

Volume 4

Number 41

October 11, 1968



Under Secretary of Commerce Joseph W. Bartlett gave the principal address at the commissioning of the USC&GS Ships RAINIER and FAIR-WEATHER in Seattle, Wash., Oct. 2. The scheduled speaker, Senator Warren G. Magnuson, was unable to be present because of the pressures of Senate business. Left to right, Rear Adm. Norman A. Taylor, Director of the Pacific Marine Center; Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr., ESSA Deputy Administrator; Joseph W. Bartlett, and Rear Adm. Don A. Jones, Director of the Coast and Geodetic Survey. (Photo by Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Oct. 3).

UNITED NATIONS DAY PROCLAIMED

President Johnson has proclaimed Oct. 24 as United Nations Day, to be observed simultaneously with the 20th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The President urges officials of Federal and State agencies, as well as private citizens, to participate in community programs scheduled to be held throughout the United States.



More than 50 persons from ESSA, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Transportation attended the Interdepartmental Severe Local Storms Conference at Weather Bureau Central Region headquarters, Sept. 25-26. An intra-Weather Bureau meeting was held Sept. 23-24.

COAST SURVEY ISSUES BATHYMETRIC MAP

A new bathymetric map featuring an undersea valley off the Pacific Coast has been published by the Coast Survey. About 140 miles of the valley appear on the map, which covers approximately 13,000 square statute miles of sea bottom and extends from 65 to 95 miles seaward off the south Oregon coast from Cape Ferrello to the Umpqua River.

PRECIPITATION FORECASTS ON FACSIMILE

Twice-daily computer forecasts of precipitation for three-hourly time periods over the eastern portion of the country are being transmitted on the WENEF facsimile circuit from the National Meteorological Center, in a program that began Oct. 1. The automated predictions are produced by the Subsynoptic Advection Model (SAM), which is the first operational small-scale model and has 16 times the horizontal resolution of the Primitive Equation model. SAM is tailored to run at any time, depending on user needs, with initial data less than one hour old. It was developed in the Systems Development Office's Techniques Development Laboratory by Dr. Harry Glahn, Dale Lowry, and George Hollenbaugh.

DROPP HEADS OFFICER TRAINING SECTION

Lt. Joseph W. Dropp has been appointed Officer-in-Charge of the Officer Training Section at Norfolk, Va., with responsibility for conducting and supervising the two-month training classes for officers selected for the ESSA Commissioned Corps. Lt. Dropp joined ESSA in 1963, following graduation from the State University of New York Maritime College, and has served on the USC&GS Ships PEIRCE and OCEANOGRAPHER. He was formerly Assistant Training Officer to Cdr. Ronald M. Buffington.



COMMERCE ACCIDENT RATE DECLINES

The Department of Commerce's overall accident rate was reduced by more than 30 percent at the end of fiscal year 1968, attaining the goal set by the President's Mission SAFETY 70. ESSA contributed significantly to this achievement, with ratings well below the Department's averages. ESSA's aim is to emerge as a leader in safety in 1970.

HICKS HONORED FOR AUTHORSHIP

Steady D. Hicks, chief of the Coast Survey's Oceanography Division, has received a superior performance award for contributing 20 scientific papers, largely in the field of tides and sea level variations, to scientific and technical journals over the past five years.

