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The TL-100 has ten acceleration and deceleration rates, so you can achieve a gentle start and stop to protect shallow gradients. You can even connect your TL-100 to a personal computer for state-of-the-art lab management.

All this and more in an ultracentrifuge that fits on a standard 24-inch laboratory benchtop! For complete details, write to: Beckman Instruments, Inc., 1050 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304; or Beckman Instruments International, S.A., P.O. Box 76, 1211 Geneva 6, Switzerland.

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25 May 1984

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	GY AND GEOGRAP . Merriam as Dutro, Jr.	PHY (E)	BIOLOGICAL SCIENC Charlotte P. Mangum Walter Chavin	ES (G)	ANTHROPOLOGY (H) Richard A. Gould Priscilla Reining	displaying 5-, 10-, and 20-micrometer images on the blue, green, and red guns
	L SCIENCES (N) Kretchmer n E. Rhoads		AGRICULTURE (O) Leo M. Walsh Coyt T. Wilson		INDUSTRIAL SCIENCE (P) Nat C. Robertson Robert L. Stern	of a cathode-ray tube showing a new- born star in the core of the W3 Molecu- lar Cloud. The shell-like structure is
TICS (U) E. Moses J. Wegman			ATMOSPHERIC AND Hans A. Panofsky Bernice Ackerman	HYDROSPHERIC (W)	GENERAL (X) Lora M. Shields Rodney W. Nichols	produced as a luminous young central star, visible at 2 (white star), and dissi- pates its protostellar cocoon through radiation and stellar wind pressure.
				1		The dark central hole indicates a low- density region swept clean by the stel-

erican Association for the Advancement of Science was founded in 1848 and incorporated in 1874. Its objects rher the work of scientists, to facilitate cooperation among them, to foster scientific freedom and responsibility, ve the effectiveness of science in the promotion of human welfare, and to increase public understanding and tion of the importance and promise of the methods of science in human progress.

### COVER

density region swept clean by the stel-lar wind; reddening around the outside of the shell indicates cooler outlying dust grains. The region is invisible to optical telescopes. (North is at the top; east is to the left.) See page 823 [R. D. Gehrz, G. L. Grasdalen, and J. A. Hack-well, Wyoming Infrared Observatory]

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# Exxon's engineers developed a series of innovations to turn theory into reality.

It has been called a technological breakthrough. The completed structure stands taller than the Empire State Building. It employs engineering techniques never before used in production platforms. And it will make oil and gas recovery from deep waters more economically feasible in the future.

It is the guyed tower—a new kind of drilling and production platform. And it is now operating 110 miles southeast of New Orleans in 1,000 feet of water.

# The Leading Edge of Technology.

When Bob Rugeley of Exxon USA's Southeastern Production Division and his engineering team were given the assignment of putting the unique tower in place, they found themselves at the leading edge of deepwater technology. There were no precedents to guide them. Nothing like this had ever been done before.

Instead of a conventional structure that depended on brute strength to withstand Gulf hurricanes, Offshore Platform Design engineers at Exxon USA developed a resilient tower following a concept pioneered by Exxon Production Research Company.

Such a slender shape anchored to the seabed and stabilized with guylines could make production from deep waters more economical than with a conventional platform.

# Pinpoint Positioning In Deep Water.

Specially designed equipment became the norm rather than the exception.

The derrick barge that was involved in setting the tower in place was a first. Instead of cumbersome anchors, Exxon engineers opted for a dynamic positioning system using computer-controlled



# Exxon takes a giant deeper water.

usters at all four corners to keep the ssel precisely on location. Specially designed equipment was eded to lower the guylines into place the seafloor and to drive the 72-inchmeter piles which anchor them. Twenty 3,400-foot guylines were ached to the tower, each with a dened breaking strength of almost 3 lion pounds. But a full-fledged Gulf rricane is an awesome force. Considng this, Exxon engineers developed imp weights, similar to segments in a ycle chain and weighing 200 tons ch, which are incorporated in the ylines to provide elasticity. This sysn keeps the deck virtually motionless ost of the time. However, in a severe rricane, it allows it to sway as much as feet

# More Steel Than The Brooklyn Bridge.

At Harbor Island, Texas, building the tower was a formidable task.

