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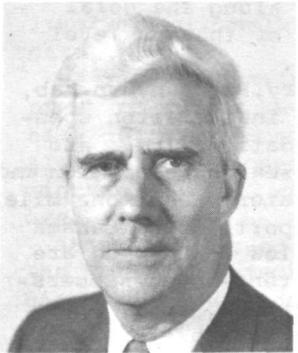
Nine Employees, 33 Units Will Be Honored December 3



Silvio G. Simpicio



Dr. Dayton L. Alverson



Leonard M. Murphy



Bertha V. Fontaine



Dr. Eldon E. Ferguson



Capt. Lawrence W. Swanson



Gerald L. Shak

Seven NOAA Awards, thirty-three Unit Citations for Special Achievement, and two NOAA Equal Employment Opportunity Awards will be presented at the NOAA Awards Night Dinner-Dance in Silver Spring, Md., on December 3.

The seven winners of the 1971 NOAA Awards for unusually signifi-

cant achievements are Bertha V. Fontaine, Gerald L. Shak, Dayton L. Alverson, Eldon E. Ferguson, Leonard M. Murphy, Captain Lawrence W. Swanson, NOAA (ret.), and Silvio G. Simpicio. For their special contributions to NOAA programs, each will receive one thousand dollars and a plaque.

The awards are given in four categories: public service; scientific research and achievement; engineering and applications development; and program administration and management.

The Award for Public Service recognizes unusually significant contributions to the quality and effectiveness of NOAA's public service programs. Those who will receive this award are:

Message From the Administrator

The 1972 Combined Federal Campaign for NOAA's Washington, D.C., area employees has been a tremendous success. While NOAA far exceeded its quota of \$93,451 by pledging over \$113,000, more important is the fact that NOAA has demonstrated again its proud tradition of doing its share to support those voluntary agencies caring for people with a need and working to make our community a better place in which to live. I extend my personal thanks to those who worked so diligently and to all of you who gave so generously.

Robert M. White

(Continued on page 4)

NOAA MUS&T Bahama Banks Study To Use Habitat and Minisubs

Using an undersea laboratory, two small research submersibles, and diver propulsion units arranged through NOAA's Manned Undersea Science and Technology (MUS&T) program, diver-scientists from NOAA and Texas A & M University are scheduled to begin on November 29 a two-week undersea research project off the Bahamas.

Scientific problems in the Bahama Banks Study will include characteristics of fish behavior that can be used to increase fish trap efficiency; differences between day and night distribution of plankton (the base of the food chain) along the coral reefs; and fluctuations of the sea level during the last ice age.

The undersea laboratory, Perry Hydro-Lab, is a permanent undersea installation sponsored by the Perry Foundation, Inc., and the Bahamas Undersea Research Foundation and located in 50 feet of water, about one mile off Lucayan Beach, Freeport, Grand Bahama Island. Undersea vehicles to be used are PC-8, a two-man transparent-nosed submersible of Perry Oceanographics, Inc., and ALVIN, the three-man submersible operated by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Both PC-8 and Alvin have been used in earlier MUS&T projects.

William L. High and Ian E. Ellis, fishery biologists of the NMFS North Pacific Fisheries Research Center, will carry out a six-day research mission from Perry Hydro-Lab to continue observations of how fish behave toward traps--a project begun by Mr. High as a Tektite II aquanaut in 1970--and will make comparative evalua-

tions of the usefulness of the small habitat and the larger Tektite platform for this kind of research.

Dr. Robert F. Dill of the MUS&T program,^a marine geologist who has conducted extensive studies of sea level fluctuations including joint work with Jacques Cousteau, will carry out additional work in the Bahama Banks Study, in conjunction with Dr. Robert Dietz of the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories in Miami, Fla. They plan several dives in PC-8 and ALVIN.

Dr. Dill will look for deeper "still-stands" (deeply submerged terraces which appear to be old beaches formed when the waters stayed relatively level for long periods of time, then drowned when the waters once again advanced) than those observable by diving. These terraces cannot be found by conventional indirect sounding methods from the surface, and their existence was not known until deep diving submersibles became available for research.

Dr. William W. Schroeder of Texas A & M University, who is supported by the Sea Grant program, will use diver propulsion units for his plankton studies. He plans to develop techniques for on-site underwater collection, and will dive to take samples at precisely determined locations and depths, both day and night. His study is preliminary, and will help him complete the design of a major scientific experiment that he hopes to undertake during a return to Hydro-Lab.

