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A Bouquet of Season's Greetings

This has been a momentous year for ESSA and for science. Among the highlights that come to mind are the successful completion of the Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Experiment, the largest scientific investigation ever carried out over an ocean area; the first quantitative measurements of the atmosphere from space, made by the Satellite Infrared Spectrometer; the extremely promising results of the 1969 Project Stormfury hurricane-seeding experiments; and the development of a revolutionary new multiple Doppler radar technique that will give scientists a three-dimensional view of the processes at work within severe storms.

In public service, our major accomplishments include the successful forecasting of Hurricane Camille, which led to the evacuation of 60,000 people from areas where most of them would have lost their lives; substantial progress in converting marine and geomagnetic data into the magnetic tape increasingly demanded by users; and important advances in the nautical charting program, with new applications in automation.

For scientific achievement, and for continual, devoted effort to serve the public effectively, the entire ESSA family has my deepest gratitude. Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr., Deputy Administrator, and Rear Admiral Harley D. Nygren, Associate Administrator, join me in wishing each of you a joyous holiday season and a happy new year.

Robert M. White
Administrator



Christmas greetings from all of us at ERL to our ESSA cousins.

Wilmot N. Hess, Director
ESSA Research Laboratories

The year '69 is fleeting--
It's time to send a holiday greeting
To every member of my staff
Who's worked in EDS' behalf.

To the rest of ESSA, greetings, too.
The best of this season to all of you.
Every one of us at EDS
Hope your new year's filled with happiness.

Woodrow C. Jacobs, Director
Environmental Data Service

Season's Greetings (continued)

Through the last year, the employees of the Weather Bureau have successfully provided forecasts and warnings of all kinds of good and bad weather. The public has been kept informed and many lives have been saved from floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, blizzards, and other hazards of the elements. The headquarters staff and I salute Weather Bureau employees throughout the nation, and extend to them and to all ESSA personnel and their families our best wishes for a very merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

George P. Cressman
Director, Weather Bureau

It is with great pleasure that I extend Season's Greetings and best wishes for a Happy New Year to all employees of NESC and their families. I am sure my colleagues at NESC join me in extending the same warm greetings to the entire ESSA family.

David S. Johnson, Director
National Environmental
Satellite Center

The holiday season provides me an opportunity to extend best wishes to all Coast and Geodetic Survey employees, both near and far afield, as well as to the entire ESSA family. With these season's greetings are extended my sincere thanks for the accomplishments during the past year and the many acts of good will extended to us by our many ESSA friends.

The scope of our work is continuing to broaden as this new era of science and technology forces us to intensify our investigations of both the sea and the atmosphere. No single individual can accomplish the great tasks which are handed to us, but collectively we are forging ahead to meet the major objectives that we have set for the future.

May all the joy of this season come in full measure to you and your families and may this 1969 Christmas season be a memorable one. I wish for each of you during 1970 a year of good will, good health, and happiness.

Rear Admiral Don A. Jones
Director, Coast and Geodetic Survey

Ship Captain Honored for Storm Alert



The Weather Bureau's Public Service Award was presented recently to Captain Frank Stegman (right), master of the Great Lakes ore carrier B. F. JONES by the Bureau's Associate Director for Meteorological Operations, Karl R. Johannessen, in Cleveland, Ohio. Captain Stegman's call from Lake Erie on July 4 was one of the first to alert the Weather Bureau of the approach of the death-dealing Independence Day storm that raked the Cleveland area with 100-mile-an-hour winds. Captain Stegman's call enabled the Weather Bureau to issue prompt marine weather warnings, thereby reducing potential drownings and marine losses.

Captain Wilbur Buswell, another Great Lakes skipper, will receive an award for similar action taken during the July 4 storm.

NESC Employees Form Advisory Council

The first meeting of the NESC Employee Advisory Council (EAC) was held on December 3 and 4. Representing non-supervisory employees of NESC, the EAC for 1970 is composed of the following: Miss Inez Burden, Computation Group; John Conner, MSL; Gene Dunlap, DAPAD; Jerry Hanks, TOC; Jesse Rodriguez, SEL; Miss Mary Ann Ruznecki, P&C and Support Services; Nelson Seese, System Engineering; Archie Shaw, DAPAD; Frank Smigielski, DAPAD; Robert Thompson, Wallops CDA; and Mrs. Mary Wyvill, secretaries. The Council's purpose is to provide a means of discussing freely with the Director's office the wide spectrum of job problems, working conditions, career development, technical matters and, in general, improvement of the NESC.

New Recording Stations To Improve Tsunami Network

The Coast Survey is expanding and improving the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific by the addition of 14 seismic observatories and tide stations and by the installation of new instrumentation at various sites in the network. The system furnishes warnings to 14 countries and territories in the Pacific Basin of the danger of the great waves spawned by earthquakes beneath the ocean.

Participation of six seismic observatories at Wellington, New Zealand; Port Moresby, New Guinea; Suva, Fiji Islands; Tacubaya, Mexico; Antofagasta, Chile; and Easter Island is expected to expedite the determination in certain areas of earthquake epicenters and provide a greater degree of accuracy.

The addition of eight tide stations at the Galapagos Islands off Ecuador; Marsden Point, New Zealand; Rikitea, Gambier Isles in the South Pacific; Okinawa; Amchitka, Aleutian Islands; Salina Cruz and Manzanillo, Mexico; and Talara, Peru, should help reduce tsunami detection times and provide additional data for tsunami evaluations.

Most of the additions to the system are expected to become operational within a short time. The tide station at Rikitea, Gambier Isles, is already operational. This French-operated station is considered to be one of the more valuable additions to the system because of its location in relation to Chilean earthquakes.

