

THEORETICAL PHYSICIST

The Ramo-Wooldridge Corporation has a research opening for a theoretician with a strong background in both classical and modern physics and with some research experience beyond the Ph.D. level. The problems to be worked on will include the physics of plasmas; magnetohydrodynamics; shock waves; and very high temperature phenomena. However, previous specialization in these fields is not required.

Please address inquiries to:

Dr. J. F. Manildi

The Ramo-Wooldridge Corporation

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PULSE SHAPING:	SHORTED DELAY LINE and/or RC CLIPPING	
RC CLIPPING:	0.2 TO 200 USEC	
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Miscellany

NSF Acts to Disseminate Data

Results of federally-supported basic scientific research of an unclassified nature will henceforth be made more widely available to scientists under the terms of a new program announced in September by the National Science Foundation. With support from the Foundation's Office of Scientific Information, the Library of Congress and the Commerce Department's Office of Technical Services will jointly undertake wider dissemination of significant information in some 20 000 reports issued annually on basic research sponsored by the government.

Today, more than half of the funds devoted to scientific research and development in the United States originates in agencies of the federal government. From the hundreds of research organizations operating with these funds comes a flood of scientific documents conservatively estimated at upwards of 50 000 per year, of which approximately half are unclassified. Studies have indicated that an appreciable fraction of the important information contained in such unclassified reports is never published in the already overburdened scientific and technical journals; the portion that does so appear generally comes out many months or even years after initial distribution of the parent reports. Much of this potentially valuable but "buried" material includes such categories as detailed tables and other data eliminated to meet journal space requirements and negative results which, although not usually acceptable to journals, may prove extremely useful in preventing costly repetition of unsuccessful experiments.

In response to this formidable problem, the Government Research Information Program announced by NSF is designed to assist any research scientist to:

1. Learn what unclassified scientific reports on government research are being issued in his field of interest and how he can obtain them;
2. Obtain, on a subscription basis, a report-announcement service that automatically will keep him informed regarding the bulk of such reports in fundamental research and through which he can purchase copies of listed reports;
3. Obtain access to a well-catalogued reference collection of unclassified scientific reports on federally-supported basic research which he can consult much as he now consults books in a reference library.

The first of the three services is offered by the Government Research Information Clearinghouse in the

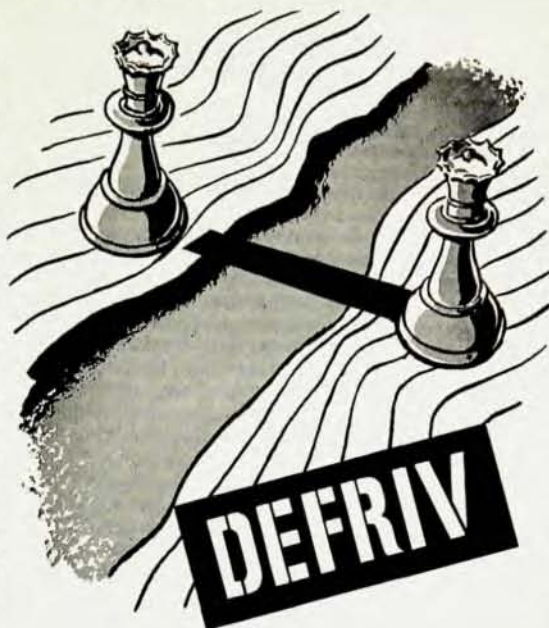
Foundation's Office of Scientific Information. The staff of the Clearinghouse is experienced in technical report reference work and will assist scientists with any problems relating to the existence, whereabouts, and availability of unclassified reports on government-sponsored basic research. The Clearinghouse will be able to tell scientists where and how to obtain reports, although it will neither maintain a document library nor actually obtain and transmit reports. Mail, telephone, or personal requests should be submitted to the Government Research Information Clearinghouse, National Science Foundation, Washington 25, D. C., attention of Dwight E. Gray.

The automatic announcement service covering reports on government-sponsored scientific research is an expansion of an activity which the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, has been offering for several years. OTS publishes the subscription journal *US Government Research Reports* as an annotated, monthly listing, complete with information as to how each document can be obtained. NSF supplemental support will permit OTS to step up its acquisitions program appreciably, insuring comprehensive coverage of reports on basic research. Complete information on the announcement service and allied OTS activities can be obtained from the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C., attention of John C. Green, Director, or from the NSF Clearinghouse.

The third service is being offered by the Library of Congress in its Science Division. With supplemental support from the Science Foundation, the Library has consolidated and augmented its science report holdings and, in this Division, has established open card and book catalogs covering its substantial collections. Readers are free to consult the report catalogs and reference assistants will bring them copies of any reports they wish to see. As in the case of the Library's book collections, reports cannot be taken out. In general, however, any report in this open collection can be purchased either from OTS or, in photoreproduced form, from the Library itself. Complete information on the scope and functioning of this report reference service can be obtained from the Library of Congress Science Division, Washington 25, D. C., attention of John Sherrod, Acting Chief, or from the National Science Foundation Clearinghouse.

Elections

Members of the American Institute of Physics are urged to make use of the official Member-at-Large ballots inserted in their copies of this issue of *Physics Today*. Each year all Institute members are requested to vote for one Member-at-Large of the AIP Governing Board, which includes three Members-at-Large in addition to the seventeen Members named to the Board by the Founder Societies of the Institute. Please indicate your choice of candidate and return your ballot in the



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