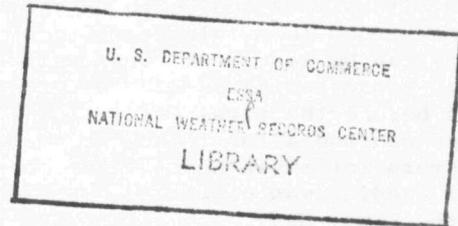


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**Camille Batters U.S. Mainland; Stormfury Seeds Hurricane Debbie**

On August 19 ESSA satellite pictures showed Camille centered over Kentucky and Debbie approaching from the east.

Hurricane Camille hit the U.S. mainland with devastating force on August 17 virtually upstaging her sister Hurricane Beulah that smashed into the gulf coast in 1967. Camille, lashing first at the southeastern edge of Louisiana, shrieked onto the Mississippi Coast last Sunday night. Thousands of residents, warned by the Weather Bureau and Civil Defense officials of coming tides up to 20 feet, fled inland before Camille's onslaught. The death toll and loss of property, nevertheless, were staggering.

The Weather Bureau station at Boothville, Louisiana, especially constructed to resist hurricanes, survived Camille's onslaught, but its staff had a narrow escape. The building sits on stilts that raise it 10½ feet above sea level. On Sunday, August 17, as Camille approached the gulf coast, meteorologist in charge Gerald O'Donnell, Douglas R. and Marion H. Grantham, Thomas Craig, and Virgil Coludrovich were on duty in the station. With the storm tide, water rose throughout the night until it entered the office and continued rising

until it reached a height of 4½ feet inside. At this point, the trapped group debated the advisability of swimming out. When a helicopter appeared to pick up residents of neighboring houses, the staff hailed it, letting the crew know they were trapped there. On Monday afternoon, an Army "duck" arrived to take the Weather Bureau staff to safety. They had been marooned for 24 hours. The station's ground equipment for upper-air soundings was destroyed by the storm. All of the Weather Bureau employees lost their automobiles and personal belongings. According to the Coast Guard, all houses were destroyed from Empire southward to the gulf. Empire is located approximately 10 miles northwest of Boothville. Arrangements are being made to take the upper-air soundings at NASA's Mississippi Test Facility at Bay St. Louis, Miss. Most of the Bureau's second order stations in the stricken area are out of commission.

In the wake of Hurricane Camille, the Coast Survey's Aero Commander was quickly dispatched to the scene for reconnaissance of the area. Aerial photos were taken of the area from Biloxi to Bay St. Louis in Mississippi, and rushed to the Photogrammetry Division in Rockville, Md., for processing. Several members of Hydrographic Field Party 742 were sent from Galveston, Tex., to survey the area on the ground while the Geodesy Division sent a man from New Orleans on a similar mission. It was anticipated that a part of the area would have to be surveyed, and damaged and missing bench marks replaced.

While Hurricane Camille caused havoc on the U.S. mainland, sister Hurricane Debbie was located about 600 miles east-northeast of San Juan and 750 miles southeast of Bermuda. A fleet of ESSA, U.S. Navy, and Air Force planes (Project

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Stormfury) carrying some 200 scientists and crew members prepared to seed the storm with silver iodide in an effort to learn whether the violence of such storms can be lessened. Observation planes began spying on Debbie three hours before the first seeding on August 18 and continued for 17 hours, watching the storm for three hours after the final seeding was completed. On August 20, the ESSA, Navy, and Air Force aircraft seeded Hurricane Debbie for the second time at intervals of two hours.

### Employee Training Income Is Taxable

Federal Personnel Manual Bulletin 410-41, "Taxable Status of Grants and Awards," reaffirms the Civil Service Commission's present practice of treating salary paid to employees in training as taxable income, and treating the payment of tuition, fees, and certain other incidental expenses as non-income to the employee.

### Dr. Cohen Addresses ESSA Summer Employees



Dr. Robert Cohen of ERL's Aeronomy Laboratory, Boulder, Colo., addresses a group of ESSA summer employees. Dr. Cohen, former Director of ERL's Jicamarca Observatory, presented his discussion of ionospheric research in South America in Spanish, since the majority of the summer aids are of Spanish-American descent.

