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NOAA WEEK

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

Public Invited to Open House at NOAA's Sterling Center

NOAA will hold open house at the Sterling Research and Development Center on Friday, October 6, and Saturday, October 7--from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.--to observe its second anniversary.

All NOAA employees are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to see for themselves, and show their families and friends, some of the many aspects of the work being done by NOAA.

The 400-acre indoor-outdoor laboratory at the Center, operated by the National Weather Service near Sterling, Va., has been stocked with a variety of scientific and technological gear and displays of marine, and meteorological equipment, and activities in which many NOAA employees are involved.

In addition to the Center facilities, some equipment and exhibits will be housed in large tents.

A marine tent contains displays of NOAA's work in the marine sciences. This includes an exhibit of the National Ocean Survey's hydrographic operations, a model of a city (being designed in part with NOAA Sea Grant funds) which will stand on great floating concrete legs many miles out to sea, models of deep-sea data-gathering buoys, and a model of an ocean-exploring submersible.

The National Marine Fisheries Service will feature a display of nets--one for gathering microscopic organisms (which will also be on exhibit) for biological research, and another a trawl net for the actual harvesting of fish from the ocean.

Once every hour, a radiosonde balloon will be inflated and launched, carrying instruments into the upper air to measure temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure, and winds.

In another tent, a model weather forecast office will incorporate equipment to receive the current radar pictures, National Environmental Satellite Service photographs from satellites in space, and a continuous stream of weather maps from the National Weather Service's facsimile communications system. A variety of other weather instruments, and the wind tunnel and simulated weather chambers in which they are tested, will be demonstrated. Scientists from the Environmental Research

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Earthquake-Recording Instruments Being Installed in VA Hospitals

Under a contract with the Veterans Administration, NOAA is installing instruments which will record strong-motions from earthquakes in some 65 VA hospitals across the United States.

Scientists and technicians from the San Francisco-based Seismological Field Survey (part of the Environmental Research Laboratories' Earth Sciences Laboratories) have begun placing strong-motion accelerographs at selected VA hospitals in areas of significant seismic risk.

The Seismological Field Survey began installations in California hospitals as part of their ongoing strong-motion instrumentation program there. Teams are scheduled to begin installations and structural tests in the Pacific Northwest later this year, and in the central and eastern states probably during 1973.

Strong-motion instruments will be placed in hospitals in Alabama, Arizona, California, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia.

The instruments are designed to respond to the strong motions close to the epicenter of a major earthquake and provide a record of how buildings perform under earthquake conditions. This data will be used in connection with revisions to the building standards for VA facilities for earthquake-prone areas.

In addition to instrument installation, NOAA personnel will measure the vibrational characteristics of the hospitals and determine the response of selected structures to man-induced vibrations. In this kind of testing, a man shakes the structure by moving his body in time to the building's natural period of vibration. From the building's response to this very slight induced motion, structural engineers and engineering seismologists can evaluate the design char-

(Continued on page 6)

Dr. Hallgren Named To Coordinate Federal Meteorological Activities

Dr. Richard E. Hallgren, NOAA's Associate Administrator for Environmental Monitoring and Prediction for the past year, has been appointed Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research.

As Federal Coordinator he will be responsible for coordinating and planning all Federal weather service and supporting research programs. Such programs are conducted by the departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Interior, and Transportation, and the Atomic Energy Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and National Science Foundation. Assisted by three interagency committees, the Federal Coordinator conducts a continuing review of basic and specialized meteorological requirements, services and related supporting research, in order to achieve the maximum possible integration of current and future programs of the various agencies. A coordinated plan is prepared annually for Congress and the Executive Branch, and plans for specialized meteorological services are published periodically.

Before being named Associate Administrator in 1971, Dr. Hallgren was NOAA's Assistant Administrator for Environmental Systems, the position he also held in the Environmental Science Services Administration before NOAA was created in 1970. He previously was the Director of the ESSA Office of World Weather Systems, and earlier, for two years was Scientific Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Science and Technology.

In 1968, Dr. Hallgren won an Arthur S. Flemming Award, awarded to ten outstand- young men in the Federal government, and in 1969 he received a Department of Commerce Gold Medal for his direction of the design and management of the Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Experiment.

