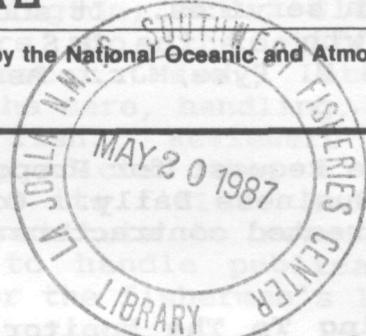




# NOAA REPORT

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May 6, 1987

## COMING UP

World Meteorological Organization Congress in Geneva, Switzerland, May 4-29.

International Hydrographic Organization Conference in Monte Carlo, Monaco, May 5-15.

Dedication of new National Weather Service Forecast Office facility in Boston, Mass., May 6.

NOAA/U.S. Geological Survey hydrologists' quarterly meeting in Silver Spring, Md., May 13.

American Geophysical Union spring meeting in Baltimore, Md., May 18-22.

Dedication of new National Weather Service Forecast Office facility in Norman, Okla., May 22-23.

NOAA Awards Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., at Andrews Air Force Base Officers' Club, Md., May 22.

Coastal Zone Expo 87 in Seattle, Wash., May 25-29.

Climate Symposium at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, May 27-28.

**NOAA Invites Bids for Space Services:**--NOAA has asked the U.S. space industry for proposals to provide launch services for up to five weather satellites beginning in late 1989. The launch services procurement is designed to support the introduction of a new generation of Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (GOES) to be flown during the 1990s.

"We are pleased to announce this contribution to competitive procurement launch services. It should go a long way toward stimulating growth of the U.S. commercial launch services industry," Thomas N. Pyke, Jr., Assistant Administrator of NOAA (Satellites) said.

Notice of the Request for Proposals (RFP) has been published in the Commerce Business Daily. Copies of the 500-page RFP are available to interested contractors from Claire Mansberg. Phone: (301) 443-8890.

**NOAA Returning To The Monitor:**--A NOAA-led team of marine archaeologists, scientists, and engineers will conduct a two-week expedition this summer to the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary to determine the physical condition of the sunken wreck of the Civil War ironclad and precisely map the wreck site. The Monitor lies in 210 feet of water, 16 miles off Cape Hatteras, N.C. The expedition will be conducted from May 25 to June 9 by the Marine and Estuarine Management Division of the National Ocean Service. Earlier NOAA studies at the wreck site determined that the ship, which lies upside down on its revolving "cheesebox" gun turret, may be in danger of breaking up. Information collected during this summer's expedition will be used to determine whether all or part of the wreck should be raised.

**Recommended Reading:**--For your summer reading list we recommend:

John G. Fuller's book, Day of the Killer Tornadoes, is condensed in the May issue of the Reader's Digest (which sells 28 million copies monthly in 15 languages). It is an intensely gripping story of the onset, devastation, and aftermath of the May 31, 1985, tornadoes which killed 88 persons, injured over 1,000, and leveled most of several small communities in northwestern Pennsylvania. Damage totaled more than \$250 million. The article recounts the forecasting efforts of the National Weather Service, from the National Severe Storms Forecast Center to the towns affected. Singled out is the performance of NSSFC forecaster Steve Weiss. His "geographic calculations had been uncanny in their accuracy. The devastation had taken place in almost the exact locations his forecast had pinpointed." Written with careful attention to detail, the book will do a great deal to educate the American public on the mechanics of Weather Service operation during severe storms, and to the necessity for acting quickly on Weather Service watches and warnings. The Office of Public Affairs worked closely with the author while he researched the book, an outgrowth of a feature article in Omni Magazine.

Sport fishermen will enjoy The Angler's Guide to Fish as Food (Osprey Books, Huntington, N.Y., \$14.95) due out this spring. About five years ago, the staff of the Northeast Fisheries Center's Gloucester, Mass., Laboratory prepared a comprehensive treatise on the care, handling, and home-processing of recreationally caught fish. Reviewers outside the agency praised the booklet and predicted that a popularized version would become the "bible" in its field. Arrangements were made with the Sport Fishing Institute to rewrite parts that were somewhat technical, and to handle publication of the final product. This is a must for the fisherman's library.

