

the *American Ephemeris* in 1953 with the title "Theory of the Rotation of the Earth around its Center of Mass." With G.M. Clemence, Woolard wrote the definitive text *Spherical Astronomy*. He was also the author of a number of other scientific papers.

Woolard was born in El Paso, Texas on 6 January 1899. He received AB, MA and PhD degrees from George Washington University. After serving in the US Army during World War I, he worked at the US Weather Bureau from 1919 to 1928 and 1934 to 1945. From 1928 to 1934 he was on the faculty at George Washington University. He worked in the Nautical Almanac Office from 1945 until 1963, serving as assistant director from 1946 until he became director in 1958. He received the Superior Civilian Service Award upon his retirement.

Robert T. Webber

Robert T. Webber, former director of the State Department's atomic-energy affairs office, died 12 September 1977. He received his PhD from Yale University and taught physics there during 1943-49. From 1949 to 1957, he was head of the cryogenics branch at the Naval Research Laboratory. He then spent three years in London as deputy scientific director of the Office of Naval Research. Webber was chief scientist in the Tokyo liaison office of the National Science Foundation in 1960-62. He began working for the State Department in 1962 as scientific attache in Tel Aviv. He held a similar post in Tokyo in the late 1960's before becoming deputy director of the State Department's office of space, atmospheric and marine sciences, a position he held until 1973. He was director of the office of atomic energy affairs from 1973 until his retirement in 1975.

Wilbur M. Franklin Jr

Wilbur M. Franklin, Jr, Professor of physics at Kent University, died on 10 April at the age of 45.

Franklin was born in Berlin, Germany where his father was a theology student at the University of Berlin. His doctorate in solid-state science was awarded in 1964 by Syracuse University. Prior to receiving his PhD he earned a BA in biology from the College of Wooster, a BS in metallurgy from Case Institute of Technology and a masters degree in metallurgical engineering from Yale University. He also did postdoctoral work at the University of Virginia for two years before coming to Kent State as an assistant professor in 1966. He was promoted to associate professor in 1969 and full professor in 1976. Franklin was probably best known for his theoretical work on diffusion in solids and liquid crystals. □

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