

from applying for a visitor's visa because of present visa policies.

3. Visitors who experienced visa difficulties after reaching the United States.

4. Scientific congresses, meetings, or symposia which were not scheduled in the United States because of current visa policies.

In each specific case, the Federation would like to know to what extent this information must be treated as confidential. Information should be sent to the Federation of American Scientists, Committee on Visa Problems, P. O. Box 1191, Stanford, California.

Atomic Energy Commission

Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, "the Nation's principal institution for the development of atomic weapons", was awarded a Presidential Citation on July 15th. Presented to Norris E. Bradbury, director of the Laboratory, by Lewis L. Strauss "in recognition of the outstanding achievements of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory and their contribution to the welfare and collective security of this Nation and the free world", the success of the work done at Los Alamos is described as the "result of a remarkable group endeavor and the devoted and skillful effort of the individuals of the staff. . . ."

Stanford Research Institute has been named one of the AEC's three national industrial information depositories for unclassified information concerning developments in the atomic energy field. Selected to serve the western states, Hawaii, and Alaska, SRI will establish a facility both to maintain the initial collection of 700 reports of industrial interest selected from 9500 "basic science" reports and to provide library, reference, photocopy, and literature-search services to the public. A set of reproducibles of drawings, *Nuclear Science Abstracts*, and sets of bibliographies of selected AEC reports are now included in the depository; new material will be added. The information center, which is being supported by SRI as a public service, may be in operation by the end of September, depending upon how long a time is required to set up a staff and physical facilities. Mr. William A. Casler has been appointed to organize the depository.

Five new unclassified physical research contracts have been awarded by the AEC, in addition to the renewal of fifteen contracts which have been in force. The contracts, which total \$55 636, are as follows: M. L. Bender at Illinois Institute of Technology (Correlation of Isotopic Effect on Reaction Rate with Reaction Mechanism); E. M. Hodnett, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College (The Isotope Effect in the Study of Chemical Reactions); C. R. Kinney and P. L. Walker, Jr., Pennsylvania State University (Factors Affecting the Mechanism of Graphitization and the Heterogeneous Gas Reactions of Graphites); R. B. Mesrobian and H. Morawetz, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn (Study of Radiation Induced Solid

State Polymerization); and S. T. Stephenson and S. E. Hazlet, State College of Washington (Design of Low-Powered Reactor).

The Commission has announced in a release dated July 14th that it would encourage unclassified research on uranium and would provide financial support or small quantities of natural uranium free of charge in return for information developed. Studies of constitution diagrams and crystal structure, electronics structure, mechanism of corrosion, thermodynamics, phase transformations, and electrochemical studies were listed as examples of the types of fundamental research that could be performed on an unclassified basis. In undertaking such research, the following "general principles" would have to be adhered to: Approval of the AEC's office of classification and licensing for the purchase of more than three pounds of uranium; security clearance for the project leader; and review by the AEC of any technical reports. Further inquiry should be made to the AEC Division of Research, Washington 25, D. C.

Foreign distribution of stable isotopes produced at Oak Ridge was authorized on July 1st by the AEC. Radioactive isotopes have been sold to foreign users since 1947, with a total of 2500 shipments to 48 countries having been made so far, and foreign requests for stable isotopes are to be made in the same way as those for the radioactive ones. About 175 stable isotopes of nearly 50 elements are available.

Grants for Research

The fourth and final group of National Science Foundation awards to be made during the fiscal year 1954 has been announced. 176 grants totaling \$1 120 000 included the following grants in physics and related subjects: University of Virginia, Ultracentrifuge Research on Molecular Weights (J. W. Beams); Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Molecular and Crystalline Structure by a Nuclear Resonance Absorption Technique (P. J. Bray); Harvard University, Physico-Chemical Properties and Characterization of Polymer Molecules (P. Doty); University of Wisconsin, Solar Energy Research (J. A. Duffie); University of Alaska, Ionospheric Research Using Both Radio Waves of Extra Terrestrial Origin and from Controlled Transmitters (C. T. Elvey); Bowdoin College, Optical Studies of Surface and Body Properties of Crystalline and Amorphous Solids (M. A. Jeppesen); University of Michigan, Problems in the Theory of Functions of a Complex Variable (W. Kaplan); Columbia University, Volume in Hilbert Space (E. R. Lorch); Johns Hopkins University, Visual Research (E. F. MacNichol, Jr.); University of Illinois, Classical and Relativistic Gas-Dynamics by the Method of Einstein's Equations (G. C. McVittie); Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, Summer Research on High-Energy Accelerators (R. Rollefson); University of Chicago, Astrometric Observations (G. van Biesbroeck); and Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Subgroups of Complex Lie Groups