

this great program close to his heart," Humphrey declared. "He has told me many times that of all the endeavors in this government that were fascinating, interesting, and would have impact on the future, the space program was it. And he has admonished me to take a keen interest in it."

Meanwhile, for the remaining doubters, Edgar M. Cortright, NASA's deputy associate administrator for Space Science and Applications, has offered answers to 13 "tough" questions about space. His forum was last week's meeting in Los Angeles of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. On the question, "Do many scientists really oppose the space program," Cortright answered as follows:

"No, most of them support it. The hundreds of scientists actually conducting flight experiments in the space sciences are, of course, enthusiastic supporters. Thousands who are not directly involved are also strongly behind the program. I believe they recognize that the space program is a terrific shot-in-the-arm for science, engineering, and education in this country. Anyone who doesn't believe this need only talk to a typical youth of today.

"Some opposition, however, comes from sincere men on intellectual grounds. They may object," Cortright continued, "to the way some aspect of space science is being handled, or they may object to the emphasis on space science vis-a-vis other branches of science.

"The only opposition that is really annoying is that based on self-service or misinformation. In one recent critique which made the front pages across the country, the scientist certainly failed to apply the scientific method. He criticized a major new project for confining itself to a particular objective and neglecting other areas which, in his judgment, held a higher probability of scientific return. All of our public announcements, however, had clearly stated that his recommended objectives were an integral part of the program. When asked, he was unaware of this fact. Fortunately, these problems are relatively rare. Constructive criticism is healthy and we take it very seriously. We are particularly attentive to criticism from the scientific community which renders such invaluable service to the program, and which, in turn, is served."

As to the identity of the scientist

who "failed to apply the scientific method," a NSA spokesman said that Cortright prefers not to name him. Inquiry among space critics who have recently "made the front pages" failed to turn up anyone who wasn't willing to stand by his criticism as originally stated.

Another question to which Cortright addressed himself was: "Have we compromised our scientific integrity in 'selling' our programs to Congress?"

His reply, in part, was: "There are certainly many pressures which could lead to such compromises. The answer, however, is a loud 'No!' Integrity is insured by placing leadership in the hands of trustworthy men. It is important to recognize, however, that the leaders of our space program are expected to make decisions. They go to Congress with the best programs they can devise after hearing from all sides and weighing all the arguments. They do not present a shopping list with all the pros and cons and ask Congress to make the decisions for them. Where their judgement is subject to doubt, I have never found Congress reluctant to ask for more information."—D.S.G.

Announcements

The **Puerto Rican Nuclear Center** has begun a 3-month period of irradiation of a plot of lower montane rain forest at El Verde, P.R., with gamma irradiation from 10,000 curies of cesium. The PRNC is studying ecological and cytological effects, under the auspices of the AEC's division of biology and medicine. Scientists who wish to make specific measurements in the post-irradiation period should contact H. T. Odum, PRNC, Bio-Medical Building, Caparra Heights Station, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00935.

Meeting Notes

The third international symposium on **natural mammalian hibernation** will be held at the University of Toronto 13-16 September. Attendance is by invitation, extended to persons active in the field. Scientists who wish to attend the meeting may contact the Hibernation Information Exchange, c/o A. R. Dawe, Office of Naval Research, Branch Office, 219 South Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. 60604.

A limited number of papers discussing recent results in the area will be accepted for presentation during the symposium. Abstracts of up to 300 words are required. Deadline: *1 April*. (F. E. South, Jr., Dept. of Physiology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins)

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

The Pacific Science Center Foundation, Seattle, recently created the **Arches of Science** award to honor persons in all professions who have made "notable contributions to the better understanding of the meaning of science to contemporary man." The award, consisting of \$25,000 and a gold medal, will be presented for the first time in October. It is being underwritten by the Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Company. The Center welcomes letters of nomination from organizations; individuals may not recommend themselves. The recipient of the award will be selected by a 12-member committee headed by Dael Wolfe, executive officer of AAAS. Other members include George C. Martin, the Boeing Company, Seattle, Washington; Allen Astin, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C.; Frank Capra, Fallbrook, California; Norton Clapp, Weyerhaeuser Company, Tacoma, Washington; John Gardner, Carnegie Corporation, New York City; Robert Hansberger, Boise Cascade Corporation, Boise, Idaho; James H. Jensen, Oregon State University, Corvallis; Robert Loeb, Medical College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York; Abbott Mills, Federal Reserve System, Portland, Oregon; Charles Odegaard, University of Washington, Seattle; and Gerard Piel, *Scientific American*, New York City. Nominations must be received by *1 June*. (Pacific Science Center Foundation, 200 Second Avenue, North, Seattle, Washington)

Scientists in the News

The winner of the 1964 AAAS Socio-Psychological prize is **Stanley Milgram**, assistant professor in the department of social relations at Harvard University. His paper was entitled "Some Conditions of Obedience and Disobedience to Authority."