



NOAA WEEK

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Schoning and Terry Take Oaths of Office



In a ceremony at NOAA headquarters on September 21, William M. Terry was sworn into office as NOAA's Director of International Affairs and Robert W. Schoning took office as Deputy Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service. (Above, left) Mr. and Mrs. Schoning. (Above, right) Mr. Terry, his mother, Mrs. Paul H. Terry, and Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Administrator.

FDA Assures Deep-Water Food Fish Is Safe

New assurance has come from the Food and Drug Administration that deep-water food fish are safe to eat, Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Administrator, declared this week when he released FDA Commissioner Dr. Charles C. Edwards' statement that, "With the exception of swordfish, the FDA continues to find no hazard to the consuming public from mercury contamination in deep-water food fish."

Dr. Edwards' statement also pointed out: "To assure that fish containing excessive mercury residues are not entering the market, a nationwide testing program, including inspection and spot analysis, is being maintained by the industry and the Food and Drug Administration.

In making public the FDA statement, Dr. White revealed also that National

Marine Fisheries Service statistics show that the overall market for fishery products in the United States maintained strength during the early months of 1971, with a "seller's market" in most sectors.

Prior to the wage-price freeze, he said, prices in general were advancing sharply and supplies were short in many instances. Despite shortness of supply, Dr. White said, NMFS projections indicate that per capita fish consumption in the United States this year will be only two-tenths of a pound less than last year's figure of 11.4 pounds.

"This indicates to me," Dr. White said, "that the American people have exercised good common sense in continuing to enjoy a delicious food which is nutritious and wholesome."

San Francisco Bay EMSU Dedication Ceremony Held



(From left) Mr. Holmes, San Jose Councilwoman Janet Gray Hayes, and Mr. Johannessen

The San Francisco Bay Area's Environmental Meteorological Support Unit (EMSU) was dedicated on August 27 in the campus quarters it shares with San Jose State College's Department of Meteorology.

Representative George T. Miller of California's 8th District, Chairman of the House Committee on Science and Astronautics, and Karl B. Johannessen, National Weather Service Associate Director, Meteorological Operations, were speakers at the ceremony hosted by Arthur F. Gustafson, MIC, San Francisco. Regional Air Pollution Meteorologist Robert M. Black and Burton H. Kirschner, NWS Air Pollution Weather Services, were among those who attended the dedication.

Air Pollution Meteorologist Kenneth W. Holmes, who is in charge of the new EMSU, and his assistants, James Christopherson, Richard Stitt and George Bonawitt, issued the unit's first Air Stagnation Advisory for portions of central California when the area had an air pollution episode on September 13, 14, and 15.

Elevations Along Great Lakes Being Re-Evaluated by LSC

The Lake Survey Center Control Section is currently working along the St. Marys River. As of 1955, the elevations of thousands of benchmarks along the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System had been determined by coordinated efforts of the LSC and the Geodetic Survey of Canada.

These elevations, which refer to the International Great Lakes Datum (1955), are now being re-evaluated, again in a joint effort, to determine whether relative vertical movement of the earth's crust since 1955 has had any appreciable effect on the elevations. The project began in 1967 and is scheduled to be completed in 1973.

The present phase, scheduled for completion about September 30, consists of re-leveling over benchmarks along a line extending from Lake Huron to Lake Superior.

Robert O. Cole Is Named To Head Jackson, Miss., NWS Forecast Center

Robert O. Cole, Deputy Chief of the Weather Forecast Branch at the National Meteorological Center at Suitland, Md., has been named to head the new Weather



Forecast Center at Jackson, Miss., scheduled to begin operation on October 1.

Operating on a round-the-clock basis, the Jackson Forecast Center will prepare public weather forecasts for all of Mississippi, as well as specialized forecasts for agriculture and forest protection

and aviation terminal landing conditions forecasts for major points in Mississippi.

