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Weather Bureau's Air Pollution Support Program in High Gear



Aerial view of industrial complex illustrates sources combined to create a volume of polluted air.

The first major episode of high air pollution potential since the establishment of the Weather Bureau Air Pollution Support Program occurred during the period Aug. 23 - Sept. 1. The region most affected by poor ventilation extended southward from the Great Lakes to the coastal sections of Mississippi and eastward across the mid-Atlantic States. Some areas reported sulfur dioxide (SO₂) levels at ten times their normal levels.

Four of the newly assigned air pollution meteorologists were involved in issuing forecasts and statements of high air pollution potential to control agencies and for the general public. The forecasts were timely and accurate and,

in some instances, touched off control and abatement procedures. Public information dissemination by mass news media was excellent. During the high air pollution period, Louis Nagler of the Washington, D.C., Office and Donald Wuerch of the St. Louis Forecast Office appeared on local radio and television news programs describing the Bureau's weather support services to air pollution alerting and control.

The statements issued by the field meteorologists during the period of poor ventilation were carefully coordinated with the large scale air pollution potential advisories prepared at the National Meteorological Center at Suitland, Md. Using this procedure and with the aid of additional low level atmospheric soundings, the internal consistency of the total forecasting effort was assured.

Recorded Weather Telephone Service To Be Extended

Recorded weather telephone messages will be made available to the public in five additional metropolitan areas in 1970. Slated for the new WE6-1212 heavy-duty, multiline automatic telephone systems next spring are: Atlanta, Ga.; Columbia, S.C.; Greensboro, N.C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; and St. Louis, Mo. There are currently about fourteen of these systems in operation. The new systems will be part of an experimental program in which the American Telephone and Telegraph Company is sponsoring an in-depth, nationwide study of weather products for telephone dissemination.

AMS Scientists Addressed By Weather Bureau Director



Dr. Cressman

More than 100 of the nation's top weather scientists gathered at Virginia Beach, Va., Sept. 3-5, for the American Meteorological Society's 3rd Conference on Weather Analysis and Forecasting. Dr. George P. Cressman, Weather Bureau Director, delivered the keynote address entitled "Killer Storms," in

which he cited the meteorological community's advances in large- and medium-scale weather studies and prediction methods, but urged a greater effort on methods of making useful forecasts of storms, such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and winter storms. A number of other ESSA employees presented papers at the three-day meeting.

Hotine's 'Mathematical Geodesy' Published

"Mathematical Geodesy," a book on theoretical geodesy by the late Brigadier Martin Hotine, has been published by ESSA. During his 51 years' service to the British and U.S. Governments, Brigadier Hotine was regarded as one of the world's leading authorities on surveying and geodesy. Last January, the Department of Commerce recognized him posthumously by awarding him its Gold Medal for, among other contributions, "highly distinguished and productive authorship of exceptional quality and extraordinary importance to science."

Brigadier Hotine's principal aim in writing the 416-page book was to place geodesy on a firm mathematical and physical foundation by emphasizing its scientific status rather than its technical applications. The basic theme is that all geodetic measurements and concepts can be expressed as geometric properties of a three-dimensional manifold. The text can be purchased for \$5.50 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402.

Six Soviet Scientists Tour U.S.

Six members of a Soviet weather modification delegation will make a month-long tour of United States weather modification activities, beginning Sept. 15.

ESSA, under the terms of a U.S.-U.S.S.R. Exchanges Agreement in scientific, technical, educational, cultural and other fields, is sponsoring the visit. A United States weather modification delegation visited the Soviet Union last May for a month.

On Oct. 9, the group will be joined by Academician E. K. Fedorov, Head of the Soviet Union's Hydrometeorological Service, for the balance of the tour.

The six members of the delegation are: Dr. B. I. Kiziria, Chief of the Weather Modification Department, Soviet Hydrometeorological Service, Nalchik; Dr. G. K. Sulakvelidze, Director of the High Altitude Geophysical Institute, Soviet Hydrometeorological Service; Dr. Yu. S. Sedunov, Deputy Director of the Experimental Meteorological Institute and Chief of the Department of Cloud Physics, Soviet Hydrometeorological Service, Obninsk; Dr. I. I. Gayvoronsky, Head of the Weather Modification Department of the Central Aerological Observatory, Moscow; Dr. V. P. Lominadze, Director of the Transcaucasian Research Hydrometeorological Service, Tbilisi; and Dr. N. I. Vulfson, Soviet Institute of Applied Geophysics.

The group will be accompanied by Morton J. Rubin, Chief, ESSA Office of Special Studies, and Ross N. Lavroff, a United States interpreter.

Florida Sea Boundaries To Be Mapped

A federal-state program is underway in Florida to determine and map its seaward boundaries. The program is being carried out by the Coast Survey and the Florida Department of Natural Resources. At stake is the ownership of coastal and offshore lands which at one time or another are covered by the tide. The problem involves a determination of federal, state, and private boundaries. The launching of the five-year program, whose costs are being borne equally by the state and federal governments, came after several years of negotiations and was capped this year by the approval of the governor and the state legislature.

Scarce Precipitation Puts Fire-Weather Units on Alert

The Weather Bureau's fire-weather forecasters and mobile units in the Western Region are on alert to combat forest fires in southern Idaho and eastern Oregon where precipitation has been scarce throughout the summer. The last significant rain at Boise, Idaho, was .30 inch on June 27, .02 inch in a July shower, only a trace in August, and none so far in September. Pendleton, Oregon, has had no precipitation since July 2 when .02 inch was recorded there. National forests in the area are now closed to the public, except for prepared camp grounds.

