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# NOAA WEEK

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

## Wallace and Aron Appointed to Key NOAA Positions



David H. Wallace



Dr. William Aron

Secretary of Commerce Maurice H. Stans has announced two major NOAA appointments. David H. Wallace has been named Associate Administrator for Ocean Resource Management, and Dr. William Aron, Director of the Office of Ecology and Environmental Conservation.

Mr. Wallace is Director of the Division of Marine and Coastal Resources, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. In his new post, he will be responsible for developing NOAA policy and guiding the organization's efforts in the assessment, conservation, development and management of ocean resources. Mr. Wallace has served since 1969 in his New York State Department post. For the seven preceding years, he was Deputy Director of Fish and Game for the Marine Region, New York State Conservation Department. From 1962 to 1965, he was also a research associate with the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Mr. Wallace was active in Chesapeake Bay oyster culture from 1954 to 1961. He was executive director of the Oyster Institute of North America and the Sponge and Chamouis Institute from 1951 to 1962.

He was Chairman of the Maryland Board of Natural Resources in 1949 and 1950. He joined the Maryland Department of Tide-water Fisheries as its Administrator in 1941, and became its Director in 1945. From 1936 to 1940, he was engaged in fisheries research at the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory. He was granted a B.S. degree from Washington College, Md., in 1935 and an M.S. from the University of Maryland in 1937. He undertook further part-time graduate study at the University from 1937 to 1940. Mr. Wallace has been active in numerous fisheries efforts on the Federal level.

Dr. Aron is Director of the Smithsonian Institution's Oceanography and Limnology programs. As Director of the Office of Ecology and Environmental Conservation, he will be responsible for insuring full consideration of environmental protection matters. He will work closely with conservation groups and will represent NOAA with governmental and other organizations involved in conservation and ecology. Dr. Aron has been associated with the Smithsonian Institution since 1967, first as Deputy Director of the Oceanography and Limnology Department and, since 1970, in his present position. From 1961 to 1967, he headed the biological oceanography program for AC Electronics Defense Research Laboratories in Goleta, Calif. He was an assistant research professor in the oceanography department at the University of Washington, Seattle, from 1956 to 1961. From 1954 to 1956, Dr. Aron served as a Specialist in the Army at Seattle. He was graduated from Brooklyn College with a B.S. degree in 1952, and received a master's degree from the University of Washington in 1957. He received his doctorate from the University in 1960.

## NWS Plans Facility To Test Short-Range Forecast Methods

NOAA plans to establish an experimental facility with its own weather office and a specially designed observing network to develop the techniques, equipment, and procedures needed for better short-range local weather predictions. Paralleling the development effort is a proposed training program in short-range forecasting techniques, to include scholarships for undergraduate and graduate training to augment the shortage of trained personnel.

The general public and specialized user groups, such as aviation and agriculture, need more accurate and timely forecasts and warnings of weather conditions expected within six hours and within 100 miles--weather events of a size meteorologists term the "mesoscale." At the present time, the National Weather Service does not routinely observe atmospheric conditions on this scale.

The Operational Field Test Facility planned by NOAA would test and evaluate, and in some instances develop, weather observation and measurement systems 0- to 6-hour forecast techniques. The Facility would also support other specialized data-gathering projects and serve as a test-bed for research and development experiments and programs. Initially, an experimental weather observation network would be established and a Facility Weather Office created to manage and use the observation network. Later, the Weather Office would provide weather services under normal deadlines.

The Facility is expected to be located in an area that provides exposure to a wide variety of weather systems, the influence of a large urban complex, the experience of serving a diversity of user groups, and availability of academic and scientific facilities.

## Mrs. Harris To Address NOAA EEO Committee

Mrs. Ruth Bates Harris, Director, Department of Human Relations, Montgomery County Public Schools, Maryland, will address the NOAA Equal Employment Opportunity Committee at a meeting to be held at NOAA headquarters, May 20, Bldg. 5, Room 926, at 10 a.m. Before accepting her present position in 1969, Mrs. Harris had received more than 40 awards, nationally and locally, for her promotion of human relations in the District of Columbia.