Concurrent with activation of the Forecast Center, a new program of separate forecasts for small areas--usually made up of several counties--will go into effect, resulting in localized forecasts applicable to each city and community in the State.

Mr. Cole has had almost 30 years of experience in weather work. He entered the Weather Service at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1949 after military weather service in Europe during World War II and the immediate post war period. He is a graduate of the University of Chicago.

Milo J. Andre Appointed Southern Region Climatologist



The new Regional Climatologist at the National Weather Service Southern Region Headquarters in Fort Worth, Tex., is Milo J. Andre, formerly an operations research analyst in the Office of Environmental Systems at NOAA's Rockville, Md., headquarters.

Mr. Andre's weather career dates back to 1942, and includes work with the Weather Bureau Thunderstorm Project in 1947; developing the Applied Climatology program at Air Weather Service Headquarters from 1950 to 1958; serving as Chief, Consultant and Development Group at the USAF Climatic Center in 1964; four years on the staff of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research as an operations research analyst concerned with study and coordination of Federal meteorology programs, work he continued in the Office of Environmental Systems after 1969.

University of Southern California Awarded \$542,000 Sea Grant

NOAA has awarded to the University of Southern California a \$542,000 sea grant to help conduct its marine-related research and educational programs.

The University is concentrating its research efforts in studies relating to improved planning for California's urbanized coastal areas, including a close look at population pressures on the coastal zone involving industry, recreation, and pollution.

Much of the research will concern laws governing the coastal zone, and, ultimately, a draft convention will be prepared on the feasibility of allocating income from the oceanic resources among the states.

Environmental studies begun last year to determine the long-term effects of storm water discharge into estuarine harbors will be continued and estuarine-harbor marine life will be monitored to determine the effects of various forms of pollution on biotic communities. The distribution of continental shelf sediments and loss of beach sediment down submarine canyons will also be investigated.

NOS Deputy Director Lill To Chair New R&D Council



Dr. Lill

National Ocean Survey Director Don A. Jones has named a council, with NOS Deputy Director Dr. Gordon G. Lill as chairman, to improve research and development in the NOS.

Others appointed are E. M. MacCutcheon, special assistant to the director for marine affairs, who will serve as executive secretary; Dr. Hyman Orlin, special assistant to the director for earth science activities; and R. B. Rollins, director of the executive and technical services staff.

The council's duties will include policy formulation, review of plans, monitoring or progress and control of funds spent on research and development.

NOAA Men Attend Rome Meeting On International Data Exchange

Dr. Thomas S. Austin, Director of the Environmental Data Service, was the chairman of an International Oceanographic Commission Working Group on International Data Exchange that met this week in Rome, Italy. The U. S. Delegation consisted of Thomas Winterfeld, Chief of the National Oceanographic Data Center's Data Bases and Systems Branch, chairman; Robert Jung-hans of NOAA's Office of Environmental Monitoring and Prediction; Dr. Melvin Rosenfeld of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the National Academy of Science Committee on Oceanography; and Dr. Austin.

Appointment, Award Constraints Modified

Two additional modifications have been made to existing wage and employment constraints.

Appointments may be made to entry level Public Service Careers positions. This permits the appointment of GS-1 and equivalent wage-rate positions when applicants are selected from the worker-trainee registers.

Cash awards now may be granted to employees for performance exceeding job requirements, either as a one time occurrence or over a sustained period. Quality step increases are not "cash awards" and are not authorized at this time.

John L. Baxter Named To Assist Director of Marine Fisheries

John L. Baxter, who has spent 20 years with the California Department of Fish and Game, and recently was chief of its Marine Resources branch, has been named special assistant to the Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

He will handle diverse and critical assignments, particularly in the broad areas of State-Federal relationships and recreational-commercial allocation problems, and serve as Executive Secretary of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee.

Mr. Baxter holds a bachelor's degree in wildlife conservation from the University of California at Berkeley and an associate degree from Fullerton (Calif.) Junior College, and has a wide background of fisheries research and administrative work.

