

For Release
Oct. 17, 1938

By Major A.H. Thiessen
Science Service Meteorologist

Gobi Desert! Crossing this desert is no holiday adventure at any time of the year. One traveler, in describing his crossing it in July, says that as soon as the sun came up it scorched everyone. They were obliged to halt for two or three hours as the air temperature rose to 113 degrees, while the surface sand registered 143 degrees or even higher. At a depth of two feet, the soil temperature was 79 degrees. At night there was no dew, of course, and during the day the air was terribly dry. Visibility was decreased so much by the dust that it was necessary to lay out the course with a compass. The wind blew almost incessantly night and day.
