

able reentry vehicles) and counter-insurgency technology. In his statement Kabat asked for creation of an interdisciplinary "department of conversion science" as the focus of M.I.T.'s efforts to redirect military research.

At present there seems to be little chance of M.I.T.'s making a 180-degree turn away from military R & D. For radical politics, M.I.T. provides a generally inhospitable environment. By tradition and still dominantly in atmosphere, M.I.T. is an engineering school, and engineering students have been a conspicuously inert group in most universities during the current upheavals. Most M.I.T. faculty members practice in those disciplines in which research has drawn heavily on government funding, both military and nonmilitary, and faculty members serve as consultants for industry and as advisers to the government.

There is little sign of radicalization of the undergraduates at M.I.T. The year passed without a violent episode of the kind that has led to the calling in of police, which on some campuses has tended to inflame the students and divide the faculty or turn it against the administration. Most observers say that Johnson and provost Jerome Wiesner, who has devoted much time this spring to dealing directly with students, have things very much under control, and even the radicals who have plenty to say in criticism of the "establishment" concede that Johnson and Wiesner have been a very effective management team. Considering, however, the smallness of the radical minority and the political climate at M.I.T., the activists have made a considerable impact.

The history of the radical movement at M.I.T., to all intents and purposes, began last autumn when an AWOL soldier was given sanctuary at the M.I.T. chapel for several days as an act of opposition to the Vietnam war. Many of those involved were from outside the M.I.T. community, but there is little doubt that the incident raised the level of political awareness on the campus. Momentum was established in late autumn when activists began to work toward the research stoppage and discussion of defense research issues which ultimately took place on 4 March at M.I.T. and other universities. The acceptance of "March 4th" doubtless depended on a group of well-known M.I.T. faculty, most of them political liberals, who seem to have been willing to cooperate because of arms control and anti-Vietnam war sentiments. The

faculty members shied away from any formal alliance with the activists (*Science*, 14 March), but the activists, who rallied themselves into a Science Action Coordinating Committee (SACC), consider that they clearly established a beachhead for radical politics at M.I.T.

SACC is essentially an organization of graduate students and still depends on a handful of energetic organizers. It would appear that SACC strategy in the immediate future will be to continue to dig for information and continue to demonstrate to the administration that it can raise awkward questions at awkward moments. On the agenda is a protest set for alumni homecoming day on 16 June. Plans call for a "non-disruptive" program to remind the old grads about MIRV, about Vietnam-war-related research at M.I.T., and about M.I.T.'s impact on the local community. The inroads made by the activists at M.I.T. should not be exaggerated, but it is probably true, as SACC claims, "M.I.T. is now officially examining its policies of involvement with the Pentagon" because of them.

Just where that examination will lead cannot yet be predicted. A great technical university, M.I.T. has never questioned its responsibility to perform broad public service functions. Certainly the most difficult task facing it now is to reconcile R & D work in the cause of national security with the rising demands that it exercise "social responsibility." And the practical problems of financing nondefense research will complicate the process.

For many faculty at M.I.T. the matter of balance in the institute's activities is of growing concern. The Pounds panel was troubled by the question, and it was the subject of a statement added to the panel report by chemistry professor E. R. Gilliland and graduate student Marvin A. Sirbu, Jr., who called for the eventual divestiture by M.I.T. of the special laboratories. The burden of their argument is indicated in the following excerpt.

... the rapid growth of these laboratories and of on-campus research during the past twenty years has resulted in the Institute's having a responsibility for research and development expenditures that are now five to ten times the non-research academic budget. M.I.T.'s main function is fast becoming a research and development institute rather than an educational institution. The imbalance between research and education is changing the character of the institute. ...

—JOHN WALSH

APPOINTMENTS

Carl J. Dolce, superintendent of schools for New Orleans, La., to dean of education at North Carolina State University. . . . **Angel G. Jordan**, professor of electrical engineering at Carnegie-Mellon University, has been elevated to head of that department. . . . **Stanley Deutsch**, assistant professor of anesthesia at Harvard Medical School and Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, to chairman of anesthesiology at Michael Reese Hospital & Medical Center, Chicago. . . . **William E. Vandament**, assistant professor of psychology, to director of Institutional Research at the State University of New York at Binghamton. . . . **John E. Romani**, associate dean at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, to vice-chancellor of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. . . . **Donald W. Taylor**, chairman of the psychology department at Yale University, to dean of the Yale Graduate School.

RECENT DEATHS

Emory D. Burgess, 62; entomologist with the Department of Agriculture; 16 May.

Richard M. Elliott, 81; professor emeritus of psychology at the University of Minnesota; 6 May.

Carroll W. Grant, 68; retired chairman of the biology department at Brooklyn College; 15 May.

A. Remington Kellogg, 78; biologist and former director of the U.S. National Museum; 8 May.

Cloyd H. Marvin, 79; president emeritus of George Washington University; 28 April.

Donald D. Matson, 55; president of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons; 10 May.

Harold H. Noyes, 70; former dean of the University of Oregon dental school; 25 April.

Everett P. Partridge, 66; chemist and retired corporate vice president of the Calgon Corporation; 27 April.

Warren P. Spencer, 71; retired professor of biology at Wooster College, Ohio; 9 May.

Llewellyn H. Welsh, 56; chief of the organic chemistry section of the Food and Drug Administration; 26 April.

Philip D. Wilson, 83; former director of surgery at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York; 7 May.