



# NOAA REPORT



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NOAA  
U.S. Dept of Commerce

August 27, 1986

## COMING UP

NOAA-G polar-orbiting satellite launch from Vandenberg AFB, Calif., Sept. 7.

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NOAA Regional Users Conference in New Orleans, La., Sept. 10-11.

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Toxic Chemicals and Aquatic Life: Research and Management symposium in Seattle, Wash., Sept. 16-18.

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Oceans '86 in Washington, D.C., Sept. 23-25.

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11th Annual Climate Diagnostics Workshop at the University of Illinois, Oct. 14-17.

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Winter weather media workshop in Chicago, Ill., Oct. 24-25.

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Thomas N. Pyke, Jr., To Head NESDIS:--The appointment of Thomas N. Pyke, Jr., as Assistant Administrator for Satellite, Data, and Information Services was announced by Administrator Calio.

Pyke, a career federal science program manager, has been director of the Center for Programming Science and Technology at the National Bureau of Standards. An internationally recognized expert in computer sciences, research, testing, and systems engineering, he has directed a technical center which is responsible for developing federal, national, and international standards. He has worked closely with industry in tracking trends in data and software management, computer security, and in developing techniques for testing and evaluating new products and services.

A native of Washington, D.C., Pyke earned a BS degree in electrical engineering, as a Westinghouse scholar, from Carnegie Institute of Technology, and an MS degree in computer systems, as a Ford Foundation Fellow, from the University of Pennsylvania. He began his NBS career in 1960 as a student trainee specializing in computer hardware and software design. He is a member of numerous professional organizations and has published over 25 scientific papers and reports.

**NOAA-G Launch Now Set For Sept. 7:**--Launch of the polar-orbiting weather satellite NOAA-G, postponed several times in the past few weeks when preflight checks revealed spacecraft or rocket problems, early this week was scheduled for liftoff no earlier than Sunday, Sept. 7. The new 10-minute launch window is between 8:52 and 9:02 a.m. PDT at Vandenberg AFB, California. On Aug. 25 the Air Force advised NOAA it had isolated the only known remaining problem (in the Atlas launch vehicle) and repaired it. Next checkpoint in the countdown is Thursday, Aug. 28.

**NACOA Cites Need For EEZ Exploration:**--The National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere (NACOA) has recommended to the President the development of a national scientific exploration plan for the Exclusive Economic Zone. President Reagan proclaimed sovereign rights for the United States over resources in the EEZ, an area extending out to 200 nautical miles from the U.S. coastline, in 1983.

Although many of the resources of the EEZ already have been identified, NACOA said, a coordinated scientific exploration of the region should lead to the discovery of additional resources such as new sources of food, hydrates, oil, gas, and hard minerals. Possible new uses of the EEZ include the development of marine pharmaceuticals, renewable energy generation, mariculture, and ocean incineration of toxic chemicals. Only a well-managed and comprehensive scientific exploration program can provide the information to policy makers necessary to evaluate potential uses, assist in resolving conflicts among users, and provide for the conservation of the ocean environment, according to the 18-member citizen advisory committee.

Over 180 years ago, the Louisiana Purchase doubled the size of the nation's territory, NACOA noted. With President Reagan's historic proclamation of the EEZ in 1983, the area of the nation was doubled once more.

NACOA stated, "the significance of the EEZ to the future of our country may well be greater than the 1803 Louisiana Purchase acquisition - considering the rate of depletion of the Earth's natural resources on land and the potential that the oceans are believed to have for addition to our resource base." The President's EEZ Proclamation, NACOA continued, claimed sovereign rights over all resources in the vast region, consistent with existing U.S. law and policy. NACOA believes that with such rights comes the responsibility to explore and monitor changes in the marine environment.

A limited number of copies of the NACOA report, entitled "The Need for a National Plan for Scientific Exploration for the Exclusive Economic Zone," are available from the Executive Director, National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere, 1825 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20235.

**Monitor Anchor Displayed:** The 1350-pound anchor of the famed Civil War iron clad, USS Monitor, went on display Aug. 25 in the HCHB Visitor Center. Handsomely restored over a two-year period after being brought up from the seafloor off Cape Hatteras in 1983, the anchor will reside in the Center over the next six months. Dr. Nancy Foster, Director of NOAA's sanctuary programs, briefed Washington TV Channels 7 and 56, the Associated Press and UPI Wirephotos, on the history and significance of the relic.

