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

A Message From the Acting Administrator

The reorganization proposals advanced by President Nixon in his State of the Union address on January 22 would accomplish sweeping changes across the entire Federal structure. Among other changes, NOAA would become one of four major elements within a Department of Natural Resources.

It is entirely natural that a proposal of such scope would lead many within the NOAA family to speculate about its consequences to our new organization and to them personally.

The President's proposals, imaginative and far-ranging as they are, will undoubtedly require a substantial period of time to permit consideration and debate in the Congress. I should like to assure you that there will be no immediate effect upon NOAA or its employees. I would remind you also that NOAA, as it is presently constituted, represents the President's desires regarding the mission and structure of our agency.

Meanwhile, during the period while the President's proposals are being worked out, we in NOAA have one task--to move forward as vigorously as possible within our organization as it now exists. We have the mechanism for the calibre of science and service our Nation expects of us. Let us concentrate our efforts and our energies on the job at hand.

Robert M. White

43 Million Dollar FY 1972 Budget Increase Asked for NOAA

The President's budget message, presented to Congress, January 29, included the following amounts for NOAA for fiscal year 1972 (dollars in thousands):

<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>1971 Appropriation</u>		<u>Program Increases</u>		<u>1972 Request</u>	
	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salaries and Expenses	8,771	\$167,279	+433	\$ +12,677	9,204	\$179,956
Research, Development, and Facilities	2,290	86,945*	+240	+23,997	2,530	110,942
Research, Development, and Facilities (Special Foreign Currency)	-	*	-	+ 900	-	900
Satellite Operations	336	25,574	+151	+ 5,963	487	31,537
Pribilof Islands	80	2,879	-	-	80	2,879
Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries	440	7,626	-	-	440	7,626
Fisherman's Protective Fund	1	60	-	-	1	60
Totals	<u>11,918</u>	<u>\$290,363</u>	<u>+824</u>	<u>\$ +43,537</u>	<u>12,742</u>	<u>\$333,900</u>

* Does not include 5,265,000 appropriated in 1971 for Facilities, Equipment, and Construction nor \$15,000 for RD&F (Special Foreign Currency).

The President's FY 1972 budget request includes program increases totaling \$43,537,000. The increases in the Salaries and Expenses appropriations total \$12,677,000. In environmental prediction and warnings, the 1972 increases provide for expansion of the air pollution observational support units, the weather radar network, and the forecasts and warnings communications networks, for increasing the data analyses and processing capability to utilize advanced techniques in improving short-range forecasts, and for summarizing and publishing climatic data for 1961-70.

The 1972 S&E increases for mapping, charting and marine description will provide funds to maintain and repair NOAA's oceanographic and hydrographic surveying fleet; to begin automating marine chart data acquisition, processing, compilation, and reproduction; to move forward in systematically surveying and mapping the U.S. Continental Shelves and deep ocean basins; to initiate a program to determine

the offshore boundary between Federal and State jurisdictions; to revise the charts for the Great Lakes; and to strengthen the environmental data storage and retrieval capabilities.

S & E increases for 1972 in solid earth monitoring and services are required for: extending urban-type horizontal geodetic control surveys into the rapidly developing urban regions across the country; for maintenance and repair of NOAA's geomagnetic and seismological observatories; and for installation and servicing of equipment and instrumentation in the National Strong Motion Network.

Increases for ocean fisheries and living resources will provide for continuous operation of a marine monitoring and assessment program (MARMAP) and a State-Federal fisheries management program; for a strengthening of the mechanisms for control of international exploitation of resources, for specific fishery analyses, for mercury contaminants, and enforcement and surveillance programs.

