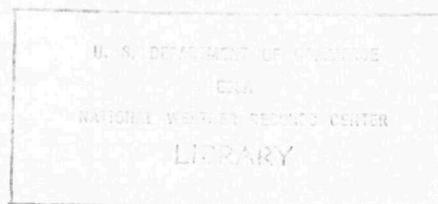


Volume 4

Number 43

October 25, 1968



*Apollo 7 astronaut is seen leaving his capsule. Frogmen from carrier USS Essex assist him prior to being lifted into a helicopter.*

## WEATHERMEN PLAY KEY ROLE IN APOLLO MISSION

Alan N. Sanderson, Chief of the Weather Bureau's Spaceflight Meteorology Group, and his staff have received many expressions of appreciation from NASA officials for the Weather Bureau's role in the successful Apollo 7 flight. The Houston, Cape Kennedy, Suitland, Miami, and Honolulu Sections of the WB's Space Operations Support Division all contributed to the success of the mission.

Before launch, the major weather concern was the low-level wind. East winds would have caused a land-landing if the flight had to be terminated within the first few seconds of flight. Wind speeds of 21 knots at the parachute height of about 150 feet were not permissible. The speeds remained at one or two knots below that critical speed for the launch.

Throughout the flight, forecasting and briefing information were used to determine two possible landing points for each revolution in the event of an unexpected termination.

Forecasts were also prepared during the flight to alert the

(more)

astronauts to photograph significant weather features, particularly Hurricane Gladys and Typhoon Gloria. This was part of the weather photography effort with Kenneth M. Nagler, Chief of the Space Operations Support Division, and Stanley D. Soules, Chief of the Physics Branch at ESSA's National Environmental Satellite Center, as the co-experimenters.

On Oct. 16, another significant forecast aided the Apollo program. Ernest Amman, MIC of the Cape Kennedy Section, with guidance from the Miami Section and the National Hurricane Center, successfully predicted that Hurricane Gladys would not produce gusts of more than 60 knots at the Kennedy Space Center. Based on this forecast, a decision was made not to move the Apollo 8 vehicle from the launch pad back into the Vehicle Assembly Building. The highest gust observed was 52 knots.

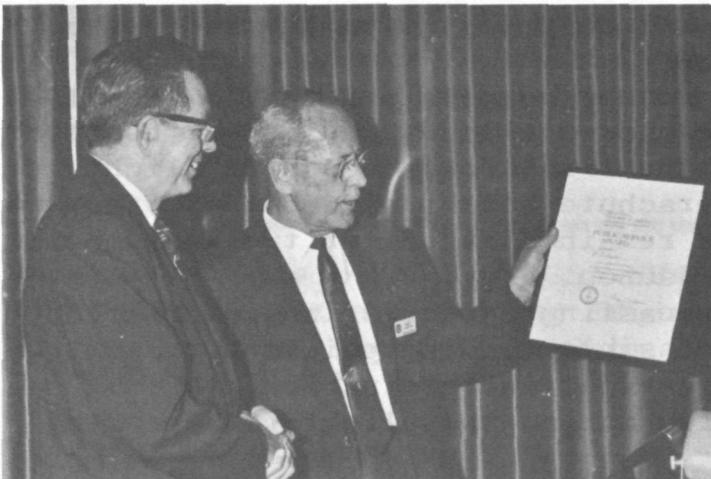
### CRADDOCK TO PROGRAM BOMEX DATA

Harold M. Craddock, meteorologist-programmer at EDS' National Weather Records Center, Asheville, N.C., has been assigned to coordinate the development of computer programs for compiling meteorological and oceanographic data to be collected during the planned 1969 BOMEX project. Mr. Craddock will work with programmers at NASA's Mississippi Test Facility, where the data will be machine-processed into standard formats for use by Project scientists.

### ELEVATIONS SURVEYED ALONG FOUR-STATE ROUTE

A Coast Survey party, headed by Robert R. Gerrish, is completing a five-month survey of elevations along a 385-mile route in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan. The work, which began last July, is part of an extensive re-survey being made to update the Coast Survey's national network of elevations. These elevations serve as control points for determining closely spaced elevations in large-scale mapping and engineering projects.

