for a federal research and development program which the task force felt worth while and necessary to bring the nation's criminal justice system into the modern age and somewhere near its potential effectiveness.

A basic stumbling block, the task force found, is lack of information. What is the nature of crime? How does the criminal justice system operate? What are the effects of its methods? When changes are made, what are the results? The report pointed out, for example, that no controlled studies have ever been conducted to find out whether brighter street lighting really reduces crime. In many cases, the report showed, even where needs have been identified, work on the solutions have been inadequate. An effective nonlethal weapon which can incapacitate as quickly as a gun has not yet been developed.

The report concludes that it is up to the federal government to initiate and finance a science-and-technology, research, development, and test-and-evaluation program. This program would include R & D test and evaluation projects at the local and state levels; technical support to criminal justice agencies for incorporating results of the projects; operation-research groups in the larger agencies; graduate fellowships to attract and train new professionals; research grants to scientific investigators; dissemination of R & D information; and the establishment of a major science and technology research institute.

The latter, the report says is probably the most important single mechanism for accomplishing the goals of the federal program. Although supported by the federal government, the institute, the report suggests, might best be established by a university, a group of universities, or an independent nonprofit organization and be located in a metropolitan area. Representative J. Edward Roush (D–Ind.) has introduced a bill (HR10113) which would accomplish this. His bill, which calls for the establishment of a National Science and Technology Center for Crime Prevention, is awaiting action in the House Judiciary Committee.

Identical bills to create a National Institute of Criminal Justice, which would involve science and technology research, have been introduced in the Senate (S992) by Edward Kennedy (D–Mass.) and in the House (HR 5652) by James Scheuer (D–N.Y.).

There is little doubt that the nation's

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **NEW NSF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**: A total of nearly $2 million has been awarded to four institutions in the first grants made under NSF's Departmental Science Development Program. The new program, which pinpoints specific departments for support, is complementary to NSF's University Science Development Program, which provides assistance for broad-scale institutional development. Those receiving the grants are: Clark University, Worcester, Mass., geography, $563,740; Drexel Institute of Technology, Philadelphia, materials engineering, $527,700; University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, mathematics, $550,000; and Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, mechanical engineering, $300,000.

● **ALASKAN MINING RESEARCH LABORATORY**: The Bureau of Mines is establishing a mining research laboratory in Juneau, Alaska, to conduct research on the development of Alaska's mineral and fuel resources. The first project will be to test the use of a sonic drill for penetrating the permanently frozen grounds of Alaska. Under another program the Bureau's newly commissioned research ship, *Virginia City*, will conduct research and development in undersea mining of gold off the southern coast of Alaska's Seward Peninsula in cooperation with the Interior Department's Geological Survey.

● **RELIGION AND MENTAL HEALTH BIBLIOGRAPHY**: A *Bibliography on Religion and Mental Health*, containing references to books and articles published between 1960 and 1964, has been issued by the National Clearinghouse for Mental Health Information, and is available from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, for 55 cents.

● **RADIO ASTRONOMY**: Four universities have formed a consortium, Associates for Radio Astronomy (ARA), to promote the construction of a 328-foot fully steerable radio telescope, which would be the largest of its kind in the United States. The ARA members are the University of Michigan, the California Institute of Technology, Stanford University, and the University of California. Under the ARA agreement, Caltech was given the responsibility for the planning, construction, and ultimate operation of the instrument, with the aid of ARA's policy and scientific committees. A proposal for the telescope, to be located at Caltech's Owens Valley Observatory, has been submitted to NSF. Estimated cost of the instrument is $17.8 million.

● **U.S. RESEARCH IN THE MID-EAST:** The United States temporarily suspended support of all research projects in the Middle Eastern countries involved in the Arab-Israeli war at the time of the outbreak of hostilities the week of 5 June. Since then, the suspension has been lifted for programs funded by U.S. owned local currency in Israel and Tunisia. Studies are now underway on a country-by-country basis to determine the future of the remaining U.S. supported projects. The largest installation involving American citizens, a Naval Medical Research Unit in Cairo, Egypt, has been temporarily placed under the administration of the Spanish embassy, and the 28 military and 3 civilian workers have been evacuated to Greece. The National Science Foundation had 13 grantees and fellowship holders in the Middle East at the time of the outbreak. Communication problems have prevented the location of all of them. Departure of another group of NSF grantees and fellows to the Middle East has been cancelled. The suspension of payments affects, among others, 50 projects in Egypt, funded over varying time periods for a total of $4 million and one project in Syria, under a $5000 grant. These two fall under a U.S. program of supporting research using U.S. owned local currency in the countries. The numerous government agencies supporting research in the Middle East, have been advised by the State Department to hold off payments for the projects until the country-by-country study is complete.

● **FRENCH ASTRONOMER WINS KALINGA PRIZE:** Paul Couderc, a French astronomer, has been selected as the 15th recipient of UNESCO's international Kalinga Prize. The award of approximately $2800 was presented to Couderc for his work in aiding the popularization of science.