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DAVID S. JOHNSON PRESENTED 1978 PECORA REMOTE SENSING AWARD

David S. Johnson, director of the National Environmental Satellite Service (NESS) in the Department of Commerce, was awarded the 1978 William T. Pecora Award Wednesday, Oct. 11, 1978, for his work in applying satellite remote sensing to monitoring the weather and the environment.

The award has been presented annually since 1974 by the Department of the Interior and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to honor outstanding contributions by individuals and organizations in the field of remote sensing.

Johnson, 54, was presented the 1978 award by Robert Herbst, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, at a banquet Wednesday evening in Sioux Falls, S.D., as part of the Fourth Annual William T. Pecora Memorial Symposium on remote sensing.

Dr. Pecora, who died in 1972, was Undersecretary of the Interior and earlier was director of the U.S. Geological Survey. He was a motivating force in the development of NASA's Landsat Earth resources survey satellite program and in the establishment of the Interior Department's EROS (Earth Resources Observation Systems) program managed by the USGS.

The 1978 award citation says Johnson "has devoted a major portion of his scientific and managerial life to the development and implementation of remote sensing systems designed to observe weather patterns, impacts of weather and man on our environment, the climatological trends of the Earth, and in the process eliminated or alleviated loss of property and life as a result of natural disasters.

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