

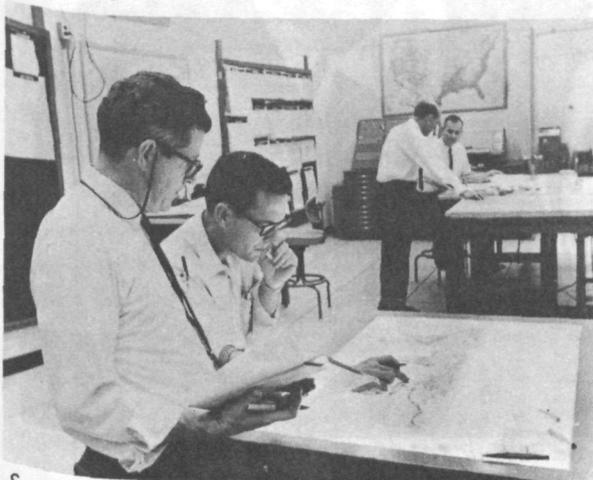
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July Climate Favorable For Apollo 11 Mission



Spaceflight Meteorology Group, Houston Section

The Weather Bureau's Spaceflight Meteorology Group will provide the primary weather service to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Apollo 11 lunar mission scheduled for launch from Kennedy Space Center on July 16, as it has for past Apollo programs. Weather records from the past show that conditions should be generally favorable for the launch and recovery. The first actual forecast for the scheduled launch will be issued on July 11. From the time when the Saturn V space vehicle is rolled out to the launch complex, until the astronauts are safely recovered at the end of the mission, the Spaceflight Meteorology Group forecasters will keep constant watch on the atmosphere's behavior.

Phila. Air Pollution Service To Be Inaugurated in August

The first low-level soundings in support of the air pollution program were taken at Philadelphia on June 20. The official inauguration of the program has been delayed until August, but soundings will be taken and air pollution potential forecasts will be made regularly.

Public Invited to World Weather Center on July 13

The Washington World Weather Center, a joint operation of the Weather Bureau and National Environmental Satellite Center located in Federal Office Building Number 4 at Suitland, Md., will be open to the public on Sunday, July 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Washington-area employees are invited to bring their families and friends to mark the fourth anniversary of the formation of ESSA. At the door of the facility, each visitor will be given a map to guide him to the various stops on the tour. One will be the National Meteorological Center, where giant computers forecast for the Nation and the hemisphere. At the National Environmental Satellite Center, the visitor will view the operational control room for the ESSA satellite system, see weather photographs being received from ESSA spacecraft, and examine equipment that is being developed for future satellites. Other ESSA activities included in the tour are the local forecast office, which issues weather predictions for the Washington area, and the Weather Bureau Spaceflight Meteorology Group, which will be engaged in preparing forecasts for the Apollo 11 lunar landing mission. Open houses will be held at other agency installations throughout the Nation during the week of July 13-19.

Forecast Center Supports Deep-Sea Drilling Project

The Weather Bureau Forecast Center at San Francisco recently supplied weather and oceanographic support for the research vessel GLOMAR CHALLENGER. The ship, a floating drilling rig, was working with the National Academy of Science on a deep-sea drilling project. Information supplied by the forecast center included special 24-hour forecasts for surface wind speed and direction and the combined sea swell data for the drilling sites.

Personnel Questionnaire Results Tabulated

Approximately 2400 ESSA employees responded to the Merit Promotion Questionnaire published in the April 11 issue of ESSA NEWS. 62 percent of the responses came from the Weather Bureau; 13 percent from the Coast and Geodetic Survey; 10 percent from the ESSA Research Laboratories; 7 percent from ESSA headquarters; 5 percent from EDS; and 3 percent from NESG.

Of those answering the Questionnaire:

- 64 percent said that they understood the plan, although 4 percent didn't understand some aspects of it. 14 percent, however, said they didn't know that there was a promotion plan.

- 69 percent of those who knew about the promotion plan learned about it through reading the plan; another 19 percent obtained their information from the supervisors or a co-worker.

