

AT 75



# noaa week

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## Key Largo Coral Reef Designated Marine Sanctuary

### Richardson Confirmed

The nomination of Elliot L. Richardson as Secretary of Commerce was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on December 11. Swearing-in plans have not been announced.

### DOMES Advisory Panel Meets

A newly formed panel of advisors for NOAA's Deep Ocean Mining Environmental Study (DOMES) held its first meeting this week in Seattle, Wash.

The DOMES Advisory Panel was established as a subcommittee of the Department of Commerce Marine Petroleum and Minerals Advisory Committee, with its membership drawn from that committee. Its purpose is to review DOMES activities and to advise appropriate Commerce Department officials and the Secretary of Commerce on the conduct of the marine mining study.

The morning session of the meeting featured an overview of DOMES by Dr. Wilmot N. Hess, Director of the Environmental Research Laboratories and Federal Co-chairman of the Panel, and preliminary reports from project

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### NOAA Hurricane Hunter Retiring

Thirty-Nine Charlie, a famous, tired old airplane—NOAA's most venerable hurricane hunter—is retiring. The DC-6 has been chasing the greatest storms on earth since 1959.

In its 16 years of flying with the Environmental Research Laboratories, Charlie has made 321 penetrations of 42 hurricanes. Its fuselage bears the flags of 40 nations and one territory. Probably no other aircraft in the world has done so much as an airborne research platform to advance human safety from the elements, or to further scientific understanding of the atmosphere and

oceans. During its long and spectacular career, the plane has flown some of the world's most difficult and dangerous atmospheric terrain—from monsoons over the Indian Ocean to hurricanes in the tropical Atlantic, and into the fury of towering cumulus clouds in Florida and hail-making clouds in the midwest. It has flown more than 5600 hours, and more than a million miles, for NOAA.

In 1966, during Hurricane Inez, Charlie flew through winds approaching 200 miles an hour; in 1975, during Hurricane Gladys, electrical failure brought the loss of most instrumentation but, despite extreme turbulence, the crew located the eye of the storm.

Research aircraft are basic to the detection and analysis of hurricanes. First picked up by weather satellite, hurricanes are

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A segment of the Nation's largest living coral reef formation—stretching 150 miles along the Florida Keys—was designated as the first marine sanctuary of its type yesterday by Secretary of Commerce Rogers C.B. Morton.

Participants in the ceremonies, held aboard a glass-bottomed boat over the reef, included Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Administrator; Members of Congress; Bruce Smathers, Florida Secretary of State; Florida State legislators; other high-ranking Federal and State officials; and John Pennekamp, an early crusader for protection of the reef and Associate Editor of the Miami Herald.

The area is five miles wide, 20 miles long, and seaward of the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, which annually attracts over 300,000 visitors. The designated portion of one of the world's most beautiful reefs is a valuable natural resource and a favorite recreation site for boating, snorkeling, diving, fishing, and other activities.

Secretary Morton designated the sanctuary under Title III of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, which empowers him to preserve or restore certain areas of the

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### Freeman Rescues Vessel, 5 Men

The NOAA Ship Miller Freeman recently engaged in a rescue mission while on oceanographic operations in the Bering Sea.

The 214-foot stern trawler, under command of Cdr. Sigmund R. Petersen, had sought shelter in Akun Bay in the Aleutians because of poor weather when a Coast Guard message related that the F/V Aquarian, with her crew of five, had lost steerage and was drifting steadily northward into the major shipping lanes around Unimak Pass. Being the closest ship to the disabled vessel, the Miller Freeman went to her aid.

Efforts of the Freeman's crew during the afternoon to get the 100-foot crabber in tow were hampered by 40-knot winds and 20- to 25-foot seas. Four attempts with a line-throwing gun

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SAMPLING U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE INSPECTED KAMABOKO are Virginia Knauer, Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs, and her guests, all from the National Marine Fisheries Service. (From left) Thomas Billy, Chief of the Fishery Products Inspection and Safety Division; Gene Cope, Consumer and Trade Education Specialist in the same Division; Joseph W. Slavin, Associate Director for Resource Utilization; Mrs. Knauer; and Emi Kamachi, Administrative Trainee.

### Dec. 26 Is Holiday

President Ford has signed an Executive Order declaring Friday, December 26, 1975, a Federal holiday. The Executive Order says Government agencies may determine which employees should remain on their posts that day for reasons of National security, defense or other public reasons.

White House officials said the President does not plan to declare Friday, January 2, 1976, a Federal holiday.

It is a pleasure, on behalf of Howard Pollock, John Townsend, our Associate and Assistant Administrators, and myself, to wish each of you in NOAA and your families, a fine holiday season and a peaceful, happy 1976.

*Robert M White*

Dr. Robert M. White  
NOAA Administrator

From the women and the men  
Who bring you ITOS, GOES,  
and TIROS N  
Comes this wish for joy and cheer  
To welcome in the coming year.



Seasons greetings and best wishes to the NOAA family from NESS.

*David S. Johnson*  
David S. Johnson  
Director, National Environmental  
Satellite Service

At Sea Grant it's the rule  
(Not simply during Yule)  
To make our NOAA grants a year-round habit.

