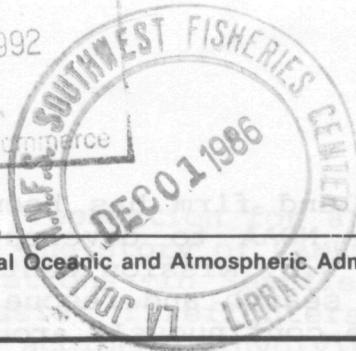




NOAA REPORT

LIBRARY
MAY 1 1 1992

U.S. Dept. of Commerce



AB

NOAA Report is an administrative document, issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of the Administrator for the information and use of agency personnel.

November 13, 1986

COMING UP

NOAA Science Seminar Series: "Storm Electricity and Cloud Physics Research: New Results and Avenues for Application;" W. David Rust, NSSL, WSC 5, Room 926, 10:30 a.m., Nov. 14.

NOAA Observation and Prediction Review at WSC-5 in Rockville, Md., Nov. 17-19.

NOAA Climate Program Review at WSC-5 in Rockville, Md., Nov. 19-21.

Meeting of the Interdepartmental Committee for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research at the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology in Rockville, Md., Nov. 25

National Academy of Science seminar on carbon dioxide research, Washington, D.C., Dec. 3-4.

Assault Case Brings Swift Action:--The Coast Guard has seized the Shin Yang Ho, a Korean vessel whose master allegedly sexually assaulted a female observer during her first trip in late October. NOAA observers are stationed on foreign fishing vessels to assure compliance with U.S. laws and fishing regulations. The vessel has been brought into Kodiak, Alaska. The U.S. Attorney is filing criminal charges against the captain, who is under arrest, and will file a forfeiture action against the vessel. NOAA expects to propose that all future Korean permits for fishing in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone specifically prohibit the employment of this captain.

COSPAS/SARSAT Mission Control Center Set:--Here are more details on the satellite search and rescue Mission Control Center (MCC) noted in NOAA Report, Oct. 1.

A Maryland firm has been awarded a \$5 million, seven-year contract by NOAA to develop, operate, and maintain a sophisticated new U.S. Mission Control Center to service the worldwide space-based search and rescue system, COSPAS/SARSAT. The center will operate continuously around the clock and will be staffed by up to 12 employees of the operating firm, Science Systems and Applications, Inc. (SSAI), of Seabrook, Md. It will be co-located with NOAA's spacecraft computer processing facilities in Suitland, Md.

COSPAS/SARSAT now is serviced by three Soviet and two U.S. polar orbiting spacecraft which intercept distress signals from downed fliers and shipwrecked sailors and relay them, via ground stations, to various MCCs around the world. By means of high speed computers these MCCs pinpoint the origin of the signals and notify the nearest rescue coordination center (RCC).

The new NOAA center will be a principal operational point of contact between the U.S. and other nations in the COSPAS/SARSAT system. Its design goal includes the capacity for handling data to and from 10 ground stations, 10 spacecraft, 36 RCCs and 12 global MCCs.

Presently two U.S. MCCs are in operation at Trenton, N.J., and at Scott Air Force Base, Ill. The Scott Center will be phased out as the Suitland center comes on line. Scott, headquarters of the USAF Air Rescue Service, however, will continue to play a key role in the COSPAS/SARSAT program.

Public Hearings Set on Exxon Appeal:--NOAA will hold a public hearing November 24 in Santa Barbara on an appeal by Exxon Company U.S.A. of the California Coastal Commission's 1983 objection to the company's plan for increased oil production from its Santa Ynez unit off Santa Barbara. The Commission contended that Exxon's offshore development plan was inconsistent with the federally-approved coastal zone management plan because of increased risks of oilspills and air pollution.

Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige issued a partial decision in February 1984, but stayed a final decision to allow Exxon to pursue state and local permits for onshore processing facilities.

The hearing, which will be presided over by NOAA General Counsel Daniel W. McGovern, follows an October 8 decision by Secretary Baldrige to resume processing Exxon's appeal of California's objection. Exxon had requested resumption of its appeal September 5, after receiving a permit for an onshore processing facility from Santa Barbara County, with conditions the company considered unreasonable.

CAMEO Project Videotaped:--In preparation for a major media push, Public Affairs has videotaped the story of CAMEO--Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations--in Seattle. CAMEO is an ingenious mobile system to assist firefighters and other emergency personnel in dealing with accidents involving hazardous chemicals. Developed by the NOAA Hazardous Materials Response Branch in cooperation with the Seattle Fire Department, and with the help of Environmental Protection Agency funding, CAMEO is believed to have the potential to effect drastic reductions in danger and destruction. Its technology will be made available to emergency personnel across the nation. News of CAMEO will be nationally announced at a Washington media briefing in the near future.