- 47 percent expressed the view that the best qualified employees are selected for promotion always or most of the time; another 43 percent felt that the best qualified employees were selected some of the time.

- 33 percent of those promoted within the last two years said the promotion was due largely to the supervisor's efforts; 21 percent were attributed to responses to vacancy announcements and 12 percent to a review of Skills by the Personnel Office.

- 63 percent felt that employees in other bureaus should not compete for promotions in ESSA.

- 49 percent favored a periodic and systematic review of employee skills by management as the best method of locating candidates for promotion. 32 percent preferred vacancy announcements and 9 percent voted for supervisory recommendations.

1964 Earthquake Series Completed

The final volume (Vol. II, Parts B and C) of the Coast Survey's publication series, "The Prince William Sound, Alaska, Earthquake of 1964 and Aftershocks," has been published. The 340-page book contains research studies and interpretive results in the fields of seismology and marine geology. Fergus Wood was scientific coordinator, and Louis Leipold editor in chief. Copies are available from the Government Printing Office at \$5.50.

Tribus Addresses Electrical Engineers



Dr. Myron Tribus, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Science and Technology, addressed the IEEE International Conference on Communications at the University of Colorado, June 10. The conference was co-hosted by ESSA, NBS, and University of Colorado

Weather Bureau Establishes Techniques Review Group

A new Committee on Analysis and Forecast Technique Implementation was officially established by the Weather Bureau on July 2. The committee will evaluate new or improved analysis and forecast techniques developed in the Systems Development Office or the National Meteorological Center and will recommend and coordinate their operational implementation. The committee consists of one representative from each of the following units of Weather Bureau headquarters: Techniques Development Laboratory, Analysis and Forecast Division, Development Division, and Weather Analysis and Prediction Division. Initially, the committee will be composed of William H. Klein (chairman), Harlan K. Saylor, John A. Brown, and Charles F. Roberts (secretary), with alternates being H. R. Glahn, E. B. Fawcett, John Stackpole, and Julius Badner.

Proposed Changes Incorporated In ESSA Merit Promotion Program

The comments and suggestions recently received from more than 110 ESSA supervisors, employees, and employee organizations concerning the draft Merit Promotion Program were reviewed and a number of recommended changes were incorporated into the final program. This was published as Chapter 07 of the ESSA Personnel Handbook for Supervisors, effective July 1, 1969. All ESSA employees will receive a copy. Some of the highlights of the new Merit Promotion Program are as follows:

1. Area of Consideration - If less than three highly qualified candidates are available, the area must be progressively expanded, to the extent practicable, until three highly qualified candidates are located. For positions in GS-14 and 15, the area of consideration is at least Department of Commerce wide except when such consideration is not feasible.

2. Evaluating Eligible Candidates - Criteria such as experience (breadth and depth), education, awards, supervisory appraisals, etc., are to be used to differentiate among qualified. Manpower Utilization Councils are responsible for making final determination as to whether candidate is "highly qualified" or "qualified;" identifying "best qualified" candidates; and then recommending at least three candidates to the selecting officials.

3. Supervisory Evaluation - An employee is entitled to see, upon his request, any production record or any supervisory appraisal of past performance used in considering him for promotion.

4. Supervisory Positions - Special procedures are established for selecting candidates for supervisory positions. All first-level supervisors must be provided 40 hours of supervisory training, either before they assume their supervisory responsibilities or within six months afterward. An additional 40 hours of supervisory training must be completed within the subsequent 18 months.

5. Vacancy Announcements - Vacancies will be advertised except when advertising is deemed unnecessary by the Personnel Officer because of known shortage of candidates in occupational field, etc.

6. Repromotion - An employee demoted without personal cause must be considered for repromotion before other means are used to fill a position.

Rockets Tested at Wallops Island

A. J. Miller of NMC's Upper Air Branch and F. J. Schmidlin of Wallops Station were the ESSA experimenters in a test of meteorological rockets held at Wallops Island on June 20. In the experiment, sponsored by NASA, twelve pairs of rockets were launched at one-hour intervals in an effort to determine instrumental compatibility.