(continued on page 3)

Budget (continued)

The increases in the Research, Development and Facilities appropriation total \$23,997,000 and are required for:

1. Environmental prediction and warnings: Upgrading of facilities, air and water pollution abatement projects, installation of automatic surface meteorological observing equipment, instrumentation of additional air pollution observational support units, instrumentation of hydrologic equipment for data collection by satellite, expansion of weather modification, hurricane, tornado and severe storm research, and development of remote sensing mobile meteorological equipment.
2. Mapping, charting and marine description: Further studies in the areas of marine environmental protection; sea-air interactions; environmental effects of marine mining; and the physical processes along coastlines and estuaries. Funds are also requested for development, test, and evaluation of instrumentation for obtaining oceanographic and atmospheric data; to begin equipping survey ships with water pollution controls; to procure equipment for automation of marine chart production; and for initiation of a program to use deep exploration submersible systems and for continental shelf exploration.
3. Solid earth monitoring and services: Research to improve geodetic technology, to improve earthquake investigations and services; and for updating geodetic equipment.
4. Ocean fisheries and living resources: Research on marine contaminants; on the marine resource monitoring and assessment analysis; on the effect of environment on living marine resources; on dynamics and ecology of estuarine waters; continual implementation of research in the sport fisheries program; and for necessary laboratory facilities and equipment aboard vessels.

Increases for the 1972 Sea Grant program will provide for eleven institutional support and about thirty project support programs.

A tropical experiment (TROPEX) will be initiated in FY 1972 to provide an understanding of the mechanisms by which energy locked in water vapor of the air is released and then applied to driving the global atmospheric circulation. This project is part of the Global Atmospheric Research Program (GARP) - an international research program to provide scientific knowledge to improve the techniques of weather forecasts, to determine the feasibility of large scale weather modification, and to assess the long-term effects of atmospheric pollution.

R & D funds have been requested for the International Field Year for the Great Lakes (IFYGL). It is a joint United States-Canadian contribution to the International Hydrologic Decade. A single lake and basin, Lake Ontario, has been chosen for study under IFYGL. The central objective is to provide a sound scientific basis for development of an economical, efficient, and healthy water management plan to meet the needs of the United States and Canadian citizens living within the drainage basin of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region. This is to be achieved through two major programs: water quantity and water quality.

The \$900,000 for Special Foreign Currency is requested for foreign currencies which are in excess to the normal requirements of the United States to supplement domestic research and development and to encourage international cooperation in environmental research and allied sciences.

The increases in the Satellite Operations appropriation total \$5,963,000. The 1972 estimate provides for continued operation of the Improved Tiros Operational Satellite (ITOS) system, continued acquisition of the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) system, and continuing operational use of NASA's synchronous Applications Technology Satellites, ATS-1 and ATS-3, with particular emphasis on using the data in the severe storm and hurricane surveillance and advisory program.

Neil Frank Reports on East Pakistan Mission



On the main street of a Pakistani village, the storm left a boat and five-foot-deep holes.

Dr. Neil Frank, hurricane expert at the National Weather Service's National Hurricane Center in Miami, has returned from a factfinding mission to East Pakistan. Dr. Frank was one of a team of specialists sent to East Pakistan in December to investigate ways in which the World Bank Group could help rebuild the area following the cyclone that devastated parts of East Pakistan on November 12, 1970, and to provide the population with better protection against cyclones and floods.

Dr. Frank ranked the November 12 cyclone as one of the most deadly, if not the deadliest, storm ever to strike a coastal area, but added that it could have been still worse. At the time of his visit, Dr. Frank said, "the official death toll was more than 200,000, confirmed by burials, while unofficial estimates ran as high as 500,000. Numerous bodies were still being washed ashore every day, and ships in the Bay of Bengal were reporting bodies at sea several hundred miles south of East Pakistan. The total number of victims will never be known. Future estimates based on census figures will not give reliable results because there had been a large influx of workers from the mainland to harvest the rice crop." Dr. Frank said that "it is most important to note that the November cyclone was not the most intense storm ever to afflict East Pakistan. In 1876, the 'bakerganj' cyclone devastated the coast with an estimated 40-foot storm surge and killed 100,000

