

U.S. BRACES FOR SPRING FLOODS

Expressing his concern regarding the spring flood threat to many states in the northern and western parts of the nation, President Nixon has ordered a major effort by Federal agencies to undertake all feasible preparations to reduce or alleviate the threatened flood damage.

At a White House briefing on Saturday, Mar. 1, William E. Hyatt, Associate Director of the Weather Bureau for Hydrology, told Government leaders and the news media that record-breaking snow accumulations, particularly in the north central part of the nation, would produce severe flooding in late March or early April.

The most threatened areas are those of the Upper Mississippi River, the Red River of the North, and the Lower Missouri River. The states involved are North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, and Kansas.

Early in February, the Weather Bureau's River Forecast Center and the River District Offices in the area began alerting state and local officials of the pending seriousness of the situation. Many communities have already begun to make preparations for the spring floods.

The River Forecast Center began issuing weekly flood outlooks early in February. Dr. Cressman, Director of the Weather Bureau, initiated special five-day outlooks on a daily basis to be provided to Regional Hydrologists from the National Meteorological Center. The River Forecast Center is collecting all available hydrologic information from Weather Bureau observatories, other agencies, and hundreds of local cooperative observers. As the snow melt period nears, the observed data will be replaced by specific expected values at points along the rivers.

The Bureau is coordinating its efforts with many Federal, state, and local agencies, including the Office of Emergency Preparedness, Civil Defense, Governors, and the American Red Cross.

FERREL TO DOCK IN D.C.



The USC&GS Ship FERREL--enroute to her summer working grounds in Penobscot Bay, Maine--will be berthed at the Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Mar. 25 to 31, and will be open to visitors by invitation. Invitations will be extended to ESSA employees through Line Component Directors or administrative officers. The ship's personnel will set up displays showing how current surveys are made. The main display will be an instrumented buoy anchored off the Navy Yard which will transmit data to the vessel during demonstration periods. All other major equipment will be on view aboard the ship. The high-speed, 59-foot auxiliary tender will be alongside. The Currents Section of the Office of Hydrography and Oceanography will show data-processing methods, and the final product --Tidal Current Tables and Charts.

IDAHO CLIMATOLOGIST NAMED

Stanley Holbrook has been named ESSA State Climatologist for Idaho. He will be stationed at Boise. Mr. Holbrook previously served as a station inspector in the Weather Bureau's Western Region and most recently as ESSA State Climatologist for Oklahoma.

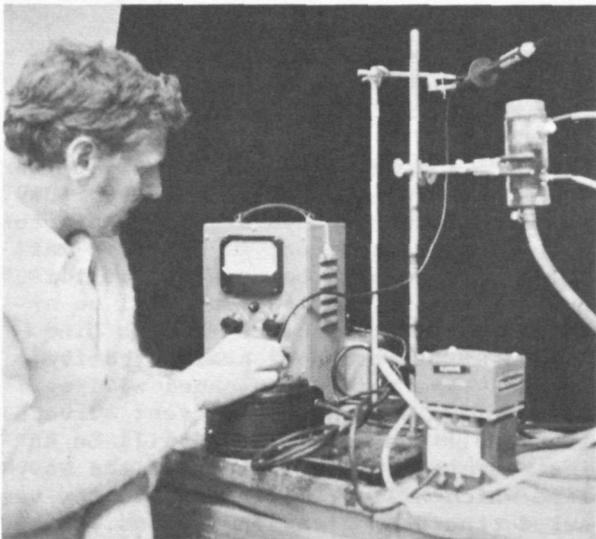
MARCH IS RED CROSS MONTH

The Secretary of Commerce has issued the following statement requesting the support of ESSA personnel for the American Red Cross:

"The American Red Cross provides assistance to our Armed Forces in Southeast Asia, aids disaster victims, and provides many important community services such as the Blood Program, First Aid, Water Safety, and Nursing Programs.

"March 1969 will be observed throughout the Nation as Red Cross Month. Financial support for the Red Cross is essential to help it carry on these programs effectively.

"I urge all employees of the Commerce Department to join me in supporting the Red Cross as generously as possible in this time of need."



GEYSERS AID SCIENTIST

Dr. Lothar H. Ruhnke, ERL scientist, has been using Yellowstone geysers for a pseudo Jet-X in warm-fog dispersion experiments. Dr. Ruhnke spent ten days in Yellowstone National Park to take advantage of the unique properties of geysers. The experiment called for a ground nozzle to shoot a charged liquid (antifreeze) horizontally into the geyser when it erupted. The force of the geyser eruption carries the liquid up and disperses it into the atmosphere. Measuring devices placed in the area determined the quantity of ions needed to disperse the fog from the wintertime eruption.

