

noaa week

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Freedom and Safety Thru '76 Message From the Associate Administrator

Secretary Morton has stated the Department's Policy on Safety and Health matters as follows:

"The success of the Department's mission is dependent on the collective contribution of our employees working in safe and healthful environments.

"We will maintain an effective and progressive Occupational Safety and Health Program, in compliance with the Safety and Health Act of 1970 and Executive Order 11807.

"The requirements and responsibilities as outlined in DAO 209.4 will be implemented as assigned to management and all Commerce employees.

"The employees' total involvement in assisting supervisors in recognizing, evaluating, and controlling hazards and hazardous exposures is necessary to achieve positive action.

"The Department's employees are our most important resource and a dynamic safety program deserves our best effort."

We in NOAA have always encouraged and supported a vigorous safety and health program and not only do I endorse this effort but I will insist that all supervisory personnel do everything possible to accomplish our mission without accidents or injury to our employees.

We must achieve the goal of decreasing the incidence of injury to our personnel and damage to our equipment and property. Only with the support of each individual throughout NOAA can this be accomplished.

New employees must be quickly and thoroughly indoctrinated in the concept of safe working procedures and each of us must be constantly alert for hazards that may arise within our occupational areas.

Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr.
Associate Administrator

74 Weather Mod. Attempts In '74 Listed

During 1974, community associations sponsored 24 activities in attempts to increase rainfall or decrease hail. Airlines and airports, concerned mainly with fog dispersal, sponsored nine weather modification activities. Other sponsors included the Federal Government (the Air Force, Navy, National Science Foundation, NOAA, and the Interior Department's Bureau of Reclamation), municipal districts, the States of South Dakota and Kansas, power companies, the private sector, cities, counties, and universities.

A new NOAA publication, *Weather Modification Activity Reports, Calendar Year 1974*, includes this and other information on 74 federal and nonfederal weather modification projects

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Marine Recreation Conference Planned

NOAA, in cooperation with the University of Southern California Sea Grant Institutional Program, will sponsor a National Conference on Marine Recreation, to be held October 2-4 in Newport Beach, Calif.

The purposes of the conference are to focus on critical issues concerning recreational use of marine resources, and to define public and private roles for providing recreation opportunities in the marine environment.

"We want the conference to recommend policies and actions to improve recreational uses of coastal resources," said Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Administrator, in announcing the conference. "Coastal areas are in high demand for both recreational and nonrecreational uses. As development pressures mount, recreational opportunities are

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Prototype Buoy Accepted; To Be Deployed in Pacific

Storm Detectors Being Tested In Tornado Alley

A refined model of a "tornadoic storm detector" under development by NOAA has begun field tests at 15 sites in America's tornado alley.

The suitcase-sized electronic box and its four-antenna array have been evolving since 1971 in the Environmental Research Laboratories' Wave Propagation Laboratory, in Boulder, Colo.

Last year's model sensed not only the electrical symptom which NOAA scientists believe can help weathermen detect and warn against tornado-producing thunderstorms but also the direction from which the signal was received, giving the device a directional capability lacking in earlier designs.

This year, the same basic instrument has been deployed, with a time-delay built into its

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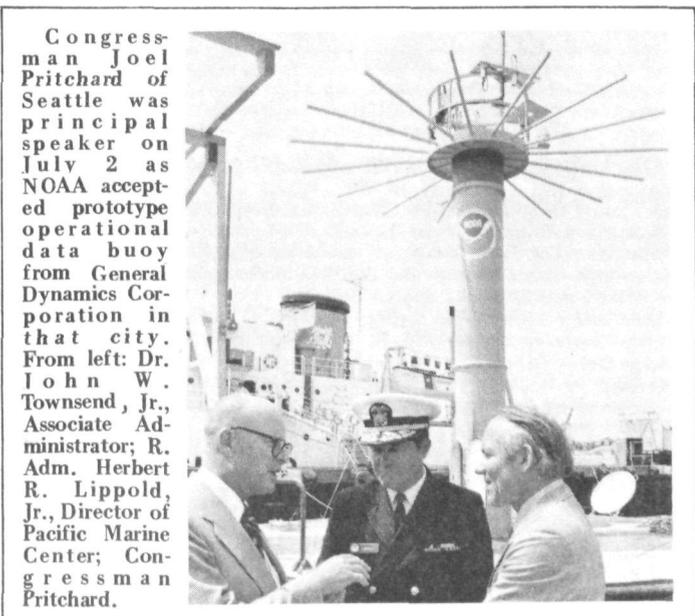
The prototype of an array of operational buoys designed to add a major capability to America's ocean and weather reporting system was accepted for NOAA last week in Seattle, Wash., by Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr., Associate Administrator.