NOAA Men To Participate Next Month In Governor's Conservation Congress

Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Administrator, and five other members of NOAA are scheduled to participate in the Fourth Governor's Conservation Congress to be held at the Portland Hilton Hotel, Portland, Oregon, December 13-15. Robert W. Schoning, Deputy Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, will serve as co-chairman of the panel discussions on marine fisheries resources. Speakers include: Dr. White; David H. Wallace, Associate Administrator for Marine Resources, NOAA; Dr. Dayton L. Alverson, Acting Director of the NMFS North Pacific Fisheries Research Center; John S. Gottschalk, Assistant to the Director, NMFS; and Robert B. Abel, Director, Office of Sea Grant, NOAA.

Young Unemployed Scientists and Engineers To Be Hired by ERL Under \$84,000 Grant

An \$84,000 grant to the Environmental Research Laboratories will provide jobs for 12 young unemployed scientists and engineers. The grant is authorized under a new program announced last month by Dr. Edward E. David, science advisor to President Nixon.

The nationwide program was developed by the Office of Science and Technology, and funded with \$3 million from the Department of Labor. Grants to individual agencies are being administered by the National Science Foundation. The program is expected to open up 400 new training opportunities within Federal installations across the Nation.

Plaque Presented to Canada By Weather Service Director



Dr. George P. Cressman, Director of the National Weather Service, (right) is shown presenting to J.R.H. Noble, Assistant Deputy Minister of Canada's Atmospheric Environment Service, a plaque in recognition of the "fruitful collaboration" between the two agencies. The presentation was made during the recent international symposium on "A History of Meteorological Challenges" in Toronto.

Paul N. Sund To Coordinate NMFS Platforms of Opportunity

Paul N. Sund, formerly a coordinator for program activities at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington, D. C., headquarters, has been transferred to Tiburon, Calif., where he will serve as coordinator of all "Platforms of Opportunity" programs conducted by NMFS.

Through the "Platforms of Opportunity" program, conducted in cooperation with other government and private organizations, NMFS gathers data on the oceans' living marine resources and the environment in which they live. It was established to increase the environmental and resource assessment capabilities of NMFS by using merchant and fishing vessels as data-gathering platforms, and the personnel aboard them as seagoing observers.

Mr. Sund, who has been with NMFS since 1963, served as program leader for fishery-oceanography investigations, scientific party chief on several research voyages, and participated in flights over the Atlantic to locate tuna. He also took part in a voyage aboard a Japanese fishery research vessel.

Mr. Sund earned his B.A. at the University of California and his M.S. in zoology from the University of Washington at Seattle, where he also did advanced studies in oceanography. He is author or co-author of a number of scientific papers on oceanography and fishery matters.

Birmingham, Ala., Forecast Office Predicts Major Pollution Episode

On Monday, November 15, the Weather Service Forecast Office in Birmingham, Ala., issued the first in a series of Air Stagnation Advisories (ASAs) that was to herald the development of the first major pollution episode in the country since the NWS Air Pollution Weather Service was re-configured and decentralized on September 1. That day Robert Ferry, the MIC at Birmingham predicted that the weather conditions in the area were such that pollution was likely to accumulate and stagnate over the city.

He was absolutely right--the large high pressure system that brought the autumn haze of Indian Summer weather to northern Alabama also caused a temperature inversion and bottled up the pollution in the area.

ASAs were issued again on Tuesday, when the National Meteorological Center indicated that the stagnant condition would last for 24 hours and that if tropical storm Laura moved along the east coast, the episode could last much longer. Persons with heart and lung ailments were urged to remain indoors.

On Wednesday, 28 plants of 23 firms in Birmingham were requested to cut back production and reduce pollution emissions, and the Environmental Protection Administration (through the Federal district court) received injunctions to shut down the 17 plants which refused to do so.

At 8 a.m. on Thursday, the Birmingham WSFO lifted the ASA as increasing winds developed when a cold front extending from Wisconsin to Eastern Texas began to move eastward, and the polluted air was once again free to dissipate.

This incident seems to bear out the wisdom of the revision of the program which assigned air stagnation forecasting responsibilities to field offices as the best possible way to satisfy NWS mission requirements to the public, control agencies and EPA.

