

# PRNC121

PRNC-121

GENERAL, MISCELLANEOUS; AND  
PROGRESS REPORTS. (TID-#500)

PUERTO RICO NUCLEAR CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT 1967

OPERATED BY UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO UNDER CONTRACT  
NO. AT (40-1)-1833 FOR U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

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erations Office, who

the contract

blished PRNC, to

under contract

niversity of Puerto

oday Dr. Bonilla is

the Chemical Engi-

ing Department at New

York's Columbia University:

Or. Bugher is on the USAEC'S

General Advisory Committee.

Dr. Gomberg receives a plaque commemorating PRNC'S

VOth anniversary from Mr. Sapirie.

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## INTRODUCTION

Though an annual report's key purpose is to describe activities during the previous year, the fact that 1967 marked the tenth anniversary of the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center merits a brief review of the past decade.

Looking backward ten years offers a valuable perspective of how PRNC has grown, both in size and scope. With its origin in President Dwight D. Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" proposal, has matured since its founding in 1957 as a training center operated by the University of Puerto Rico under contract with the US ABC to what is now a full-fledged teaching and research institution. PRNC's small staff nucleus in 1957 has since grown to over 300 scientists, technicians, and supporting personnel.

Much has been written about Puerto Rico's value as a cultural bridge between the North and South American continents. PRNC offers a small, but affirmative example of how this "bridge" can work. It is a bilingual institution, where scientists and students from the Spanish- and English-speaking nations of the hemisphere can work together without language barriers.

The scientific staff has a distinctly international flavor, with a strong contingent of Latin Americans. About one-third of its scientists are native-born Puerto Ricans. Another third are from South and Central America and other nations of the world, and the other third are North Americans.

PRNC has not neglected growth in the educational field, which

is where it had its beginning. Fifty-nine students were trained during the first year of activity, nine of them non-U. S. citizens, with a major share of the U. S. citizens being native-born Puerto Ricans. In 1966, the student enrollment had grown to 173 (including 32 non-U. S. citizens), and in 1967 enrollment reached a record level with 251 students (including 37 non-U. S. citizens). In all, PRNC has trained 1,744 students, 251 of them from abroad, representing 18 different Latin American republics and other nations such as Japan, Germany, Spain, South Africa, India, the Philippines, Formosa, and Great Britain.

Perhaps the most dramatic change over the past decade, however, has been PRNC's expansion in scope; its research activities in the peaceful applications of nuclear energy are now as important as its efforts in education and training.

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?Today, biological and medical research programs include work in marine biology, terrestrial ecology, radiation chemistry, parasitology (investigation of *Schistosoma mansoni*, a tropical parasitic organism which causes Bilharzia) and entomology (tropical insect sterilization studies of the sugarcane borer). Physical research is being carried out in neutron diffraction, solid state physics and hot-atom chemistry. A preliminary study is in progress

on the effects of mining with nuclear explosives and, in the field of isotopes development, PRNC researchers are examining the effects of radiation preservation of various tropical foodstuffs which are vital to the economies of Latin American nations.

The growth of research activity at PRNC is reflected in its publication output. Its staff produced 52 scientific publications last year, more than half the amount produced in the entire six-year period from 1957 through 1953.

A major expansion of facilities at the Puerto Rico Medical Center in Rfo Piedras is another manifestation of PRC's growth. Construction of an entire new wing, costing over \$1 million, is to begin in 1958, with completion scheduled for mid-1970.

The tenth year marked an important milestone for PRNC. It brought with it several gratifying instances of recognition. PRNC was selected to carry out the marine ecology studies in preparation for a proposed new sea-level Isthms of Panama Canal. It became more active in helping the development of peaceful nuclear techniques in Latin America through its "sister laboratory" program with Colombia's Instituto de Asunto Nucleares, and by expanding its sponsorship of research in the US ABC Latin America Exhibits Program. Also, PRNC was designated by US ABC Chairman Seaborg as a regional "center of excellence" under the Punta del Este program of scientific cooperation with Latin America.

