

Navy presents citations for Sealab participation

January 24, 1966

Department of the Navy "meritorious public service citations" have been presented to two staff members and three graduate students of the University of California, San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography for their participation as scientists-divers in the Navy's Sealab II undersea program off La Jolla last fall.

On behalf of Navy Secretary Paul Nitze, all 28 Sealab II aquanauts were honored at a recent Washington symposium that centered on Sealab II findings.

Scripps personnel cited for their "exceptionally outstanding service" as volunteer aquanauts and for their "valuable contributions while living for an extended time (15 days) as an inhabitant of the ocean regions below 200 feet" were Arthur O. Flechsig, research oceanographer, of Encinitas, and Earl Murray, laboratory technician, of Del Mar; and graduate students Thomas A. Clarke and Richard Grigg, both of La Jolla; and Morgan Wells, also of Del Mar.

Flechsig and Clarke made contributions to scientific advancement in the field of marine biology (Clarke was cited as the "first American marine biologist to carry out significant in situ investigations at such great depths"); Murray in the underwater installation of electronic equipment, Grigg in the area of plankton ecology, and Wells in the physiology of fishes.

All five men received Navy unit commendation citations at the conclusion of the Sealab II program last October.

(1/24/66)