## Clay Wins Colbert Medal From Military Engineers



Lloyd L. Clay (left), Chief of NOS's Coast Pilot Branch, has been awarded the Colbert Medal of the Society of American Military Engineers for 1970. The medal has been offered annually since 1955 to a member of the National Ocean Survey in recognition of the most outstanding contribution to military engineering. Mr. Clay received the award for providing superior leadership and exceptional technical knowledge leading to the development of a new application for computer-assisted type composition. A breakthrough was thus achieved in printing methods resulting in an important contribution to military engineering and other fields requiring wide publication of information demanding frequent, accurate updating. Mr. Clay has been with the National Ocean Survey since 1958. He has been Chief of the Coast Pilot Branch since 1965.

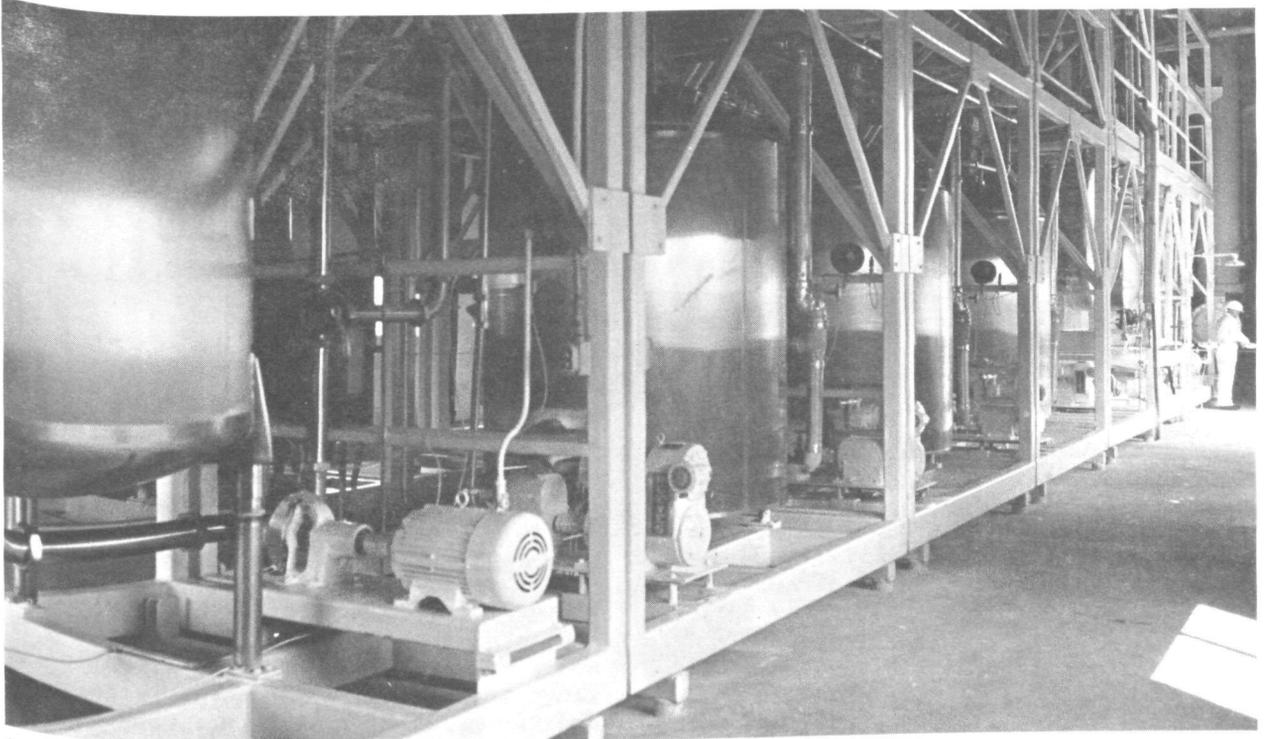
## Earthquake Bulletin Wins First Prize In Federal Editors Association Contest

