

entific study of the occult in any of its manifestations. Karlis Osis, a Latvian by birth, is the society's director of research. Recently he sent two subjects on a round-the-world air trip in order to explore the effect of distance on ESP. Another project is the investiga-

tion of out-of-the-body experiences, a condition in which a person has the sensation of activity independent of his body.

Old school parapsychologists like Rhine doubt the value of studying the more esoteric aspects of the occult,

such as mediums, poltergeists, reincarnation, or reports of extracorporeal experiences. A new kind of psychical experiment that is somewhat more amenable to scientific study is the investigation of ESP during sleep, particularly the periods of dreaming marked

Briefing

Energy Policy, Phase II

In an encore to his April energy message, President Nixon, on 29 June, let out the long-awaited details of his proposal to reshuffle the federal energy establishment.

For good measure, he also suggested some ways the public and the government could reduce energy consumption (turn down thermostats 4 degrees, travel less, and slower) and he went half-way toward meeting Democratic Senator Henry Jackson's call for a \$20 billion extravaganza of energy R & D over the next 10 years. Nixon is touting a \$10 billion, 5-year effort; for fiscal 1974, he pledged to budget an extra \$100 million, bringing the total proposed for the year to about \$880 million.

The proposed reorganization, described by the White House as a refined and improved version of one that died in the last session of Congress, generally follows predicted lines (*Science*, 29 June). But in one novel twist, the White House appears to have reinvented in form, if not in substance, the recently dismantled Office of Science and Technology and the President's Science Advisory Committee. The names have changed, and their missions are narrower; but the functions of a new presidential Energy Policy Office and its R & D advisory committee (whose members are yet to be appointed) seem much the same.

Four new entities emerged from the message, the latter three of which must be approved by Congress and are certain to provoke some jurisdictional scrambling:

- The Energy Policy Office and its advisory committee replace a 6-month-old policy triumvirate of Henry Kissinger, George Shultz, and the Water-gated John Ehrlichman. A small staff assembled under White House energy counselor Charles DiBona will be expanded. The President named John Love, the Republican governor of Colorado, as director of the new office.

- A Department of Energy and Natural Resources (DENR) combines the existing Interior Department (minus its coal and other energy R & D programs) with the Forest Service and parts of the Soil Conservation Service (both now in the Agriculture Department), with "planning and funding" elements of the Army Corps of Engineers, and with the interagency Water Resources Council. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration would be removed from the Commerce Department and linked with the Geological Survey in the DENR.

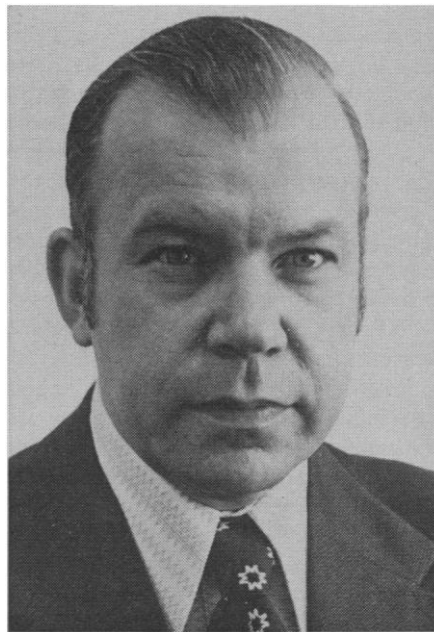
- An Energy Research and Development Administration would be composed of the R & D side of the Atomic Energy Commission staff, minus the AEC's regulatory functions, plus \$100 million worth of R & D from the Interior Department.

- A Nuclear Energy Commission would be made up of the licensing and regulatory side of the Atomic Energy Commission (which would, on paper, cease to exist) and would be headed by a five-member commission.

Dixy Lee Ray is rumored to be a leading contender to head the new R & D agency and Interior Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton is widely mentioned as a candidate for Secretary of the DENR.—R.G.

OST Is Dead Long Live STPO

The fall and decline of the Office of Science and Technology (OST) ended officially on 30 June with the transfer of many of OST's functions to the National Science Foundation (NSF). The surprise announcement of the Administration's decision to abolish OST came early this year (*Science*, 2 February), but the office has continued to operate during a transition period. In recent months, however, OST has been perceptibly fading away, with a few staff members taking up duties in the successor unit in NSF and others retiring



Russell C. Drew

from federal service of taking other jobs inside or outside government.

Information on what was to replace OST has been lacking, but on 2 July NSF Director H. Guyford Stever, who is responsible under the reorganization for advising the President on science and technology questions, unveiled his basic plan. Stever announced formation of a Science and Technology Policy Office (STPO) in NSF and the appointment of Russell C. Drew, a physicist with government experience, to head the new office.

Drew served on the OST staff from 1966 to 1972 and currently heads the Office of Naval Research branch office in London. At OST Drew dealt with a range of problems including air traffic control, space science and technology, biomedical R & D related to aerospace activities, and telecommunications.

