

will soon be sent to the Senate, where it is expected to attract some heavy fire.

An 18-year veteran of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Calio was appointed deputy administrator of NOAA in 1981. He has been the leading contender for the top spot since John V. Byrne announced last spring that he would vacate the post by the end of 1984 to return to Oregon State University.

Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige, in whose department NOAA resides, strongly supported Calio, but his potential nomination quickly ran into opposition within the Administration and on Capitol Hill. Calio's critics argued that NOAA has been in such a sorry state for the past 4 years that a complete change of leadership is required (*Science*, 7 December 1984, p. 1172).

Among his critics were senators Bob Packwood (R-Ore.) and Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.), then the chairman and ranking minority member of the Senate Commerce Committee, which will have to approve the nomination. Packwood has moved over to the chairmanship of the Senate Finance Committee, however, and thus Calio may be given a slightly easier ride by the committee.

One problem he faces, however, is that his nomination will be sent to Capitol Hill at about the same time as NOAA's budget request for next year. By all accounts, the Administration is again seeking major cuts in the agency's science programs. Since Calio was acting administrator when the budget was prepared, he will inevitably get some of the blame.

—COLIN NORMAN

Peace Institute Funds Deferred

President Reagan has requested that the \$4 million that Congress appropriated for fiscal year 1985 to establish a new peace research institute be deferred until decisions have been made about the institute's organization and location.

The White House, meanwhile, plans to ask Congress to adopt some minor revisions apparently designed to placate the State Department,

which had opposed the new enterprise. These include adding one or two more State Department people to the 15-member board and emphasizing the institute's nonpartisan, non-policy-making role.

Promoters of the peace institute feared the President was going to try to sink the whole endeavor, but they now believe there is a commitment to go ahead with it. The law calls for appointments to the board to be made by 20 April.—CONSTANCE HOLDEN

Germany Wants In on U.S. Space Station

The West German government has finally settled its internal differences and announced last week that it has agreed—as widely expected—to accept financial responsibility as the main European partner in the proposed U.S. space station. It has committed itself, in principle, to meeting 45 percent of a total anticipated contribution by Europe of \$2 billion over the next decade (*Science*, 18 January, p. 271) although reserving the right to review this decision in 2 years time after the completion of NASA's Phase B studies.

At the same time, West German research and technology minister Heinz Riesenhuber has announced that his government is not prepared at present to support a proposal from France that European governments should jointly finance a French project for the development of a manned mini-shuttle, named Hermes.

A statement issued by the German government last week made it clear that the decision to support European participation in the space station at the level proposed last year by NASA administrator James Beggs was being taken "not just for technical and economic reasons, but for political ones, as a transatlantic connecting link." The decision is likely to form the centerpiece of a joint declaration on the importance of cementing political ties through the encouragement of joint scientific and technological projects which the leaders of the seven advanced Western nations are expected to make at their summit meeting in Bonn in May.

However, the German refusal to

support the French proposals for Hermes is likely to lead to some tough political bargaining—in particular over the extent to which Europe's overall space effort should be increased—when research ministers meet in Rome at the end of January to discuss a new long-term program for the European Space Agency (ESA).

France surprised many other ESA members in November when it suggested that Hermes should be built by 1995, since previously it had been talking about a target date of 2000. France has also said that, if ESA is not prepared to back Hermes as a joint European project, then it will seek other partners on a bilateral basis, as it has already done with Sweden and Belgium over the funding of the SPOT remote sensing satellite.

—DAVID DICKSON

Comings and Goings

Philip H. Abelson, who retired as editor of *Science* on 1 January, has joined Resources for the Future as a resident fellow. The organization conducts research and policy analysis on issues involving natural resources; Abelson will be attached to its energy and materials division. He also retains a connection with *Science* as deputy editor for engineering and applied sciences.

Irving Selikoff is stepping down as head of the Environmental Sciences Laboratory at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine on 1 June, under the institution's mandatory retirement rules. He will be succeeded by **Philip Landrigan**, director of the division of surveillance, hazard evaluation, and field studies at the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health.

The long-expected appointment of **Mortimer B. Lipsett** as director of the National Institute of Arthritis, Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Diseases was formally announced on 10 January by Margaret M. Heckler, secretary of Health and Human Services. Lipsett has been director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for the past 2 years. A new director of the child health institute is now being sought; the post is being filled on an acting basis by Deputy Director **Duane Alexander**.