And finally, the 10th Anniversary Symposium in October 1967 brought together distinguished scientists and government officials from all sectors of the hemisphere. It was a stimulating event, a source of inspiration for even greater achievement in PRIC's second decade of life.

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We are pleased to announce that during 1967 the eminent chemist Dr. W. O. Baker, Vice President for Research, Bell Telephone Laboratories, accepted PRIC's invitation to join its Advisory Committee. This now completes the eight-member committee (see Appendix for the full roster).

---Page Break---

Dr. Jesse D. Perkinson, Chief of OAS Division of Science Development, speaks. At left Ben S. Phansky, Deputy U. S. Representative to the

: US AEC Commissioner

and IAEC Director

Eklund. Above

Professor George

University of

Right: PRNC

stant Director for

entific Programs,

Jorge Chiriboga,

of Peru.

---Page Break---

Teodoro Moscoso, Board Chairman of Commonwealth Oil

Refining Company (and former Director of the U. S.

Alliance for Progress), speaks on "The Development

uerto Rico.?

Dr. Juan J. Touya,

Academic director of

College

Montevideo, Uruguay

Dr. Antonio Bacigalupo,

Head of the Department

of Zootechnics and Ani-

mal Nutrition, Agrarian 1

University, Lima, Peru. vice in Mexico City

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PRIC Students by Country; Student Enrolment  
?at PRNC During Fiscal Years 1966 and 1967 «+...

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## EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING DIVISIONS

The educational and training divi-

sions (also known as the 11 Program) offer training and research opportunities in the nuclear field for students at the graduate and postgraduate levels. The divisions either carry out individual phases of the training and research, or provide guidance and support. This area of PRNC activities, which represents about two-thirds of the overall program, is sponsored by the United States Atomic Energy Commission (US AEC) Division of Nuclear Education and Training.

---Page Break---

Graduate students of Physics and Chemistry doing experimental work in ferroelectrics for their masters thesis, with Or. J. A. Gonzalo. Below: Discussion of low temperature equipment us =ray sources

in radiation effects studies. Let ae  
P. Paraskevoudakis, B. Cruz, H. G  
Vazquez.

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## NUCLEAR SCIENCE

The Nuclear Science Division supports the M.S. degree programs in Chemistry and Physics of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez by providing research opportunities for graduate students and faculty to teach specialized advanced courses. Research facilities are also made available to graduate students of Nuclear Engineering and Electrical Engineering as well as for pre- and post-doctoral students of other universities interested in working at PRNC,

A US AEC grant for research in "Hot-Atom Chemistry" and National Institute of Health grants for research in "Radiolysis of Peptides" and "Synthesis of Thiosteroids" have contributed to expand the chemistry program. Equipment has been acquired for gas shock-tube experiments, for work in mass spectrometry of volatile compounds, and for the study of electroreflectance in semiconductors. A special facility for handling radioactive iodine was built.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Graduate Courses

During 1967 the following five graduate courses were taught

by FRNC personnel, with academic credit given by the UPR:

Course Professor Enrollment

Chemical Kinetics Dr. Owen H. Wheeler 3

Solid State Seminar Dr. Julio Gonzalo 2

Radiochemistry Dr. Rupert A. Lee 3

Semiconductors Drs Florencio Wess

Advanced Electricity \

and Magnetism Dr, Baltazar Cruz

---Page Break---

Thesis Research

Sixteen graduate students from Puerto Rico, Colombia, and

El Salvador are doing thesis research under Nuclear Science Di-

vision staff supervision:

Thesis Title

?A physico chemical study

of the Chapman rearrange-

Effect of gamma irradiation

on essential of;

Synthesis of thiosteroids.

Radiolysis of peptides.

Recoil labeling of aromatic compounds with halogen atoms.

Reactivity of cyclic ketones.

Neutron activation of aromatic iodine compounds.

Ferroelectric properties of the alkaline selenites,

Radiation damage in KDP and ADP single crystals.

High frequency behavior of antiferroelectric ADP.

In-pile radiolysis of hydrogen chloride gas.

Leaching of copper ores,

The effect of radiation  
on fluoroform.