Finally, the Weather Service has been working on a joint venture with the Campbell Soup Company to produce a new hurricane awareness brochure which will be available to NWS coastal offices before the start of the June-through-September hurricane season. The brochure, Safety Tips for Severe Weather or What To Do Before, During, and After a Hurricane, provides safety information, a hurricane tracking chart, non-perishable products to be purchased in preparation for a hurricane, and things to do for entertainment. Over 200,000 copies will be sent to NWS offices for redistribution to local emergency management officials, local governments, schools, and civic groups. According to Donald L. Wernly, head of the Weather Service's Warning and Forecast Branch, the cooperative effort "illustrates the exciting possibilities that can ensue when the public and private sectors join forces for the common good."

Awards Luncheon Countdown - Two Weeks: A liberal leave policy will be in effect for those planning to attend the NOAA Awards Luncheon, May 22 at 11:30 a.m., at the Andrews Air Force Base Officers' Club. If you don't know who is selling tickets in your area, call Lynn Davenport, 377-8090.

NOAA Headquarters Preview:--Washington-area NOAA employees are invited to tour the new NOAA headquarters building at 1335 East West Highway in Silver Spring, Md. Special tours of the building will be held every other Wednesday, beginning May 6, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Visitors should use appropriate caution as the interior of the building is largely unfinished and some construction is still under way. Contact Rose Larocca, 377-1521, to reserve a space.

Seattle Employee Wins Community Service Award:--Alice S. Hall, a research chemist with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service in Seattle, Wash., has won the Seattle Federal Executive Board's Employee of the Year Award for Community Service. Ms. Hall, who has been with the Utilization Research Division of the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center since 1961, has worked on behalf of underprivileged and minority children for some 7,500

hours during the past 25 years, serving on boards of various children's organization and actively involving disadvantaged children in her research efforts.

Of the 19,000 federal employees in the Seattle area, 57 were nominated for Employee of the Year Awards in seven categories. Other NOAA nominees were Patty Druce and Carolyn Riley-Payne of the Western Administrative Support Center, 12 members of the WASC Processing and Records Branch (group award), and Dennis Hill of the NOS Nautical Chart Branch.

**Avoiding A Chocolate Meltdown:**--A chocolate candy company is planning a summer publicity campaign in which hundreds of samples will be left at doorsteps in several midwestern towns. Axel Graumann of NOAA's National Climatic Data Center recently supplied hourly temperature data for several locations to help the company determine the best time during summer evenings to deliver the samples to avoid a mess.

**Polish Fishing Vessel Conducts Demonstration:**--The fourth annual demonstration cruise was conducted recently aboard the Polish fishing-factory vessel Admiral Arciszewski. NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass., arranged the three-day demonstration cruise for members of the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils. Other participants represented the U.S. Navy, NMFS headquarters, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pennsylvania Bureau of Fisheries, University of Delaware, sport and commercial industries, and commercial fishermen. The participants observed the techniques used to search for mackerel, the actual setting and retrieval of the net, and the processing of the fish into marketable commodities, including fish meal. The observers reported that the efficiency of the Polish crew members was impressive and that there was a remarkable purity of the catches, which were almost entirely mackerel with only a small by-catch of dogfish and an occasional butterfish and squid.

**Hydrologists Return from PRC Exchange Visit:**--Five NOAA hydrologists have just returned from an exchange visit to the People's Republic of China, where they studied PRC methods of hydrologic forecasting. Delegation leader John Schaake was accompanied by Gene Stahlings, Danny Fread, Dale Lillie, and Al Young, all from the National Weather Service. Earlier this year, five high-level Chinese hydrologists visited the United States as part of the exchange. The next phase of the protocol involves bilateral symposia in China and the United States, beginning next year.

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# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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