A member of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists and the American Fisheries Society, Mr. Baxter also is a research fellow of the Marine Life Research Program, University of California at San Diego. From 1966 to 1970, he served as editor-in-chief of the California Department of Fish and Game Fish Bulletins, and has authored or co-authored numerous publications on California fishery matters.

Artificial Cloud Launched by NASA; Tracked and Photographed Successfully

At 7:31 p.m. EDT on September 20, a NASA Scout Rocket was launched from Wallops Island, Va., and shortly after 11 p.m. a long, white, cigar-shaped artificial cloud appeared in the sky about 20,000 miles above the earth.

The experiment was part of the German-U.S. cooperative project to study the earth's magnetic and electrical fields by observing a barium-ion cloud's growth, motion and behavior in a collision-free atmosphere. Its main difference from numerous similar experiments conducted from Wallops Island was its being released at 20,000 miles above the earth--instead of 100 or 200 miles.

The cloud was tracked and photographed successfully by all primary observatory sites in North and South America.

Weather support was provided by the personnel of the National Weather Service Support Facility at Wallops Island, with some cloud forecasting guidance from the Suitland office of the Space Flight Meteorology Group.

Killer Whale Marked Painlessly By Nitrogen Freeze-Branding

Under a cooperative endeavor of the Washington State Department of Game, Namu, Inc., and the Marine Mammal Laboratory of the National Marine Fisheries Service, a large killer whale was marked in Puget Sound recently. It was caught in a heavy net, lifted above the surface of the water, and with a nitrogen freeze-branding technique, painlessly branded with five-inch letters (US) on a fin and a three-inch number one on its back. This marking technique may be applied eventually on a large scale to obtain much needed information on the size of the killer whale stocks and the effects of a selective harvest on the population.

Airport Survey Parties Working In Wisconsin and Washington

An airport survey party, headed by Lt. Dennis L. Valdovinos, has arrived in Rhinelander, Wis., to survey Oneida County Airport. The information secured, in conjunction with aerial photographs taken previously by the NOS, will appear in five or six weeks on an Airport Obstruction Chart (used by the Federal Aviation Administration in planning operational procedures for plane arrivals and departures.) This party recently completed a similar survey of Ford Airport, at Iron Mountain, Mich., and William M. Keynolds' party completed one at Albany County Airport in Albany, N. Y.

The airport survey party headed by Paul D. Crabtree is presently conducting a similar survey of Renton (Wash.) Municipal Airport.

ERL's Deputy Director Goes to School



Mr. Knecht

Robert W. Knecht, deputy director of the Environmental Research Laboratories, will spend the 1971-72 academic year at the University of Rhode Island in its Master of Marine Affairs Program.

During his absence the duties of the deputy director will be divided between R. N. Culnan, formerly ERL's liaison officer in Rockville and now with its Office of Programs, and the various ERL laboratory directors, who will cover the office in rotation for approximately one-month "turns of duty."

Aten and Milne Begin Year In NWS Management Program



The fourth and fifth participants in the Micronesian Weather Service Management Program have begun a year of academic instruction and management training at Kapiolani Community College in Honolulu.

Supervisory meteorological specialists Bernard M. Aten (center) of the Truk Weather Service Office and Oscar Milne (right) of the Majuro Weather Service Office are enrolled in courses in English, speech, mathematics, and science. They are shown discussing with Frank J. Kocsis, personnel management specialist, the joint NWS/East-West Center, University of Hawaii, program established in 1968 designed to offer Micronesian employees opportunities to develop management and supervisory skills.

Milne, a 1954 graduate of the Pacific Islands Central School at Truk, began his weather career in October 1955. Except for a year of observer training at Truk, he has spent all of his 16 years of service at the weather office at Majuro.

Aten entered the Weather Service in October 1959 at Ponape, where he remained two years before transferring to Truk. He is a 1958 graduate of St. Xavier High School, Truk.

