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NOAA WEEK

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

NOIC Regional Center To Be Established

An agreement has been signed by NOAA and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to establish NOAA's first regional National Oceanographic Instrumentation Center at the NASA Mississippi Test Facility in Bay St. Louis, Miss.

The new regional center of the National Ocean Survey's NOIC will be responsible for providing instrumentation test, evaluation, calibration and services to the NOS' National Data Buoy Center, located at the NASA facility. The services will be available, also, to other federal and state agencies, on a reimbursable basis, and to universities and private enterprises.

NOIC's headquarters are in Washington, D.C. Other NOAA organizations at the Bay St. Louis site include the National Marine Fisheries Service's Fisheries Engineering Laboratory, and the National Weather Service Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center, which is operated at the NASA Slidell Computer Complex.

Because of this intensive test and performance evaluation program, ocean-going instruments such as conductivity, temperature and depth systems, current meters, salinometers and marine meteorological instrumentation systems will be able to furnish more accurate and reliable readings of salt content, depth, and temperature of our world's waters. Plans also call for future testing and calibration of related environmental instruments and equipment.

Results of test measurements, calibration techniques, and laboratory and field standards generated from this oceanographic instrumentation center will be published and disseminated to a wide variety of ocean-related federal, state, and local agencies, as well as academic and industrial interests.

ACSM/ASP Convention Scheduled

The annual joint meetings of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping and the American Society of Photogrammetry will be held in Washington, D.C., March 12-17, at the Washington Hilton. Over 100 technical papers and 100 exhibitors will discuss and display the latest developments in the mapping field centered on the theme "Resources for Humanity."

Network Will Aid Study Of Earthquake Response

A network of about 90 instruments is being installed in the Puget Sound area by NOAA in preparation for a study of the region's response to earthquakes. Data gathered by the devices will be applied to the development of detailed seismic risk maps and improved earthquake building codes for this region, which includes the densely populated Seattle-Tacoma metropolitan area.

The study is the first for a large metropolitan area with regional geology and soils distribution as an integral feature, and is the forerunner of similar programs in other U.S. cities of high seismic risk.

NOAA's earthquake hazard reduction program, conducted by the Environmental Research Laboratories, has begun to focus on estimating earthquake risk in specific regions of the U.S., because each area is seismically unique.

The Puget Sound region is a case in point, for the complexity of its geologic environment profoundly influences the effects of earthquakes there and the distribution of damage resulting from them.

In the past quarter century, two destructive earthquakes have struck the Seattle-Tacoma area: a magnitude 7.1 shock centered south of Tacoma in 1949, and a magnitude 6.5 shock in the Puget Sound lowland between the two cities in 1965. Both shocks, at about 40 miles below the earth's surface, were comparatively deep and caused ground cracks, landslides, and building damage over a wide area.

Many measurements of ground vibrations in a wide range of geologic environments are needed to describe adequately the earthquake risk in this region.

Although it has been known for many years that damage in earthquakes tends to be greater for structures built on alluvium, fill-land, and other low-density, poorly consolidated materials, the details of this difference for a given region are not well understood.

Strong-motion seismographs installed during the past year in the Seattle area, and planned for installation there and elsewhere in the Puget Sound over the next five years are filling in a network designed to help understand this and other questions.

Donald H. Pack Named To Head Geophysical Monitoring Program

Donald H. Pack has been named director of NOAA's Geophysical Monitoring for Climatic Change program. The program is managed by the Environmental Research Laboratories' Air Resources Laboratory, Silver Spring, Md., under Dr. Lester Machta. Mr. Pack is the laboratory's deputy director.

The program is designed to measure trace constituents in the atmosphere and to determine their trends over long periods of time. To accomplish the trend determination, it is necessary to make measurements of such elements as solar radiation attenuation, carbon dioxide, fine particles, and other trace materials in relatively clean air.

The keystone of this operation is NOAA's Mauna Loa Observatory, which has been in operation since 1956. The observatory is located above Mauna Loa's 11,000-foot level on the island of Hawaii. It is protected by two natural meteorological barriers: a low-level inversion below the observatory and air moving down the mountain bringing in clean air after thousands of miles transit across the Pacific.