Student:

Fernanda Ronin

Elba Diaz

Wilfredo

Rodriguez

Dolores Julián

Hilda López

Rosita Béz

de Felit

Carmen Lecunberry

Inis Carlo Nifio

Ivan Nazario

Mario Beauchamp

Iais Rivera

oycla

Samel Rodriguez

José Mario Saca

Dr.

Dr.

Mrs

O.H. Wheeler

Wheeler

OH, Wheeler

O.H. Wheeler



Wheeler

O.H, Wheeler

J.A. Gonzalo

J.A. Gonzalo

J.A, Gonzalo

RA, Lee

Fausto Muiioz

RA, Lee

---Page Break---

Thesis Title Student Advisor

Color center energies of José Casts Dr. I. Cantare?

8 Castro + Te Cant

alkali halides. (inst. of Modern Sciences) ?

The effect of incident Fernando Diaz Dr. B. Cruz

photon energy on RbBr and  
KCl crystals.

Electroreflectance on Ge, Julio Marrero Dr. Fs aa  
Si, MepSi, NecGe semi- ms  
conductor crystals.

Oak Ridge Research Participation Program

Dr, Herbert 9. Verter, Head of the Chemistry Department at  
Inter-American University, San Ger, Puerto Rico, spent. the  
summer in the Division as an Oak Ridge Research Participant doing  
work on the synthesis of radiopharmaceuticals labeled with iodine-  
132. Dr. LA. Fel of the UPR Chemistry Department in

Mayaguez was given an ad honorem appointment to collaborate in  
this investigation.

Doctoral Research

Two staff members successfully presented their doctoral dis-  
sertations. Dr. Baltazar A. Cruz received his Ph.D. in Physics  
from Harvard University (May 1967). His thesis research was on  
"F Center Formation at 78°K in KBr During Exposure to Mono-  
chromatic X-ray Energies Around the Bromine K Edge." Dr. Rupert  
A. Tee obtained his Ph.D. in Chemistry at London University

(June 1967). His thesis research was on "Radiolysis of Gaseous Hydrogen Halides."

#### Plowshare Training

Mr. Jaime Ronin, M.S., Assistant Professor in Analytical Chemistry, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, and Mr. Carlos Ortiz, graduate student, spent the summer developing methods for the analysis of copper in minerals to initiate the Plowshare study of mining with nuclear explosives.

#### RESEARCH COMPLETED

F-Centers Formation in KBr using Monochromatic X-rays =  
B. Cruz (Ph.D. Physics, May 1967). In KBr irradiated at 78°K the rate of formation of F centers per unit energy retained in

---Page Break---

the crystal was found to be the same whether 13.4 keV or 2.2 keV was the incident photon energy (the K edge of bromine is at 13.5 keV). At either incident photon energy the energy expenditure per F center formed was  $1.21 \times 10^9$  eV 24.4%. This result indicates that K shell ionization in bromine does not affect the mechanism of formation of F centers in KBr. However, a large

background of multiple ionized atoms is expected whether the incident photon energy is 13.4 keV or 11.1 keV. Each of these atoms becomes multiply ionized after losing an electron in the

L shell. Thus, in a bromide the equality of the rate of formation of F centers above and below the K edge is not sufficient evidence to conclude that a Varley mechanism of F center formation is not operative. Each of the monochromatic beams was at the fluorescent output of RbCl filtered with a thin layer of NaBr or of Sr(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> filtered with RbCl. The output of a Machlett X-Ray Tube operated at 45 kv was used to excite the fluorescence, The current in the tube was regulated to achieve the same energy flux on the sample regardless of the incident photon energy. An air ionization chamber was calibrated with a calorimeter and was used to measure the flux. The half-width of each monochromatic beam was 330 eV. Measurements of the energy expenditure required to form one F center were: for KCl at, 76°K,  $6.9 \times 10^2$  eV \* 4.2%; for KBr irradiated at 300°K,  $4.8 \times 10^3$  eV \* 5.7%; for RbBr at 78K,  $1.2 \times 10^9$  eV #174; and for RbBr at 300°K,  $1.3 \times 10^3$  eV

\* 30%.