From 1954-56, he was a staff weather officer and operational weather forecaster in support of the Strategic Air Command. He subsequently joined IBM's Space Guidance Center as an operations research analyst and from 1963 to 1964 managed the company's Washington System Center Meteorology Systems Department.

He received his bachelor's degree in meteorology in 1953 and his Ph. D. degree in meteorology with a minor in physics in 1960 from Pennsylvania State University.

Kenneth R. Goodwin Is Appointed To NMFS Plans and Policy Post

Kenneth R. Goodwin has been appointed chief of the Plans and Policy Development Staff for the National Marine Fisheries Service. He served previously as a planning officer with the Federal Communications Commission, dealing primarily with studies of long-range financing for public broadcasting and development of cable policies. Before that, he spent two years with the Bureau of the Budget, during which time he served as examiner for all Commerce Department science and technology agencies.

Other experience includes six years with the Bureau of Standards,beginning as a management intern, then becoming first a technical assistant, and later a senior budget analyst. He left the Bureau of Standards and became a management consultant, primarily on government financial management, with a private consulting firm before joining the Bureau of the Budget.

He holds a bachelor of science from Yale, with majors in physics and mathematics, and has attended the University of Maryland and George Washington University.

Survey Reveals Extensive Changes in Bay

A three-month hydrographic investigation by the National Ocean Survey has revealed extensive changes in the waterways of Jamaica Bay, Long Island, N.Y.

The investigation, carried out by a six-man hydrographic field party headed by Lieutenant Richard K. Muller and equipped with a small launch and sophisticated surveying instruments, was part of a two-year program off Long Island's south shore. The task involves charting navigational hazards, such as wrecks, piles, rocks, shoals, sunken piers, breakwaters and bulkheads, and prominent landmarks, such as towers, smokestacks and tall buildings, which are noted on NOS nautical charts.

Previously uncharted, dredged areas were noted off Barren Island at Long Pol Bar and off Rockaway Beach in Beach Channel, new marinas at the western end of Mill Basin, and previously unreported shoals in Rockaway Inlet, Island Channel, Grassy Bay, Big Fishkill Channel, The Raunt, Broad Channel, Beach Channel and Grass Hassock Channel. Numerous sunken ships, boats, launches and automobiles were found in the waterways of Mill and Gerristen Creeks. A shallow area near the entrance to Hendrix Creek has been filled in.

The field party is now investigating navigational changes in Hempstead Bay.

MIC and OIC Positions in NWS Southern and Alaska Regions Filled

James E. Skrym

Ray H. Barnes

Hurtis Smith

Ted Fathauer

James E. Skyrm has been selected to fill the position of Meteorologist in Charge of the National Weather Service Office at Waycross, Ga. He entered the NWS at Louisville in 1965 after 10 years of weather work in the Air Force, and has served at Brownsville since 1971.

Ray H. Barnes has been selected as the Meteorologist in Charge of the National Weather Service Office in Mobile, Ala. He entered the NWS at Lake Charles, La., in 1967, and since 1969 has served as the Principal Assistant of the Mobile office. His meteorology background also includes more than 20 years in the Air Force, where he worked as a forecaster, instructor, and upper air specialist.

Hurtis Smith is the new Meteorologist in Charge of the National Weather Service Office in Jacksonville, Fla. He has served as the Meteorologist in Charge of the Norfolk, Va., Weather Office since 1968. He began his career with the NWS at Washington, D.C. in 1956, and has also served in weather offices in New Orleans, La., and Columbia, S.C.

Albert H. Norwood, who has been a Weather Service Specialist at the Shreveport, La., Weather Service Office since 1966, has been named Official in Charge of the National Weather Service Office at Alexandria, La. He has a broad background in weather work. He entered the NWS in 1955 at Abilene, Tex.,and has served in various capacities in weather offices in Texas, New Mexico, Alabama, and Louisiana.

Francis L. Cannon is the new Official in Charge of the Weather Service Office at Roswell, N.Mex. He entered the NWS at Florence, S.C.,in 1958. In 1959 he began Sea Patrol duty in the Pacific and since 1961 has been the Supervisor of Shipboard Rawinsonde Operations.

