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ESSA NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

In recent months, the crisis of the environment has risen as a dramatic issue of public concern. It is an issue that involves us all, as private citizens as well as members of a public agency functioning in the environmental sphere.

One result of this new environmental awareness has been an upsurge in interest by the youth of America. On April 22, a nationwide teach-in will take place in many communities and academic institutions throughout the nation. It is anticipated that at these gatherings large numbers of students will discuss the environmental problems of our society.

Most of the teach-ins will be local in nature. Because ESSA operations are deeply ingrained in local communities, this may present an opportunity for us to gain heightened awareness of the concerns of those communities.

The teach-ins will vary widely in sponsorship, tone and substance. In some cases participation may not be desirable or even sought. However, I encourage the exchange of information, and official participation, in the events of April 22 in response to invitations from the properly constituted leadership of accepted educational and community institutions.

I hope that staff and field offices will inform themselves of environmental teach-in activities scheduled in their areas and, within these guidelines, consider the roles their professionals might play, as we seek to carry out and improve those ESSA programs so vital to a harmonious relationship between man and his environment.

Robert M. White

Six ESSA Employees Honored For Editorial Achievement



Left to right: F. S. Farquhar, E. Koehler, L. Paavola, L. Leipold, H. Hoener, and J. Bernick.

Special Achievement Awards for outstanding editorial accomplishments were recently presented to John Bernick, Edward Koehler, Lila Paavola, and Helen Hoener of the Scientific Information and Documentation Division's editorial staff, and to Bernard H. Chovitz of the Coast Survey's Physical Geodesy Branch. The group performance award was in recognition of their collective efforts in producing the 416-page ESSA Monograph 2, "Mathematical Geodesy," a basic scientific publication in modern geodesy by the late Martin Hotine. Frank Farquhar and Louis Leipold of the editorial staff, and Fergus Wood, Coast Survey Physical Scientist in the Scientific Data and Services Division, received awards "in recognition of their collective editorial achievements in producing the 1166-page, three-volume ESSA publication, "The Prince William Sound, Alaska, Earthquake of 1964 and Aftershocks." Mr. Farquhar will retire after almost 34 years of Government service on Apr. 17.

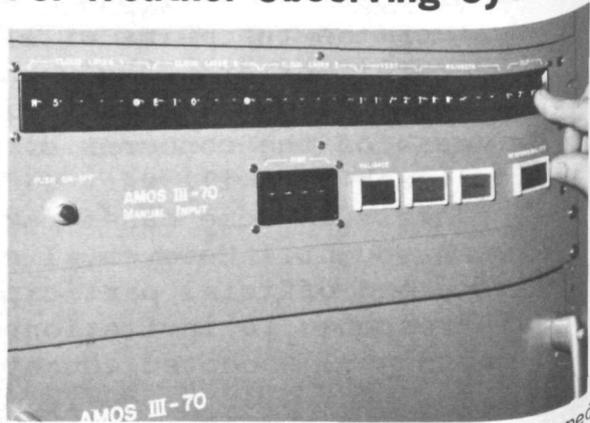
First Phase of Gulf Coast Survey Completed

The first phase of a federal geodetic survey of Mississippi's gulf coast and islands off Mississippi and Alabama has been completed by the Coast Survey. The 200-mile, \$100,000 survey was made in the area hardest hit by Hurricane Camille, along the shore between Biloxi and Pascagoula, and on Cat, Ship, Horn, Dauphin, Petit Bois, and Chandeleur islands. Additional surveys in the area are planned for next year.

ESSA Scientists Assess Lightning Hazards During Apollo 13 Launch

While the Apollo 13 spacecraft is being readied for launch at the Kennedy Space Center in Miami, Fla., Dr. Heinz W. Kasemir and his team from ERL will probe nearby clouds from a specially equipped research aircraft to measure the electric fields inside any existing clouds along the vehicle's flight path before liftoff. The scientists also plan to measure the electric field on the rocket itself, while flying at an altitude of 15,000 feet some two miles north of the launch pad during the Saturn's flight. Actual measurements of the electric field on a rocket have never been made and are an unknown quantity. The flights are part of a National Aeronautics and Space Administration research contract to develop a lightning warning system and techniques for suppressing lightning along a rocket's flight path.

Manual Input Device Designed For Weather Observing System



A manual input device recently designed for the Weather Bureau's AMOS III-70 will permit a human observer to add a number of weather parameters to the automatic meteorological observing station's messages. The "input drawer," built and tested by the Bureau's Systems Development Office, allows the observer to enter three cloud layer heights (low, middle, and high), visibility, weather and obstructions to visibility, and sea level pressure. The device can be operated from an observation point up to two miles from the AMOS III-70.

New Nimbus Launched

NASA's Nimbus-4 spacecraft, successfully launched at 3:18 a.m. EST, April 8, carries an improved version of the Satellite Infrared Spectrometer (SIRS), developed by ESSA's National Environmental Satellite Center. In addition to providing data on vertical temperature distribution in the atmosphere beneath the satellite, the new instrument--known as SIRS B--is designed to measure the distribution of water vapor in the atmosphere. Also, it looks to the left and right of the orbital path, obtaining greater geographical coverage than the original SIRS on Nimbus-3, which always looks straight down.

Weighing a record 1,366 pounds, the newest satellite in the Nimbus series is expected to transmit the most information on the atmosphere ever returned from space. Its camera and radiometer systems will provide day and night photographs for local and global readout. An Interrogation Recording and Location System will collect data from remote platforms. Other experiments aboard the spacecraft will monitor atmospheric ozone, water vapor, and temperature, and will measure the ultraviolet radiation flux from the sun.

