



Admiral Petersen Takes Over NOAA Corps

Rear Admiral Sigmund R. Petersen was sworn in as the Director of the NOAA Corps, the nation's seventh and smallest uniformed service, in a change of command ceremony at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Tuesday, Oct. 23.

Principal speakers included Dr. John A. Knauss, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and Dr. O. Marie Henry, Deputy U.S. Surgeon General.

With just over 400 officers (there are no enlisted personnel), the NOAA Corps operates NOAA's fleet of 23 research and survey ships, flies NOAA "hurricane hunter" and environmental monitoring aircraft, conducts mobile field surveys, and serves in a variety of management positions throughout NOAA.

Admiral Petersen most recently served as Director of NOAA's Pacific Marine Center in Seattle, Wash, in charge of NOAA's Pacific fleet of research and survey ships and in the winter of 1988, was the operational coordinator of Federal efforts in "Operation Breakthrough," in which two of three grey whales trapped in the ice off Barrow, Alaska, were freed.

A 29-year veteran of the NOAA Corps and its predecessors, Admiral Petersen's assignments have included director of the NOAA Office of Marine Operations (Jan.-

Sept. 1988) operations officer and acting director of NOAA's former Lake Survey Center in Detroit Mich., (June 1971-March 1973), operations officer of the Atlantic Tropical Experiment in Senegal in 1974, which deployed 40 international ships across the Atlantic Ocean, and operations control center leader for the Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Experiment in 1969. He has also served aboard five NOAA Ships, including tours as commanding officer of the NOAA Ships Discoverer and Miller Freeman.



Rear Admiral Sigmund R. Petersen

NOAA Seizes Offending Ship in Mississippi

United States marshals, acting for NOAA, last week seized a 155-foot cargo vessel in a Pascagoula, Miss. shipyard. The vessel, the Alec Owen Maitland, ran aground on October 28, 1989, in the Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary, damaging a

substantial amount of coral reef habitat. The ship is owned by the Maitland Brothers Company of Littlestown, Pa. In January, the captain and helmsman pleaded guilty to criminal charges of operating a vessel while intoxicated.

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Coming Events

Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) Program Review, Fort Wayne, Ind., Nov. 8.

TV Weathercasters' Workshop, NWS Eastern Region, Nov. 16-17.

NOAA Seizes Vessel

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NOAA filed notices of violation and assessment in the amount of \$104,000 against the owners and operators of the vessel shortly after the grounding. Joseph Uravitch, chief of NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program, said a natural resources damage complaint is being filed in the District Court for the Southern District of Florida. The complaint alleges that the operators of the Maitland are liable for damages to the natural resources of the sanctuary.

The Key Largo sanctuary is a 100-square-nautical-mile area of coral reefs, seagrass beds and other marine habitats located three to eight miles off the northern Florida Keys, in water depths of up to 300 feet.

NOAA Weather Experts Aid Chileans

Two meteorologists from Chile recently visited NOAA's Weather Service Forecast Office in Riverside, Calif., in an effort to develop agricultural frost warning and fire weather programs similar to those of the

National Weather Service. They chose to visit the Southern California area because it is comparable to Chile in both climate, topography and agricultural products. Three days were spent studying the office's fire weather forecasts.

AMS Acknowledges NOAA Scientists

Four NOAA scientists have been honored by the American Meteorological Society (AMS) for outstanding scientific achievements.

Dr. Kikuro Miyakoda, a NOAA senior research scientist, has been selected to receive the highest honor the society can give an atmospheric scientist.

Dr. Miyakoda has been named the 1991 recipient of the Carl-Gustaf Rossby Research Medal for "outstanding contributions to man's understanding of the structure or behavior of the atmosphere" in research conducted at NOAA's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, N.J.

His work has helped extend the time range of numerical weather

predictions to weeks, months and seasons.

The AMS will present the award at its annual meeting in New Orleans in January.

Dr. Issac Held and Dr. Ngar-Cheung Lau, two other scientists from the Princeton Laboratory, were named Fellows of the AMS for "outstanding contributions to the science and application of meteorology, climatology, or other areas of atmospheric research over a number of years." Dr. Held was cited for his work concerning climate dynamics related to global-scale circulation of the atmosphere and climate sensitivity. Dr. Lau has been involved with diagnostic studies of atmospheric variability based on observational and model-simulated data sets. Dr. J. Chandran Kaimal, a scientist with NOAA's Wave Propagation Laboratory in Boulder, Colo., was also named an AMS Fellow for his experiments and analyses on the structure of atmospheric boundary layers turbulence and developing sensors to make accurate wind and temperature measurements of the atmosphere.

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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