

Highlights

- Weather Report - Same Old, Same Old
- TexAQS 2000 Airforce All Up Today - Down Tomorrow
- NASA Thermal Mapping

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The Daily Plan-It

*The TexAQS 2000
Field Study Newsletter
Issue 18
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Our Cornucopia of Air Quality Riches Runneth Over!

CapRock Building Locks Down

By the time you read this the CapRock Building will be locked down for the Labor Day weekend. You will need to use your key-code to gain access to the CapRock building and keys to our office suite from 6:00 PM Friday (September 1st) through 7:00 AM Tuesday (September 5th).

Weather Wonders

TAMU's Stephanie Naumann provided the weather forecast today bringing a certain amount of class to what otherwise would have been a common mob scene. Today begins with relatively more elevated background ozone levels than either of the past two days with the Galveston station piping in at 29 ppbv from 6 to 7 AM. Essentially single digits everywhere else.

Yesterday's maximum surface levels of ozone occurred to the east and southeast of Houston - at Deer Park 2 (168 ppbv) and Houston East (167 ppbv) from 4 to 5 PM and at LaPorte

(167 ppbv) from 3 to 4 PM. In all, ten Houston area monitoring sites recorded preliminary hourly levels in excess of 120 ppbv. So, compared to the previous day, the levels were not so high - 168 vs. 199 ppbv hourly average - but there were ten stations exceeding 120 ppbv yesterday as opposed to seven the day before.

The high pressure ridge that has fostered so many ideal air quality study

although there should be increasing cloudiness as the weekend progresses. A low probability of precipitation continues throughout the weekend with the highest probability (15%) on Sunday afternoon.

Electra N308D

The Electra and G-1 flew an intercomparison today. Following the intercomparison, the Electra is flying an east-to-west stack with north-south oriented legs beginning west of Houston and proceeding east over and across downtown, the ship channel and towards Beaumont/Port Arthur tracking the east-northeastward moving urban plume.

The Electra is planning a down day Saturday but will be available on Sunday, weather permitting

G-1 N701BN

The G-1, in concert with the Electra, is conducting an intercomparison flight with the Electra today. The G-1 will return to Ellington immediately following the intercomparison and is planning a hard



Can you say hydrocarbons? Shot from Twin Otter

days continues to hang on and remains to our west. Tomorrow's forecast suggests that things should be much the same with westerly winds in the morning followed by the establishment of a southerly sea/bay breeze at mid-day. Skies should remain mostly clear

down day for Saturday. It will be available on Sunday.

DC-3 N56KS

These guys are obviously having way too much fun cause they're flying again today. A 12:00 PM takeoff was planned with the flight lasting for 4 to 6 hours while crossing and crisscrossing the east Houston metro area and extending down into the Gulf. Their route map is a thing of beauty that only Escher could love.

One hopes that with the rest of the airforce down, the DC-3/Lidar crew might be off tomorrow but your guess is as good as mine.

Twin Otter N153BU

The Twin Otter crew are conducting a pair of flights today focusing on Galveston Bay and the ship channel with side trips to Texas City.

The Twin Otter will be down tomorrow.

Electra/G1 Intercomparison

The Electra and G-1 are conducting an intercomparison flight today. The intercomparison will begin with a north- to-south "wingtip-to-wingtip" meridian flight east of Houston followed by a five-minute separation flight on the same track over a southeast-to-northwest leg along the ship channel and then west across the I-10 corridor.

Following the intercomparison, the Electra will fly an east-to-west stack with north-south oriented legs

The first flight occurred on Wednesday evening (August 30th) from 7 to 11 PM and Thursday morning

(August 31st) from 9 AM to 1 PM. As I understand it, these initial flights were done at 20 meter resolution with some additional flights planned for 10 meter resolution. The Lear Crew decided that today was too cloudy and since the likelihood of cloudiness and precipitation is on the rise, they decided to go home to enjoy the Labor Day weekend. Maury indicated that they would be back in a week or so to finish their work.