Under the monitoring program, NOAA plans to establish additional stations in relatively remote locations in the Arctic, the South Pacific, and on or near the North and South American continents to permit a global estimate of the trends in atmospheric quality.

Climatic Atlases Available; Four Volume Set Now Complete

The last three volumes of "Climate of the Upper Air, Southern Hemisphere" atlases are now being distributed to World Meteorological Organization members through NOAA. Entitled Volume II, "Zonal Geostrophic Winds;" Volume III, "Vector Mean Geostrophic Winds (Isogon and Isotach Analyses);" and Volume IV, "Selected Meridional Cross Sections of Temperature, Dew Point and Height (Cross Sections at 30° Intervals Around the Hemisphere)," the atlases will also be distributed to Naval Units as NAVAIR 50-1C-56, NAVAIR 50-1C-57, and 50-1C-58.

The atlases, along with Volume 1, which was distributed some 18 months ago, were produced in a joint effort by the Environmental Data Service's National Climatic Center, the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), and the Department of Defense. Dr. Harold L. Crutcher, Scientific Advisor to the Director of the NCC, was one of the authors. The other authors were: Dr. J. J. Taljaard from NCAR and the Weather Bureau, Republic of South Africa; and Roy L. Jenne and Harry van Loon, from NCAR.

President Nixon Commends Cooperative Charting Program

In a letter to George R. Hodell, Chief Commander of the U. S. Power Squadrons, President Nixon lauded the nine-year-old Cooperative Charting Program conducted by the National Ocean Survey and the Power Squadrons. Read to the organization at its 58th anniversary meeting in Anaheim, Calif., recently, the letter stated:

"Dear Commander Hodell:

The excellent results being achieved through the Cooperative Charting Program between the United States Power Squadrons and the National Ocean Survey have recently come to my attention. I understand this outstanding example of citizen-government cooperation has significantly contributed to the safety and enjoyment of many millions of boatmen who cruise American waters for pleasure and commerce. This is a most welcome opportunity to convey my appreciation to you and to the many volunteer leaders and members of your organization for your splendid help in this important undertaking.

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard Nixon."

The Power Squadrons, a non-profit group of small craft operators dedicated to promoting safe boating through education, furnishes corrective information to the NOS for nautical charts. Captain John O. Boyer, Chief of the Marine Chart Division, supervises the cooperative program for the NOS.



Cdr. Boyer

Coastal Zone Conference Is Held

Robert D. Wildman, Program Director, Project Support, Office of Sea Grant, was the program chairman of a conference on coastal zone problems held in Washington, D.C., by the Marine Technology Society this week. Captain Jack E. Guth, Chief of the National Ocean Survey's Coastal Mapping Division, spoke on "Coastal Boundary Mapping by Tide Controlled Aerial Photography" and Irving Perlroth, Acting Director, Operations Division, National Oceanographic Data Center, Environmental Data Service, spoke on "NODC NAMDI/NAPIS Information System." Harold L. Goodwin, Deputy Director of the Office of Sea Grant, was a member of the Panel on Information Systems and Data Banks, and Dr. Hugh J. McLellan, Associate Program Director, Institutional Support, Office of Sea Grant was a member of the Panel on Modeling.

Captain Gerard E. Haraden Will Command the RAINIER



Captain Gerard E. Haraden has been named Commanding Officer of the NOAA Ship RAINIER. The RAINIER, a hydrographic survey vessel, is now engaged in marine charting surveys off southern California.

Captain Haraden joined the Coast and Geodetic Survey, predecessor of the National Ocean Survey, in 1951 following his graduation from the

University of Maine with a civil engineering degree. His previous assignments have included duty aboard seven NOAA ships; with field parties in Oregon and California; at the Fredericksburg Geomagnetic Center in Corbin, Va.; as officer-in-charge of the Honolulu Observatory; as assistant chief of the Facilities Division in Washington, D.C.; and, more recently, as field director of Alaskan operations for the NOS in Anchorage; and chief of operations at the NOAA Pacific Marine Center in Seattle, Wash.