JETTON NAMED TEXAS MIC



Eldon V. Jetton (left), assumed the duties of meteorologist in charge at WBO El Paso on Feb. 23. Mr. Jetton began his Weather Bureau career in 1942 at Cleveland, Ohio. He went to Alaska in 1943 and remained there until 1946, when he transferred to Washington National Airport. He moved to El Paso from Cleveland in 1952, and was made principal assistant in 1963. Mr. Jetton holds a master's degree from Texas Western University.

WB STATIONS CLOSE

Thirteen Weather Bureau stations will be closed between now and June 30, 1969, in order to comply with Public Law 90-364 which requires reduction in Federal employment and expenditures. These are in addition to four stations previously closed for the same reason.

ESSA reluctantly took the step after reviewing its overall operations and taking all possible actions to reduce employment. These actions include the elimination of some reimbursable programs conducted for other Government agencies, the holding of vacancies throughout ESSA, and the deferment of certain programs authorized by Congress for the current fiscal year.

Affected employees will be placed in other positions within the organization as vacancies occur.

The thirteen stations to be closed are: Cape Henry, Va.; Rome, Ga.; Vicksburg, Miss.; Houghton Lake, Mich.; Reading, Pa.; LaCrosse, Wisc.; Laredo, Tex.; Stockton, Calif.; Mansfield, Ohio; Pensacola, Fla.; New Haven, Conn.; Alexandria, La.; and Elko, Nev.

JOURNAL LOSES ESSA SUPPORT

ESSA's co-sponsorship of the scientific journal Radio Science ended with the January 1969 issue. The U.S. National Committee of the International Radio Scientific Union (URSI) now has editorial control. James R. Wait, ERL senior scientist and outgoing editor, has been associated with the journal since 1968.

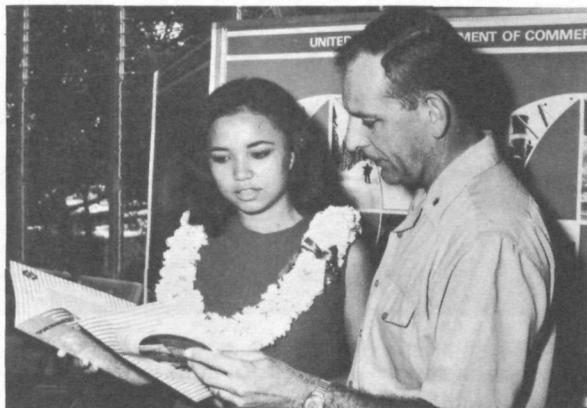
BOATING SERVICES EXPANDED

The Weather Bureau and the U. S. Coast Guard have expanded their cooperative efforts to provide more complete and timely weather information to boating and fishing interest in the vicinity of Hawaii. The broadcasts that are prepared by the Weather Bureau Forecast Office at Honolulu are transmitted by the Coast Guard seven times daily. Each broadcast includes a description of any warnings that have been issued or a statement that no marine warnings are in effect. Forecasts are presented in two parts. Part A concentrates on the wind, weather, and sea conditions in the inter-island channels and the open sea within about two hundred miles of Hawaii for the next 24 to 36 hours. Part B covers the waters out to about a thousand miles. A description of the latest weather map -- locations of storms, centers of high and low pressure, and weather fronts -- is followed by a 24-hour forecast of wind and sea conditions expected within a 1000-mile radius of Honolulu. This new schedule supersedes the previous twice-daily weather broadcasts.

EDS UPDATES CLIMAT. SERVICES

Cooling degree days are being added to the Local Climatological Data published by the Environmental Data Service for about 300 stations throughout the United States. This information is one tool now used regularly by public utilities engineers and others to estimate peak power loads for cooling purposes.

HAWAII CAREER DAY OBSERVED



Representatives of more than 50 local businesses and Government agencies recently participated in the University of Hawaii's Career Day Program. The annual one-day event provides an opportunity for students to learn about the many vocational opportunities that are available in Hawaii. Representing ESSA were Cdr. Robert C. Munson, C&GS Pacific Field Director; Frank Kocsis, PRH personnel management specialist; and Clarence Lee, leading forecaster, WBFO Honolulu. (Cdr. Munson explains the various sciences in ESSA to English major Frances Witzell at the University of Hawaii's Career Day Program.)

