

## Rededication Address IV:

### Address by Dr. Anthony J. Calio, Administrator Designate, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

"Distinguished guests, ladies, and gentlemen. Good morning.

"I think this is an absolutely beautiful morning, having spent 10 years in the heat of Houston, Texas. This is a magnificent place; I think it's one of the garden spots of the United States. As a matter of fact, Dick Hennemuth was trying to convince me last night that working here was a hardship tour. Now I am convinced, after coming to Woods Hole, that he ought to pay a premium for the privilege of working in this lovely corner of the United States. I think Dick is having a little bit of trouble with that.

"I am happy to be a part of your Centennial celebration, and particularly pleased that I was asked to participate in this Rededication Ceremony. As everyone has already pointed out, we've come a long way, and as we all know, we have a long way yet to go; that is why I am delighted that the Woods Hole Laboratory is an integral part of the NOAA team. It will make that long-way-to-go more rewarding, more exciting, and surely, more successful. This is not just wishful thinking on my part, the events of the past week have catalogued quite well the traditions and accomplishments of the Woods Hole Laboratory. Therein lies my dilemma for this morning.

"The public lectures on the history and the contributions of the Woods Hole Laboratory, as well as the public forums on future strategies and opportunities for this fine institution, place me somewhat at peril, for I do not want to merely repeat what has already been so eloquently stated. To be sure, repetition has its place in research and learning, and sometimes in oratory, but it is a little too warm for me to put you to sleep here this morning. I will forego any lengthy reference to the past and refrain from

talking about specific projects for the future, but instead focus my remarks on things like: Commitment, responsibility, need, understanding, and rededication.

"Now these are pretty high-sounding words, but they have a very tangible, down-to-earth quality to them, and they mean something to everyone who is concerned with our oceans' resources. I use the phrase "oceans' resources" because our fish stocks exist in a very complex milieu. It is an environment which can be understood only in a multidisciplinary sense or in multidisciplinary terms. Any study of fisheries and their conservation and management, to me, requires a wholecloth approach. It is not just a compilation of statistics on fish stocks, or fish habitat, or fish disease. It is not enough to measure harvest against reproduction, or to focus our attention only on ways to increase recruitment. We have the responsibility to oversee the conservation and management of our resources and our fisheries.

This means we are obliged to employ the latest technology and to increase our knowledge of fish resources. It means we are committed to collecting and assessing environmental data which have an impact on our fish stocks, and it means we are committed to using many different scientific disciplines in order to better predict fish stocks. We know also, that we are responsible for balancing the legitimate needs of the U.S. fishing industry with the concerns of the environmental community. It means we are obliged to maintain a sound and workable partnership, involving both the public and the private sectors. Finally, our mandate requires that we work diligently to resolve whatever political and jurisdictional disputes may exist and which may have an adverse effect on the conservation and management of our fisheries.

"As you well know, the responsibilities of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, regarding our fisheries, are diverse and far-reaching. To embrace the full scope of these responsibilities, it is imperative for us to think in terms of "oceanic" as opposed to only fish resources. It is in this context that fishery conservation and management has been a top priority in NOAA.

"One hundred years ago, Spencer Fullerton Baird first attempted to outline the complexity of factors which may



Anthony J. Calio

cause the decline in fish populations. As Bill Gordon pointed out earlier, Baird listed as the probable causes for the decline: The decrease or disappearance of the food of commercial fishes, the migration of fishes to other localities, epidemic diseases, "peculiar atmospheric agencies," as he called them, such as heat and cold; the destruction of the stock by other fishes, and man's activities resulting in the pollution of water, in overfishing, and the use of improper apparatus. I want to point out one other thing, he too, had no money.

"We can easily recognize this listing as a broad philosophical approach to an apparently limited field of inquiry. The result was a program combining oceanic and meteorological investigations with the studies of biology, ecology, parasitology, and population dynamics of various fish species. In fact, Baird's approach represents a program which is as comprehensive and valid today as it was a hundred years ago when he became Director of the Woods Hole Laboratory. Moreover, it is consistent with the notion that I expressed earlier, which states quite clearly, that we must view our fish stocks from a multidisciplinary perspective; otherwise, we will never be able to succeed in fulfilling our obliga-

tion to the American people.