### ATS-1 Film Usefulness Expanded

Films have been made daily from ATS-1 spin scan cloud camera pictures since early June. NESC's Applications Group is using these films to derive winds over the west coast of the United States and the Pacific. The program has been most successful since June 30, when the satellite was tilted and stabilized to get picture coverage throughout each day as far north as 50 degrees north latitude. This has increased the usefulness of the pictures two to three times. Resolution is now good enough to show details over the western United States, and zoomed-in movies of this area are being made in order to study weather phenomena of the West. Winds derived from these films are made available to NMC for use in daily operations.

### Jeffers To Serve on Coast Guard Cutter



Cdr. K. W. Jeffers will represent the Coast Survey aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter STORIS when it sails to the frigid Beaufort Sea north of Alaska for scientific studies on August 16. Cdr. Jeffers will serve as the Project Leader providing geodetic control for, and bathymetric analysis of this remote and normally ice-locked sea. The cruise is a joint effort of the Geological Survey, the Coast Guard, and ESSA.

### Second Micronesian Management Intern Selected

Lasaro R. Maipi, supervisory meteorological technician at the Truk Weather Bureau Office in the Eastern Caroline Islands, has been selected as the second Micronesian management intern. Mr. Maipi will arrive in Honolulu on August 27 to begin nine months of instruction in management and supervision at the Kapiolani Community College.

### Coast Guard Assumes Eniwetok Observations

The U.S. Coast Guard Loran Station at Eniwetok began a program of six-hourly weather observations on August 6, filling the void left by the closure of the Air Weather Service's station following the withdrawal of the Air Force's Western Test Range.

## Lovkay To Direct Equipment Development Lab.



John Lovkay has been appointed Director of the Equipment Development Laboratory in the Weather Bureau's Systems Development Office. Mr. Lovkay joined SDO and the Weather Bureau in 1965 after seven years with the United Aircraft Corp. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from M.I.T. in 1958 and was awarded a master's degree from the University of Connecticut in 1963.

## Publication Catalogs Alaskan Tsunamis

According to a publication--Catalog of Tsunamis in Alaska--authored by Doak C. Cox of the University of Hawaii and George Pararas-Carayannis of the Coast Survey, the 1964 Alaskan earthquake not only caused a trans-Pacific seismic sea wave, but also generated at least four local sea waves, some of them highly destructive to Alaskan communities. The publication states that the four tsunamis were localized in Valdez Inlet, Passage Canal, Prince William Sound, and Resurrection Bay, causing approximately \$40 million damage and 79 deaths, including 31 deaths and \$15 million damage at Valdez; 13 deaths and \$10 million damage at Whittier; 23 deaths at Chenega, which was totally destroyed; and 12 deaths and \$14.6 million damage at Seward. The authors said the local tsunamis were generated by shoreline and submarine slumping and possibly submarine faulting. The major tsunami was generated by the uplift of the continental shelf in the Gulf of Alaska.

## Shaw Sworn In First EDS Regional Oceanographer

Dr. David M. Shaw, who will serve at the University of Rhode Island as the first Environmental Data Service Regional Oceanographer, was sworn in at ESSA's Rockefeller Center installation on August 15 by Dr. Gerald Barger of EDS headquarters. Before his ESSA appointment, Dr. Shaw was a lecturer at the City College of New York and a graduate research assistant at the Lamont Geological Observatory of Columbia University.

## Tribus Attends Hail Forecasting Meeting

Dr. Myron Tribus, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Science and Technology, participated in an intra-ESSA meeting on hail forecasting in Kansas City, Mo., August 13. Other participants included Dr. Edwin Kessler, Director, National Severe Storms Laboratory; Donald House, Chief, Atmospheric Science Services Division, and members of the staffs of the National Severe Storms Forecast Center and the Weather Bureau Central Region headquarters.

