

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

Pacific Expedition To Probe Global Tectonics Theory

Global tectonics, the theory that the earth's crust consists of giant plates or segments which are constantly moving about, is the subject of an intensive investigation by scientists from the United States, Peru, and Chile.

The four-month investigation off the west coast of South America will test the hypothesis that much of the world's major resources of nonferrous ores are located in modern or suspected ancient zones where the giant plates converge. The plate borders are also generally recognized as earthquake zones.

Despite the widespread acceptance of global tectonics in the earth sciences, there is only limited knowledge regarding the complete cycle that takes place and of the degree to which these new tectonics theories can guide practical investigations of such geologic phenomena as minerals and petroleum.

The investigation is a cooperative effort of NOAA, the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics, Oregon State University, the Geophysical Institute of Peru, and the University of Chile's Department of Geophysics and Geodesy.

In charge of the expedition are scientists from NOAA's Environmental Research Laboratories in Seattle, Wash. They and the other scientists, about 15 in all, are working from the NOAA Ship OCEANOGRAPHER, commanded by Captain Herbert Lippold and from the Research Vessel KANA KEOKI of the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics. The investigation is sponsored by the National Science Foundation as part of the International Decade of Ocean Exploration.

The OCEANOGRAPHER, which left Seattle February 1, will meet the KANA KEOKI at Antofagasta, where plans will be completed for the two-ship work on the Antofagasta-Valparaiso leg of the trip. The OCEANOGRAPHER, operated by the National Ocean Survey, is slated to return to Seattle June 1.

Chief scientists aboard the OCEANOGRAPHER are Robert E. Burns and Barrett H. Erickson, both of the Pacific Oceanographic Laboratories in Seattle.

Other NOAA scientists participating in the expedition will be William H. Lucas and John D. Vandermeulen from the Seattle laboratories.

Dr. Hallgren Is Appointed Deputy Director of the NWS

Dr. Richard E. Hallgren, who has been NOAA's Associate Administrator for Environmental Monitoring and Prediction since September 1971, has been appointed Deputy Director of the National Weather Service.

Before being named Associate Administrator, Dr. Hallgren was NOAA's Assistant Administrator for Environmental Systems. This is the position he also held in the Environmental Science Services Administration before NOAA was created in 1970.

He previously was the Director of the ESSA Office of World Weather Systems, and earlier, for two years was Scientific Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Science and Technology.

Since last September, he has served as Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research, and was responsible for coordinating and planning all Federal weather service and supporting research programs.

In 1968, Dr. Hallgren won an Arthur S. Flemming Award, awarded to ten outstanding young men in the Federal government, and in 1969 he received a Department of Commerce Gold Medal for his direction of the design and management of the Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Experiment.

From 1954-56, he was a staff weather officer and operational weather forecaster in support of the Strategic Air Command. He subsequently joined IBM's Space Guidance Center as an operations research analyst and from 1963 to 1964 managed the company's Washington System Center Meteorology Systems Department.

He received his bachelor's degree in meteorology in 1953 and his Ph. D. degree in meteorology with a minor in physics in 1960 from Pennsylvania State University.



Dr. Robert A. Clark Is Named Chief Hydrologist of NWS

Dr. Robert A. Clark, who has been Professor of Meteorology at Texas A&M University since 1970,



Dr. Clark

has been named Chief Hydrologist of the National Weather Service. As the principal scientific adviser in the Office of Hydrology, he reports directly to the NWS Associate Director for Hydrology, Max Kohler.

Dr. Clark, who holds an M.S. and Ph.D. in meteorology from TAMU, became a

graduate assistant there in 1958, and subsequently was a Research Scientist (1960-1963), Assistant Professor (1961-1965) and Associate Professor (1965-1970). He received his B.S. in civil engineering from Kansas State University, studied meteorology at the University of Wisconsin and the University of Chicago, and did graduate work in applied mathematics at the University of Colorado.

Since 1960, he has been a hydrometeorological consultant for several engineering firms operating in the U.S. and in foreign countries. Earlier he served as a hydrologist and hydrometeorologist with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and as an aviation forecaster with the U.S. Air Force.

