

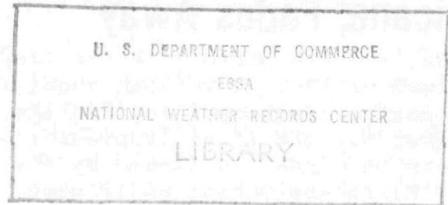
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Secretary Stans Tours Boulder, Colorado, Facilities; Dr. Hess Sworn in as ESSA Research Lab Director



Secretary of Commerce Maurice H. Stans, (left), swears in Dr. Wilmot N. Hess as Director of the ESSA Research Laboratories as Mrs. Hess looks on.

Dr. Wilmot N. Hess was sworn in as Director of the ESSA Research Laboratories during the first official visit to Boulder, Colo., by Secretary of Commerce Maurice H. Stans on Sept. 15. While in Colorado, Secretary Stans conferred with officials of the ESSA Research Laboratories and the National Bureau of Standards; held a press conference; attended the premiere showing of the NBS film, "Exploration at Boulder"; and addressed the Board of Directors of

the National Association of Manufacturers. The NBS presentation was followed by a briefing on the work of the ESSA Research Laboratories by ERL Deputy Director Robert W. Knecht, and a discussion of the research efforts of the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences by Richard C. Kirby, Director of ITS. Accompanying Secretary Stans on his tour were Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator; and Dr. Lewis M. Branscomb, Director of the National Bureau of Standards.

Gerda, Seventh Atlantic Hurricane, Fades Away

Gerda, the 7th North Atlantic tropical storm of 1969, developed about 125 miles east of Jacksonville, Florida, on September 8. The first tropical storm advisory on Gerda was issued by the National Hurricane Center at 12 noon. The storm moved rapidly on a generally north-easterly course paralleling the U. S. coastline and threatening the Middle Atlantic and New England shores. At midnight, Sept. 10, Gerda moved inland just east of Eastport, Maine. As the storm passed over land, it began to lose intensity and the Weather Bureau discontinued issuing public advisories on Gerda.

The storm was under surveillance by Air Force and Navy reconnaissance aircraft and coastal radar at all times. Good position fixes were obtained and accurate forecasts were made throughout the history of the storm.

Rollins To Head C&GS Executive And Technical Services Staff



Mr. Rollins

Robert B. Rollins, a 23-year veteran of the Federal government, has been appointed Acting Director of the Coast Survey's Executive and Technical Services Staff. Mr. Rollins has served as Deputy Director of the Staff for the past three years. As head of the Staff, he will direct the activities

of a number of offices engaged in providing highly technical and executive services to all components of the Coast Survey. Mr. Rollins has been the recipient of 20 awards for outstanding achievements during his service with the agency. In 1965, he received the Presidential Citation for a two-year study and analysis which resulted in the streamlining and modernization of the agency's Office of Cartography.

New Weather Message Service Devised by Telephone Industry

Automatic answering telephone equipment designed to disseminate abbreviated weather forecasts has been designed by the telephone industry and, sponsored by independent phone companies, installed at Winter Park, Orlando, and Fort Myer, Fla.; Galesburg, Ill.; and Gainesville, Ga. Two more cities -- Champaign and Quincy, Ill. -- are scheduled to receive the service in the next few months. The new equipment disseminates weather information similar to the "WE6-1212" systems, but the Weather Bureau's input is radically different. The new system, called AUDICHRON, has a catalog of 1,000 prerecorded abbreviated forecasts and warnings. The Weather Bureau selects an appropriate message and "programs" the telephone answering equipment by transmitting a coded message on ESSA Weather Wire Service.

Four Foreign Meteorologists Awarded U.S. Fellowships

As part of the U. S. contribution to the Voluntary Assistance Program of the World Meteorological Organization, four foreign meteorologists have been awarded long-term fellowships for academic study at American universities leading to a B. S. degree in meteorology. Horace H. P. Burton of Barbados, Carl B. Daniel of Trinidad, and Joseph A. Sam of Ghana are enrolled at Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida. Sahar V. Podoly of Israel is studying at New York University, New York.



Left to right: Martin N. Rosenblatt, ESSA Office of International Affairs; Mr. Daniel, Mr. Burton, and Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator.

Cooperative Weather Observers Honored for Service



Above, seated, Mr. and Mrs. Spearman. Standing: John C. Purvis, meteorologist in charge of the Weather Bureau Forecast Office, Columbia; A.B. Baskin; and William Kerchusky, principal assistant of the Columbia Office.

William E. Spearman, cooperative weather observer at Chappells, S. C., became the first South Carolinian to receive the Thomas Jefferson Award for

distinguished weather service on Sept. 4. The coveted award is given annually by the Weather Bureau to five of the most outstanding cooperative weather observers in the United States. Mr. Spearman has served as a cooperative observer for more than 42 years and has been instrumental in the saving of property along the Saluda River. Presenting the award on behalf of Dr. George P. Cressman, Weather Bureau Director, was A. B. Baskin, Columbia, S. C., hydrologist.

Sherman S. Judy of Forestburg, South Dakota, was honored on Sept. 2 for 60 years of service as a cooperative weather observer. Letters of appreciation from President Nixon, and from Governor Frank L. Farrar of South Dakota, together with congratulations on behalf of ESSA and the Weather Bureau, were presented to Mr. Judy by Roy L. Fox, Director, Central Region, in a ceremony held on Pioneer Day at the South Dakota State Fair, Huron, South Dakota.

