

ESSA NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

A Message From the Administrator

The 1970 Bond Campaign has closed and I wish to thank all of those who participated by purchasing bonds and all those who worked so diligently to make the campaign a success.

More than 63 percent of ESSA employees have purchased bonds, including 553 who were not buying bonds when the campaign started in May. In addition, more than 500 buyers increased their allotments

during the 1970 campaign.

I should like to emphasize that bonds may be purchased throughout the year, and I urge you to continue your support to our government through this sound investment program.

Again, I wish to thank the key men and others who supported this very worthy and important program.

Robert M. White

Open House Tours Held at World Weather Center

About 1000 Washington-area residents toured the World Weather Center at Suitland, Md., during an Open House, held July 12, to celebrate the fifth anniversary of ESSA. A fully equipped mobile van, used in the Weather Bureau's urban air pollution forecast service, was on display outside the Center. The visitors

were shown the operations of the Space-flight Meteorology Group, the Washington Forecast Center, Extended Forecast Division, the Satellite Experiment Laboratory, and the NMC Charting Branch. Brochures describing the agency's services were available to the public.



Richard Britzenhofe explains operations of the WB's Space flight Meteorology Group.

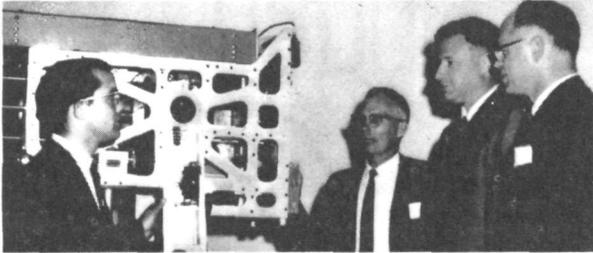


Weather Bureau's air pollution van fascinates spectators.



Mary Wyvill, ESSA hostess greets visitors to World Weather Center.

Earthquake Research Progress Reviewed at Boulder Labs



Left to right: Dr. E. Norman Hernandez of ERL; Dr. L. R. Alldredge, Earth Sciences Laboratories Director; Dr. W. N. Hess, ERL Director; and Dr. John E. Oliver of Columbia University.

Earthquake experts met at the ESSA Research Laboratories in Boulder, Colo., last week, to review the current state of the art in earthquake research. The two-day meetings, sponsored by the Earthquake Research Committee, an ESSA panel that monitors the progress of earthquake studies by ESSA scientists and by contractors and grantees at various universities, were attended by earth scientists from the laboratories, other ESSA units, and Columbia University, Stanford University, and the Colorado School of Mines. Many of the papers presented during the meetings described the programs or techniques for improved and expanded observations of movements within the earth. Studies of California and Alaska fault zones--areas that are part of the great zone of earthquake activity that encircles the Pacific--received careful consideration.

SURVEYOR's Alaskan Cruise Aids Five Federal Agencies

Five government agencies benefited from the USC&GS Ship SURVEYOR'S 1969 cruise in the Bering Sea's Norton Sound. As a part of its Alaskan research program, the ship collected sediment, water plankton and biological samples, and conducted bathymetric and seismic studies for the Geological Survey, U.S. Public Health Service, the U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Representatives of the Geological Survey and the University of California at Los Angeles also conducted studies aboard the ship.

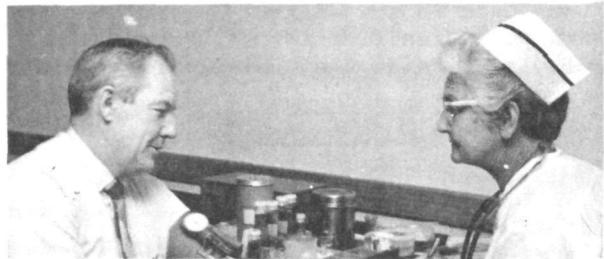
WB Tests New Upper Wind Measurement System

A Weather Bureau van, equipped with antennas and electronic equipment, has started a 5,000-mile journey around the nation to test the feasibility of using existing radio navigation facilities to track high-flying balloon-borne weather instruments (radiosondes). The advantage of the technique used in this experimental system is that very accurate measurements of upper winds can be made, and the ground equipment does not require large, precision radio tracking antennas used with conventional wind-finding systems. The system being tested is more economical than conventional wind-finding gear and, because of its compactness, lends itself readily to mobile applications such as observations for air pollution, forecasting for forest-fire control operations, measuring winds from moving ships, and other weather service operations. The expendable radiosondes used with this system cost about the same as those used in conventional systems.

