smith, Secretary of Commerce; Harlan K. Saylor, Chief, Analysis and Forecast Division; Dr. Frederick G. Shuman, Director, NMC; and Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator.



COMMERCE POLICY CLARIFIED IN DAMAGE CLAIMS

It is the established policy of the Department of Commerce not to pay claims for damage or loss of privately operated employee vehicles except under most unusual situations. Specific provision for private automobile claims is made only for the movement or shipment of motor vehicles as part of personal and household goods; however, this is not to say that no other claims for loss or damage to motor vehicles will be recognized. One of the principles underlying disallowance of these claims is a decision of the Comptroller General of the United States which said that the mileage charge which is authorized for use of private vehicles is intended as a commutation of the expenses of operating a vehicle. Another reason is that the government should not be made an insurer under all situations, but should reimburse employees only when the most unusual circumstances arise which would work an inequitable hardship on the employee. Employees should recognize the limited responsibility of the Department to pay claims for damages to their vehicles incurred incidental to the official use and be in a position to decide whether or not they wish to take out appropriate private insurance to cover possible damage to their vehicles while being used on government business.



ANDERSON TO HEAD LA CROSSE WEATHER STATION

Kelly F. Anderson, scheduled to take charge of the WB station at La Crosse, Wisc. as Official in Charge, on April 29, will replace MIC Carl G. Peterson, who is retiring after 38 years of service with the Weather Bureau. Mr. Anderson, a 19-year Weather Bureau veteran, joined the Bureau at International Falls, Minn. He served at Goodland, Kans., before transferring to Rochester, Minn.

TWO ATTEND GENEVA MEETING

Dr. Joseph Smagorinsky, director of ERL's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory, and Dr. Verner E. Suomi, of the University of Wisconsin, attended the first joint meeting of the Global Atmospheric Research Program organizing committee in Geneva, Switzerland during the week of April 16. The committee is composed of 12 members from Australia, Canada, England, France, Germany, India, Japan, Russia, Sweden, and the United States.



ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION CONCLUDED

Norman Peddie (left) of C&GS headed a nine-man party which completed a traverse of Antarctica's last major unknown area on Jan. 30. The three-year effort, known as the South Pole-Queen Maud Land Traverse, was a project of the U.S. Antarctic Research Program, planned and financed by the National Science Foundation. The first traverse was made in 1964-65 and the second in 1965-66. The third, led by Peddie and accompanied by scientists from the United States, Belgium, and Norway, completed the task. The scientific aspects of the expedition included research in glaciology, seismology, geomagnetism, meteorology, and other environmental sciences.

CARLSTEAD TO REPRESENT WMO AT KUROSHIO SYMPOSIUM

Edward M. Carlstead, chief, Scientific Services Division, Pacific Region headquarters, has been named the World Meteorological Organization's delegate to the International Coordination Group's symposium on Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and Adjacent Regions, to be held Apr. 29 - May 4 at the University of Hawaii. The Kuroshio is the large warm ocean current that flows north-eastward past the east coast of Japan. Scientists, oceanographers, and other government officials from the Republic of Korea, Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Soviet Union, Hong Kong, and the United States are expected to attend the symposium.

SPECIAL MAP SERIES PREPARED FOR TEXAS

A special series of maps has been prepared by C&GS for joint use by the Bureau of Land Management and the State of Texas in determining the Texas offshore boundaries pertinent to regulating oil, gas, and mining operations. The Coast Survey provided consultant service, Apr. 16-19, to officials of the Bureau of Land Management, Justice Department, and the State of Texas, in the use of these maps.

HAMPTON ROADS VHF BROADCASTS SET FOR MAY

Beginning May 3, continuous weather forecasts and warnings for the Hampton Roads, Va., area will be broadcast directly from a radio station at the Norfolk Weather Bureau facility. The weather program, with strong emphasis on marine conditions, will be broadcast 24 hours a day over the VHF/FM band. Hampton Roads is the 17th location in the U.S. to have transmissions of this type.

NESC TECHNICIAN DIES

Jerry Lee Simpson, meteorological technician at NESC's Office of Operations, died April 7. Mr. Simpson entered the Weather Bureau in 1963.

RABBITT RECEIVES 40-YEAR AWARD

George Rabbitt, Operations Officer of the ESSA Interoceanic Canal Project, received his 40-year length-of-service award in a ceremony held last month in Panama. Col. Alex Sutton, Field Director of the Interoceanic Canal Studies, presented the pin to Mr. Rabbitt.

SERVICE AWARDS

Length-of-service awards are due to the following WB Western Region employees during the month of April: 30 years - William J. Hammond, Pomona, Calif. 25 years - Woodrow W. Dickey, WRH; Mary Jane Crystal, WRH; Maxwell D. Strutz, Portland, Oreg.; Gerald D. Owens, San Diego, Calif.; Wallace R. Donaldson, Seattle, Wash.; Paul T. Ellis, Seattle, Wash.; Dorothy I. Myers, Seattle, Wash.; Clayton R. Call, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.; and Roy L. Phillips, Yakima, Wash. 20 years - Edmund D. Porter, Kalispell, Mont.; and Dwight Baertsch, WRH.

WB Eastern Region employees eligible for service awards this month are: 25 years - Arthur B. Baskin, Jr., Columbia, S.C.; David L. Conveney, New York; Robert A. Dittmar, Wallops Island, Va.; Leonard S. Kmiecniak, Baltimore, Md.; William H. Miller, Greensboro, N. C.; Philip V. Nadeau, Caribou, Me.; Melchor D. Perdidio, New York; Leroy H. Rhine, Jr., Harrisburg, Pa.; Donald A. Rowley, Albany, N.Y.; Lloyd B. Seidel, Columbus, Ohio; Wayne A. Smith, Hartford, Conn.; Walter D. Wolfe, Charleston, W. Va.; and Alma E. Worth, LaGuardia Field, N.Y. 20 years - Max R. Cagle, Cape Hatteras, N. C.

BARTLETT RETIRES

Wayne H. Bartlett, of NMC's Extended Forecast Division, retired April 19 after 39 years of service with the Weather Bureau. Mr. Bartlett joined the Weather Bureau in 1929 as an Observer and has served at Des Moines, Iowa; Kansas City, Mo.; Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; Chicago, Ill.; and at WB headquarters.

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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