ERL Scientists Edit Solar Forecasting Book

Predicting space "weather" may be one of the important benefits to come from forecasting events on the sun, according to two Environmental Research Laboratories scientists who have edited what may be the definitive book on the subject.

Patrick S. McIntosh and Dr. Murray Dryer, solar physicists with ERL's Space Environment Laboratory, have assembled a set of papers for "Solar Activity Observations and Predictions," recently released by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press as Volume 30 in its Progress in Astronautics and Aeronautics series.

The volume brings together papers by prominent international researchers in the field of solar-terrestrial physics.

NOAA work is represented in the volume by Dr. Dryer, S. Cuperman, Mr. McIntosh, P. Simon, J. J. Lemmon, G. C. Reid, and J. B. Smith, Jr.

The editors believe their book will bridge the interests of several distinct groups of scientists including astronomers, earth and space scientists, and engineers. The project developed out of a conference jointly sponsored by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and the American Astronomical Society in 1970.

NMFS Statistics Show Increase In Per Capita Fish Consumption

When the Catholic Bishops of the United States relaxed the Church's rules of Friday abstinence from meat in November 1966, there were predictions that the U.S. fisheries were doomed because people would stop eating fish. Today, more than six years later, Americans are eating more fish than before the Friday rule was lifted.

In 1967, the first full year following the change in the abstinence rule, the United States had a per capita consumption of 10.6 pounds of edible fishery products, down .3 of a pound from 1966. In 1968, however, per capita consumption rose to 11 pounds per person and has stayed above that figure every year since.

The National Marine Fisheries Service estimates that for 1973 the per capita consumption may reach 11.6 pounds, a full pound higher than when the abstinence rules were changed. The highest annual per capita figure in the past decade was 11.8 pounds in 1970.

Fish processors and packers, as well as some retail merchants, report that consumers continue to buy more fish on Friday than on any other day of the week, but that sales on other days are up, too.

In addition, the Lenten Season still is important to the fishing industry, and processors and dealers are preparing for the annual increase in business from Ash Wednesday, March 7, to Easter Sunday, which falls on April 22 this year.

NWS Dedicates Its Expanded Training Center



Charles G. Knudsen, Director of the National Weather Service Central Region, addresses guests and staff at the recent dedication of the expanded NWS Technical Training Center in Kansas City, Mo. Seated, from left, are Charles Wheeler, Mayor of Kansas City, Mo.; Karl R. Johannessen, Associate Director, NWS, for Meteorological Operations; and Dr. Richard F. Myers, Superintendent of the WSTC.

Cyrus Richard Carper Dies

News of the death of Cyrus Richard Carper on January 12, 1973, has just been received. Mr. Carper retired in 1959 from the Coastal and Geodetic Survey, predecessor of the National Ocean Survey.

Auburn University To Be Site Of NWS Study Service Center

Auburn University, Auburn, Ala., has been selected as the site for the National Weather Service's Environmental Study Service Center, to begin operation about June 15, 1973.

Dr. Ray E. Jensen, now Chief of Data Acquisition for the NWS Southern Region and presently on a Commerce Department Science and Technology Fellowship assignment in Washington, D. C., will be head of the Center. His staff will include several scientists and support staff who, for the most part, will be transferring from other positions in the NWS.

The Center, which will serve Georgia, Florida, and Alabama, will be the central focus for agricultural meteorological studies as well as the interpretation of daily weather forecast information for agricultural operations. It will work closely with scientists of Auburn and the Universities of Georgia and Florida on agricultural weather and climatic studies to provide information of long-term benefit to scientific groups, business, and agriculture.

Daily agricultural weather advisories, presently available for many of the agricultural areas of the three states, will be a part of the program of the Center, taking over this responsibility from one-man agricultural offices in each state.

The Center is in one sense a consolidation of the agricultural weather service offices in each of the three states. In a larger sense, however, it achieves efficiencies by consolidating into one center for the three states the now separate advisory agricultural meteorological functions and certain climatic information services related to agriculture.

The new type of service center is the first of its kind in the United States. The concept has been applied in several European countries, particularly West Germany, with considerable success.

