

Volume 4

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ESSA MEN CALLED TO ACTIVE SERVICE

Fifteen ESSA employees were affected by the President's recent call-up of Navy and Air Force reservists. Called to active duty were: William P. Shook, Jack E. Fancher, William P. Stanley, and Brian N. Moore, all of C&GS headquarters, Rockville, Md. Weather Bureau - Donn W. Erickson and Carl W. Landers, Little Rock, Ark.; Jerry F. Boudreaux, Albuquerque, New Mex.; Ted Lunquitz, Pueblo, Colo.; Raleigh E. Lackey, Wichita, Kans.; Dion D. Hamilton, San Francisco; Martin Ross, Atlantic City, N.J.; Raymond Biedinger, Washington, D. C.; Edward M. Gross, NMC, Suitland, Md.; Jerome Stevenson, NMC, Suitland; and Dr. Lawrence C. Ranieri, ESSA headquarters.

1967 WAS THIRD WORST TORNADO YEAR

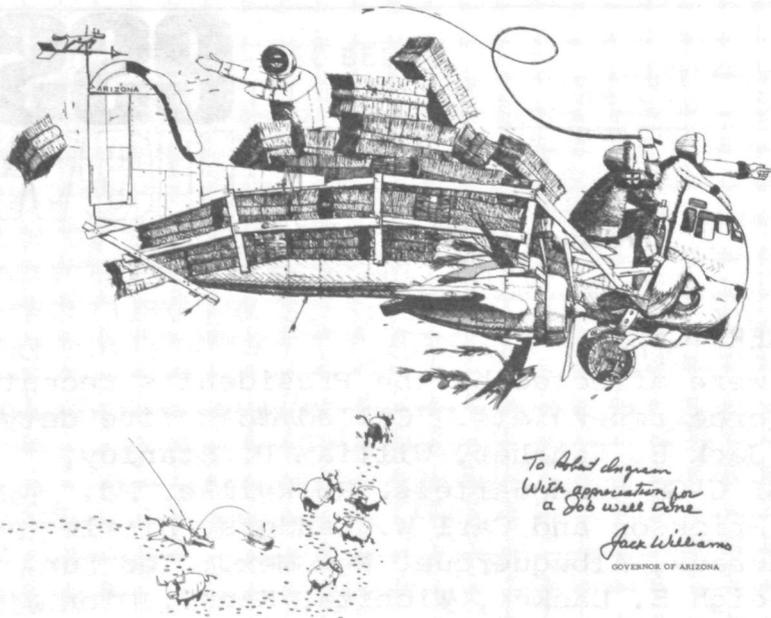
A total of 837 tornadoes raked the United States in 1967, causing 117 deaths and many millions of dollars in damage, the Environmental Data Service reports. This total made 1967 the third worst year for the deadly storms -- topped only by 1965's record 898 tornadoes and the 864 tornadoes reported in 1957.

NEW SEAMOUNTS FOUND IN S. PACIFIC

Preliminary studies of data gathered on the South Pacific leg of the USC&GSS OCEANOGRAPHER's global expedition have revealed the existence of 25 previously unreported seamounts. The data also show that the floor of the South Pacific contains giant fractures extending in a north-south direction, rather than in the east-west direction which characterizes such features in the North Pacific. These and other findings were made by two scientists of ESSA's Atlantic Oceanographic Laboratories -- Dr. George H. Keller, director of the Marine Geology and Geophysics Laboratory, and oceanographer George Peter -- during preliminary processing of the OCEANOGRAPHER's data.

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HAY THERE

Robert S. Ingram, MIC, WBAS, Phoenix, has received a St. Bernard's Express Certificate from Arizona Governor Jack Williams. The certificate was given for the assistance of the Weather Bureau during the mid-December storm, which left 83 inches of snow on the ground. The St. Bernard's Express, caricatured in the certificate, was the airlift organized during the storm to rush food to stranded cattle.

