to achieve our goal of fostering greater communication and cooperation between our scientists and institutions and yours. . . . In postponing our visit, it is of course our strong hope that, in the future, circumstances will change such that we can again take up and build upon the strong bonds of collaboration and understanding already forged in JCC–FPM activities. Critical to this change is the rebuilding of the necessary open and free atmosphere."

Other actions. On 24 May Ramsey, professor at Harvard, in his role as president of APS, cabled Alexandrev and issued a statement that said in part, "The Soviet Union can ill afford to lose the scientific contributions of Yuri Orlov. The 30 000 members of The American Physical Society are concerned with the advancement and dissemination of physics in the United States and in the world community of science. As President of The American Physical Society, I regard both the nature of the trial and the severity of the sentence as serious affronts to human dignity and impediments to scientific progress and cooperation."

That same day, the directors of the six US high-energy physics laboratories sent messages to Alexandrev, Leonid Brezhnev, and the directors of major Soviet high-energy laboratories. The message said, "We have noted with dismay the manner in which our colleague has been first arrested, then held, recently brought to trial and now convicted and sentenced to seven years of hard labor. Such actions will certainly have a chilling effect upon the extensive scientific collaboration between the US and the USSR. We, the directors of the high-energy physics laboratories of the United States urge you to make all efforts to obtain Orlov's release." It was signed by Boyce McDaniel (Cornell), Wolfgang Panofsky (SLAC), Robert Sachs (Argonne), Andrew Sessler (Lawrence Berkeley Lab), George Vineyard (Brookhaven) and Robert Wilson (Fermilab). —GBL

Sachs resigns as Argonne director

Robert G. Sachs has resigned as director of Argonne National Laboratory effective 1 October after five years in the position. He plans to return to the University of Chicago campus "to teach physics and to try to catch up on recent developments in physics, with the possibility of getting my hand into research again. I shall continue to take an interest in the national policy in science and technology, especially energy policy. Of course, I also have a strong interest in Argonne's future and will participate in Argonne affairs to the extent the new University administration desires." (Hannah Gray recently became President.)

The search for Sachs's successor is under way, with a search committee headed by William B. Cannon, vice-president for business and finance, University of Chicago.

During his five years of directing Argonne, Sachs told us, there has been a growing interest in identifying the role of the national laboratories, particularly those multiprogram laboratories that were developed under the AEC. He found it important during the reorganization from AEC to ERDA and ERDA to DOE to alert the new agencies to the significance of basic research as the underpinning of the laboratories. During the period, he said, pressure on the national laboratories to show relevance even in fields identified as basic research led to a shift in 35% of Argonne's basic-research activities to topics that have a specific relationship to energy technologies. Now he feels there is a need to re-emphasize the lab's strength in basic research. —GBL

NSF supports academic–industry research ties

The National Science Foundation plans to increase funding for the support and encouragement of cooperative research between universities and industrial firms. Such research would focus on fundamental scientific questions rather than on technological development.

NSF criteria and established peer-review procedures will be used to judge proposals on their scientific excellence. Major consideration in the eligibility of proposals will include the extent of independence (that is, absence of interlocking relationships) among the cooperating institutions, and the extent to which the proposed research may be expected to make a long-term contribution toward product and/or process innovation. Cost sharing of funds, laboratory space and/or personnel services by the participating organizations is desirable.

Further information can be obtained from Ronald E. Kagarise (202-632-4240), James H. Brown (202-634-1553) or Daniel Hunt (202-632-4166), the deputy assistant directors of, respectively, NSF's directorates for mathematical and physical sciences and engineering, for biological, behavioral and social sciences, and for astronomical, atmospheric, earth and ocean sciences; or from Richard Green (202-632-7426), director of operations for NSF's Applied Science and Research Applications directorate.

Committee studies problems in industrial innovation

President Carter has established an inter-agency committee to conduct a comprehensive 14-month review of issues and problems related to industrial innovation. It will examine how Federal policies on the economy, taxes, regulations, procurement and foreign relations affect the innovation process in the private sector. It will also consider the effects of Federally funded research and development. The committee, composed of 15 major Federal department and office heads, will be headed by the Secretary of Commerce.

In making the announcement, the White House noted that in recent years, private-sector R&D has concentrated on low-risk, short-term projects directed at improving existing products; at the same time, emphasis has decreased on longer-term research that could lead to new products and processes.

The President's science and technology adviser, Frank Press, speaking at an MIT meeting on innovation in mid-May, noted that the new study is not the first to examine some of the same issues. "But what I believe is significant, is that this is the first time that the government will examine these issues at this level, and in the depth that we expect. In addition, I believe that the fact that the resulting policy options will come directly to the President will lead to important actions that will ultimately have their effect on industrial innovation."

Press said that while the Federal government seeks ways to encourage industry to do more exploratory R&D, "I think there is little doubt that the bulk of fundamental research will remain in the universities." He noted that conditions, however, are changing. "These may call for different and better ways to support research there, and to assure opportunity for young scientists and engineers."

in brief

The annual Survey of Enrollments and Degrees, conducted by the Manpower Statistics Division of the American Institute of Physics, is now available. Copies of the report, based on data from nearly 100% of the physics and astronomy degree-granting departments, may be obtained by writing: Susanne D. Ellis, American Institute of Physics Manpower Statistics Division, 335 East 45 Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Kenneth E. Boulding, a specialist in economics, social dynamics, international and general systems, is the new president-elect of the AAAS.

Nominations to the National Inventors Hall of Fame are being sought. Nomination forms and additional information may be obtained from The National Inventors Hall of Fame, c/o Ralph King, Lowe, King, Price and Markva, Suite 210, Building 1, 2001 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Va. 22202. Deadline is 1 August. □