

David Simonds Johnson

Weather Satellite Pioneer
1925 - 2005



Weather forecasting took off in a big way in the 1950s thanks in large part to U.S. Weather Bureau meteorologist David Simonds Johnson, who played a key role in creating the nation's weather satellite program.

Johnson was the founding director of the National Satellite Service and the NOAA National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service. In 1976, he became NOAA's first assistant administrator for satellites and data.

During his tenure, NOAA launched two series of weather satellites that provided observations of the entire earth twice daily to weather services around the world.



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