St. Bernard's Express
DECEMBER-1967

G. R. FRYAN

MARMER TO SURVEY LA. WATERWAYS

The USC&GSS MARMER will begin a three-month survey in March to determine the tidal current pattern in Louisiana waterways adjacent to New Orleans. The survey will start at the northern entrance of the 66-mile Gulf Outlet Channel, which extends northwest from the Gulf of Mexico through Breton Sound to the Inner Harbor Navigation Industrial Canal at New Orleans. Work will progress from the Gulf Outlet Channel southward, including Chandeleur and Breton Sounds until the project is completed. The USC&GSS FERREL, now under construction, will complete the survey if completed in time. The MARMER is to be decommissioned.

BENNETT WINS BRONZE MEDAL

Escal S. Bennett, meteorologist-in-charge of the Indianapolis, Ind., Weather Bureau Office, received the Department of Commerce Bronze Medal, Feb. 9, for his leadership in the effective operation of Weather Bureau programs and his years of outstanding management. Mr. Bennett, who retired Feb. 12, served the Bureau for more than 30 years.

TWO ELECTED TO ENGINEERING INSTITUTE

Dr. S. T. Algermissen, chief, Geophysics Research Group, and Dr. Dean S. Carder, head of the Theoretical Studies Group of ERL's Earthquake Mechanism Laboratory in San Francisco, were recently elected to membership in the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute.

CHIBKA NAMED MAINE COUNCIL OFFICIAL

Charles Chibka, MIC, WBAS, Portland, has been elected vice-chairman of the Maine Council of Federal Agencies. The council, composed of representatives from nearly every major Federal agency in the state, is effective in coordinating Governmental activity, in interagency cooperation, in public affairs, and in improving Federal services.

WELFARE GROUP INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

Four new members were installed at a meeting of the C&GS Welfare Association Board of Trustees on Jan. 29. Carl F. Kelley, vice-chairman; Randal C. Youngblood, secretary-treasurer; Finis L. Smith, and Kenneth D. Barber were appointed replacing outgoing members Bruce Clements, Raymond W. Tomlinson, Leonard F. Van Scoy, and W. E. Ward. Rear Admiral James C. Tison, Director, Coast and Geodetic Survey, is chairman of the board.

SAN JUAN SITE SHIFTED TO ESSA

The site of C&GS' San Juan Geophysical Observatory, located on land formerly owned by the Army near Cayey, Puerto Rico, was recently transferred to ESSA by the General Services Administration. The transfer culminates negotiations begun in Sept. 1966 when the Department of the Army declared the land as excess. The San Juan Observatory has occupied this site since mid-1964 through leasing arrangements with the Army.

ESSA AT WORK



Marshall M. Richards (right), chief, and Leslie W. Lenfest, of the Hydrologic Services Division, investigate a simulated problem on a telemetering-punch-tape-recording rain gage.

WAGE BOARD APPEAL RIGHTS EXTENDED

The recent pay legislation extended to personnel in wage board positions the right, as of January 15, 1968, to appeal the classification of their jobs to the Civil Service Commission. This includes all trades and crafts positions where the rate of pay is fixed in accordance with prevailing rates in industry. It does not, however, include vessel employees. There are two major facts about the appeals system which must be emphasized.

1. Employees may file an appeal with the Commission's Bureau of Inspections only after the agency has made a decision on the job and has notified the employee of that decision.

2. Appeals to the Commission must be made within 15 days of notification of this decision. This time limit may be extended if circumstances beyond the employee's control prevented filing within 15 days or if the employee was not notified or made aware of the time limit.