**Latin-American Shrimp Shipments Jump:** --U.S. imports of shrimp from Latin American companies leaped nearly one-quarter during the first six months of 1986, according to Dennis Weidner, Fisheries Service foreign affairs officer. The jump was largely due to increased production in Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil, Panama and Costa Rica. During that period, the U.S. imported 79,000 tons, as opposed to 64,000 during the same time last year.

**NOAA Contributing to Megamarketplace East/West:** --NOAA will join the Department of Commerce and other federal agencies, the National Association of Women Business Owners, and state and local governments to provide current information about Government procurement opportunities at two Megamarketplace conferences in 1987. Megamarketplace West will be held in Los Angeles February 26. Megamarketplace East will be held May 7 in Washington, D.C. Both are procurement conferences targeted for business owners who are women. The Office of Business Affairs, headed by Norma Yost, is the contact for this activity.

**Return That Radiosonde!** --The youth magazines Boys Life and Ranger Rick are the latest publications to give an assist to the OPA push for the return of downed radiosondes, with articles in the August issues. They appeal to Boy Scouts and other youngsters to return the downed, balloon-borne instrument packages to the Weather Service for reconditioning and reuse, at substantial savings to the taxpayer.

**Minority Consumer Expo:** ---Coordination of NOAA's participation in Minority Consumer Expo - the 49th year for the nation's oldest and largest newspaper-sponsored exposition slated for Oct. 17-19 in Louisville, Ky., is being handled by the Constituent Affairs Program Staff. According to Kent Burton, head of Congressional and Constituent Affairs, NOAA's Office for Civil Rights has agreed to provide an exhibit and staff. Other Department of Commerce agencies will be contacted to arrange a united DOC presence at the Expo.

**Pacific Groundfishery Tightened:** --The Fisheries Service, on Aug. 22, moved to keep the sablefish fishery open for the rest of 1986 by tightening allocations and trip limits, effective through Nov. 20. Failure to do so would bring a ban on all sablefish landings and would also force discards of those caught inciden-

**Coral Yields New Drug:**--Sea Grant scientists studying the chemistry and pharmacology of marine natural products have isolated a novel chemical compound, pseudopterosin, from sea feather coral. The compound and certain of its analogues are effective as anti-inflammatory, anti proliferative, and analgesic agents.

The scientists, led by William Senical and Robert S. Jacobs of the University of California, have found that the pseudopterosins' high level of activity, their low toxicity, and their nonsteroidal nature give them significant potential as agents for controlling pain and treating a variety of diseases. Based on this research, the university has filed applications for patents covering the pseudopterosin and its synthetic derivatives. The pharmacological firm of Smith, Kline, and Beckman has signed an agreement with the university to develop certain aspects of the invention that will be covered by patents.

**Have-A-Stat:**--The Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey, Pacific Coast, 1985, is in distribution, according to the Fisheries Service's statistics chief, B.G. Thompson. The publication tells the statistical story of marine recreational catches from California to Washington; the equivalent publication for the Atlantic and Gulf States was issued in mid-July.

**Canadians Seek New Look At Duties:**--Canada's Fisheries Council has asked the Commerce Department to review the countervailing duty (CVD) imposed last year against Canadian producers of dried, salted, and skin-on codfish. Averaging about 16.3 per cent, the CVD affected about 165 processors in Nova Scotia who exported \$19.6 million worth in 1984 and \$18.4 million worth last year. Despite the CVD, Canadian export statistics show that during January-February 1986, Canadian dried and salted cod exports to the U.S. doubled--both in quantity and value, compared to the same period last year.

**Winter Weather Workshop Agenda Set:**--TV weathercasters from much of the nation have been invited to participate in OPA's annual winter weather workshop Oct. 24-25 at the Ramada O'Hare, Chicago. A unique feature of the TV workshops is a videotaping service which provides broadcasters with facilities and equipment to interview NOAA officials for airing in home city stations. Weather Service, NESDIS, ERL and Federal Emergency Management Agency experts will be featured at this year's session. Ray Waldman, Chicago MIC, is host.

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# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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