

# ESSA NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

## DISCOVERER To Probe Atlantic in Two-Month Investigation

The USC&GSS DISCOVERER is scheduled to leave Miami July 7, for a two-month investigation of the bottom of the North Atlantic between North America and Africa, to be conducted by scientists from the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories. One purpose of the 7000-mile expedition is to determine if North America was once joined to Africa. The east coast of the United States and the northwest coast of Africa are considered by many prominent scientists to have been joined ages ago, with Cape Hatteras against Cap Blanc. The ESSA scientists will seek information about the growth and development of the Atlantic Ocean basin as the North American and African continents split and drifted apart to their present positions. The ship will work along a 250-mile-wide path between Cape Hatteras and Cap Blanc. The expedition will also seek geophysical information on active earthquake zones. Peter A. Rona will be the expedition's



*The North Atlantic may have looked like this when the continents surrounding it began to drift apart.*

chief scientist on the leg to Africa. Reginald N. Harbison will be chief scientist on the return trip. The DISCOVERER's commanding officer is Capt. Hubert W. Keith, Jr.

## First ITOS Satellite Turned Over to ESSA for Operational Use

The first of the second generation of weather satellites designed for operational use by ESSA has been checked out by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and was turned over to ESSA by NASA for operational duty on June 15.

Improved TIROS Operational Satellite-1 (ITOS-1), launched from the Western Test Range, Lompoc, Calif., Jan. 23 by NASA, was given an exhaustive five-month engineering checkout before it was declared ready for operational use. NASA developed and paid for this first ITOS, with

later spacecraft to be paid for by ESSA.

Operational coverage from weather satellites will be more than doubled with the use of ITOS-1 due to its capability of taking day and night cloud cover pictures. Earlier operational satellites return only daytime cloud cover photos.

The 682-pound spacecraft is in a near-polar orbit ranging between 890 and 918 miles altitude, orbits the earth every 15 minutes and is inclined 78 degrees (retrograde) to the Equator.

## Florwick Is Named AOML Liaison Officer



Lieutenant Commander Donald J. Florwick is the new Liaison Officer at the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories, Miami. His primary task is to coordinate AOML field projects with C&GS ships. Lt. Cdr. Florwick recently completed graduate studies at Texas

A & M University. Prior to that, he was commanding officer of the USC&GS Ships RUDE and HECK. Lt. Cdr. Florwick joined the Coast Survey in 1961.

## Tampa and N.Y. Banquets Honor Weather Services' Centennial

A Weather Services Centennial banquet, sponsored by news media, industry, grower associations, and the West Central Florida Chapter of the American Meteorological Society, was held at McDill Air Force Base, Fla., May 13. Attending, in addition to sponsoring organizations, were both active and retired Weather Bureau personnel, military weather personnel, radio and television weathercasters, and management. Centennial medals were presented to the mayors of St. Petersburg, Tampa, and Lakeland, Fla.

The Weather Bureau and chapters of the American Meteorological Society in the greater N. Y. - N. J. metropolitan area celebrated the U.S. Weather Services Centennial and the Golden Anniversary of the AMS, May 27. Jerome Kretchmer, Administrator of New York City's Environmental Protection Administration, gave the principal address.

## Equal Employment Opportunity Committee Established at ESSA



Dr. R. M. White, ESSA Administrator, and G. H. Dorsey, ESSA Personnel Officer (both seated at right), with ESSA's EEO committee.

Individual Equal Employment Opportunity Committees have been established for the Washington-based activities of the Weather Bureau, Coast and Geodetic Survey, ESSA Research Laboratories, Environmental Data Service, National Environmental Satellite Center, Office of the Administrator, and Office of Administration and Technical Services due to the large number of employees offering to serve. These separate organizations elected one or more of their members to act as representatives on the ESSA EEO Committee. The representatives serve as a resource group to suggest ap-

proaches and innovations, to review the plans of action, and to suggest changes or modifications to the EEO program.

Alonzo Smith, Jr., of the Weather Bureau's National Meteorological Center, was elected chairman of the ESSA EEO Committee. Other elected members were: Milton G. Johnson, Office of the Administrator; Milton E. Smith, ERL; C. E. Cotten, ADTECH; Aaron Woodard, NESG; Samuel H. Dean, EDS; Evelyn L. Boston, WB; William E. Eggert, WB; Ola B. Watford, C&GS; Frank V. Garcia, C&GS; Ernest E. Kyle, Jr., C&GS; and Edward A. Trott, C&GS.

## Research Flight Facility Crews Take Air Force Survival Course



RFF crews study life rafts and equipment during water survival course.