Dr. Lasker Continues as Fishery Bulletin Editor

Dr. Reuben Lasker has been reappointed as editor of the Fishery Bulletin, the principal scientific publication of the National Marine Fisheries Service. He has served in the position since August 1971. The publication, established in 1882, is one of the nation's oldest scientific journals.

A physiologist in charge of Behavior-Physiology Investigations at the NMFS Southwest Fisheries Center, La Jolla, Calif., Dr. Lasker was recently the appointed U.S. correspondent of the International Association of Biological Oceanography, a subcommittee of the National Research Council's Committee on Ocean Science. The panel is charged with helping to develop closer and more effective communication among biological oceanographers and to advise on biological-oceanographic opportunities and needs.

Daniel B. Mitchell Is Appointed Deputy Director of EDS' CEDDA

Daniel B. Mitchell has been appointed Deputy Director of the Environmental Data Service's Center for Experiment Design and Data Analysis. He will be primarily responsible for developing policies dealing with the management of data from large-scale international scientific experiments.



A retired Air Force colonel, Mr. Mitchell's last duty assignment was Commander, Air Force Global Weather Central, a centralized environmental production system for the Air Force in which he supervised the collection and processing of all types of environmental information from ground-based, airborne, and satellite sensors.

A native of Cawood, Ky., he holds a master's degree in meteorology from the University of Chicago.

Seamounts Found on Pacific Ocean Bottom

Twenty-four previously unknown seamounts--underwater mountains--and several seamount chains were discovered in the northeast Pacific in water two to three miles deep, during analysis of data gathered during a 1971 survey by the NOAA Ship SURVEYOR. The painstaking task of analyzing the data on the vast area covered by the expedition, approximately one million square miles, was done by the National Ocean Survey.

The seamounts, off the Oregon-Washington coast, rise from 3,000 to 5,950 feet above the sea floor. At least four of them tower about a mile high.

The shape and dimensions of the new features were analyzed by geophysicists John M. McAlinden and Douglas J. Elvers, who headed the expedition's scientific team. Analysis of the data was supported by the National Science Foundation as part of the seabed assessment program of the International Decade of Ocean Exploration. The 1971 expedition included Japanese, Canadian, and American scientists.

Rawinsonde Station in China Sea Operational

A rawinsonde station at Pratas, Republic of China, in the South China Sea became operational about February 1. This station was established with U.S. assistance under the sponsorship of the World Meteorological Organization's Voluntary Assistance Program.

Upper-air weather data from this station is now being received twice daily at the World Meteorological Center at Suitland, Md., via relay from Tokyo, Japan.

New Deep-Sea Instrument System Measures Bottom Tides, Currents

A free-falling deep-sea instrument system which can automatically measure bottom tides and currents for as long as six months has been developed by the National Ocean Survey's Engineering Development Laboratory.

The deep-sea tide-gage and current-meter system was dropped to the ocean floor last May in about 11,000 feet of water about 100 miles southeast of San Juan, P.R. It popped to the surface November 9 at an acoustic signal from the NOAA Ship DISCOVERER, and was found to have operated perfectly.

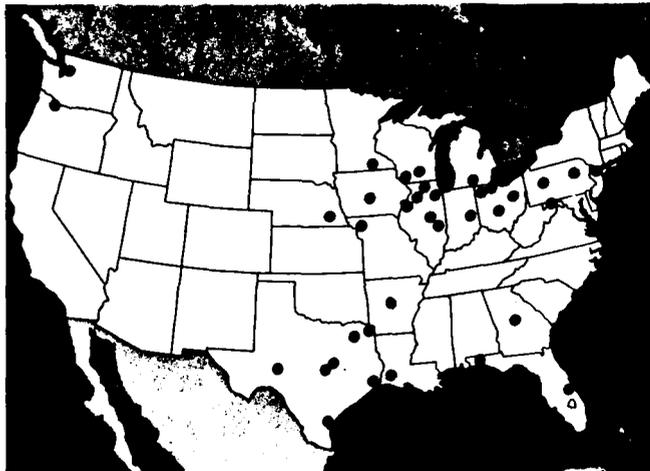
Current data have been obtained before from the deep sea, but about one month has been the limit.