C&GS Chart Distribution Centralized

The Coast Survey is centralizing the distribution of the approximately thirty million aeronautical and nautical charts it issues annually. Effective June 30, the charts which have been distributed by Coast Survey offices in New York and San Francisco will be distributed to sales agents from Coast and Geodetic Survey headquarters. The Kansas City office will end its chart distribution in October.



Soviet Scientists Attend Distance Measuring Sessions

Discussing the progress of the International Symposium on Electromagnetic Distance Measurement and Atmospheric Refraction during a break in the technical sessions on June 24 are: (Left to right) Drs. L. P. Pellinen and A. A. Genike of the Geodetic Research Institute of Moscow, U.S.S.R.; Dr. M. C. Thompson, ERL; and Prof. Antonio Marussi, President of the International Association of Geodesy, Trieste, Italy. The week-long conference, cosponsored by ESSA and the American Geophysical Union, was held in Boulder, Colo.

Weather Guide Issued for Pilots



N.A. Lieurance, (Left) Director of Aviation Affairs, presented the first copy of "A Pilot's Guide to Aviation Weather Services" to Major General Joseph D. Caldara, U.S.A.F. (Ret.), President of the Flight Safety Foundation.

A new brochure -- "A Pilot's Guide to Aviation Weather Services" -- has been published by the ESSA Office of Public Information and more than a half million copies issued. The brochure, designed to be carried on flights, counsels regular use of continually updated flight weather services provided by the Weather Bureau and the Federal Aviation Administration. Maps of Flight Advisory Weather Service Stations and of the Transcribed Weather Broadcast Service, as well as numbers for the Pilot's Automatic Telephone Weather Answering Service and conversion tables for time, temperature, windspeed and pressure, are provided. The Pilot's Guide gives keys to aviation weather reports and forecasts, and directions for reporting turbulence and airframe and other icing conditions. The back cover reminds pilots of information needed by weather briefers and gives space for most-used aviation weather briefing telephone numbers.

Hardy Named to Faculty Position

Albert V. Hardy, ESSA State Climatologist for North Carolina, has been appointed adjunct associate professor at North Carolina State University.

Satellite Photos To Retrace Odyssey

Dr. James Niels, President of the National Aeronautics Association, recently visited NESC's Applications Group to obtain photographs to illustrate a forthcoming book on the travels of Ulysses as told in the "Odyssey." In the book, Dr. Niels will retrace, by air, the voyage of Ulysses including satellite pictures to illustrate the type of storm which could have blown him off course making the adventure possible.

Airport Surveys

A Coast Survey party, headed by William M. Reynolds, is conducting surveys of Cincinnati (Ohio) Municipal Airport-Lunken Field and Greater Cincinnati Airport, Covington, Ky.

Service Awards

Length-of-service awards are due to the following Weather Bureau Central Region employees during July: 40 years - George E. O'Daniel, CRH; Joe R. Fulks, Chicago; Edward F. Stapowich, Omaha, Nebr.; and Kenneth R. Clark, Sioux Falls, South Dak. 30 years - Gerald D. Goodwin, Goodland, Kans.; and Alice M. Heuer, Milwaukee, Wisc. 25 years - Clinton E. Hanson, Lander, Wyo.; Robert J. Whalen, Minneapolis, Minn.; and Delbert A. Unger, Sioux City, Iowa. 20 years - Dee R. Reese, Kansas City, Mo.

Mid-Continent Field Area, C&GS employees eligible for July awards are: Harold W. Burdine, Triangulation Party G-33, Kansas City, Mo.; and Lloyd F. Diez, Leveling Party G-37, Kansas City, Mo.

Poling Lauded by Pan American Scientists

Murray Y. Poling, former Chief, International Training Group in ESSA's Office of International Affairs, was lauded posthumously on June 20 by the IX General Assembly of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) for his distinguished service in the field of surveying and mapping and in a wide variety of activities of the PAIGH. Mr. Poling died in December 1968 after 32 years of government service.

Items to be considered for ESSA NEWS must be received by Monday for publication the following Friday. Send material to: Office of Public Information, ESSA, Room 804, Bldg. 5, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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