

Volume 3

Number 46

November 17, 1967

ESSA RESEARCH ACTIVITIES REORGANIZED

ESSA's research component has a new organizational structure and a new name. The change more precisely reflects the scope and mission of the laboratories, according to its Director, Dr. George S. Benton.

The former Institutes for Environmental Research have become ESSA's Research Laboratories. Its primary elements are 12 laboratories and one facility, all reporting to the Director. (One of the laboratories will still be known as an institute.) Within the Office of the Director are an Office of Programs and an Office of Technical and Administrative Services, formerly the Office of Administrative and Support Services. (See new organizational chart, pages 4 and 5.)

In the formation of the ESSA Research Laboratories, a management layer has been sliced away to give laboratory directors a direct channel of communications to the Director, and to encourage interdisciplinary cooperation between the various scientific fields. The restructuring eliminates the four institutes through which the laboratories have reported in the past.

The Research Laboratories will continue investigations of the solid earth, the seas, the upper and lower atmosphere, and near space to help man live in comfort, safety, and harmony with the world around him.

Activities of the environmental research complex remain nationwide in scope. Located on the U.S. Department of Commerce campus in Boulder, Colorado, are the Space Disturbances Laboratory, Aeronomy Laboratory, Wave Propagation Laboratory, Atmospheric Physics

Headquarters, ESSA Research Laboratories



RESEARCH (continued)

and Chemistry Laboratory, and the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (ITS). The latter retains the institute designation to maintain continuity as the central Federal agency for research and services in support of the telecommunications industry of the United States.

The Earth Sciences Laboratories are also based in Boulder with additional branches in San Francisco and Rockville, Maryland.

Laboratories outside Boulder include the Atlantic Oceanographic Laboratories, the National Hurricane Laboratory, and the Research Flight Facility in Miami, Florida; the Pacific Oceanographic Laboratories in Seattle, Washington; the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, Oklahoma; the Air Resources Laboratories in Washington, D.C., with major branches in Cincinnati, Ohio, Oak Ridge, Tennessee; and Las Vegas, Nevada; and the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Washington, D.C.

Many staff functions have been grouped in the new Office of Programs. These functions include policy and management advice to the Director, program planning activities, program liaison, coordination of ESSA Research Laboratories activities in the framework of national and international scientific programs, and the review and evaluation of current programs and plans. This office also advises the Director on resource allocation, develops management information systems, conducts public information functions, and provides staff assistance to the Director and his immediate staff.

Alan H. Shapley has been named Director of the Office of Programs. As Assistant Director for Program Planning and Liaison of the former Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and Aeronomy, Shapley has been active on intra-agency planning committees and heavily involved in international activities of ESSA. Dwight B. Kline, formerly Special Assistant to the Director of the Institute for Atmospheric Sciences, will serve as Deputy Director of the new office.

John A. Kemper, Assistant Director for Technical Planning and Administration for the Space Disturbances Laboratory, has been appointed Director of the Office of Administrative and Technical Services (formerly the Office of Administrative and Support Services). This office will provide all administrative and technical services for the ESSA Research Laboratories and be responsible for services provided to the National Bureau of Standards' Boulder Laboratories, under a cross-servicing agreement.

Dr. Floyd L. Taylor, Director of the Office of Administrative and Support Services, has been appointed Assistant Director for Administration of the new Institute for Telecommunication Sciences.

ESSA 6 LAUNCH SUCCESSFUL

ESSA 6 was launched by NASA Nov. 10, at 12:54 P.M. EST, into an orbit averaging 898 statute miles above the earth. The APT-equipped satellite crosses the Equator, southbound, at 9:16 A.M. local sun time, and its orbital period is 114.78 minutes. Test transmissions by the two cameras have been successful.

TWO FRACTURE ZONES FOUND IN PACIFIC

Two new fracture zones, tentatively named Adak Fracture Zone and Amlia Fracture Zone, have been discovered on the floor of the North Pacific Ocean by Pacific Oceanographic Laboratory scientists. The fractures are fault lines where the earth's crust has been displaced. The zones, running north and south across the Aleutian Trench, were discovered by using a magnetometer towed behind C&GS ships operating on Project SEAMAP in the North Pacific.

AIRPORT SURVEY PARTIES ACTIVE

A C&GS airport survey is underway at Hutchinson County (Tex.) Airport. Surveys at Prescott (Ariz.) Municipal Airport and Hernon (Fla.) Airport are scheduled to begin this week.