Development, deployment, and retrieval were handled by the laboratory's Miami-based Ocean Engineering Branch under the supervision of Jack Falkenhof.

World Fisheries Policies Are Evaluated

"World Fisheries Policy: Multidisciplinary Views," a 340-page, illustrated book issued recently, contains 16 essays by fisheries experts evaluating the effectiveness of past fisheries policies and outlining concepts and attitudes that may shape future policies. Editor of the collection is Dr. Brian J. Rothschild, Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Fisheries Center, La Jolla, Calif. Seven of the authors are present or past officials of the NMFS. The volume, published by the University of Washington Press and available at a cost of \$9.50, is the result of a series of interdisciplinary seminars sponsored by the Graduate School of Public Affairs of the University.

36 Areas To Have Automatic Forecast Displays



By April 1, the National Weather Service expects Cable Television subscribers in all 36 areas indicated on the map will be able to read the latest area weather forecasts on their weather channels.

NWS Begins Partial Operation Of West Coast Marine Circuit

Completion of two key stations at Point Reyes, Calif., has allowed the National Weather Service to put its long-awaited West Coast Marine Circuit into partial operation. This circuit makes available to the NWS, the Coast Guard, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and commercial interests a comprehensive bulletin of gulf and west coast area marine ship weather reports. The reports are composed of individual messages put on the circuit by anyone who has radio contact with ships at sea and consolidated by the NWS computer in Suitland, Md., into one bulletin with a standard abbreviated heading.

The WCMC begins its route in Texas, at Port Arthur, and picks up Galveston, then goes over to California, first to La Jolla then Los Angeles, north to San Francisco, Point Reyes, and finally to Redwood City, where its data enters a multiplexed circuit to the Suitland computer. Only La Jolla has not reached operational status.

This is the first time the National Weather Service has used Model 37 teletypewriter equipment in a network configuration. This model equipment employs the eight-level code, the American Standard Code for Information Interchange, which offers greater flexibility than other equipment allowed. Also, the network operates at 150 words per minute, 50 words faster than any equipment previously used.

Seven NOAA Ships To Survey Alaskan Waters

Seven ships of the NOAA fleet will survey Alaskan waters this year in support of the National Ocean Survey's program to obtain information for charting and scientific studies, and the National Marine Fisheries Service's fish research studies.

The NOAA operation will be carried out in southeast Alaska, Prince William Sound, of Alaska, Shelikof Strait, Cook Inlet, the Bering Sea.

The DAVIDSON, FAIRWEATHER, RAINIER, and McARTHUR will work on the NOS program. Survey information will be used for nautical charts, bathymetric and geophysical maps, and for ecology, pollution, engineering and other scientific studies associated with the prediction and development of the ocean environment of the Continental Shelf and the coastal zone. The DAVIDSON is commanded by Commander Michael H. Fleming; the McARTHUR, by Commander George M. Poor; the RAINIER, by Captain Gerard E. Haraden; and the FAIRWEATHER by Commander Charles A. Burrows.

The MURRE II, OREGON and JOHN N. COBB will investigate fish resources. They will assess living resources in Alaskan waters for commercial use. Collections of ichthyoplankton, minute marine plant and animal life which fish subsist, will also be made for the Marine Monitoring, Assessment and Prediction program. Master of the MURRE II is Captain Henry C. Museth; of the OREGON, Captain Wendell Schneider; and of the JOHN N. COBB, Captain Robert P. Larsen.

Merchant Ships Take Readings Of Undersea "Weather Conditions"

Oceanic science and the national economy are the beneficiaries--by way of the U.S. fishing fleet--of a remarkable partnership between the business community and the Federal Government under a program that daily records undersea "weather conditions" in the far reaches of the sea. The program takes advantage of the ability of merchant ships to take readings in thousands of miles of seawater annually, and gratefully accepts the voluntary services provided by shipping companies, maritime unions, and maritime cadets.

Called "Platforms of Opportunity," the year-round marine research effort is coordinated by the National Marine Fisheries Service. The U.S. Navy, which developed much of the research system for its own purposes, contributed greatly to the design of the NOAA program, and assists in the processing of data. The National Science Foundation supports the effort.