Storm Evacuation Map Plans Are Announced

Plans are underway for six storm evacuation maps for hurricane-endangered areas on the Atlantic coast extending from Charleston, S.C., to Savannah, Ga. Material for the maps will be provided by a National Ocean Survey field party, headed by Dale Fuller, which will investigate ground levels and contours and inspect highway, railroad and ferry evacuation routes.

The survey is expected to get underway in June or July, following completion of a similar survey slated to begin in the Corpus Christi, Tex., area in early April.

The maps, which show emergency evacuation routes, areas subject to flooding, and elevations which might afford "safety islands" for storm evacuees, are distributed to state and local officials and community hurricane preparedness committees by the National Weather Service.

Storms, particularly hurricanes, on the Atlantic coast and in the Gulf of Mexico at times cause extensive tidal flooding of low-lying coastal regions. The NWS maintains a close watch on the storms, predicting the height of the storm tide and issuing warnings for areas subject to flooding. The program now underway was instituted by NOAA to fill a need for small-scale, special purpose maps to facilitate evacuation of people from endangered areas.

Five maps have been issued for a Gulf coast area extending from New Orleans, La., to Mobile, Ala. Probably by the end of February, six maps of the Galveston-Houston, Tex., area will be issued, and four are planned for the Corpus Christi area.

Largest Computer To Aid NOAA's Ocean, Atmosphere Understanding

A computer system ten times as powerful as the largest now in use is being built to aid NOAA in its quest for thorough understanding of the global atmosphere and ocean. With it, it will be possible to simulate the circulation of the air and the sea, and the interactions between them, more accurately than ever before.

The General Services Administration has awarded a contract to Texas Instrument, Inc., for a system known as the Advanced Scientific Computer, which is expected to be installed by mid-June 1973 at the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory on the Forrestal Campus at Princeton University, Princeton, N.J. The contract provides for an eight-year lease, beginning at about 4½ million dollars per year and decreasing thereafter, with an option to purchase.

The laboratory, directed by Dr. Joseph Smagorinsky, will have greater capability for tackling such problems as:

- The possibility of extending global and regional weather forecasting as much as two or three weeks in advance.
- Prediction of global air and sea pollution and assessment of their consequences.
- The possibility of large-scale climate modification.
- Prediction of hurricane development and assessment of hurricane modification efforts.

Since 1955, GFDL scientists have been developing numerical models that simulate the physical processes taking place in the earth's fluid envelope--the oceans and atmosphere.

According to Dr. Smagorinsky, "The new computer will permit us to accelerate research in the modeling of the combined atmospheric/oceanic system in support of the objectives of the World Meteorological Organization's Global Atmospheric Research Program. The enhanced simulation capability will still mainly be limited by computing power, but will demand fewer simplifying compromises in design. It will therefore provide a better understanding of the physical factors that significantly influence the global system."

GFDL also has developed models for hemispheric, regional, and local environments. With the new ASC computer, Dr. Smagorinsky hopes to bring numerical modeling to a highly developed state capable of practical application in ocean and atmosphere prediction.

"Such predictive capability," he feels, "may provide reliable guidance in the management and protection of the environment. We expect that the effects of pollution on the ocean and atmosphere and on the climate can be anticipated, and a large portion of our research will be directed toward potential changes induced by the by-products of human activity."

NOAA's Boat Show Exhibits Display Products, Services



Mr. Cumming (left) and John A. Mayer, MIC New York Weather Service Office, man the NOAA booth at the New York Boat Show.

Some 362,000 people attended the 62nd National Boat Show in the New York City Coliseum last month. The NOAA booth was manned by National Ocean Survey employees from New York and the Washington, D. C. area, as well as National Weather Service staffs from Eastern Regional Headquarters and the Weather Service Office in New York. A backlog of hundreds of requests for educational material by boating groups and concerned individuals reflects the increased interest in the NOAA display this year.

Special credit for the success goes to William J. McKee (Marine Meteorologist, ERH), who designed the panel inserts; Paul J. Romano (Mechanic, ERH), who executed the designs; and to James B. Cumming, (New York Field Representative, NOS) and Walter J. Stoddard, (Port Meteorological Officer, New York Weather Service Office), who set up and maintained the display.

