

TOTYPE" program of Euratom that have been the most sharply defined.

A case in point was the Italian project involved in the budget impasse resolved earlier this summer. The Italians have been unhappy about the use of large sums of Euratom money in fast-breeder projects dominated by France and Germany. Italian objection amounted to a charge that Italy was not getting a fair share of funds for such work, and that therefore Italy would be handicapped when the fast-breeder-reactor payoff comes.

The recent dispute dates back to an Italian project for the so-called RAP-TUS reactor, for which Euratom provided support in the early 1960's. By 1964 or 1965 it had become clear that the RAP-TUS project was unpromising, and the Italians decided to shift attention to building a testing reactor for fissile materials as a first step toward a fast breeder reactor.

It was suggested that Euratom support the projected Fuel Element Prototype reactor (or PEC, from the Italian) instead of the RAP-TUS project. France opposed the PEC project and, because a change of program must be unanimously approved, this amounted to a veto. The French view was based at least in part on disagreement with the Italian approach. In developing a fast breeder reactor one of two general courses can be followed. One is to build a prototype fast reactor, as the French and the British have chosen to do. The alternative is to build a materials-testing reactor first and then proceed to the fast reactor itself, as the Italians propose to do.

The Italians had spent about \$2 million of \$9 million earmarked for the original project. Under the compromise of July, a contract between Euratom and the Italian Government provides a ceiling sum of \$6.75 million for fast-reactor work in Italy. The agreement specifies that only work for which funds have been committed by the end of 1967 will be supported. Design studies for the PEC reactor may be included, but the Italians have had to forego their demands that PEC become a Community project.

As the fast-reactor program enters its second or commercial phase, tensions are expected to increase. France has agreed to extend its association with the Community on fast-reactor work to the end of this year. It had expired at the end of 1966, and the delay in renewing it had caused pessimistic speculation about French plans. The Dutch in par-

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ● SCIENTISTS FOR MIDEAST

**PEACE:** Eighty American leaders in the arts, sciences, and public affairs have called on the U.S. government to initiate renewed action to induce the Arab States into direct negotiations with Israel. A statement signed by the 80, including 16 Nobel laureates, was sent to President Johnson. It was initiated by five scientists: Louis F. Fieser, professor of chemistry, Harvard University; Maurice Goldhaber, director, Brookhaven National Laboratory; Robert Hofstadter, professor of physics, Stanford University and 1961 Nobel laureate; I. I. Rabi, professor emeritus, Columbia University; and David Rittenberg, chairman, department of biochemistry, Columbia University. More than half of those signing the statement are scientists. The statement cites Israel's development as a center of intellectual dynamism and as "one of the world's great sources of scientific research. Enabled to develop in peace, Israel's contribution to the region and to the world may rival in fruitfulness and enduring quality that of the ancient state in the days of the Bible."

### ● ARCHES OF SCIENCE AWARD:

James B. Conant, president-emeritus of Harvard University, has been named the 1967 recipient of the Arches of Science Award. The prize, consisting of \$25,000 and a gold medal, has been given annually since 1965 by the Pacific Science Center, Seattle, to an American who has made the "outstanding contribution to the public understanding of the meaning of science to contemporary man."

### ● WASHINGTON OUTPOST:

The National Association of College and University Officers (NACUBO) has joined the burgeoning number of university-connected organizations with national offices in Washington, D.C. NACUBO, which has a membership of about 1000 institutions, has not previously had national headquarters although it has represented 80 schools in Washington since 1961 through the office of its Committee on Government Relations. An announcement stated the new headquarters will serve initially to stimulate activities in professional development, and to disseminate informa-

tion on technical matters. Kenneth A. Dick will head the office as its executive vice president. He previously was financial vice president of the University of Idaho. The committee and new national office will share offices at 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

### ● PEST CONTROL:

A role in international pest control has been assigned to the Federal Committee on Pest Control (FCPC). Donald F. Hornig, the president's science adviser and director of the Office of Science and Technology, announced the FCPC will advise U.S. pest control operations in foreign countries as well as be more directly involved in domestic policy matters "such as development of guidelines for the safe control of insects, rodents, weeds, plant diseases and other pests." The committee began operation in 1961 following its establishment by the secretaries of Agriculture, Interior, Defense, and Health, Education, and Welfare to review all federal pesticide application programs and to coordinate the pest control activities of the departments. Under its new charter the FCPC will also work closely with the departments of State and Housing and Urban Affairs, with state and local governments, and with international, local, and regional groups.

### ● N.Y. APPOINTMENTS:

Two Nobel laureates and an economist have been appointed to the faculty of the State University of New York. Sir John Eccles, an Australian physician who was a co-recipient of the prize for medicine in 1963, will join the School of Medicine at Buffalo 1 July as a distinguished professor of medicine. His salary will be \$36,000 annually. Julian Schwinger, a physics professor at Harvard University and co-winner of the award in physics in 1965, has been appointed distinguished visiting professor for physics at Stony Brook. His appointment is effective for the fall semester and his salary will be prorated at the rate of \$35,000 a year. Kenneth K. Kurihara, lecturer in economics at Rutgers, was appointed distinguished professor of economics at Binghamton. Kurihara's appointment is effective 1 February. He will receive \$28,000 a year.