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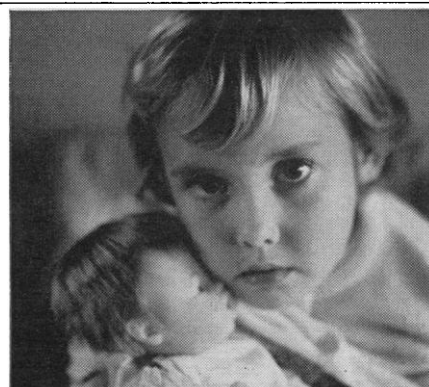
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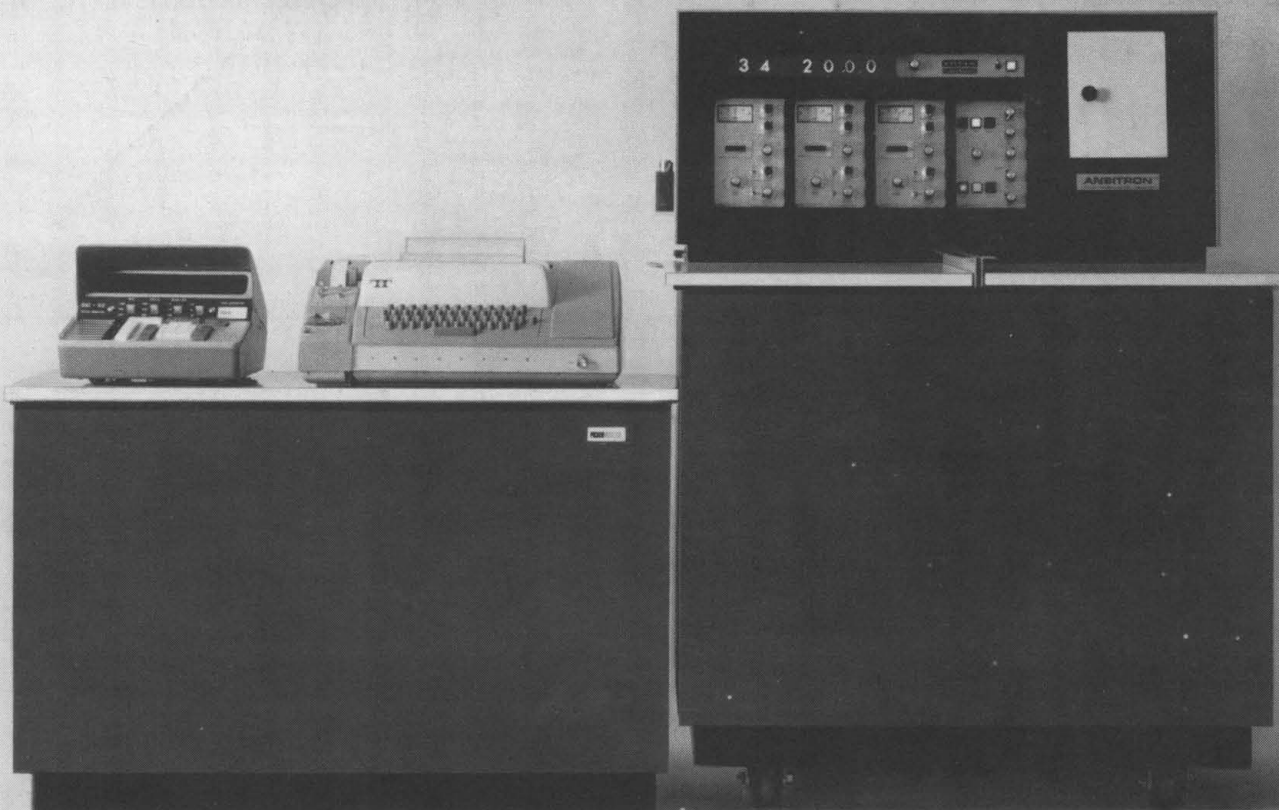
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THE Ba133 SPECTRUM ITSELF

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Let's look at two multichannel analyzer plots obtained from one channel of one of our liquid scintillation systems. Plot A shows the Ba133 spectrum and an unquenched C14 sample spectrum (system is calibrated for C14 counting). Plot B shows the Ba133 spectrum and the spectrum for a highly quenched C14 sample (system is calibrated for H3 counting). Note that, in *both* plots, the Ba133 spectrum closely follows the sample beta spectrum.

THE BENEFITS OF Ba133

As the multichannel analyzer plots show, the spectral shifts of Ba133 and the sample isotope are similar from unquenched to highly quenched samples. This means that a given set of channels ratio quench correction curves derived from the Ba133 standard will cover a much *wider* range

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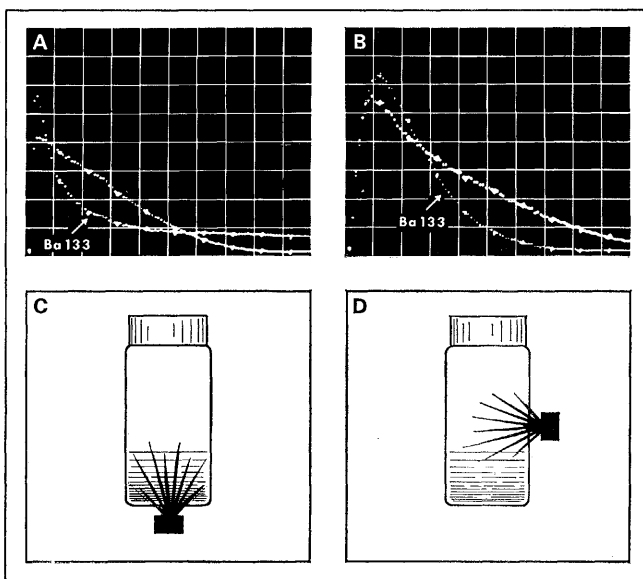
Further, the close similarity of the Ba133 spectrum to that of the sample beta permits using the sample-counting channels to count the external standard. Any system variables (small gain drifts, etc.) affect the external standard and sample equally. The external standard channels ratio, therefore, will more closely approximate the sample channels ratio than if a higher energy external standard had been used. This also allows *all* system channels to be available for sample counting.

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And note in Diagram D, how side-positioning of the external standard would be more volume-dependent. Not so with G-O positioning. And the G-O system "sees" the same spot—no matter *how* the vial is rotated. Result: inaccuracies caused by variations in vial-wall thickness are minimized.

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