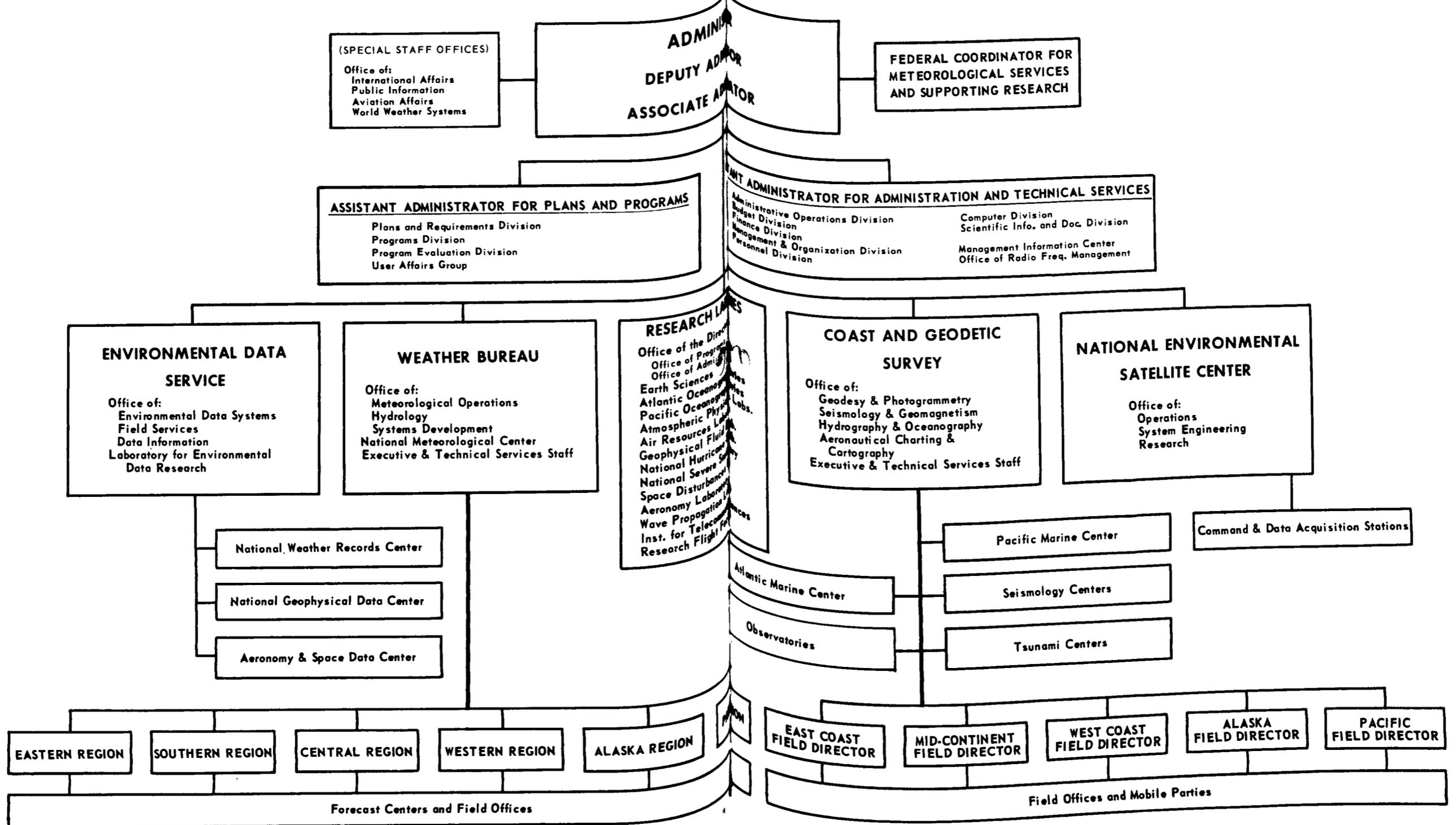
CONGRESSMAN PRAISES WB HURRICANE WARNINGS

Representative E. (Kika) de la Garza of Texas spoke to the House of Representatives, Oct. 23, praising the work of the Weather Bureau during Hurricane Beulah. "Approximately one month ago, one of the most devastating hurricanes in the history of the United States hit my congressional district in my area of south Texas with great devastation," the Congressman said. "I can never offer enough commendation for the wonderful work the people of the Weather Bureau did from their New Orleans office and from their base, also, in Brownsville, Tex. ... To the credit of the people of the area who performed the work,...and thanks to the advance warning which the U. S. Weather Bureau gave, there was no loss of life whatsoever during the devastating winds and the flood afterward." In a letter to Rep. de la Garza, Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator, expressed his gratitude and that of the Weather Bureau employees "who worked long hours under difficult conditions to provide these warning services. I know how much they will appreciate your sentiments."

