

# ESSA news

Volume 4

Number 52

December 27, 1968

## DR. DAVIDSON, BOMEX DIRECTOR, DIES

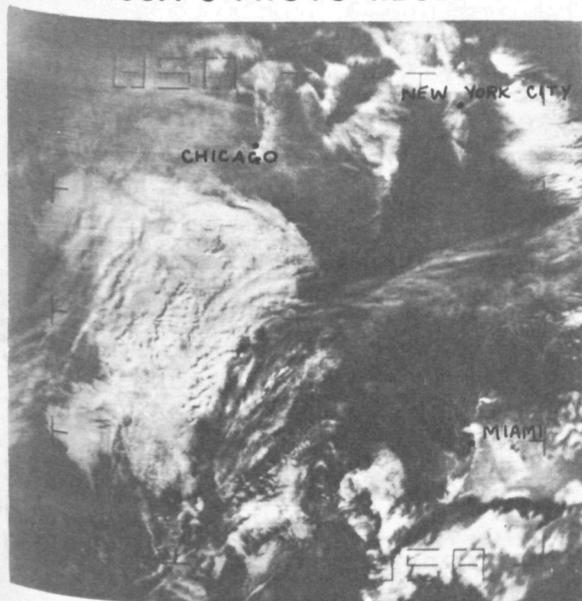
Dr. Benjamin Davidson, Scientific Director for the Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Experiment (BOMEX) in ESSA's Office of World Weather Systems, died Dec. 20 in New York City. The office is the focal point in the Federal Government for the planning and implementing of U.S. participation in the international World Weather Program.

Born in Walden, N. Y., Dr. Davidson received his BA, MA, and Ph.D. degrees from New York University. He also attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

From 1955 until he joined ESSA in June 1968, he was research scientist, Professor of Meteorology, and Director of the Geophysical Sciences Laboratory at New York University. He also served as consultant and was the author of many reports, papers, and books in the field of atmospheric science.

From 1964-68, Dr. Davidson directed a large comprehensive study on urban air pollution dynamics in the New York metropolitan areas.

## FIRST ESSA 8 PHOTO RECEIVED



*The weather on Tuesday morning, Dec. 17, looked like this from 900 miles above the earth in the first U.S. mainland photograph transmitted by the new weather satellite, ESSA 8, launched Dec. 15 from the Western Test Range, Lompoc, Calif.*



### **GUTH TO HEAD SHIP CONSTRUCTION GROUP**

Cdr. Jack E. Guth has been named chief of the Coast Survey's Ship Construction Group, succeeding Capt. Allen L. Powell, who will become Director of the Atlantic Marine Center and East Coast Field Director in Norfolk, Va., Jan. 2.

### **1969 SEMINARS PLANNED FOR WBH**

The "Clear Writing Seminar," recently attended by more than 90 ESSA employees at Weather Bureau headquarters, has proved to be so popular that the Personnel Division's Career Development Office has arranged for two more one-day seminars on Feb. 3 and 4, 1969. Seventy-five applications for these classes have already been received. The Systems Development Office that originally initiated the action for the first seminar has, aided by the Career Development Office, arranged for two one-day sessions on "Making the Most of Charts and Graphs" to be held in the Gramax Building on Feb. 5 and 6. These classes are already filled to capacity with 102 applicants. K. W. Haemer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, a recognized expert in the field, will conduct the classes. The in-house seminars provide excellent training at extremely low cost per individual with the minimum of time and effort required by employees to participate.

### **EARTHQUAKE PREDICTIONS COMMITTEE MEETS**

The Earthquake Research Committee (formerly the Earthquake Predictions Committee) met at the Earthquake Mechanism Laboratory in San Francisco on Dec. 6. Discussion centered on the measurement programs along the San Andreas Fault by EML and the Coast Survey. New ESSA Research Laboratories' programs for other agencies presented were: a Norway seismic noise study, earthquake source azimuthal corrections, and earth strain measurements in Nevada. Committee members attending the meeting chaired by Dr. Leroy R. Alldredge, Director of the Earth Sciences Laboratories, were Dr. Don Tocher (ERL), C. A. Whitten, and L. M. Murphy (Coast Survey). Capt. R. M. Stone (Coast Survey) and R. D. Nason (ERL) were guest participants. Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator, recently approved the renaming of the committee to more accurately reflect its purpose.

### **TRAJECTORY FORECASTS ON FACSIMILE**

Computer forecasts produced by a 3-dimensional trajectory model are being transmitted twice-daily on the FOFAX (Forecast Office Facsimile Network) from the National Meteorological Center. The 24-hour predictions for the surface are depicted by a 4-panel chart. In addition to the usual temperature and relative humidity, the new panels include forecasts of net vertical displacement and dew point. This technique is designed to provide greater accuracy and detail in forecasts of low-level temperature and moisture distributions. The trajectory forecasts should be especially useful in predicting severe local storms and can also be applied to forecasting fog, cloudiness, and precipitation. The model was developed in SDO's Techniques Development Laboratory by Ronald M. Reap and Dr. M. A. Alaka, chief, Special Projects Branch.

