NEWS IN BRIEF

• **CANADIAN PHASE-OUT**: Studies for construction and operation in Canada of an intense neutron generator (ING)—which would have been by far the largest and most expensive single scientific project ever funded by the Canadian government—have been discontinued. The Science Council of Canada has requested that Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL), a government corporation, phase out its studies because federal funds cannot be provided at this time. ING's aim was to produce an extremely high intensity of neutrons for basic research and the production of radioactive isotopes for medical, industrial, and other applications. ING was first submitted for government approval in 1966; it would have cost $143 million (U.S.), with yearly operative expenses of about $14 to $19 million, and would have taken 7 to 8 years to build.

• **SALVAGING ALVIN**: The attempt to raise *Alvin*, the 23-foot-long Woods Hole research submarine which sank last week in 4500 feet of water some 120 miles south of Cape Cod, will depend on a submersible, which is even smaller than *Alvin* itself. The 16-foot-long, three-man Deep Ocean Work Boat (DOWB) has been leased from General Motors; it has a mechanical arm, a periscope system, and a depth capacity of 6500 feet. DOWB is to be used to locate *Alvin*, to assess damage, and to attach a cable. Plans then are to raise *Alvin* to a depth where divers can attach a securing system and bring it to the surface. *Alvin*, which achieved fame 2 years ago when it was used to pick up a lost nuclear bomb off the coast of Palomares, Spain, sank when a cable broke, disconnecting the submarine from its mother ship, and water poured in through an open hatch. *Alvin* is named for Allyn Vine, a Woods Hole senior scientist, who helped plan the research submarine.

• **WORLD POPULATION RISE**: The *United Nations Demographic Yearbook* shows that the world's population reached 3.4 billion in mid-1967. The study, which predicts that the world's population will double by the year 2006, says that 75 percent of the world's inhabitants live in developing countries. The yearbook is based on figures reported by national governments.

• **AUSTRALIAN-U.S. PACT**: The U.S. government has signed a formal agreement, which extends existing cooperative technical exchanges with the Australian government and provides for additional sharing of scientific and technical information, and faculty and student exchanges. The joint agreement was signed 15 October during a U.S. Science Mission to Australia by the President's Science Advisor, Donald F. Hornig, and the Australian Minister for Education and Science. The National Science Foundation will administer the initial 5-year program for the United States.

• **IRS RULING STANDS**: Before adjourning, the Senate voted down a Senate Finance Committee amendment, which would have postponed for 1 year the taxing of profits accruing from advertising revenue in publications of tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations; it would have provided time for a congressional study of the 1967 IRS ruling, which says that such revenues are a taxable business income unrelated to organizations' nonprofit purposes. Magazines affected by the ruling include *Science, The National Geographic, The Journal of the American Medical Association,* and about 700 other journals. Certain magazines in a separate category, which includes civic leagues, recreational clubs, federally created organizations, and the like, are not affected; *The American Rifleman*, the journal of the National Rifle Association, for example, is exempt from the unrelated business income tax.

• **NEW MEDICAL CENTER**: A $13,000,000 grant—the largest awarded this year by the National Institutes of Health—has been given to the University of Massachusetts to build a new school of medicine at Worcester, Mass. It is estimated that the new school, which will be completed in about 1973, eventually will have about 400 students.

• **NEW PUBLICATIONS**: *NIH Almanac 1968*, an information booklet on National Institutes of Health data, including history, organization, appropriations, staff, medical research support, field units, and lecture series, may be obtained without charge from the Office of Information, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.

that he is "committed to strengthening colleges and universities in every section of the country." "Our research and development should grow in rough proportion to our GNP," he added.

Science management. Humphrey, who is more specific on this issue than Nixon, says he would "greatly strengthen the White House advisory apparatus" by having the director of the Office of Science and Technology attend every meeting of the Cabinet and National Security Council, by giving consideration to combining the Office of Science and Technology with the Space and Marine Science Councils, by broadening the President's Science Advisory Committee so as to emphasize the increased role of technology and of the social sciences, and by having the Vice President serve as chairman of the Federal Council for Science and Technology, which is a coordinating body of agency heads.

Nixon, meanwhile, has criticized lack of coordination among federal agencies responsible for R&D and has implied that he would correct the situation, but has stressed that there must be "no Federal scientific czar"—instead "Washington should serve as a catalyst, sponsoring research and scholarship" by the private sector. Humphrey, too, cites the need for government to develop "a vital partnership with non-Federal interests," including industry and universities.

Space. Humphrey opposes a "shutdown of the space program," but he suggests a shift of emphasis from the costly development of boosters, spacecraft, and other technology to "a more general goal. We should continue with research and development in the field of propulsion, both chemical and nuclear. We must direct our efforts toward decreasing the cost of space flight." Projects he suggests be undertaken "as funds are available" include earth-orbiting stations which would detect crop diseases, assess water resources, make astronomical observations, and perform other missions; efforts to learn more about the planets; and projects in the field of communications and weather prediction.

Nixon, though he has occasionally suggested that the space budget might be judiciously cut, has also stated his intentions to make the United States first in space.

Other issues. Humphrey has recommended a doubling of our ocean-related activities over the next 4 years, and the establishment of "multi-disciplinary, technological institutes" on urban sci-