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NIMBUS TESTS ESSA COMPONENTS

Nimbus 2, National Aeronautics and Space Administration's research and development weather satellite, was launched at 3:56 a.m. on May 15 from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., and is now sending pictures back to earth. The satellite circles the earth every 108 minutes in a polar orbit 726 miles from earth at its farthest point and 687 miles at the closest. Designed to take about 3,000 photographs each day, the satellite has automatic picture transmission (APT) facilities which can send pictures to 150 APT stations around the world. It carries infrared cameras to take night-time pictures of the earth's cloud cover and special infrared heat sensors to measure the earth's heat balance. Nimbus 2's components are being tested for possible future inclusion in ESSA's operational weather satellite system. Nimbus 1 was launched Aug. 28, 1964, and operated for one month, sending back some 227,000 photographs.

WFC WILL RELOCATE TO MARYLAND

Washington Forecast Center (WFC) activities at Washington National Airport will soon move to quarters adjacent to the National Meteorological Center at Suitland, Md. Plans are underway for transfer of the complex radio, telephone, and teletypewriter facilities. Radar, surface and synoptic observation programs will continue at Washington National Airport.

PLATFORM PERFORMANCE PEGGED PERFECT

The underwater stable platform, developed by Coast and Geodetic Survey, has been successfully tested for a month at depths of 100 feet while anchored 100 miles west of Los Angeles in water 4300 feet deep, and has been termed operational by Dr. Leroy Alldredge, Institute for Earth Sciences Acting Director, who conceived the device. The platform acts as a stable mooring for instruments which would be disturbed by surface conditions. Dr. Alldredge said the magnetometers in the platform are the first to be successfully located in the sea for measuring changes in the earth's magnetism.

ITSA SCIENTISTS ADDRESS COSPAR

Four scientists from the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and Aeronomy presented 11 papers describing the Institute's research activities to a Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) meeting in Vienna, May 11 to 17. Richard B. Norton of the Aeronomy Laboratory delivered six papers representing the work of 11 ITSA authors; his co-authors were E. E. Ferguson, F. C. Fehsenfeld, A. L. Schmeltekopf, and L. Thomas. Also, Norton presented papers by D. S. Lund, W. Calvert, T. E. VanZandt, R. Cohen, and B. B. Balsley. J. W. Wright of the Aeronomy Laboratory gave two papers, one co-authored with T. Shimazaki; and other papers were delivered by Dr. George C. Reid and Dr. Eldon E. Ferguson. Robert W. Knecht, Space Disturbances Laboratory Director, and Martin Nason also participated in the Vienna meeting.

FORECASTERS TO HOLD PARLEY

Dr. William Klein, Techniques Development Laboratory (TDL) Director, and Charles Roberts, Technical Procedures Branch Chief, will be guest speakers at a forecasters' seminar next week at the Weather Bureau's Eastern Regional headquarters. Dr. Klein's subject is the TDL's research program and Mr. Roberts will discuss the WB's verification programs, preparation of technical guidance material for forecasters, and small-scale analysis and forecasting.

NEW SEISMOGRAPH AT SEATTLE

Ceremonies were held last month to mark the installation of an ESSA (C&GS) standard strong motion seismograph at a site provided by the Port of Seattle. This inaugurates an expanded engineering seismology instrumentation program in the Puget Sound region. Additional installations will be made in the area to provide a 10 to 12-station network.

STORM FILM PLANNED



The Radar Analysis and Development Unit, a component of the National Severe Storms Forecast Center, Kansas City, Mo., is planning to make a film of typical squall line development and associated family-outbreak of tornadoes. Among the film's features will be composited radar echoes photographed against a colored geographical features map background and the use of ten-minute intervals to depict developing, mature, and dissipating stages of a storm's life cycle. Film data will be from the current season, but two winter seasons may be required to finish the work.

TEWINKEL ATTENDS PHOTOGRAMMETRY MEETING

G. C. Tewinkel of the Institute for Earth Sciences participated in the one-week International Society for Photogrammetry conference at Bad Godesberg, Germany. The conference was attended by 138 representatives from 21 nations. A detailed agenda was prepared for a two-week quadrennial congress to be held in Switzerland in 1968. Tewinkel is chairman of the Committee on Aerotriangulation.

WEATHER BUREAU CITED FOR SAFETY

The Weather Bureau has been cited for "the second greatest reduction in accident rates and the maintenance of an effective safety program" among the primary Department of Commerce agencies during 1965. This is the sixth time in 11 years that the Bureau has received an award for reduction of accident frequency rates.

ESSAite ON VOICE OF AMERICA

An interview with Albert H. Oshiver of ESSA's Institute for Oceanography has been broadcast by the Voice of America in several languages. He discussed his adventures of the last four years including a nonstop swim of the 25-mile Panama Canal (he paid a 45¢ toll), a 250-mile hike through the Panama jungle over the proposed Pan American Highway route, and an exploration in Colombia for the site of the first city established by the Spaniards on the western hemisphere mainland. Also, Oshiver has an article on exploration for a short highway connecting North and South America in the latest issue of Surveying and Mapping.