Five NOAA publications won awards in the Federal Editors Association's contest for Government publications produced in 1970. The "Earthquake Information Bulletin," published by the National Earthquake Information Center, won first place in the category for technical magazines in two or more colors. Second place awards went to the "Monthly Weather Review," published by the Scientific Information and Documentation Division; "Thunderstorms," a leaflet published by the NOAA Public Affairs Office; and "Wreck of Ship Discovered," a news release by the NOS Public Affairs Office. The ESSA magazine placed third in the house organ category. The awards were presented at a May 12 ceremony.

## West Virginia Upper Air Station Automated

Huntington, West Va., was recently the 27th upper air station to be automated using time-share computers.

## NMFS Dedicates New FPC Experiment and Demonstration Plant



*Stainless steel tanks in which water and oil are removed from fish by a solvent extraction during the manufacture of FPC.*

The NMFS Northwest Region was host during the dedication and open house for the recently constructed Fish Protein Concentrate (FPC) Experiment and Demonstration Plant at Aberdeen, Washington. Senator Warren G. Magnuson and Congresswoman Julia Butler Hansen were the honored guests at the dedication and were introduced by Howard W. Pollock, NOAA Deputy Administrator. In a keynote address Congresswoman Hansen pointed out the benefits that can be reaped from improved nutrition through the wide use of high-quality protein products. Following the address and ribbon cutting, Donald Johnson, NMFS Region Director, led the group on a tour of the plant and laboratory. Several samples of food items containing FPC were available for the visitors prepared in the National Center for Fish Protein Concentrate laboratories in Washington, D.C., under the direction of Food Technologist Virginia D. Sidwell.

During the week before the ceremony, the plant was operated for a limited time at its designed capacity of about 50 tons a day. During this run, several tons of FPC were produced. In future runs, larger quantities of FPC will be produced and comprehensive data obtained and evaluated.

In the plant are rows of stainless steel tanks where the ground fish is extracted with isopropyl alcohol, great horizontal driers where the solvent is removed, and an 80-foot column which projects through the roof where the solvent is repurified. The plant is currently scheduled for one year's operation, under an NMFS contract with Ocean Harvesters, Inc.



*Howard W. Pollock, NOAA Deputy Administrator; Senator W.G. Magnuson; and Congresswoman Hansen cut ribbons at dedication of FPC plant.*

## Williams and Petersen Named To Head Lake Survey Center



Capt. R.E. Williams



Lt. Cdr. S.R. Petersen

Capt. Robert E. Williams and Lt. Cdr. Sigmund R. Petersen, both NOAA Corps officers, have been named to top posts at the Lake Survey Center in Detroit, Mich., by Rear Admiral Don A. Jones, National Ocean Survey Director.

Capt. Williams, who was appointed Director, succeeds Lt. Col. James M. Miller, the 44th and last Army man to command the Lake Survey Center. The new Director is a 20-year veteran of the National Ocean Survey and its predecessor, the Coast and Geodetic Survey. He has served aboard four Seattle-based ship and at various posts in the United States and abroad, including Portland, Oreg.; Washington, D.C.; Monrovia, Liberia; and at Seattle. Until recently, he was Chief of Operations at NOS's Pacific Marine Center in Seattle. Capt. Williams will be the second of that name to head the Center. When the Lake Survey was created 130 years ago, Captain W. G. Williams of the Corps of Topographic Engineers was named its first District Engineer. The Lake Survey was created as a result of the ever-increasing need by settlers for accurate charts to sail the Great Lakes during the westward migration. Capt. R. E. Williams is the first NOAA officer to command the Lake Survey. A native of Kimball, Nebr., he received a civil engineering degree from the University of Wyoming in 1950. He will assume his new post May 17.

