



Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society 1985 Distinguished Achievement Award

to

James R. Wait

in recognition of
his significant technical contributions
to electrical geophysics.



October 7, 1985

GRS SOCIETY AWARDS

1985 Distinguished Achievement Award

The GRS Society established the Distinguished Achievement Award to recognize an individual who has made significant technical contributions usually over a sustained period within the scope of GRS-S. The award is considered annually, and presented only if a suitable candidate is identified. In selecting the individual, the factors considered are quality, significance and impact of the contributions; quantity of the contributions; duration of significant activity; papers published in archival journals; papers presented at conferences and symposia; patents granted; and advancement of the profession. IEEE membership is preferable, but not required. The awardee shall receive a plaque and a certificate.

Dr. James R. Wait received the 1985 GRS-S Distinguished Achievement Award with the citation, "In recognition of his significant technical contributions to electrical geophysics." Biographical information on Dr. Wait and copies of his plaque and certificate follow.



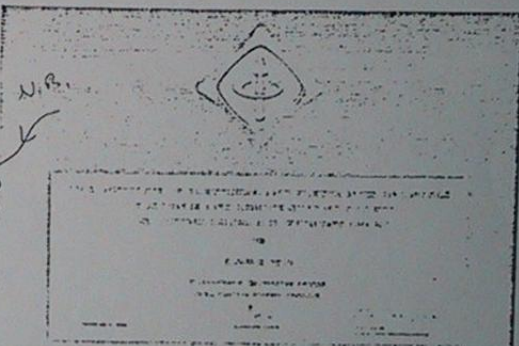
James R. Wait (SM'56-F'62) was born in Ottawa, Canada, on January 23, 1924. He received the B.A.Sc. and M.A.Sc. degrees in engineering physics in 1948 and 1949, respectively, and the Ph.D. degree in electromagnetic theory in 1951, all from the University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

From 1942 to 1945, he was a Radar Technician in the Canadian Army. From 1948 to 1951, he was associated with Newmont Exploration Ltd. in New York, NY, and Jerome, AZ, where his re-

search led to several patents for electromagnetic and induced-polarization methods of geophysical prospecting. From 1952 to 1955, he was a Section Leader at the Defence Research Telecommunications Establishment, Ottawa. He joined the National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, CO, in 1955, and concentrated on the theoretical aspects of radio propagation. In 1961, he was appointed Adjunct Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Colorado, Boulder. During 1960, he was a Visiting Research

Fellow at the Laboratory of Electromagnetic Theory in the Technical University of Denmark, Copenhagen. For the academic year 1966-1967, he was a Visiting Professor at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. From 1963-1967, he was a Senior Research Fellow at Boulder, where he was also Consultant to the Director of the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and Aeronomy. From 1967 to 1970, he was Senior Scientist in the Office of the Director of the ESSA Research Laboratories, Boulder. In September of 1970, he became the Senior Scientist in the Office of the Director of the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of the Office of Telecommunications. In October 1971, he returned to his position in the Office of the Director of the Environmental Research Laboratories of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA, formerly ESSA), but remains as a Consultant to the Director of ITS. In addition, he was Fellow of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences. In May 1971, he was a Visiting Professor at the Catholic University of Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, and in September, 1971, he was a guest of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences in Moscow and Tbilisi. In August 1980, he assumed the position as Professor of Electrical Engineering and Geosciences in the University of Arizona at Tucson. He has published six books and numerous papers on subjects ranging from electromagnetics to geophysics.

Dr. Wait was awarded the Department of Commerce Gold Medal in 1959 for "highly distinguished authorship in the field of radio propagation;" the Boulder Scientist Award sponsored by the Scientific Research Society of America in 1960; the NBS Samuel Wesley Stratton Award in 1962; and the Arthur S. Flemming Award, Washington, DC, Chamber of Commerce, and the Harry Diamond Award from the IEEE, both in 1964. He is a Fellow of the AAAS. In September 1972, he received an Outstanding Publication Award from the Office of Telecommunications in Washington, DC. He received NOAA's 1973 Scientific Research and Achievement Award "in recognition of his outstanding achievement as a scientist and research leader in theoretical studies of electromagnetic wave propagation in the earth and its atmosphere." In 1975, he received a Special Achievement Award from the Office of Telecommunications "in recognition of outstanding authorship of a great variety of publications and journal articles." He was mainly responsible for the establishment of the journal *Radio Science*, which started in 1959 as Section D of the *NBS Journal of Research*; he served three terms as Editor. He has also served three terms as an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Geophysical Research*. For four years, he was U.S. Regional Editor of *Electronics Letters*. Currently, he is a member of the Editorial Board of *Pure and Applied Geophysics* and Co-editor of the IEE Series of Monographs on EM Waves, and Associate Editor of *Radio Science*. He was Secretary (1974-1978) of the U.S. National Committee of the International Scientific Radio Union. He has been a U.S. delegate to URSI General Assemblies in Boulder (1957), London (1960), Tokyo (1963), Ottawa (1969), Warsaw (1972), Lima (1975), and Helsinki (1978). In 1977, he was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Engineering. Also, in June 1977, he was elected to be a Fellow of the Institution of Electrical Engineers. On July 31, 1978, he received the Balh van der Pol Gold Medal at the General Assembly of URSI held in Helsinki, Finland.



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