"The Woods Hole Laboratory can take pride in the fact that its research has always taken into account environmental concerns, and it can also take pride in the fact that it always looked beyond biotic factors. This special way of looking at things has had a synergistic effect on the development of new technologies over the years. It was at the Woods Hole Laboratory that the use of scuba and manned undersea vessels in fisheries research were developed, and it was as a result of the Woods Hole research needs that improved instrumentation was developed for sea-going vessels.

"The work done here has led to cooperative global studies such as the International Recruitment Experiment Program, and the Sardine/Anchovy Recruitment Program. The work done here has set the stage, as well, for the Fishery Oceanography Coordinated Investigation currently being conducted. The investigation of Warm-Core Rings and the use of remote sensing data to increase our knowledge of fish stocks is also tied to Woods Hole initiatives. The Woods Hole Lab is in the forefront in providing key environmental data on green water and estuarine productivity. The Woods Hole Lab has served the

American people well in its efforts to expand the knowledge of our living marine resources and the environment in which these resources abound.

"We are here to celebrate the longevity of a Laboratory's effort. But it is the quality of that effort which augurs well for the interests of all of us who are concerned about the oceans' resources. I extend my congratulations to the dedicated men and women who, over the years, have carried out such vital research. The U.S. Government will continue to act as a trustee for the marine resources, and NOAA will be the principal agent in charge of overseeing that assignment. As I mentioned earlier, I believe the Woods Hole Laboratory will make our task easier and far more fruitful than anyone could imagine. I look forward to being a part of the on-going excellence that the Woods Hole Laboratory represents.

"Although I, like Allen Peterson, will not be around to celebrate the Bicentennial, I am confident that there will be one. Certainly the past efforts of this laboratory have assured it a long, durable, and productive future. Learning, I think, has rarely had such a wonderful partner. To all of you, I share my enthusiasm in the Rededication of this Laboratory."

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## Presentation of the Centennial Plaque

### Mr. Richard Hennemuth:

"Tony, the next invitation you get to Woods Hole will be in January!

"We are now going to unveil the Centennial Plaque. Dr. Robert L. Edwards has that honor. Dr. Edwards was director of the Northeast Fisheries Center from 1976 to 1981; prior to that he was Laboratory Director and Assistant Laboratory Director under Dr. Graham. He began working here in 1955 and has been responsible for many of the achievements and studies of this Laboratory in the latter quarter of the century.

At the present time, he is special assistant to Mr. Gordon, the Director of NMFS, and for the past 2 or 3 arduous years, has been Chief Scientific Consultant to the Government in the U.S./Canada Boundary Study.

"It is a pleasure to introduce Dr. Edwards, whom I have known for 25 years and worked with for much of that time. Bob, would you like to make a few remarks before unveiling the plaque?"

### Dr. Robert L. Edwards:

"Distinguished guests, friends, ladies, and gentlemen.

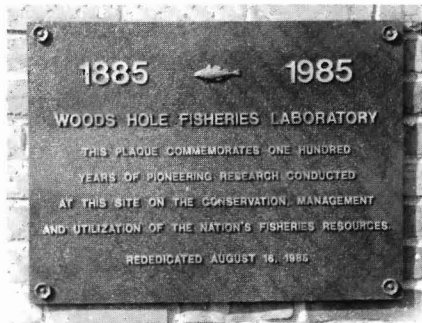
"I am really not going to say very much. I would simply like to comment on the fact that we are celebrating two things here today. First, the fact that the right man, Spencer Fullerton Baird, appeared at the right time and the right place. That has been made very clear this week. And, of course, we are celebrating explicitly, the one hundredth birthday of this Laboratory.