Using the combined resources of the Weather Service Forecast Office in Cleveland and the NOS Lake Survey Center, the public service display at the Mid-America Boat Show in Cleveland was one of the more attractive exhibits.

William E. Kennedy, Port Meteorological Officer at the WSFO Cleveland, was largely responsible for NWS participation in the show. He was able to obtain no-cost space at the educational area operated by the Greater Cleveland Boating Association, whose 65 members--all well informed about NOAA's services and products--helped man the NOAA booth and dispense NWS and Lake Survey information and materials.

On display at the booth was the Lake Survey's model of the Great Lakes showing the depths, shorelines, etc.; the NOAA Weather Wire Teletype, connected to the Ohio Weather Service and installed at no cost to NOAA, and the VHF-FM radio service.

Other WSFO Cleveland personnel who helped man the booth were Richard Fay, Meteorologist In Charge; Raymond W. Waldman, Public Service Forecaster; and Joseph Prelec, Air Pollution Meteorologist.

James R. Miller Receives Commerce Bronze Medal



James R. Miller, Meteorologist In Charge of the Weather Service Forecast Office in Sacramento, Calif., has been awarded a Department of Commerce Bronze Medal "for noteworthy leadership of Weather Service Programs and for excellent station management."

NOAA Corps Offered Refresher Training

A new program of refresher training for NOAA commissioned officers returning to sea duty after an extended period of shore assignments is being started at the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, N.Y. Initially, training will be on a voluntary basis. The tentative schedule calls for two weeks of training, concentrated in the areas of marine communications, navigation publications, aids to navigation, electronic navigation systems, rules of the nautical road, and possibly practical ship handling.

Survey on Flooding Underway in Florida

A two-man National Ocean Survey team headed by Robert R. Wagner has begun a two to three-week survey on flooding from hurricanes and severe ocean storms in coastal areas of Martin and Palm Beach counties, Fla.

The survey is being conducted at the request of the Federal Insurance Administration of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which is entrusted by law with establishing insurance rates for private structures.

Information furnished by the NOS and other cooperating agencies is used as the basis upon which suitable rates can be determined. In addition, the Federal Insurance Administration will utilize the survey data to prepare maps of special flood hazard areas.

The area covered by the survey includes the communities of Jupiter, Jupiter Inlet and Jupiter Island.

John W. Cline Dies

John W. Cline, who had been the agricultural meteorologist at Twin Falls, Idaho, for three years before his retirement in 1968, died on February 6, in Kimberly, Idaho. During his 28-year career in the Weather Service, he was stationed at Las Vegas, Nev., Billings, Mont., Great Falls, Mont., and in Alaska, where he had taught before joining the Weather Service in 1940.

NOAA Corps Members Are Elected To National Executive Committee



Cdr. Yeager



Capt. Benton

The NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers (ACO) has announced the election of officers to its National ACO Executive Committee. They are: Captain Arthur R. Benton, Jr., President; Commander J. Austin Yeager, Treasurer; and Lieutenant Commander Christian Andreasen, Secretary. Also elected to the committee were Commander C. William Hayes, Lieutenant Commander Michael J. Fleming, and Lieutenant Donnie M. Spillman.



Lt. Cdr. Andreasen

Two alternates were also chosen--Captain Eugene A. Taylor and Lieutenant Victor E. Delnore, Jr.

NWS Team at Cape Kennedy Maintains Apollo 16 Vigilance

The National Weather Service team at Kennedy Space Center, under Meteorologist In Charge Ernest Amman, has been especially busy with extra night and weekend shifts in support of the Apollo 16 space vehicle.

The space vehicle was moved to the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) on January 27. The section containing the Command and Service Module and the Lunar Excursion Module had to be taken down and moved to another building for the required work and testing. That move and the return on February 5 could not be made when the outside temperature was less than 55° F., because of the possibility of condensation within the LEM insulation. Even inside the VAB, work with components containing explosive material is not permitted if there is lightning nearby. The Apollo Space Vehicle was returned to the launch pad on February 9.