The specific procedures established for the administration of the appeals system in ESSA are as follows:

1. Appeals are to be addressed to the Director of Personnel, Department of Commerce via the Chief, Personnel Division, Environmental Science Services Administration.
2. An appeal may be made at any time. However, when the employee is appealing a classification which resulted in reduction of pay or grade, he must file the appeal within 15 days of the notification of such downgrading in order to be entitled to retroactive correction.
3. The employee will submit the appeal in writing and identify the specifics of the classification action or determinations with which he disagrees.
4. The employee may select a representative. Both will be granted a reasonable time in presenting the appeal and pertinent information and assured freedom from restraint, coercion or reprisal in the appeal situation.
5. The appeal will be acted upon as promptly as possible but the employee will be notified in writing of the decision within 60 days from the date the appeal was received by the adjudicating office. If such notification is not received in this time limit, the employee may institute an appeal to the next higher level, the Civil Service Commission. The notification must contain the effective date of the corrective action which cannot be earlier than the date of decision and

not later than the first day of the first pay period which begins after the 60th day from the receipt of the appeal.

6. Appeals will be cancelled (a) upon written request of the employee, (b) upon failure to comply with requests for additional required information, and (c) upon the incumbent leaving the position except when retroactive benefits are being considered.

7. After notification, the employee may appeal to the Bureau of Inspections, Civil Service Commission. The appeal must be in writing, clearly identify the position, grade, title, and organizational location. It must specifically discuss the portions of the agency's decision or classification analysis with which he disagrees.

8. The decision of the Commission is final and binding upon the agency.

SEATTLE FORECASTS AVALANCHE WEATHER

In response to a request from Snoqualmie National Forest headquarters, the Seattle Weather Bureau Forecast Center is the latest station to provide avalanche-weather forecasts for the U.S. Forest Service. Forecasts are issued when heavy snow (one foot or more in 24 hours) is expected. Included in the forecast are temperature, wind speed and direction. Other stations providing this special service to lessen the hazards from these snowslides are Salt Lake City, Utah; Cheyenne, Wyo.; and Denver, Colo.

DRIVER TRAINING COURSE HELD IN K.C.



Norman E. Bradley, of the ESSA Safety Engineer's office, conducted an Advanced Driver Training Course, a Road Test Examiner's Course, and training in Supervisors Accident Investigation Report preparation at Kansas City, Jan. 23- Feb. 2, for C&GS, Weather Bureau, and ESSA personnel. C&GS Mark Maintenance men from the Mid-Continent Field Area who at-

tended the Advanced Driver Training Course, Jan. 22-26, also participated in conferences on mark maintenance problems and procedures with C.F. Kelley, chief, C&GS National Network Maintenance Section. In the photograph (left to right, front row): Louie McMullen, Capt. E.B. Brown, Cdr. Dewey G. Rushford, and Norman E. Bradley. (Left to right, back row): Floyd K. Stuart, Leon F. Smith, Charles L. Novak, Marvin A. Randall, Alton K. Hansen, and Wilson A. Ziegler.

OCEANOGRAPHER COMMAND CHANGES



Capt. John O. Phillips (left) officially assumed command of the USC&GSS OCEANOGRAPHER from Capt. Arthur L. Wardwell in brief ceremonies held Feb. 7 in the ship's oceanographic laboratory. Present were the crew, Mrs. Wardwell, Mrs. Phillips, Admiral Taylor, and officers from the Pacific Marine Center; and Commander Gerard E. Haraden, the ship's new Executive Officer. Before the change of command, Capt. Wardwell presented a check for \$250 to Chief Survey Technician Elmer Larsen, for outstanding work and contribution during the OCEANOGRAPHER's global expedition.

SATELLITE TO RELAY DATA FROM ANTARCTIC SHIP

The Weather Bureau, in cooperation with NASA and the National Science Foundation, has constructed an experimental device to be used aboard the NSF Ship ELTANIN, which is on a research mission in Antarctic waters. The apparatus, which will connect to NASA's Interrogating, Recording and Locating Subsystem station on the ELTANIN, will permit the relay to Washington by satellite of upper-air weather measurements made by WB ship personnel. The IRLS system was developed by NASA, and the satellite (NIMBUS B) is scheduled for launch in late spring.

NEW APPROACH CHARTS ISSUED

The first instrument approach procedure charts for civil airports have been produced under specifications developed by the Inter-Agency Air Cartographic Committee for the use of civil and military aviation. The charts are also the first to be prepared under the Federal Aviation Administration criteria for new U. S. Standard Terminal Instrument Procedures. The new joint-use charts were issued to be in the hands of subscribers by Feb. 1.