The new Meteorologist in Charge of the Weather Service Office in Juneau, Alaska, is Ted Fathauer. At the age of 26, he is probably one of the youngest Meteorologists in Charge of a WSO. He did his first work in forecasting in the Weather Department of WLW Radio and TV in Cincinnati, Ohio. After graduation from the University of Chicago in 1968 he joined the Analysis and Forecast Division of the National Meteorological Center in Suitland, Md., where he was assigned for two years. In 1970 he transferred to the Forecast Office in Anchorage, served a seven-month tour in Fairbanks, Alaska, and was transferred back to Anchorage, where his most recent assignment was as Marine Weather Forecaster.

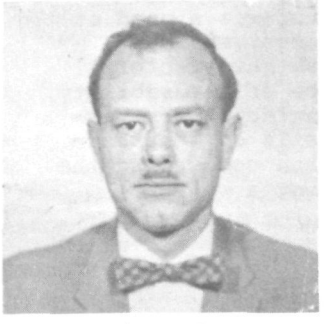
James Hyder recently reported to the Weather Service Office in Summit, Alaska, to take over as Official in Charge. He entered the National Weather Service at Asheville, N.C., in 1960, after serving in the Air Weather Service. In 1962 he transferred to Honolulu, and to Guam in 1965, and subsequently to Pago Pago. He has been a Weather Service Specialist at McGrath, Alaska, since 1968.

Joseph Alexie, Weather Service Specialist at Bethel, Alaska, since early 1971, has been selected to be Official in Charge of the Weather Service Office at Unalakleet, Alaska.

After completing one of the special training classes, he was assigned to Farewell in 1968, and later that year entered the Navy. During most of his service time, he was an Aerographer's Mate, and the last nine months he was assigned to the Kodiak Naval Station in Alaska.

Albert H. Norwood

Joseph Alexie



Francis L. Cannon

James Hyder

Equal Employment Opportunity

The Chairman of the U.S. Civil Service Commission has called to the personal attention of Heads of Departments and Agencies the views of the President with regard to achieving equal employment opportunity as follows:

> "I have sought and will continue to seek to enlarge opportunities for men and women of all religious, ethnic and racial backgrounds to serve in responsible positions, but the criteria for selection that I have employed and will continue to employ will be based on merit. I share your support of affirmative efforts to ensure that all Americans have an equal chance to compete for employment opportunities, and to do so on the basis of individual ability.
>
> With respect to these affirmative action programs, I agree that numerical goals, although an important and useful tool to measure progress which remedies the effect of past discrimination, must not be allowed to be applied in such a fashion as to, in fact, result in the imposition of quotas, nor should they be predicated upon or directed towards a concept of proportional representation."

DOC Employee Handbook

We have recently been informed that the Department of Commerce Employee Handbook has been submitted to the Government Printing Office for publication. The printed copies should be ready for distribution in about 60 days.

Another Chance for FEGLI

Employees who previously waived coverage under the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance Program may enroll now, under the following conditions:

1. They are under age 50;
2. Their last waiver was signed at least one year ago; and
3. They can furnish satisfactory medical evidence of insurability.

Employees should contact their Personnel Office for details of insurance benefits and information concerning the procedure for cancelling a waiver.

National Employ the Handicapped Week, October 1-7, 1972

Each year, the first full week in October is observed as National Employ the Handicapped Week. October 1-7 this year is the week when a special effort is made to enlist public and private groups in the year-round program of promoting employment of the physically and mentally handicapped. Millions of handicapped workers have demonstrated that with rehabilitation and training, they can hold just about any job in the United States today. Despite the efforts of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and similar state and private groups, many fully rehabilitated and trained individuals are still waiting for a chance to prove their worth as employees.

NOAA currently employs more that 250 handicapped workers and their demonstrated abilities should encourage all supervisors to consider handicapped persons when filling vacancies in their units.

Political Activity Restrictions

On July 31, 1972, a federal district court declared a section of the Hatch Act, which prohibits Federal employees from taking an active part in political management and campaigns, unconstitutional because its provisions are vague and too broad. At the present, the constitutionality of the statute is being reviewed by the Supreme Court. Until a decision is made, the district court order is stayed, and the Civil Service Commission will continue to enforce the Hatch Act by investigating reports of prohibited activity and taking action when violations are found. Therefore, until otherwise apprised, all Federal employees should consider the prohibitions on partisan political activities to be in effect.

