

Mecca appointed special assistant

William A. Mecca, Jr., Director of the Goddard Space Flight Center's Administration and Management (A&M) Directorate, has been appointed Center Assistant Director For Special Projects at the Goddard Space Flight Center. He will assist and act for the Director on the Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System (TDRSS) and other projects requiring special emphasis. The appointment becomes effective October 5, 1980.

TDRSS is a future flight project planned for operation during the Space Shuttle era. TDRSS will be a system of orbiting satellites which will track and obtain data from Earth orbiting space-

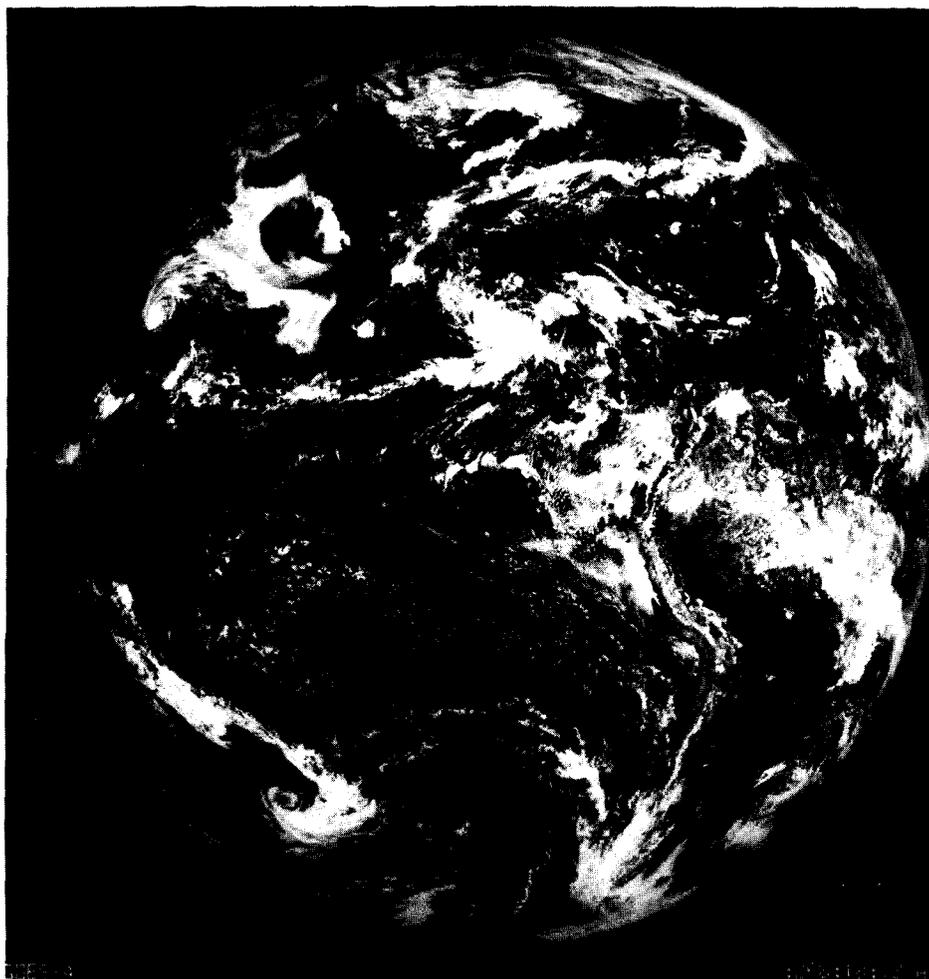
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Quann appointed Director Mission's and Data Operations

Effective October 5, 1980, Mr. John J. Quann, formerly Chief, Information Extraction Division, Applications Directorate, is appointed Director of Mission and Data Operations (Code 500, 344-8768). Mr. Quann replaces Mr. Albert G. Ferris, who served as Director of Mission and Data Operations from July 1973 until his retirement on August 22, 1980. In his new capacity, Mr. Quann will be responsible for total Directorate activities data for a large number of scientific and applications satellites, and to provide program support in information science and technology research and development. The Directorate is also responsible for the continuing development, implementation, and effective operation of the Center's mission support and data operations capabilities.