FIRST FORECAST OFFICE DEDICATED



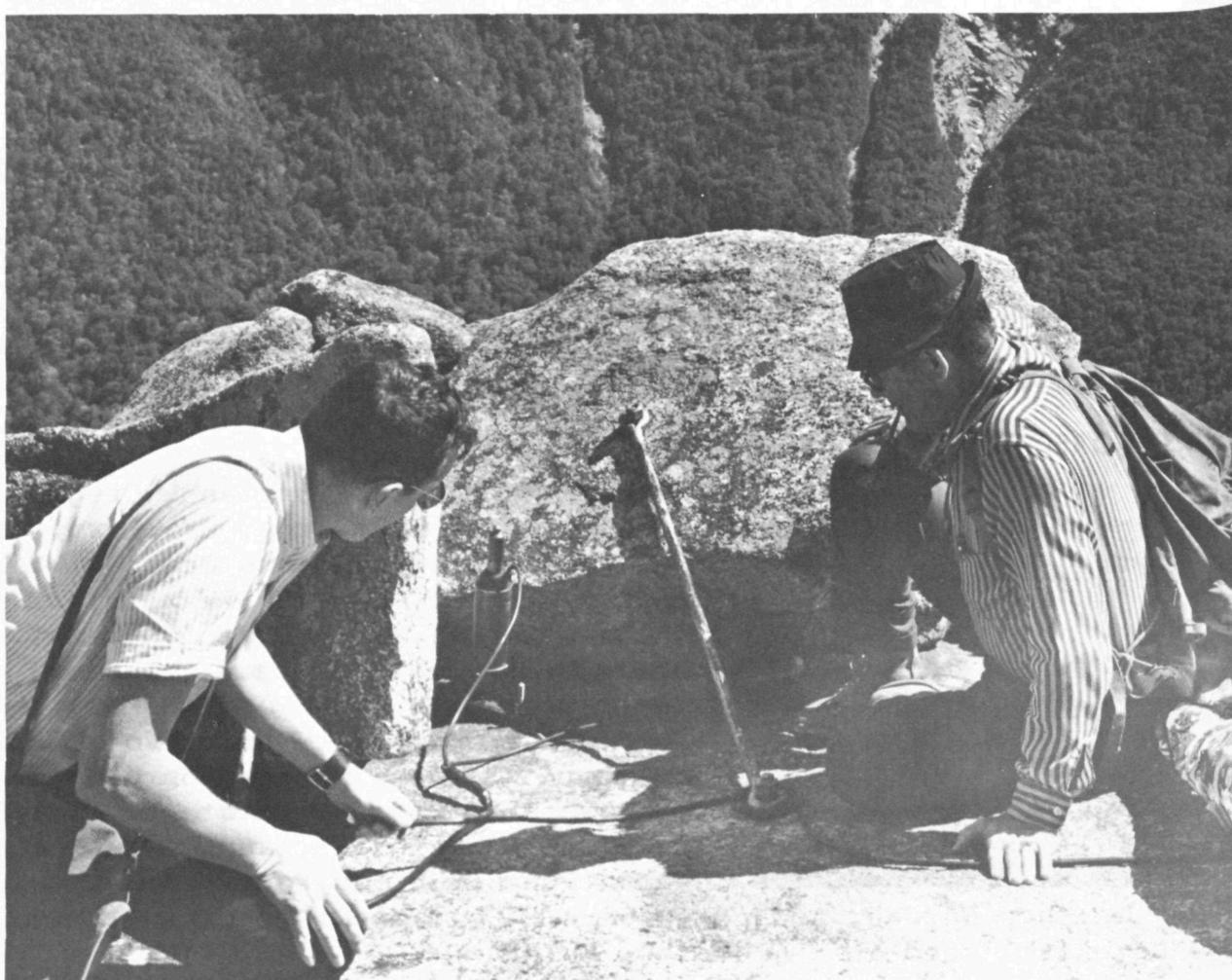
James Wakefield, Portland, Oreg., meteorologist in charge; Dr. Harry Foltz, Chief, Operations Branch, WXAP Division, WBH; and O. R. Warner, Weather Bureau Western Region Deputy Director (from left), participated in the dedication of Portland as the new Weather Forecast Office for Oregon on Sept. 30. The dedication ceremonies were attended by state and local government officials, and by representatives from the Portland Airport, FAA, Weather Bureau, and news media. Portland is the first WFO to be established in the Weather Bureau.

BAKER JOINS NESC RESEARCH GROUP

Donald R. Baker, senior research hydrologist, has been appointed to head the newly established Satellite Hydrology Program of NESC's Environmental Sciences Group. The Group is studying the application of satellite data to oceanographic and hydrologic problems. Mr. Baker, formerly with the Office of Hydrology's Research and Development Laboratory, has done graduate work in physics and recently completed a master's degree program in hydrology at Stanford University.