### FOR SERVICE TO AGRICULTURE



B. F. Smith (left), Executive Vice President, Delta Council, Stoneville, Miss., accepts the Weather Bureau Public Service Award from Wilmer L. Thompson, Director, WB Southern Region. The award was presented at the Agricultural Weather Workshop at Stoneville, Miss., Oct. 3.

## WEATHER BUREAU WINS FORESTERS' TROPHY



W. R. Krumm, Western Region Fire-Weather Coordinator, represented the Weather Bureau at the annual meeting of the National Association of State Foresters, held at New Orleans, La., Oct. 6-10. On behalf of the Bureau, Mr. Krumm accepted the association's "Golden Smokey Award"--an Oscar-like image of Smokey the Bear mounted on a pedestal. The award was presented to the Bureau for "outstanding public service in forest fire prevention."

## ERL MAN NOMINATED FOR HANDICAPPED AWARD

Robert E. Wilkerson, physicist and project leader at the ESSA Research Laboratories, has been nominated as the Department of Commerce representative in the Colorado competition leading to the Handicapped American of the Year Award--an annual award given to mark National Employ the Handicapped Week. Mr. Wilkerson is one of 85 physically handicapped workers employed at Boulder by ESSA and the National Bureau of Standards. A victim of Friederick's Ataxia, Mr. Wilkerson was first employed by the Department's National Bureau of Standards in 1955 and later transferred to ESSA. He has collaborated with leading scientists in the study of diffraction phenomena and in the development of propagation theory. He established and sustains the Wilkerson Foundation at the University of Colorado--a financial grant to handicapped students.

## CLIMAT CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY AMS CHAPTER

A National Conference and Workshop on Applied Climatology, sponsored by the Asheville Chapter of the American Meteorological Society, will be held in Asheville, N.C., Oct. 29-31. Three sessions and workshops are planned to acquaint private meteorologists with materials and services available at EDS' National Weather Records Center. Dr. J. Murray Mitchell, Jr., Project Scientist, Climatic Change Project, will chair one session. Dr. Harold L. Crutcher, Project Scientist, 3-D Global Climatology Project, and Robert G. Beebe, Weather Bureau Industrial Meteorologist, will present papers. Others attending will be William H. Haggard, Director, National Geophysical Data Center, and Dr. William H. Klein, Director of SDO's Techniques Development Laboratory.

## COLD COUNTRY RESTAFFED



ESSA personnel have been selected to staff duty stations in Antarctica for the 1968-69 season as part of the United States Antarctic Research Program sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Among them are, left to right, front row: Roger White (WB), Alex Kennel (ERL), David DeRoo (WB), Carl Hall (WB), and James Kroth (WB). Back row: Charles Dziura (WB), Charles Roberts (WB), William van Steveninck (C&GS), Dale Vance (ERL), Michael Maish (ERL), Perry Steinman (WB), Robert Mutel (ERL), and Charles Dake (WB). Charles Roberts is beginning his sixth tour of duty in the Antarctic.

## ESSA BRIDGES COMMUNICATION GAP

Eighty-eight ESSA Washington-area employees attended a Clear Writing Seminar--one of the largest in-house seminars ever conducted for ESSA by a non-government organization. The seminar, held Oct. 15-16, was led by Robert Gunning, whose Ohio firm has produced similar programs for private industry and other government agencies.

## OLYMPIC WEATHER REPORTS RELAYED

As a public service during the Olympics, the Weather Bureau Southern Region has relayed the Mexico City weather forecasts onto the Weather Bureau teletypewriter circuits. They were translated from Spanish by National Meteorological Center and WBO, Brownsville, Tex., personnel, and made available each day for retransmission on the ESSA Weather Wire and local teletypewriter loops.

## DES MOINES METEOROLOGIST DIES

Loy C. Johnson, meteorologist at the Des Moines, Iowa, Weather Bureau airport station, died Oct. 12.

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](mailto:Library.Reference@noaa.gov)

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