

The 13-member group, headed by TRW President Ruben F. Mettler, was appointed last October as one of a number of panels "established to assist the Administration with ideas and recommendations for 1970 and beyond."

The group urges long-term planning, both in the White House and the Departments of the federal government. It urges the Office of Science and Technology to aim for the "integrated management" of basic and applied research support by the government. The report urges the President's science adviser to develop priorities for various competing scientific research programs, and also to become more involved in the budgetary process.

A governmental commission ought to review federal laboratories and recommend continuation, change or even closing some of them, the task force said.

Concerning national security, the group says the present situation differs from the past because we are in a situation of relative balance with respect to the Soviet Union; research budgets are declining; the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) may have major implications on the research and development program. At such a time, the group says, our research and development program for national defense should have an even higher priority than in the past, at the expense of reducing military hardware,

if necessary. The Mansfield amendment was singled out for criticism.

US scientific and technological resources can be applied better in international affairs; "science for mankind" can be a reality in international relations, the report said. We should emphasize the transfer of research and development capabilities to developing nations rather than simply transferring the technology itself.

The group noted a "national need for excellence in science and technology," and recommended that the President call for—as itself a national goal—"leadership in science and technology relevant to our other national goals." The President should emphasize using science and technology to develop and project long-range requirements for national goals. US economic growth depends substantially on the health of science and technology, which can contribute much to pressing social, urban and environmental problems; the Task Force urged the President to direct various agencies to better apply science and technology in attacking these problems.

High-Energy Politics Is Debated at APS Meeting

One of the liveliest sessions of the American Physical Society Washington meeting on 27–30 April was a round table on the future of elementary-particle physics arranged by the Division of Particles and Fields. A standing-room-only audience of 600 listened for over two hours to a discussion of current funding problems, and of how and by whom hard choices should be made. On the platform were Louis Hand of Cornell, Donald H. Miller of Berkeley, Jerome Rosen of Rochester, Robert Sachs of Chicago, Victor Weisskopf of MIT, David Bartlett of Princeton and chairman Luis W. Alvarez of Berkeley. A dozen or so speakers contributed often-spirited comments from the floor.

Weisskopf, who is chairman of AEC's high-energy physics advisory panel (HEPAP), noted that particle physics has suffered, along with other areas, in the funding shortage. He suggested that particle physicists could consider themselves relatively fortunate because the 200–400 GeV accelerator was still going ahead, although money for the new machine means that other programs must be cut. HEPAP has the responsibility of advising AEC on the distribution of high-energy physics funds.

Sachs is chairman of the elementary-particle panel of the National Academy's

Physics Survey Committee (the Bromley Committee). The panel is trying to formulate priorities in high-energy physics, and also justify overall expenditures in this field. Weisskopf and Sachs both asked for considered views and suggestions for their panels.

Hand saw an "overpopulation" of high-energy physics, and suggested that too many young physicists are trying to enter a field with diminishing opportunities. Bartlett pleaded the values of the relatively smaller and older machines of which the Princeton-Pennsylvania and the Cambridge Electron Accelerators, which face partial or complete shutdown, are the chief examples. Rosen said the time has come to examine the system that makes decisions and allocations—he noted that physicists who counsel patience in the present situation are generally those who have tenure. Alvarez observed that the situation could be much worse, and that high-energy physicists have done a poor job of explaining their work to US taxpayers.

Various comments from the floor included: "overglamorizing" of high-energy physics; the suddenness of the budget cuts; the inability of younger physicists and those "on the floors of the accelerators" to make their voices heard; the delays and red tape in proposing an experiment, and the lack of adventurous spirit within the scheduling committees.

IN BRIEF

Crystal Lattice Defects will be published by Gordon and Breach. The new journal, edited by R. R. Hasi-guti of Tokyo University, will publish fundamental experimental and theoretical papers.

A *Cumulative Author Index* covering volumes 141–188 of *The Physical Review* and volumes 16–23 of *Physical Review Letters* (1966–69) is available from Department BN, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York, N. Y. 10017. The price is \$7 for members of the American Physical Society and \$14 for nonmembers.

Euratom will provide technical assistance to the International Atomic Energy Agency in establishing an international nuclear information system.

"The Sun in Action," a 10-minute time lapse, 16-mm silent film showing solar phenomena, is available through the Lockheed Solar Observatory, PO Box 551, Burbank, California 91503. □



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