Family Health Benefits

Family members for Federal Employees Health Benefits purposes are the employee's spouse and unmarried children or legally adopted children, under age 22. Stepchildren and foster children are covered if they live with the employee. An unmarried child over age 22 who is incapable of self support because of a mental or physical incapacity which existed before becoming 22 is covered if the incapacity is medically documented.

LWOP or AWOL

Periodically, employees and supervisors raise the question of whether an absence is properly leave without pay (LWOP) or absence without leave (AWOL). While both types of absences constitute a nonpay status, there is a definite, very important distinction between them.

Leave without pay is granted only at the employee's request. This is not to say that every request for LWOP will, or should, be granted. Such leave may be granted in lieu of annual leave if the employee has no annual leave to his credit and if, in the opinion of his supervisor, there is a justifiable reason for his not reporting for duty as scheduled. It may be granted in lieu of sick leave when the employee is incapacitated and has no sick or annual leave to his credit. (The exception would be in the case of an employee's receiving Bureau of Employee Compensation payments for injury received in the course of his official duties.)

Although the employee is not paid for the time of his absence, such absence is approved and, therefore, is not held against the employee. In no case, then, can the use of LWOP be cited as the basis for disciplinary action.

Like leave without pay, the charge of absence without leave, AWOL, means that the employee is not paid for the period during which he does not work. The difference here is that when an employee is AWOL, he has chosen to stay away from work without approval for his absence. Thus, an employee who does not come to work under these circumstances, may be AWOL regardless of whether or not he has leave to his credit. AWOL charges may be appropriate when:

a. The employee has requested and been denied leave of any kind, but does not report for duty;

b. The employee does not report for duty and does not request approval for his absence;

c. The employee does not comply with advance written instructions to furnish a doctor's certificate for periods of illness; and

d. The employee is habitually tardy.

Failure of an employee to report for duty--with resulting charge of AWOL--may, of course, be the basis for disciplinary action and may, in serious cases, lead to separation from the service.

Deposit and Redeposit in the Civil Service Retirement System

Most NOAA employees are covered by the provisions of the Civil Service Retirement System and have money deducted from their basic pay to contribute to the retirement fund. In some cases when employees are ready to retire they have periods of service for which either no retirement deductions were made or retirement withholdings were refunded. To receive full retirement annuity, employees in these situations must deposit or redeposit the amount of money that would have been withheld for the period of service in question.

A deposit is a payment to the Civil Service Retirement Fund to cover a period of Federal service during which no retirement deductions were made. If deposit is not made, credit is still received toward the retirement annuity for the period of service not covered by salary deductions. The annuity, however, will be reduced by 10% of the amount due as deposit. For example, if a deposit of $500 is required and not paid, the annuity is reduced by $50 a year. Thus, in ten years the amount of annuity lost totals $500. Had the $500 deposit been paid, the annuitant would recover that amount in ten years (at $50 extra a year) and receive the higher annuity thereafter.

A redeposit is a payment to the retirement fund to cover a period of service for which retirement deductions were withheld from salary and later refunded. If redeposit is not made after re-employment or before retirement, no credit will be given in the computation of annuity for the period of service covered by the refund. This usually results in a sharp reduction in the amount of the annuity.

Standard Form 2803, Application to Make Deposit or Redeposit, can be obtained from the Personnel Office. The completed form must be returned to the Personnel Office, not to the Civil Service Commission. However, after the form is forwarded to CSC and processed there, CSC will notify you of the amount due and arrange for payment. Payments are made directly to the Civil Service Commission.

Weather and Crop Service Centennial Features Awards and Exhibit

Mr. Pollock presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Street for his 36 years of volunteer cooperative weather observations.

Secretary Butz, Mr. Dye, and the weather and crop service exhibit now on display at the Smithsonian's Museum of History and Technology.

A Weather and Crop Service Centennial celebration sponsored by NOAA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Smithsonian Institution was held at the Smithsonian's new Museum of History and Technology recently. Over 200 invited guests attended the ceremonies,which included the presentation of certificates of appreciation to volunteer weather and crop observers and the opening of a weather and crop service exhibit at the Museum which will be on display through the end of the year.

Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz presented certificates to volunteer crop observers Floyd and Boyd Bishop of Meade County, S. Dak., and to county extension agent James Robinson from Aroostook County, Maine.

NOAA's Deputy Administrator, Howard W. Pollock, representing the Secretary of Commerce, made the presentation to Frank T. Street, of Henderson, Ky., a National Weather Service volunteer observer. (Mr. Street also is a 1972 recipient of the Thomas Jefferson Award, the Nation's highest award for cooperative observers.)

Mr. Pollock also presented the Department of Commerce Bronze Medal to Lucius W. Dye of the Environmental Data Service, Editor of the NOAA-USDA jointly-published "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin," for 33 years of meritorious service.

New Small Craft Chart Covers Matagorda Bay

The National Ocean Survey has published a new small craft nautical chart covering the western portion of Matagorda Bay,Tex., including Lavaca Bay and Tres Palacios Bay. The chart (522-SC) may be purchased for $2 from the NOS Distribution Division (C44), Riverdale, Md., 20840 or from NOS nautical chart sales agents. A 20 percent discount is allowed when 10 or more copies of the same small craft chart are ordered from the NOS.

James McCloy Dies

James McCloy, former Chief of Facilities at the National Weather Service Eastern Region Headquarters, died on September 16. He had retired in 1970. His wife, Mrs. Ethel McCloy, resides at 2861 NW 47th Terrace, Apt. 102, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. 33313.

Earthquake Instruments (Continued from page 1)

acteristics of the building and estimate how the building will perform in a future earthquake.

Selection of the facilities to be included in this program was based on a seismic risk zoning map developed several years ago by what is now the Earth Sciences Laboratories, based on the known distribution of damaging earthquakes and the effects of those earthquakes, evidence of strain release, and consideration of major geologic structures and provinces believed to be associated with earthquake activity.

The strong-motion seismology program originated in the former Coast and Geodetic Survey (now NOAA's National Ocean Survey) in 1931, to provide earthquake data to architects and engineers working in highly seismic areas of the United States, and is now conducted by the Earth Sciences Laboratories of NOAA's Environmental Research Laboratories.

Graduate Student Builds Habitat With Support From Sea Grant

A box-shaped device with four legs and resembling a lunar landing spacecraft was launched from the University of Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay campus and placed on the bottom of the Bay on September 23.

Called the University of Rhode Island Underwater Habitat, the device will enable divers to stay underwater for extended periods of time for research and experiments.

The red habitat is seven feet high with an eight-by-six-foot base. It was designed and constructed by Albert P. Davis, a graduate student in the department of ocean engineering. Mr. Davis had financial support for the project from NOAA's Sea Grant program and advice from Dr. Hilbert Van N. Schenck, Jr., a professor of ocean and mechanical engineering.

Annual Fisheries Technological Conference To Include Pollution, Aquaculture Symposia

The annual Atlantic Fisheries Technological Conference, scheduled to be held October 23-25 in Annapolis, Md., will feature symposia on microconstituents, pollution and aquaculture.

The program is designed to provide new information from research and development and an up-date on Government regulations pertaining to fisheries and fishery products. Dr. Bruce R. Stillings and Thomas J. Billy, both of the NMFS College Park Fishery Products Technology Laboratory, are chairman and secretary for the event.

Special Achievement Awards Are Presented to Bettie Cashion and Richard Feeney

At the National Data Buoy Center in Bay St. Louis,Miss., Bettie Cashion received a Special Achievement Award from Center Deputy Director Cdr. P.A. Morrill (right),as Cdr. W.M. Flanders, Chief of the Test Operations Division, watched.

At NOAA Headquarters in Rockville, Md., Richard Feeney of the Administrative Operations Division received his Special Achievement Award from NOAA's Assistant Administrator for Administration,Theodore P. Cleiter.

Olympic Yachting Medal Winners Sought NOAA Help Before Trials

NOAA personnel may have played a part, indirectly at least, in helping the United States win a Gold Medal at the recent Olympics.