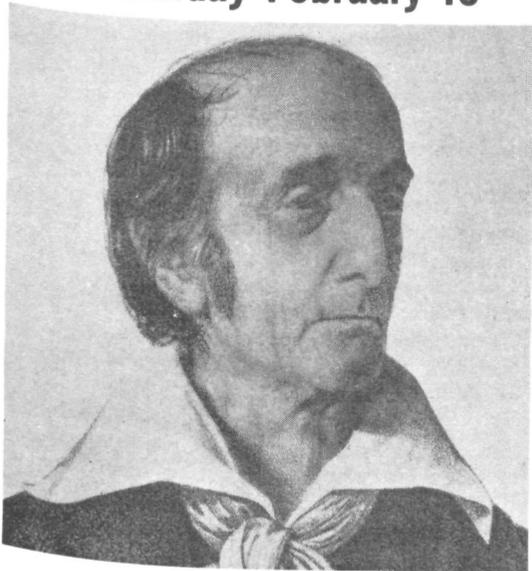
to 400,000 people. If a bakerganj cyclone were to occur again next year, I would predict that over one million lives would be lost."

The hurricane expert said there had been grossly unjust criticism by the foreign press of the East Pakistani meteorological service. "Claims that the Pakistanis ignored warnings from the U.S. satellite service were not true." He pointed out that the Pakistanis received "excellent pictures on their own equipment" from NOAA satellites. "I am sure," he said, "that no action short of evacuation--which was impossible--could have made a substantial difference in the number of casualties." Dr. Frank has indicated he will strongly recommend a program to develop local means to predict the height of storm surges, called "tidal bores" in the Bay of Bengal. Storm surges--the killer floods that cyclones and hurricanes produce--are responsible for most storm deaths. They cannot be predicted successfully from satellite pictures. "This requires aircraft reconnaissance, which the Pakistanis do not now have as part of their storm-warning system," Dr. Frank noted. How to provide safe havens above predicted storm surges is a much more difficult problem, he said, since maximum elevation of the islands is about 10 feet, in spots. One idea being explored by engineers is construction of 20-foot earthen platforms back from the immediate coast and surmounting of them with concrete-block school buildings. These could serve a conventional purpose in normal times and become storm shelters during cyclones.



Frail homes, struck by wind-driven water, collapsed.

Ocean Survey To Celebrate 164th Birthday February 10



FERDINAND RUDOLPH HASSLER
First Superintendent of the Survey

The National Ocean survey will observe on Feb. 10 the 164th anniversary of the signing of an act by President Jefferson "to provide for surveying the coast of the United States." The 1807 act resulted in the establishment of the Survey of the Coast, which subsequently became the Coast Survey, and then the Coast and Geodetic Survey. Upon the formation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration last October 3, the agency was merged with the U.S. Lake Survey to form NOAA's National Ocean Survey. A \$50,000 appropriation was made by the Ninth Congress for the initial survey.

Data Service Holds First Planning Meet

The Environmental Data Service held its first annual planning, programming, and budgeting "retreat" at the Smithsonian Institution's Belmont Conference Center, Elkridge, Maryland, Feb. 1-3. Held to coordinate the development of EDS' plans and programs, the meetings provided the opportunity for direct communications between Dr. Thomas S. Austin, Acting Director of the Environmental Data Service, and the directors and staffs of the various EDS and EDS-supported data centers. Dr. John W. Townsend, NOAA's Acting Associate Administrator, was the keynote speaker and attended the first day's sessions.