CANAL PROJECT GATHERS MOMENTUM

Construction of the weather observing station at Pidiaque, Panama, is almost completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and equipment and supplies are enroute. Station personnel have been selected and are now completing the radar meteorology course at the University of Miami. They will soon go to Las Vegas, Nev., for an intensive three-week course in the operation of M-33 radars, tetron observations, and other specialized training for the assignment; they will depart for Panama the week of June 20. The other proposed Atlantic station on Route 17, Saskantupo, being constructed on a small island belonging to the San Blas Indians, is expected to become operational September 1. ESSA Inter-oceanic Canal Project personnel not previously announced in ESSA NEWS are Edward Lashua, electronics technician, Overseas Operations Division; A. B. Arnett, field scientist, Air Resources Laboratory; Russell L. Durham and Richard Baker, meteorologists in charge at route stations; and Carlos Gradillas, Robert Kanans, Jack Dielky, Charles Steadman, Evan W. Armstrong, Joseph E. Princo, and Robert T. Gill, radar operators and meteorologists.

PATHFINDER CHARTS HAWAIIAN WATERS

The USC&GSS Pathfinder has completed five 2,000-mile charting voyages off Kahoolawe, Lanai, and Maui, Hawaii, since 1961. Most of these island waters have not been surveyed since 1906, according to the ship's captain, Commander Gerald L. Short. The ship is now returning to Seattle, Wash. When weather permits, Pathfinder works on the high-priority Cook Inlet project in Alaska. She is expected to operate off Southern California next winter.

ANTENNA GETS ON THE BEAM

The final calibration test of the 85-foot parabolic antenna at the Wallops Satellite Command and Data Acquisition station was conducted with aircraft fly-by early this month. The antenna tracked satisfactorily and signal levels were excellent. It will be used part-time until May 23 and full-time thereafter.

AVIATION WEATHER SAFETY MEETING SLATED

An Aviation Weather Safety Conference is scheduled next week at the Weather Bureau's Western Region headquarters (Salt Lake City) with C. W. Inskip as chairman. Quality control officers and supervising aviation forecasters from the region will attend as well as representatives from adjacent WB regions and Roger Allen from the WB Central Office. Selected aircraft accidents involving weather factors will be discussed.

NEW MIC ANNOUNCED

O. D. White, hydrologist and principal assistant at the Weather Bureau Airport Station, Harrisburg, Pa., since 1955, has been appointed Meteorologist in Charge of that station. Joining the WB as an observer in 1940, he left to teach meteorology to Army pilots and from 1943 to 1946 was an officer (meteorologist) in the U. S. Navy. He returned to the WB at Tulsa, Okla., where he worked until his assignment to Harrisburg. White has a B.S. degree from Memphis State College and has done graduate work at U.C.L.A. and the University of Michigan.

ESSA SCIENTISTS ADDRESS SEMINAR

Bernard Zetler of the Institute for Oceanography's Physical Oceanography Laboratory presented a paper on recent tide research last week at a research seminar in meteorology and oceanography, University of Michigan. Earlier in the month, Dr. E. Paul McClain of the National Environmental Satellite Center's Meteorological Satellite Laboratory spoke to the seminar on satellite meteorology.

UN FELLOW AT RFC

Hi Ku Cho of the Central Meteorological Office, Seoul, Korea, is now receiving training at the River Forecast Center in Hartford, Conn., under a United Nations Fellowship. He has spent about five months at the WB's Office of Hydrology and next September will add to his experience by visiting the U. S. Geological Survey at Hartford and the TVA in Knoxville, Tenn.

TV DRIVER'S TEST SLATED

Milton S. Aronstam, ESSA Safety Engineer, urges ESSAites to watch the new National Drivers' Test when it is televised on CBS Tuesday evening, May 24th at 10:00 p.m. Eastern and Pacific time; at 9:00 p.m. Central and Mountain time.

HOW NOW BROWN COW?

The meteorologist in charge at the Weather Bureau Airport Station at Denver has been notified by Dave Thompson of Hugo, Colo., that one of his cows swallowed part of a radiosonde. Regrettably, the cow died and Thompson is submitting a claim for damage or injury. Perhaps radiosondes should be labeled "do not eat".

WEATHER BY THE NUMBERS

Dr. Frederick G. Shuman, Director of the National Meteorological Center, $\nabla = k \times \nabla \psi + \nabla \chi$ held a seminar on numerical weather prediction at the Travelers Research Center in Hartford, Conn., this week.

NO GAMBLE, THIS

Physical science technicians (geophysics) and electronic technicians are required by the ESSA Coast and Geodetic Survey Special Projects Party in Las Vegas, Nev. Salaries range from \$5181 to \$9765. Details are available through the ESSA personnel office: contact Mrs. Frances Maserick or Mrs. Rosa Hill.

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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