The 50-ton, 33-foot high buoy, developed under a contract with the NOAA Data Buoy Office by General Dynamics Electronics Division, San Diego, Calif., will be anchored this month about 240 miles out in the Pacific directly west of a point half way between Coos Bay, Oreg., and Crescent City, Calif.

NOAA plans to deploy about 30 such buoys over the next five years, contingent upon funding, to furnish atmospheric and oceanic data from ocean areas where weather patterns are formed and where storms are often spawned before moving landward.

Each buoy will have a disk-shaped hull with a center mast; meteorological and oceanographic sensors to measure wind speed and direction, barometric pres-

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Congressman Joel Pritchard of Seattle was principal speaker on July 2 as NOAA accepted prototype operational data buoy from General Dynamics Corporation in that city. From left: Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr., Associate Administrator; R. Adm. Herbert R. Lippold, Jr., Director of Pacific Marine Center; Congressman Pritchard.

personnel perspective

Current Vacancies in NOAA

To insure that NOAA employees are aware of job possibilities throughout the agency, a list of current NOAA-wide vacancies is published below. Employees interested in any of the listed vacancies

should contact their servicing personnel office for information where to apply.

| Announcement Number | Position Title | Grade | MLC | Location | Issue Date | Closing Date |
|---------------------|---|--------------|------|--|------------|--------------|
| 759-75 | Electronics Engr. | GS-13 | NOS | Rockville, Md. | 6-27-75 | 7-19-75 |
| 760-75 | Electronics Engr. | GS-13 | NOS | Rockville, Md. | 6-27-75 | 7-19-75 |
| 763-75 | Biologist or Ecologist or Oceanographer | GS-12 | ERL | Seattle, Wash. | 6-27-75 | 7-19-75 |
| 764-75 | Supv. Electronics Engr. | GS-13 | NWS | Garden City, N.Y. | 6-27-75 | 7-19-75 |
| 766-75 | Physiologist | GS-11 | NMFS | Seattle, Wash. | 6-27-75 | 7-19-75 |
| 747-75 | Marine Environmental Management Spec. | GS-13 | NMFS | Washington, D.C. | 6-30-75 | 7-15-75 |
| 768-75 | Physical Scientist | GS-13 | EDS | Washington, D.C. | 6-30-75 | 7-15-75 |
| 770-75 | Supv. Computer Spec. | GS-12 | NMFS | Washington, D.C. | 7-3-75 | 7-18-75 |
| 771-75 | Meteorological Tech. | GS-9/10 | NWS | Caribou, Maine | 7-3-75 | 7-18-75 |
| 720-75 | Food Inspector | GS-5/7 and 9 | NMFS | Washington, Oregon, Calif., Alaska, Puerto Rico, and Trust Territories | 6-15-75 | 12-31-75 |
| 772-75 | Physical Scientist | GS-13 | HDQS | Washington, D.C. | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 773-75 | Meteorologist | GS-12 | NESS | San Francisco, Calif. | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 774-75 | Supv. Librarian | GS-12 | EDS | Silver Spring, Md. | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 775-75 | Supv. Meteorological Tech. | GS-12 | NWS | El Paso, Texas | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 776-75 | Electronics Tech. | GS-11 | NWS | Atlantic City, N.J. | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 778-75 | Supv. General Engr. | GS-14 | NOS | Washington, D.C. | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 779-75 | Meteorologist | GS-9/11 | ERL | Las Vegas, Nev. | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 780-75 | Meteorologist | GS-12 | NWS | Auburn, Ala. | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 781-75 | Supv. Electronics Tech. | GS-12 | NWS | Fairbanks, Alaska | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 782-75 | Meteorologist (2 positions) | GS-12 | NWS | Oklahoma City, Okla. | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 783-75 | Supv. Oceanographer | GS-12 | NMFS | Auke Bay, Alaska | 7/7/75 | 7/21/75 |
| 767-75 | General Engr. | GS-13 | NOS | Washington, D.C. | 6/30/75 | 7/22/75 |
| 769-75 | Library Director | GS-15 | EDS | Washington, D.C. | 6/30/75 | 7/22/75 |
| 1-76 | Meteorologist | GS-14 | NWS | Garden City, N.Y. | 7/9/75 | 7/23/75 |
| 3-76 | Meteorological Tech. | GS-9 | NWS | Casper, Wyo. | 7/9/75 | 7/23/75 |
| 4-76 | Supv. Meteorologist | GS-15 | NWS | Lubbock, Texas | 7/9/75 | 7/23/75 |