With 15 miles of welding and more steel than the Brooklyn Bridge, it became the largest offshore structure ever assembled as a single unit. Then came the problems of transportation and installation.

Exxon engineers modified a barge nearly as long as two football fields to carry the mammoth launch weight of 27,000 tons over 400 miles of open sea. Then, instead of the normal launch off the end of the barge, they had to provide for a unique side-launch–a 10-second operation that took months to prepare. Today the job is done... the enormous structure has been placed in position and on target in 1,000 feet of Gulf water with all guylines connected. Drilling equipment has been installed, the first of 54 wells has been drilled and oil is being piped to shore.

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	PGD <sub>2</sub>		epoxymethane-PGF <sub>2</sub> α	400	
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# **Defense R&D Priorities**

As the swollen and deficit-crippled federal budget for 1985 faces partisan wrangling in the glare of election-year politics, the bargaining process bears watching. With proposed budget authority for the Department of Defense at an all-time high under the Reagan dispensation, consensus politics will certainly lead to a significant cutback while a margin of real growth from the current year will be maintained.

The research and development component of the defense budget presents an inviting target. After all, a 27 percent increase (in current dollars, to be sure) on top of a comparable jump of 18 percent the year before, tends to concentrate attention. It is politically convenient to make a cut where it is least vexing to those who measure the adequacy of defense forces by counting slots and equipments and who put a higher value on near-term readiness than on investments in quality. Research and development equate, in this view, with discretionary spending and far-out fantasies.

What is missed in bundling the "R" together with the "D" in the Defense numbers is the striking dominance of support for development and the modesty of the allocations to research. The research (or 6.1) category, for example, is budgeted for a shaky 2 percent real growth, while the provision for exploratory development calls for a mere 1 percent. Taken together, these two categories of investment represent what is termed "technology base" effort, yet they draw slim rations in an otherwise aggressive budget for research and development. It is a curious outcome in resource allocation.

What would seem to be happening is that within the Department of Defense the respective services are allowed broad discretion in funneling expanding requirements into stipulated budget ceilings, and the claiming race puts hard requirements ahead of discretionary research. Yet, the rush to proceed with development while shortchanging the technology base reflects a trade-off decision that is fundamentally flawed. Nor can it be compensated for by specialized "star wars" research or by the generous buildup of basic research support in the budget of the National Science Foundation. Every annual budget is spattered with contradictions, to be sure, but one would not expect an administration so compulsively oriented toward enhancement of the national security to fail to protect investment in the technology base as the source of downstream assets.

More troubling is the probable fate of the trivial increment for the technology base in the 1985 budget. As Congress lunges at formulas for shaving deficits, the probability is that the defense budget will be handed a percentage cut. As this cut is applied throughout the national defense function, research and development will absorb their share. But given the dynamics of the process, the development shopping list is likely to be sheltered at the expense of the technology base, and, in the absence of intervention from the top, the outcome will be depleted investment in the technology base, a result that can only be termed imprudent and counterproductive.

As with everything else in the federal budget, the size and the mix of the defense budget is a political question. The growth of that budget and its constraining impact on other demands on insufficient resources invites controversy. Like most controversies, this one will be resolved by compromise. The execution of the settlement also matters, however, and it is at this stage of political action that the ox is gored. The coalitions that will spring to the rescue of military procurement and operational needs are unlikely to forgo short-term enhancements in order to spare investments in long-range and high-risk technology-base research, modest as the level of investment may be. Under the circumstances, it is high time to bring the Defense Science Board into the budget process.-WILLIAM D. CAREY

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