ers commented on the same point, stating that Soviet computers were fewer in number, less reliable, and not as large as the computers commonly used here.

At a recent meeting of the Technical Council of the Soviet Ministry of Communications it was proposed that the development of a television relay satellite be made part of the current Seven-Year Plan. The proposal calls for the placing of a satellite in a "hovering" orbit, roughly 22,000 miles from the earth. The satellite, in orbit over the equator, would be so located that it would require one day to circle the earth. Because the earth itself rotates in that time, the result would be a satellite fixed in relationship to the earth. This could be used to relay television broadcasts to all points in the Soviet Union. One Soviet authority suggested that, on the basis of the state of rocketry in the U.S.S.R., such a project was "quite feasible." It is not known whether the proposal has been accepted by the Ministry.

Soviet scientists are reported to be planning to build a 240-inch telescope, the largest in the world. The design is said to have been completed, and plans call for the telescope to be in operation within 15 years, at a site in the Crimea. The largest now in operation is the 200-inch telescope at Mount Palomar, California.

Work of Council for Foreign Physicians Increasing

The number of foreign-trained physicians taking the qualifying examination of the Education Council for Foreign Medical Graduates is rapidly increasing. The council, with offices in Evanston, Ill., aids graduates of foreign medical schools in establishing their qualification to assume internships or residencies in United States hospitals.

Some 298 candidates took the first examination in March 1958; 844 in September 1958; 1772 in February 1959; and more than a thousand have already registered for the next examination on 22 September 1959. The number of centers where foreign medical graduates can take the examination overseas has also greatly increased. There were no foreign centers for the first examination, 30 for the second, and 44 for the third.

For the next examination there will be 15 centers in Latin America, 14 in the Far East, seven in the Near and Middle East, 13 in Europe, and one in Africa. In addition, examinations are held at various places in the United States.

In the last examination, 43.4 percent of the 1772 candidates won standard ECFMG certificates. Another 25.5 percent won temporary 2-year certificates, based on scores of 70 to 74 percent. Inadequate command of English played a major role in producing failure in the qualification examination in some of the foreign examination centers. There was one center in which three out of five candidates either failed or did very poorly on the English test. In the whole group of 494 physicians taking the examination in foreign centers, 45 showed serious inadequacy in their command of English. In contrast, among the 1278 foreign-trained physicians taking the English test in U.S. examining centers, none failed and only three did poorly. Applications for the next qualifying examination must be in the ECFMG offices at 1710 Orrington Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, by 22 June.

Indian Bird Collection

Two Harvard zoologists who spent a year and a half collecting birds in Nepal, Pakistan, and India, have returned with the largest collection of birds ever made on the Indian subcontinent. The new specimens fill a gap in the Harvard Museum's extensive collections of birds from nearly every region of the world. The birds will be invaluable not only in solving some problems in the classification of birds from this area but also in studying classification and evolution in Chinese birds, which are closely related to those from the Indian region. Raymond A. Paynter, Jr., associate curator of birds at Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology, and Melvin L. Bristol collected over 5500 birds, and some mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.

The expedition was cosponsored by the Peabody Museum at Yale University and the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard, who will share the birds and other animals with the countries where they were collected.

Women in Science

The National Council on the Participation of Women in Science was organized on 21 March at a meeting in the Jefferson Hotel in Washington, D.C. Mary Louise Robbins, associate professor of bacteriology at the George Washington University School of Medicine, was elected chairman. Robert J. Rutman, of the John Harrison Laboratory of Chemistry, University of Pennsylvania, was elected deputy chairman, as was Murray Vernon King of Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. Elizabeth Weisburger, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, was elected secretary; and Ethaline Cortelyou, technical editor, Atlantic Division, Aerojet-General Corporation, Frederick, Md., was elected treasurer.

