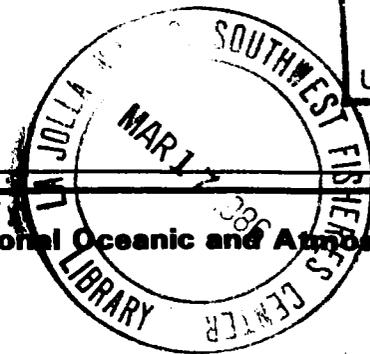
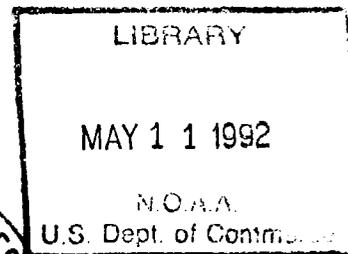




# NOAA REPORT



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE • National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

March 5, 1986

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

*"I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet any new situations by reorganizing; and a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency and demoralization."*

*Petronius Arbiter, 210 B.C.*

The above quotation was sent to me anonymously. I looked in my Bartlett's Familiar Quotations and could not find this quote among those attributed to Petronius. Nor did Bartlett choose to include anything about "reorganization" except for a slightly risqué line from T.S. Eliot. Nevertheless, someone was sending me a message. While nameless critics may not deserve a reply, most members of the NOAA family do.

It is a prerogative of leadership to design a plan that is tailored to the needs of the leader and the functions of the organization. I have done this. Further, I have described my plan to the Assistant Administrators and Staff Office Directors who are responsible for implementing it. They will carry my plan and my reasoning to their subordinates. It is not my intention to arouse confusion or tolerate inefficiency. Nor do I want to preside over an agency with low morale.

Therefore, if the above quotation strikes a responsive chord with you, I suggest you talk with your superior. We in the Federal Government are dealing with a new set of imperatives. Ronald Reagan will leave Washington in 1989. He will leave behind a different Government than we have known. It is not just "Reaganism." It is a Federal budget that must be contained. It is Gramm-Rudman-Hollings that will be reckoned with. At every level of Government those who can show resourcefulness, determination and commitment to purpose will survive and take part in streamlining our Government. Our primary task is to do the specific job for which we were hired, not to sustain the Federal bureaucracy. While each of us is expendable, there is always a place for enthusiastic, practical individuals who can plan the work and work the plan. Even when our present policy-makers are gone, do not delude yourself that we can go back to the way things were. History has moved on; let's move with it.

Here is what you can expect from me: I know NOAA. I will establish NOAA priorities. I will live within our budget. I will work to strengthen our programs by looking closely at what can be reduced. You will see no false economies, but you will see change. I will get out in the field and into the trenches. If you have a good idea, don't hesitate to try it on me. But do not expect a vacuous response. Be ready with your best. I'm ready with mine.

**COMING UP**

Public affairs workshop for TV weathercasters, National Severe Storms Laboratory, Norman, Ok., Mar. 7 and 8.  
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Spring flooding outlook press conference by Dr. Michael Hudlow, Weather Service hydrologist, Mar. 10 at 1 p.m., HCHB Auditorium.  
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Satellite applications training, Mar. 10-21 at the World Weather Building.  
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National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere meeting Mar. 17 and 18, Page Bldg. 1.  
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NOAA-G Launch Mar. 31, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.  
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**New Home For GLERL:**--The Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, headed by Dr. Eugene J. Aubert, after nearly a decade of trying, is scheduled to have a new home. A lease for a new facility, built to GLERL specifications and consolidating its operations under one roof, has been signed. Groundbreaking is scheduled for April 4; occupancy early next year. GLERL moved "temporarily" to Ann Arbor 12 years ago, is now operating at five locations in the city, with warehousing facilities 50 miles away.

**Dolphin Watch Beefed Up:**--NOAA ships and a helicopter will sweep the eastern tropical Pacific next summer in a project designed to protect those lovable creatures, the dolphins, some of which are accidentally killed during commercial purse seining for yellowfin tuna. The Southwest Fisheries Center at La Jolla will conduct the operation over a five million-square-mile area of ocean, using the NOAA ships Jordan and McArthur, with the first ship survey scheduled for July. In overall charge is Benson Drucker of the Office of Resource Investigations. The ocean operation is one part of a three-pronged program: other elements include development of a reliable abundance index, using data collected by observers aboard tuna vessels; and collecting biological information on the condition of the stocks. An \$800,000 increase in the Fisheries Service's FY '87 budget request is designed to evaluate the condition and abundance of the dolphins, the appropriateness of current incidental-kill quotas, and to provide information on which future levels may be based.

**Launch Targeted For May 1:**--A geostationary weather satellite, GOES-G, is scheduled for launch May 1 from Kennedy Space Flight Center, Fla. It will replace "GOES East", blinded in the summer of 1984, and will be stationed at 75 degrees west longitude at 22,300 miles after launch on a Delta vehicle. It will be the first

geostationary satellite to carry experimental search-and-rescue signal relay capability, to assist the international COSPAS/SARSAT program for quick location of downed aircraft and ships in distress.