U.S., Mexico Establish Island Weather Station

The United States and Mexican governments have established a new, cooperative weather station on Guadalupe Island in the Pacific Ocean off Lower California. The jointly funded station on the Mexican-owned island is to make upper-air observations for improved warnings of storms threatening Mexico and the U.S. It fills a long-recognized need for atmospheric data from an ocean area that generates severe weather for both countries. The station culminates several years of negotiations. Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Acting Administrator, said in a telegram to Juan Mas Sinta, Director-General of the Mexican Meteorological Service: "Please accept my congratulations on the establishment of this important upper-air observing facility.... The NOAA construction engineer reported that Mexican Navy personnel ...overcame many difficulties in constructing this facility within the short period of two months." The completed facility consists of a main building, wind-detecting gear, balloon-inflation shelter, storage building, and power plant. Mexico is providing personnel to carry out the upper-air observations, which are made twice a day. Upper-air reports are now being made from Guadalupe Island and transmitted to the National Weather Service's National Meteorological Center in Suitland, Md. These reports are expected to offer valuable clues to the high-level steering currents which propel moist air inland from the Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico. The result should be better preparedness for gully-washing rains and city-crippling snows.

Joint Ocean Group Agreement Renewed

An agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Washington and NOAA, replacing a previous agreement between the university and ESSA, has guaranteed continued operation of the Joint Oceanographic Research Group in campus facilities leased to the federal government by the university. The agreement will make possible continued cooperative research and instruction in oceanography and atmospheric sciences by NOAA and the university's Division of Marine Resources, Department of Oceanography, Department of Atmospheric Sciences, and College of Fisheries.

National Marine Fisheries Service To Observe Centennial, February 9

The National Marine Fisheries Service--formerly the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries--will observe its one-hundredth anniversary, February 9. In a message to NMFS Director Philip M. Roedel, Secretary of Commerce Maurice H. Stans said:

"On behalf of all employees of the Department of Commerce, please extend best wishes to all personnel of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

"It was in 1871 that President Grant signed into law a joint resolution 'for the protection and preservation of the food fishes of the coasts of the United States.' At the same time he appointed Professor Spencer Fullerton Baird, an official in the Smithsonian Institution, as the first Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, without additional salary.

"Since its formation one hundred years ago, the Federal fishery agency has made many notable contributions to the Nation and to the proper use and conservation of our fishery resources. We are proud of the record established in science, technology, and resource development, always bearing in mind that conservation of the resource is the most important mission."

Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Acting Administrator, added: "We join in saluting the National Marine Fisheries Service on its centennial. It is already an integral part of NOAA and is taking an important role in our combined efforts to meet the compelling need for a better understanding of the total environment."

From the first small Federal fisheries laboratory, built under the direction of Professor Baird at Woods Hole, Mass., the agency has developed a veritable network of facilities and services. Biological laboratories investigate life

histories, needs, and behavior patterns of marine creatures; seek ways to overcome environmental problems affecting fisheries resources; and search for causes and cures of diseases of fish and shellfish. In the technological laboratories, better methods are sought to keep the catch fresh and wholesome after it is taken from the sea, to find uses for latent seafood resources, to process seafood more quickly or with less waste. From exploratory fishing and gear research installations, vessels go out to seek new resources to be tapped by the commercial fisherman, to map the range and assess the availability of a resource, such as king crabs off Alaska, or the calico scallop beds, explored by using a research submersible off the east coast of Florida. Through its market news offices, the NMFS performs an invaluable service to industry, gathering and disseminating a steady stream of information needed for sound management by those in marketing or processing, information on catches, consumer trends, prices, availability of supplies, fishery developments both in the U.S. and abroad. The Service also gathers and makes available statistics on catch, imports and exports, consumption of fishery products--information valuable not only as a basis for academic and industrial research, but also as a basis for resource management decisions.

From the earliest days of the agency, economic studies have been undertaken on a limited basis. In recent years, as social and economic effects of resource utilization have become more apparent, economic research has assumed an increasingly important role in the work of the agency.

Danson Holds Computer Seminars For NOAA Personnel in Miami

Robert Danson, of the NOAA Computer Division, gave a series of seminars for NOAA personnel in Miami, Jan. 18-21. Mr. Danson discussed the CDC 6600 Scope system, Fortran 3, and remote terminal techniques. The seminars were attended by personnel from the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories, Research Flight Facility, Experimental Meteorology Laboratory, National Hurricane Center, and Tropical Atlantic Laboratory.

