



MEDIA ADVISORY

Contacts: Anatta
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 14, 2006

**REPORTERS INVITED TO MEDIA DAY FOR AIR QUALITY, CLIMATE CHANGE
FIELD STUDIES IN TEXAS**

Reporters are invited to board NOAA's premier research vessel, *Ronald H. Brown*, in Galveston at the start of the second leg of two NOAA-led joint research experiments, the Texas Air Quality Study and the Gulf of Mexico Atmospheric Composition and Climate Study. NOAA scientists will describe what they are learning about the sources, evolution, and transport of pollutants in East Texas and how fine airborne particles, called aerosols, affect the Earth's climate regionally and globally. Various speakers will explain why these findings are important to Texas, other regions, and the nation as a whole.

WHAT: Media briefing, interviews with scientists and ship's crew, tours of science platforms aboard the *Ronald H. Brown*, cruise

WHEN: Monday, August 21, 9:00-9:30 a.m. briefing; 9:30-11:30, interviews, tours; 11:30-12:30, lunch at nearby restaurants; 12:30-3:30 cruise (Note: In case of rain, briefing and interviews will be held on ship).

WHERE: Pier 21, Galveston, and on board the NOAA ship *Ronald H. Brown*

WHO: Brigadier General John J. Kelly, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), deputy under secretary for oceans and atmosphere
David C. Schanbacher, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
A.R. Ravishankara, NOAA Earth System Research Laboratory
David Allen, University of Texas at Austin
Also available for interviews: lead scientists, ship's officers

RSVP: Must RSVP to Anatta (303) 497-6288 with name of attendees, number in party, and affiliation. Previous notification required to board ship.

Over 200 researchers are using five aircraft, the NOAA ship *Ronald H. Brown*, NASA and NOAA satellites, and a network of sensors on land and in the Gulf to observe ozone, aerosols, and their precursors. Sixty federal and state agencies, universities, and private sector partners are participating in the intensive field program.

NOAA: www.noaa.gov, <http://esrl.noaa.gov/csd/2006/>