ON THE BROW OF THE GREAT STONE FACE

Coast Survey seismologists are checking the "Old Man of the Mountains" in New Hampshire to evaluate the effect that manmade tremors have had on the famous Great Stone Face. Wendell V. Mickey (right), chief of the Vibration and Engineering Projects Branch, and James F. Devine install seismometer atop the mountain to monitor its vibrations during the three-year project.





Vernon J. Specht, assistant chief, Finishing Branch, Distribution Division, is presented with a 40-year length of service pin by F. O. Diercks, C&GS Associate Director, Aeronautical Charting and Cartography. Left to right: Edward R. Bland, chief, Finishing Branch; Mr. Specht; Col. Diercks; Robert D. Goodrich, Distribution Division.

FOREIGN SCIENTISTS TOUR EARTHQUAKE LAB

Prof. V. Keilis-Borok, of the Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R., visited the Earthquake Mechanism Laboratory, San Francisco, Calif., on Sept. 19. Prof. Keilis-Borok is spending four months at the University of California's Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics. He was accompanied to the Laboratory by M.T. Randall of the Seismological Observatory, Wellington, New Zealand, who is also working at the University of California.

WYATT AND SASSMAN ATTEND AVIATION MEETING

Samuel V. Wyatt, chief of the Aviation Safety and Quality Control Group and Chief Pilot for the Weather Bureau, represented the Bureau at the Annual Convention of the National Business Aircraft Association held in Houston, Tex., Oct. 8-10. Joe Sassman, aviation service operations meteorologist, represented the WB Southern Region. Aviation safety and quality control matters were discussed with NBAA officials and corporation pilots.

BRONZE MEDAL FOR SPOKANE MIC



Robert T. Small (right), meteorologist in charge at Spokane, Wash., received the Department of Commerce Bronze Medal on Sept. 26 from O. R. Warner, Weather Bureau Western Region Deputy Director. Mr. Small was cited for outstanding competence as an MIC and for noteworthy achievement in the development of public service programs.

GHOST SETS FLIGHT RECORD

A Global HORIZONTAL Sounding Technique (GHOST) balloon, launched at Christchurch, New Zealand, in September 1967 by researchers from the National Center for Atmospheric Research, has broken all previous balloon flight-duration records by staying in the air for one year. The one-year flight was the longest thus far of 150 GHOST balloon flights that have been made since March 1966 from Christchurch and from McMurdo Station in the Antarctic. The tests are supported by the New Zealand Meteorological Service, the National Science Foundation, and ESSA.

THREE ATTEND RESEARCH MANAGEMENT TALKS

Walter A. Hahn, Assistant Deputy Administrator for Policy Development, Merritt N. Techter, Director of Systems Development for the Weather Bureau, and Dr. Harold L. Crutcher, Scientific Advisor for EDS' National Weather Records Center, attended the twenty-second National Conference on the Administration of Research, held in St. Charles, Ill., Sept. 22-25. Leading scientific administrators in industry, government, and the academic community exchanged ideas on the management and administration of research activities.



OIC CHOSEN FOR HUNTINGTON, W. VA.

Chester D. Rathfon, principal assistant at the Dayton, Ohio, Weather Bureau airport station, has been selected as official in charge at Huntington, W. Va., succeeding Daniel L. Sala who has transferred to Fairbanks, Alaska. Mr. Rathfon entered the Bureau in 1939, and served at South Bend, Ind., before his Dayton assignment.

WARD TO LEAD PACIFIC TIDE PARTY



Lt. Gerald M. Ward has been appointed head of the Coast Survey's Pacific Tide Party. Lt. Ward will supervise the maintenance of 14 tide stations in the Pacific which record the approach of a tsunami or seismic sea wave. The stations are part of the tsunami warning system operated by the Pacific Field Office in Honolulu. A native of Orlando, Fla., Lt. Ward began his career as a junior officer aboard the USC&GS Ship PEIRCE in 1964, and later headed a party engaged in investigating navigational hazards on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. He is a 1963 graduate of the University of Florida with a degree in mechanical engineering.