HANSEN APPOINTED EDITOR

Dr. Donald V. Hansen of the Atlantic Oceanographic Laboratories has been appointed an Associate Editor of the Journal of Geophysical Research for oceanography.



Participants in the WB Western Region's combined Field Aide/Area Electronic Supervisor Seminar held in Salt Lake City during January were, seated, left to right: H. L. Lewis, H. L. Elser, George M. Krahl, H. H. Bedke, Richard G. Wiggers, Russell L. Hovey, M. T. Paulson. Standing, left to right: Dean Hirschi, Anton A. Hannel, Stanley R. Bryte, Louis Billones, D. T. Wiley, Sidney O. Howick, Carl J. Clark, Walter R. Marten, Loren F. Bedford, Daryl E. Hahn, Russel M. Short, Herbert A. Wright, William B. Downs, R. A. Halverson, K. R. Glodo, Daniel A. Schlichtig, Edgar L. Sessions, Joseph W. Mack, Herbert J. Gudyka, Harold N. Wolcott, and Robert C. McKinney.



Weather Bureau employees and their instructors participating in the second session of the Forecasters' Training Course held at Weather Bureau headquarters, Feb. 10-28 are, seated, left to right: Maurice E. Pautz, WBH; Robert W. Titus, Las Vegas; John R. Berger, Anchorage; James W. Zoller, Detroit; Charles F. Roberts, WBH; Julius Badner, WBH; Kiyoji Tomita, Wake Island; James E. Smith, Buffalo. Standing, left to right: Raymond A. Wrightson, Albany; Jordan Fischler, WBH; Paul H. Swope, Chicago; John M. Porter, WBH; C. David Evanson, Anchorage; Wayne H. Ellingson, Des Moines; John V. Graff, Minneapolis; Richard Fay, Cleveland; Cecil Simmons, Harrisburg; Roger V. Smith, Shreveport; John H. Lentz, Jackson; Albert H. Stout, Las Vegas; Keith L. Ewing, San Francisco; Robert A. Case, Juneau; Arthur L. Eichelberger, Los Angeles; Rheinart W. Harms, Milwaukee; Jesse W. Smith, Jr., Tallahassee; Alois M. Huber, Nashville; Alan H. Jones, Wenatchee; Dennis Noble, Oklahoma City; John Quinn, Salt Lake City; and Philip A. Calabrese, WBH.

SERVICE AWARDS

Length-of-service awards are due to be presented to the following WB Eastern Region employees during the first quarter of 1969. 45 years - Reinhart C. Schmidt, WBFO, Washington, D.C. 40 years - John O. Lunt, Portland, Me. 35 years - Vivian M. Moehlman, Cincinnati, Ohio.

30 years - Joseph T. Harden, Richmond, Va.; S. Clifton Wagner, New York, N. Y.; Richard E. Simmermacher, Wilkes Barre-Scranton, Pa.; and John P. Winner, Washington, D.C. 25 years - Damon M. Gray, Jr., Cape Hatteras, N.C.; Dayton B. Stone, Jr., Columbia, S.C.

RETIREMENTS

Among the ESSA employees scheduled to retire during the first quarter of 1969 are:

WB Eastern Region - Charles B. Carney, Raleigh, N.C.; Kenneth S. Norquest, Washington, D.C.; and Raymond T. Gillam, Dayton, Ohio.

WB Southern Region - Joseph W. Evans, Augusta, Ga.; Arthur W. Brooks, El Paso.

WB Central Region - O. Kenneth Anderson, Louisville, Ky.; Vern S. Holmes, NSSFC, Kansas City, Mo.; Kenneth A. Nicolson, Duluth, Minn.; Mary L. Wollensack, Denver, Colo.; Douglas Barclay, NSSFC, Kansas City, Mo.; and George A.

Rothfoss, Madison, Wisc.

WB Western Region - Paul E. Atkinson, Long Beach, Calif.; William F. Selfridge, Boise, Idaho; and Russell M. Short, Boise, Idaho.

C&GS Atlantic Marine Center - Paul F. Cox and Robert A. McConnell.

Washington-area -

ESSA - Albert V. Carlin, Marjorie A. Clark, Marion G. Talcott, Dwight L. Greene, and Francis J. Ortiz.

C&GS - James J. Allen, Frederick A. Fowler, Thomas J. Hickley, Charles E. McCombs, Delmas B. Newlin, Frank B. Quirk, Vernon J. Specht, Earl M. Bragonje, Frank E. McClung, and Ralph E. Unrich.

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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July 23, 2010