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OCEAN WAVES ANALYZED IN VA. STUDY

Dr. Robert Byrne, of ERL's Land and Sea Interaction Laboratory at Norfolk, Va., headed a two-month study designed to increase man's knowledge of the nature of ocean waves and their effect on beaches and structures along the shore. In the study, waves were filmed by a fixed camera on a pier at Virginia Beach. Every morning, the scientists set up a vertical lattice of pipes perpendicular to the shore near the pier, providing a grid against which the waves could be measured. The study was conducted between low and high tides for about eight hours each day. At the completion of each day's work, the pipes were dismantled. Analysis of the pictures will permit the development of mathematical equations for predicting how high various waves will rise on sloping beaches or seawalls. The equations would be applicable to other coastal areas, with allowances made for differences in wave height, period between waves, beach slope, and bottom characteristics.



FLOATING ISLAND RESTOCKED

An Arctic Research Laboratory DC-3 aircraft made the first landing of the 1968-69 season on Ice Island T-3, Sept. 25. This was the first landing since the airstrip was closed on June 18 because of thaw and unsafe landing conditions. The aircraft delivered scientific gear, produce, and mail. The staff was plagued by problems during the summer. The Operations Building had to be relocated due to melting of the ice surface, and the Station Manager almost lost his life when his oversnow vehicle broke through the ice and sank to the ocean floor. The floating island is now so far away from Barrow, Alaska, that a loaded DC-3 cannot make the flight without refueling at Mould Bay. ESSA personnel on the island are Leopoldo Garcia, Oliver L. Hess, and Robert S. Newland.

MISS. LA. UNDERGO ELEVATION SURVEYS

A Coast Survey party, headed by Lt. Glen R. Schaefer, is conducting a four-month survey of elevations along a 350-mile route in Mississippi and Louisiana. The work, which began in October, is part of an extensive re-survey being made to update the Coast Survey's national network of elevation markers.

FLORIDA GOVERNOR LAUDS WARNING CENTER



Governor Claude R. Kirk, Jr., of Florida praised the warning efforts of Dr. Robert H. Simpson, Director of the National Hurricane Center, and his staff in the following statement to his Cabinet on Oct. 22:

"Forty years ago on September 16, 1928, a great hurricane struck the Lake Okeechobee area. Residents had no warning. Within hours an estimated 2,000 Floridians perished.

"Just as the Hoover Dike protects the Glades and our citizens, I wish to especially commend Dr. Robert H. Simpson and his colleagues at the National Hurricane Warning Center in Coral Gables for their outstanding service in protecting Florida by reporting the erratic

course of Hurricane Gladys.

"Unquestionably many lives and millions of dollars of personal property were saved by accurate forecasting. My office was in constant contact and I wish to thank Dr. Simpson and his staff for a job well done."



SODERBERG TO HEAD MICHIGAN STATION

Marshall E. Soderberg, forecaster at the Weather Bureau's Grand Rapids, Mich., office for the past seven years, has been appointed head of the station. Mr. Soderberg replaced James Zoller, who is transferring to the Bureau's Detroit office. Employed by the Weather Bureau for 27 years, his first weather assignment was at Sioux City, Iowa. He has also served at Sault Ste. Marie and Muskegon.

BAYER RETURNS FROM AFGHANISTAN, IRAN

Kenneth G. Bayer, a geophysicist in the Coast Survey Seismology Division, has returned from 4½ months in Afghanistan and Iran. In Afghanistan, he initiated a program in earthquake seismology, using the World-Wide-Standard Seismograph System installed by Coast Survey personnel in the spring. Instructors at Kabul University were given daily lectures in seismology, and special lectures on seismic principles were offered to all engineering professors. Through the cooperation of the Royal Government of Afghanistan, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the Coast Survey, the Kabul Seismological Observatory is now sending seismic readings directly to the U.S., U.S.S.R., Iran, Pakistan, India, and France.

While Mr. Bayer was in Afghanistan, devastating earthquakes occurred in northeast Iran on August 31 and Sept. 1. He was asked to participate in an on-site investigation of the disaster area and spent one week measuring the surface faulting and compiling statistics on damage and fatalities. The maximum horizontal displacement was found to be 13 feet, while the maximum vertical movement was 3 feet. More than 10,000 people lost their lives in the earthquakes and approximately 15,000 houses were destroyed or irreparably damaged, leaving 60,000 people homeless. Mr. Bayer attributes the extensive damage to the widespread use of poorly mortared adobe brick for construction and the prevalence of massive masonry roofs and ceilings without reinforcement.

ATS-1 RECEIVING EQUIPMENT INSTALLED AT WALLOPS

NESC is installing command equipment and communications facilities at Wallops Station, Va., to receive photographs from the spin scan cloud cameras of ATS-1. The satellite's communications equipment will also be used to transmit weather facsimile (WEFAX) data to APT stations in the Pacific reception area. Target date for inception of the experiment is February or March of 1969.

