

ESSA

NEWS

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ESSA EMPLOYEES RECEIVE GOLD & SILVER MEDALS. Secretary of Commerce John T. Connor awarded nine Gold Medals and fourteen Silver Medals on Tuesday to the following: Gold Medals -- Eldon E. Ferguson, Fred C. Fehsenfeld, and Arthur L. Schmeltekopf, Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and Aeronomy (ITSA); William D. Harris, C&GS; Jack W. Herbstreit, ITSA; Donald C. House, ESSA; Bennett G. Jones, C&GS; Hellmut H. Schmid, Institute for Earth Sciences (IES); Lansing G. Simmons, C&GS; Joseph Smagorinsky, Institute for Atmospheric Sciences; and G. Carper Tewinkel, IES. Silver Medal recipients were Verne Alexander, Weather Bureau (WB); Roger A. Allen, WB; Lt. Cdr. Robert W. Franklin, Lt. Cdr. Robert L. Sandquist, and Jim L. Hardwick, C&GS; Lester F. Hubert, National Environmental Satellite Center (NESC); George W. Kalstrom, WB; C. Walter Lane, Jr., C&GS; Frank E. McClung, C&GS; Vincent J. Oliver, NESC; Wayne C. Palmer, Environmental Data Service; Joseph H. Strub, Jr., WB; Charles Theurer, C&GS; Ralph E. Walker, WB; Russell Younkin, National Meteorological Center; and Bernard D. Zetler, Institute for Oceanography.

ESSA OFFICIAL HONORED BY NASA. Receipt of the first photographs from ESSA I was marked at National Aeronautics and Space Administration headquarters February 4 with the presentation of NASA's Exceptional Service Medal. David S. Johnson, Acting Director of ESSA's National Environmental Satellite Center (NESC), received the award from Vice President Humphrey for his work in developing the operational meteorological satellite system. Other officials present included Secretary of Commerce John T. Connor, Assistant Secretary of Commerce J. Herbert Hollomon, ESSA Administrator Robert M. White, NASA Administrator James R. Webb, NASA Deputy Administrator Robert C. Seamans, Jr., and Alf Nyberg, president of the World Meteorological Organization.

RIVER FORECAST CENTERS MERGE. The Weather Bureau's River Forecast Center at St. Louis has been consolidated with a similar center at Kansas City, Mo., for more effective use of manpower and electronic computer facilities. This centralized unit at Kansas City is now responsible for river forecasts for some 780,000 square miles of drainage area, including all of the Missouri-Mississippi River system above the mouth of the Ohio River and the Red River of the North. Ray E. Johnson, who has been in charge of the Kansas City Center for the past 15 years, heads the new center, which operates under the general direction of Central Regional Hydrologist Verne Alexander.

SURVEYOR MAPS OCEAN FLOOR. The ESSA (C&GS) survey ship Surveyor sailed from her Seattle home port last week to conduct a two-month study of 150,000 square miles of ocean floor off the California coast. This study is a United States contribution to the Upper Mantle Project, an international endeavor to investigate the earth's interior structure and its relationship to the formation of the earth's crust.

ESSA SCIENTISTS ADDRESS AMS. A number of ESSA scientists took part recently in the American Meteorological Society meeting at Denver. Speaking on air-ocean interactions were Kirk Bryan (WB) and J. Murray Mitchell, Jr. (Environmental Data Service), while Charles R. Hosler (ESSA) and Roger M. Lhermitte (National Severe Storms Laboratory) participated in the session on physical meteorology. The program on balloon trajectory experiments in the atmosphere included papers by Edward A. Jessup, Ray E. White (both from WB Research Station at Las Vegas), C. Ray Dickson and James K. Angell (both from WB Idaho Falls, Idaho), and a group presentation by W. A. Hass, W. H. Hoecker, D. H. Pack, and J. K. Angell (WB). Albert K. Showalter (WB) was chairman of the session on synoptic-dynamic meteorology, and Helmut Weickmann (WB) took part in a panel discussion on weather modification. In the AMS' selection of officers, three from ESSA were elected councilors of the organization: Loren W. Crow, Special Assistant to the Administrator for Industrial Meteorology; H. H. Bedke, Director of the WB Western Region; and Edwin Kessler, Director of the National Severe Storms Laboratory, Norman, Okla.