NOS Officials Attend Canadian Institute Meeting

Frederick O. Diercks, Associate Director for Aeronautical Charting and Cartography; Dr. Charles A. Whitten, Chief Geodesist; and Capt. Eugene A. Taylor, Chief of the Operations and Requirements Division of the Office of Hydrography and Oceanography, represented the National Ocean Survey at the 64th annual meeting of the Canadian Institute of Surveying, Feb. 3-5, in Ottawa.

Dr. Austin Given First Tape Of Data Gathered in SEAMAP



Left to right: Dr. Thomas S. Austin, EDS Acting Director; Rear Admiral Don A. Jones, NOS Acting Director; Dr. Hyman Orlin, NOS Special Assistant; and Herbert Meyers, Chief of EDS' Earth Sciences Division.

On January 6, 1971, National Ocean Survey's Director, Rear Admiral Don A. Jones presented to Dr. Thomas S. Austin, Acting Director of the Environmental Data Service, the first of 10 magnetic tapes of gravimetric, magnetic, and bathymetric data gathered through NOAA's SEAMAP (Systematic Exploration and Mapping Program). SEAMAP seeks to determine and describe physical properties and processes related to the crust, mantle, and core of the earth, with particular emphasis on the deep ocean basins. The data contained on this first tape was obtained from a region of the Pacific bounded by long. 155°W and 165°W and lat. 24°N and 30°N. Copies may be ordered from the Environmental Data Service's National Geophysical Data Center. Bathymetric maps and overlays showing gravity and magnetic anomalies are also available from the National Ocean Survey.

Supervisors To Be Rated on EEO Performance

The Department of Commerce requires that a supervisor's performance in the Equal Employment Opportunity Program be evaluated when performance ratings are given. To receive an outstanding performance rating, his performance in this area must have been outstanding in this area, as well as in all other aspects of his job. In addition, candidates being considered for promotion to supervisory positions must also be evaluated for their performance (or potential) in Equal Employment Opportunity.

Fish Blocks Pass FDA Tests; Mercury Content Found Low

Tests on frozen fish blocks (compressed fish) have shown mercury levels well below the Food and Drug Administration's guideline of 0.5 parts per million (ppm). Frozen fish blocks are a source for several popular convenience fishery products such as fish sticks, fish portions, fish cakes, and fish for frozen dinners. FDA and NOAA are conducting a cooperative program to determine the level of mercury in fish and fishery products. In more than 80 different fish blocks sampled by the National Marine Fisheries Service, the average level of mercury was 0.06 ppm. The highest was 0.16 ppm and this was found in only one sample. The samples were selected from seven different U.S. processors and originally came from four countries that export large quantities of fish blocks to the United States. Frozen fish blocks are made only from the edible portion of several species of fish, primarily from the North Atlantic, such as cod, haddock, flatfish (flounder, sole, etc.), and pollock. Some 270 million pounds are utilized in this country each year. Of this amount, approximately 98 percent is imported from nations such as Canada, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Denmark, and Greenland. Test results from Canada corroborate FDA and NOAA findings.

New Legislation Improves Benefits For NOAA Corps Officers and Families

The status of NOAA commissioned officers and their dependents has now been improved with the enactment of new legislation. Basically, the NOAA Commissioned Officers Corps Act clarifies the status and benefits of commissioned personnel. Officers commissioned in NOAA, as well as those previously commissioned in ESSA, now enjoy the rights, privileges, immunities, and benefit of laws administered by the Veterans Administration, as did commissioned personnel when they were part of the old Coast and Geodetic Survey. All commissioned officers are now also entitled to the protection and benefits provided under laws administered by the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act. As commissioned officers are excluded from Civil Service rights and benefits, enactment of the new legislation (Public Law 91-621) is viewed as an important step in improving the protection afforded these officers and their dependents.