Safety Committee Chairman Reelected

Milton Aronstam, ESSA Safety Officer, has agreed to serve as chairman of the Commerce Department's Safety Committee for another term, at the request of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Administration Larry A. Jobe.

ESSA Exceeds Blood Donor Quota



Creighton DeMarr (left), C&GS Geodesy Division employee, served as both recruiter and donor.

The ESSA blood donor program, conducted at ESSA headquarters on June 30 was highly successful. ESSA exceeded its blood quota when the Red Cross collected 132 pints of blood. This guarantees all ESSA Washington-area employees and their families full coverage for another year.

Eighteen ESSA Employees Honored in Headquarters Ceremony



Eighteen employees of ESSA's Office of Administration and Technical Services, received certificates denoting cash awards for quality increases for superior service from Theodore P. Gleiter, Assistant Administrator for Administration and Technical Services, in a June 23 ceremony. Front row, left to right: Marianne Clemmer,

Blanche G. Lanier, Helen Stafford, Marilyn Ocando, Theodore P. Gleiter, Esther Heras, Louis X. Williams, and William C. Truly. Back row, left to right: Richard E. Foster, Bruce Benton, Gene Triplett, Orval Turner, Albert J. Colman, Andrew Husser, Clarence Trammell, and Lacey W. Smith. Not pictured are Ann Klein, Robert W. Smith, and Priscilla E. Jackson.

Vietnam Veterans Launched In Weather Bureau Careers

As a result of President Nixon's Executive Order No. 11521, effective April 9, 1970, giving preferential treatment to discharged veterans who have served during the Vietnam conflict, six recently discharged Fort Worth veterans have been hired by the Weather Bureau. The six Army, Navy, and Air Force veterans--a former PX manager, aircraft mechanic, mail clerk, accountant, drill instructor, and mess steward--have had no previous weather observing experience. Each will be given specialized training in making radiosonde and aviation weather observations before being assigned to duty stations in the Southern Region.

The Weather Bureau is among the first agencies to seek out veterans, screening its six new recruits from eighteen applicants. Jay Neel, Southern Region Personnel Management Specialist, is primarily responsible for the program's successful implementation.

Bigler Elected To AMS Meteorology Group

Stuart G. Bigler, chief of the Weather Bureau's Sounding Systems Branch, has been elected to membership on the American Meteorological Society's Committee on Radar Meteorology for a three-year term. Mr. Bigler served on the committee from 1958 to 1966.

Luhrs To Head C&GS Headquarters Unit



Lawrence B. Luhrs has been appointed to head Systems, Plans, and Analysis in the Coast Survey's Office of Systems Development. The unit is responsible for operations research, economic analysis, cost effectiveness and other managerial analytical functions.

A major project will be the design and acquisition of automated systems for the Coast Survey. Before joining the agency, Mr. Luhrs was a management consultant in the earth, environmental, and computer sciences.

Andreasen Assigned To C&GS Headquarters



Lt. Cdr. Christian Andreasen has been appointed chief of the Planning and Methodology Branch of the Coast Survey's Geodesy Division. Last year, Lt. Cdr. Andreasen was commanding officer of the Coast Survey's two wire drag vessels, the USC&GSS RUDE and HECK. In his new

assignment, he will provide technical and administrative assistance to all units engaged in triangulation, leveling, astronomic, and gravity surveys.

Goldman, Muller, and Pannuto Win 1970 Professional Awards

Louis Goldman, WBFO Boston; Robert E. Muller, WBFO Raleigh; and Robert J. Pannuto, WBO Hartford, are this year's winners of the Weather Bureau Eastern Region's Awards for Professionalism. The awards recognize those field forecasters and meteorological technicians who have done an outstanding job of advancing applied meteorology in the Weather Bureau.

Mr. Goldman was cited for developing a technique to objectively forecast afternoon surface winds at Boston. This technique has been successful in forecasting the sea breeze-- a difficult phenomenon to forecast at the station, and for preparing a comprehensive review of aviation terminal forecasts at Bangor, Me., to aid Boston aviation forecasters in preparing terminal forecasts.

Mr. Muller was honored for developing objective procedures to better utilize computer forecasts. He has also contributed to a new verification procedure for aviation forecasting.

From an evaluation of temperature forecast errors at his station, Mr. Pannuto has adapted a procedure to make short-range minimum temperature forecasts, and has prepared a comprehensive survey paper on sea breeze phenomena that has been provided to coastal stations. He is currently investigating the use of different predictable variables to improve summertime thunderstorm forecasting in Connecticut.