EARTHQUAKE SYMPOSIUM HELD AT ESSA. An earthquake prediction and study symposium, organized by Dr. Leroy Alldredge, Acting Director of the Institute for Earth Sciences, was held recently at ESSA headquarters. Welcomed to the meeting by Dr. White, attendees included ESSA seismologists and geodesists and many of ESSA's outside contractors and grant recipients who work in earthquake studies. One proposal at the symposium, to take many kinds of measurements (strain, acoustics, gravity, magnetics, seismics, elevation, and location) in a common area, echoes a C&GS program already under way in California, where multi-discipline instrumentation is planned along the San Andreas fault. A panel discussion resulted in the following recommendations: (1) Basic research should be conducted on the source of earthquakes; (2) building structure should be improved to save life and property when earthquakes do occur; and (3) rock mechanics should be studied to learn about rock breaking characteristics at great depths. The conclusions of this symposium will contribute to determination of ESSA's future earthquake research program.

ITSA SCIENTIST BACK FROM ANTARCTIC. Joseph Hiram, a physicist with the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and Aeronomy (ITSA), is back at the Boulder (Colo.) laboratories after completing 14 months in the Antarctic as scientific leader at Eights Station. He conducted research for ITSA in ionospheric soundings, micropulsations, and very-low-frequency studies. Now working with the Rocket and Satellite Experiments Section, Hiram concluded a recent assignment with the Geomagnetism Group after analyzing data acquired in the Antarctic.

GROUP ASSEMBLES ON MANNED SPACE PLATFORM. The complete ESSA Requirements Working Group for Manned Space Platforms met for the first time recently at the National Environmental Satellite Center (NESC), Suitland, Md. Representatives from the Weather Bureau, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Institute for Earth Sciences, Institute for Oceanography, and NESC attended the meeting to analyze ESSA's requirements.

ESSA MEETS ON 'CLOUD 9.' A group of aviation industry and Government officials, known popularly as "Cloud 9," met last week at ESSA headquarters for the second in a series of informal meetings to evaluate present and projected aviation weather services. ESSA Director of Aviation Affairs N. A. Lieurance is chairman of "Cloud 9." Representatives from ESSA, the Federal Aviation Agency, the Civil Aeronautics Board, and a broad cross-section of aviation weather service users attended the meeting.

SCIENTISTS TACKLE AIR POLLUTION. Government and non-Government scientists met recently to explore possible use of a satellite platform to study air composition and pollution. Robert McCormick, Meteorologist in Charge of ESSA's Air Resources Laboratory Field Research Office in Cincinnati, reported that several non-urban locations in the United States showed an 8-10 percent per year increase in atmospheric turbidity.

STRIPES ON PARADE. Promotion from Ensign to Lieutenant (j.g.) in ESSA's commissioned corps has been announced by the Coast and Geodetic Survey for the following: Thomas F. Scygiel, Jr., and Vincent Tabbone aboard the Pioneer; Roger A. Moyer, Marmer; William T. McMullen, Hydrographer; Oliver R. MacIntosh, Lester Jones; Edward M. Gelb and Fidel T. Smith, Pathfinder; Theodore Wyzewski, Surveyor; Charles R. McIntyre, Patton; Kenneth F. Burke, Peirce; and Clifford A. Wells, C&GS Engineering Division, ESSA headquarters. Also, Lieutenant (j.g.) Gerald R. Schimke aboard the Pioneer was promoted to Lieutenant.

ESSA SHIPS CONTINUE OCEAN SURVEYS. The Pathfinder, with home base at Seattle, and the Whiting, from Norfolk, Va., both sailed last week to continue gathering information for updating nautical charts. The Whiting is making a three-month survey of the waters of Vieques Sound, Puerto Rico, while the Pathfinder is charting Hawaiian waters.