In the northwest, the most significant fire this year developed in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in late August, when 9600 acres were consumed by flames. The fire spread under the influence of strong winds in connection with a dry cold frontal passage. The Pendleton Mobile Unit gave forecasts at the scene. Presently, there are dry thunderstorms (thunder and lightning without rain) over the Blue Mountains of northeastern Oregon, and over the Payette at Nezperce



National Forest in southern Idaho. As a result, fires are showing up and smoke-jumpers are being parachuted into the area.

Wilbert R. Krumm, Fire-Weather Meteorologist, reports that, although fire potential buildups in much of Idaho and eastern Oregon actually exceed those in 1967, described as the worst in 50 years, there have been fewer fires. This improved record is attributed to fewer dry thunderstorms and a markedly stepped up program to alert the public during dry seasons.

Book Available on Earth's Magnetic Field

A publication on the earth's magnetic field containing tables listing the worldwide values of the total intensity of the earth's magnetic field for every two degrees of latitude and longitude has been published by the Coast Survey's Geomagnetism Division. The magnetic values are calculated from the International Geomagnetic Reference Field (IGRF) for 1965. The IGRF was adopted at a meeting held last year in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy, from models proposed by scientists from the United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union. The Association grew out of a recognized need by geophysicists for a single standard reference magnetic field that would be internationally acceptable for certain uses related to the geophysical scientists. The publication, entitled "Grid Values of Total Magnetic Intensity, IGRF--1965," can be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 at 60 cents a copy.

Eve, Francelia, and Doris Tracked by ESSA Satellites

ESSA satellites photographed Tropical Storm Eve from Aug. 25-27, and Hurricane Francelia from Aug. 30 - Sept. 2. Both storms were in the Atlantic area. The satellites also photographed Typhoon Doris in the western North Pacific from Aug. 29 - Sept. 1.

New Weather Bureau Quarters Dedicated



New Weather Bureau quarters at Scottsbluff, Nebraska, were recently dedicated. Participating in the ceremony were, left to right: Edgar L. Van Tassel, MIC, WBO, Scottsbluff; Mayor C. A. Thomas, Scottsbluff; Dr. George P. Cressman, Director, Weather Bureau; Roy L. Fox, Director, Weather Bureau Central Region; and William E. Nichol, County Commissioner, Scottsbluff.

C&GS Scientist Honored Posthumously

A small seamount about 127 miles off Key West, Fla., has been named in honor of George F. Jordan, a cartographic engineer and oceanographer, who served with the Coast Survey for almost a quarter of a century. Mr. Jordan, who died in 1966, was an authority on submerged features off the Florida coast. The underwater mountain has been named Jordan Knoll by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, and will be added to the next edition of the Coast Survey's nautical chart 1002 to be issued in 1970.

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The Interagency Board of Examiners has informed the U.S. Civil Service Commission that hundreds of applications are received in franked official envelopes--particularly from Federal employees. Employees are advised that applying for a Civil Service examination is a personal matter rather than official government business, and the use of franked envelopes for this purpose is in violation of postal regulations.

Diez Receives 30-Year Award

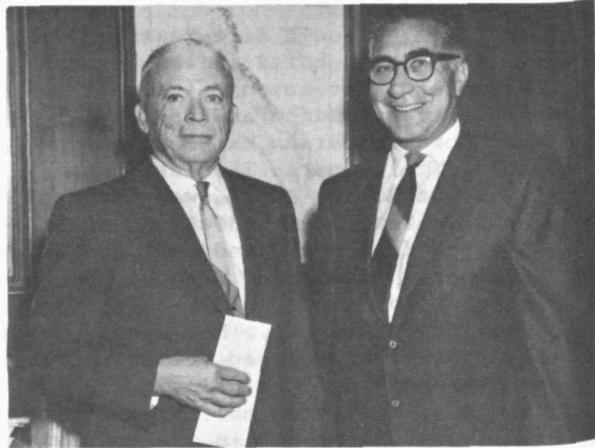


Cecil Ellingwood (right), C&GS Geodesy Division, presents a 30-year length-of-service pin to Lloyd F. Diez, (center), C&GS Field Party G-37. Left is Robert R. Gerrish, Chief of Field Party G-37.

Welsh, Retired Weather Bureau Employee, Dies

James Welsh, Weather Bureau Eastern Region construction and maintenance representative, who retired this year, died on Aug. 31. Mr. Welsh joined the Bureau in 1963.

Stanley Honored for Federal Service



Albert A. Stanley (left), Executive Assistant to Rear Adm. Don A. Jones, Coast Survey Director (right), was honored on Sept. 9 for 40 years of Federal service. Among those present at the ceremony were: Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator; Vice Admiral H. Arnold Karo (ret.), former Coast Survey Director; and Rear Admiral Robert W. Knox (ret.), former Assistant Director of the Coast Survey.

Service Awards

EDS' National Weather Records Center employees eligible for length-of-service awards during the third quarter of 1969 are: 40 years - Arthur E. Jennings. 25 years - Nathaniel R. Davis, Theodore R. Farmer, Louise Hooper, Clyde J. Mashburn, Evelyn E. Meyer, Ulysses E. Roberts, and James M. Sparrow. 20 years - Clyde M. Branks, James B. Duckett, Dewey W. Geddings, and Martha L. Sawyer.

Weather Bureau Central Region employees eligible for service awards during August were: 35 years - Loren J. N. Allison, Pueblo, Colo. 30 years - Harold J. Rothrock, Chicago. 25 years - William G. Sullivan, Denver, Colo.; Daniel M. Morgan, Grand Junction, Colo.; William B. Chapman, Des Moines, Iowa; and Howard R. Martin, CRH, Kansas City, Mo.

Pacific Region Award - Robert G. Ritchie, WBFO Honolulu, 25 years.

C&GS Field Party G-23 - Russell W. Humphrey, 30 years.

Items to be considered for ESSA NEWS must be received by Monday 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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