MIDDLETON SELECTED FOR BARBADOS POST

Alexander C. Middleton, former Weather Bureau Area Electronic Supervisor at Resolute, NWT, Canada, has been selected to fill the Physical Science Technician position at Barbados. He will be responsible for electronic maintenance and training of observers at Barbados, Curacao, and Trinidad, under the technical direction of Bruce Hosmer, Caribbean Area Electronic Supervisor in the Weather Bureau's Overseas Operations Division. Mr. Hosmer is stationed at San Juan, P.R. Mr. Middleton joined the Bureau in 1946 after four years of service with the U.S. Air Force. He has had extensive experience in overseas assignments.

A MATTER OF INTERPRETATION

George J. Kitazaki, Weather Bureau observer aboard the Coast Guard Cutter CHAUTAUQUA, served as interpreter for an injured Japanese seaman, who was brought aboard the vessel for treatment for severed wrist tendons. This is the third known incident where a Pacific Weather Patrol employee has assisted in medical emergencies as an interpreter.

FORECASTING PROGRAM DEVELOPED IN SDO LAB

The new computer program of forecasting ocean waves, described in ESSA NEWS of October 4, was developed in the Techniques Development Laboratory of the Weather Bureau's Systems Development Office by Arthur Pore and Lt. W. S. Richard of the ESSA Commissioned Corps, with the cooperation of National Meteorological Center personnel. The program, tailored after a method used by the Navy Fleet Numerical Weather Center in Monterey, Calif., produces 24- and 48-hour forecasts of sea and swell for the North Atlantic and North Pacific oceans.

EDS DISTRIBUTES CLIMATE PUBLICATION

EDS's Foreign Branch recently distributed a pamphlet, "World-wide Extremes of Temperature, Precipitation and Pressure Recorded by Continental Area," to all Weather Bureau stations.

TILGNER RECEIVES SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE AWARD

Edward E. Tilgner, electronics technician assigned to the Albuquerque Seismological Center, recently received a sustained superior performance award for his contribution to the establishment of the Alaska Tsunami Warning System. In addition to his contribution to the development of the instrumentation, Mr. Tilgner carried out technical negotiations with military, civilian, and commercial agencies to establish communications links necessary for the successful operation of the System.

ESSA HOSTS COMMERCE INTERNS

More than 60 Commerce management interns attended a briefing at ESSA headquarters on Oct. 28. Dr. John W. Townsend, ESSA Deputy Administrator, gave a brief summary of ESSA's history and formation, followed by a question and answer period. Theodore P. Gleiter, Assistant Administrator for Administration and Technical Services, and Donald C. House, Chief, Program Evaluation Division, discussed ESSA's budget, finance, personnel, space, and research activities. Dan Bella of the Career Development Branch, Personnel Division, was coordinator for the session.

THOM ATTENDS WMO SYMPOSIUM IN BRUSSELS

H. C. S. Thom of the Environmental Data Service presented an invited paper, "Application of Climatological Analysis to Engineering Design Data," at the WMO Symposium on Urban Climates and Building Climatology at Brussels, Oct. 15-25. Mr. Thom also chaired a symposium devoted to "Rain and Snow; Intensity, Density, Weight."

GRAPHICS SECTION WINS GROUP AWARD

Five members of the Art and Design Section of ESSA's Graphics Branch last week received a cash award totaling \$1500, in recognition of their sustained superior performance during the past year. Left to right: Bill Welsh; Jack Rausch; Won Joo Leonard, now an employee of HEW; Mr. Gleiter, who presented the awards; Charles Cotten, now of the Federal Coordinator's Office; and Paul Presley.



SHORT NAMED MID-CONTINENT FIELD DIRECTOR



Captain Gerald L. Short has been appointed to head the C&GS Mid-Continent Field Office, the Survey's largest field administrative unit. Capt. Short, a 28-year Coast Survey veteran, will assume the Kansas City post on Dec. 1, following the retirement of Capt. Edward B. Brown. Capt. Short has served aboard 15 of the Coast Survey's ships; as chief of geodetic field parties in the United States; as liaison officer at the Norfolk, Va., Naval Amphibious Base; and as head of the agency's Boston, Mass., and Anchorage, Alaska, offices. His most recent positions have been as chief of the operations division at the Pacific Marine Center in Seattle, Wash., and commanding officer of the USC&GSS PATHFINDER.

WBAS TO BE RETIRED

Weather Bureau Airport Station--and its abbreviation, WBAS--will soon be retired after more than 40 years of service. Under the Bureau's forecast reorganization, field offices will be designated Weather Forecast Office or Weather Bureau Office.