Survey on Flooding from Ocean Storms Underway in South Carolina County

A two-man National Ocean Survey team, headed by Philip B. Walbolt, has begun a survey on flooding from hurricanes and severe ocean storms in the coastal areas of Georgetown County, S. C. The men are seeking information on flood heights and limits of severe storms in the past, with emphasis on those during 1940, 1954, 1959, and 1960.

NOAA Librarians To Participate In Interdepartmental Workshop

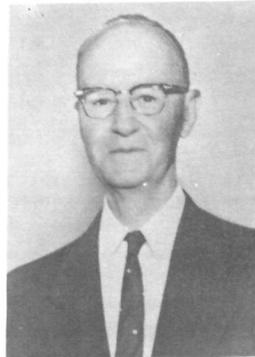
The first Interdepartmental Library Workshop will be conducted jointly by the Commerce and Interior Departments in Vancouver, Wash., and Portland, Ore., from September 27 - October 1. The emphasis of the workshop will be on ways to solve problems common to a number of libraries and more effective interchange of ideas in bibliographic information between headquarters' libraries and their field counterparts.

The Environmental Science Information Center Libraries Division will take an active part in panel discussions.

NOAA participants will be John P. Webber, Elizabeth W. McElroy, Mary Grattic, and Frances F. Swim, Libraries Division; Joan Maier, Carol Backhus, Yvonne Towns, and Vicki Fuller, Environmental Research Laboratories; Louis X. Barbalas, National Ocean Survey; Allen Marshall, National Hurricane Center; Pauline Bradley, National Climatic Center; Lucianne Miller, National Weather Service; Arthur H. Priddy, Joseph Pileggi, Paul Macy, Pamela Shafford, Daniel Gittings, Stella Breedlove, Milton Rose, Mabel Bennett, and Robert Gray, National Marine Fisheries Service; Charlotte Ashby, National Oceanographic Data Center; and Raymond Sauer, Northwest Administrative Service Office.

The workshop was formerly called the Departmental Library Workshop and sponsored by the Department of Interior.

Retired Regional Director Dies



John A. Riley, who had served as the first National Weather Service Regional Director at Kansas City, Mo., for nine years before he retired in 1950, died on September 11. He entered the Weather Service in Washington, D.C., in 1910 and subsequently served in various other offices, including Little Rock, Ark.; Cairo, Ill.; Evansville, Ind.; Broken Arrow, Okla. (a newly instituted kite station); Atlanta, Ga.; Dallas, Tex.; and Oakland, Calif., before going to Kansas City.

His son, John A. Riley, Jr., is chief of weather analysis and prediction at NWS Southern Region Headquarters in Fort Worth, Tex.

NOTES ABOUT PEOPLE....

Dr. Leroy R. Alldredge, director of the Environmental Research Laboratories' Earth Sciences Laboratories, was re-elected general secretary of the International Association for Geomagnetism and Aeronomy at the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics General Assembly held in Moscow last month.

Dr. S. Fritz, Chief Space Scientist at the National Environmental Satellite Service, was elected President of the International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Physics (IAMAP) of the IUGG.

Dr. Carl Kisslinger, Chairman of the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at St. Louis University, has been appointed Director of the joint NOAA-University of Colorado Cooperative Institute for Research and Engineering Sciences (CIRES), effective July 1, 1972.



Dr. Felch



Mr. Phinney

Dr. Richard E. Felch, former extension agronomist for climatology at Iowa State University, and Dale E. Phinney, who has been a research programmer at Purdue since receiving his master's in meteorology and air pollution there this year, have joined the Environmental Data Service Laboratory for Environmental Research as meteorologists recently.

Raymond R. Waldman, senior forecaster at the National Weather Service Forecast Office at Cleveland (Ohio) Hopkins International Airport, has been elected Lt. Governor of Division Thirteen of the Ohio District of Kiwanis International.