"Just one more comment before I carry out my duties, which are really to use my muscles rather than my mouth. I have been to many ceremonies where people have unveiled plaques, statues,

and so forth, and I have always wondered whether or not those who did so knew what was underneath the veil before they removed it. Well, in this instance, I can assure you, I have no idea what is underneath. The trouble is that I am sort of at a disadvantage because I am going to lift that curtain on the far left, and as you can see, I really will not be able to see what is beneath it very well, so I am still somewhat neutral about it. With that, I will go and do it.

[Dr. Edwards unveils the Centennial Plaque to applause.]

"For those of you who cannot see it, and for myself as well, the inscription reads: '1885 to 1985, Woods Hole Fisheries Laboratory. This plaque commemorates one hundred years of pioneering research conducted at this site on the conservation, management and utilization of the nation's fisheries resources. Rededicated, August 16, 1985.'"



The Centennial Plaque.

### Concluding Remarks

#### Mr. Hennemuth:

"We are now approaching the end of our Centennial week. I would just like to leave you with a few thoughts.

"During the week, sentiments concerning the Laboratory's history and future have been very well expressed by

all who participated in our Centennial week, and I wish to thank all of them for their contributions, making this a very successful week indeed.

"The roles played by various people remains to be explained. We, here at the Laboratory, are part of the Federal Government which is the trustee of the resources which are the common property, at least off our shores, of all United States citizens. Our role, in the primary agency mandated to study these fish resources, is to help the Government provide the appropriate stewardship. That role has been very well exercised in the last hundred years and we pledge ourselves to exercise it as well, or better, in the future.

"However, there is a shared responsibility. Our responsibility is to provide the information, but it is the responsibility of the citizens of this country to ensure that, first, they are getting the appropriate information, and secondly, that it is used properly to conserve and manage the resources so that we may, in fact, benefit from them for many years to come. There are increasingly difficult problems to be dealt with in determining what the health and status of these resources are. The fish we harvest are no better than their environment; also, we can no longer assume that it is a pristine, natural environment anywhere in the world, from the estuaries on the northeast coast, which are particularly stressed by pollutants, to Antarctica, where pollutants are now easily measurable in its own waters. Our task is a difficult one and we can continue to do it only so long as the public supports us.

"Before concluding these proceedings, I would like to thank the Laboratory staff, for, they have done a marvelous job in helping prepare and execute this successful Centennial Celebration. You may see some of the fruits of their labor on display in the Aquarium, and I do hope that anyone who has not yet visited the exhibits will do so.

"I would especially like to thank Dr. Marvin Grosslein who, as chairman of

the Centennial Committee, had the responsibility of assuring that everything ran smoothly and well. Marvin is an excellent example of the whole staff. Our staff is very competent and is always willing to turn out and do more than what one can reasonably expect when the need arises. This staff is a credit to the Federal Service, and from my point of view, makes my job so very much easier to do.

"I would like to refer you to the list of sponsors, at the back of the program, who very generously helped us with some of the events of this Centennial Celebration which we otherwise could not have done. Finally, I express my deep appreciation to Mr. Peterson, Mr. Gordon, and Dr. Calio for their support.

"I would like to end these Rededication proceedings with a Benediction by Reverend Burton who will remind us that our successes and our future are not entirely in our own hands."

### Benediction

#### Rev. Jeanette Burton:

"We have been reminded of the past. We are very aware of the present. But, I remind you that the future is in the hands of God. He has given us all these resources. He has made you responsible for the research, and many of us as a consumer. I remind you that as God has given us through His grace and His love all of this vast creation and all of these resources, and if we are to leave anything for the future, we are to use wisely what has been given. Go forth remembering all that you have comes from God. Go forth, enjoy it, research it, and use it, but appreciate the Giver. God's blessing be upon each one of us as we go forth to serve in His Name and for His Glory, Amen."

#### Mr. Hennemuth:

"I thank you Reverend Burton, and I thank our distinguished guests and speakers, and you the audience, for participating in the Celebration of our Centennial."