Radiolysis of Gaseous Hydrogen Halides - R.A. Lee (Ph.D. Chemistry) Some TST on air yield at 4.7 have been measured for the radiolysis of pure gaseous hydrogen chloride and hydrogen bromide, respectively, using 60Co sources. These yields,

together with the W values for HCl (24.8 eV) and HBr (24.4 eV) obtained, lead to calculated G-values of 8.3 and 9.6, respectively. The effect of the scavengers bromine and sulphur hexafluoride on the radiolysis of the two gases revealed that there are at least two hydrogen forming species present. One of these is a "thermal" hydrogen atom which may or may not have the electron as its precursor; the other is a "hot" hydrogen atom which cannot be scavenged. The results with chlorine as scavenger on the HCl radiolysis brought out the importance of back reactions taking place as the concentration of chlorine builds up during the irradiation of pure gaseous hydrogen chloride. A study of the effect of an applied electric field during the radiolysis of the two gases showed that reactions involving the recombination of ions were unimportant as a means of product formation. This study has shown that dissociative excitation is

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is as important as ionization

processes in the decomposition

of these two hydrogen halides. The thermal molecules appear to undergo

excitatory processes.

Excitation processes occur more readily than the ionization

Radiation damage of 1 liter in 10S and Roche: -

cicada ChageyaTnat ste OF Teoma oe ed

Raver RAs Tad paniamrta Ne teicT ce eee oe oe ee aed

tion on triglycine sulfate and Rochelle salt was carried out.

The investigation was extended up to relatively high doses, in order to ascertain whether the reported drastic decreases and disappearance of the hysteresis loops and the well-known blurring

of the peak in the dielectric constant vs temperature were Te-

lated to the destruction of ferroelectricity itself in the

crystal, or, rather, to the progressive masking of ferroelectric

Characteristioe by the presence of @ large accumulation of radla-  
tion-induced defects in an essentially ferroelectric environment.

Present experiments included measurements of the temperature dependence of hysteresis loops and dielectric constant at in-

See nte eee the irzacuation doce, unter wero and variable

d.c. fields. It was found that the ferroelectric characteristics

Aas Poets a we ate dooes as high ax 10 Krad, for trigiyeine

sulphate, Similar results were obtained for Rochelle salt. In

this case, however, the ferroelectric characteristics of the

crystal disappeared at about 2 Mrad. as a consequence of the

collapse of both Curie points. ?The changes in domain structure

Se Reuhelle galt were also investigated by using the polarizing

microscope, and interpretation was given, which is consistent

with the results of the dielectric observations.

canna Irradiation of Liquid Alde = Ovll. Wheeler and

E. Dfaz de Osborne Thesis, February 1968; on leave of.

(absence from the Food laboratory, University of Puerto Rico).

speemcena radiolysis of decanal, citral, oitronellal, end

ie Girehyde was studied in the Liquid phase, In the absence 0

cera e Gy values were very 1ov (?v0.2 for benzaldehyde and

al) ot forthe other aldehydes). the only reaction detected was

fotjmerzation and the gaseous profucts were formed with

ae ryan O.ON acetic acid, citral and citronelial were

Gestroyed with a G value of 01, and peroxide formation was

noted.

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Radiation Protection of Glycine and Glycyglycine -

Coil, Wheeler, M. Santos Sinchez, ReA. Ribot, and M. Ramos (NEL

Project). ?the reduction in the Gy values for glycine and

Elycylglyeine in aqueous sclution was determined by measuring

the unchanged substrate in the form of carbon-1i labeled com.

