

The Engineering, Science and Management Defense Training operates through a system of 22 regional advisers, each of whom is chairman of a committee composed of representatives of the participating institutions in that region. It is the duty of these committees to study the needs in their respective regions; the institutions then make detailed proposals of courses to be offered to meet these needs. If these proposals are approved by the Washington office, courses are organized. The courses are not substitutes for the regular ones leading to a degree and are not (with rare exceptions) given for credit.

In the EDT program now nearing completion, more than 100,000 trainees were enrolled in engineering courses. The number of participating institutions was 144, and the estimated cost about \$7,500,000.

THE SUBMICROSCOPICAL RESEARCH CENTER AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY

THE Stanford project for the establishment of a submicroscopical research center for which a grant of \$65,000 was made by the Rockefeller Foundation can be divided into three main phases of the work:

(1) Construction of a "service" electron microscope embodying some improvements based on the experience with different actually existing instruments. It will be of such a design that all further developments and improvements can be easily adapted to it. This first instrument should be applied to research projects in the various fields of biology, chemistry, physics, metallography, etc., without forgetting the defense applications of the instrument.

(2) Development of the electron microscope and of all the methods used in conjunction for exploring submicroscopical dimensions. This development program calls for improvements in the resolving power of the electron microscope, improvements in the methods applied for the study of various problems, further physical investigation of the conditions of image formation in the electron microscope, development of auxiliary apparatus and development of any such methods or means which may contribute to the knowledge of the dimensions below the limit of visibility of the light microscope.

(3) With the development of electron optics and electron microscopy, there is an increasing demand for specialized personnel in this new field. The third important task of the research center is the education of such specialists.

A NEW BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY IN ALASKA

THE U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, formerly the Bureau of Fisheries, recently completed the construction of a permanent field laboratory in southeastern Alaska for the study of the natural reproduction of the pink salmon. The laboratory is located at Little Port Walter on the southern tip of Baranof Island, approximately eighteen miles from the open ocean. There is only one stream flowing into the bay at this

location. It originates in a series of mountain lakes and is supplied with a continuous flow of well-aerated water at all times. The bed of the stream varies from sand to large rocks, thus providing opportunity to study the suitability of various types of bottom for the spawning and incubation of the salmon. The entire watershed of the stream, which includes an area of five square miles, has been set aside by the U. S. Forest Service for the exclusive use of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The populations of pink salmon that reproduce in the stream do not enter the commercial fishery to any great extent and practically all the adults returning from the ocean can be accounted for. By tallying the number of adult salmon that enter the stream each season to spawn and the number of fry that migrate from it to the ocean, it is possible to determine the natural mortality of each year's brood, both in the stream and in the ocean.

The experimental set-up at Little Port Walter consists of a permanent concrete weir by means of which the adult salmon are counted into the stream in the fall of each year and the resulting fry are counted as they migrate from the stream in the spring of each year. Continuous year-round observations are being made of variations in the weather conditions and other natural factors that may influence the survival of each year's brood while in the stream. For this purpose a large laboratory and residence building was constructed at this location which includes a small apartment for the resident biologist and living quarters for the crew necessary in the seasonal operation of the weir. Space is also provided in the building for guest investigators and upon completion of the laboratory facilities accommodations will be available for visiting biologists.

F. A. DAVIDSON,
Fish and Wildlife Service

THE USE FOR DEFENSE PURPOSES OF THE BUILDING IN WASHINGTON OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

DR. FRANK B. JEWETT, president of the National Academy of Sciences, has written a letter to members of the academy which reads as follows:

The purpose of this letter is to advise you concerning developments in the use of the Academy-Research Council Building for scientific work concerned with defense problems.

As you are all doubtless aware the development of the defense program has directed a steadily increasing amount of work to the academy and research council. Present indications are that still further demands will be made on them and their facilities.

In addition to an added burden on the administrative