Photo Party Completes Survey of Mississippi From New Orleans to Baton Rouge for Chart

A two-man party has completed a survey of landmarks and navigational aids along the Mississippi River from New Orleans to Baton Rouge, La., for a small craft chart, the first for the area. The survey was conducted by William J. Mottern and Richard A. Whitney, members of Photo Party 61, headed by Lt. (j.g.) Richard D. Olson.

Awards (continued from page 1)

Bertha V. Fontaine, a home economist with the National Marine Fisheries Service's Market Research and Services Division, Pascagoula, Miss., for her significant contributions to the economic enhancement of the fishing industry; and

Gerald L. Shak, User Services Representative at National Weather Service Eastern Region Headquarters, Garden City, N.Y., for his contributions to the service programs of the NOAA National Weather Service.

The NOAA Award for Scientific Research and Achievement is given for unusually significant contributions to scientific research and development and for outstanding contributions to scientific literature. The two winners in this category are:

Dr. Dayton L. Alverson, Acting Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service North Pacific Fisheries Research Center, Seattle, Wash., for major contributions in the field of fisheries research; and

Dr. Eldon E. Ferguson, Chief of the Atmospheric Collision Processes Program in the Aeronomy Laboratory, Environmental Research Laboratories, Boulder, Colo., for outstanding achievement as a scientific leader in theoretical and experimental studies of the atomic and molecular processes of the earth's atmosphere.

The Engineering and Applications Development Award recognizes unusually significant contributions to the operating or research programs of NOAA through achievements in engineering, applied technology, or systems and equipment development. The 1971 recipient, Leonard M. Murphy of the Environmental Research Laboratories' Earth Sciences Laboratories, is cited for his outstanding contributions to engineering seismology.

The Program Administration and Management Award is given for unusually significant contributions to the efficiency and quality of NOAA's management and administrative activities. Receiving the 1971 awards in this category are:

Captain Lawrence W. Swanson, NOAA (ret.), Project Manager of the National Ocean Survey's Geodetic Satellite Program, for his major contributions to the Geodetic Satellite Program; and

Silvio G. Simplicio, for his unusually outstanding competence as Director of the National Weather Service's Eastern Region, Garden City, N. Y.

Unit Citations recognizing groups of employees who have made substantive contributions to NOAA programs or objectives, will be awarded to the following:

NOAA Ships RUDE and HECK;
Seismological Field Survey, Environmental Research Laboratories, San Francisco, Calif.;

Special Projects Party, Environmental Research Laboratories, Las Vegas, Nev.;
Albuquerque Seismological Center, Environmental Research Laboratories;

Atmospheric Acoustics Program Area, Environmental Research Laboratories, Boulder, Colo.;

Earthquake Mechanism Laboratory, Environmental Research Laboratories, San Francisco, Calif.;

ISIS (International Satellites for Ionospheric Studies) Engineering and Operations Group, Environmental Research Laboratories, Boulder, Colo.;

Project HANDS (High Altitude Nuclear Detection Studies), Environmental Research Laboratories, Boulder, Colo.;

Warren E. Ames, Benjamin G. Patten, John R. Hughes, and George F. Slusser, National Marine Fisheries Service, Seattle, Wash.;
Marine Geophysics Group, Environmental Data Service National Geophysical Data Center;

William Thomas, Jr., Franklin C. Lewis, Robert C. Lavoie, and Albert G. Tillery, National Environmental Satellite Service;

Weather Service Forecast Office, San Juan, P.R.;

Weather Service Forecast Office, Great Falls, Mont.;

Weather Service Forecast Office, Cleveland, O.;

Weather Service Office, Waterloo, Iowa;

Weather Service Office, La Crosse, Wisc.;

Weather Service Office, Madison, Wisc.;

Weather Service Office, Dodge City, Kans.;

Weather Service Office, Goodland, Kans.;

Weather Service Office, Concordia, Kans.;

Weather Service Office, Grand Island, Nebr.;

Weather Service Office, Lincoln, Nebr.;

Weather Service Office, Topeka, Kans.;

Weather Service Office, Omaha, Nebr.;

Weather Service Office, Fairbanks, Alaska;

Weather Service Office, Hilo, Hawaii;

Weather Service Office, Allentown, Pa.;

Weather Service Office, Wilkes-Barre-Scranton, Pa.;

Weather Service Office, Jackson, Miss.;

Weather Service Office, Corpus Christi, Tex.;

Weather Service Meteorological Observatory, Dayton, O.;

River Forecast Center, Sacramento, Calif.;

and
National Weather Service agricultural forecasters, Southern California and Arizona.

