

Humphrey associates. Wiesner, who served as science adviser for President Kennedy and, briefly, for President Johnson, is heading up the science policy study group for Humphrey and has been active in working to persuade scientists to back Humphrey. When asked whether he would take the presidential science adviser position in a Humphrey administration, Wiesner replied that he was busy at M.I.T., but he did not absolutely rule out the possibility.

As President, one Humphrey priority in the science field would be a greater centralization and strengthening of existing science policy machinery. In the late 1950's, Humphrey advocated the creation of a Cabinet-level Department of Science and Technology, and there is no reason to believe that he has lost his enthusiasm for the idea. This year he has advocated giving serious consideration to combining the Office of Science and Technology and the Marine Science and Space councils into one body. He has also advocated that consideration be given the idea of upgrading the Federal Council for Science and Technology and having the Vice President chair this group. Humphrey has urged that the membership of the President's Science Advisory Committee be broadened to emphasize the role of technology and the social sciences. He has also advocated the creation of a National Domestic Policy Council, which would have, for domestic affairs, an advisory role similar to that of the National Security Council. He has said that a board for giving greater attention to ecological questions could be created under this council.

One of Humphrey's main interests in science is the utilization of scientists to further international cooperation, including that with the Communist countries. In a major foreign policy speech delivered in San Francisco in July, Humphrey said that reconciliation with the Communist countries was the "top priority for American foreign policy in the next decade." In that speech, he said that he favored early U.S.-Soviet agreement to freeze and reduce offensive and defensive strategic armaments, accelerated technological interchange between nations, and coordination of U.S. and Soviet post-lunar manned space exploration.

In another San Francisco speech, on 26 September, Humphrey argued that "the United States cannot play the role of global gendarme." He called for "an end to nuclear testing under adequate safeguards" and "the control of chemi-

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **GERMAN RESPONSE:** The German government has agreed in principle to help build the new European 300-Gev accelerator. A letter from the West German Minister for Scientific Research, G. Stoltenberg, says his government feels that preliminary work on the project should go ahead, including selection of a site, but indicates that Germany will insist that matters of cost and design be clarified. Austria, Belgium, France, and Italy already have gone on record as supporting the new high energy physics laboratory program of the European Organization for Nuclear Research.

● **AMA RESEARCH INSTITUTE:** Under a contract signed early in September, the American Medical Association's Institute for Biomedical Research will be moved from the AMA headquarters building in downtown Chicago to a site on the University of Chicago campus. Nobel laureate George W. Beadle, retiring president of the University of Chicago, has been appointed director of the institute (*Science*, 29 December 1967). The AMA plans to erect a new building, costing perhaps \$1 to \$3 million, within 18 months to 2 years.

● **WOMEN AT GEORGETOWN:** Georgetown University, a Jesuit men's school for 179 years, will admit women into its undergraduate College of Arts and Sciences next fall for the first time.

● **NAVY CUTS:** Scientists and engineers are likely to be among those fired as a result of the Navy's nationwide economy program, aimed at cutting 2400 jobs and saving \$12 million in the Navy's 15 nationwide research laboratories. Navy officials say that each laboratory will determine which employees will be affected, and a national computer center will try to match dismissed persons with new jobs in industry and government. The reduction is part of the Defense Department's drive to cut fiscal 1969 expenditures by \$3 billion.

● **PLUTONIUM REGISTRY:** A National Plutonium Registry, which will maintain records of all persons known to be carrying transuranic elements in their bodies, has been established by the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation at the Richland, Washington, Atomic

Energy Commission site. The registry will help to determine, for medical research studies, the pathological changes in persons who have minute quantities of plutonium and other heavy elements in their bodies.

● **EXCHANGE PROGRAM BOARD:**

A number of privately funded joint exchange programs with Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union will be coordinated for the first time by a board funded primarily by the Ford Foundation. The International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) has been established by the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and the Social Science Research Council to coordinate exchange programs, which will involve about 200 American, Soviet, and Eastern European scholars in 1969-70. Events in Eastern Europe notwithstanding, the Board will coordinate individual scholar exchanges in the Ford Foundation's East European program, the ACLS 2-year exchange program with the Soviet Academy of Sciences, and a travel grants program sponsored by the Inter-University Committee on Travel Grants. The IREX program will cooperate, but not be affiliated with the National Academy of Sciences' Soviet and Eastern European exchange program, which involves about 80 persons in American and foreign exchanges.

● **A-WASTE PLAN PROTEST:** Islanders on the small Italian island of Lampedusa, between Sicily and Tunisia, forced the return of Italian Atomic Energy Agency drillers, who were planning to bury radioactive waste from Italian nuclear power stations on the island. The islanders, who staged a general strike, expressed fears that Lampedusa would be turned into a nuclear waste cemetery.

● **ANTARCTIC MAPS:** A series of two-color topographic maps, which are the most detailed available to date of selected areas in Antarctica, have been published by the Geological Survey in cooperation with the National Science Foundation. The reconnaissance maps are available in two series at scales of 1:250,000 and 1:500,000; each map costs 75 cents. An index to the maps may be requested from the Washington Distribution Section, Geological Survey, 1200 S. Eads St., Arlington, Virginia.