The objective of the council is to encourage more extensive participation of women in science. The organization is the outgrowth of a conference on problems of women in science—sponsored by the American Association of Scientific Workers and Sigma Delta Epsilon, graduate women's scientific research association—that met on 29 December in Washington during the annual meeting of the AAAS. Arthur S. Flemming, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, was the keynote speaker at the December meeting, which was attended by more than 150 women.

The chairman of the March conference was Melba Phillips, physicist at Washington University, St. Louis. Cosponsoring organizations were the Business and Professional Women's Foundation; National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, including the District of Columbia Federation; and the United States National Student Association. Official representatives were sent by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor; the National Science Foundation; Goucher College, Baltimore; Elmira College, Elmira, New York; and Smith College, Northampton, Mass.

NATO Oceanographic Center

The United States, in cooperation with eight members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, will establish this spring an international scientific center for oceanographic research in La Spezia, Italy, to be known as the SACLANT Antisubmarine Warfare Research Center [Supreme Allied Command, Atlantic]. It will be commissioned on 2 May in ceremonies at the Italian naval base at La Spezia, where Italy also has an oceanographic research establishment. Rear Admiral John T. Hayward, assistant chief of naval operations for research and development, has been a prime mover in the creation of the center, for which the United States will provide $2.5 million during the next 2 years.

Scientists will be recruited from the nine nations taking part in the project —the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy, West Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, and Canada. At the outset only one or two investigators from each nation will participate, but the group is expected to grow.

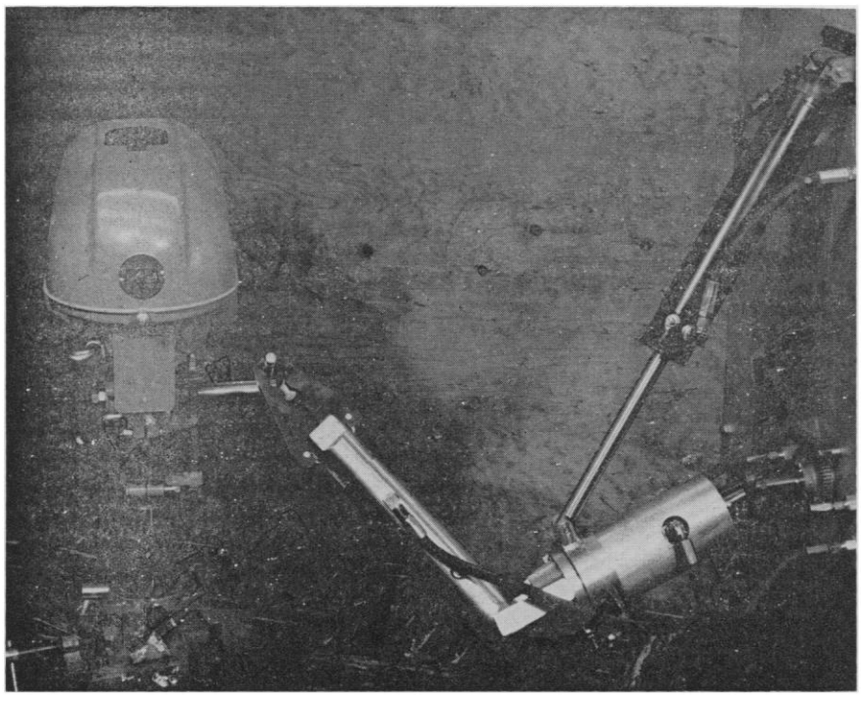
The new facility will be devoted primarily to basic oceanographic research, rather than to actual development of antisubmarine weapons. In particular, it will emphasize research on the characteristics of the relatively shallow ocean areas, such as are found in the Mediterranean and along the coasts of Europe and the United States.

The center will be directed by Admiral Jerauld Wright, NATO Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, who will establish the basic lines of research. In addition, a council of scientists will be organized within NATO as a board of advisers.