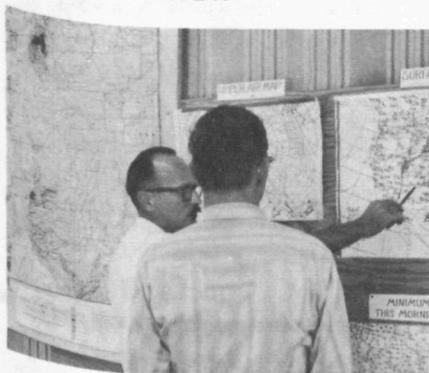
DES MOINES STAFF EARNS COMMENDATION

The Des Moines, Iowa, Weather Bureau staff has been given a plaque from the Central Region Director for exceptionally fine work during the many outbreaks of destructive tornadoes in Iowa last May and June. Regional Climatologist Lothar A. Joos made the presentation on Oct. 8. At the same time, he presented a 45-year service award to Clarence E. Lamoureux, Des Moines MIC.

TWO STRAIGHT FOR FOWLER

Fred A. Fowler, chief of the Coast Survey's Presswork Branch in the Reproduction Division, has received the Horace Hart Award for distinguished public service in the field of printing and publishing. The award is presented annually to a Federal employee by the Education Council of the Graphic Arts Industry. Mr. Fowler won the same award last year.

FAIR WEATHER



Nicholas J. Ropar briefs a visitor to the Weather Bureau exhibit at the New Mexico State Fair, Sept. 12-22. The display was installed and manned by the staff of the Albuquerque WB airport station.

COOPERATIVE OBSERVER HONORED



Milford L. Noon, a cooperative weather observer at Nogales, Ariz., received the Thomas Jefferson Award on Sept. 13 from former Senator Barry Goldwater at a meeting of the Nogales Rotary Club. Mr. Noon, an inspector for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, has continued a family tradition of taking weather observations at Nogales since 1899. He received the John Campanius Holm Award in 1960.

WB CLIMATOLOGIST RETIRES

Wilbur F. McKinney, climatologist at the Helena, Mont., Weather Bureau airport station, retired Oct. 12 after 38 years of Federal service. Mr. McKinney joined the Bureau in 1929 at Grand Junction, Colo., and has served at Helena since 1943.

SERVICE AWARDS

Washington-area ESSA employees eligible to receive length-of-service awards during October are: 30 years - Vaughn D. Rockney, Donald Mathews, Jack Allen, John Ford, and L. W. Schemery. 20 years - Jack D. Kelly, Frederic A. Tolson, Arthur A. Cousin, and Michael Petrik.

Weather Bureau Eastern Region employees receiving awards this month are: 25 years - Joseph M. Bauman, Wallops Island; Richard W. Hosler, Albany, N. Y.; William J. McKee, Jr., Garden City, N. Y.; Grant W. Vaughn, Akron; and William E. Wood, Norfolk, Va. 20 years - William P. Ray, Dulles International Airport.

Weather Bureau Western Region employees eligible for October awards are: 30 years - John D. Quinn, Salt Lake City. 25 years - Earl T. Riddiough, Bakersfield, Calif.; Ray L. Kistler, Phoenix; Conrad F. Praetzel, Jr., San Francisco; and William A. Ewing, San Francisco.

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

ERRATA NOTICE

One or more conditions of the original document may affect the quality of the image, such as:

Discolored pages

Faded or light ink

Binding intrudes into the text

This has been a co-operative project between the NOAA Central Library and the Climate Database Modernization Program, National Climate Data Center (NCDC). To view the original document, please contact the NOAA Central Library in Silver Spring, MD at (301) 713-2607 x124 or Library.Reference@noaa.gov

HOV Services
Imaging Contractor
12200 Kiln Court
Beltsville, MD 20704-1387
July 23, 2010