1975 Bicentennial Medal and Stamp Commemorative



Honoring these men and their deeds, the Congress of the United States has authorized the official 1975 Bicentennial Medal and Stamp Commemorative.



The American Revolution Bicentennial Administration (ARBA) is announcing the availability of the official 1975 Bicentennial Medal and Stamp Commemorative. The medal honors Paul Revere and his legendary midnight ride to Lexington on April 18, 1775, and the Minutemen, the first American casualties of the Revolutionary War. The stamps commemorate the 200th anniversary of the formation of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Employees wishing to order the 1975 Bicentennial Medal and Stamp Commemoratives (\$5.00 for each) should send a check or money order to: American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, P.O. Box 1976S, San Francisco, California, 94101. All orders must be postmarked on or before July 31, 1975.

Retirees May Elect Income Tax Deduction Option

Employees planning to retire may request a straight 20 percent Federal income tax deduction on lump sum leave payments. Use of the regular percentage withholding method may cause a larger than normal amount of tax to be withheld on final salary payments, especially if the annual leave balance is 240 hours or higher.

Employees desiring to use the 20 percent tax factor option must forward a memorandum requesting this option to the Finance Division, Personal Services Accounting Branch, Operations Section:

That's Not in My Job Description

Federal employees sometimes are reluctant—even refuse at times—to perform assignments.

Such reluctance or refusal is based on an erroneous idea that an employee is not required to perform any duty "that's not in my job description." This concept could not be further from the truth.

Supervisors have full authority to assign duties to employees as they see fit within the scope of their operation. All such assignments to an employee constitute work the employee is expected to perform. The employee is responsible for carrying out the assigned duties to the best of his or her ability, regardless of whether such duties are specified in the position description.

An employee who refuses to carry out an order of a responsible supervisor is, in fact, committing insubordination.

It is neither necessary nor desirable for a position description to set forth every duty an employee may be expected to perform. A position description is adequate if it sets out the principal duties, responsibilities, and supervisory relationships in such a way that the job can be classified by a classifier familiar with the work function. Minor duties performed only occasionally or for a small amount of time need not and should not be included in the position description.

Assignments, of course, must be reasonably related to the employee's position and qualifications. For example, a stenographer could not be expected to solve a problem requiring knowledge of engineering nor to perform tasks requiring strenuous physical labor. Neither would a chemist be expected to transcribe dictation or under normal circumstances to perform janitorial duties.

It is important that both supervisors and employees understand that it is the job that is classified, not the position description; that the position description does not restrict the assignment of duties of an employee by his or her supervisor; and that an employee's refusal to perform a reasonable task properly assigned by his or her supervisor is insubordination and may result in disciplinary action.

AD561, Rockville, Md., 20852. To assure timely processing the memo should include the requester's name and employee number and be received by the Operations Section at least two weeks before the last day of employment.

An employee who requests the 20 percent tax factor option will receive a final salary check followed in two weeks by a lump sum leave check. An employee not electing to use the 20 percent tax factor will normally receive a lump sum leave payment in the same check as the final salary payment.