Lt. Cdr. Petersen, the new Deputy Director, joined the Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1961. A native of Haugesund, Norway, he received a civil engineering degree from Washington State University in 1961. Lt. Cdr. Petersen's assignments

## Artificial Cloud Launch Set For Magnetosphere Study

The German-United States cooperative project to release and track a luminous barium ion cloud at an elevation of 2,000 miles above northern South America has been rescheduled between May 19 and May 24. The experimental package will be launched on a NASA Scout rocket from the NASA Wallops Station about 8:00 p.m. EDT. The ion cloud will be released some 3½ hours later near 11:30 p.m. EDT. Immediate scientific objectives of the experiment include the study of the physical parameters of the magnetosphere and the behavior of an ion cloud in a collision-free atmosphere.

The initial attempt to launch from April 20-26, was unsuccessful due to cloud conditions and some technical difficulties. Representatives from the Weather Service Support Facility at Wallops are cooperating in the project; Dominic Guarcello at La Serena, Chile; Lloyd Chamberlain at Arequipa, Peru; and Ray Brown will be at Mt. Hopkins, Ariz. The Suitland Spaceflight Meteorology Group staff assists the Wallops staff in the global aspects of cloud predictions.

The cloud will be visible to the unaided eye throughout the Western Hemisphere for 15 to 20 minutes. The ion cloud will initially appear as bright as a first magnitude or very bright star. The cloud may be viewed, weather permitting in Washington, D.C.; Miami, Fla.; Santiago, Chile; Los Angeles, Calif.; Detroit, Mich.; Houston, Tex.; Seattle, Washington; Denver, Colo.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; and Tucson, Ariz.

### Lake Survey Center (continued)

have included those of junior officer aboard the NOAA Ship PATHFINDER, with hydrographic field parties, as recruiting officer in Kansas City, Mo., executive officer of the NOAA Ship McARTHUR, acting chief of a special projects group in hydrography and oceanography, and as a liaison officer with the 1969 inter-agency Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Experiment (BOMEX). He is now completing requirements at the University of Rhode Island for a master's degree in marine affairs. Lt. Cdr. Petersen will report for duty at the Lake Survey Center on July 12.

## 1971 Tornado Death Toll Climbs to 141; NWS Forecasters on Alert



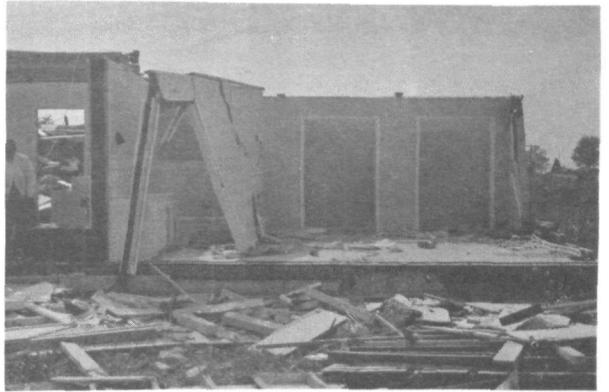
Thompsonville, Ill. - Debris was a new house lifted from one side of the road to the other. One woman killed.

1971 is shaping up into one of severe tornado activity, the National Weather Service reports. By May 7, the preliminary death toll for 1971 already had climbed to 141, almost double 1970's year-long total of 73 deaths.

NOAA disaster-survey teams have made three on-the-scene studies so far this year: The Mississippi/Louisiana outbreak of February 21, when about two dozen tornadoes caused 113 deaths; the April 27 group of 11 tornadoes in southern Illinois and south-central Kentucky, in which 10 persons died, and the Joplin, Mo., tornado, which killed one individual on May 5.