Mr. Quann's professional career began at Goddard in June 1959 upon graduation with a Bachelor of Science Degree

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GOES-4 INITIAL IMAGE

This is the first cloud cover image taken by the GOES-4 spacecraft, launched September 9. GOES-4 is the first satellite to be put into orbit as a joint operational and research mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and NASA.

The image shows South America on the right. The United States can be seen above the center. Over extreme southern Mexico and Honduras is the cyclonic cloud pattern associated with the remnants of Hurricane Hermine. Just south of Baja is another cloud swirl which is a tropical depression that was Tropical Storm Lester 12 hours earlier. To the left of this depression is another cyclonic swirl which is Hurricane Kay approaching the Hawaiian Islands. The cloud pattern extending from Washington, D.C. southwest to Texas is in the incipient stage of a small storm which is expected to produce rain along the entire coast.

GOES-4 observed this scene at 2 PM EDT, September 24 and transmitted it to NOAA's ground station at Wallops Island, VA. Here it was sent, via GOES-4, to the Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD., where it was transformed to a photographic image. The spacecraft is hovering over the Equator at about 90 degrees W Longitude and will soon be turned over to NOAA.



Clarke Prouty, technical liaison for the Get Away Special program, explains the verification test payload to Premate.

Matt Premate, a graduate student from Yugoslavia, was a recent visitor to Goddard. Premate, who is studying at the Florida Institute of Technology, is investigating the Space Shuttle's "Get Away Special Program." For a nominal fee any person—whether representing an organization, nation or himself—can have a payload carried on the Space Shuttle.

Premate, representing Yugoslavia, said he is interested in having a national contest for students in his country to develop proposals for experiments for the Shuttle. He said the contest will be a tool to motivate students and get them interested in the space program. The payload reserved for Yugoslavia, the first Iron Curtain nation to participate in the Shuttle program, is scheduled for 1984.

Handicapped Awareness Week observed October 21, 22

interact to help children and adults understand and appreciate the needs of the

handicapped. There will be special arrangements made for handicapped parking for this program. Spaces will be re-

Most people at some time in their lives will experience disability—whether through a birth defect, illness, accident, or old age. The physical environment that able-bodied people take for granted can be a major source of frustration to the handicapped. A curb or stairway is not a problem until it cannot be negotiated, and room numbers or printed instructions are not the least bit helpful to the blind.

Handicapped Awareness Week is being observed at Goddard on October 21 and 22. During this time the Employee Advi-

sory Committee for the Handicapped (EACH) will sponsor activities that will aid Goddard employees in recognizing the physical and attitudinal barriers that confront the handicapped. EACH was formed to help the Goddard community identify and remove as many of these barriers as possible.

Kent Potter, Chairperson of EACH, became handicapped as a result of polio in childhood. After entering the University of Illinois, he quickly learned the meaning of the Rehabilitation Center motto, "It's Ability, Not Disability, That Counts." As an architect, he has brought his special awareness of physical barriers and accessibility to the job of creating a more functional environment for all employees.

Though accessibility in older buildings can be a problem, efforts to eliminate such barriers have been made. Gabriel Toth, a Goddard engineer since 1966 in the Networks Directorate and a victim of multiple sclerosis, has been confined to a wheelchair for the past several years. His work place was made more functional with the addition of a specially-equipped restroom near his office.

The awareness program this October includes "The Kids on the Block"—a creative puppet group that will perform on October 21 at 10 o'clock and 12 o'clock in building 21, room 183. This performance was created by a special education expert, Barbara Aiello, and is composed of puppets portraying handicapped as well as able-bodied children. The "Kids"

served in front of building 21 on the curb side in the yellow zone. In addition, there are marked spaces available at the rear of the building.