Coast Survey Resumes North American Survey

A two-year program to complete a highly accurate geodetic survey network linking Canada with Alaska and the lower 48 states has been resumed. The U.S.-Canadian satellite triangulation program was initiated in 1964 using the balloon satellites Echo 1 and Echo 2, but was suspended in 1966 when the successful launching of the satellite PAGEOS signaled the start of the worldwide satellite program. With field observation in the worldwide program now nearing completion, the way was cleared for resumption of the North American survey. The final phase of the operation will involve survey teams from Canada, the United States, and Great Britain. Satellite triangulation teams are being provided by the Coast Survey, the Army Topographic Command, the Canadian Departments of Energy, Mines and Resources and National Defence, and Great Britain. Lawrence W. Swanson, Coast Survey Project Manager, Geodetic Satellite, is coordinating the operation. Work on the present project will be carried out in three phases. From July to September of this year, camera teams will operate at Wrightwood, Calif.; Albuquerque, N. Mex.; Greenville, Miss.; Brownsville, Tex.; and Valparaiso, Florida.

From October through March 1971, teams will operate at Shemya, Cold Bay and Barrow in Alaska; Whitehorse and Cambridge Bay, Canada; and Moses Lake, Wash. The project will be completed in the period October 1971 through March 1972, with teams carrying out photography at Frobisher Bay and St. John's, Canada, Greenville, Miss.; Valparaiso, Florida; and Puerto Rico. Computer processing of the data obtained from the more than 1700 photographs that will be taken during the survey is expected to be completed by mid-1975.

Pardue Is Miami Museum President

Leonard G. Pardue, public warnings coordinator at the Weather Bureau's National Hurricane Center, recently took office as President of the Miami Museum of Science and Planetarium. Mr. Pardue served as vice president for two years, and on the Board of Trustees for three years.

Cost of Living Increase Annuity Approved; Eligibility Outlined

The cost of living increase for annuities has been approved by the Civil Service Commission. The amount of the annuity increase is 5.6 percent and applies to annuities commencing on or before August 1, 1970. To qualify for the 5.6 percent cost-of-living increase, an employee must be separated or his pay must cease no later than July 31, 1970.

It is anticipated that there will be some pending disability retirement cases in which the Commission will be unable, by July 31, 1970, to determine, and notify the agency, whether or not the applicant is totally disabled. In such a case, if the applicant is carried in pay status on sick or annual leave after July 31, 1970, he will not be eligible for the 5.6 percent annuity cost-of-living increase. To avoid loss of the increase, applicants may request, and agencies may grant, leave without pay from and including August 1, 1970.

If the claim is disallowed, sick or annual leave with pay may be retroactively substituted for the leave without pay. If the claim is allowed, the increased annuity commences August 1, 1970, accumulated annual leave is payable in a lump sum, and unused sick leave is used in com-

puting the annuity as in other retirement cases. However, where an appreciable amount of sick leave is involved, it may be more advantageous for the employee to remain in pay status on sick leave and be separated as of the date his sick leave expires, even though he would forfeit the cost-of-living increase by doing so, rather than to be separated upon approval of his retirement application and receive both the cost-of-living increase and retirement credit for his unused sick leave. The choices open to the applicant, and the effect of the choices, should be carefully explored before a decision is made.

The survivor annuity of each qualified survivor of an employee who retires on or before July 31, 1970, will be increased by the same percentage as the employee's, i.e., 5.6 percent.

The Civil Service Commission will increase annuities of already-retired employees and survivor annuitants by 5.6 percent. The increase will be effective August 1, 1970, and will be included in the regular September 1970 annuity checks which pay annuity for August 1970. Annuitants need not apply or write to the Commission to get the increase.

Fennell Appointed To Head Tulsa WB



Robert E. Fennell, meteorologist in charge of the Peoria, Ill., Weather Bureau Office, has been selected to head the Tulsa, Okla., weather office. Mr. Fennell entered the Weather Bureau in 1946 at Rapid City, South Dak., and has served at

Burbank, Calif.; Nome and Juneau, Alaska; Sioux Falls, South Dak.; and Kansas City, Mo. A native of South Dakota, he attended South Dakota State College, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, and the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Tex.

Winnemucca WBO Cited By Civil Air Patrol

The Weather Bureau staff at Winnemucca, Nev., has been complimented by the Wing Commander, Nevada Civil Air Patrol, for its assistance during a recent search for a lost aircraft.

