

chapters III and IV.8), they may tell us how energy and momentum are transferred and clarify the hydromagnetic state of the galactic core.

HANNES ALFVÉN
Department of Electrical Engineering
and Computer Sciences,
University of California,
San Diego, La Jolla 92093

REFERENCES

1. H. Alfvén, *Cosmic Plasma* (Reidel, Dordrecht, Netherlands, 1981).

Human Rights and Credibility

Readers may be led to take the letter of Thomas H. Stix (16 Aug. 1985, p. 600) as speaking for all of us who work for campaigns in defense of the human rights of scientists in other countries. It does not.

"Somehow, some way," writes Stix, "we must get the Soviet leadership to recognize that their continued violation of human rights provides a *moral* basis to the West for the arms race." Moral? Could there be a moral basis for preparing weapons "for a battle that, should it occur, will end human life" (Stix's words)?

Furthermore, Stix's promise that Soviet compliance with his human rights conditions will bring U.S. disarmament appears to be unauthorized. Reagan, Weinberger, and Shultz do not make this promise. When they seem to imply it, their sincerity is cast in doubt by their record. If the condition for U.S. disarmament were that Soviet democracy be superior to that in El Salvador and Guatemala, then this country would have disarmed long ago.

All of us working for human rights should understand that to join this struggle with the struggle against the arms race can only undermine both. Putting muscle into the appeal by invoking the American nuclear arsenal, which the Soviet government rightly regards as a grave threat to world survival, would only identify us with the menace and discredit us as independent voices.

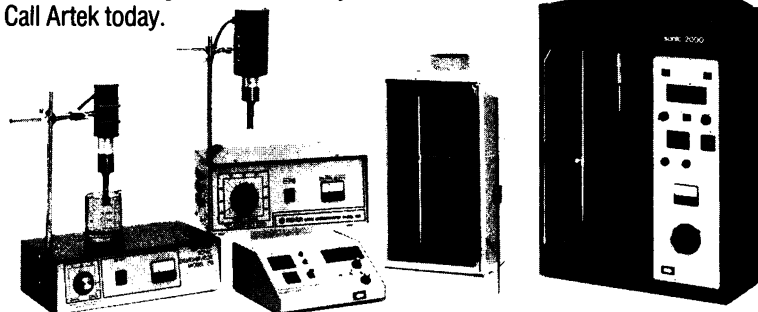
CHANDLER DAVIS
Department of Mathematics,
University of Toronto,
Toronto M5S 1A1,
Canada

Erratum: In the Table of Contents of the issue of 14 February (p. 653), the title of the report on page 731 by R. S. Ostrow *et al.* should have been "Detection of papillomavirus DNA in human semen."

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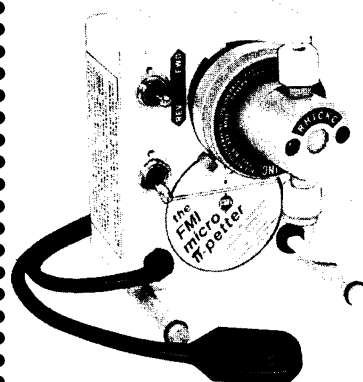
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