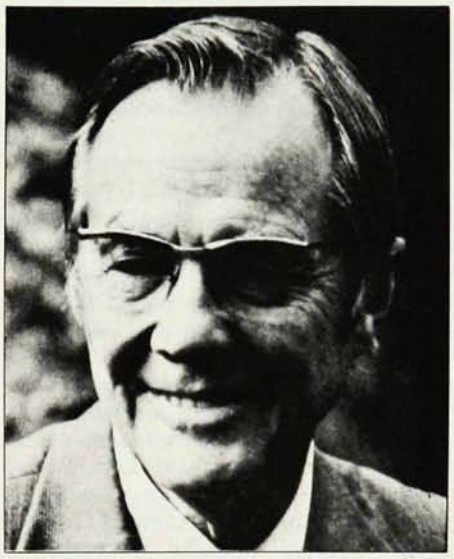
we hear that

Acoustical society honors Bolt with gold medal

The Acoustical Society of America will present the 1979 Gold Medal to Richard H. Bolt at the 50th Anniversary Meeting held on 13 June. The Gold Medal, which is the highest honor of the Society, is presented in the spring of odd-numbered years. Bolt is to be cited ". . . For outstanding contributions to acoustics through research, teaching, and professional leadership, and for distinguished administrative and advisory service to science, engineering, and government."

Bolt received his formal education at the University of California at Berkeley. Interested in music and graphic design, he earned a bachelor's degree in architecture in 1933. It is noteworthy that Bolt retained his interest in design; he later acted as a consultant to the sculptor of the Gold Medal. Bolt had little contact with physics until he read some articles on acoustics in architecture that piqued his curiosity. Despite the doubts of the Berkeley Physics Department, he immersed himself in the subject and eventually qualified himself for entry into the graduate physics program. After obtaining his PhD in 1939, he was granted a National Research Council postdoctoral fellowship in physics. He spent the next year doing research in acoustics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Bolt



BOLT

then joined the faculty of the University of Illinois, but soon returned to MIT as a research associate and for two years directed its Underwater Sound Laboratory. Then in 1943, he was named Scientific Liaison Officer in Subsurface Warfare at the Office of Scientific Research and Development in London, where he played a significant role in the coordination of the British–American submarine warfare effort. Bolt came back to MIT as an associate professor of physics in 1945 and began organizing the interdepartmental Acoustics Laboratory.

He and another member of the MIT faculty, Leo L. Beranek, set up the consultative partnership that bears their names in 1948, adding Robert B. Newman a year later. Bolt became a full professor of acoustics in 1954. Taking a leave of absence from MIT in 1960, he joined the National Science Foundation as Associate Director. Bolt spent 1963–64 as a Fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences at Stanford. He resigned as professor of acoustics in 1963 and became a lecturer in the Department of Political Science, where he taught for the next seven years.

In 1973–74, Bolt was chairman of a committee of consultants engaged by US Judge John J. Sirica to study the White House "Watergate" tapes. As a visiting scientist to the Massachusetts state legislature, he initiated a successful program to help legislators understand the meaning of scientific evidence presented in support of proposed legislation.

The Acoustical Society honored Bolt in 1942 when it presented him with its first Biennial Award. Seven years later he became the ASA's President.

Engineering academy elects new members

The National Academy of Engineering has announced the election of 99 engineers to membership in the Academy and 18 to foreign associateship. Election to the Academy is the highest distinction that can be conferred on an engineer and honors those who have made a significant contribution to fields in engineering and technology.

Joining the roster of the Academy as new members are these physicists and scientists who work in physics-related areas: James G. Baker (Harvard Observatory), Coleman duPont Donaldson (Aeronautical Research Associates of Princeton, Inc.), Harry G. Drickamer (University of Illinois), Pol Duwez (California Institute of Technology), Adolf P. Gagge (Yale University), William J. Galloway (Bolt Beranek and Newman, Inc., Canoga Park, Calif.), Eugene I. Gordon (Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J.), Harold B. Law (Hopewell, N.J.), Max V. Mathews (Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J.), Robert D. Maurer (Corning Glass Works), Arthur B. Metzner (University of Delaware), Richard B. Neal (Stanford University), Milton S. Plesset (California Institute of Technology), William C. Reynolds (Stanford University), Otto H. Schmitt (University of Minnesota), Manfred R. Schroeder (University of Göttingen), Elias Snitzer (United Technologies Research Center, East Hartford, Conn.), Charles E. Taylor (University of Illinois, Urbana), Marshall P. Tulin (Hydronautics, Inc., Laurel, Md.), Robert H. Wentorf, Jr. (GE Research and Development Center, Schenectady, N.Y.) and Jack H. Wernick (Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J.).

Among the recently elected foreign associates are: Per V. Bruel (Bruel & Kjaer, Naerum, Denmark), Arne S. Eklund (International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, Austria), Walter Marshall (UK Atomic Energy Authority, London, England) and Sir Charles Oatley (University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England).

Breton becomes OSA congressional fellow

Michael E. Breton, a research associate at the National Research Council of Canada, has been chosen as the 1979–80 Congressional Science and Engineering Fellow of the Optical Society of America and the American Association for the Advance-