MORE SUBSCRIBERS FOR C&GS/WB

Subscriptions to C&GS Aeronautical Instrument Charts grew from 106,000 to 113,380 -- an increase of seven percent -- since July 1967. Subscriptions to Weather Bureau publications also increased seven percent during the same period.

URBAN GEODETIC SURVEY PLANNED FOR D.C. AREA

Capt. Leonard S. Baker, chief, Geodesy Division; Cdr. H. R. Lippold, Jr., chief, Satellite Triangulation Division; and James Annis, Technical Planning and Operations Branch, represented the Coast Survey at a meeting of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments on Jan. 25, to plan an urban geodetic survey in the area surrounding Washington, D.C. Seven counties were represented at the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate the needs of as many counties as possible to supply a homogeneous network for the area.

LINDSAY ARTICLE LAUDED

Charles V. Lindsay, of the Weather Bureau Forecast Center, Washington, D.C., has been commended by the editor of Soaring magazine for his article in the magazine's January issue. In a letter to Mr. Lindsay prior to publication, the editor said, "Your exceptional article on satellites and waves...appearing in our next issue of Soaring..." is "a beautiful job, and I'm proud to be publishing it."

WHITTEN TO SPEAK AT SEMINAR

C.A. Whitten, chief of the Research Group of the Office of Geodesy and Photogrammetry, will present a paper entitled "Crustal Movements as Determined by Geodetic Measurements," on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 10 a.m., in Room 926, Bldg. 5, Rockville, Md. Interested persons are invited to attend the seminar.

SURVEYORS GO SOUTH

C&GS airport surveys are now in progress at Selfield Airport, Selma, Ala., and Lafayette (La.) Airport.



Herbert W. Rahmlow (left) of the Engineering Division at Weather Bureau headquarters presented awards to employees of the National Reconditioning Center in Joliet, Ill., on Feb. 7. (See ESSA NEWS, Feb. 9.)

SPEAKING OF WEATHER

Silvio G. Simplicio, Director, WB Eastern Region, and Gerald L. Shak, Regional User Services Representative, participated in an hour-long interview on the Barry Gray radio show, station WMCA, in New York, on Jan. 19. Short and long-range forecasting, use of meteorological satellites and radar, and computer facilities at the NMC were among the subjects discussed.

PAPP COMMENDED FOR FLOOD ACTION

John E. Papp, assistant observer at the C&GS College, Alaska, Observatory, recently received an award for the manner in which he assisted the community and the prompt action he took to protect instrumental equipment during the 1967 Fairbanks, Alaska, flood. The equipment, valued at approximately \$25,000, was on display at the Alaska 1967 Centennial Exposition.

THE TRUE MEANING

The employees of the WB's Techniques Development Laboratory exhibited the true spirit of Christmas when they elected to donate to Children's Hospital, in Washington, D. C., rather than send Christmas cards to each other. The contribution totaled \$60.

SERVICE AWARDS

The following NWRC, Asheville, N.C., employees are eligible for length-of-service awards during the first quarter of 1968: 25 years - James T. Burgin, Betty S. Humberger, Cleo F. Hogan, Evelyn M. Meadows, William M. McMurray, William P. Nash, Rachel E. Out, Wilson R. Tschiffely, and Roosevelt Vinson. 20 years - Troy J. Shepherd, Anna Lee Simmons, and William R. Sorrells.

WB Western Region employees eligible to receive awards during February are: 30 years - David J. Stowell, San Francisco. 25 years - Charles A. Finch, Yakima, Wash.; Victor C. Bundy, Seattle, Wash.; and Arthur J. Rozett, Jr., Great Falls, Mont.

TEXAS MIC DIES

Arthur F. Wolford, WB meteorologist-in-charge, Port Arthur, Texas, died Feb. 4.

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

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