In almost all of these situations, Weather Service officials say, tornado watches or warnings had been issued and subsequently broadcast over radio and television. Many citizens are known to have taken protective action as a result. Nevertheless, the erratic and explosive nature of these killer storms caught some people unawares, survey teams found. And in other instances, people who had heard the warnings said they simply had no place to go. Many of those killed or injured lived in house trailers or flimsy homes without basements. Deaths and injuries averted by warnings were difficult to estimate, but there seemed little question that lives were saved by timely broadcasts, and by widespread understanding of tornado-safety rules as a result of NOAA's community-preparedness efforts.

One of the most dramatic instances of quick-thinking took place near Salem, Ky. A tornado struck there on April 27 about 11 p.m. A father driving past with three children in his automobile abandoned it suddenly when he saw a nearby house disintegrating. He herded the youngsters into a culvert where they waited out the twister in knee-deep water. The car was



A couple survived in this bedroom when their house near Columbia, Ky., was demolished.

wrecked; people in the adjacent house were hospitalized with serious injuries, and a man and wife on a nearby farm were killed.

Comments by survivors underlined the fact that people must exercise extreme vigilance when they know conditions are ripe for tornadoes, if they expect to have time to take cover. All too often the funnel clouds were obscured by rain, dust or darkness. A tornado which killed six persons just north of Columbia, Ky., was preceded by several hours of electrical disturbance. This made many radios and TV sets useless. One survivor whose home was practically demolished said storm-generated static was so bad he turned off his TV set in disgust. He and his wife went to bed. They were awakened at 9:30 p.m., when their house began to come apart.

"It all happened so suddenly," was a comment heard again and again. Or this: "First thing I knew, insulation from the ceiling was falling in my face," Or: "I heard a loud bang, like something hit the house." Or: "The back-door glass suddenly shattered and the coal-chute door blew open."

The safety message that came through loud and clear when survivors told their stories was the need for a preconceived idea of what to do at the last second. And there was a special message in the experiences of people in mobile homes which were struck by tornadoes. Get out; don't stay in a trailer when there is a severe storm forecast for your locality. Go to a safer place.

Such is the power of the tornado that there is no absolute guarantee of safety. But, there were numerous cases of people who, through quick action, improved the odds in their favor--and lived.

## W.R. Krumm Wins Plaque For Fire Weather Service



W. R. Krumm (right), Western Fire-Weather Coordinator stationed at Salt Lake City, was recently awarded a special plaque in recognition of his leadership in fire weather service. The plaque, signed by Edward P. Cliff, Chief, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, which was presented by Merle S. Lowden (left), Director of Fire Control, reads: "For leadership in strengthening the fire weather forecast system, use of mobile fire weather units, and service as an instructor in numerous forest fire schools--thereby helping reduce the loss of valuable resources from forest fires in the United States." The plaque was drawn by Rudolph Wendelin, creative artist for many of the Forest Service's fire prevention posters, including "Smokey the Bear."

Mr. Krumm received the award at the "Fire Weather Conference, Western Region," held at the Boise Interagency Fire Center.

## Annuity To Increase for Employees Retiring by May 31

The Civil Service Commission has officially announced a cost-of-living retirement annuity increase of 4.5 percent effective June 1, 1971. This increase applies to all employees presently retired and to those employees who retire not later than May 31, 1971.

For a retiring employee to be eligible for the increase, he must be separated or his pay must cease not later than the May 31 date. However, an employee who observes June 1 as the May 31 holiday because of an uncommon tour of duty must request leave without pay beginning not later than the last hour of the last workday in May 1971, in order not to receive pay for his June 1 holiday.

In pending disability retirement cases, employees may request that they be placed

## NODC Biology Section Receives First Group Award for Service



The first group award ever given at EDS's National Oceanographic Data Center was presented last week to five members of the Biology Section. The award was in recognition of the fast and accurate work performed by the group in converting a large, complex biological-index system (manually retrievable) to an automated system, ahead of schedule. The new system enables NODC to provide answers to complicated requests for biological information eight times faster than before.