Pounts, the order of effectiveness for radiation protection for

glycine was: cysteine > thiourea> penicillamine >dinethylulforide >

methionine >phenylalanine. For glycyglycine the onder was:

thiourea > cysteine > penicillamine > tyrosine > methionine > dimethyl-  
sulfoxide > phenylalanyl:

Synthesis of Thiosteroids - O.H. Wheeler, E.E. Rodriguez and  
W.R. Z (M.S. thesis, March 1968) (NIH project). A steroid  
analog was synthesized from thiophene as ring A and successively  
adding on ring B in the 2, 8-positions of thiophene and then ring  
C with ring D as a six-membered ring. Attempts were made to link  
the thiophene rings in the 2, 8-positions by first protecting the  
2, 8-positions with iodide, carbonethoxy, methyl, or t-butyl  
groups. However, these groups either reduced the reactivity of  
the thiophene ring in Friedel-Craft reactions, or hindered the  
subsequent cyclization reaction

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Piezoelectric Characteristics of  $\text{LiLi}_2\text{O}$ , - J.M. Rivera  
and J.A. Gonzalo. A preliminary study of the piezoelectric and

elastic properties of  $\text{LiLi}_2\text{O}$  at  $93^\circ\text{C}$  (close to the melting  
point) has been undertaken. Accurate measurements of the dielectric  
constant as a function of frequency showed resonance  
peaks in the 10<sup>9</sup>-10<sup>7</sup> c/s region which gave reasonable estimates  
of the piezoelectric coefficient and Young's modulus along the



ferroelectric axis, which is perpendicular to the (001) planes

pictestrte sperttee of AUslise chloties = 1 Rif and

\A, Gonzalo. Single crystals of 820, )> (with

3°2'0195, 0.50, 0.60) have been growl iA'2S) tverat3eg, ?unt

measurenents of dielectric constant and hysteresis loops are

being unlertaken with the object of determining the dielectric

phase diagram of the solid solution, sone single crystals of

?the analogous systems Nay 14(\_4)H3 (803)2 and Nex, C8(1\_~)H3

(8e03)2 have been grown, and it is intended to complete both

series for further dielectric characterization. The Curie ten-

perature is expected to change gradually with composition.

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Scope and car

ment in fert

jout the disappearance of hyst

the dielectric constant, Dielectric et

a function of temperature in the

producible, unless a strong

for a few mimtes.

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Electroreflectance from semiconductor

A study was made on the optical properties of magnesium telluride, lead telluride and stannide. The technique used was introduced two years ago and is known as electroreflectance technique. An electric field was applied to the reflecting surface by introducing the sample in an electrolyte. From the reflectance data, information was obtained on the energy dependence of the dielectric constants and absorption coefficient. Finally, the

transitions were studied in view of the available energy band calculations.

tals - P. Vazquez

Monochromatic X-ray Effects on the Formation of Color Centers

in Alkali Halides > Behusant Fe Diaz; A study of the effect of a halide K shell ionization in the coloration of KCl crystals is in progress, Similar work is being done on RbBr and on impurities in KI and KCl. Necessary equipment for variable temperature work, and for luminescence studies, is being acquired.

## Free Energy Expansion Coefficients from Double Hysteresis

Loops ~ JA. Gonzalo. A direct method has been developed to

Loop ote emerature depeyndice of, the coefficients of the

see tnorey expansion ( $A - 1/2 \epsilon P^* 1/h EP + 1/60 Beez$ ) of a

Suystal spontanecusly polarized in a temperature region where

crystal, seme ente lospe are observable (This inplics that, tO ).

doubegatures of the (P) vss ( $B = 6A/6P$ ) relationship are fully

sepiayed in the double hysteresis loop, thus allowing the

?tomltaneous determination of x, Gand . The coefficient x can

?be measured directly from the slope ( $6P/6$ ) of the straight line

be menuvter of the double Loop. We can define Pe, ani Fy. as

the polarizations before "switching" for decreasing and intreas-

the POsid; respectively. his characterizes one of the single

16 Serine @)vs(@) diagram, and one can easily compute © and  $\phi$

100pe thod has been applied to BaTiO, oseillograms of the

duble hysteresis loops above  $T_y = 111.5^\circ\phi$  were collected and

Geer temperature depenience of  $y^\circ$  Cant?  $\phi$  determined.

