

C.G. Tows Weather Buoy

JUNEAU — The Coast Guard Cutter Yocona, homeported in Astoria, Oregon, left Seattle (September 4th) towing a 100 ton experimental weather data buoy to the Gulf of Alaska.

The buoy, being tested by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will be moored approximately 185 nautical miles southeast of Kodiak in waters nearly two miles deep.

The buoy is expected to aid in weather forecasting for Alaska and the Pacific Northwest.

The buoy is one of a series being stationed in ocean waters to explore the feasibility of a national system of buoys that will furnish vital oceanographic and meteorological information from remote areas.

The Buoy, 40-feet in diameter, is designed to withstand 150-knot hurricane winds, 46

foot waves, 6 knot currents, and remain on station for two years without being serviced.

It is also designed to carry sensors to measure oceanic and atmospheric data including wind speed and direction, rainfall, air temperature and pressure, dew-point, water temperature, current speed and direction, and salt content.