Charles Roberts Becomes Antarctic Treaty Observer

Charles Roberts, of the National Weather Service's Overseas Operations Division, was recently designated an Antarctic Treaty Observer by the Department of State. Mr. Roberts joins a party of six inspectors who will visit a number of foreign stations in Antarctica during February and March. The inspection party, headed by Kenneth Kersh of the Foreign Service, Department of State, will join the USCGS Icebreaker STATEN ISLAND about February 1. The ship will call on Argentine, Australian, British, Chilean, Japanese, Russian and South African stations while circumnavigating the continent. This will be Mr. Roberts' seventh trip to Antarctica, but his first to visit foreign stations other than those manned by New Zealand in the Ross Sea area. Previously he served as meteorologist in charge and Station Scientific Leader at Hallett and Amundsen-Scott South Pole stations and as Senior Scientist aboard the Antarctic Research Ship USNS ELTANIN. This will be the third inspection of Antarctic stations carried out by the United States under the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty.

ERL Postdoctoral Program Director Named

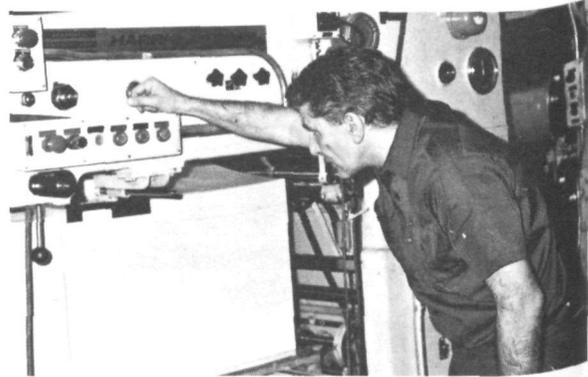
Dr. Leroy Alldredge has been named Director of the Postdoctoral Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Environmental Research Laboratories in Boulder, Colo. Dr. Alldredge is also Director of ERL's Earth Sciences Laboratories.

Editor's Note

The item on page 3 of NOAA WEEK, Number 4, concerning the retirement of H. E. Crowther, former Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Director, neglected to say that Mr. Crowther left the position in October of 1969 to accept a planning assignment in the Office of the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife. Philip M. Roedel, now Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, became Director of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries on January 5, 1970.

Items to be considered for publication in NOAA WEEK should be submitted to: Office of Public Information, NOAA, Room 804, Bldg. 5, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243.

Lake Survey Center Printers Prepare for Summer Boaters



Skilled scribes, platematers, and pressmen of the Lake Survey Center's Map and Chart Plant are hard at work printing the Great Lakes nautical charts, which will serve the booming boating public this summer. The skipper of the huge ore carrier, weekend boater, fisherman and researcher alike are dependent on the availability and accuracy of these charts. Lake Survey's operations, under its charting program, include all phases that go into the making of a reliable chart--from the first field survey to the distribution of the final product. New editions of most charts are printed once every three years. However, some are printed more frequently and others less, depending on the number of changes occurring in the charted area.

Printing is a key step in the preparation of charts. Lake Survey's Map and Chart Plant maintains its own offset presses for such work. The two presses in use today are single-color Harris Model 149 LUN's which were obtained in 1967. They each take a maximum paper size of 36 by 49- $\frac{1}{2}$ inches and can run 6,500 impressions an hour. A number of other printing systems and reproduction methods had been considered before these presses were chosen. But, based on Lake Survey's rather unique requirements, such as the frequency of relatively short runs, it was decided that this type press would most nearly meet present and anticipated future needs, including the printing jobs done for other federal agencies.

Although the Map and Chart Plant prints charts all year, most material is gathered during the summer and compiled and printed during the winter months. In photo above, John L. Gutleber, Lake Survey Center Pressman, checks Great Lakes nautical chart.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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