NOAA Equal Employment Opportunity Award for 1971 will be presented to:

Alonzo Smith, Development Division, National Weather Service; and

Harold E. Mackel, Career Development Branch, NOAA Personnel Division.

Geodetic Surveys Underway In Georgia and Washington

A geodetic survey begun this month in northwest Georgia is part of a proposed state-federal cooperative program extending over five to ten years to establish basic networks of horizontal and vertical geodetic controls throughout the state.

A one-year agreement for the initial phase of the program, costing \$500,000, to be financed equally by the state and Federal governments, recently was signed in Atlanta by Governor Jimmy Carter and Rear Admiral Don A. Jones, Director of the National Ocean Survey.

The survey work is being done by the National Geodetic Survey's Party G-19, a 16-man field party under James L. Cook.

The National Geodetic Survey is conducting preliminary field work for an extensive survey of King County, Wash., including Seattle.

The seven-month project, being done in cooperation with King County, will provide a plan for determining precise geographic positions (latitude and longitude) throughout the county. The need for the control network has been accentuated by rapidly rising land values and commercial and government requirements for engineering construction.

NOS surveying technicians Charles R. Lesley and Byron W. Miller, along with county engineers, are selecting approximately 160 sites where measurements would be made. The sites are two-to-five miles apart in areas where future development is anticipated, and more widely spaced in less populated mountainous areas.

Exchange and Documentation Standards Discussed by NODC and UK Representatives

Officials of EDS' National Oceanographic Data Center recently met with a representative of the United Kingdom's National Institute of Oceanography and Chairman of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) ad hoc Group on Format Standards to discuss exchange and documentation standards for salinity-temperature-depth and subsurface current measuring devices, and to determine the feasibility of an IOC International Standard Code for Platforms and Instruments.

The IOC Group is drafting recommendations that will be presented at the 1973 meeting of the Working Group on International Oceanographic Exchange of the IOC.

Sport Fisheries Statistics To Be Gathered by NMFS

The National Marine Fisheries Service is beginning a Marine Sport Fisheries Statistics Program within its Statistics and Market News Division.

Gathering commercial fishery statistics is a relatively simple matter, since the commercial catch involves thousands of fishing craft, but relatively few landing locations. On the other hand, there are literally millions of salt-water anglers, their activities spread over the entire coastline, from Maine around to Washington State, and including Alaska and Hawaii.

A National Survey of Hunting and Fishing sponsored by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is taken every five years by the Bureau of the Census. The survey is highly useful in determining broad trends, such as which geographic areas are more heavily hunted or fished, and the concentration of sportsmen at various levels of income. However, detailed and accurate figures needed as a basis for fishery conservation measures are not obtained.

As a first step in this direction, NMFS has contracted with a private research firm to develop methods for reducing "response bias" associated with estimating the sport catch from household interviews.

The firm, Audits and Surveys, Inc., of New York City, will test its anti-response bias techniques with a two-month pilot household survey in California. Catch estimates obtained by the pilot survey will be checked against statistics routinely collected by the California Department of Fish and Game. If the techniques work, NMFS will use this method for nationwide surveys to gather the statistical information needed for conservation of marine game fish, with the overall program expected to get underway by 1973.

ERL's Wave Propagation Laboratory Proves Two-Color Optical Distance-Measuring Concept

The concept of two-color optical distance measuring has been demonstrated and proven by Environmental Research Laboratories' Wave Propagation Laboratory, although instrumentation engineering remains to be done before a field-ready instrument can be applied to geodetic or earth strain measurements. Additional experimental tests are planned to establish the accuracy limits of this technique under a variety of meteorological conditions. To date, the technique has shown a precision of one part in 20 million.

NOTES ABOUT PEOPLE

Jack M. McCormick, who heads ERL's Special Management Services in Boulder, Colo., was chairman for the five-day national annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science, held recently in Denver, Colo. "Communication for Decision-Makers" was the theme of the conference, which featured an extensive technical program, a post-conference symposium on education for information science, tours, and exhibits, as well as five tutorial sessions concerning the state of the art in information.

Fred Godshall of EDS' Laboratory for Environmental Data Research is cooperating with representatives of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and the National Climatic Center in getting Washington mesometeorological network observations converted from continuous analogue traces to magnetic tape for computer analysis. The Baltimore Gas and Electric needs the data since it anticipates the erection of a nuclear-powered generator in the Baltimore area.