Mechanish of Thermal Aromatic Re ments - O.H, Wheeler,

0, Rossioy ant F. Ronan (V5, June 1968; on leave of absence

from the Industrial Development Laboratory, Commonwealth of Puerto

Rico). ?he mechanism of the Chapman rearrangenent of phenyl

?enzimino ethers to benzoyldiphenylamines is being studied by

using carbon-1} labeled phenyl ethers. ?he allied rearrangenent

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of allyl benzimino ethers is also bei 24

of sltya bent ere 1s also being investigated by using &

Radiolysis of Peptides - OH, Wheeler and D, Julién (M5.

March 19%8)(ILi project). Tabeled glycyglycine, phi yl

S » phenylalanyl~

glycine, and glycyphenylalanine have been synthesized from

carbon-ih labeled anino acids, ?their radiolysis {n aquecus

ution is being studied u: hr 2

Solution ie being studied using paper chrenatogrenhy to separate

## STAFF

Dr. Juan F, Facetti, a former monber of our staff, who is

now in charge of the Physics Department at the National

University of Asunción, Paraguay, spent two weeks at PRNC during

the 10th Anniversary celebration, and plans were arranged for

cooperative research efforts in the future between his group and

our staff.

Mr. Inis Rivera Oyola, research assistant and graduate student in nuclear engineering, was awarded an AEC traineeship in nuclear engineering in August.

Miss Milagros Santos, M.S., research associate on an NIH financed project concerning the "Radiolysis of Peptides," resigned in January to accept an appointment as chief chemist in @ pharmaceutical laboratory.

Miss Carmen Lecumberry joined the staff of the Chemistry Department, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez in July.

Miss Dolores Julidn, who was with the "Radiolysis of Peptides" project, joined the Chemistry Department, Inter American University in September. Both are completing their thesis studies in the Division.

Mrs. Myriam Ramos, also with the "Radiolysis of Peptides" project, joined the Department of Biology, Regional College of the University of Puerto Rico at Arecibo, in August.

Mr. Grafton Olivera, a former senior student who participated in research training, left PRIC to join the Research

laboratory of the ITT in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

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Nuclear Engineering student:

Division's Subcritical Assembl

Antonio Rivera Cordero, Lut

Raphael L. Ufret.

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## NUCLEAR ENGINEERING

The primary function of the Nuclear Engineering Division is to teach graduate courses for the students of nuclear engineering at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez and to direct their research, and the thesis research of students from other universities in the United States and Latin America, this division also offers occasional short courses for scientists, engineers, and technicians, and for staff members engaged in individual research.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

## Master of Science Degree Program

The UFR at Mayagüez, in close cooperation with PRNC's Nuclear Engineering Division, offers the Master of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering. The closeness of this relationship is illustrated by the fact that the faculty of the UFR Department of Nuclear Engineering is composed largely of staff members of the PRIC Nuclear Engineering Division, and the director of the UFR department is also the head of the PRNC division. In addition, the PRIC Nuclear Engineering Division provides the classrooms, offices, laboratories, equipment, and administrative personnel necessary for the education and training of the UFR nuclear engineering students. The requirements are 30 hours of graduate work, including the satisfactory completion of a thesis. Applicants for admission to this program must have a bachelor's degree in engineering or physics.

The basic pedagogical method is the presentation of lectures, strongly reinforced by laboratory work with various types of radiation counting equipment, the subcritical reactor, the 1-77 low power reactor, and the PRNC one-megawatt reactor. Each student is also required to use both an analog and a digital computer and to present seminar on his research to the PRNC staff. The students are encouraged to choose research topics related to their specific interests and those of their sponsoring countries or

organizations. A description of the courses included in the nuclear engineering curriculum follows.

+ Nuclear Reactor Technology Three lectures and one three-hour laboratory demonstration period per week. Steady-state and transient thermal conduction in fuel elements; thermal convection in heat-exchanger design; liquid metal systems; circulating fuel systems; time behavior of reactor systems; breeding and conversion;

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?an introduction to the economics of reactor operation; reactor engineering design problems.

+ Nuclear Measurements and Instrumentation One lecture and two three-hour laboratories per week. Characteristics of operation and a thorough familiarization with the application of specialized techniques such as: coincidence and anticoincidence counting, pulse analysis, neutron spectrometry, gamma ray spectrometry, and so on.