But we posit this admonishment  
To our grantees' astonishment:  
The budget that we have's not like a rabbit.

The money that we give away  
Won't multiply from day to day,  
*Et nemo dat, timemus, quod non habet.*

*B.S. Abel*

Dr. Robert B. Abel  
Director, National Sea Grant Program

SEASONS GREETINGS  
and  
HAPPY NEW YEAR



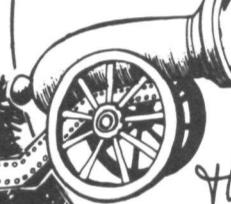
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

*George P. Cressman*

Dr. George P. Cressman  
Director, National Weather Service

We aim to wish you a Merry Christmas—  
Holiday joy and Christmas cheer  
All good things are wished for you here.

CEDDA NCC NODC  
ESIC  
Seasons  
Greetings  
CCEA NGSDC



*Thomas S. Austin*

Dr. Thomas S. Austin  
Director, Environmental  
Data Service

We in the National Marine Fisheries Service extend to each of you our warm wishes for a joyous holiday season and success in your endeavors throughout the coming year.

*Robert W. Schoning*

Robert W. Schoning, Director  
National Marine Fisheries Service

*This is the season to reflect,  
on what went well and what did not,  
to realize we didn't achieve all we  
set out to do,  
but neither did things go as badly as  
we sometimes feared,  
to take stock of where we have come  
and why,  
but perhaps most important,  
to look to the New Year,  
Fresh, clean, and waiting.*

Seasons Greetings from the  
Office of Coastal Zone Management

*Bob Knecht*

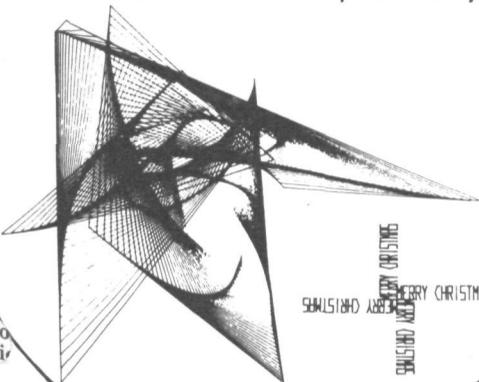
Robert W. Knecht  
Assistant Administrator  
for Coastal Zone Management

*From the Director and Staff  
of the National Ocean Survey*



*Allen L. Powell*  
Rear Admiral Allen L. Powell  
Director, National Ocean Survey

Season's greetings from Dr. Wilmut N. Hess and the staff of the Environmental Research Laboratories. (Random pattern generated by an Environmental Data Service computer from the number 122575, Christmas.)



CHRISTMAS  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
CHRISTMAS

122575



"WE WISH YOU  
A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!"

*Harley D. Nygren*

Rear Admiral Harley D. Nygren  
Director, NOAA Corps



Birdy Card by Louis Pong

# Key Largo Sanctuary

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Oceans adjacent to the United States for their conservation, research, esthetic, and other values.

Designation of the Key Largo sanctuary came 15 years after the Pennekamp Park was dedicated, and nearly a year after Florida nominated the sanctuary. The nomination by Florida was a modification of a request to preserve the reef's ecosystem and to keep the reef "alive," made earlier by Dr. Dennis M. O'Connor of the University of Miami and Dr. Reznat M. Darnell of Texas A&M University. A public hearing on the proposal and on a draft environmental statement was held in September by the Office of Coastal Zone Management.

Dr. Robert Kifer, Marine Sanctuary Coordinator for OCZM, said that within the sanctuary removal or destruction of most natural resources will be prohibited, as will dredging, filling, building, and dumping. Fishing, for instance, for crawfish, spiny lobster, and stone crab will be allowed, as well as skin diving and boating.

He added that the sanctuary will be administered by the Florida Department of Natural Resources, Division of Recreation and Parks, which will be joined by the State's Division of Marine Resources and the U.S. Coast Guard in enforcing rules and regulations.

According to Dr. Kifer, the rules and regulations governing the protection of the Key Largo sanctuary will be modeled after those which have been in effect for the Pennekamp Park since 1959. Regular monitoring of uses of the sanctuary, and research on the effects of particular uses of the coral reef ecosystem, will be conducted to ensure that the pri-



**PARTICIPANTS IN THE RECENT FALL 1975 MEETING OF NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND NWS HEADQUARTERS STAFF** included (from left) Charles D. Knudsen, Director, Central Region; Dr. William H. Klein, Director, Systems Development Office; Dr. Harry P. Foltz, Director, Southern Region; Hazen H. Bedke, Director, Western Region; Dr. George P. Cressman, Director, NWS; Stuart G. Bigler, Director, Alaska Region; Silvio G. Simplicio, Director, Eastern Region; Harlan K. Saylor, Deputy Director, National Meteorological Center; Karl R. Johannessen, Associate Director, Meteorology and Oceanography; Charles M. Woffinden, Director, Pacific Region; Raymond J. Fichaud, Director, Quebec Region, Atmospheric Environment Service, Canada; and Dr. Robert A. Clark, Associate Director, Hydrology.

Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Administrator, and Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr., Associate Administrator, also participated in the opening sessions.

Discussion topics included the aviation services programs; River Forecast Center operations; the role of NMC and objective forecast guidance; and placement of meteorological interns.

mary purpose—to preserve this ecosystem—is carried out. Additionally, surveillance of development activities along the Key Largo coast will be conducted to make sure these activities do not adversely affect water quality and subsequent health of the coral reef system.

Dr. Kifer said an advisory board for the sanctuary will be created, with members representing OCZM, the National Park Service, the Coast Guard, the Division of Recreation and Parks, the Division of Marine Resources, the Board of Trustees of the State Internal Improvement Trust Fund, the State Department of Pollution Control, local citizens associations, and the Association of Dive Boat Captains.

Earlier this year the wreckage of the Civil War gunboat, the USS Monitor, which sank off Cape Hatteras, N.C., was designated as the country's first marine sanctuary for its historical value.

## DOMES Panel Meets

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scientists on the recently concluded three-month DOMES expedition aboard the NOAA Ship Oceanographer.

The afternoon session examined the project in terms of scope, relevancy, and how its research results can best be applied to identify marine environmental problems. The Panel then drafted recommendations to the Secretary of Commerce on the future course of the study.

DOMES is managed by ERL's Marine Ecosystems Analysis (MESA) program office. One of three ongoing MESA projects, it is conducted through ERL's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle, Wash. The other two are intensive studies of how man and the marine ecosystems interact in Puget Sound and in the New York Bight.

Advisory Panel members are: Chairman (pro tem) Mrs. Betty N. MacDonald, League of Women Voters; Dr. Hess; Marne A. Dubs, Director, Ocean Resources, Kennecott Copper Corporation; John E. Flipse, President of Deepsea Ventures, Inc.; Dr. Melvin N. A. Peterson, Deep Sea Drilling Project Manager, Scripps Institution of Oceanography; Patricia S. Rambach, International Program Officer of the Sierra Club; and Gary A. Soucie, environmental writer and field editor of *Audubon* magazine.

Also present were representatives from the Council on Environmental Quality, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior, Department of State, and the Department of Commerce.

## Note From NOVAC

The officers and members of NOVAC wish to extend to our many friends our gratitude for your perennial generosity.

We hope that peace and joy will be with you this holiday season and throughout the coming year.

## 39 Charlie Retires

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tracked by air until they come within range of the radar "picket fence" along the coast.

In research flights involving less spectacular meteorological displays, the plane's crew frequently was assigned to fly missions at levels as low as 50 feet. During one experiment, Charlie's track was so low over the ocean that a research ship observed the airplane left a wake. At the time, the plane bore a gold stripe, and after that flight it was branded "the yellow submarine."

Based at Miami International Airport, home of the ERL's Research Facilities Center, the plane is the oldest member of NOAA's airborne research fleet: a C-130; a WP-3D being readied for 1976 operation; and a second WP-3D scheduled for delivery early in the year.

## Freeman Rescues Ship

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failed when either the shot line or the messenger rope parted while being hauled in by the Aquarian.

By nightfall, the wind had increased to 60 knots and the seas were up to 45 feet. With these added hazards working against them, the Freeman's crew floated a buoyed line across the crabber's bow, hoping her crew could retrieve it. After several attempts failed, the Freeman's starboard trawl cable was hooked to the crab boat's anchor chain.

Later, while under tow, the Aquarian's bilge pumps failed, she began taking on water through leaking hatches, and necessary repairs caused several hours' delay.

Two full days after the Miller Freeman received the assistance message, she brought the Aquarian into safe harbor at Akua Bay.

# calendar of events

- February 4-6, 1976 AGU Chapman Conference on Yosemite, Calif. Atmospheric-Ionospheric-Magnetospheric Interactions. Cosponsored by NOAA and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. (Cynthia Beadling, AGU, 1909 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. 202-331-0370.)
- February 22-28, 1976 American Congress on Surveying and Mapping/Washington, D.C. American Society of Photogrammetry Annual Convention. (General Information: David C. Leshar, Publicity Chairman, Route 5, Woodlyn Court, Frederick, Md. 21701; Exhibitors: Paul H. Alban, Deputy Director for Exhibits, 6104 Bryn Mawr Ave., Glen Echo, Md. 20786. 202-227-2232.)
- April 12-16, 1976 1976 Spring Annual Meeting of American Geophysical Union. (Deadline for receipt of abstracts - January 13, 1976.) (Cynthia Beadling, AGU, 1909 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. 202-331-0370.)
- December 10-17, 1976 International Symposium on Land Subsidence, sponsored by International Association of Hydrological Sciences. Deadline for receipt of abstracts - January 31, 1976. (Arnold I. Johnson, President, International Commission on Subsurface Water, International Association of Hydrological Sciences, U.S. Geological Survey, National Center, MS 417 Reston, Va. 22092. FTS: 928-6931, Comm: 703-860-6931.)



# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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