The objective of the NMFS program is eventually to produce an all-season data bank of marine temperature and salinity occurring at various depths in all areas where the U.S. fishing fleet may ply its trade. Since the Platforms-of-Opportunity program began three years ago, non-scientific volunteers in this marine weather watch have contributed enormous quantities of otherwise unavailable data to the national effort toward helping fishermen produce bigger catches more efficiently. Scientific predictions of ocean weather were used to great advantage in 1972, for example, to help Pacific tuna men land near-record catches of albacore tuna.

The information is radioed periodically to the Navy's Fleet Numerical Weather Central in California. Later, the data is converted into charts and graphs of ocean weather and combined with other known factors to produce informational documents for both the Navy and the Pacific fishing fleet. One of the outlets for the material is the NOAA "Fishing Information," a monthly advisory to the tuna fleet issued by the NMFS Southwest Fisheries Center, La Jolla, Calif.; other bulletins are issued more frequently, depending on fishing circumstances and needs.

Henderson Heads Alaskan Photogrammetrists

Sidney Henderson, Jr., Official in Charge of the National Ocean Survey's National Geodetic Survey Chart Sales and Control Data Office in Anchorage, Alaska, was elected 1973 President, Alaska Region, American Society of Photogrammetry. Mr. Henderson, who has been a National Ocean Survey employee since 1949, has served on various geodetic survey field parties, and has been with the Anchorage office since 1966.

Russians Respond to Alert, Confirm Stratospheric Warming

"BLAGODARIU ZA OPOVFSHANIE O STRATOSFERNOM POTOPLENII. POSLEDNIE RUSKI METEORAKET OSTROVE HEISA EGO PODTVERZHAIUT."

"THANK YOU FOR NOTICE OF STRATOSPHERIC WARMING. LAST RUSSIAN METEOROLOGICAL ROCKET SOUNDING AT HEISS ISLAND CONFIRMS THE WARMING."

This message from the U.S.S.R. was received on February 7, 1973, in response to an alert of a sudden stratospheric warming. Heiss Island is a Soviet observing station in the far north. Alerts are issued by the National Meteorological Center's Upper Air Branch, designated as the world warning agency for issuing "STRATWARM ALERT" advisories. These are issued when there is a dramatic and unusual increase in the wintertime temperature of the stratosphere, one that may be expected to lead to a breakdown of the normal stratospheric circulation of the polar region.

The alert received by Russia was one in a series initiated in late January, when there was evidence of a significant warming event in the making. The evidence came from various data sources and involved the collaboration of National Environmental Satellite Service personnel, who provided detailed Vertical Temperature Profile Radiometer and Infrared Temperature Profile Radiometer measurements from satellites NOAA-2 and Nimbus-5. These data were used by the Upper Air Branch in combination with NMC daily analyses up to the 10-mb level (middle stratosphere) and rocket soundings from various locations.

The purpose of the alerts is to advise scientists who wish to conduct special experiments with rockets or other means, during a period of great change in the structure and circulation of the stratosphere. The warmings are rare and are most pronounced in very high latitudes, where there is little or no sunlight in winter. They are considered to arise from dynamic processes, but their exact cause is not known. It is believed that the understanding of this phenomenon will be accelerated with the aid of satellite measurements and rocket soundings such as those obtained at the Soviet station.

Governor of Minnesota Commends MIC Strub

Joseph H. Strub, Meteorologist in Charge of the Weather Service Forecast Office in Minneapolis, Minn., was recently commended by the Governor of Minnesota "for his outstanding work in the development of an effective weather warning system throughout the State of Minnesota." The Governor attributed the saving of lives to Mr. Strub's efforts. Mr. Strub has been instrumental in training thousands of rainfall observers and severe storm spotters and has been unusually active in promoting community preparedness.