Mobile Robot Operated by TV

A remote-control handling machine for use in radioactive laboratories has been developed by the Hughes Aircraft Company. The mobile robot, called Mobot, can lift, place, and invert dangerous radioactive materials, operate equipment, and use auxiliary tools such as wrenches, screwdrivers, hammers, and shears. Mobot functions electrically by cable or radio link. Sitting outside a shielded room, an operator watches Mobot's work on closed-circuit television. Television cameras mounted on the walls of the room provide an over-all picture of the environment, while cameras on top of the machine afford forward and rear-direction views and close-ups of the gripping device, pincers that can be adjusted to either a light touch or a 200-pound squeeze. A microphone enables the operator to hear the machine grasp an object.

Mobot was developed for Hughes' program of experiments to measure the effects of atomic radiation upon electronic components. This work is being carried out in the company's new underground nuclear laboratories.



Mobot, the Hughes Aircraft Company's new remote-control handling machine, operates a drill inside a radioactive room.

AAAS Socio-Psychological Prize

Through the generosity of an anonymous donor, the AAAS offers an annual prize of $1000 for a meritorious essay in socio-psychological inquiry. Previous winners of this prize and the titles of their essays have been: Arnold M. Rose, "A theory of social organization and disorganization"; Yehudi A. Cohen, "Food and its vicissitudes: a cross-cultural study of sharing and non-sharing in sixty folk societies"; Herbert C. Kelman, "Compliance, identification, and internalization: a theoretical and experimental approach to the study of social influence"; and Irving A. Taylor, "Similarities in the structure of extreme social attitudes."

The conditions of competition for the prize to be awarded at the 1959 annual meeting, Chicago, Illinois, 26–31 December, are as follows:

1) The contribution should further the comprehension of the psychological-social-cultural behavior of human beings —the relationships of these hyphenated words being an essential part of the inquiry. Whether the contributor considers himself to be an anthropologist, a psychologist, a sociologist, or a member of some other group is unimportant as long as his essay deals with basic observation and construction in the area variously known as social process, group behavior, or interpersonal behavior. For ease of reference in the rest of this statement, this general area will be called "social behavior."

2) The prize is offered to encourage studies and analyses of social behavior based on explicitly stated assumptions or postulates, which lead to experimentally verifiable conclusions or deductions. In other words, it is a prize intended to encourage in social inquiry the development and application of dependable methodology analogous to the methods that have proved so fruitful in the natural sciences. This is not to state that the methods of any of the natural sciences are to be transferred without change to the study of social behavior, but rather that the development of a science of social behavior is fostered through observation guided by explicit postulates, which in turn are firmly grounded on prior observations. It may be taken for granted that such postulates will include a spatial-temporal framework for the inquiry. It may properly be added that the essay should foster liberation from philosophic-academic conventions and from dogmatic boundaries between different disciplines.

3) Hitherto unpublished manuscripts are eligible, as are manuscripts that have been published since 1 January 1958. Entries may be of any length, but each should present a completed analysis of a problem, the relevant data, and an interpretation of the data in terms of the postulates with which the study began. Preference will be given to manuscripts not more than 50,000 words in length. Entries may be submitted by the author himself or by another person on his behalf.

4) Entries will be judged by a committee of three persons considered well qualified to judge material in this field. The judges will be selected by a management committee consisting of the chairman and the secretary of Section K and the executive officer of the AAAS. The committee of judges reserves the right to withhold the prize if no worthy essay is submitted.

5) Entries should be sent to Dael Wolfle, Executive Officer, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1515 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington 5, D.C. Entries should be submitted in quadruplicate. Each entry should be accompanied by six copies of an abstract not to exceed 1200 words in length. The name of the author should not appear anywhere on the entry itself but should be enclosed on a separate sheet of paper which also gives the author's address and the title of his essay. Entrants who wish to have their manuscripts returned should include a note to that effect and the necessary postage. To be eligible for consideration for the prize that will be awarded at the 1959 annual meeting of the association, entries must be received *not later than 1 September 1959.*