

the past 15 years of military rule.

In a letter to President Marco Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo accompanying the report, CSFR chair Elena O. Nightingale asks, on behalf of the AAAS Committee, that the Guatemalan government form a human rights commission of national members and international observers to resolve the cases of human rights violations in Guatemala between 1980 and 1985.

The submission of *Guatemala: Case Reports 1980-1985* to the government of Guatemala follows a precedent set in 1984 when CSFR presented to the new civilian government of Argentina a report on 55 Argentine scientists who "disappeared" during the previous 7 years of military rule there. After receiving the documentation, the Argentine government requested that the AAAS provide forensic science assistance to the National Commission on the Disappearance of Persons, the group charged with investigating the cases of the "disappeared" in Argentina.

Guatemala: Case Reports 1980-1985 notes that "President Cerezo's effort to restructure and reform the Guatemalan national police and security forces is a positive step towards the prevention of future abuses." The report also "urges that the government investigate, to the fullest extent possible, the cases (described in the report) and provide the families with a report on the findings."

For further information, con-

tact Kathie McCleskey of the CSFR. Copies of *Guatemala: Case Reports 1980-1985* are available for \$5 from the AAAS Sales Office at the AAAS address.

Election Ballots Are in the Mail

Ballots for the 1986 AAAS elections are in the mail. Members will vote for a new President-Elect, two seats on the Board of Directors, four positions on the Committee on Nominations, and for various Electorate officers.

Members also will have the opportunity to enroll in an Electorate (voting section). The Association is organized into 22 discipline-oriented sections corresponding to the fields of interest of its members. Sections promote the work of the Association in the various fields and arrange programs for presentation at AAAS meetings. Members may belong to several sections, but may vote in only one Electorate.

Two recent sectional changes should be noted: The name of Section X has been changed to "Societal Impacts of Science and Engineering" and the AAAS Council has authorized the establishment of a new Section Y, "General Interest in Science and Engineering." Members who wish to transfer from their present Electorate (voting section) to either X or Y should complete and return the blue enrollment

card enclosed with voting information.

All members are encouraged to actively participate in Association affairs by voting in the election and joining an Electorate. If the ballots you receive are defective in any way, please return them directly to the Executive Office at the AAAS address so that we can send you replacements. Please do not use the envelope enclosed with your ballot to return defective ballots.

AAAS Travelers

AAAS has been invited to send representatives to meetings of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS) and the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA).

The 42nd Annual Session of SLAAS will be held in Colombo, 8 to 12 December 1986. The theme of the session will be "Science and Creativity in Sri Lanka and the Third World." The AAAS delegate has been invited to deliver a lecture in his or her area of expertise and to the relevant SLAAS Section.

ISCA's 74th annual session will be held 3 to 7 January 1987 in Bangalore. The focal theme of this session is "Resources and Human Well-Being: Inputs from Science and Technology."

AAAS members who plan to be in the area in December or January and/or who know of colleagues on sabbatical in the region who might be able to

attend either meeting, should contact Sandra M. Burns, Office of International Science, at the AAAS address, *before 30 September 1986*. Please include a curriculum vitae. While no travel funds are available, AAAS will provide per diem for the Colombo meeting; ISCA will provide local hospitality in Bangalore.

Admiral Hopper Talks to AAAS Staff

Future possibilities in computer technology was the theme of a talk by Rear Admiral Grace M. Hopper, at a AAAS staff luncheon in late July.

Hopper, whose Naval career began in 1943, was the third programmer on the first large-scale digital computer in the United States and a major contributor to the programming language COBOL.

While delighting her audience with stories from her long career, Hopper also stressed the importance computers will continue to play in our future.

She urged that serious attention be paid to establishing criteria by which value can be put on information. Not all information, she declared, is equal. To illustrate, Hopper described a hypothetical chemical plant where all operations are computerized, from plant operations to packing, shipping, and administration. "Suppose," she said, "that at 10:00 a.m. two

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