

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **SOVIET UNION FLOATS OCEAN DISARMAMENT TREATY:** The Soviet Union has submitted a plan which would prohibit nuclear weapons and military installations of any kind on the ocean floor outside a nation's 12-mile territorial limit. The Russian government made its proposal recently at the 18-nation disarmament conference in Geneva. The Russian proposal, which Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA) officials have called "a sweeping one," would eliminate all military activities on the ocean floor. ACDA Director Gerard C. Smith has said that the United States probably will not support a proposal which would eliminate the possibility of any military use of the seabed. Smith did say, however, that the United States is concerned with negotiating an agreement to bar all weapons of mass destruction, including missiles, from the ocean floor. The 18-nation conference, the United Nation's negotiating body on disarmament, is expected to continue its discussion of disarmament of the oceans during the present 8-week session. France, which was an original member of the conference, has declined to participate in the international disarmament talks.

● **STENNIS FORMS COMMITTEE TO STUDY DEFENSE R&D:** Senator John Stennis (D-Miss.), chairman of the Armed Services Committee, has created an ad hoc committee, chaired by Senator Thomas J. McIntyre (D-N.H.), to study defense research and development spending patterns. The purpose of the ad hoc committee, consisting of senators on Armed Services, is to study specific Defense Department weapons research programs in preparation for hearings which will be held soon on the defense authorization budget.

● **DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD:** The Defense Science Board (DSB), which is the senior advisory group on science and technology for the Defense Department, has five new members-at-large. They are Arthur T. Biehl of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, Lewis M. Branscomb of the University of Colorado, Daniel J. Fink of General Electric Corporation, Charles Herzfeld of International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, and William G. McMillan of the University of Cali-

fornia. The 28-member Defense Science Board, which consists of 20 members-at-large representing universities and industry and 8 ex officio members representing major federal agencies, meets periodically to assess scientific research and development for military purposes, and to advise the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E). New members of DSB are appointed on the recommendation of the DDR&E. Robert L. Sproull of Cornell University is chairman of the board, a post which Frederick Seitz, president of the National Academy of Sciences, held from 1964 through 1968.

● **TAPE HEADS ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES:** Gerald F. Tape, a member of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), has been named President of the Associated Universities Inc. (AUI), which operates Brookhaven National Laboratory and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank, West Virginia. Tape, who served as president of AUI for a short term in 1962-63, has been an AEC commissioner since 1963. A physicist, he worked at the M.I.T. Radiation Laboratory during World War II, and was associated with the Brookhaven National Laboratory from 1950 to 1962. AUI, a nonprofit research management consortium of nine eastern universities, was created in 1947. It operates Brookhaven for the AEC and the Radio Astronomy Observatory for the National Science Foundation. AUI has an annual operating budget of about \$54 million, of which \$49 million is support from the AEC and about \$5 million from NSF.

● **BRITISH PLAN GIANT TELESCOPE:** The British government, which has delayed major investments in radio astronomy because of economic stringencies, has decided to finance a new \$4.8-million radio telescope at Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory at Cambridge University. A 3-mile array of eight paraboloid dishes will make up the new radio telescope. It is expected to extend British studies of quasars and radio galaxies, and to make use of the aperture synthesis techniques devised by British astronomer Martin Ryle, who heads Cambridge's radio astronomy team. The telescope is expected to be in operation in approximately 2 or 3 years.

helping black students come to Brandeis.

White professors at Brandeis are now well aware, even if some of them were not before, that black students will not automatically and gratefully accept whatever the university offers them. "The idea that universities can have black students on the university's terms is finished," physicist Robert V. Lange comments.

Even though Brandeis weathered the Ford Hall crisis, black-white problems are not yet resolved. Black students still say that the administration has not made enough progress in meeting their demands, and still insist on the right to select the head of the black studies department, an idea which is opposed by a large majority of the faculty. In March, a couple of hundred white students staged "sit-ins" inside the Brandeis administration building in support of the black demands. (Whites had staged a sympathetic sit-in during the January crisis, but were not allowed by black students to assist in the occupation of Ford Hall.) On 24 February, a major university building was considerably damaged by fires set by an arsonist. Though no suspect has been arrested as of this writing, inevitably some people at Brandeis suspect that the arson is somehow connected to the Ford Hall affair.

The Future of Universities

And so, Brandeis, like many other universities, continues to be in trouble. It is understandable that black (or white) students find it difficult to accept university life as it is now constituted, but it will prove impossible for sensitive administrators, white or black, to function in an atmosphere of forceful take-over of buildings and threats of arson and armed violence. If such conditions persist, it will be progressively harder for universities to find outside backing and first-rate administrators and, eventually, to find a faculty. At least at present, university teachers and administrators do not make their vocational decisions with the same motives as soldiers joining the Green Berets.

Student protest may eventually force out "liberal" administrators, but in their place are likely to emerge not radicals, but men who will practice repression, not reconciliation. No doubt the pitched battles that would then ensue would provide the direct confrontation that some student activists are hoping for.—BRYCE NELSON