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## Rostow Nominated to Head ACDA

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President Reagan's choice for director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency is Eugene Rostow, Yale law school professor and a State Department official during Lyndon Johnson's Administration. The Rostow nomination apparently signals the breaking of a stalemate over authority in arms control matters in the Administration.

Rostow's confirmation could still encounter opposition in the Senate from Republican conservatives, led by North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms, who has questioned several Administration nominations in the foreign policy field.

Rostow is one of eight nominees upon whose confirmation Helms has placed "holds." In a recent letter to Senator Charles H. Percy (R-Ill.), chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Helms expressed specific reservations about the eight. In the letter, Helms wrote, "Needless to say, I hope that Mr. Rostow will staff ACDA with individuals who fully reflect the President's views on SALT II and arms control issues. If he does so, it is my intent to support his confirmation."

Helms was known to favor retired Army General Edward L. Rowny for the post of ACDA director and Rowny had gained the approval of other Republican Senate leaders and was rumored to have won the job.

Unexpectedly in early April, the White House leaked the Rostow selection. After behind-the-scenes bargaining, Republican senators agreed to the Rostow appointment if Rowny were named chief strategic arms negotiator with the Soviet Union.

The issue then became whether Rowny would be subordinate to Rostow or, as Rowny preferred, operate outside ACDA and report directly to President Reagan. Comments by Rostow at the time of his nomination indicate that Rowny would be based in ACDA and not have the independent status sought for him.

Both Rostow and Rowny are classified as hawks on arms control matters. Rowny was Joint Chiefs of Staff representative at the SALT II negotiations and resigned after the treaty was signed, protesting that the terms had

been too favorable to the Soviets. Rostow, a Democrat who supported Reagan in the 1980 campaign, has been a vocal critic of the U.S. loss of nuclear superiority over the Soviet Union and was a founder of the Committee on the Present Danger founded to alert the public to what its members see as a decline in U.S. military strength compared to that of the Soviet Union.—*John Walsh*

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## Reagan Fills Top NASA Posts

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The Reagan Administration's nominee for NASA administrator is James M. Beggs, vice president in charge of aerospace and a director of the General Dynamics Corp., St. Louis. The nominee for deputy administrator is nuclear physicist Hans Mark, Secretary of the Air Force under Jimmy Carter and a former director of NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California.

The nominations, announced last week, have been widely expected. Indeed, Beggs and Mark have spent much of the last month in briefings and interviews at NASA headquarters.

Both men are previous employees of NASA. Beggs, 55, was associate administrator for advanced research and technology in 1968-1969, and then served 4 years as under secretary of the Department of Transportation. In his 7 years at General Dynamics he gained a reputation as an effective manager on such projects as the F-16 fighter.

Mark, 51, is an old hand at NASA, having spent 11 years as director of Ames. "He'll be the best friend that (space science) has ever had in that office," says one NASA spokesman. He enjoyed a strong endorsement for the post from an old friend, Senator Harrison Schmitt (R-N.M.), chairman of the Senate subcommittee on science, technology and space. No congressional opposition is expected to either nominee.

Beggs' personal views on space policy are not known. Spokesmen for General Dynamics could not recall a single public utterance on the subject. Still, the recent history of both men—Beggs as vice president of the na-

tion's largest defense contractor, Mark as former Air Force secretary—have underscored recent concerns about the militarization of space (*Science*, 1 May, p. 520). Neither Beggs nor Mark was available for comment on the matter last week. However, as Air Force Secretary, Mark was a strong advocate of increased spending on satellite communications and reconnaissance; he also supported research into space early-warning systems for possible use in an antiballistic missile system, and he has suggested that the Department of Defense might consider operating its own fleet of space shuttles instead of sharing them with NASA.

—*M. Mitchell Waldrop*

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## R & D Spending: The Military's Growing Bite

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The Reagan Administration's budget proposals would boost spending on military R & D from \$13.9 billion in fiscal year (FY) 1980 to \$21.5 billion in FY 1982. This massive increase would raise the military share of the federal R & D budget from 44 percent to 53 percent in just 2 years.

These figures are given in a new analysis by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), which confirms that basic research would be relatively well protected but that most other areas of nonmilitary R & D would be slashed.

Obligations for R & D supported by agencies other than the Department of Defense (DOD) would rise from \$17.8 billion in FY 1980 to \$19.1 billion in FY 1982. This increase would fall well short of the level needed to stay abreast of inflation, with energy programs suffering the deepest cuts.

DOD will also be reasserting itself on university campuses if the Reagan budget proposals are adopted by Congress. According to the OMB figures, DOD intends to increase its expenditures on R & D at colleges and universities from \$451 million in FY 1980 to \$639 million in FY 1982. Its share of academic research expenditures would expand from 10.8 percent to 13.6 percent in this period.

As for basic research, the OMB analysis indicates that overall obligations would rise from \$4.7 billion in FY