

## A POINT OF VIEW

*President Lyndon B. Johnson, excerpt from remarks on 1 March at the NASA Manned Space Flight Center, Houston, in announcing a new Lunar Science Institute to be initially operated by the National Academy of Sciences and Rice University.*

I spent almost 38 years in the Nation's Capital. In all of that period of time, I have voted for thousands of bills and I have written a few. But the one legislative enactment that I suppose I am proudest of is the bill that I wrote and introduced that made possible NASA, that brought into existence this great facility and others in the program throughout this nation. . . .

I am certain that as future generations look back on our incredible decade, they will be unanimous in their belief that the treasure that we have dedicated to sending man to explore the stars was the most significant and important investment ever made by any people.

You will have to go through some heartbreaks and some headaches. There will be little men with poison pens, without vision, who will seek to scrub your great efforts. But they will not prevail. We may have to reduce some of the plans that we have, but we will not forget you. We will not stop our work. We will proceed.

The Armed Services Committee is an assemblage of remarkably like-minded people, a fact which strengthens Rivers' influence by enabling him to go to the House floor with near-unanimous legislative recommendations. The committee's solidarity seems to derive from the attraction this body has for House members who have either a strong affinity for military affairs or major defense installations in their districts, if not both. Even on a subject as controversial as the draft, only five of the committee's 40 members dissented from the committee recommendations last year for draft-law revisions. The dissenters held that "in time of war, student deferments are unconscionable."

The most aggressively outspoken of the committee's few nonconformists is Otis G. Pike, a Long Island Democrat. Following the announcement last November of the Secretary's pending resignation, Pike, in a floor speech, praised McNamara and observed that, while it was true McNamara had gotten along poorly with Congress, a major reason for this was the Secretary's "low tolerance for stupidity."

One of the considerations that undoubtedly led President Johnson to name Clark Clifford as McNamara's successor is the excellent reputation Clifford enjoys on Capitol Hill. Yet there is a real chance that Clifford and the Rivers committee may soon be at loggerheads. Rivers and his senior colleagues plainly hope to see important

changes at the Pentagon. As one committee member puts it, "I think you're going to see a deemphasis of systems analysis and more reliance on common sense. The whiz kids have been too active."

However, McNamara leaves behind him the large staff of civilian officials which he assembled, and it will carry on the new ways. Moreover, General Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and an officer whom Rivers and his colleagues identify with the McNamara policies, continues in office.

In any case, Clifford has no desire to see the power of his office weakened at all. Indeed, in 1960 Clifford was a member of an advisory panel which recommended that the military departments be abolished and that the Secretary of Defense directly administer all of the armed forces. In testifying recently before the Senate Armed Services Committee, he indicated that McNamara's performance had convinced him that no such reorganization is necessary.

Clifford comes to the Pentagon at a time when many civilian officials in the Pentagon are favoring, not an escalation, but a de-escalation of the Vietnam war. If he and the President should conclude that de-escalation is the wiser course, nothing is more certain than that Rivers and the more vocal members of his committee will howl in protest.—LUTHER J. CARTER

## RECENT DEATHS

**William E. Bennett**, 61; professor of physics, State University of New York at Buffalo; 12 January.

**Matthew N. Chappell**, 67; professor emeritus of psychology, Hofstra University; 10 February.

**S. Leonard Doerpinghaus**, 42; associate professor of biology, Agnes State College; 19 January.

**Alton Goldbloom**, 77; professor emeritus of pediatrics, McGill University; 2 February.

**Wendell H. Griffith**, 72; first director of the Life Sciences Research Office, Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology and professor emeritus of biochemistry, University of California, Los Angeles; 5 February.

**Marshall C. Guthrie**, 88; former assistant surgeon general, U.S. Public Health Service; 29 January.

**Don D. Jackson**, 48; director of the Palo Alto Mental Research Institute; 30 January.

**Stanley Levey**, 52; associate professor of biochemistry in the department of surgery, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University; 19 November.

**Earl R. Moses, Sr.**, 67; professor emeritus of sociology, Morgan State College; 20 February.

**Mervin E. Oakes**, 75; retired associate professor of biology, Queens College; 19 February.

**Kenneth N. Ogle**, 65; emeritus head of the section of biophysics, Mayo Clinic; 22 February.

**Julius A. Schlakman**, 63; associate professor of science, Montclair State College; 1 February.

**Manasseh G. Sevag**, 70; emeritus professor of microbiology, University of Pennsylvania; 26 November.

**Walter F. Shenton**, 81; former chairman of the mathematics department, American University; 26 February.

**Hertha Sponer-Franck**, 72; former professor of physics, Duke University; 17 February.

**Pitirim A. Sorokin**, 79; professor emeritus of sociology, Harvard University; 9 February.

**Samuel Steinberg**, 76; former dean of the college of engineering, University of Maryland; 10 February.

**David H. Wenrich**, 82; professor emeritus of zoology, University of Pennsylvania; 31 January.

**Kimball Wiles**, 54; dean of the college of education, University of Florida; 1 February.