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A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Here in the Washington area, the 1969-70 Combined Federal Campaign is well under way and similar campaigns are taking place throughout the field services.

We are justly proud of the excellent record achieved and maintained over the past several years; and I feel confident that we will do as well or even better this year.

Combined campaigns offer a once a year opportunity for each of us to help our less fortunate friends, neighbors, relatives, and fellow human beings, who for some reason find themselves very much in need of a helping hand. Our contributions to such a worthy cause constitute a sound investment in better communities and a healthier Nation. I heartily endorse gift pledges through payroll deduction which is a most convenient and extremely painless method of giving.

I sincerely hope that each of you will find it possible to contribute something -- the amount to be determined by what you feel you can afford.

Robert M White

President Nixon Approves Federal Retirement Bill

President Nixon signed the Daniels-McGee Retirement Bill on Oct. 20. The new benefits include the computation of annuities on a high three-year average salary basis; service credit for unused sick leave; and the addition of a 1 percent cost-of-living increase to be added to any cost-of-living increase granted under the formula stipulated in the salary reform act of 1962. This 1 percent will be added to the 4 percent cost-of-living increase which becomes effective, Nov. 1, 1969. An ESSA employee applying for retirement on or before Oct. 31, 1969, will be considered in a retired status at the close of business Oct. 31 and will be entitled to a 5 percent cost-of-living allowance to be added to his earned annuity. Contact your personnel office for further details.

Secretary Stans (right) sets Commerce Combined Federal Campaign in motion with a $1000 personal check, which was accepted by Joseph A. Lola, Commerce Campaign Vice Chairman.

ESSA Reduces Operating Expenses in Nine Areas

ESSA's final showing for FY'69 in the Department of Commerce's 3-E (Economy - Efficiency - Effectiveness) Improvement Program reflects an estimated savings of $4,688,000 or 2.2 percent of its total obligational authority--an improvement over the previous fiscal year's savings of $1,656,000.

The Secretary of Commerce's report to President Nixon indicates that ESSA reduced operating costs in nine basic areas as follows: Recruiting Alaskans and Micronesians and training them as weather observers lowered expenses by $79,000; a new method of transmitting weather charts without using an automatic plotting machine saved $120,000; the development of a laser Geodimeter (a surveyor's distance measuring device) resulted in savings of $150,000; cancelled equipment modification plans for ESSA satellites and the purchase of an orbit correction system saved $1,247,000; the purchase of computers in lieu of rental saved $1,513,000; elimination of ERL's Land and Sea Interaction Laboratory (LASIL) saved $115,000; and reduced telecommunication research saved the agency $100,000.

Secretary Stans has indicated in the 3-E Program Newsletter that his goal is to see all Commerce organizations achieve a three percent savings rate through management improvements.

Captain Benton To Command SURVEYOR

Captain Arthur R. Benton, USESSA, has been appointed commanding officer of the USC&GS Ship SURVEYOR. Capt. Benton, who is scheduled to assume command during October, has been with the Coast Survey since 1950. During his 19 years of service, he has seen duty on other C&GS vessels, including command of one of them; with geodetic field parties; as navigator and chief of an aerial photographic party; and as a program planning officer at C&GS headquarters.

New Weather Outlook Program Scheduled for Mid-December

The Weather Bureau will begin a new extended outlook program in mid-December to replace the present five-day forecasts. The new outlook will be issued daily by Weather Bureau Forecast offices and will include anticipated weather conditions for the ensuing third, fourth, and fifth days. Field stations will be receiving official instructions shortly.

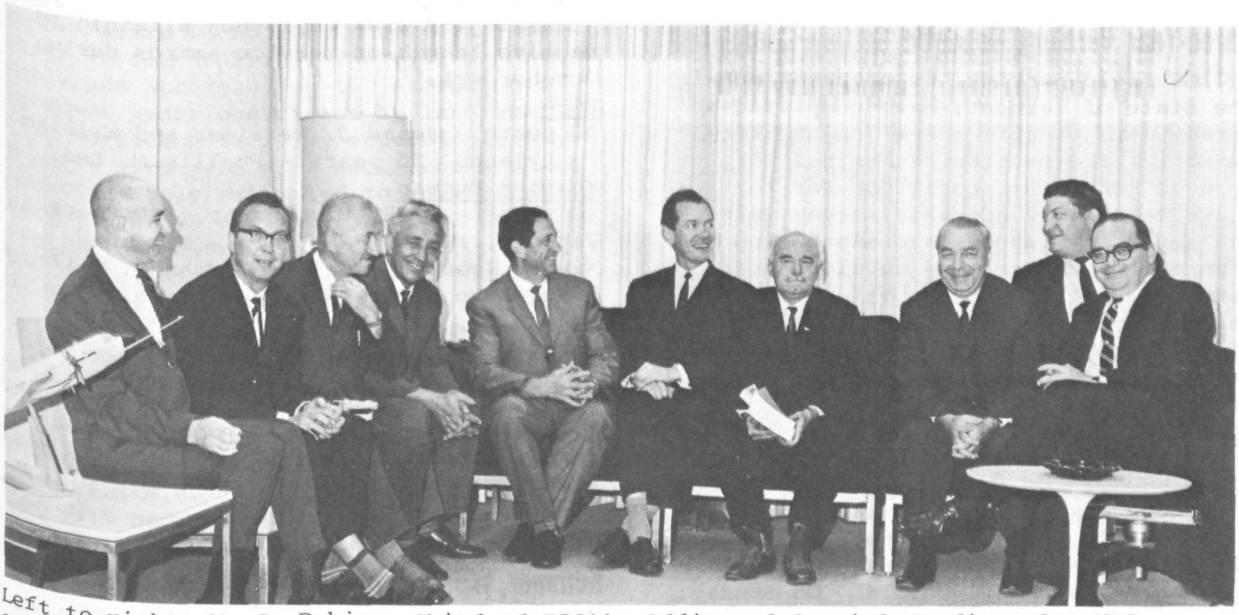
Weather Bureau Readies Mobile Units To Support Air Pollution Program

The first of five mobile meteorological observatories for use in areas where the Weather Bureau has opened special facilities in support of air pollution control efforts was inspected early last week by Weather Bureau Director, Dr. George P. Cressman (right) and the project leader for design of the van, Henry C. Besmen of the Bureau's Engineering Division. This unit is slated for Philadelphia. Others will soon be in operation in New York, St. Louis, Chicago, and Washington, D. C.