Commander Ronald L. Newsom, mapping, charting, and geodesy program analyst in the office of NOAA's Associate Administrator for Marine Resources, recently spoke on NOAA's activities in the coastal zone at a meeting of the new Connecticut Coastal Zone Commission, in Hartford.

Boatbuilder, commercial fisherman, and retired Navyman Ted Howe of Newport, Oreg. is Oregon State University's first master fisherman. Mr. Howe, a Sea Grant employee working with associate professor of fisheries Barry Fisher at the University's Marine Science Center in Newport, designs, develops, and tests experimental fishing gear to aid Oregon's commercial fishermen.

John P. Sherry, Weather Service Specialist at the Boise, Idaho, Weather Service Forecast Office, retired on November 10 after 31 years of Federal service. He began his weather career in Seattle, Wash., in 1945 upon his discharge from the Army. Later he transferred to Pocatello, Idaho, and was assigned to Boise since 1950. His address is Route 3, Meridian, Idaho 83642.

Captain Jack E. Guth, Chief of the NOS Coastal Mapping Division, recently participated in the International Symposium on Orthophotography and Orthophotomapping in Saint Mande (suburb of Paris), France.



Lt. Cdr. Leonard E. Pickens is the new Executive Officer of the NOAA Ships RUDE & HECK. A commissioned officer for the past nine years, he served previously on the Operations Staff of the Atlantic Marine Center, Norfolk, Va. This is his seventh ship assignment.

Harold E. Kaufman, geophysicist at ERL's Earth Sciences Laboratory at Corbin, Va., recently returned from Cubi Point, Philippine Islands, where he performed magnetic surveys for a recently installed compass rose site at the Naval Station there. (A compass rose site is a site on a runway where the magnetic field is known and uniform and where aircraft are taken to have their compasses checked.)

Lt. (j.g.) Stewart McGee has joined the computer processing group at NOAA's Earthquake Mechanism Laboratory in San Francisco, Calif., where he will be concerned with computer processing of earth strain and tilt data sampled by instruments in California, Nevada, and Alaska in a research program aimed at improving understanding of tectonic processes. He was formerly assigned to the NOAA Ship Mt. MITCHELL.



Dr. R. C. Gentry, Director of the National Hurricane Research Laboratory in Miami, Fla., recently was presented a plaque by the Air Weather Service, citing his "outstanding leadership of Project STORM-FURY during the 1971 hurricane season."

New York Bight Data Available In EPA/EDS Information Experiment

The first edited magnetic tape file of NODC's contribution to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/EDS environmental information experiment has been successfully loaded into the Mead Data Central System computer. The tape contains biological literature that has been indexed by subject, classification of organisms, and area. For this experiment, the NODC file will be joined with the eight that EPA has currently in the system. All of the files pertain to the New York Bight area.

The system is queried using the teletype and dataphone at the NODC or at other locations. The Alexandria, Va.-located, time-shared computer--an IBM 360/40 with a datacell storage device--will respond to requests for information, such as a bibliography of the literature on oil pollution in the Bight area.

NWS Western Region Hosts Regional Directors' Conference



Shown above is the scene as the National Weather Service Western Region Headquarters hosted the Regional Directors' Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, early this month.

Those who attended the conference were: (from NOAA)-Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr., Associate Administrator; and Andrew Husser, Chief, Compensation Branch; (from NWS Headquarters)- Dr. George P. Cressman, Director; Karl R. Johannessen, Associate Director, Meteorological Operations; William E. Hiatt, Associate Director, Hydrology; Dr. Frederick G. Shuman, Director, National Meteorological Center; Merritt N. Techter, Director, Systems Development Office; James K. Huntoon, Chief, Manpower Utilization Staff; and Anthony E. Tancreto, Chief, Public Weather; Silvio G. Simplicio, Director, NWS Eastern Region; Lawrence R. Mahar, Director, and Dr. Robert E. Helbush, Chief, Operations Division, NWS Southern Region; Charles G. Knudsen, Director, NWS Central Region; Stuart G. Bigler, Director, NWS Alaska Region; Paul H. Kutschenreuter, Director, NWS Pacific Region; (from the host region) Hazen H. Bedke, Director, and members of his staff. (Staff members present when the photo was taken were O. Rex Warner, Herbert P. Benner, Walter J. Gully, Bonita J. Dobbins, Chester L. Glenn, Hal-

bert E. Root, Ellis B. Burton, Donald D. Howard, and Robert M. Black.)