Dr. John B. Pearce (left), Officer-in-charge of the National Marine Fisheries Service Middle Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Center Sandy Hook Laboratory in Highlands, N.J., accepts the annual Monmouth Ocean Development Council Award from Gen. W. Preston Corderman (Ret.). The award honored the environmental contributions and research efforts of the laboratory and the Fisheries Center which have increased the knowledge of marine life off the New Jersey Coastline. The facilities and their research contributions were reviewed in an article in the Council's quarterly Compass magazine.



Discoverer Returns from Bering Sea

The NOAA Ship Discoverer completed a successful mission in the ice floes of the Bering Sea with her arrival in Seattle, Wash., on June 23. The ship, which was formerly based in Norfolk, Va., and was operating for the first time from her new port, had left the Pacific Marine Center on May



Capt. Upham

8 for work on the Alaska outer continental shelf environmental assessment program, and penetrated the ice pack as far as 50 nautical miles.

The program is being managed by the Environmental Research Laboratories for the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management.

The 303-foot, 3900-ton vessel is commanded by Capt. Clinton D. Upham and carries a complement of up to 110 officers, scientists, and crew.

National Marine Recreation Conference Scheduled

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often diminished unless critical planning and management decisions are made early on. This conference should address the issues that both the public and the private sectors must face in arriving at such decisions."
During the conference a series of workshops led by invited panelists will discuss Allocation of Marine Resources for Recreational Use; Environmental Considerations; Research and Education Needs; Applications of Marine Science and Technology to In-

crease Recreational Use of Marine Resources; and Social, Economic, and Legal Questions in Recreational Use of the Coastal Environment.

Specific issues under each of these general topics will be analyzed and evaluated. Conferees will make recommendations for both government and private actions to enhance the recreational potential of estuaries, coastlines, nearshore waters, and coastal islands.

Philip M. Roedel, NOAA's Coordinator of Marine Recreation

Oil Price Will Affect Development Of Reserves, Availability of Oil

If the price of oil stays at \$11 per barrel, four-fifths of the petroleum reserves of the Atlantic outer continental shelf would probably be developed.

If the price drops, the amount of oil available to Americans will be less—and the lower the price, the less oil available.

This simple economic prediction was worked out by Dr. Robert J. Kalter, leader of a team of Sea Grant economists at Cornell University. With the higher price, he says, there would be economic incentive to extract about four-fifths of the recoverable reserves, but if the price drops to about \$8 per barrel, investment costs would preclude drilling for such a large fraction of the reserves.

Working under NOAA Sea Grants, scientists at Cornell University and the University of Delaware examined the economics of exploiting the oil and natural gas resources of the Atlantic outer continental shelf and analyzed the landward impact of such exploitation.

The Cornell study considers the entire U.S. Atlantic shelf, projecting probable costs of oil and gas recovery, assessing the Federal government's current offshore leasing policy and resource management procedures, and indicating the impact that might result from the adoption of some suggested alternative leasing plans. The University of Delaware report complements the Cornell analysis by analyzing the economic and ecologic impact of oil exploration on the State of Delaware.

Although the resource potential of the 100,000-square-mile plateau may be considerable—some estimates put the recoverable petroleum deposits at between five and 20 billion barrels of crude oil and between 25 and 100 trillion cubic feet of natural gas—the economic risks of developing them are just as substantial.

The Delaware Sea Grant group, under the leadership of Joel M. Goodman, Director of Coastal Zone Resources Planning at the University's College of Marine Studies, sought to determine not only the oil and gas potential of the Baltimore Trough but also onshore effects including the sizeable population buildup that would result from the construction and maintenance of an estimated 21 offshore drilling rigs.

Missouri Tax Changes

Employees who are subject to state tax withholdings for the State of Missouri may notice a minor change in their state tax for salary checks dated on or after July 16, 1975.

