59). Since last June, when the court ordered Zehe freed on $500 000 bail posted by the East German embassy in Washington, DC, he has pursued his scientific interests at universities in the Boston–Cambridge area.

His guilty plea came just one week before his trial was to begin. On motions to dismiss the case, Zehe's lawyers argued that US courts lacked jurisdiction because Zehe had been simply a scientific adviser to his government and the Navy documents had been transmitted in Mexico and East Germany, not on US territory. US District Judge David S. Nelson rejected both claims. Instead, in an unprecedented decision, according to Silverglate, Judge Nelson ruled Congress had intended that the espionage law of 1917 and its subsequent amendments reach beyond US territorial limits.

In sentencing Zehe, observed Nelson, he recognized that the physicist was acting in a scientific capacity, evaluating technical documents for his country. The message to East Germany and other nations in his sentence, said Nelson, is that scientists and academics should not be transmuted into spies under the pretense of doing their patriotic duty. —IG

Education

Triangle Coalition forms with wide society support

At a "round table" held at the National Press Club in Washington on 4 April, it was announced that the Triangle Coalition for Science and Technology Education now exists as a formal organization with a steering committee, more than 20 member associations or corporations, and three chairs. The chairs, representing the three major components of the Triangle Coalition, are Glenn Seaborg, university professor of chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley (science); Alice Moses, president of the National Science Teachers Association and elementary-school teacher at the University of Chicago Laboratory School (education); and Robert Forney, executive vice-president of E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co (industry).

The member organizations in the Triangle Coalition are, at this writing: American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Association of Physics Teachers, American Geological Institute, American Institute of Biological Sciences, Apple Computers Inc, Association for the Education of Teachers in Science, American Institute of Physics, Chemical Manufacturers Association, Chevron USA Inc, Council of Chief State School Officers, Council of State Science Supervisors, Edison Electric Institute, DuPont, Exxon Research and Engineering Company, Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, General Electric Co, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc, Junior Engineering Technical Society Inc, National Association for Research in Science Teaching, National Association of Biology Teachers, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, National Institute for Work and Learning, National Science Teachers Association, and Standard Oil Company–Indiana (Amoco).

John Fowler, the NSTA staff member who is serving as acting director of the Triangle Coalition, is pleased by the decision of IEEE to join. For a time, it appeared that the IEEE Pyramid effort and the Triangle Coalition were addressing the same issues. Now that IEEE has joined Triangle, there may be increased cooperation (see PHYSICS TODAY, March, page 111).

It is Fowler's hope that member organizations will agree to pay some kind of dues to support Triangle activities. Fowler credits Jack Wilson, executive officer of the American Association of Physics Teachers, with having played an instrumental role in getting the Triangle off the ground. "Jack was one of the earliest supporters and AAPT was one of the first organizations to join," Fowler says. Wilson was chairman of the Triangle committee on secondary education, which was largely responsible last summer for writing the Coalition's basic agenda (see PHYSICS TODAY, November 1984, page 103), and AAPT has provided several thousand dollars to help fund Fowler's staff work. Wilson has served on the Coalition's steering committee since it was established.

The other members of the steering committee are: Joseph Blanding, United Auto Workers; Barbara E. Bontemps, Chevron USA Inc; Joanne Capper, Council of Chief State School Officers; Audrey B. Champagne, AAAS; Kenneth Chapman, ACS; Joe Crosswhite, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics; Kenneth D. Fisher, FASEB; Marjorie King, National Association of Biology Teachers; Alan McClelland, E. I. DuPont de Nemours; Phyllis McGrath, General Electric; E. Joe Piel, State University of New York, Stony Brook; Walter Purdy, Edison Electric Institute; and Jack Wilson, AAPT. —ws

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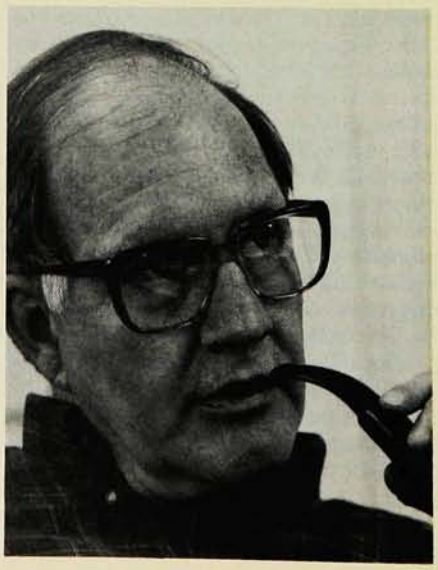

Education

AIP to send two observers to world Physics Olympiad

The AIP Governing Board, meeting at the AIP Woodbury facility in mid-March, decided to put up $10 000 to send two observers to this year's International Physics Olympiad, which will take place in Yugoslavia in July. The idea for US participation originated in the APS Education Committee. Jack Wilson, AAPT executive officer, found that the American Chemical Society had decided to participate in the Olympiad after sending observers for two years. ACS spent $40 000 to select and train a team last year and is seeking $120 000 for this year's team.

The International Science and Mathematics Olympiads originated in the 1950s as Eastern European events. Gradually, teams from Western European countries started to take part, and, more recently, teams from the United States. An *ad hoc* group in the United States has sent a team to the Mathematics Olympiad for many years, Wilson says.

The observers for this year's Physics Olympiad are to be selected by a committee that includes Governing Board members Anthony P. French (MIT) and W. W. Havens Jr (Columbia), and AIP director H. William Koch. It is Wilson's hope that AIP eventually will support full participation by a US team in the Physics Olympiad. While US physics students are not doing well on average by international standards, Wilson points out that the US has some excellent programs and a lot of very talented budding physicists. Wilson strongly believes that participation in the Physics Olympiad would bring physics more recognition as a field, attract better students and inspire them to work harder. He concedes that many of the questions currently asked in the Physics Olympiad may reflect an antiquated approach to science instruction, but he argues that the US would be able to exert some influence on the design of the test once it becomes a full participant. —ws □