Third Prototype Buoy Received; To Be Stationed in Gulf of Mexico

A third prototype of a small, environmental data buoy designed to collect meteorological and oceanographic information automatically and send it to a shore station or space satellite has arrived at the National Ocean Survey's National Data Buoy Center in Bay St. Louis, Miss. The first of three Limited Capability Buoys, designed and built by Lockheed Missiles & Space Co., of Sunnyvale, Calif., the buoy is scheduled to be carried to its first duty station in the Gulf of Mexico early this month by the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter SALVIA. The other two buoys are scheduled to be placed at duty stations in the gulf later this spring.

Off-the-shelf sensors on the drum-shaped, three-ton buoy will collect wind speed and direction and air temperature and pressure from the top of its seven-foot mast. Water temperature and pressure to depths of more than 600 feet will be collected along a weighted data line. This data, used by weather forecasters in working out their predictions, will be sent automatically every six hours from the 11-1/4-foot-long, 4-1/2-foot-diameter buoy. If commanded by the shore station, information can be sent at more frequent intervals.

Environmentally, the LCBs are designed to survive in a four-knot current, winds to 100 knots, and waves to 45-foot height.



Participants in acceptance ceremonies of the new buoy were (from left) James G. Wenzel, vice president, Ocean Systems, Lockheed, Sunnyvale, Calif.; James W. Winchester, Director, NDBC; William M. Nicholson, Associate Director, Marine Technology, NOS, Rockville, Md.; and Henry F. Auter, Deputy Director, Mississippi Test Facility, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Clare Gladden Dies

News of the death last November of Clare Gladden, a retired National Weather Service Engineering Draftsman, has just been received. He is survived by his wife, Beatrice, of Penn Laird, Va., and several children in the Washington, D.C., area.

Wire Drag Ships Seek Hazards Along Georgia, Florida Coasts

The NOAA Ships RUDE and HECK are searching for submerged navigational hazards along the Georgia and Florida coasts. Their assignment includes determining the existence of hazards, including six wrecks, reported to NOAA. Confirmed hazards will have their exact sites recorded, along with the depth of the water above them, and the information will be noted on nautical charts issued by the National Ocean Survey.

The ships will investigate reports of three hazards off Savannah, Ga.: a 23-foot shallow area in waters having a recorded depth of 35 feet or more; a wreck whose exact position has not been determined; and a charted wreck reported no longer in existence by a Savannah pilot.

Five hazards have been reported off the Florida coast, three about 14 miles southeast of Fort Pierce; another about four miles northeast of Jupiter Inlet; and a fifth about two miles east of Hollywood.

The ships are under the command of Lieutenant Commander Leonard E. Pickens.

Eleven Illinois Counties Being Surveyed

An eight-month geodetic survey of more than 2,300 square miles in 11 central Illinois counties is being conducted by the National Ocean Survey's National Geodetic Survey. The survey, in two 17-mile-wide corridors for mapping and engineering projects, is estimated to cost \$245,000.

An NGS field party will work in an east-west corridor bounded by the communities of Waverly, New Berlin, Lake Oakland and Westfield and a north-south corridor, bounded by Clinton, Deland, Vandalia and Altamont. The area includes the counties of Dewitt, Piatt, Macon, Moultrie, Shelby, Fayette, Effingham, Sangamon, Christian, Douglas and Coles.

The reconnaissance phase is being carried out by surveying technicians Eugene A. Beauchamp and Verlin D. Novak. The task involves selecting sites to be surveyed, and securing landowners' permission for establishing the sites.

Conference on Marine Geoid Scheduled

Dr. John R. Apel, a physicist at the Environmental Research Laboratories' Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory



ies in Miami, Fla., is general program chairman for the Fourth Geodesy/Solid Earth and Ocean Physics Conference on "The Geoid and Ocean Surface," to be held on August 16 and 17, 1973, at Boulder, Colo. The conference is especially timely, since the GEOS-C altimetric satellite, to be launched in 1974, will yield direct measurements of the marine geoid worldwide.

Research May Lead to Forecasting Of Ice Formation and Melting

One key part in the program to extend the navigation season on the Great Lakes is the actual study of ice itself. Ice can occur in almost as many different forms as do rocks, each with its own rate of formation and rate of melting or break-up.