Installation of new instrumentation at a number of stations is expected to be completed early next year. It will include new visible recording seismograph systems and electronic recording tide gages. In addition, remote recording systems will be supplied to all tide stations in the network which do not now have them and which have a need for them. U.S. support consists of technical assistance in the installation of loaned equipment, which will then be operated by the recipient stations at their expense.

In still another move to improve and expand the network, the experimental warning system for locally generated tsunamis in Hawaii is expected to be operational by the end of the year. The experimental system consists of seismic and hydraulic gages on various islands in the state.

MT MITCHELL Chief Bos'n Retires



Special ceremonies marked the retirement of Chief Bos'n Robert C. Savage of the USC&GSS MT MITCHELL after 39 years of service. Mr. Savage has served on 15 Coast Survey ships, including the old OCEANOGRAPHER. The ceremony was held aboard the ship at the Atlantic Marine Center with Rear Adm. Allen L. Powell (right), Director of the Marine Center, and Commander K. A. MacDonald (left), the vessel's commanding officer, participating. Service awards were presented to seven of the ship's personnel: 40 years, Felix Divino; 30 years, Paul Lewis; 25 years, Leonard Shilleen, Clemmy Chadwick, and Stephen Marson; 20 years, Willie Smith; and 15 years, Leland Wiggins.

D.C. Area Employees Top Giving Quota

Under Secretary Rocco C. Siciliano has presented certificates of merit to Commerce bureaus and offices that exceeded their quotas in the Washington Area Combined Federal Campaign. Of the 18 units involved, ESSA was second with a performance of 129 percent of quota. Topping the list was the Census Bureau with 135 percent. Theodore P. Gleiter, Assistant Administrator for Administration & Technical Services, received the plaque from the Under Secretary at ceremonies in the Commerce Building. In the Washington Area, the Commerce Department led all federal agencies in the percentage amount above quota.

Lt. Cdr. Brown Is McARTHUR Executive Officer

Lt. Cdr. James P. Brown, Jr., has been named Executive Officer of the Coast and Geodetic Survey Ship McARTHUR. Brown will assume his new post in Seattle, Wash., Feb. 1, following completion of graduate studies in San Jose, Calif.

E-Bond Interest Rate Rises

The interest rate on U.S. Savings Bonds, Series E, has been increased from 4½ to 5 percent, pursuant to Public Law 91-130, approved December 1, 1969. The new interest rate provides added incentives to hold E Bonds and to keep increasing these personal investments for the future, through the voluntary payroll savings plan. It also makes it unnecessary to issue any more of the separate Freedom Share Notes.

Effective immediately, ESSA Payroll will not accept any new authorizations for Freedom Share Notes in combination with E Bonds. Savings plans which heretofore would have been divided between E Bonds and Freedom Share Notes can now be pursued more efficiently in relation to E Bonds alone, with the same interest rate advantage heretofore available for only Freedom Share Notes.

Payroll deductions for purchase of Freedom Share Notes will be terminated as rapidly as possible between January and June 1970, as soon as the full purchase price has been accumulated in each individual's account for issuance of a final Freedom Share Note for such individual. Employees who have payroll deductions for Freedom Shares will receive information as to options open to them.

Attention, Timekeepers!

The Finance Division reminds all timekeepers to give 10 hours' annual leave accrual to those employees who normally get 6 hours, on Pay Period number 1, December 14-27, 1969. Employees have until January 10, 1970, to use excess leave over their maximum.

Gifts to Boothville Staff Top \$8500

Contributions totaling more than \$8500 were received to aid the Weather Bureau staff at Boothville, La., after their losses during Hurricane Camille. The 600 donations came from ESSA employees and offices throughout the nation, retired employees, and from AFGE Lodge 2529, Charleston; AFGE Lodge 2476, Minneapolis; NFFE Local 1459, Miami; AFGE Lodge 2762, Shreveport; NAGE Local R5-93, Montgomery; AFGE Lodge 3043, Anchorage; the Tampa Soft Drink Fund; and the Miami Amateur Meteorological Society.

Duty Hours Change for Some

Effective January 4, 1970, regular working hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for all employees in Building 5, Rockville, Md., and all C&GS (AC&C) employees in the Gramax Building, Silver Spring, Md. All other ESSA employees in the Washington area will continue their present work schedule.

Unused Sick Leave Counts as Service

Under Public Law 91-93 approved Oct. 20, 1969, the value of annuities has been increased by the inclusion of unused sick leave as extra service credit. For example:

If an employee had one year of sick leave to his credit at his retirement, he would receive a 2 percent addition to his annuity. A \$600 per month retirement check would become \$612, etc. Also, this increase would be reflected in survivor's benefits because the survivor receives 55 percent of the \$612.

Length-of-Service Awards

The following employees of the Weather Bureau Eastern Region became eligible for length-of-service awards during the last quarter of 1969: 35 years - Willard A. Brownlee, Wallops Island. 30 years - Alton L. Stone, Greensboro, N.C.; Marvin N. Hunter, Washington, D.C.; Harold H. Dutton, Washington, D.C.; Paul T. Lynch, Albany, N.Y. 25 years - Raymond W. Derwin, Akron; Peter E. Pappas, New York; Charles H. Shoemaker, Allentown, Pa.; Dolph A. Kipps, Richmond, Va.; William Kerchusky, Columbia, S.C.; William P. Hayes, Albany, N.Y.; Kenneth H. Carroll, Raleigh; Harold E. Boone, Wallops Island; Henry J. Godbois, Caribou, Me.; Richard A. Williams, Dayton, O. 20 years - Donald D. Harrison, Washington, D.C.; John L. Dupree, Concord, N.H.; Nicholas Uram, Youngstown, O.; John M. Chick, Caribou, Me.; Merle G. Kachenmeister, Toledo, O.; Augustus W. Roche, Huntington, W. Va.

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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