

LETTERS

The Funding of Research

Contrary to the impression given in the letter of Mark V. Morkovin (25 Aug., p. 652), the American people *did* lobby in Congress for decreased dictation by the Department of Defense (DOD) of basic research in this country. Many of us feel that fundamental research should be funded through competent and strictly civilian agencies, such as the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and not by an inbred organization with obvious vested interests in military involvements. Strong conversion of funding from military-sponsored to civilian-sponsored research must ensue if "most of the results will be used in peaceful applications." This feeling was reflected in the mood of Congress when it passed the Mansfield amendment to limit DOD research to projects that are "apparently and directly" related to DOD's military mission. The Pentagon's willful alteration of contract titles and reports in 1970 in order to hoodwink elected representatives is not to have walked a "tight-rope," as Morkovin expresses it. Rather, this intentional deception flagrantly violated congressional intent and cheated the American public. The Mansfield amendment passed the Senate by a vote of 68 to 0 in 1971, and, even though it was modified in conference (*Science*, 6 Nov. 1970, p. 613), it still carries with it the intent of many in the Congress to encourage transfer of DOD spending to agencies in which there is a much higher probability of funding research with applications of benefit to society and to America. What we need now is an actual transfer by Congress of appropriations, not merely statements of guidelines. What we *don't* need is defense of deception.

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Research at Oberlin

In a recent letter (22 Sept., p. 1060) Rustum Roy states that "Dozens of small liberal arts colleges—the Wesleyans, Oberlins, Kenyons—managed to provide excellent undergraduate education without attempting to involve

the faculty in formal (funded) research activities." Apparently he is not familiar with the activities at these institutions.

The six permanent members of our department are all engaged in research in areas that include the history of science, nuclear physics, and solar physics. Each has published material related to his research within the past 2 years. Two faculty members have outside funding (from the National Science Foundation and from the Research Corporation), and two others have proposals pending. Most members of the other science departments here are involved in original research, and several have outside funding.

It may be true, as Roy states, that research is not "needed to retain or produce the best undergraduate teachers," but it has been our experience that most fine teachers wish to do research to remain alive in their own fields as well as to offer research opportunities to their students as part of their educational experience. Several papers co-authored by our faculty and their undergraduate students have recently appeared in such journals as *Physical Review* and *Nuclear Physics*.

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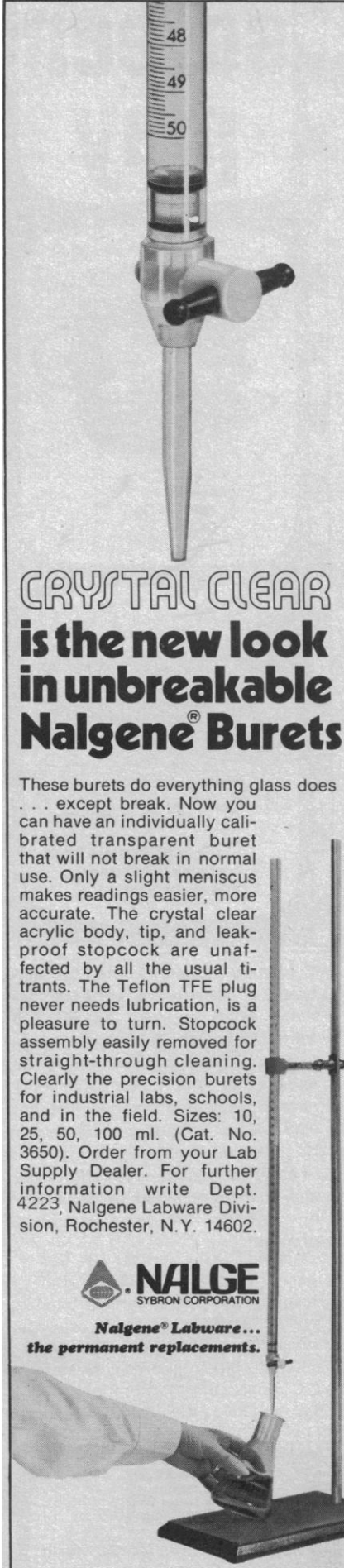
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Salvage Archeology


Ruth Gruhn (Letters, 28 Apr., p. 353) raises some important issues regarding salvage archeology in this country. In our opinion, she has so misrepresented the situation and presented such a divisive statement that a rebuttal is called for. Gruhn paints a rather grim picture of the loss of archeological resources, with an unrealistic segment of the profession standing by in grand aloofness, refusing to cooperate in the salvaging of information before it is lost. She labels this noncooperating segment of the profession, the "new archeologists" and seems to claim that the destruction of archeological resources is the result of their attitude. This is not true.

Gruhn also implies that the profession is polarized into two monolithic camps: one, the "new archeology," which views salvage archeology as "digging simply for the sake of digging," and a second group (unnamed) that is "realistic" and is the bulwark in the recovery of prehistoric remains about to be destroyed. Neither assertion is



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