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**ESSA**  
**NEWS**

Volume 4

Number 51

December 20, 1968



#### A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

The past year we have been privileged to serve our Nation on land, at sea, and in the air. Our tasks have been tremendously diverse, and they have taken us across the country and around the world as we have provided the science and services necessary for living in harmony with the natural forces about us.

My deep appreciation goes to the entire ESSA family for a year of dedicated, effective performance. With Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr., Deputy Administrator, and Rear Adm. Harley D. Nygren, Associate Administrator, I should like to take this opportunity to wish you all a joyous holiday season and a happy and fruitful New Year.

*Robert M. White*



### **CAPT. NATTO TO COMMAND OCEANOGRAPHER**

Capt. Merlyn E. Natto has assumed command of the USC&GS Ship OCEANOGRAPHER--one of the Nation's most advanced oceanographic vessels--based at the Coast Survey's Pacific Marine Center in Seattle, Wash. A veteran of 19 years with the Coast Survey, Capt. Natto has served aboard seven other vessels, with various field parties, and at Coast Survey offices in Norfolk and Washington, D.C. He received a civil engineering degree from Iowa State University in 1949 and also attended Carleton College, Capital University, American University, George Washington University, and the Armed Forces Industrial College, Washington, D.C. During World War II, he served with the Air Force in Europe. Capt. Natto's most recent assignment was as executive officer of the OCEANOGRAPHER.

### **EIGHTH ESSA SATELLITE LAUNCHED**

ESSA 8 was launched successfully on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 9:21 a.m. Pacific Standard Time. Preliminary figures show that its orbit has an apogee of 907.88 statute miles and a perigee of 878.17 statute miles. First pictures, received from the spacecraft's two APT cameras on Dec. 17, were excellent. After check-out by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the satellite is expected to be turned over to ESSA for incorporation into the operational system about Dec. 24.

### **WB ANNOUNCES NEW WINTER FORECAST TERMS**

This year the Weather Bureau is using the terms "Watch" and "Warning" to describe winter weather hazards in much the same way they are used in tornado and hurricane forecasts. "Watch" alerts the public that a storm has formed and is approaching the area; "Warning" means that a storm is imminent and immediate action to protect life and property should begin.

### **EASTERN REGION DEDICATES FIRST WBFO**

The Columbia, S. C., Weather Bureau office, headed by John C. Purvis, was officially designated a Weather Bureau Forecast Office in ceremonies held Dec. 13. The S. C. office is the first facility in the Eastern Region to carry the new title under a streamlining of Bureau forecasting operations. Attending the ceremony were Dr. George P. Cressman, Weather Bureau Director; Silvio G. Simplicio, Director of the Bureau's Eastern Region; South Carolina's Governor Robert H. McNair, and other state and local officials.

## AAAS SYMPOSIA TO BE TELEVISED

Two ESSA scientists will participate in the Antarctic Research Symposium at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, to be held in Dallas, Texas, Dec. 26-31. Morton J. Rubin of ESSA's Plans and Requirements Division will chair the session on "Cold Poles and Heat Balance." G. C. Reid of ERL's Space Disturbances Laboratory will present a paper, titled "Riometer Study of the Dynamics of Conjugacy over a Few Hundred Kilometers at D Region Altitudes," to a session on conjugate phenomena.

Nine symposia and panel discussions as well as a number of informal interviews will be broadcast from the AAAS meeting over local educational television stations. Participating stations are: Washington, D. C. (WETA); Augusta, Maine (WCBB); Orono, Maine (WMEB-TV); Calais, Maine (WMED-TV); Presque Isle, Maine (WMEM-TV); Boston, Mass. (WGBH-TV); Binghamton, N. Y. (WSKG); New York, N. Y. (WNBT); Rochester, N. Y. (WXXI); Schenectady, N.Y. (WMHT); Syracuse, N. Y. (WCNY-TV); Philadelphia, Pa. (WHYY-TV); and Providence, R.I. (WSBE).

## HO! HO! HO! EVERYBODY GO!

The Coast and Geodetic Survey came up with something new in raising funds for the needy during the Christmas season. Gene Michael, budget coordinator on the C&GS Executive and Technical Services Staff, obtained the agency's approval to have "grownups" photographed sitting on Santa's lap, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Friday, Monday, and Tuesday, Dec. 20, 23, and 24 beside the Christmas tree in the lobby of Building 1, Rockville, Md. The photos, made by Wallace Heinbaugh, photogrammetrist, will cost \$1.50 each with \$1.00 to go to charity and the balance to cover the cost of the film. All ESSA headquarters employees are invited to participate.



A Certificate of Achievement for Outstanding Service in the 1969 Combined Federal Campaign in the Washington area was presented by Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator, to Marion G. Talcott (right) on Dec. 4. ESSA achieved 148 percent of its quota surpassing all other Department of Commerce agencies. Mr. Talcott has directed these fund-raising activities for the past eight years.



# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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July 23, 2010