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SCIENTISTS INVESTIGATE OCEAN BOUNDARY



Theodore V. Ryan, Director of ESSA's Pacific Oceanographic Laboratory, headed an April expedition to investigate a little-known oceanic boundary which stretches across the North Pacific from Japan to North America. Oceanographers call this boundary between the cold Arctic waters and the warmer subtropical water the Polar Front. The study is being undertaken jointly by ESSA and Oregon State University scientists aboard the USC&GS Ship SURVEYOR, which is commanded by Capt. Harley D. Nygren. Another expedition is planned for September. One of the purposes of the study, explained Ryan, "is to determine what happens to the water at the interface between these two dissimilar water masses. Oceanographers have long recognized that

plant and animal life and even weather differ significantly on either side of the boundary." Patrick Laird, a physical oceanographer, and James Stephens, a technician, complete the team from the Pacific Oceanographic Research Laboratory.

AMS WEATHER MODIFICATION CONFERENCE HELD

The American Meteorological Society's First National Conference on Weather Modification was held in Albany, N.Y., April 28 - May 1. ERL scientists scheduled to present papers at the four-day meeting included: Dr. Syukuro Manabe and Dr. Kirk Bryan, Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory; Dr. Joanne Simpson and Victor Wiggert, Atmospheric Physics and Chemistry Laboratory; Dr. R. Cecil Gentry, National Hurricane Research Laboratory; and Jean T. Lee and Dr. Edwin Kessler, National Severe Storms Laboratory. Dr. Joseph Smagorinsky, director of GFDL, chaired the session on Large-Scale Climate Modification, and Dr. Joachim P. Kuettner chaired the Instruments and Techniques for Weather Modification session.



Left, Yapese constables and students raise the flag at new Bureau station. Right, supervisory meteorological technician Bernard Gramfal (center), William R. Crawford, OIC (left), and local dignitaries at the dedication ceremony.

NEW WEATHER STATION DEDICATED AT YAP

The Weather Bureau recently dedicated its new \$200,000 airport facility at Yap, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, with an open house and reception. Approximately 100 persons, including representatives of the Yap Islands Council, the President of the Legislature, District Administrator James C. Flannery, the Magistrate, High Chief Roboman, and other dignitaries, were present for the dedication ceremony and a tour of the facility. Yapese observers interpreted and demonstrated to the local people the mission of the Weather Bureau, various instruments, facilities, and exhibits.

OLD THEODOLITE MODIFIED FOR SPACE PROGRAM

A 19th century scientific instrument was turned over to NASA on April 24 for use in a highly sophisticated space project. The instrument, a discarded theodolite used to measure the angle of inclination of the earth's magnetic field, was modified for NASA by John Van den Heurk, C&GS instrument maker at the Fredericksburg Geomagnetic Center.

ENGINEERS ELECT TONKEL, WILSON

Captain Miller J. Tonkel, C&GS Associate Director of Hydrography and Oceanography, has been elected vice president of the Washington post of the Society of American Military Engineers for the 1968-69 term. Lt. (j.g.) David M. Wilson, of Systems Development, was elected to the seven-member board of directors.



TRAVIS HEADS NEWPORT OBSERVATORY

Allen H. Travis, C&GS geophysicist, has been appointed to head the Newport (Wash.) Geophysical Observatory. The observatory is one of 25 maintained by ESSA engaged primarily in recording earthquakes and the earth's magnetic field. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Travis served as the observatory's acting chief. He has been with the Federal Government 13 years.

THOMPSON TO ATTEND NATO PANEL MEETING

Dr. M. C. Thompson, Jr., of ERL's Tropospheric Telecommunications Laboratory, will attend a meeting of the advisory panel on radio meteorology of the NATO Scientific Affairs Division, at Hamburg, Germany, in May. The radio-meteorology panel, composed of representatives from England, France, Greece, Germany, Norway, and the United States, is concerned with developing and supervising research projects involving international cooperation and NATO responsibilities. Dr. Thompson became the first U.S. representative in 1963.

D.C. GRAVITY SURVEY COMPLETED

A C&GS team, headed by Lt. (j.g.) David M. Mauthe, has completed a gravitational survey of Washington, D.C., and the surrounding area. The main purpose of the survey was to provide an improved standard for C&GS's development of astronomic observing equipment and techniques at its facilities in Beltsville and Gaithersburg, Md. The team determined gravity deviations at about 200 points within a geographic circle of the Capital bordered in Maryland by Frederick, Baltimore, and the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay, and in Virginia by Fredericksburg and Front Royal. After the survey data has been processed, a gravity anomaly map--the most extensive one for the area--will be prepared.



ECKERT NAMED OIC AT GOODLAND

Warren O. Eckert became Official-in-Charge of the Goodland, Kans., Airport Station on Apr. 19, replacing Laurence G. Shaffer, who was reassigned to the WB Central Region Headquarters. Mr. Eckert, principal assistant at Goodland for 11 years, joined the Weather Bureau at Sioux City, Iowa, in 1946 and moved to Goodland in 1956.



Mr. Sandy



At Mr. Wiedemann's retirement, left to right, M.E. Ringenbach, Mr. Wiedemann, W.M. Richardson, Jr., and Merritt Techter.



Mrs. Maserick

RECENT RETIREMENTS

Among the ESSA employees retiring during April were: Edwin D. Wiedemann, supervisor of the Instrument Shop in SDO's Equipment Development Laboratory, WBH (39 years); Mrs. Frances H. Maserick, personnel management specialist, ESSA Personnel Division (38 years); William W. Swain, meteorologist, WB Office of Hydrology (38 years); Laverne L. Sandy, meteorological technician, ERL's National Severe Storms Laboratory, Norman, Okla. (38 years); and Walter T. Wilson, chief of the Technical Information Branch of the WB's Office of Hydrology (33 years).

Grant Lewis, chief boatswain on the USC&GSS FAIRWEATHER, retired in March with 31 years of service with the Coast Survey.



Mr. Lewis

S.T. KONGSLIEN, C&GS TECHNICIAN, DIES

Sigwart T. Kongslien, a photographer-technician in the Coast Survey's Photogrammetry Division for more than 25 years, died in April. Mr. Kongslien was a member of the American Society of Photogrammetry.

AIRPORT SURVEYS UNDERWAY

C&GS field surveys are now in progress at Clinton (Iowa) Municipal Airport; W. K. Kellogg Regional Airfield, Battle Creek, Mich.; New Bedford (Mass.) Municipal Airport; Clatsop County Airport, Astoria, Oreg.; and Fort Dodge (Iowa) Municipal Airport.

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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