The Lake Survey Center's program is divided into three distinct parts: (1) maintaining a network of ice observation posts which report on ice formation, thickness and related matters; (2) field operations which include collection, preparation and analysis of ice samples taken from a variety of locations; and (3) aerial observations made regularly provide information on the extent of the ice cover and on the types of ice observed.

A network of 25 ice stations, in addition to 10 in areas critical for shippers, has been set up to observe ice conditions. The scientists plan to visit an additional 21 sites to collect ice samples for laboratory analysis. Temperature measurements are being made at permanent stations and from ships operating during the winter in Lake Superior. From accumulated data, scientists hope in the future to be able to forecast ice freeze-up and break-up.

Work done by Lake Survey Center scientists on the subject of ice will be of direct or indirect value to the extension of navigation season program, as well as in other areas. One phase is being done in support of the International Field Year for the Great Lakes, an in-depth, one-year study of Lake Ontario. Part of the International Hydrological Decade--a worldwide water research effort--IFYGL will provide data for the preservation and management of all the Great Lakes.

Minneapolis WSFO Participates In Consumer Information Center

The National Weather Service Forecast Office in Minneapolis, Minn., was one of 52 companies and government agencies that participated in a Consumer Information Center in Minneapolis on February 22-23. The Twin Cities Federal Executive Board, made up of representatives of all Government agencies in the area, was one of the sponsors of the event.

The purpose of the Information Center was to provide a wide variety of helpful information to the consumer, to answer questions on consumer problems, and to highlight progress being made in the field of consumer protection.

The WSFO's exhibit showed the estimated 5,000 to 10,000 daily visitors the NOAA services and products that are available to them, and featured a weather wire and a VHF-FM weather receiver. Also, NOAA's films TORNADO! and FLOOD were among those shown to the visitors.

NWS NEXAIR Van Will Be Used With Upper-Air Sounding System



Among the recent acquisitions of the Equipment Development Laboratory of the National Weather Service's Systems Development Office is its NEXAIR van, to be used with the next generation balloon-borne upper-air sounding system. The function of this vehicle is to transport OMEGA and upper-air sounding equipment to remote sites to gather data for the evaluation of geographic coverage, sferic interference and windfinding enhancement under full power OMEGA navigational system transmission.

The forward equipment section of the van has its own heating, air-conditioning, storage, and work area in addition to the NEXAIR ground system. The NEXAIR ground system comprises a Varian 620L minicomputer, 403 megahertz telemetry receiver, differential OMEGA Receiver/Processor and Met Data Digitizer. Power for remote operation is furnished by an on-board five-kilowatt motor generator.

The rear portion of the van is used for balloon inflation and has the helium capacity for eight flights of a 300-gram balloon. Although the van is still not completely equipped, it was employed in December during the Wallops Island OMEGA/RADAR windfinding comparisons conducted by the GATE Project Office. Dual flights allowing comparison of OMEGA and RADAR windfinding were recorded for off-line processing.

NMFS Program Featured on Television

A 15-minute documentary on the National Marine Fisheries Service calico scallop research program was shown on WTVJ (CBS), Channel 4, Miami, Fla., on February 17.

The program centered on scientific work accomplished from the research vessel GEORGE BOWERS, working from Cape Kennedy. Biologist Shelby Drummond of the NMFS laboratory at Brunswick, Ga., explained procedures and demonstrated the function of the undersea device called RUFAS, which monitors and photographs the ocean bottom by remote control. Director of the Southeast Fisheries Center, Harvey Bullis, appeared on the show and defined the objectives of the calico scallop program. Captain of the BOWERS, J.B. Randall, explained how the scallops are processed at the factory. The TV program was supervised and coordinated by Bob Cummins, also of the Brunswick laboratory.

Length of Service Awards

National Weather Service Southern Region employees who received Length of Service Awards in November were: 35 years - Paul L. MOORE, WSRH, Fort Worth, Texas; Shannon A. TEAL, WSO, Abilene, Texas; and Wayne E. UNGER, WSO, Daytona Beach, Florida. 30 years - Lawrence R. MAHAR, WSRH, Fort Worth, Texas; Joe M. SASSMAN, WSRH, Fort Worth, Texas; Frank H. SHAW, WSO, Midland, Texas; Jack R. WATT, WSO, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Travis D. FLATT, WSMO, Hondo, Texas; and Edgar E. MURPHY, RFC, Tulsa, Oklahoma. 25 years - Charles B. PARKER, WSO, Dallas, Texas. 20 years - Earl J. EDMONDSON, Jr., WSO, Jacksonville, Florida; and Wayne R. NORMAN, WSO, Corpus Christi, Texas.