James Nicholson, Richard Urbanak, John O'Brien, and Sarah Greenfield of the Spaceflight Meteorology Group at Cape Kennedy will be monitoring thunderstorm activity until the April 16 launch to insure continued work progress on the space vehicle and maximum safety to the workmen.

As part of the continuing lightning investigation, a NASA crew makes airborne measurements of the electrical fields in and near convective clouds. On February 7, (as on several previous occasions), Mr. Nicholson was aboard the NASA aircraft, directing where the measurements should be taken. The specific aims are to learn how to relate the available ground measurements to the electrical fields present at higher levels and to locate the centers of maximum charge.

Instrument Network

(Continued from page 1)

When completed, the Puget Sound network will consist of about 30 accelerographs installed in a geologically influenced pattern, and about 60 seismoscopes (inexpensive, relatively simple instruments designed to scratch a one-time earthquake record, and to supplement more sophisticated data from the accelerographs) in the Seattle-Tacoma metropolitan area. At present, 10 accelerographs and five seismoscopes are in place there.

Once the instruments are in, it becomes a waiting game--an earthquake is required to complete the portrait. A magnitude 4.5 or 5 earthquake, which would be felt but which would do little damage, could provide sufficient data to fill in many of the important unknowns of Puget Sound's response to seismic vibrations. This will be applied to strengthening the cities and their earthquake building codes, and to developing detailed maps of seismic risk.

The strong-motion seismology program

began in the former Coast and Geodetic Survey (now the National Ocean Survey) in 1931, to provide earthquake data to architects and engineers working in highly seismic areas of the U.S., and is now conducted by ERL. Data obtained from the destructive Long Beach, Calif., earthquake of March 10, 1933, did much to influence the application of earthquake building codes in that state, and gave impetus to an expanded strong-motion instrument network, as did the 1964 earthquake in Alaska, the 1965 tremor in Seattle, and last year's San Fernando, Calif., earthquake of February 9.

At present NOAA operates 943 strong-motion seismographs in the U.S. in close cooperation with some 30 local, state, and federal governmental agencies and private organizations. Operation of the network includes installation of the instruments, maintenance and service, instrument test and evaluation, collection of seismograms after earthquakes, and analysis and distribution of data.

NOAA Employees Retire

Ray E. Johnson

Ray E. Johnson, Hydrologist in Charge of the River Forecast Center in Kansas City, Mo., is retiring today after completing over 36 years of Federal service. He has seen the River Forecast Center grow in responsibility

from only 135,000 square miles of the Missouri Basin at its inception in 1946, to 1/2 million square miles when he was placed in charge in 1951, to its present 867,000 square miles.

Before entering the Weather Service he was employed by the U.S. Geological Survey and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.



He holds a B.S. Degree in Geology and Mining Engineering from the University of Kansas and is a registered professional engineer. He is a member of the Society of American Military Engineers, and has chaired or been a member of several task committees of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

In 1969 he received a Department of Commerce Gold Medal for his contributions to the Weather Service's timely, accurate warnings of the impending, widespread Upper Midwest floods, and, in 1964, a Silver Medal for his service to the agency's hydrologic program.

He is a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Corps of Engineer Reserve.

Mr. Johnson and his wife, Willa, live at 732 South Hudson St.. Buckner, Mo.

Daniel W. Krueger

Daniel W. Krueger, Meteorologist In Charge of the National Weather Service Office in Atlantic City, N.J., retired on in January after more than 31 years of Federal Service.



He began his career in Milwaukee, Wisc., in 1940 and worked in weather offices in Rochester, N.Y., Chicago, Ill., New York City, Minneapolis, Minn. and Macon, Ga., before being assigned to Atlantic City in 1965.

Mr. Krueger holds a B.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin and an M.S. in meteorology from the University of Chicago, and has done graduate work at Northwestern University, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Maryland and the University of Miami. He taught at the University of Georgia and was guest lecturer at the University of Wisconsin and Rutgers University. He is a professional member of the American Meteorological Society.

Mr. Krueger and his wife, Mary, will continue to reside at 707 N. Cornwall Ave. Ventnor, N. J. 08406.

