



AIP Director H. William Koch celebrates the renewal of the Physics Briefs agreement with German officials on 19 July at AIP headquarters in New York. FIZ codirectors Werner Rittenberger and Ernst-Otto Schultzi are at the far left and right, respectively; standing between Koch and Schultzi is Hans Donth, an official with Germany's Federal Ministry of Science and Technology.

gie, Physik, Mathematik GmbH—Technical Information Center for Energy, Physics and Mathematics). Chemical Abstracts Service and FIZ are responsible for building files and marketing the service in North America, Japan and Europe.

The *Physics Briefs* database contains more than 750 000 bibliographic entries, including abstracts of some 130 000 items published worldwide each year—journals, books, conference proceedings and a variety of other articles. Under its agreement with FIZ, AIP supplies the records of its own publications and other US materials to the *Physics Briefs* database at the same time as the original items are being prepared for Institute and Member Society journals. As a result, current bibliographic information on articles published by AIP becomes available in the *Physics Briefs*—STN database sooner than in any other comprehensive database. The AIP abstracts will continue to be available as *Current Physics Index* and on the SPIN tape.

The STN database was launched late last year with two major files, *Physics Briefs* ("PHYS") and Chemical Abstracts Service. Previously, *Physics*

Briefs was available online only as part of the FIZ "INKA" network, and persons in the United States who wished to use *Physics Briefs* online had to gain access through an international carrier.

North American users now have the options of leasing the *Physics Briefs* tape directly from AIP for internal use only or subscribing to the STN network via Telenet or Tymnet for a modest one-time fee and then making payments only for whatever search time is used. The STN network is currently being expanded with additional files from the INKA service, including Mathematics Abstracts (*Zentralblatt für Mathematik*), National Technical Information Service (government reports), VTB (German chemical-engineering reports), DETEQ (DECHEMA Environmental Technology Equipment Data Bank) and DEQUIP (DECHEMA Equipment Suppliers Data Bank for apparatus in biotechnology and chemical engineering).

More detailed information about STN and *Physics Briefs* can be obtained from Marketing Services, AIP, 335 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017.

—WILLIAM SWEET

to publish works on the history of computers and grew into a publisher of more general physics history.

The first new books to be published in the joint AIP-Tomash venture are Henry Guerlac's *History of Radar in World War II* (a history of the MIT radar lab) and a collection of physics papers given at the St. Louis Congress of 1904. AIP also will market four books already printed by Tomash: *Al-sos*, by Samuel A. Goudsmit; *Project Y: The Los Alamos Story*, by David Hawkins (Part I) and Edith C. Truslow and Ralph C. Smith (Part II); *American Physics in Transition*, by Albert E. Moyer, and *The Question of the Atom*, by Mary Jo Nye.

Negotiations are in progress for the acquisition of additional titles for the Tomash series, for original monographs, and for reprints and translations from Russian and Japanese. Definite plans have been made to publish three Russian books, the first of which will be *Nonlinear Theory of Sound Beams* by N. S. Bakhvalov, Ya. N. Zhileikin and K. A. Zabolotsky. The first reprint volume is to be *Theory of Plasma Waves* by Thomas H. Stix. The first, or one of the first, original monographs will be a book by Finn Aaserud, currently a staff member with the AIP Physics History Division, tentatively called *Scientist and Administrator: Niels Bohr and his Institute in the 1930s*.

A number of reprint volumes with articles from a variety of sources are being assembled. One will be *Physics of Sports*, edited by Angelo Armenti Jr, and another will be *Gallium Arsenide*, edited by John Blakemore.

Last but not, we hope, least, are the PHYSICS TODAY reprint volumes. *History of Physics*, edited by Spencer R. Weart and Melba Phillips, has just appeared. The first, *Astrophysics Today* (edited by A. G. W. Cameron), appeared last year before the Book Division was formally established. John Howard, editor of *Applied Optics*, is currently editing a third PHYSICS TODAY reprint volume on optics.

—WILLIAM SWEET

AIP Book Division getting organized

The AIP Book Division, which was established last January under the management of Rita G. Lerner, is off to a strong start with a diversified program of publications that includes article reprint volumes, reference books, original monographs, translations and reprints of monographs, and conference proceedings. Publication of conference proceedings already was a well-

established AIP activity when the Book Division was set up, but otherwise Lerner has had to start almost from scratch.

A significant advance occurred in July, when AIP reached an agreement with Tomash Publishers in Los Angeles to publish jointly a series of books called "The History of Modern Physics, 1800–1950." Tomash was established

Education

Texas teacher honored by AAPT is forced to resign her job

Katherine Mays, a Texas high-school teacher selected to be 1985–86 Visiting Fellow by the American Association of Physics Teachers, was required by her local school board to resign her job when she requested a one-year leave of absence to take advantage of the fellowship. Mays has been a high-school physics teacher for 28 years, and she has worked for the last 15 years in Bay