Smith Is Elected ESSA Equal Opportunity Committee Chairman



Alonzo Smith, Jr., meteorologist in the Weather Bureau's National Meteorological Center and chairman of the Weather Bureau's Equal Employment Opportunity Committee, was recently elected chairman of ESSA's Equal Employment Opportunity Committee. Mr.

Smith, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, whose assignments included serving as a chief forecaster and as a commander in the field of meteorology, joined the Weather Bureau last March. He holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Howard University and a master's degree in meteorology from Penn State University.

Principal Assistant Named For Seattle Weather Office



Frank W. Reanier has been named principal assistant of the Seattle Weather Bureau Forecast Office. Mr. Reanier, an aerological officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II, has been assigned to the Seattle office since 1961. He completed undergraduate studies at the University of California at Berkeley and also attended the Naval Academy Post Graduate School in Annapolis, Md.

Remote Recording Gage Installed at Yap

A remote recording tide gage has been installed in the Weather Bureau Office at Yap Airport. This office is now a reporting station of the Coast Survey's Honolulu Observatory for tsunami wave information.

Dr. Algermissen Reports On Peruvian Earthquake

Dr. S. T. Algermissen, chief of the Coast Survey's Geophysics Research Group, attributes two-thirds of the estimated 50,000 deaths in the May 31 Peruvian earthquake to the collapse of structures --principally adobe dwellings constructed of sundried clay and straw materials. Dr. Algermissen stated that unless corrective measures are taken, a disaster of this type is almost certain to occur in this area again in the future. While recognizing that it is probably impractical from an economic point of view to eliminate adobe structures, the seismologist cited some steps that could be taken to mitigate another disaster. These steps include restriction of construction in certain portions of the Huaylas Canyon determined to be hazardous as a result of geological studies; strengthening or eliminating at least partially the typical adobe construction; restricting new adobe construction to one story in height; and using light roofing materials exclusively. Dr. Algermissen visited 11 of the devastated communities in the mountains of Peru.

D. C. Students Participate in Widening Horizons Program



William Thomas, Jr., NESG, describes the operations of the Center to students.

Forty-five students of the District of Columbia public school system visited the World Weather Center at Suitland as a part of the Widening Horizons Program,

June 25. The group was briefed on careers in ESSA by James Jones, Inez Burden, and William Thomas. Joseph Ships led the group on a tour of NMC.

ESSA Employees Receive Length-of-Service Awards

The following employees are eligible for length-of-service awards, as follows:

Weather Bureau Southern Region (April, May, and June)
40 years - Walter R. Davis, NHC, Miami; Henry R. McQueen, Atlanta, Ga.; Ray T. Sherouse, Lakeland, Fla.; and Sanford Neuman, Miami, Fla. 30 years - George T. Gregg, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Lawrence H. Donahue, Fort Worth, Tex.; Russell B. Selleck, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Donald G. Coffman, Brownsville, Tex.; Albert J. Hinkle, Fort Worth, Tex.; Robert H. Simpson, NHC, Miami; Leonard E. Greenson, New Orleans, La.; and Lawrence E. Hughes, Jr., Tallahassee, Fla. 25 years - Carter E. Moore, Galveston, Tex.; Kenneth T. Harlan, New Orleans, La.; Ada Velez, San Juan, P.R.; Billie J. Cook, Fort Worth, Tex.; Julius C. Koehler, Little Rock, Ark.; Robert Levine, NHC, Miami; John W. Measells, Jackson, Tenn.; and Harold B. A. Peterson, New Orleans, La. 20 years - James C. Hughes, Nashville, Tenn.; Felipe Velazquez-Maldonado, San Juan, P.R.; Gay F. Weightman, Fort Worth, Tex.; and Billie C. Moore, San Antonio, Tex.

Weather Bureau Western Region (April, May, and June)

40 years - Jack H. Calvert, Sacramento, Calif. 35 years - Paul E. Chrestenson, Bakersfield, Calif.; William E. Acord, Medford, Oreg.; and Everett Bingham, WRH. 30 years - William B. Allen, Pomona, Calif.; John W. Hamilton, Great Falls, Mont.; Adolf V. Kolltsch, Seattle, Wash.; and Vail P. Schermerhorn, Portland, Oreg. Charles W. Inskip, WRH; Charles A. Smith, Fresno, Calif.; and Vernon W. Wallace, Lewiston, Idaho. 25 years - Patricia A. Burns, Great Falls, Mont.; Kenneth L. Keeney, Twin Falls, Idaho. 20 years - Donald L. Carte, Quillayute, Wash.; Melvin K. Hull, Eureka, Calif.; Edwin O. Bowman, WRH; and Howard L. Eitel, WRH.