Mr. Judy continues a record of observations taken on the same farm three miles northeast of Forestburg beginning in May 1891. In addition to other awards received by Mr. Judy over the years, the Thomas Jefferson Award was presented to him in 1960 in recognition for his outstanding work as a cooperative weather observer. Presently, only one other observer in the Central Region has served 60 years or more.

Meteorological Support Given For Mississippi Gas Spill

Working through Civil Defense and U.S. Army personnel, the Weather Bureau Southern Region provided meteorological support to the officials in charge of evacuation during the accidental spilling of toxic gas at Glendora, Miss., Sept. 11, when a train made a sudden stop to avoid striking a man on the tracks. Four chemical tank cars with chlorine gas were derailed. Because of a shifting southerly breeze, clouds of gas endangered the area as far as 30 miles from Glendora. The Weather Bureau offices at Jackson, Miss., and Memphis, Tenn., provided actual wind soundings and forecasts for the area.

Cooperative Observing and Warning Program Planned by Weather Bureau and Coast Guard

James D. Wakefield, meteorologist in charge at Portland, Oreg., and Norman A. Matson, Seattle, Wash., MIC, recently completed details of an agreement with the 13th District Coast Guard Office in Seattle for a cooperative program of marine observations and warnings at four locations on the Washington and Oregon coasts. The Coast Guard also indicated a desire to extend this program to five additional locations as soon as resources permit. The program will be initiated at the Gray's Harbor, Cape Disappointment, Umpqua River, and Coos Bay Stations on Sept. 22.

Three Weather Periodicals Publish DeAngelis Report

A summary report on Hurricane Camille, written by Richard DeAngelis of EDS, has been published in the September 1 issue of the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin. Summaries by Mr. DeAngelis will also be published in the Mariners Weather Log, the monthly Climatological Data, National Summary, the preliminary report of the Weather Bureau's Emergency Warnings Section, and publications of other government agencies.

Journey Through Northwest Passage Accelerated by Weather Observations

Kenneth E. Gove, a shipboard rawinsonde specialist with the Weather Bureau's Atlantic Weather Patrol, joined the Coast Guard's Ice Breaker NORTHWIND, Sept. 4, to provide observer assistance to the Humble Oil and Refining Company's tanker MANHATTAN, which is attempting a journey through the Canadian Northwest Passage. The MANHATTAN and NORTHWIND reported no difficulties although they were plowing through 15-foot ice and, in spots, had broken through "ridges" up to 40-feet thick. If all goes well, the ships should reach Barrow, Alaska, by the end of September.

Length-of-Service Awards

The following Washington-area ESSA employees are eligible to receive length-of-service awards during September. 35 years - Clement M. Woodard, Aeronautical Chart Div. 30 years - Fred B. Engelbrecht, Marine Chart Div.; Joseph B. Murdock, Personnel Div.; Leslie W. Lenfest, Hydrologic Services Div.; Warren D. Hight, Marine Group. 25 years - Wesley M. Phipps, Finance Div.; Willett B. Hilleary, Distribution Div.; and Charles P. Egger, Systems Development, C&GS. 20 years - Ferguson W. Hall, Office of Plans and Programs; Robert G. Brown, Admin. Ops. Div.; Anna L. Welch, Analysis & Forecast Div.; Vladimir Mitchell, Geomagnetism Div. Lewis V. Evans, C&GS Marine Chart Div.; and Harland R. Cravat, C&GS Photogrammetry, were eligible for 30-year awards during June.

Concern for Families' Safety Spurs Quick ESSA Response

ESSA moved fast when word was received that personnel aboard the USC&GS ships OCEANOGRAPHER and RAINIER were concerned about the fate of their families living on the gulf coast during the rampage of Hurricane Camille. After notification from the Pacific Marine Center in Seattle -- home port of the two ships -- Captain G. L. Short, Mid-Continent Field Director, contacted Alton K. Hansen, C&GS mark maintenance engineer in New Orleans. Mr. Hansen immediately left for the stricken area, and despite the devastation and disruption of communications, determined that all seven families of the ships' personnel survived the storm.

Temporary Weather Facility Aids National Air Races

Temporary Weather Bureau facilities have been established at the Reno-Stead Airport, Reno, Nevada, to provide weather support services for the National Air Races held Sept. 14-21. The temporary weather facility is being manned during the races by Joseph H. Ganser and John Marsh, Reno WBO; and Claire Jensen, San Francisco weather office. Providing backup for the staff is Melvin T. Beecroft, Sacramento weather office.

Ogilby, C&GS Aero Party Chief, Retires

Eugene T. Ogilby, Chief, Aero Party 80, Atlantic Marine Center, retired on Sept. 10, after 25 years of Federal service. More than 20 years of this service was with the Coast Survey.

Rose Kobler, Retired WB Technician, Dies

Rose Kobler, accounting technician in the Weather Bureau's Eastern Region, who retired in 1967, died Aug. 20. Miss Kobler formerly worked in Washington, D.C.

Howard Hanks Killed in Airline Crash

Howard Hanks, meteorologist in the Weather Bureau's SELS Research Group, Kansas City, Mo., from 1954-58, was one of the persons killed in the Allegheny Airline crash that occurred near Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 9.

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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