

will be renewed this spring: "We will seek the smallest possible retaliatory stockpile consisting of modern binary munitions such that an adversary would not perceive significant advantage from initiating chemical warfare."

Elsewhere in the report, DeLauer said that research funds will be funneled increasingly to industry, at the expense of work by universities, contract research centers, and in-house laboratories.—**R. JEFFREY SMITH**

## Minimizing the Risk of Contracting AIDS

The U.S. Public Health Service has recommended that individuals at high risk of developing the severe new immunodeficiency disease called AIDS (for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) refrain from donating blood because of the possibility that they might transmit the disease to the recipients of the blood products. The high-risk individuals affected by the recommendation include those homosexual and bisexual men who have had a large number of partners, Haitians, and users of intravenous drugs. The recommendations also suggest that individuals not have sexual contact with AIDS patients and minimize the number of their partners.

So far more than 1200 people have come down with AIDS, which may have a mortality rate of 70 percent. It is spread primarily by intimate contact and contaminated needles, but within the past several months the Centers for Disease Control has reported that blood products may be a source of an as yet unidentified infectious agent. Hemophiliacs, who must take clotting factor preparations to prevent uncontrollable bleeding, are especially at risk, according to the CDC. There is also some suggestive, but not conclusive, evidence that other types of blood products, including whole blood, might transmit the condition.

The Public Health Service recommendations are less stringent than those recently made by the National Hemophilia Foundation, which call for manufacturers of clotting factor preparations to stop collecting blood in areas with large homosexual populations and to exclude high-risk individuals by direct questions about their

membership in a high-risk group.

The Public Health Service requests that blood collection centers inform potential donors of the recommendations but leaves compliance up to the individual. There are no plans to screen donors by asking them about their sexual practices, by taking their medical histories, or by means of blood tests. As yet there is no direct test for the putative AIDS agent, although there may be indirect tests that could identify individuals at high risk for AIDS.

The Food and Drug Administration has already taken steps to minimize the AIDS risk of hemophiliacs. Producers of blood products have agreed to use no blood from high-risk individuals to prepare nonsterilizable products such as clotting factor. A new method for inactivating viruses in these products is expected in about 3 months.—**JEAN L. MARX**

## Gardner Appointed UC President

David Gardner must have seemed the obvious choice when the board of regents at the University of California met on 2 March to appoint a new president. Gardner, 49, presently serves as president of the University of Utah, where he is well liked and has a reputation for prudent management and successful fund-raising. During his tenure, according to a university spokesman, faculty salaries were appreciably increased, the student/faculty ratio improved, federal grants increased, and the departments of mathematics, biology, and chemistry were substantially upgraded.

Thus it came as no surprise when the regents unanimously approved Gardner's appointment. Apparently, the only reservations stemmed from his membership in the Mormon church, which opposes the Equal Rights Amendment and bars blacks from the priesthood. A relative shortage of women and minority faculty members has long been a sore subject at the university. Gardner swept these objections aside when he promised explicitly to recruit "persons whose race or sex are less fully present in the university than one would both expect and hope to find."

Gardner, who previously served as a vice president of the California system and a vice chancellor of UC-Santa Barbara, will take office on 1 July. He succeeds David Saxon, 62, who is to be chairman of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Corporation.—**R. JEFFREY SMITH**

## Psychology Today in APA's Tomorrow

The American Psychological Association (APA) has joined the ranks of scholarly organizations seeking rapport with a wider audience by taking over the monthly magazine *Psychology Today*.

An APA spokesman says that the association since the mid-1970's has pondered adding a publication with broader appeal than its 17 scholarly journals. In 1977, APA gave up well-developed plans for such a magazine to be called *Psychology*.

Serious negotiations for purchase of *Psychology Today* began last fall after APA learned that its owners, Ziff-Davis Publishing Company, might be amenable to bids. Announcement of the sale was made on 22 February. The terms of the purchase have not been revealed.

*Psychology Today* was founded in 1967 by Nicholas Charney and John Veronis and became a resounding success in a period of decline and fall for traditional general-audience magazines such as *Look*, *Life*, and the *Saturday Evening Post*. In recent years, although *Psychology Today* circulation topped 1 million, the effects of the slumping U.S. economy reduced the magazine's profitability. A planned reduction of circulation to 850,000 is in progress to "strengthen demographics" to appeal to advertisers, said a Ziff-Davis spokesman.

Founding editor Charney rejoined the magazine last summer as editorial director with a mandate to revamp it.

An APA spokesman says that no changes in personnel or policy are contemplated at this time and that there are no plans to move PT editorial offices from New York City. APA, whose membership of about 50,000 makes it the largest psychology organization in the world, is headquartered in Washington.—**JOHN WALSH**