

## Celebrations To Include Fairs, Seminars

# 'Sun Day' On Horizon To Boost Solar Energy Support

## Flight Set To London

NEW YORK (AP)—Millions of people around the world will celebrate "Sun Day" this week, an observance that organizers say they hope will "launch the solar era" much like "Earth Day" has helped bring attention to the environment.

Sun Day, devised as a one-time observance to encourage federal officials to increase support for development of solar energy-related technology, will be primarily observed Wednesday, but solar energy fairs, seminars, talks and tours of solar-powered homes and facilities will continue throughout the week.

"THIS IS definitely a citizens' event," said Peter Harnik, assistant Sun Day coordinator for Solar Action, Inc., a Washington-based public interest group that is official sponsor of the affair.

"It was initiated by citizens, planned by citizens and the momentum was generated by citizens," he said.

Several important government agencies promised an estimated \$2 million worth of exhibits, speakers and information to help make Sun Day a success.

"THE AVERAGE program might include a sunrise ceremony of some sort, a solar fair, demonstrations of technology and equipment... maybe some music," said Harnik, 28, and a veteran of the Earth Day movement, first observed in 1970.

"There also might be some gimmicks like a 'Run for the Sun' jogging race, or a Sun Day art show," he said.

In New York, a 5:57 a.m. ceremony called "The Dawning of the Solar Age" will be held at the United Nations Plaza to symbolize the worldwide observance that Sun Day organizers say will include activities in 28 countries.

FILM STAR Robert Redford, an environmentalist whose Utah home is solar-heated, his wife, Lola, and U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young will headline the event.

Mrs. Redford, president of Consumer Action Now, Inc., a group founded to focus on conservation and renewable resources, said the U.N. program aims to demonstrate that "renewable resources are available to all nations."

Organizers of Sun Day are promoting heating and cooling through the use of sunlight, photovoltaics (the production of electricity from sunlight), wind power and biomass (the use of wood, grain and other agricultural products as fuel).

ADMINISTRATION energy officials can be divided into two basic groups: Those who believe the answer to the nation's developing energy crisis lies in more production of oil and gas and enhanced development of nuclear power (called the "hard

alternative"), and a smaller group that supports greatly increased development of solar power (called the "soft alternative").

"Let's face it, this is a lobbying effort to put greater emphasis on soft technology, and people in the solar group are tickled to death to see it," said one government official who asked not to be identified. "They got to (Energy Secretary James) Schlesinger and got him to support it."

But Department of Energy (DOE) officials also hasten to point out that government spending on solar energy technology has doubled in each of the last four years, and funding for 1978 is set at \$390 million.

AMONG THE MOST promising of the various experiments is a \$120 million facility planned for construction soon in the Mojave Desert near Barstow, Calif. Some 2,000 sun-tracking mirrors, mounted on the desert floor and controlled by a computer, will reflect sunlight to a boiler 300 feet above the ground.

Steam produced in the boiler then will generate electricity, which will be included in the resources of Southern California Edison, serving about three million customers in Los Angeles and elsewhere. If all goes well, within three years utility

customers for the first time anywhere will be using electricity partially generated by the sun.

"PHOTOVOLTAICS ALSO is rapidly approaching the kind of price breakthroughs that ought to help it make it into the market," said a DOE solar-energy expert. "We expect to see some explosive market development within a few years."

The market has already been developing. Sales of residential solar heating and hot water systems more than tripled between 1976 and 1977, and industry officials said the results will be even better in coming years if Congress finally breaks a year-long deadlock on a federal tax-incentive program.

Denis Hayes, an energy analyst for the non-profit Worldwatch Institute and who started Earth Day and came up with the idea for Sun Day, has estimated that with effort, the world can abandon its dependency on oil, gas, coal and uranium and derive 83 percent of its energy from the sun within the next 50 years.

He said Congress should support a solar energy bank bill that would set up \$5 billion in revolving loans and a solar energy transition bill to commit the federal government to using solar energy in new construction and design changes in equipment already in use.

ATLANTA (UPI)—Delta Air Lines' inaugural Atlanta-to-London-flight, with about 200 passengers and eight crew members aboard, departs Hartsfield International Airport Sunday following a "bon voyage" ceremony to be attended by Georgia Gov. George Busbee.

The departure of a DC-10 at 6:30 p.m. will mark the first daily non-stop air service between the two cities.

President Carter gave Delta final approval last December to fly between Hartsfield in Atlanta and London's Gatwick International Airport.

**.946 Liters**  
One quart is equivalent to .946 liters in the metric system.



SUN DAY — Barbara McNemar, the weekend physical science supervisor at the Center of Science and Industry (COSI) in Columbus, Ohio, holds a small solar collector that powers the fan Gary Grimm is holding. Grimm and Miss McNemar, who is a first-grade teacher at Northgate Elementary School during the week, demonstrated

ed the sun's power as COSI's solar energy fair opened Saturday. The fair is held in connection with the national celebration Wednesday of Sun Day. Grimm is a worker with Accurate Solar Systems, Inc. of Gahanna, which has an exhibit at COSI. (Dispatch Photo by Charles Hays)

## Miss USA Selected

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—Judi Lois Andersen, a blonde, 20-year-old airline stewardess representing Hawaii, won the 1978 Miss USA title Saturday night over 50 other contestants.

A resident of Honolulu and a graduate of Bennett College, she is a stewardess for Air Hawaii and interested in fashion designing, modeling and water sports. She will represent the United States in the Miss Universe contest July 24 at Acapulco, Mexico.

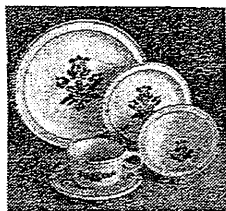
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