FROM ROC TO BOULDER. Chun-Ming Huang, an electrical engineer from Taiwan (Formosa), Republic of China, has joined the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and Aeronomy (ITSA), Boulder, Colo., as a guest research worker. While at ITSA, Huang will be involved in research on the statistical and theoretical variation of the F2 layer of the ionosphere. This is a continuation of his work in ionospheric propagation for the Radio Wave Research Laboratories in Taiwan.

AGMETs MEET ON CAMPUS. The first Weather Bureau Eastern Region Agricultural Meteorology Conference, co-sponsored by Rutgers University, was held recently on campus. Among those attending were Dr. L. C. Ranieri of ESSA's Office of User Affairs and Dr. T. L. Noffsinger of WB's Central Office.

CENTRAL REGION NAMES NEW MICS. Three new Meteorologists in Charge (MICS) have been appointed recently to head Weather Bureau Airport Stations in the Central Region. Robert E. Fennell, formerly at the Weather Bureau Office (WBO) in Kansas City, Mo., is the new MIC at Peoria, Ill. Haydn A. Fox, most recently at Pueblo, Colo., takes over MIC duties at the WBO in Cairo, Ill., and Wendell A. Porth, currently a forecaster at Detroit, will transfer next month to become MIC at Rockford, Ill. In another position appointment, Elroy C. Balke was selected Assistant Regional Hydrologist at the WB Central Region headquarters.

AWARDS AND REWARDS. Upcoming in March for 25-year length of service awards are: Lawrence A. Schaal, WBO, Lafayette, Ind.; James J. Corcoran, WBAS, Louisville, Ky.; Joseph V. McBride, WBAS, Minneapolis, Minn.; Robert E. Shroeder, WBAS, Moline, Ill.; Paul J. Becker, WBAS, Dubuque, Iowa; Clarence A. Wardman, WBAS, Evansville, Ind.; Vernon R. Nebergall, WBO, Kansas City, Mo.; Harold C. McComb, Central Region headquarters; Carl J. Sanderson, WBAS, Bismarck, N.D.; Morris L. Bain, Central Region headquarters, and Gordon T. Barnes, WBAS, Columbia, Mo. From Southern Region are: John F. Hubenak, WBAS, Fort Worth, Tex.; Vernon F. Coose, WBO, Houston; John H. Lentz, WBAS, Jackson, Miss.; James G. Georg, WBO, Lakeland, Fla.; Frank P. Lamb, WBAS, Macon, Ga.; Howard H. Walrath, WBAS, Meridian, Miss.; Harold J. Smith, WBAS, Nashville, Tenn., and Milton L. Williams, WBAS, Tampa, Fla. Sustained Superior Performance awards went to: Gordon L. Hawkins, Polar Operations Project, Isachsen, Canada, \$250; George F. Barner, Distribution Division, \$100; Jay Gatlin, Overseas Operation Division, Isachsen, Canada, \$200; Daniel Darr, Distribution Division, \$100, and Charlotte Engram, also of the Distribution Division, \$100.

UNIVERSITY ASSIGNMENTS FOR ESSA EMPLOYEES. ESSA professional employees should seriously consider opportunities for further training available through ESSA-financed full-time university assignments. Selections for assignments to begin in fall 1966 will be made by May 1966; all applications must reach the appropriate headquarters offices by March 15. Pending the issuance of an ESSA application form, applications may be submitted on currently available C&GS Form 3417, WB Form 132-1, or NBS Forms 235 and 233. All applications must be endorsed by the first line supervisor and higher level officials as required on each form before transmittal to the appropriate headquarters office for further processing. Special consideration will be given to applications for training in physical meteorology and cloud physics.

Items to be considered for ESSA NEWS must be received by Friday for publication the following Friday. Send material to: Office of Public Information, ESSA, Room 1021, Bldg. 5, Washington Science Center, Rockville, Md. Phone: (301) 496-8193.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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