For the first time, young meteorologists and hydrologists were selected to make the traditional presentation of the host region's programs, accomplishments, etc.-- from the viewpoint of persons just beginning their careers in the NWS. Shown below, they are (from left): Harry Hassel, Bill Alder, Ron Hamilton, Gerald Williams, Grayson Cordell, Claude Graves, and Ross LaPorte. (Dave Westledge was not present when the photo was taken.)



Another highlight of the conference was Dr. Shuman's after-dinner speech about his recent trip to Russia as a member of the delegation on Atmospheric Modeling and Data Processing, part of the bi-lateral cultural and scientific exchange between the U.S. and Russia.

Just Another Fish Story--Or Is It ???

It happened recently in the Caribbean. Third Engineer Carl Grizzard, fishing off the deck of the NOAA Ship RESEARCHER, snared a large shark which escaped by biting through the length of nylon parachute cord to which his hook was attached. Several hours later, a crew member of another NOAA Ship, the DISCOVERER, also caught a large shark. In its stomach was a hook. Attached to it were a few inches of frazzled parachute cord.

Pacific Current, Temperature Data Recovered

Scientists from ERL's Pacific Oceanographic Laboratory (POL) aboard the NOAA Ship OCEANOGRAPHER have recovered six instrument moorings comprising 25 current meters and seven temperature sensors which had been implanted for 30 days off the Washington-Oregon coast. The work was part of a joint POL-University of Washington investigation of current and oceanographic properties on the Pacific continental shelf and slope, particularly in Juan de Fuca Canyon.

New Premium Rates Announced For Health Benefits Plans

New premium rates for the high option of the six largest plans participating in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program have been announced by the Civil Service Commission.

The Standard Government contribution to health insurance premiums is 40% of the average high-option premium of the six largest plans. Thus, under the new rates, the Government's standard contribution for self-only coverage will be \$3.90 bi-weekly and for family coverage will be \$9.78.

The new rates listed below will become effective January 8, 1972:

Plan	Old Rates	New Rates	Em- ployee Pays
Blue Cross/Blue Shield:			
Self Only	\$ 9.06	\$12.15	\$ 8.25
Family	22.11	29.65	19.87
Aetna:			
Self Only	9.79	9.79	5.89
Family	24.26	24.26	14.48
National Assn. of Letter Carriers:			
Self Only	6.28	7.40	3.70
Family	19.38	22.86	13.08
American Postal Workers Union:			
Self Only	*	10.75	6.85
Family	*	21.95	12.17
Kaiser of Northern California:			
Self Only	7.75	8.58	4.68
Family	20.18	22.35	12.57
Kaiser of Southern California:			
Self Only	8.99	9.84	5.94
Family	23.43	25.60	15.82

*** New successor plan for four merged unions**

Rate changes for other plans will be reflected in the pamphlet BRI-41-117, "Open Season Instructions," which will be distributed to all employees. Each NOAA employee will also receive an informational brochure for the plan in which he is now enrolled. Employees wishing brochures for plans in which they are not presently enrolled should request them from their personnel office.

First Secretarial Course Conducted at Headquarters



Shown above are graduates of NOAA's first Secretarial Training Course "From Nine to Five." The course was designed by WETA/TV and the Civil Service Commission Training Center, and presented at NOAA Headquarters by Mara M. Poole, of the Career Development Branch.

"From Nine to Five" consisted of eighteen hours of classroom training and included discussions on office personalities, telephone techniques, communications, human relations, and preparing for the future. This course is now being expanded and tailored not only to train "Professional Office Assistants," but also to orient them to NOAA's needs.

IFGYL Telephone Line Installed

In connection with the Department of Commerce's role as lead agency in the International Field Year for the Great Lakes (IFGYL), a telephone line between the computer at the Lake Survey Center Computer Services Division and the remote terminal for data collection at Rochester, N.Y., has been installed. It was completed on October 27th and testing and "debugging" of the communication handling software has been started.

As data gathered by the remote terminal are received, the computer must test for validity and buffer the data for processing. The processing programs must share the peripherals with the background programs, since scientific users must also be serviced during these periods.

The purpose of the testing is to ensure that the equipment will operate efficiently during the period of actual data collection, which starts next April.

Items to be considered for publication in NOAA WEEK should be submitted to:
Office of Public Affairs, NOAA, Room 221, Bldg. 5, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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