Oregon II Rescues Two Fishermen

The NOAA Ship Oregon II, commanded by Captain R. E. Adams, recently rescued, off Cape Canaveral, Fla., two men who had been afloat on a life raft for 12 to 14 hours after their commercial snapper boat sank. The 31-foot Miss Cheyenne went under at daylight and Captain Ed Dillon and Mate Pelham White drifted until late afternoon, when they and their raft were hauled aboard the Oregon II and returned to Cape Canaveral.

Weather Modification Attempts in 1974 Described

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carried out last year. Federal regulations require that all non-federally sponsored weather modification activities in the United States be reported to the Secretary of Commerce. Federal agencies report activities in this field through interagency agreement. Last year, the reporting rules were amended to obtain information on environmental impact and safety procedures associated with the various projects.

The weather modification activities, which took place in 22 states and Puerto Rico, had four major objectives: Precipitation increase (rainfall and snowfall), fog dispersal, hail decrease, and research. Of 89 objectives listed,

(some of the activities had more than one purpose) 53 were devoted to increasing precipitation (mostly rain) and 15 to dispersing fog. In many cases, hail decrease was coupled with the purpose of increasing rainfall. Of the seven research projects reported, four dealt with management of water resources (increasing precipitation), one with lightning suppression, one with hail suppression, and one with testing particle generators and techniques for weather modification.

Nineteen commercial weather modifiers carried out 56 of the 74 activities, and six universities, four individuals, three municipal districts, two federal agencies, one community association, and one power company also were

listed as "operators".
Liquid-fueled silver iodide generators or burners were the most common type of weather modification apparatus, being used in 14 ground-based projects and 14 aircraft seeding activities. Propane or acetone were normally used as fuel. The arc-type silver iodide burner was used exclusively at ground level in 21 activities. Pyrotechnic devices including flares, rockets, and Very pistols were employed in 21 projects.

The report concludes that, in most activities, the consequences of the operations or experiments were carefully considered and steps taken to minimize hazards to people, property, and the environment.

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Catherine S. Cawley, Editor
Warren W. Buck, Jr., Art Director

Cdr. John D. Bossler, a NOAA commissioned officer with 16 years of service, has been named Deputy Director of the National Geodetic Survey. He will also continue as U.S. Project Manager for the New Adjustment of the North American Datum (NAD).



Cdr. Bossler

This is a program, scheduled for completion in 1983, to modernize the geodetic horizontal networks that provide the basis for all accurate distance surveying on the North American continent.

As NGS Deputy Director, Cdr. Bossler will supervise approximately 360 personnel, including almost 20 field parties which crisscross the United States keeping the national networks up to date.

He received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Pittsburgh, and a doctorate in geodetic science from Ohio State University, which also bestowed upon him the Heiskanen award for excellence in his field of study.

Lt. Cdr. Ludyik Pfeifer recently was appointed Technical Director of the NAD Program, which is being coordinated with other nations in North and Central America.



Lt. Cdr. Pfeifer

Lt. Cdr. Pfeifer, who was born in Czechoslovakia, came to the U.S. in 1958 and joined the U.S. Air Force that year. He became a commissioned officer in 1965, and was a captain when he transferred to the NOAA Corps in 1973.

His Air Force assignments in-

cluded service as Geodetic Officer with the 1370th Photo Mapping Wing, later the Aerospace Cartographic and Geodetic Service.

He received his BS and MS degrees in geodetic science from Ohio State University.

Dow E. Boykin, Principal Assistant in the National Weather Service Office at Tampa, Fla., has been selected to head the NWS office at Daytona Beach. He replaced Don Russell, who has retired.



Mr. Boykin

Mr. Boykin entered the NWS in 1956 at Washington, D.C., and served in the Arctic; at Athens, and Waycross, Ga.; and Jacksonville, Fla., before going to Tampa. He attended the University of Virginia and Jacksonville University and studied meteorology at the University of Miami, Penn State University and the Graduate School of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Yoshio Kurihara, a research meteorologist with the Environmental Research Laboratories' Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory at Princeton University, has received the annual award of the Meteorological Society of Japan.



Dr. Kurihara

The award was given to Dr. Kurihara for his work on the construction of a statistical-dynamical model of the atmosphere and its application to a study of the seasonal variation of the global general circulation.