Along with the "Kids," two videotape programs will be shown on October 22 during lunchtime, on closed circuit television. The program will include the film "A Different Approach," and the performance of the Gallaudet Singers given at Goddard last year.

This fall program is a preview of things to come during 1981, the United Nations' "Year of the Handicapped."

Handicapped Awareness Week

October 21

Meet the Kids on the Block— special puppet performance 10 a.m. and 12 p.m., Building 21, room 183

October 22

Video tape program: "A Different Approach," and The Galludet Singers (view on closed circuit television during lunchtime.)



There is presently a very colorful exhibit and 2 on display in the lobby of the Goddard.

People



Center Director receives "Meritorious Executive" Presidential Rank

A. Thomas Young, Center Director, was honored as a Meritorious Executive in a NASA Headquarters ceremony on September 10, 1980. Less than four percent of all SES members received the "Meritorious Executive" Presidential Rank, which carries a \$10,000 lump sum payment. From left are: Dr. Robert A. Frosch, NASA Administrator, and Mr. Young.

Honorable Robert A. Frosch
Administrator, National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Bob:

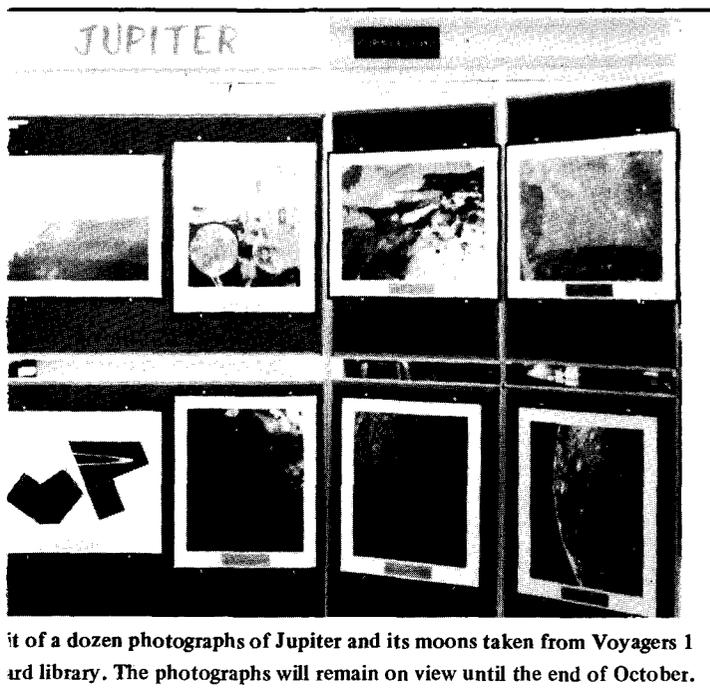
We have learned that MAGSAT has completed its mission by reentering the atmosphere on June 11. Congratulations are due the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for a job well done in building, launching, receiving and analyzing the data, and all other efforts related to this program. Please convey our thanks to the Office of Space and Terrestrial Applications and the MAGSAT Project Office at the Goddard Space Flight Center.

The Geological Survey has participated throughout the planning for MAGSAT and is deeply involved in the analysis of the data. The longer-than-planned life of the spacecraft and quality of the data indicate that a truly significant set of geophysical information has been collected.

There is still much work to be done in processing and analysis. We look forward to working closely with your scientists to complete this task and planning for future missions to monitor the dynamic characteristics of the Earth's magnetic field.

Sincerely,

H. William Menard
Director, Geological Survey
United States Department of the Interior



A set of a dozen photographs of Jupiter and its moons taken from Voyagers 1 and 2 is on display in the Goddard library. The photographs will remain on view until the end of October.