## Commissioned Corps Stars on TV

Lieutenants Christian Andreason and Merritt H. Walter appeared on a 30-minute television show in Charleston, S.C., entitled "Shades of Blue," during July. This was the first time the ESSA Commissioned Corps had been represented. The program centered on a discussion of ESSA missions, the officers of the Commissioned Corps and the work being conducted in Charleston by the USC&GS Ships RUDE and HECK.

## Prototype Buoy Tested in Atlantic

The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter SHERMAN left Boston for Ocean Station BRAVO on July 20 with a prototype buoy for the satellite-interrogated buoy system on board. The buoy will be moored where the sea depth is 12,000 feet. A watch will be maintained to record the sea-keeping capabilities of the mooring, the buoy, and the dummy antenna and sensors mounted on the mast of the buoy.

## New EDS Weather Publication Available

Climates of the World -- a 32-page publication produced by EDS' Foreign Branch containing maps showing worldwide precipitation and seasonal temperature, and narrative summaries of climatic conditions for each continent -- is now available. Climates of the World updates similar data which appeared in Climate and Man, the 1941 Yearbook of Agriculture and to the extent possible, provides data for at least one location in each nation of the world. Also included are tables giving seasonal and extreme temperature and monthly, annual, and extreme precipitation and a back of the book section showing worldwide extremes of temperature and precipitation. The publication is available for 35 cents per copy from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

## Foreign Dignitaries Tour Clemson, S. C., Office



Mahmond Abdulghani of Jordan and Zainal Zain of Indonesia visited the Clemson, S.C. Weather Bureau Office, July 28-August 1. Under the guidance of Alex J. Kish, they studied Weather Bureau services to agriculture in S. C. Left to right: Mr. Kish, Mr. Abdulghani, and Mr. Zain.

## Correction

Captain Roger F. Lanier, ESSA commissioned officer, will become the commanding officer of the RAINIER, rather than the SURVEYOR as stated in the August 15, 1969 issue of ESSA NEWS.

## Length-of-Service Awards

The following employees in the Weather Bureau's Eastern Region are eligible for length-of-service awards during July, August, and September: 40 years - Alfred B. Kline, Williamsport, Pa. 30 years - Harold L. Choate, Washington, D. C.; Walter A. Mincz, Richmond, Va.; John W. Corbett, Boston, Mass.; Hervey A. Pelletier, Providence, R.I.; William Winston, Cincinnati, Ohio. 25 years - Paul E. Croteau, Beckley, W. Va.; Charles V. Lindsay, Washington, D. C.; Edward G. Jacob, Mansfield, Ohio; James T. McDonald, Bridgeport, Conn.; Dolores Winslow, Portland, Maine; Warren Silverzahn, Hartford, Conn.; Dorothy Chapman, Norfolk, Va.; Benjamin Fox, New York, N.Y.; William E. MacGregor, Roanoke, Va.; Anthony E. Tancreto, New York, N.Y. 20 years - Robert E. Lynde, Boston, Mass.; Gordon W. Harris, Washington, D. C.; James T. Schultz, Cleveland, Ohio; Harry Terban, Boston, Mass.; George M. Foster, Wallops Island, Va.; Robert J. Mullin, Wallops Island, Va.

## Coast Survey Ships Locate Civil War Vessels

The wrecks of three Civil War blockade runners have been located off Charleston, S. C., by the USC&GS wire drag vessels RUDE and HECK. The wrecks lay one on top of the other, covered by about 7.3 feet of water.

## Greening, Eastern Region Hydrologist, Dies

Richard M. Greening, the Weather Bureau's Eastern Regional Hydrologist, died August 18. Greening joined the Bureau as a meteorologist at the Cincinnati River Forecast Center. He also served in Fort Worth and Augusta. He was appointed Regional Hydrologist at the Bureau's Eastern Regional Headquarters late in 1964.

## Okerlund, Retired EDS Employee, Dies

Walter Okerlund, a former Weather Bureau and then Environmental Data Service employee, died August 6. Mr. Okerlund retired in 1965 after 36 years of Federal service.

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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, Building 5, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243.

# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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