John D. Alyea, Climatologist for Wyoming at the Cheyenne Weather Service Office, has been appointed a non-salaried lecturer in agricultural engineering at the University of Wyoming. Mr. Alyea was co-author of "Precipitation Probabilities



Mr. Waldman



Mr. Alyea

in Wyoming," which was published by the University, and other climatological publications.

Sharad P. Adhikary of Nepal and Joseph A. Sam of Ghana are the first students to complete long-term fellowships, offered by the United States under the Voluntary Assistance Program (VAP) of the WMO. Mr. Adhikary, who satisfied requirements for the MS degree in meteorology at Rutgers University has gone to Purdue for work on his Ph.D. under University funding; and Mr. Sam, who obtained a BS degree in meteorology from Florida State University, plans to return to Ghana.



Mr. Feldscher



Mr. McBride

Carl B. Feldscher, Technical Assistant to Lake Survey Center's Marine Mapping and Charting Division, recently was certified as a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan.

Robert M. McBride, meteorological technician and supervisor of the Substation Data Section in the Climatology Branch at the National Climatic Center, retired on September 4, after more than 30 years of Federal service. A native of Murfreesboro, Tenn., Mr. McBride began his Federal employment in 1941, and joined EDS' National Climatic Center at Asheville, N.C. in 1962.

NOS Begins Hydrographic Survey Of North Carolina Coast

The National Ocean Survey has begun an extensive hydrographic survey along 60 miles of the North Carolina Coast between Cape Hatteras and Elizabeth City. The data obtained will be incorporated in seven NOS nautical charts and three new bathymetric maps covering portions of the submerged continental shelf and slopes from Wilmington, N.C., to Chincoteague, Va. The area was last surveyed 40 years ago.

Captain Edwin K. McCaffrey, Commanding Officer of the NOAA Ship MT MITCHELL, is in charge of the one-month survey, which is part of a long-range program begun in 1963 to provide the latest information on water depths over submerged hazards and channels and the general shape of the ocean bottom.

EDS' Agricultural/Climatology Office Warns of Possible Screwworm Buildup

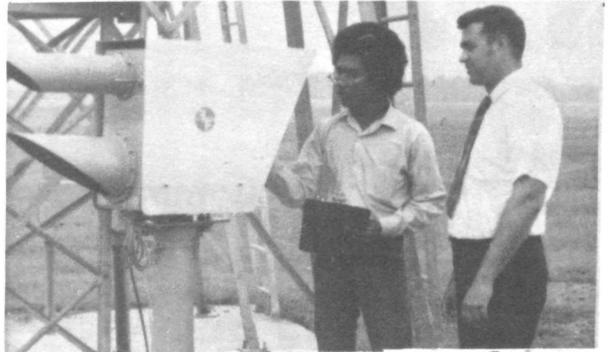
The Environmental Data Service Agricultural/Climatology Service Office has issued a warning to the Department of Agriculture's Animal Health Division that weather conditions which began in July could cause the greatest buildup of fall screwworm activity since 1968. The 1970-71 Texas drought, which intensified in June 1971, hit its peak in mid-July and was holding fly population down. In late July and early August, heavy rains and cooler temperatures reversed the summer weather pattern, posing a possible threat to the health of cattle and other animals from these parasitic flies.

Unlike 1968, there is no appreciable carryover of early summer fly population in the Southwest, but neighboring Tamaulipas, south of the Rio Grande, has almost as many as in 1968, despite an effective continuous U.S.-Mexican control program.

Percy Nelson Eland Dies

Percy Nelson Eland, who retired from the Topeka, Kans., Weather Station in May 1970 after 30 years of service, died on August 24 in Colorado Springs, Colo. He served at Concordia, Kans., and at the Kansas City, Mo., and Ft. Worth, Tex., Regional Offices before beginning his 26 years as a meteorologist at Topeka. He contributed to "Climate of Kansas," a publication which dealt chiefly with agricultural meteorology.