The hurricane hunter crews of the Research Flight Facility, Miami, recently completed the Air Force's water survival course for downed aviators at Homestead Air Force Base as part of their intensive flight safety program. The course was designed to keep them current on survival equipment and rescue procedures. One phase of the training consisted of an extended period of time in a raft in the open sea and individual pickup and rescue

by helicopter.

The RFF is completing its 12th year of flight operations without an accident. RFF Acting Director William S. Callahan attributes the outstanding safety record of the unit largely to the continuing training and proficiency program designed to keep the crews alert to the latest techniques in their skills and to be able to anticipate and react to emergencies.

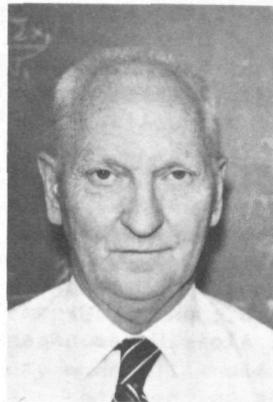
## Algermissen on Research Assignment in Chile



Dr. S. T. Algermissen, chief of the Coast Survey's Geophysics Research Group, is spending six months at the University of Chile's Department of Geophysics in Santiago to study tsunami and earthquake problems. The study is sponsored by the University and the Organization of American States. The work will involve research in Chile and surrounding areas on earthquake locations and focal mechanisms pertinent to improving the tsunami warning system in the Pacific. Carl Stepp will serve as acting chief of the Geophysics Research Group during Dr. Algermissen's absence.

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## Thom Assists HUD / NSF Programs



H. C. S. Thom of EDS has been named to a Subpanel on Systems' Applicability to Environment, part of the Advisory Panel to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The four subpanels and six task groups, established under the Committee's Technical Panel,

will provide indepth information for Operation Breakthrough-- HUD's program to promote volume production of housing at reasonable costs. Mr. Thom will also serve on an NSF-sponsored committee to plan a conference on the engineering problems of wind and wind-structure interaction.

## Boise WBO Changed to Forecast Office

The Weather Bureau Office at Boise, Idaho, will be designated a Weather Bureau Forecast Office, June 22. The Boise Forecast Office will become responsible for issuing twice daily the official weather forecasts for Idaho south of the Salmon River. In the past, these forecasts were prepared in Salt Lake City. The professional staff of the new Boise office has been increased to enable the office to maintain a continuous watch of weather and river conditions 24 hours a day.

## WB Personnel Attend Ga. Forestry Meeting



Weather Bureau Forestry Meteorologists and Fire Weather Forecasters from the Southern, Central, and Eastern Regions attended the annual meeting of the Southern Forest Fire Chiefs and Information and Education Chiefs held in Macon, Ga., May 19-20. The meeting focused attention on the nation's forestry areas and provided an opportunity to review the effectiveness of the Weather Bureau's services for this specialized user group. Attending were, left to right: E. Rodney, Asheville, N.C.; R. Ogden, Little Rock, Ark.; R. Mitchem, Montgomery, Ala.; S. Cravens, Garden City, N.Y.; T. Trimble, Fort Worth, Tex.; L. Waas, Jackson, Miss.; R. Davis, Oklahoma City, Okla.; D. Ellis, Raleigh, N.C.; C. Prescott, Tallahassee, Fla.; R. Haug, St. Louis, Mo.; D. Stoffer, Cincinnati, Ohio; P. Hagerty, Macon, Ga.; J. Kanupp, Columbia, S.C.; and L. Croom, Macon, Ga. Not shown: Alois Huber, Nashville, Tenn.

## Two Junior Science Fellows Named at NCC



Judy C. Cowan (left) and Audrey D. Byrd (right), 1970 graduates of Asheville High School, Asheville, N.C., have been awarded Department of Commerce Junior Science Fellowships and assigned to EDS' National Climatic Center. The Junior Science Fellows are high school graduates with outstanding academic records who have been admitted to accredited colleges. These Junior Fellows will do scientific work at the National Climatic Center while pursuing their college careers.

## Richard Jackson, EDS Clerk, Retires

Richard M. Jackson, file clerk at EDS' National Climatic Center, Asheville, N.C., was honored at a retirement luncheon, June 12. Mr. Jackson, who has been at NCC since 1953, has completed 24 years of federal service.

\$11.50/PERSON	OPTIONAL DRESS
<b>ESSA AWARDS NIGHT DINNER DANCE</b>	
FRIDAY * JULY 10, 1970	
INDIAN SPRING COUNTRY CLUB 13501 LAYHILL ROAD * SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND	
COCKTAILS 7pm. * DINNER 8pm. * DANCING 10pm. - 1am.	

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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