In addition to the Lear, it is anticipated that a Cessna Citation out of the Ames Research Center will

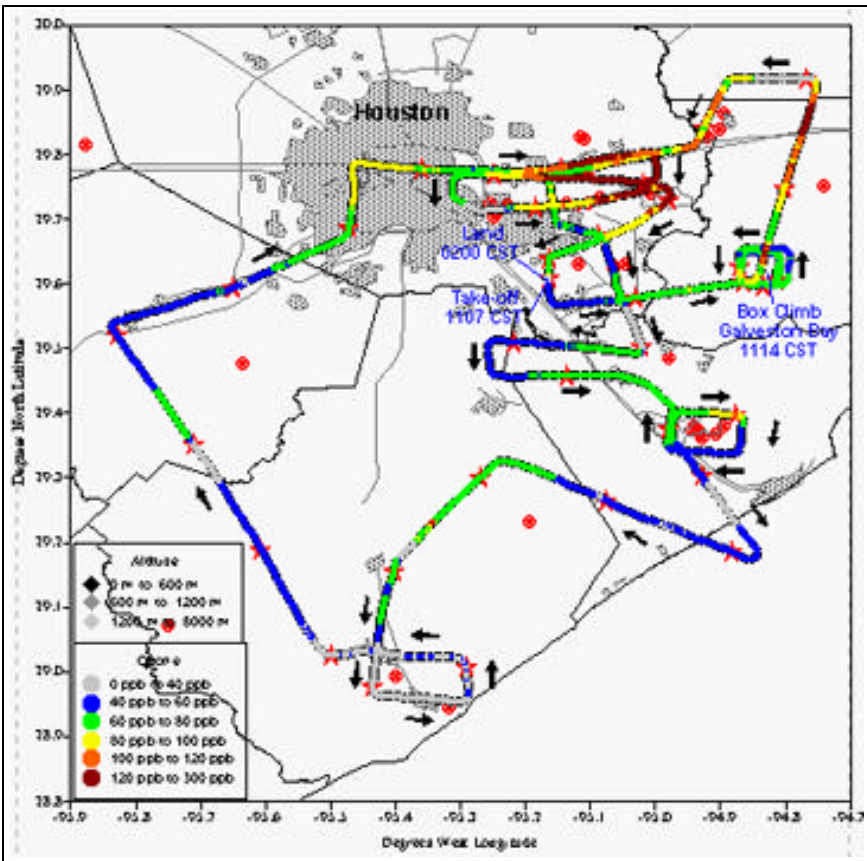
arrive mid next week for some work. Stay tuned for more information on the NASA flights.

Upcoming Events

Daily Meteorological and Aircraft Planning Meetings - 7:30 AM and 1:00 PM (Ellington CapRock Building, Conference Room). **Note:** Since all aircraft will be down tomorrow, there will be no PM meeting today or AM and 1:00 PM meeting tomorrow - the next meeting is scheduled for 5:00 PM tomorrow (Saturday, September 2nd).

Aerosol Group Meeting - Tuesday, September 5th, 2:00 PM (Stay Tuned - Location to be Announced)

LaPorte Team Meeting - Tuesday, September 5th, 3:00 PM (Stay Tuned - Location to be Announced)



Afternoon Ozone on the afternoon of 8/29 - Twin Otter

beginning west of Houston and proceeding east over and across downtown, the ship channel and towards Beaumont/Port Arthur tracking the east-northeastward moving urban plume.

The Electra will not fly on Saturday but may return to action on Sunday.

NASA Thermal Mapping

Our NASA partners have already come and gone after first completing their initial thermal mapping forays over downtown Houston. According to Maury Estes of the Global Hydrology and Climatic Center, the NASA Lear Jet - operating out of Stennis Space Center in Mississippi - conducted two thermal mapping flights on a 50 by 55 km grid centered on downtown Houston.

Labor Day Holiday - Monday, September 4, 2000. Business as usual for TexAQS 2000.

Participants List

Praise be to Cathy Burgdorf who is putting together our official "TexAQS 2000 Participants List." Stop by the next time your in the CapRock to make sure that your particulars are correctly listed. Remember, no info, no shirt!

Thought for the Day

In the spirit of Labor Day, I submit for your reading pleasure the following anonymous epitaph.

If I had my life to live over again, I'd allow myself more mistakes next time. I would relax a little more, I would limber up. I would be even sillier than I have been this trip. I know of very few things I would take seriously. I would take more trips. I would climb more mountains, swim more rivers and watch more sunsets. I would do more walking and looking. I would eat more ice cream and fewer beans. I would have more actual troubles and fewer imaginary ones.

You see, I have been one of those people who lived prophylactically and sensibly and sanely hour after hour, day after day. Oh, I've had my moments, and if I had it to do over, I'd have

more of them. In fact, I'd try to have nothing else. Just moments, one after another, instead of living so many years ahead each day. I have been one of those people who never go anywhere without a thermometer, a hot water bottle, a raincoat, aspirin, and a parachute. If I had it to do over again, I would go places, do things and travel lighter than I have this time and I would ride more merry-go-rounds and pick more daisies.