W.M. (Max) Reynolds and Joseph K. Wilson



The photo above was taken at the retirement festivities on February 4 in Norfolk, Va., for W.M. (Max) Reynolds and Joseph K. Wilson, who retired after 30 years' service. Facing the camera, from left, are: Commander Melvin J. Umbach, Chief, Photogrammetry Division, Atlantic Marine Center; Captain Jack E. Guth, Chief, Coastal Mapping Division, NOS, Rockville; Mr. Reynolds; Mrs. Reynolds; Rear Admiral Alfred C. Holmes, Director, AMC; Mrs. Wilson, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Wilson's sister, Mrs. Mulcahy.

Mr. Wilson and Mr. Reynolds began their Federal careers 30 years ago in the Coast and Geodetic Survey (predecessor of the NOS), on a large photogrammetric field party engaged in War Mapping for the Defense Department invasion-prone areas along the coast from Maine to Florida. When the

War Mapping Program terminated, both were in charge of field sub-units and were assigned to the agency's Washington, D.C., headquarters for training and temporary duty. Both subsequently became party chiefs--Mr. Reynolds for the Airport Obstruction Charting Program and Mr. Wilson for Coastal Mapping.

In addition to their length-of-service pins, Adm. Holmes presented a Department of Commerce Bronze Medal to Mr. Wilson in recognition of nearly three decades of outstanding service...in the field of photogrammetry", and a cash award to Mr. Reynolds for superior performance as Chief of Aero Party 82.

The Wilsons will live in Oak Grove, Ky., and the Reynolds' at 404 Runyon Drive, High Point, N.C.

U.S. Quakes Increased in 1971, Caused First Deaths Since 1965

The National Earthquake Information Center's preliminary summary of worldwide seismic activity in 1971 shows that, in the United States, there was an increase in the number of earthquakes felt, the first earthquake fatalities since 1965, and a record amount of earthquake damage (more than half a billion dollars in Southern California alone).

The Center determined the surface locations (epicenters) and magnitudes of nearly 5,000 events during the year, based on data received from more than 300 cooperating stations and observatories worldwide.

Thus far, these specific significant earthquake activity facts have emerged:

--Although 1971 lacked the cataclysmic earthquakes of 1970, a total of 1,053 earthquake-caused deaths was reported worldwide, of which 65 occurred in the San Fernando, Calif., quake on February 9. This total is only a small percentage of the 1970 toll, which included the more than 50,000 deaths in Peru.

-- NEIC received reports of 361 felt earthquakes (those felt by persons in the area; consequently, the figures shown here express a combination of population density and seismic activity, rather than seismic activity alone) from 21 states, as compared with 238 felt events in 14 states in 1970. California had 118 felt events (excluding many of the San Fernando disaster aftershocks in February); Montana had 93, most of them part of an unusual swarm of earthquakes in the Flathead Lake region, possibly the area of densest seismic activity in the U.S. except for the San Fernando aftershock series. Alaska had 90; New Mexico, 16; Nevada, 9; Colorado, 7; Hawaii, 5; New York, 4; South Carolina and Washington, 3; Tennessee and Utah, 2; and Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Illinois, Massachusetts, Oregon, South Dakota, and Virginia had one each.

--It was an average year for earthquakes. On the average, we can expect one magnitude 8 and eighteen magnitude 7 to 7.9 events, worldwide yearly. In 1971 there were one magnitude 8 and nineteen in the magnitude 7 - 7.9 range. However, two of those 19 events occurred close to magnitude 7.9, making 1971 the highest year since 1964 for energy release from earthquakes. Early in the year, a NOAA scientist reported that this seven-year cycle of peak energy release coincided with peaks in the rate of migration of the earth's rotational pole, and suggested a strong correlation between this rotational wobble and annual earthquake activity.