### **LANGLEY FIELD WEATHER STATION RECEIVES AWARD**

Karl R. Johannessen, Associate Director of the Weather Bureau for Meteorological Operations, presented an Institutional Award to the Langley AFB Weather Station. The certificate, presented to the Chief Observer, was in recognition of 50 years of operation of the climatological substation at Langley Field which contributed to 83 years of temperature records and 132 years of precipitation records from the Hampton, Va., area.

### **ECKLUND APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCED**



Warner L. Ecklund, ERL physicist, has been appointed to supervise the completion and operation of the Solar Proton Detection Network of the Space Disturbances Laboratory. Mr. Ecklund joined the Department of Commerce after graduation from Nebraska Wesleyan in 1959. Before joining ESSA, he conducted ionospheric research for the National Bureau of Standards. He has served as field site chief at Baie St. Paul, Quebec, and as supervisor of the Anchorage monitoring station since 1967. The Solar Proton Network is a system of environmental monitoring sensors that feed into a computer at Anchorage, Alaska. The data are then transmitted to another computer in Boulder, Colo., where they are used by the Space Disturbance Forecast Center. The most immediate use of the data gathered by the network is to alert the Space Disturbance Forecast Center that an event has occurred.

## MILLER HONORED FOR VIET NAM SERVICE



James R. Miller (left), meteorologist in charge of the Weather Bureau's Sacramento, Calif., office, has received the U.S. Government Award and the Viet Nam Medal for outstanding civilian service in South Viet Nam as an Advisor to the Directorate of Meteorology from 1959 to 1964. Before joining the Weather Bureau as MIC, Mr. Miller was

a member of the Civil Aviation Assistance Group with the Agency for International Development. Making the presentation is Phillip Williams, Jr., assistant chief, Scientific Services Division, Western Region.

## EDS WIND EQUIPMENT COMMISSIONING PLANNED

A significant milestone in the Environmental Data Service's Reference Climatological Station Program will be reached when the new wind accumulator equipment at the State University Reference Climatological Station, Las Cruces, New Mexico, is commissioned on Jan. 1. The new equipment, developed specifically for this program, resolves wind data into its components and also records total passage--information needed for future studies of climatic change. Seven of these wind systems will have been commissioned by the end of FY'69. The wind data gathered will be available through EDS.

## ROCKNEY ON ANTARCTIC TOUR

Vaughn D. Rockney, chief of the Overseas Operations Division, left December 19 for McMurdo Sound, Christchurch and Wellington, New Zealand to review the Weather Bureau's Antarctic activities. Another purpose of his trip is to make comparisons between the national standard barometers in Wellington and in Washington for the WMO. Mr. Rockney is expected to return to Washington about Jan. 13.

## NASA TO TEST LUNAR SEISMOMETERS

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration plans to test its lunar seismometers at a Coast Survey seismological observatory. The seismometers will be placed on the moon to record moonquakes. The space agency is now evaluating the facilities at Palmer and College, Alaska, and Newport, Washington.

### **DR. CAMPBELL CHOSEN VISITING SCIENTIST**

Dr. Wallace H. Campbell, director of ERL's Geomagnetism Laboratory, has been chosen to participate in the American Geophysical Union's visiting scientist program. The program, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, provides for visits to colleges and universities by scientists active in geophysical research. Dr. Campbell will visit Bradley University, Peoria, Ill., the University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill., and Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill.

### **RALEIGH FORECAST OFFICE AWARDED BRONZE PLAQUE**

Employees of the Weather Bureau Forecast Office at Raleigh, N.C., received a bronze plaque award from the United Fund for increasing their pledges by more than 10 percent over the previous year. Accepting the award for the Weather Bureau at a special United Fund Ceremony was Mrs. Jennette C. Poole. The plaque reads: "United Campaign Award for Outstanding Citizenship-1968 Award."

### **DR. LARSEN APPOINTED TO UNIVERSITY FACULTY**

Dr. Jim C. Larsen of the Pacific Oceanographic Laboratories' Joint Tsunami Research effort at the University of Hawaii has been appointed a member of the University's Affiliate Graduate Faculty.

### **MCDONNELL PRESENTS PAPER IN LONDON**

James E. McDonnell, of NMC's Data Automation Division, presented an invited paper at the Symposium on Automation, Simulation, and Data Handling in Civil Aviation held in London, England. The two-day meeting was sponsored by the British Air Line Pilots Association.

### **BRUDER LAUDED FOR NAUTICAL CHART WORK**

Wallace A. Bruder, technical assistant to the Chief of the Coast Survey's Marine Chart Division, has been honored by the Department of Justice and the Naval Oceanographic Office for his 34 years in nautical chart work. At a farewell dinner for Bruder, who is retiring Dec. 31, Robert Beaton, chief of the Naval Marine Chart Division, presented him with the Naval Oceanographic Office plaque and the Justice Department presented him with a letter of commendation for "outstanding support" of the department as an expert witness in litigation cases involving maritime claims against the U.S.