## Rhode Island/Penn. State Taxes Deducted

NOAA began state tax withholdings for employees whose place of employment is in the state of Rhode Island or Pennsylvania, whether they are residents or nonresidents of the state in which they are employed. The withholdings were deducted from salary checks dated on or after April 28, 1971.

on leave without pay from and including June 1 to qualify for the increase. If a pending disability retirement claim is disallowed, sick or annual leave may be substituted retroactively for the leave without pay. If the claim is allowed, the accumulated annual leave will be paid in a lump sum. Unused sick leave then will be allowed in the computation of the annuity rate. If an appreciable amount of sick leave is involved, the employee may elect to remain in a pay status until his sick leave expires, thereby forfeiting the cost-of-living increase if it would be advantageous to do so. Employees having questions about any of these provisions may contact their personnel offices for further discussion.

## NOAA Voluntary Action Committee Holds First Meeting



Robert L. Carnahan, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Administration and Technical Services and Chairman of NOAA's National Program for Voluntary Action, and Program Coordinators for the program, held their first meeting at NOAA headquarters, May 12. Norman Goldstein, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer of the National Center for Voluntary Action, was the key speaker for the occasion.

The National Center for Voluntary Action was established 12 months ago as a non-profit, non-partisan organization to work with both established and new voluntary agencies in a nationwide effort to make more effective use of private volunteer resources. Through the help of the Civil Service Commission and local health and welfare councils, Federal employees can find many ways to

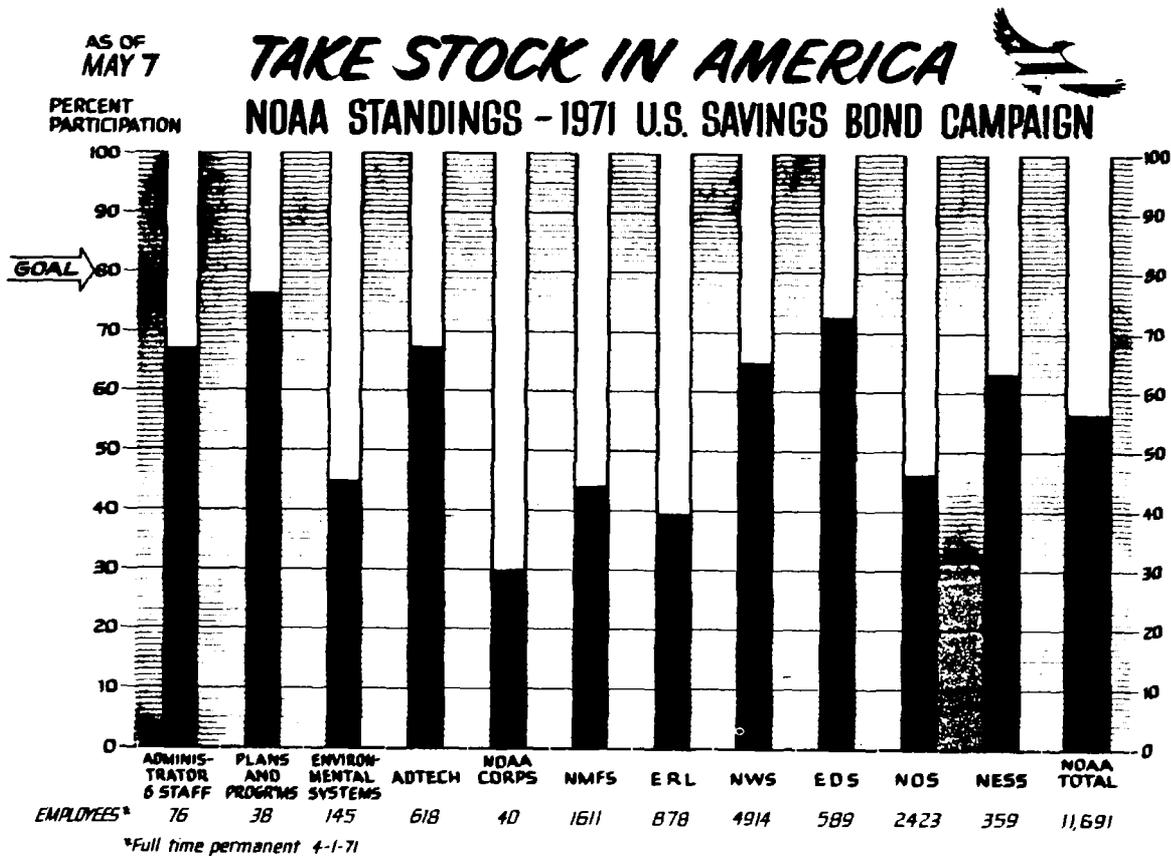
serve in their communities. Some areas where help is needed are: tutoring, teaching arts and drama, community action, services to the handicapped, sports and recreation, and services to children. NOAA employees in the Washington, D.C., area who wish to serve can look for the flyer describing the various volunteer activities on their office bulletin boards or may call: Volunteer Services Office, 1900 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., telephone 632-6847 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Participants at the first NOAA meeting were: Standing, Robert L. Carnahan. Seated, from left: Norman Goldstein; M. D. Bunch, ERL; Robert H. Reece, NWS; Robert W. Demaris, NESS; J. Allen Wallace, Jr., EDS; Edna Ross and C. Doyle Innis, NMFS; and James C. Williams, NOS.

