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## National Space Council

At a hearing of the aeronautical and space sciences committee of the Senate, T. Keith Glennan, head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, refused last month to discuss the policy-making procedures of the National Space Council because of its "confidential" relationship to President Eisenhower. The council, established at the same time as NASA, has as members the President, the secretaries of State and Defense, the administrator of NASA, the chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and four other presidentially appointed persons. It has the role of advising the President on the broad outlines of aeronautical and space activities in the country.

After complaints had been made by various committee members, Glennan said that he would be glad to ask the President to reconsider the executive decision that makes the council meetings "privileged" with respect to Congressional inquiry. Since its formation about 5 months ago the council has had four formal meetings and one informal session, according to Glennan.

## News Briefs

The United States and Canada have announced a nonmilitary cooperative research program for exploring the ionosphere over the Arctic. Under the program, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration will furnish several research rockets to the Canadian Defense Research Telecommunications Establishment. Later, probably toward the end of 1960, the United States will launch a satellite containing instruments designed and built in Canada.

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The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has a nuclear energy exhibit in the Tokyo International Trade Fair, being held in Tokyo, Japan, 5-22 May. Some

of the U.S. displays shown at the Second International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy at Geneva, Switzerland, last September and new exhibits by U.S. individuals, colleges and universities, industrial firms, and government agencies comprise the commission's presentation. Highlight of the exhibit is the cutaway model of the Shippingport reactor pressure vessel and core that was on display at Geneva.

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A total of 255 reports on radiation sources, effects, measurements, and related problems have been submitted to the United Nations Scientific Committee on Effects of Atomic Radiation since it first began work 3 years ago. The reports have come from 30 governments on all continents, from four specialized agencies of the U.N., and from two nongovernmental scientific bodies. When the 15-member Scientific Committee held its sixth session at U.N. Headquarters 23 March to 1 April, it expressed hope that it would continue to receive relevant information on radiation levels and their effects from members of the U.N., the specialized agencies, or the International Atomic Energy Agency.

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*Graduate Study in France*, a publication designed for students planning a period of study at French institutions, has been issued by the French Cultural Services, 972 Fifth Ave., New York. It contains information on degrees, specialized institutes, fellowships, and teaching assistantships and gives details on application procedures, living accommodations, and visa requirements.

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The first internationally organized training course on radioisotope techniques designed specifically for the needs of the research worker in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and nutrition is being arranged jointly by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency, in cooperation with the United States Government and Cornell University. The 8-week course, to be held at Cornell beginning 20 July, will be open to nominees officially sponsored by member governments.

## Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

*Atherosclerosis.* The Biochemistry Research Division, Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Inc., has established a postdoctoral training program in lipid chemistry related to atherosclerosis and aging. The new program, which is supported by the National Heart Institute, will emphasize training in the newer techniques of gas chromatography and silicic acid column chromatography. Trainees with a Ph.D.

in chemistry or biochemistry, or M.D.'s will be accepted for periods of from 2 months to 2 years; stipends will be provided from the program. Applications are now being received by the program director, Dr. David A. Turner, Biochemistry Research Division, Sinai Medical Center, Baltimore 15, Md.

*Botany.* The Committee on the Darbaker Prize of the Botanical Society of America is accepting nominations. Nonmembers of the society are eligible for the award, which is given for meritorious work in the study of the algae. The committee will base its judgment primarily on the papers published by the nominee during the last two full calendar years prior to the closing date for nominations. At present, the award will be limited to residents of North America, and only papers published in English will be considered. Nominations for the 1959 award, accompanied by a statement of the merits of the case and by reprints of the publications supporting the candidacy, should reach the chairman of the committee *before 1 June*. The chairman is Ruth Patrick, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa.

*Marine biology.* The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Biology and Medicine has announced that the Eniwetok Marine Biological Laboratory is again available for use by scientists for research that can be carried on advantageously on a central Pacific atoll. The laboratory is equipped for all types of biological collecting and for ecological, physiological, and radiobiological studies. Should investigators submit projects which fall within the interests of the Division of Biology and Medicine, funds may be made available for travel, per diem, and other expenses incurred in the course of the project.

Scientists should submit proposals for research at Eniwetok to the Chief, Environmental Sciences Branch, Division of Biology and Medicine, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington 25, D.C. Only men may go to Eniwetok, and a security clearance is mandatory. Because processing procedures require considerable time, proposals for conducting research at Eniwetok must be submitted at least 3 months before the expected date of departure.

*Mycology.* The New York Botanical Garden has announced the Gertrude S. Burlingham scholarship in mycology for advanced predoctoral summer study at the Garden. The scholarship will be granted annually. For the summer of 1959 the stipend will be \$700; work under this appointment may begin any time after 1 July and should continue for approximately 3 months. Nominations or applications should reach the director *by 15 May*. Further information may be obtained from William C. Steere, New