

The FCC, meanwhile, went ahead and directed nine international carriers, led by A.T.&T., to report by 13 October on joint development and operation of a system. Simultaneously, the FCC rejected G.E.'s petition to include equipment manufacturers. Three days later, A.T.&T. and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration signed an agreement for the launching of two to four satellites next year at an estimated cost to A.T.&T. of \$6 million each.

Testifying before several congressional committees, FCC Chairman Newton Minow indicated that the door had not been shut irrevocably against the manufacturers. He said that they "may well be" permitted to participate eventually, and he declared that the FCC would not tolerate domination by any one firm.

General Electric, however, showed no inclination to tie up substantial assets on the basis of this assurance. With its current prospects snuffed out, it wrote the FCC on 22 September that it was dissolving Communications Satellites, Inc., which it had formed to pursue space communications activities. The unit, according to a company official, had approximately 100 employees, and they have been reassigned to other activities.

Soviet Medical Exhibition

A Soviet medical exhibition, which had been scheduled to begin a 60-day U.S. tour on 23 September [*Science* **134**, 932 (29 Sept. 1961)], and an American transportation exhibition which was to open in Moscow on the same date, have been indefinitely postponed by the Russians.

On 1 September the U.S. State Department asked to review the Russian contract with a Brooklyn construction company handling the medical exhibition, in order to ensure that liaison men assigned to Soviet exchanges in the U.S. will be paid. Soviet representatives stated that there was no formal agreement between the two countries allowing the right of review, and charged the U.S. with "interference."

The Soviet exhibition, still crated, is under the custody of U.S. Customs officials. The American exhibition, partially completed at the time of the postponement, is now being dismantled and crated in the event the show is ordered to continue to Stalingrad.

Announcements

Designs have been completed for an **aluminum research submarine**, which will be used by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution as a part of a research program sponsored by the Office of Naval Research.

The 51-foot, battery-powered *Aluminaut*, equipped with sonar, television cameras, and mechanical devices to retrieve specimens, will have an 80-mile operating range and will be capable of descending to 15,000 feet. It will be used initially to study submarine canyons, the edge of the continental shelf, and the daily vertical migration of marine animals. Designed by Reynolds International, Inc., a subsidiary of Reynolds Metals Company, the three-man craft will be constructed by General Dynamics Corporation's Electric Boat Division. Launching is scheduled for 1963.

Visiting professors in astronomy are currently available for 2-day intervals during the current academic year through a program established by the American Astronomical Society. Educational institutions wishing to utilize this service should write the Visiting Professors Committee at one of the following addresses:

East: Franklyn M. Branley, The American Museum-Hayden Planetarium, 81 St. and Central Park West, New York 24.

Middle West: Victor M. Blanco, Case Observatory, Taylor & Brunswick Roads, East, Cleveland 12, Ohio.

West: Seth B. Nicholson, Mount Wilson and Palomar Observatories, 813 Santa Barbara St., Pasadena, Calif.

A pamphlet on **family food stockpile for survival** has been published by the Department of Agriculture. The booklet, available free of charge, includes information on how to store and how often to replace food stockpiles; it also lists equipment needed for emergency cooking and gives sample menus for a reasonably balanced diet. (Office of Information, USDA, Washington 25, D.C. Order No. HG-77)

Airlie Foundation, a **conference center** in a rural setting about 40 miles from Washington, D.C., has opened for the use of educational, research and governmental organizations. The center is located on a 1200-acre estate and has facilities for 100 overnight

guests. A variety of conference rooms can accommodate small and large meetings. In addition, facilities for recreation are provided. The foundation is incorporated on a nonprofit basis. Among the organizations planning conferences at Airlie are the Brookings Institution and the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology. (Airlie Foundation, Warrenton, Va.)

Copies of a preliminary directory of the **biomedical library resources** in the Pacific area, presented at the 10th Pacific Science Congress (Honolulu, 22 Aug.-2 Sept.), are available on request. (National Library of Medicine, U.S. Public Health Service, Washington 25, D.C.)

Cytologists and geneticists who may have previously sent reprints of their work to Friedrich Mechelke, a German cytologist formerly with the Institut für Kulturpflanzenforschung in East Germany, are requested to send new copies. In the process of leaving East Germany in the last days before the closing of the barriers, Mechelke lost all of his scientific data, literature, and personal possessions. (Friedrich Mechelke, c/o Dr. J. Straub, Max-Planck-Institut für Züchtungsforschung, Köln-Vogelsang, West Germany)

Courses

A 2-week postgraduate course in **allergy** is being offered from 5 to 16 March 1962 by the University of Pennsylvania. The course consists of a review of the basic principles of immunology and allergy as applied to clinical practice, with emphasis on the methods of diagnosis and management of allergic patients. Enrollment is limited. Tuition: \$175. (George Blumstein, c/o Temple Medical Center, Philadelphia 40, Pa.)

An 8-week course on **science research in contemporary Europe**, sponsored by the State University of New York and the Experiment in International Living, will be held during the summer of 1962. Participants will visit research institutions, oceanographic stations, zoological and botanical gardens, and museums in Rome, Venice, Genoa, Monaco, Marseilles, Paris, Brussels, The Hague, and London. (Walter Lerner, State University of New York, College of Education, Geneseo)