Drew did his undergraduate work at the University of Colorado and earned his Ph.D. in physics from Duke in 1961. The news release accompanying his appointment to the STPO post notes that he had "experience in re-entry systems technology and nuclear weapons in connection with the Polaris pro-

by rapid eye movements. This is a specialty of Montague Ullman, director of the community mental health center at Maimonides Hospital in Brooklyn and professor of psychiatry at the State University of New York. With colleagues at the Maimonides

dream laboratory Ullman has had experimenters attempt to transmit mental images telepathically to dreaming subjects. His results are statistically significant, although they do not yet appear to have been definitely corroborated by other investigators. Last year

Ullman received a \$52,000 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health for continuation of this study.

The NIMH seems to have given only one previous grant for psychical research, an award made in 1971 to Peter Phillips, a theoretical physicist at

Briefing

gram" and was involved over a period of years with the civilian space program.

Steuer is quoted as saying, "I am especially happy to announce the establishment of the Science and Technology Policy Office and the appointment of Dr. Drew, since this means that we can now move forward rapidly to help advance national goals in science and technology through those new functions assigned by the President. Dr. Drew's expertise and experience will be most helpful in this regard."

At this point the new office has a nucleus of three OST alumni as staff members, and other appointments are expected in the near future. The NSF policy unit, however, is to be considerably smaller in size than was OST when the ax fell. Last December OST had a total staff of about 60 people, half of them professionals.

Already on board and expected to continue to be active in the general areas they tended at OST are F. Gilman Blake, who dealt with natural resources problems, particularly with mineral resources; Edward J. Burger, Jr., a physician and biological scientist who specialized in health and environmental issues; and Hylan B. Lyon, Jr., who was at OST on loan from the Defense Department. At OST Lyon handled aerospace matters and was increasingly concerned with advanced technology. Lyon has also been serving as a special assistant to Steuer on administrative issues pertaining to the new office. Because of a squeeze on office space at NSF headquarters, the STPO will, for the time being, occupy offices in the same Executive Office Building near the White House in which OST has been situated.

The pattern at OST over the years has been of a staff composed of a small core of career government types with a larger number of specialists in various areas recruited from government agencies, universities, and industry who stayed for periods of a year to several years. The dean of the OST staff, David Z. Beckler, whose service

in the White House science advisory apparatus antedated the creation of OST a decade ago, has retired from federal service. Frank R. Pagnotta, who was OST's administrative officer for 7 years, moved to the Central Intelligence Agency as an executive assistant in the office of the director, James R. Schlesinger.

The OST staff member most directly involved in biomedical research questions, Leonard Laster, has retired from federal service to become executive director of the National Academy of Sciences' new Assembly of Life Sciences.

The job market value of OST experience seems to have held up and, in addition to a few OST people who returned to their own businesses or set up shop on their own, "everybody got good jobs," says Pagnotta. This apparently also applies to OST secretaries, most of whom will be working in other federal agencies.

Everyone connected to the new NSF policy office stresses that a lot of details remain to be worked out. On such issues as what use will be made of outside advisers to replace the President's Science Advisory Committee, as one official put it, "There's still a lot of thinking to do."—J.W.

Restored HEW Funds May Be Buried by Regulation

Congress is trying valiantly to restore funds for some of the health programs that President Nixon wants to eliminate, either because they are not working or because, as demonstration projects, they have proved their worth and should be taken over by local or state governments. In a move to thwart the Administration's intent to abolish the regional medical programs, the family planning and population research program, the Hill-Burton program for hospital construction, community health center pro-

grams, and others, the House and Senate have passed legislation that would extend these activities for 1 year.

Subsequently, Nixon obligingly signed the bill into law, even though the \$2.2 billion it would give the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) for these activities was almost twice the amount the Administration had said it was willing to spend. In signing the law, Nixon issued a statement saying, "While the authorization levels are higher than I believe desirable, they will not damage our overall fiscal position if the Congress now follows my budget recommendations in the appropriations process."

Another reason that these authorizations will not damage "our overall fiscal position" is that much of the money will probably never be spent. Congress tries, but apparently the Administration tries harder. It promulgated a regulation in the 21 May *Federal Register* that has received little attention but that could do much to keep the money Congress wants spent on these social programs right in the federal treasury. The HEW regulation requires that, in order to qualify to receive funds, "health services delivery projects" must show that they can become financially self-sufficient, community-based operations.

Unhappy with this turn of events, Representative Paul G. Rogers (D-Fla.) points out that, because these programs are for the poor, it is unreasonable to assume that they might become self-sufficient. He maintains that the regulation will "doom all migrant health programs, all neighborhood health centers, all family health centers, and about half of the community mental health centers." Rogers has written to HEW Secretary Caspar Weinberger suggesting that the department's action may be illegal unless it can show that Congress, in passing the legislation in the first place, intended that potential economic self-sufficiency be a criterion for funding the programs. He has not yet received a reply.—B.J.C.