Soviet Scientists End U.S. Weather Modification Tour

Six Soviet scientists, headed by Academician E. K. Fedorov, Director of the Soviet Union's Hydrometeorological Service, ended their tour of United States weather modification facilities on Oct. 16. During their month-long stay, they visited a number of ESSA installations including ESSA and Weather Bureau headquarters, National Meteorological Center, and the National Environmental Satellite Center, Washington, D.C.; ESSA Research Laboratories, Boulder, Colo.; Weather Bureau office, Denver, Colo.; EDS' National Weather Records Center and Weather Bureau office, Asheville, N.C.; National Severe Storms Laboratory, Norman, Okla.; National Hurricane Research Laboratory, Experimental Meteorology Laboratory, and Research Flight Facility, Miami; and the Weather Bureau's Eastern Region headquarters, Garden City, N.Y. The group was accompanied by Morton J. Rubin, Chief of ESSA's Office of Special Studies; Howard L. April, ESSA Office of International Affairs; and Ross N. Lavroff, a U.S. interpreter.

Academician Fedorov (left) and Dr. White exchange views as Soviet weather modification delegation completes U. S. tour.



Left to right: M. J. Rubin , Chief of ESSA's Office of Special Studies; Dr. Y.S. Sedunov, Deputy Director of the Experimental Meteorological Institute and Chief of the Department of Cloud Physics, Soviet Hydrometeorological Service, Obninsk; Dr. V. P. Lominadze, Director of the Transcaucasian Research Hydrometeorological Service, Tbilisi; Dr. I. I. Gayvoronskiy, Head of the Weather Modification Department of the Central Aerological Observatory, Moscow; Dr. N. I. Vul'fson, of the Soviet Institute of Applied Geophysics; Dr. V. I. Kiziriya, Chief of the Weather Modification Department, Soviet Hydrometeorological Service, Nalchik; Dr. G. K. Sulakvelidze, Director of the High Altitude Geophysical Institute, Soviet Hydrometeorological Service; Academician E. K. Fedorov; R. N. Lavroff, U.S. interpreter; and Dr. R. M. White.

Chargualaf Named Pacific "Observer of the Quarter"

Jesus N. Chargualaf, meteorological technician at the Guam, Mariana Islands, Weather Bureau office, has been named "Observer of the Quarter" for the second quarter of 1969 in recognition of his high quality of observations. Mr. Chargualaf began his Weather Bureau career in June 1957, and is the second observer from the Guam weather station to be so honored since the program began three years ago. The first three runners-up were Mark T. Takata of Hilo, William H. Cope of Kahului, and Flaviano Labaya of Honolulu.

Three-Year Vermont Geodetic Survey Completed

C&GS field parties, in cooperation with the State of Vermont, have completed a three-year geodetic survey in northern Vermont. The parties determined more than 60 geographic positions for the State to provide accurate survey data for its series of large-scale maps being planned for future land development and other projects. The geodetic survey was carried out in eight counties of the State's mountainous terrain--Franklin, Chittenden, Lamoile, Washington, Orange, Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans.

Texas Barbecue All Wet After Indian Rain Dance

Uvalde, Tex., Sahawe Indians performed a rain dance for new teachers in the Uvalde area at an annual barbecue held on Saturday evening, Oct. 4. On Sunday, Oct. 5, an unofficial measurement of 12.70 inches of rain was reported for the 24-hour period ending at 6:00 a.m. CDT for the area. The Indians may never be asked to perform again.

Smith Outwits Computer; Donates Prize to C&GS

John T. Smith, Jr., of the Coast Survey's Photogrammetry Division, thinks man is smarter than computers, and proved it at a recent meeting in Portland, Oreg., of the American Society of Photogrammetry and the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, by defeating a computer programmed to play chess. This was only the ninth time that the computer had been defeated. The first two defeats were by world champion chess players. For his victory, Mr. Smith received ten hours of free computer time valued from $1000 to $3000, depending on the program used, which he donated to the Coast Survey.

Length-of-Service Awards

Washington-area employees eligible to receive length-of-service awards during October are:

ESSA

30 years - Jesse J. Weisiger and William H. Ryland. 25 years - Phyllis M. Lee.

Weather Bureau

40 years - R. E. Blumenauer. 30 years - Vance A. Myers. 25 years - Norman W. Nixon, Robert H. Gelhard, John D. Clithero, John L. Tierney. 20 years - Joe E. Arnold.

Coast and Geodetic Survey

30 years - Nina H. Scott. 25 years - Raymond C. Williams, and Joseph M. Szentes. 20 years - Mario A. Cianfrani, Ned Bamford, Gilbert C. Jacobus, and Dorothy Messenger.

Kommer, WB Quality Control Officer, Dies

Rex L. Kommer, quality control officer, WBFO, New Orleans, La., died Oct. 11. He entered the Weather Bureau at New Orleans in 1947 and remained there throughout his career.

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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