Arthur I. Cooperman, Chief of the Environmental Data Service's Data Information Group,and Paul Arnerich, Marine Supervisor at the National Weather Service San Francisco Marine Center, along with Edward Schultz of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,provided special weather information for the San Francisco Bay area to the crew of the Soling Class Yacht which won first place in the seven-race Olympic Trials regatta over 35 other entries. The yachtsmen, Buddy Melges, William Bentsen, and William Allen,who requested the special in-depth environmental data, went on to win the Soling Gold Medal in Kiel, Germany.

Before the trials, Mr. Cooperman provided long-term data on temperature, wind velocity, cloud cover, and a general description of the weather over the California coastal region; Mr. Arnerich arranged for the team to acquire wind and bay current information; and Mr. Schultz briefed the men on the Corps of Engineers' working scale model of the San Francisco Bay.

Dr. Townsend Presents Awards at NASO

Recent awards ceremonies in NOAA included one at the Northwest Administrative Service Office in Seattle, Wash., where (from left) NOAA's Associate Administrator, Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr., presented awards to Edith Lovelace, Jeannine Jacobson, John Ingram, and Helen LaChapelle.

NWS Western Region Holds Training Courses for Supervisors

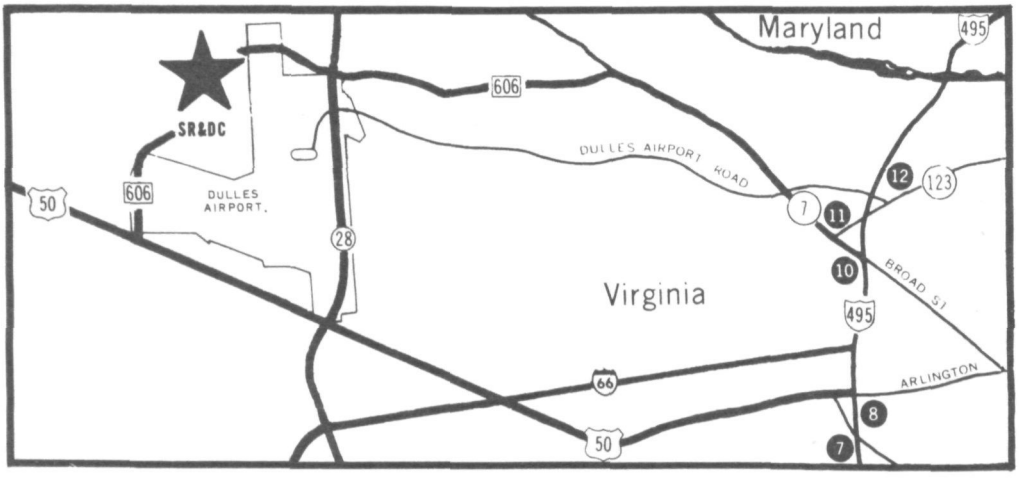
National Weather Service Training Officer Robert W. Harris and members of the NWS Western Region Personnel Office staff recently conducted courses for Western Region Supervisors at NWSH in Salt Lake City. Twenty-five supervisors took the courses, Introduction to Supervision and Personnel Administration for Supervisors.

Participants in the training courses were (seated, from left) Gerald Robinson, Daniel Riedy, Barry Aronovitch, Regional Director Hazen H. Bedke, Mr. Harris, Charles Cochrane, and Philip Peck.

(Standing, from left) Stan Bryte, Anthony Lentini, Ronald Hamilton, Grayson Cordell, Charles Haas, Robert Lord, James Tyrrell, Charles Syverson, Frank Taylor, Vail Schermerhorn, Robert Haynes, Russell Knierim, Dale Collins, Robert Vaughan, Kenneth Keeney, Robert Carter, Richard Wood, Eldon Beals, Bernard Spittler, and Earl Reynolds.

Open House at Sterling R&D Center (Continued from page 1)

Laboratories in Boulder, Colo., will show how some instruments employ laser and acoustic sounding techniques in making observations. There will also be continuous showing of weather and marine films.



The National Weather Service Sterling Research and Development Center is located northwest of Dulles Airport on Route 606, three miles west of Route 28, and can be reached from the Beltway (495) via Routes 7, 66, or 50. Plenty of parking space is available at the Center.

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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