C&GS Air Photo Team Goes South

A five-member Coast Survey flight crew is conducting an aerial photography mission of more than 3700 miles of Alaskan airports and coastal areas this summer. Assignments include photography for coastal mapping, aeronautical and nautical chart maintenance, and airport obstruction charting. Lt. William M. Noble is chief of the air photo mission and first pilot of the DeHavilland Buffalo aircraft being used for the aerial surveys.

Johnson Commended By C&GS for Eagle Eye



Benjamin Johnson, who is in charge of original Coast Survey documents dating back to 1843, was recently commended for his alertness. Mr. Johnson noted a 37-year-old error among the almost 40,000 documents that pass through his hands each year. While processing a request for a hydrographic survey dated 1933 and a topographic survey dated 1948, he discovered that Lattimore Point on the South River near Annapolis, Md., appeared at two different places on the documents. The Coast Survey corrected the error. Mr. Johnson, who has 34 years of federal service, issues more than 150 documents daily from the fire-proof vault in the Coast Survey's Operations and Requirements Division.

WB Eastern Region Hosts Electronics Technician Meeting



Seated around table, left to right: S. G. Simplicio, Eastern Region Director; B. Russler, Chief, Engineering Branch; and field representatives R. Mallory, R. Rose, M. Vetere, and W. Agresto.

An Electronic Technicians Conference was held at the Weather Bureau's Eastern Region headquarters, June 3-5. Representatives from electronic technician areas attending were: Robert Rose, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Robert Collins, Albany, N.Y.; Robert Young, Burlington, Vt.; Eugene Alexander, Richmond, Va.; Robert Mallory, Philadelphia, Pa.; William Agresto, Providence, R.I.; William Stines, Wilmington, N.C.; and Martin Vetere, Columbus, Ohio. Richard Wiggers, chief of the Weather Bureau's Equipment Maintenance Standards Branch, WBH, represented the Engineering Division.

Three Employees Receive 40-Year Pins



Straw

Brewer



Thom

Wallace Brewer, meteorological technician in the Hydrometeorological Branch of the Weather Bureau's Water Management Information Division; Herbert C. S. Thom, senior research fellow in the Environmental Data Service; and Leo S. Straw, senior reviewer in the Coast Survey's Marine Chart Division received 40-year length-of-service awards from Dr. Robert M. White, ESSA Administrator, in a June 19 ceremony held at ESSA headquarters.

Postal Weather Exhibit Opened at Smithsonian

A special postal history exhibition on "Special Mail Services to the Early Weather Bureau" opened at the National Museum of History and Technology in Washington, D. C., June 30. The exhibition includes covers and stationery with special markings and notations, documents, and related material, which demonstrate how the Post Office Department assisted the Signal Service of the War Department (1870-1891) and the Department of Agriculture (1891-1905) to publicize their Weather Bureau programs and circulate their reports. Most of the objects on display are from a collection assembled by Edith Doane, well known postal historian.

Warren Johnson, Lakeland MIC, Retires



W.O. Johnson (right) received the Southern Region's special award from Regional Climatologist C. K. Vestal. Looking on is Mrs. Johnson.

Warren O. Johnson, head of the Florida federal-state Agricultural Weather Service (the fruit-frost warning service) and the Lakeland Weather Bureau Office, has retired after 42 years of service with the Weather Bureau and ESSA. Mr. Johnson began his federal career at Huron, South Dakota. In 1931, he transferred to Florida where he helped to launch the hurricane warning service. He assisted in the establishment of the Bureau's frost warning service in Florida in 1935 and, during the 1930's and early '40's, divided his time between agricultural weather forecasting and hurricane forecasting. The mayor of Lakeland paid tribute to Mr. Johnson, who has served the Lakeland area for the past 27 years, for his long and dedicated service to the United States and the citizens of Lakeland by proclaiming June 15 "Warren O. Johnson Day." He also received the Southern Region's special "From Kites to Satellites" certificate reserved for retirees whose service dates back to the days of meteorological kites.

WB Regional Directors' Conference Set for Fall

The Weather Bureau's Pacific Region will host the 1970 fall meeting of Regional Directors, scheduled to be held Nov. 16-20.

Mrs. Engle, WB Retiree, Dies

Louise Engle, who retired from the weather Bureau in 1962, died at her home in Washington, D.C., June 27.

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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