Maryland Senator Charles Mathias praises GSFC

Senator Charles McC Mathias, Republican-MD., recently addressed Congress on one of the successes of modern America, the national space program. Though he praised the ingenuity and skill which has made the American space program preeminent in the world, the focus of his speech was, "A Goddard Success Story."

"In one key aspect of this program, space science, our nation is without doubt the world's leader," Senator Mathias said. He also added that, "A major element of this scientific enterprise is located at the Goddard Space Flight Center."

He said Goddard is a remarkable place representing a valuable national resource. Mathias gave a brief history of GSFC including explanations of the recent advancements made with the IUE satellite program.

GOES-4 carries new type of instrument

The GOES-4 meteorological satellite, launched Sept. 9 from NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Fla., for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, carries a new type of instrument known as the VAS, or Visible Infrared Spin Scan Radiometer (VISSR) Atmospheric Sounder.

Scientists at Goddard Space Flight Center, and the University of Wisconsin at Madison, will conduct a long-term experiment to evaluate the usefulness of this instrument for prediction of severe local hurricanes, storms and other short-term weather phenomena.

Previous GOES spacecraft provided day and night, two-dimensional cloud cover photos.

Now the new atmospheric sounder, in addition to this same imaging capability, will be able to measure atmospheric temperatures and moisture at various altitude layers. As with previous GOES satellites, the new instrument will provide both day and night cloud cover photos with a resolution of approximately 0.9 kilometers (.55 miles) in daylight and 6.9 km (4.28 mi.) at night.

Correction:

Dr. Harry Goett, Goddard's first Director, was incorrectly identified as Dr. Henry Goett in the September 15 issue of the *Goddard News*. Please excuse the error.

GOES satellites are geosynchronous, hovering over one spot on the Earth. This experiment will inaugurate a new use for these satellites that will require observation scenarios, data processing systems and analysis programs differing markedly from those for polar (north-south) orbiting weather satellites such as the TIROS-N series. Since GOES is stationary with respect to the Earth, it can observe storms as they develop and hence



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should be useful in a forecast and warning system.

Over the past few years, scientists from NASA, NOAA and the University of Wisconsin have been developing ground-based data processing facilities at Goddard and the University. These facilities will be used during the next few years in this experiment to assess the usefulness of VAS data for weathercasting and for increasing understanding of short-lived weather features such as tropical storms, mid-latitude cyclones and thunderstorms.

Mecca

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craft, much as Earth-based tracking stations do now.

Mr. Mecca has served as A&M Director since 1975. Prior to this time he had been the Directorate's Associate Director for Administration.

The A&M Directorate provides support to Goddard in the areas of legal affairs, patents, public affairs, safety, finance, procurement, and personnel. The Directorate is also responsible for such technical services as facilities engineering, shops and plant operation and maintenance.

Mr. Mecca came to Goddard in 1973 from the U.S. General Accounting Office, where he was Program Audit Manager. He was born in Scranton, PA., and received a BS degree from the University of Scranton in 1955, and attended the advance Management Program at Harvard University. He has received a number of awards, including a Goddard Exceptional Service Award in 1970 and a NASA Exceptional Service Medal in 1971.

Quann

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in Mathematics from Manhattan College in New York. He joined Goddard as a Research Engineer in the former Operations Division, Tracking and Data Systems Directorate, and within 2 years was assigned as Project Operational Coordinator within the Operations Control Branch. During his career he has been involved in providing data processing support for the Mercury, Atmospheric Explorer, and Orbiting Geophysical Observatories Projects. He served as Head, Experiment Computing Section, Telemetry Computation Branch, Information Processing Division, Tracking and Data Systems Directorate from August 1967 to November 1970; Head, Data Analysis Branch, Laboratory for Planetary Atmospheres, Space and Earth Sciences Directorate from November 1970 to March 1974; and as Chief, Information Extraction Division from March 1974 to the present time. Mr. Quann was the recipient of the NASA Medal for Outstanding Leadership in 1979.

GODDARD NEWS

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