**NOAA-CSM Put Data To Work:**--NOAA and the Colorado School of Mines will attack industry-wide problems in petroleum and other resource industries with a Cooperative Institute for Geodata Management and Applications. Representing NOAA at a Feb. 27 ceremony marking establishment of the Institute were Acting Assistant Administrator William O. Bishop (Satellites), and Dr. Michael Chinnery, Director of NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center at Boulder, Colo. Dr. George Ansell, CSM President, and Thomas Morgan, geophysics professor and Institute Director, represented the school, on whose Golden, Colo., campus the Institute will be established.

**Protective Regulations Signed:**--The Fisheries Service and the Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service have signed off on regulations critical to the Endangered Species Act, under whose terms Fisheries protects such animals as the great whales, sea turtles, and the monk seal. Section 7 of the law requires federal agencies, such as the Corps of Engineers or Interior's Marine Minerals Management Service to consult with NMFS and Fish and Wildlife if they contemplate any activity that could jeopardize an endangered or threatened species. OMB approval is required before the new regulations are published.

**Flood Safety Campaign:**--Press releases and radio-TV material on flood safety are en route to the media, and preparations continue for the Office of Public Affairs' annual spring flood outlook press conference Monday, Mar. 10 at 1 p.m. in the HCHB Auditorium. A NOAA release, kicking off the annual program, reveals that floods and flash floods killed 166 people in 13 states and Puerto Rico during 1985. One of our worst weather menaces, floods annually cause an average of 151 deaths. Last year, almost half of the fatalities were vehicle-related, most occurring when victims drove into flooded waterways. Thirty-seven percent of the 1985 victims were killed in permanent homes; 12 were camping near stream or riverbanks; only 3 per cent--a departure--were in mobile homes. Of the victims, 102 were males, 64 females, with an average age of 36 years. The toll would have been considerably lower but for a disaster in Puerto Rico Oct. 9, when 52 died in flooding, and another 129 perished in mudslides.

**Looking Into Space:**--When the nation's space station goes into orbit in the 1990s, NOAA intends to be there. Our operational requirements for weather platforms in the space complex were outlined in recent meetings at NASA headquarters by Dr. William Bishop, Acting Assistant Administrator (Satellites). NOAA's platforms would do what the present TIROS satellites now do, but with far more sophisticated instrumentation. Tentative plans call for the European Space Agency to operate an afternoon-ascending platform, with NASA operating a platform which will orbit the poles in the morning. They would be serviced by astronauts.

**NOAA Weather Radio Going Strong:**--NOAA Weather Radio, which has seen the sale of at least 50 million units over the past decade, just keeps on rolling along. According to Joseph Conte, NWS operations dissemination program leader, Radio Shack, one of the largest distributors of receivers capable of monitoring NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts, has reported a sale of 354,000 such units last year--a 100 percent increase over the 167,000 sold in 1977. The nationwide direct-broadcast system providing local weather and flood warnings and forecasts on a 24-hour basis has 372 transmitters within the monitoring range of 90 percent of the U.S. population.

**Tornado Safety Program Kickoff:**--More than a score of TV weathercasters and writers from all parts of the country have signed up to participate in the Office of Public Affairs' annual tornado safety media workshop Mar. 7 and 8 at the National Severe Storms Laboratory, Norman, Okla. At that time, a NOAA release will announce an intensive, two-month probe of the storms that spawn tornadoes over Oklahoma. Directed by Dr. Edwin Kessler, NSSL head, the research will range from basic studies of storm structure and dynamics to comparison of data-gathering systems within the storms themselves. And, on days when tornadoes seem most likely to occur, NOAA teams will roam the countryside, trying to place instruments directly in their paths. Promotion of the safety-related NOAA film, Terrible Tuesday, and tornado safety TV public service announcements, continues with the National Association of Broadcasters slated to transmit the material on its Mar. 21 satellite feed to member stations. Broadcasters throughout the nation have been urged by letter to air the safety spots.

**Gulf Coast Atlas Issued:**-- The Ocean Service's Ocean Assessments Division has just received the first copy of the Gulf of Mexico Coastal And Ocean Zones Strategic Assessment: Data Atlas, containing maps of a wide range of subjects important to government, scientists, engineers and industry. Topics covered, according to Office chief Charles N. Ehler, include physical and biotic environments, living marine resources, economic activity, environmental quality, and jurisdictions. The Government Printing Office will sell the massive, full-color publication.

**Multi-Nation Satellite Course Set:**--Experts from China, Peru and Israel will be among 25 weather scientists and technicians from NOAA, NASA and other federal agencies taking a satellite applications training course Mar. 10-21 at the World Weather Building.

**Don't Quit Now:**--Registration for many continuing education courses at the Graduate School, USDA, will be held Monday, Mar. 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Conference Rooms 1412 and 1413, HCHB. Classes begin Apr. 7; for a free schedule and more information, call 447-4166.

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# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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