## COAST SURVEY OCEANOGRAPHER WINS ARMY MEDAL

Tommy J. Kendrick, a Coast Survey oceanographer, has received the Army Commendation Medal for "meritorious service" during his two-year tour of military duty. Mr. Kendrick, whose specialty is geology, taught for 16 months at the Army Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, Va. In bestowing the award, the Army stated that "his conscientious concern and earnest endeavors toward the presentation of high quality instruction far exceeded those normally expected of persons of similar grade and experience."



## NEW ESSA BUSINESS CARDS AVAILABLE

Business cards are now available to ESSA employees in a new format recently approved by the Department of Commerce and ESSA. Employees requiring cards must receive approval from heads of Management Control Centers. The cards, printed black on white, will be sold to employees for \$3.50 for 100 plus \$1.00 for each additional 100 cards requested with the initial order. Checks should be made payable to the ESSA Employees Association. Direct inquiries to Henry Eichert, ESSA, C-1422, Room 013, Bldg. 2, Rockville, Md. 20852.

## PALMER REPRESENTS EDS AT PENN. STATE CONFERENCE

Wayne Palmer, Project Scientist, represented the Environmental Data Service at a meeting called to discuss growing season summaries. Participating in the discussion at Pennsylvania State University were Norman Canfield, Eastern Region Climatologist, and State Climatologists from New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia.

## LASER GEODIMETERS TESTED IN COLORADO

Two Laser Geodimeters, developed by the Coast Survey's Geodesy Division, measured a 43.2-mile line in a recent test near Denver, Colo. The line measured was from approximately 20 miles SE of Denver to Boulder Mountain, with the line of sight passing directly over the city of Denver. Lt. George R. Knecht, Chief of Party G-20, and George B. Lesley, Geodimeter Specialist, stated that the instrument was on the station SE of Denver and the reflective mirrors were on Boulder Mountain. The laser light reflecting the mirrors was so strong that the reflection could be seen with the naked eye. Plans are being made for a longer distance test early in 1969.

## SERVICE AWARDS

Length-of-service awards are due to the following employees during December:

Washington-area ESSA employees: 30 years - Joseph J. Grubaugh, Janet P. Wright, and Louis Hurwitz. 20 years - William B. Jordan, David S. Baylor, Francis Rouse, James C. McClain, and Wallace J. Allen.

WB Southern Region: 30 years - G. Cleveland Holladay, Athens, Ga. 25 years - Neil H. Sharp, Little Rock, Ark.; Frederick B. Power, Tallahassee, Fla.; and Arthur F. Kline, Tulsa, Okla. 20 years - James F. Wildes, Atlanta, Ga.; and Robert S. Ellis, Fort Worth, Tex.

WB Central Region: 30 years - M. Oliver Asp, CRH; Jacob W. Morgan, Chicago; Walter A. Schroeter, Kansas City, Mo.; John R. Moeller, Kansas City, Mo.; Ivin L. Gee, Lander, Wyo.; and William J. Halluska, Minneapolis, Minn. 25 years - Alfred R. Brown, Columbia, Mo.; Leland F. Vandecar, Detroit, Mich.; and Harry Swenson, Jr., Kansas City, Mo.



Four Newark, N.J., Weather Bureau airport station employees have received length-of-service awards totaling 110 years of Federal service. Cutting anniversary cake are, from left, James W. Allen, 25 years; William B. Sabre, 30 years; MIC Carl Boethling, 30 years; and Nicholas Tusack, 25 years.

## WAITE PUBLISHED IN IOWA PERIODICAL

Paul J. Waite, Iowa State Climatologist, has authored a series of meteorological and climatological articles in Iowa Farm Science, a periodical of the Iowa State University at Ames. The weather features are the magazine's most popular items, and approximately 5,000 copies of each are printed as separates.

## SCHULTZ MARKS 40 YEARS' SERVICE



A. J. Schultz, Administrative Officer of the Coast Survey's Mid-Continent Field Area headquarters, Kansas City, Mo., completed 40 years of service in the Federal Government on Dec. 24. Capt. Gerald L. Short, Mid-Continent Field Director (right), presented Mr. Schultz with a length-of-service emblem accompanied by a letter of commendation recognizing his years of excellent service.

## PHOTOGRAMMETRIC TEAMS END 1968 SEASON

Coast Survey aerial photography missions, directed by H. R. Cravat, terminated their 1968 season after photographing 190 airports for obstruction charting. In addition, the photogrammetric teams photographed over 8000 linear miles of shoreline for nautical charting.

## RETIREMENTS

William J. Rogers, principal assistant at the Pomona, Calif., Weather Bureau office, retired Dec. 24 after 32 years of Federal service. Mr. Rogers, who began his Weather Bureau career in 1938 at Sacramento, Calif., has served in Pomona for the past 27 years.

David J. Stevlingson, ESSA State Climatologist for Idaho, will retire on Dec. 28 after nearly 40 years' service. Mr. Stevlingson joined the Weather Bureau at La Crosse, Wisc., in 1929.

## WALSH DIES IN NEW YORK

Patrick A. Walsh, meteorologist at the Weather Bureau Forecast Office, New York, died Dec. 10. Mr. Walsh entered the Bureau in 1948.

---

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, WSC, 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