



DR. HALLGREN WINS FLEMMING AWARD



Dr. Richard E. Hallgren, Director of ESSA's Office of World Weather Systems, has received the Arthur S. Flemming Award, which honors the 10 most outstanding young men in government. Dr. Hallgren is the first ESSA recipient of the coveted award. Presentation was made at the Flemming Award Banquet held in the main ballroom of the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C., on February 13 by Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall (right).

NINTH ESSA SATELLITE LAUNCH SCHEDULED

The ninth ESSA weather satellite will be launched on or about Feb. 26 from the Eastern Test Range, Cape Kennedy, Fla. If the launch is successful, the new spacecraft will serve as the primary stored-data satellite in the operational system. Like ESSA 3, 5, and 7, it contains an array of atmospheric radiation sensors to gather information for research on the earth's heat balance.

NEW VISIBILITY SENSOR TESTED

The Weather Bureau's Test and Evaluation Laboratory at the Sterling Research and Development Center in Virginia is testing a novel transmissometer that uses a simple gas laser, at the request of the Federal Aviation Administration. The purpose of the program is to learn if the instrument can be used successfully to calibrate the standard transmissometer--an essential airfield runway visual range sensor--during low visibilities. The laser device may also be useful for objective observations of meteorological visibility. Robert J. McCann, task leader for the effort, is assisted by David H. George, both members of the Laboratory's Observation Techniques Development and Test Branch.



DODGE APPOINTED ESSA STAFF ATTORNEY

Douglas C. Dodge, who recently served as a Captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the U.S. Army, has been appointed an ESSA Staff Attorney. Mr. Dodge holds a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University and a Doctorate of Law from Wayne State University. He will be responsible for providing legal support for litigations arising out of ESSA activities, particularly in the aviation and marine areas. Mr. Dodge was awarded the Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam.

WB MAN RECEIVES COMMERCE BRONZE MEDAL



George G. Rabbitt, Program Support Officer in the Weather Bureau's Overseas Operations Division, received the Department of Commerce Bronze Medal "in recognition of over 40 years of dedicated U.S. Government service, primarily in logistic support of overseas field stations" during a ceremony held in the Office of Interoceanic Canal Stud-

ies, Canal Zone, on Jan. 14. Arthur J. Youmans, Operations Manager, Interoceanic Canal Project, made the presentation. Mr. Rabbitt entered the Weather Bureau in 1929, where he remained until he joined the U.S. Marines in 1940. He returned to the Bureau in 1946 and progressed through a series of assignments with the Arctic Operations Project until his latest assignment as Program Support Officer to the ESSA Interoceanic Canal Project in 1966. Mr. Rabbitt's current assignment involves flights by light aircraft and helicopter over the unexplored jungles of Panama and Columbia, and assistance to advance parties who established the weather stations with the attendant hardship of living in jungle camps with disease-carrying insects and poisonous snakes a constant threat. Shown left to right are: Col. Alex G. Sutton, Field Director for the Canal Project; A. B. Arnett, ESSA Field Director; George Rabbit; Mrs. Rabbit and two daughters; and Arthur J. Youmans.

EXPERIMENTAL TSUNAMI WARNING SYSTEM PLANNED

Under a \$45,700 contract, ESSA and the University of Hawaii will establish a new experimental tsunami warning system to augment the one which now warns Hawaiians of seismic sea waves generated by undersea earthquakes. The experimental system, designed to provide earlier information on locally generated tsunamis, will consist of seismic and hydraulic gage stations on various islands. Signals from these will be telemetered by radio to the Coast Survey's observatory at Ewa Beach, Oahu. Three stations will be established on the Big Island in cooperation with the U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaii Volcano Observatory and another will be installed on Maui. An existing hydraulic gage near Kona on Hawaii Island, plus a new one to be installed on the Island of Punaluu, will also be used. In addition, a permanent ocean bottom tsunami recorder using a mid-ocean pressure sensor will be assembled and placed under an ocean station ship located north of the Hawaiian Islands. If the experimental system provides reliable results, it will be added to the Pacific tsunami warning system.

NEW ORLEANS AIRPORT SURVEYED

A Coast Survey party, headed by William M. Reynolds, is conducting a field survey of New Orleans (La.) International Airport.

WB HYDROLOGISTS TRAIN FOREIGN NATIONALS



William E. Hiatt, Associate Director of the Weather Bureau for Hydrology, welcomed the first group of participants to the Hydrologic Analysis and Forecasting Course for Foreign Nationals, held at Weather Bureau headquarters. The course, which began Feb. 10,

consists of 12 weeks of lectures by the Office of Hydrology and five weeks of training at selected River Forecast Centers. Left to right: Max A. Kohler and Thomas Zickus, Office of Hydrology; Abdul Mustapha, Canada; Elias Eliasson, Iceland; William E. Hiatt; Richard Bennett, Canada; Nelson Kauffman, RFC, Harrisburg, Pa.; Duane Moyer, RFC, Atlanta, Ga.; Donald Oldmixon, WBO, Brownsville, Tex.; Walter Kreuder, Canada; and Joseph Schiesl, Office of Hydrology.

WALLOPS STATION MIC ACCEPTS BOY SCOUT PLAQUE



Joel Stokes, neighborhood chairman, Boy Scouts of America, presents the Del-Mar-Va Plaque to Lloyd W. Chamberlain (right), meteorologist in charge, Weather Bureau Support Facility, Wallops Island, Va., for the station's support in conducting weather courses for Del-Mar-Va Council Boy Scouts. Wallops personnel set up the instruments and instructed the Scouts in

the reading and recording of weather information. Ninety weather merit badges and 150 partial weather merit badges were issued to area Scouts last summer.

1968 EARTHQUAKES CAUSED NO U.S. DEATHS

The Coast Survey's National Earthquake Information Center has reported that the United States escaped earthquake fatalities for the third successive year despite 257 important earth tremors experienced in 21 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands during 1968. The last fatalities in this country occurred in 1965 in the Puget Sound earthquake, when seven died.

SERVICE AWARDS

Length-of-service awards were presented to the following Coast Survey Atlantic Marine Center employees on Feb. 10: Fred Bean and Elgan T. Jenkins, 30 years; Rexford E. Smith, Jr., and Margaret S. Kellum, 25 years; Madge M. Hassell and Thomas K. Orlovski, 20 years.

WB Central Region employees eligible for service awards during February are: 35 years - Gerald T. Beall, Minneapolis, Minn. 25 years - Walter C. Amelunke, Louisville, Ky.; Charles E. Harris, Wichita, Kans.; Helen L. Berridge, Kansas City, Mo.; Paul L. Brederman, Kansas City, Mo. 20 years - Harold D. Bearce, Kansas City, Mo.; Robert J. Wyckoff, Denver, Colo.; Peter S. Janak, Denver, Colo.; Walter E. Hamlin, Dodge City, Kans.; Lorne E. Baily, Williston, N. Dak.; Walter S. Spuhler, Brookings, S. Dak.; and Anne M. Oxmann, St. Louis, Mo.

Helen B. Ingle and Raymond Haley, Washington-area ESSA employees have received 30-year length-of-service awards.

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

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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