

"Congress would rather look to the President for such leadership than to subject most of its membership to the party discipline of a few of its own leaders. Its members and committees can retain more freedom of action if they act on a recommendation from the President . . . than if they submit to leaders chosen from within Congress."

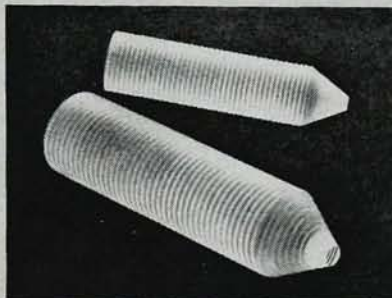
Others point out that Congress, in attempting to concentrate jurisdiction over federal science in fewer committees, is merely moving the clock back. Almost every congressional committee has some jurisdiction over federal science programs. As science grows in importance in the life of the nation, more and more committee chairmen will seek to extend their jurisdictions over additional areas of federal R&D whether explicitly assigned jurisdiction or not. Committees that are inactive in their jurisdiction will be supplanted by other, more vigorous, committees. It is not the number of science committees that matters but how many are active and concerned with science. Formal committee structure is meaningless compared with the interest and will of individual committee members.

Visa restrictions eased

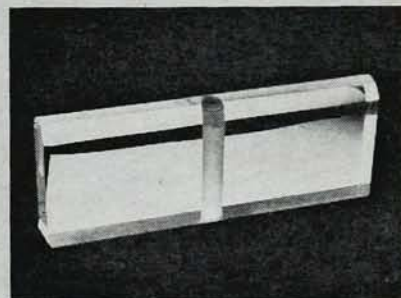
New visa procedures agreed upon by the State and Justice Departments are making it easier for foreign scientists with communist records to enter the US. Other new rules will facilitate attendance of East German scientists at conferences in the US and other NATO countries.

Until now, physicists and other scientists coming to the US from non-communist countries who were affiliated with communist organizations had to wait from six to eight weeks before they could obtain visas. During this time the State and Justice Departments had to process each individual visa application for a waiver of the law excluding all past or present communists. Delays and embarrassments in obtaining permission to enter the US for even five days under the procedure caused some scientists to abandon their plans to attend a conference in the US. Many scientists have complained that the procedure has

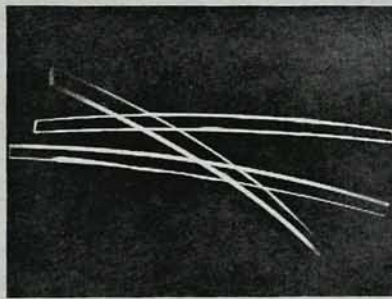
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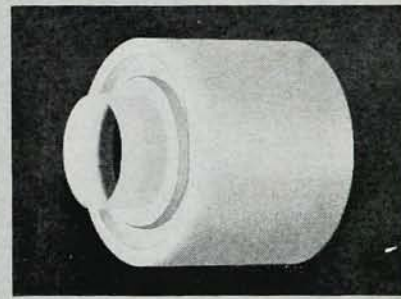
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An optical well assembly with polished cylindrical surfaces and flat faces. The 0.5" bore is located within .0005" of true center and is concentric to .001" T.I.R.



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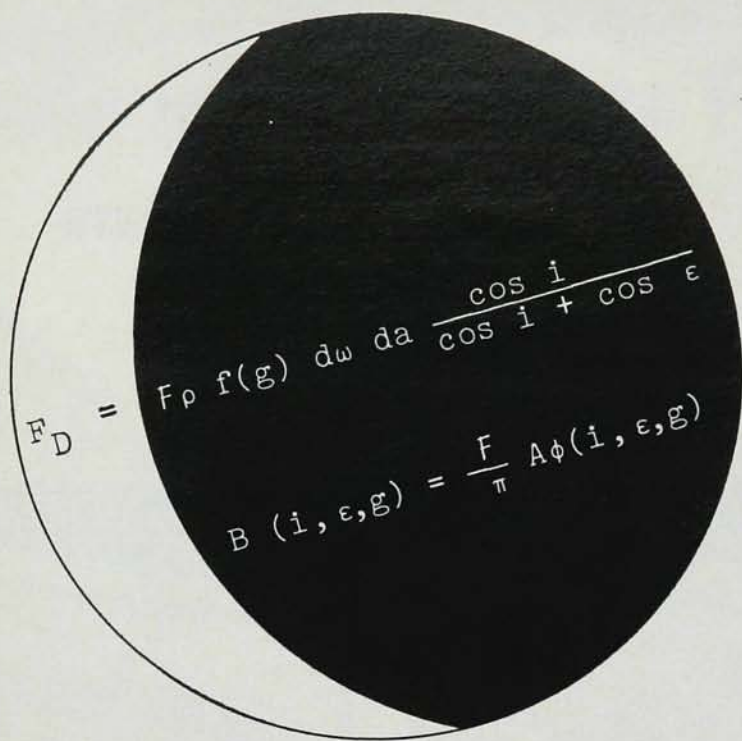
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made the US a less attractive location for international meetings.

Under new rules (already used by the Atomic Energy Commission and other agencies) scientists with communist associations can enter the US with a group waiver that greatly speeds up the process. The Secretary of State may recommend to the Attorney General that national interest requires a group waiver. If the latter grants the waiver, our embassies abroad issue visas promptly.

Under other new regulations, East German scientists who are also representatives of their government will no longer be automatically denied visas. They must, however, apply as members of an East German scientific institution that adheres to international nongovernmental scientific organizations. Since 1964 East German scientists entering the US have had to apply for visas as individuals and not as representatives of their government. The new rules (issued by the quadripartite powers, United Kingdom, France, West Germany, US) allow an East German scientist who is also a government official to obtain a temporary travel document and visa from the NATO country he wants to visit. His purpose in visiting the country must be scientific rather than political.

Despite such easing of restrictions, many scientists have criticized US policy in regard to visas for their colleagues abroad. Our State Department is eager to point out that notwithstanding its zeal in promoting international cooperation among scientists, the department must share its authority to admit aliens with the Immigration and Naturalization Service. And in a small number of cases (receiving great publicity), INS does not accept the State Department visa. A physicist from abroad certified by State as more than welcome to attend a solid-state conference in the US, may, when confronted by an immigration officer, be rejected forthwith. The reason, according to State, will probably be an "individual aberration" of the INS officer. Both State and INS scrutinize the same credentials of foreign scientists. But INS tends to be less liberal in its admission of scientists, and approximately 0.5% of the temporary visas issued by State to scientists are unacceptable to INS. □