For ten years before joining the Commerce Department in

1963, Dr. Kurihara was associated with the Japan Meteorological Agency and the Meteorological Research Institute in Tokyo, Japan, and between 1965 and 1967 he returned to the latter organization for fundamental studies on numerical analysis.

Since then he has been in-

involved in studies on physical and mathematical problems in modeling general circulation patterns of the atmosphere for NOAA. He also has worked on a numerical simulation of tropical cyclones.

He received his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in geophysics from Tokyo University.



Participants in the 24th Weather Radar Class held recently at the National Weather Service Technical Training Center in Kansas City, Mo., were (front row, from left) Henry Yamada, Kwajalein, Marshall Islands; Clayton Caron, Neenah, Wis.; Donald Boggs, Missoula, Mont.; Terry Ingoldsby, Daytona Beach, Fla.; Allen Tusing, Norfolk, Va.; Harold Cross, Albuquerque, N.Mex.; (back row, from left) Joel Wertman, Instructor; Jack Sewell, Victoria, Tex.; Ralph Carey, Cincinnati, Ohio; Linda McCall, Memphis, Tenn.; Raleigh Lackey, Wichita, Kans.; Albert Hinn, Wilmington, N.C.; Albert Bianchi, Lake Charles, La.; and Ralph Tice, Instructor.

Prototype Buoy To Be Deployed in Pacific

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sure, air temperature, surface wave height and period, and water temperature at seven depths; a three-year supply of batteries; mooring line; and electronics package.

Buoys in the new system are designed to withstand winds of 150 knots, waves of 60 feet, and currents of six knots, and to operate for a year without maintenance.

The buoys will transmit data automatically by radio every six hours to Coast Guard shore communications stations in San Francisco and Miami. The Miami station will process all data from

both points and transmit it, within an hour, to computers at the National Weather Service in Suitland, Md., for incorporation in the national weather forecasting system. In special cases the buoys can be interrogated, and the processed data will be obtained by Suitland within 15 minutes.

The prototype will be part of the first array of buoys, to be placed off the west coast and Alaska, where much of the weather affecting the United States is formed. Subsequently, the system will be extended into the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico.

NOAA Field Tests of 15 Storm Detectors Underway in U.S. Tornado Alley

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warning circuit to reduce false alarms caused by local interference.

Evaluations of the detector's performance are still troubled by the statistical problems inherent in the way tornadoes are reported. For example, the results from 1974, although still being analyzed, show a notable reduction in the number of tornadoes reported within the maximum range (70 kilometers) of the deployed detectors, but no appreciable change in the number of tornadoes reported within 30 kilometers of the devices.

"In 1974," says William L. Taylor, who heads the tomadic

storm detector program for the WPL, "we showed a total of 17 reported tornadoes within 30 kilometers of our systems, as against 15 reported tornadoes in 1973. On the other hand, we show only 27 tornadoes within 70 kilometers of our stations, compared with 44 reported tornadoes in 1973.

"We don't know what causes this difference, which is statistically improbable. One theory is that close-in reports can usually be corroborated by other people in a community. As you go farther away from the station and its community, tornado reports become harder to verify."

The NOAA scientists are learn-

ing more about what the instrument means when it gives a warning. Last year it became apparent that the thunderstorms born over the Gulf in warm, moist, maritime air do not have the same electrical properties as those found in large mid-continent storms. Tornadoes produced by Gulf storms are generally closer to the milder waterspouts than their larger, more destructive continental cousins. This year's deployment has a stronger focus on inland storms.

The detectors also seem to perform better with storms that produce medium-to-large tornadoes than with storms which spawn comparatively small, mild

twisters.

During the 1975 tornado storm detector field season, instruments will be operating at National Weather Service Offices at Montgomery, Ala.; Fort Smith, Ark.; Atlanta, Ga.; Des Moines, Iowa; Topeka and Wichita, Kan.; Baton Rouge, La.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Grand Island, Nebr.; Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Okla.; Memphis, Tenn.; and Houston and Lubbock, Tex. One of the experimental detectors will also be installed at ERL National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, Okla.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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