Personnel Officers Conference Scheduled

A Personnel Officers' Conference will be held at ESSA headquarters, Apr. 20-24. One of the highlights of the conference will be the sessions on Labor-Management Relations attended by national union officials, Apr. 21-22.

Coast Survey Ships To Map Alaskan Waters

Six Coast and Geodetic Survey vessels will be charting and mapping Alaskan waters this year. The ships and their operating schedules are: FAIRWEATHER - Peril Strait, April - May, Glacier Bay, June - September; RAINIER - Bering Sea, mid-April - May, Norton Sound, June - September; PATHFINDER - Lower Cook Inlet, May - mid-September; DAVIDSON - Keku Strait, Southeast Alaska, May - October; MCARTHUR - Nichols Passage, Southeast Alaska, June - October; and SURVEYOR - Gulf of Alaska, August - September.

Carnahan Sworn In April 6



Left to right: Mr. Carnahan, Mr. Dorsey, and Dr. White

Robert L. Carnahan was sworn in as ESSA Deputy Assistant Administrator for Administration and Technical Services in a ceremony held at ESSA headquarters, April 6.

During the same ceremony, Dr. R. M. White, ESSA Administrator, presented a 35-year service award to Guy H. Dorsey, ESSA Personnel Officer, and a 40-year pin to Charles G. Reeves, meteorologist in the Weather Bureau's Weather Analysis and Prediction Division.



Mr. Reeves

Boyer Represents C&GS At Canadian Institute

Capt. John O. Boyer, Chief of the Coast Survey's Marine Chart Division, will represent the Coast Survey at the annual meeting of the Canadian Institute of Surveying in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Apr. 14-18.

Swan Island Management Shifted To Weather Bureau Division

Management responsibilities for Swan Island, West Indies, will be transferred to the Weather Bureau's Overseas Operations Division, effective July 1. Proposed staffing will include one physical science technician, one supervisory meteorological technician, and three meteorological technicians.

Kurtz Is San Diego MIC



Emil S. Kurtz has been named meteorologist in charge of the San Diego Weather Bureau Office, succeeding A. W. Anderson who retires this month. Mr. Kurtz's last position was a guidance forecaster at the Weather Bureau Forecast Office, Los Angeles, where he had been assigned for

the past 20 years. Earlier in his career, he was stationed in San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Washington, D.C., and Billings, Mont. From 1947 to 1949, he supervised a staff of meteorologists at Shannon International Airport for the Irish Meteorological Service under a cooperative agreement with the Weather Bureau.

OCEANOGRAPHER Crewmen Cited



Four crewmen of the USC&GSS OCEANOGRAPHER have received ESSA Special Achievement Awards for outstanding performance of duties, in addition to cash awards ranging from \$200 to \$350. Presenting the awards is Cdr. Wesley V. Hull, Executive Officer (at left). Recipients (left to right) are: Gordon H. Lochrie, Chief Yeoman; Ivan H. Olsen, Chief Boatswain; Jose Velasquez, Chief Marine Engineer; and Elmer H. Larsen, Chief Survey Technician.

Length-of-Service Awards

The following employees were eligible to receive length-of-service awards during the first quarter of 1970:

Weather Bureau Pacific Region

30 years - Myron H. Kerner. 25 years - Kazue Anzai. 20 years - Chester T. Kainuma.

Weather Bureau Southern Region

30 years - Frank W. Eldred, Albuquerque, N. M.; Joseph L. Rash, Little Rock, Ark.; Ernest W. McCracken, Memphis, Tenn.; and John H. Cornish, Tulsa, Okla. 25 years - Alois M. Huber, Nashville, Tenn.; Harold E. Cross, Houston, Tex.; Richard E. Splaine, Miami; James G. Taylor, Miami; Randall M. Fuller, Fort Worth, Tex.; Carl P. Arrington, Atlanta, Ga.; Harold E. Richards, Fort Worth, Tex.; James S. Klazynski, Memphis, Tenn.; and John G. Boyd, Miami. 20 years - Dorus D. Alderman, Memphis, Tenn.; Charles E. Ridge, Jackson, Miss.; Lewis M. Croom, Fort Worth, Tex.; and Jessie R. Aldridge, Jr., Montgomery, Ala.

C&GS Mid-Continent Field Area

25 years - Charles M. Call, Triangulation Party G-21; and Matthew C. Allison, Leveling Party G-36. 20 years - Johnnie Tusing, Jr., Leveling Party G-36.

Washington-area

35 years - Gilbert K. Fissell and G. Carper Tewinkel (C&GS). 30 years - Hugo V. Goodyear, James F. O'Connor, Dever Colson, Joseph Szokolsky, and Dana A. Blandin (WB); Birdsall J. Morrill, Ronald L. Viets, William R. Gale, William R. Burke, Irving W. Luskey, Jr.; and Jerome Browne (C&GS). 25 years - Alma B. West (ADTECH); George P. Cressman, Gene N. Melvin and Edna E. King (WB); George C. Holmes, Gill R. Brown, Jack E. Davis, and Aurore A. Lafrenaye (C&GS). 20 years - Mary G. Sugrue (Office of Administrator); Gabriel J. Bren (ADTECH); Roger R. Watkins (WB); Melvin A. Cabiness and Marvin Emminizer (C&GS); Kathryn Stepanek and Herbert C. Gladding (NESC).

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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