--Many of the large earthquakes seemed to occur in pairs, as, for example, those in New Britain, Kamchatka, Italy, Turkey, Chile, and the mid-Atlantic. This is

Admiral Langeraar, IOC Chairman, CICAR Coordinator, Visits AOML



Admiral Wynand Langeraar, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and International Coordinator for CICAR, The Cooperative Investigation of the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions, is shown with the NOAA Ship DISCOVERER, during a recent visit to the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories in Miami, Fla.

probably coincidental for some of these events, but tied to the earthquake mechanisms for others.

--The New Britain shocks and their hundreds of aftershocks (including 24 larger than magnitude 6) constituted the year's most unusual seismic activity.

--The seismic results from CANNIKIN, the manmade Atomic Energy Commission nuclear test beneath the Aleutian Island of Amchitka on November 6, were almost exactly the predicted values, and no associated changes in natural earthquake activity or tsunami wave action were detected following the test.

The San Fernando earthquake was the best recorded of any natural tremor, ever. NOAA's strong-motion program obtained 241 accelerograms (175 of them in the Los Angeles area, where the instruments had been installed at various levels in high-rise buildings) and 150 seismoscope records of ground motion around the epicentral area. Interpretation of these and other seismic data should have a profound effect on building codes, insurance, estimates of seismic risk, and disaster preparedness.

The seismic results of NOAA's Aleutian program are providing an unusually detailed view of how crustal plates interact along the Aleutian Island arc, and, by extension, how they interact globally.

Calls For Distant City Forecasts Average More Than 500 Daily

Since early last August, residents of the Washington, D. C., area have been able to dial 736-7171 to hear abbreviated weather forecasts for 10 major cities in the eastern half of the United States, and 736-8181 for forecasts for 10 major western cities.

According to Jerrold A. LaRue, Meteorologist In Charge, telephone counters placed on the recordings at the Washington, D.C., Forecast Office recently, show that about 400 calls are made daily for information on the eastern cities, and almost 135 daily for information on the western cities.

The information is provided for Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Memphis, Miami, Minneapolis, New York City, New Orleans, and Pittsburgh, in the east; and for Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, San Antonio, San Francisco, Seattle, and Tulsa in the west.

John M. Porter, Principal Assistant at the WSFO, explained the two-day forecasts are updated by 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. each day, and give one-word forecasts (except for partly cloudy) and temperature predictions for each day. For example, after 6 p.m. on Tuesday, the recordings give, for each city, a one-word forecast for Wednesday, along with the low and high temperatures expected, and the same for Thursday. Updated at 6 a.m. on Wednesday, they give the one-word forecast and only the high temperature for Wednesday (the low presumably having been passed already), along with Thursday's one-word forecast and both high and low temperatures expected.

NOS Anniversary Celebration Well Attended

Rear Admiral Don A. Jones, Director of the National Ocean Survey, is shown addressing the several hundred people who attended the 165th anniversary of the founding of the National Ocean Survey at its Rockville, Md., headquarters.



The agency started as the Survey of the Coast in 1807, then became the Coast Survey, and finally the Coast and Geodetic Survey until 1970, when, upon the formation of NOAA, it was renamed the National Ocean Survey.

Instruments Will Help in Study Of Earthquake-Induced Forces



A pair of strong-motion instruments was recently installed on the California Interstate 5 highway overpass three miles north of San Fernando to help seismologists study the effects of earthquake-induced forces on such structures. The accelerographs, one just below the traffic surface in a hollow cell and the other (shown above being installed) about 100 feet below where the supporting column joins the buried base shaft, were placed by the Earth Science Laboratories' Seismological Field Survey at the request of the California Department of Highways. Interconnected for simultaneous time and start, the lower device measures strong-motion inputs to the structure from the ground and the upper instrument senses structural responses to the input motion.

California has bought four of these instruments and is expected to purchase more in the future.

Fish Can Be Dropouts, Too

To the fisheries scientist, a dropout is not a disenchanted student, but a fish that has escaped from a net.

The NMFS has conducted a three-year study of mortality rates of sockeye salmon on escaping from gillnets.

Of the fish that were enmeshed, 48 percent escaped; about 75 percent of the dropouts were dead within six days, with the death rate among escapees rising rapidly to about the sixth day and leveling off during the following 20 days.

In comparison, the death rate for fish not caught in nets was estimated at about 10 percent.

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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