SCHALLERT ATTENDS ROCKET NETWORK MEETING

William Schallert of the Climatology Division represented EDS (World Data Center-A) at a meeting of the Experimental Intra-American Rocket Network at Wallops Station, Va., Oct. 21-23. At the meeting, the Network adopted a standard report and publishing format for meteorological rocket data for use beginning January 1, 1969. The format, aimed toward international adoption, was designed with the aid of the World Data Center.

MISS. UPPER AIR FACILITY RELOCATES

The Weather Bureau's Jackson, Miss., Upper Air Facility made its first upper-air sounding from its new observing site on Oct. 18, having lost less than two days of operation while equipment and support facilities were being moved from its old location. The upper-air facility was formerly operated as a separate group from the regular airport station. The new quarters are equipped with a radar tower and associated equipment for the new WSR-57M radar due to be installed next year.

A FAMILY TRADITION

Tyrone Sutherland, third generation Weather Bureau observer, is attending a new six-month meteorological training course at the Caribbean Meteorological Institute in Barbados, W.I. His grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Sutherland, were the first observers on the island of St. Lucia. His father, Percival Sutherland, continued the observing tradition until his death in 1967, and his mother is now acting as the island's Weather Bureau observer. Tyrone Sutherland is expected to return to St. Lucia as a meteorological assistant in the government service at Vigie Airport following completion of his training.

COAST PILOT 7 UPDATED

A new edition of U.S. Coast Pilot 7--the first to be issued in five years--will be published by the Coast Survey during November. The 360-page volume will contain the latest information on the coast and harbors of California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii, based on a year's on-the-spot inspection.

SOUTHERN REGION COMMENDED BY TEXAS BROADCASTERS

The Weather Bureau's Southern Regional Office recently was commended by a resolution of the United Press Broadcasters Association of Texas, expressing appreciation for the cooperation extended to its members by the Bureau and especially by Carl Reber, the Southern Region's User Services Representative.

JOEL IS PACIFIC OBSERVER OF THE QUARTER

Galen A. Joel, senior Micronesian observer at the Weather Bureau Office, Ponape, Eastern Carolines in the Trust Territory, has been named Pacific "Observer of the Quarter" for the second quarter of 1968. Mr. Joel entered the Weather Bureau at Ponape in 1956.

WB PARTICIPATES IN OHIO EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Weather Bureau's Akron, Ohio, airport station recently completed its seventh year of participation in the Canton Public Schools' Outdoor Education Program. The program consists of 12 groups of 150 sixth grade students, who attend a local YMCA camp for instruction in outdoor-oriented subjects. A complete set of weather observing instruments has been installed at the camp for use by Weather Bureau lecturers.

COAST SURVEY CARTOGRAPHER RETIRES

James C. Chambers, cartographer in the Coast Survey's Marine Chart Division, retired Nov. 1 after 30 years of service with the agency. Twenty years of his service was spent in the field. He began with the Geodesy Division as a bench mark setter and rodman on a leveling party. Mr. Chambers transferred to the Washington office in 1958.

SERVICE AWARDS

The following Weather Bureau Central Region employees are eligible for length-of-service awards in November. 40 years - Herbert H. Bomalaski, Green Bay. 25 years - Charles F. Trainer, Kansas City; Marcus W. Brooks, Kansas City; Alden A. Clemons, Chicago (Midway); John D. Gholson, Dodge City; Thayne O. Mauch, Kansas City; Stanley E. Baldwin, East Lansing; Stephen J. Rigney, Madison, Wisc.; and Edwin W. Adkins, St. Cloud, Minn. 20 years - Robert S. Veach, Columbia, Mo. In the C&GS Mid-Continent Field Area, Carl Orelup, Kansas City, will be eligible for his 30-year award.

Washington-area ESSA employees eligible to receive length-of-service awards during November are: 35 years - James F. Richardson, Miles F. Harris, and Charles W. Lane. 30 years - Violet Rodwell, John T. Matta, and Carl L. Frey. 20 years - John Huson, William Fenwick, and James Hastings.

WB Eastern Region employees receiving service awards during November are: 30 years - Benjamin Kolker, Buffalo; Elven C. Rich, ERH; and William B. Sabre, Newark, N.J. 25 years - Frank J. Coppola, Boston; William Fiocca, ERH; Martin D. Frain, LaGuardia, N.Y.; Wilson D. Pierpoint, Raleigh, N.C.; Thomas J. Waldrop, Charleston, S.C., and James R. Thompson, Cleveland. 20 years - Joseph Takach, New York.

RETIRED WEATHERMAN DIES

Gerald P. Crawford, who retired from the Oklahoma City, Okla., Weather Bureau airport station in 1963, died Oct. 15. Mr. Crawford began his career in 1926 in Broken Arrow, Okla., and later served at WB headquarters; Tulsa, Okla.; St. Louis, Mo.; New York City; and Albany, N.Y.

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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