Instrument Being Tested May Aid Observers, Automatic Stations



Paul I. Chinn (left) adjusting backscatter sensor as Frederick C. Hochreiter checks visibility measurement.

As part of its program to achieve objective weather observations, the National Weather Service's Systems Development Office is broadening its tests of a backscatter visibility sensor. The work is being directed by a staff of the Observation Techniques Development and Test Branch of the Test and Evaluation Laboratory in Sterling, Va.

Preliminary tests indicated the backscatter sensor has a high potential for use as an objective aid to an observer, and in automated weather observations. Additional work is underway to calibrate the sensor in terms of human estimates of visibility.

With the cooperation of the Federal Aviation Administration and the NWS' Eastern Region, instruments are being installed for tests at Dulles International Airport near Washington, D. C., and at Elkins, W. Va. Other sites may also be used in future phases of the program. Careful comparisons will be made between observations of visibility markers and the measurements made by the sensor. Overall performance of the system will also be monitored. If the backscatter sensor successfully passes these tests, the device may be used as a component of automatic weather stations. Another possible use is as an aid to an observer at his local station and in appraising visibility conditions at remote locations.

PATHFINDER Tows Disabled Ship to Safety

The NOAA Ship PATHFINDER, commanded by Captain H. R. Lippold, Jr., recently discovered a disabled 32-foot vessel, the GILLNETTER, in Alaskan waters east of Augustine Island, and towed her to Homer.

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FROM THE SECRETARY

Common Sense And Ecology



For too many years, all of us treated the environment—air, water and land—as though it could absorb unlimited amounts of anything and everything.

But no more. In the 1970s the profligate era is being brought to a shuddering halt.

We have launched the first comprehensive cleanup of the nation's air, water and land in our country's history, and we will succeed in this task. This is just the kind of problem that American technology is equipped to solve.

Orderly approach

But in approaching solutions to our environmental problems, we have also come close to creating new ones.

Frequently we attack environmental matters individually, and sometimes on a local basis, which more often than not just increases the cost and lowers the efficiency of the effort.

As a result, and with more emotion than knowledge, we are rapidly developing a patchwork of laws and regulations, often at variance with each other, with a dearth of scientific and technological facts, usually enforced by new agencies at various levels of government which operate according to a wide variety of standards.

What we need is something else.

We must consider technological limitations and economic factors as well as ecological goals in approaching environmental decisions affecting the national interest.

We need to clean up the environment in an orderly way, at reasonable cost, over a fixed period of time, comparing cost with benefits at each point along the way.

We must achieve orderly progress by local governments, by agriculture, by the public and others equal to the progress demanded of industry.

This task is tremendously large and complex. It will not yield to the quick, easy, simplistic solutions that some people might seem to think are readily available. Nor will those solutions become available just by setting unrealistic timetables.

Hasty solutions

Some of our most eminent scientists warn us against hasty, ill-conceived solutions in the environmental area.

Dr. Philip Handler, President of the National Academy of Sciences, has warned that a combination of "emotional zeal and technological ignorance" could lead us to "substitute environmental tragedy for existing environmental deterioration.

"Let us not," he says, "replace known devils by insufficiently understood, unknown devils."

The fact is that our knowledge in this area is extremely limited. The science of ecology is in its infancy. Much of the technology required to clean up the environment is nonexistent.

Common sense decisions

If ever there was a time and place to look before we leap, that time is here and now.

We must not make decisions on an emotional basis, in a state of ecological hysteria, which we will live to regret later.

We must not add the environment to the list of problems to which we apply more dollars than sense—common sense.

All of this does not mean we should not spend what is necessary to clean up the environment. It does mean we must plan our spending wisely, with regard for priorities, taking all of the factors into account before we plunge into these efforts—doing first the things we can do, but seeking the breakthroughs as we go, in an orderly way.

Maurice H. Stans

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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