Sammy B. MALAPITAN of the NOAA Ship RAINIER recently received a Length of Service Award for 25 years service.

Environmental Research Laboratories employees who recently received Length of Service Awards were: 45 years - Giles SLOCUM, ARL. 35 years - Arthur C. LANGHOFF, ESL; William D. SCOTT, AOML. 30 years - Charles H. JOHNSON, APCL; William A. HASS, ARL; Alvin E. SAPP, AL; and Paul A. ALLEE,

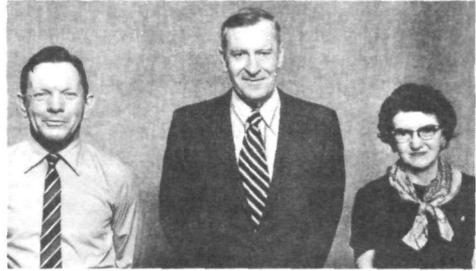


Shown following presentation of awards are (from left) Mr. Sapp; Mr. Green; Dr. Wilmot N. Hess, Director of ERL; and Mr. Allee.

APCL. 25 years - John J. Brunsluk, MMTC; Harold L. BOEN, ARL; George C. HOLZWORTH, ARL; Francis POOLER, Jr., ARL; Richard G. GREEN, SEL. 20 years - Alonzo W. HARDEBECK, RSS; Isaac W. RICHARDSON, RFF; Robert J. MAIN, Jr., ESL; Harris B. STEWART, AOML; Ben J. CULVERHOUSE, AOML; Peter P. CHASE, NHRL; Edward W. BURT, ARL; Walter M. CULKOWSKI, ARL; DOUGLAS J. JOHNSON, GFDL; Edmund H. BROWN, WPL; Patricia R. LOLLAR, RSS; Harry D. COVEY, RSS; Lorraine A. KELLY, AOML; Rita D. SHERRILL, AOML; Harold F. MUELLER, ARL; John R. ZIMMERMAN, ARL; Joseph A. SUTORIK, SEL.



(From left) William B. HARRIS, William W. GLENN, and Edna I. COOK, of the Environmental Data Service's National Climatic Center in Asheville, N.C., received 30-year Length of Service awards in December.



Other National Climatic Center employees who received Length of Service Awards in December were: 25 years - Earl F. MYERS, Charles R. BARR, Marcus L. SNELSON, Gilbert W. EHRSAM, and Pauline F. BRADLEY. 20 years - Herbert A. SADELSON and John A. SHELTON.

Environmental Data Service employees in Boulder, Colo., who recently received Length of Service Awards were: 30 years - Thomas N. GAUTIER, John J. PITTS, J. Virginia LINCOLN. 25 years - Lucile S. HAYDEN. 20 years - Carl A. VON HAKE.



Three National Weather Service Alaska Region employees received 30-year Length of Service Awards in December. Regional Director Stuart G. Bigler (above, left) presented pins to Joseph BAUER, WSFO Anchorage (center) and Lawrence NEWMAN, WXAP, ARH (right); and,



(in the photo at the left) Perry A. Wood, Chief, WXAP, ARH (left) presented a pin to Charles HANAS, WSO Annette Island.

Pearson To Appear on TODAY Show

Allen D. Pearson, Director of the National Weather Service's National Severe Storms Forecast Center in Kansas City, Mo., will appear on NBC's TODAY Show on Tuesday, March 6.

William H. McLaughlin Dies

William H. McLaughlin, former Meteorological Technician at the Weather Service Office in Pittsburgh, Pa., died on February 19, 1968, in Fairmont, W. Va. He had retired in 1964 after 17 years of service. He is survived by a brother, Alton F. McLaughlin, P. O. Box 63, Ida May, W. Va.

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