GFDL's Dr. Held Wins Meisinger Award:--Dr. Isaac M. Held, a researcher at NOAA's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, N.J., has been awarded the American Meteorological Society's prestigious Meisinger Award. The award is presented annually to a promising young atmospheric scientist in recognition of distinguished achievement. Dr. Held, 37, was cited for "outstanding contributions to the study of climate dynamics through studies of energy balances and wave dynamics." Dr. Held, with GFDL since 1978, also is a visiting lecturer with the rank of professor at Princeton University.

Lorraine Kenyon Takes Charge of ITC:--Lorraine Kenyon has been named chief of the NOAA Information Technology Center (ITC) in the Office of the Comptroller. She replaces Dr. Daniel Lufkin who has retired. Ms. Kenyon has been with NOAA for 13 years as a computer programmer, systems analyst, and most recently as Task Group Leader for the NOAA-wide Financial Management (FIMA) system. The ITC promotes the application of microcomputer technology within NOAA through formal training, the evaluation and acquisition of computer hardware and software, and installation and repair services.

FY 86 Record Year for Flood Damage: Several major floods in FY 86 resulted in over 175 lives lost and a record \$5.5 billion in flood damages, according to Crystal Watts of the Weather Service Hydrologic Services Division. The division keeps records for fiscal, as well as calendar, years to equate flood losses with federal expenditures. Damages during the past FY exceeded those of any year since flood records began. The five outstanding events during the past fiscal year were the Puerto Rico flood of October 1985, the Gulf Coast region flood from Hurricane Juan in October 1985, the Appalachia flood of November 1985, the California flood of February 1986, and the central United States and Great Lakes region flood of September 1986. These five events represent at least 75 percent of the total FY 86 flood damages.

ERL Outstanding Scientific Paper Award:--A team of NOAA scientists - including Walter D. Komhyr, Thomas J. Conway, T.B. Harris, Kurt W. Thoning, William R. Taylor, and Richard Gammon has received the 1985 Outstanding Scientific Paper Award presented by the Environmental Research Laboratories. According to the judges, the paper presents the most accurate and comprehensive data set on global carbon dioxide measurements ever available, "setting the international standard for empirical research on the global atmospheric carbon dioxide budget for years to come." The award winning paper is on the results of a NOAA carbon dioxide sampling program from 1968 to 1982, from which the global distribution and variation of atmospheric carbon dioxide upon climate is determined. The impact of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere upon climate is a matter of major concern in scientific circles.

NOAA Data Will Help Climatic Change Researchers:--A soon to be released data set will offer researchers, working on the detection of climatic change and the influence of the increased concentrations of greenhouse gases on climate, valuable NOAA temperature and precipitation data from 1,213 stations. The Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Carbon Dioxide Information Center is planning to release the historical data set prepared by NESDIS' National Climatic Data Center for the Department of Energy. Major NCDC contributors to the project were Frank Quinlan, Tom Karl, and Claude Williams.

Reyna Sabina Wins EEO Award:--Reyna Sabina, a mathematician with the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory in Miami, has been awarded the Environmental Research Laboratories Equal Employment Opportunity award. Ms Sabina was cited for her activities during the past eight years "contributing to, and enhancing, equal employment opportunities for all people." Ms. Sabina, the award points out, personally has been responsible for the employment of almost a dozen minority employees at the Virginia Key laboratory, and helped found the Miami Federal Executive Board's Hispanic Council in which she remains active.

"Ghost" Gillnet Study Reveals Nothing Sinister:--NOAA's Office of Undersea Research recently completed a project on Georges Bank to evaluate the effects of lost fishing gear which still may be catching fish. Their assessment indicates that the perceived problem of the loss of fish and shellfish resources to ghost gillnets is minor when compared to other causes of loss. Relatively few ghost gillnets were discovered within historical gillnet fishing areas. Apparently, an intensive otter-trawl fishery keeps the fishing banks clean of lost gear despite a high rate of gillnet loss. Also, the fishing "prowess" of several ghost nets which were monitored over a three-year period was less than anticipated. A final report is being prepared for the New England Fishery Management Council.

PLEASE SHARE THIS COPY OF NOAA REPORT WITH OTHERS IN YOUR OFFICE.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

ERRATA NOTICE

One or more conditions of the original document may affect the quality of the image, such as:

Discolored pages
Faded or light ink
Binding intrudes into the text

This has been a co-operative project between the NOAA Central Library and the Climate Database Modernization Program, National Climate Data Center (NCDC). To view the original document, please contact the NOAA Central Library in Silver Spring, MD at (301) 713-2607 x124 or Library.Reference@noaa.gov

HOV Services
Imaging Contractor
12200 Kiln Court
Beltsville, MD 20704-1387
July 23, 2010