

Press release, October 4, 1967

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FROM: University Relations
The University of Toledo

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October 4, 1967

FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

Dr. W. A. Hiltner, professor of astronomy at the University of Chicago and former director of that university's Yerkes Observatory, and James E. Webb who heads the National Aeronautics and Space Administration will receive honorary doctor of science degrees from The University of Toledo on October 13.

Dr. William S. Carlson, president of the University, will confer the degrees during afternoon ceremonies dedicating the Ritter Observatory and Planetarium, the University's newly completed \$1,000,000 astrophysical research and astronomy center. J. Preston Levis, chairman of the University's board of trustees and chairman of the board of Owens-Illinois, Inc., Toledo, will officially dedicate the structure.

Dr. Hiltner, who earned his bachelor of science degree at The University of Toledo in 1937, is well known as the co-discoverer of interstellar polarization and has worked in the development of its application toward the study of interstellar magnetic fields.

He earned the master of science and doctor of philosophy degrees at the University of Michigan, and joined the faculty of the University of Chicago in 1943.

In 1963, Dr. Hiltner was named director of the world-famed Yerkes Observatory, operated by the University of Chicago at Williams Bay, Wisconsin. During the past year, he has served as acting director of the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile.

He is a member of the American Astronomical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, the International Astronomical Union and an officer of the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy. He is the author of a number of articles in leading

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scientific journals and author and editor of books on astronomy published by The University of Michigan Press and The University of Chicago Press.

Mr. Webb has served as administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration since his appointment to that post in February, 1961 by President John F. Kennedy. During the Truman administration, he served as assistant to the Undersecretary of the Treasury, director of the Bureau of the Budget, and as Undersecretary of State.

His role in guiding man's first steps in outer space and his achievements in science, law, public administration and the humanities have been widely recognized.

He is currently a member of the National Aeronautics and Space Council, the President's Advisory Committee on Supersonic Transport, the Federal Council for Science and Technology, the Cabinet Committee on Employment, and the President's Committee on Manpower.

An attorney and businessman as well as a public administrator, Mr. Webb has served as an officer of the Sperry Gyroscope Company, the Republic Supply Company, Kerr-McGee Oil Industries, Inc., and the McDonnell Aircraft Company.

He is president of the American Society for Public Administration, a member of the Visiting Committee of the Graduate School of Public Administration of Harvard University, a trustee of the National Geographic Society and a member of the board of directors of the Washington Planetarium and Space Center.

Mr. Webb earned his bachelor's degree in education from the University of North Carolina in 1928, his law degree from George Washington University, Washington, D.C., and was admitted to the District of Columbia Bar in 1936.

A dinner honoring Mr. and Mrs. George W. Ritter of Toledo, prime benefactors of The University of Toledo's observatory and planetarium will be held at the Commodore Perry Motor Inn following the dedication and awarding of degrees.

A major astrophysical research facility, the Ritter Observatory houses the largest reflecting telescope in Ohio. Fewer than ten other observatories in the United States combine a reflecting telescope of comparable size and a Coude spectrographic system similar to that in use in this complex.

The planetarium will provide a program of basic instruction in astronomy for school children, students and adults.

A series of free public tours of the Ritter Observatory and Planetarium will begin on Sunday, October 15, the University has announced.

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