## NOS Searches New Jersey Coast For Hazards to Navigation

A six-month search along the New Jersey coast began last month for over 60 reported navigational hazards in the intracoastal waterway extending from Little Egg Inlet to Cape May. The survey is part of an extensive program of NOS to keep its nautical charts up to date. The survey will include 15 sunken wrecks. The project is being carried out by a six-man field party headed by Lt. J. D. Stachelhaus. The party will begin the investigation in Little Egg Inlet and work southward.

## H.C.S. Thom Co-Authors NBS Paper

H.C.S. Thom, of the Environmental Data Service, is one of three authors of a new National Bureau of Standards Technical Note (569) entitled "Hurricane Camille - August 1969." The other two authors are R. D. Dikkers and R. D. Marshall of NBS. The 67-page booklet contains many illustrations of damage caused by Camille. Copies are priced at 70 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. (Refer to SC Catalog No. C 13.46:569)



**Lake Survey Center Overprints Charts; Hand Corrections Found To Be Costly**

The Lake Survey Center has finished its annual updating of present editions of selected charts by overprinting recent important changes. The purpose is to keep the charts as current as practicable for use by commercial and recreational navigation. Formerly all charts were corrected by hand to the date of sale; however, since 1969, costs and other factors have made it necessary to discontinue that practice.

New editions of most Lake Survey Center charts are generally printed every three years. Since eliminating hand correction of the charts, Lake Survey has examined other, less-expensive ways to show changes which occur after a chart is printed. It was decided to show such changes, primarily in aids-to-navigation, by overprinting in green.

**SDO Equal Employment Committee Gives Award For Physics Exhibit at D.C. Science Fair**

The Systems Development Office's Equal Employment Opportunity Committee sponsored an award for the outstanding physics exhibit at the 25th annual science fair held recently in the District of Columbia. Kenneth Shreeve of the Equipment Development Laboratory acted as judge and awarded the certificate to Glen R. Hein.

**No Time Change for State of Michigan**

Sunday, April 25th, marked the beginning of Daylight Saving Time in most sections of the United States. However, Michigan is one of the few states which does not conform to the national practice. This hour's difference should be taken into consideration by anyone in the eastern half of the country when trying to reach the Lake Survey Center or any other organization in the State of Michigan.

Items to be considered for publication in NOAA WEEK should be submitted to: Office of Public Affairs, NOAA, Room 221, Bldg. 5, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243.

# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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