NAUTICAL DISTANCE TABLES PUBLISHED

The fourth edition of "Distances Between United States Ports" was published by C&GS in October. The 49-page pamphlet shows the distances between 700 ports, including those on the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River system, and also contains tables for computing travel time at various average speeds.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES ADMINISTRATION



AUTOMATED RIVER NETWORK COMPLETED IN CALIF.

A high-speed telemetering radio river and rainfall network has been established in California, north of San Francisco, as a cooperative project of the Weather Bureau and the California Department of Water Resources. The new network is composed of 23 individual gaging stations and includes seven microwave repeater stations which relay data from the gages to the Eureka River District Office and to the Sacramento River Forecast Center. Some of the river gaging equipment was provided by the Geological Survey. Planned after the December 1964 floods in Northern California destroyed most gages in the area, the new network is designed to withstand maximum flooding conditions.

ESSA ADVISORY PANEL MEETS

The Panel on Solid Earth Geophysics and Earthquake Engineering of the National Academy of Sciences - National Academy of Engineering advisory committee to ESSA met Nov. 14-15, at ESSA headquarters. Although the principal agenda items were in geodesy and closely related disciplines, seismology and geomagnetism were also discussed.

WESTERN REGION HOSTS AIR POLLUTION CONFERENCE

WB Western Region headquarters played host to an Air Pollution Conference in Salt Lake City, Oct. 30 - Nov. 3. Twenty-nine ESSA employees and six representatives of public health and air pollution control agencies attended. J. L. Dicke, Dr. Phil Stickse, and J. F. Clarke, all of ESSA's Air Resources Field Research Office in Cincinnati, were the principal instructors.

ZETLER HEADS IUGG COMMITTEE

Bernard D. Zetler, Director of the Physical Oceanography Laboratory, Atlantic Oceanographic Laboratories, has been elected chairman of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics' Tsunami Committee. He is also one of the two Americans on the Committee on Tides and Sea Level.

EXPERIMENTAL DATA-GATHERING PROGRAM SUSPENDED

The Atlantic City, N.J., mesometeorological network suspended operation Oct. 31, after nearly three years of data acquisition. Since 1964, the Weather Bureau has operated the network for the Federal Aviation Administration's National Aviation Facilities Experimental Center. Observations from the 14 automatic observing stations were used in an FAA terminal forecast development program. The system will be placed in standby status, while analysis of the data is being completed.

C&GS TO RESURVEY FAULT ZONES

C&GS is scheduling a resurvey of seven fault sites in California, in order to record possible consistent slippage along the faults. The resurveys are part of ESSA's effort to develop methods of predicting these movements accurately.

WEATHER CHARTS TRANSMITTED BY NEW PROCESS

On Nov. 7, the National Meteorological Center began using a new process for nationwide transmission of upper-air charts. In this process, there is no manuscript chart to be seen. A computer-generated magnetic tape, with a series of impulses corresponding to dark portions of a facsimile scan line, is run through a converter, and the impulses are fed out on facsimile circuits, producing remarkably clear facsimile images on monitors across the country. The equipment belongs to the National Environmental Satellite Center, which uses it for transmission of satellite photographs in 14 shades of gray. The meteorological charts are in black and white only.

FIELD PARTIES GET LASER DEVICES

George B. Lesley of C&GS headquarters is delivering Laser Geodimeters to two transcontinental traverse parties in Texas. He will instruct party personnel in the use of these new instruments.

TOCHER APPEARS ON WEST COAST TV PROGRAM

Dr. Don Tocher, Director of the Earthquake Mechanism Laboratory, participated in a four-member panel on "Earthquakes and Earthquake Engineering" broadcast over station KRON-TV in San Francisco, on Oct. 29, as a feature of the "Speak Out" program. "Speak Out" is a regular weekly series which explores in depth a broad subject of current interest.

LEARNING AT LONG DISTANCE

Six ESSA employees in Kansas City are attending a graduate-level class in meteorological statistics being given 125 miles away at the University of Missouri. Three times a week, the instructor and half of the class assemble on the university's campus at Columbia, while the ESSA employees sit in a room at the WB Central Region headquarters. The students at Kansas City hear the instructor's voice and can ask questions as they see his notes, equations, and references being written and projected on screens at both locations. The ESSA students are W.A. Schroeter, R.A. Sanders, N.E. Prosser, T.O. Mauch, H.A. Gordon, and J.A. Eakin. The instructor is Dr. J.D. McQuigg, ESSA State Climatologist for Missouri and also a university staff member.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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July 23, 2010