+ Elements of Nuclear Engineering Four lectures per week include characteristics of the atomic nucleus, radioactive decay, interaction of radiation and matter, and basic neutronics.



+ Graduate Seminar 90 hours per week include reports and discussions on special topics in nuclear science and engineering.

+ Reactor Theory Three lectures per week, Consists of neutron balance equation, diffusion theory, and slowing down theory, bare homogeneous reactor, reflected reactor, heterogeneous reactor, time dependent reactor, perturbation theory and transport theory.

+ Advanced Reactor Theory Three lectures per week. Advanced transport theory, reactor kinetics, and heterogeneous reactor theory.

+ Reactor Laboratory One lecture and one three-hour design period per week, laboratory problems involving the nuclear reactor.

+ Nuclear Engineering Application of Wave Mechanics I 10 lecture discussions per week, Physical behavior and properties of moderator nuclei, Fission properties of fuel nuclei. Collision theory. Quantum mechanics discussion of the Doppler Effect.

+ Nuclear Engineering Application of Wave Mechanics II 10 lecture discussions per week. A continuation of the same topics covered in the "Wave Mechanics I" course, including perturbation

and control rod theory and the effect of anisotropic scattering.

+ Special Problems One to three periods per week each se-

nester related to the investigation of special problems in I~

clear Engineering. (Note: During the second semester of this

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school year, Dr. Knud Pedersen conducted a three credit hour special problems course in Plowshare).

+ Research No credit, ?The student is awarded six credits

for his thesis upon satisfactory completion and presentation of

a thesis, One to twelve research periods per week. Research in

the field of nuclear engineering.

+ Mathematics of Modern Science I Three lectures per week

in determinants and matrices, finite differences, Fourier series

and integrals, and Laplace transformation.

+ Mathematics of Modern Science II Three lectures per week.

Partial differential equations, Bessel functions and Legendre

polynomials, and complex variables.

## Supplementary Courses

+ Nuclear Reactor Metallurgy via lectures and one three-hour lab session each week. An introduction to elementary physical metallurgy of the principal reactor materials such as aluminum, zirconium, uranium, and high temperature alloys; mechanical properties; fabrication of nuclear fuels; radiation damage to reactor components.

+ Introduction to Nuclear Engineering For advanced undergraduate and non-nuclear engineering graduate students; three lectures each week in fission and chain reactions, elements of reactor design, utilization of nuclear energy for power, and radiation problems.

## Non-Degree Program

In addition to the Master of Science degree program, the Division offered or participated in two special programs:

1) An intensive six-week seminar on Plowshare (peaceful uses of nuclear energy) was offered during the summer of 1977. The seminar was conducted by Dr. James A. Cheney of the Department of Civil Engineering and Dr. Wilson K. Talley of the Department of Applied Sciences of the University of California

at Davis, and drew its participants from the staff of the FRIC  
and the faculty of the University of Puerto Rico.

---Page Break---

Above: Control rods are ad

before transfer

function measurement on the reactor. Below:

Transfer function measurement experiment on the

L-77 reactor.

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wW

2) Dr. Donald S. Sasser taught the physics:

the physics part of an

Office of Civil Defense, Nuclear Fallout Shelter Summer Institute.

This institute was attended by professors representing 28 different universities from 20 different states.

STAFF

Dr. Knud B. Pedersen joined the division in June. For the past three years he has been teaching in the Departments of Nuclear Engineering and Engineering Science at Iowa State University. Before that Dr. Pedersen was a member of the staff of the Ames Laboratory of the ABC. He has been active in research in the areas of metal fatigue, nuclear cratering similitude, and reactor kinetics.

Dr. Donald Sasscer attended the International Conference on the Utilization of Research Reactors and Reactor Mathematics Computation in Mexico City, Mexico, May 2-4. During the second week of May, Dr. Sasscer participated in the Atoms in Action program in Panama by giving a series of lectures to the students of the University of Panama, and by consulting with them concerning research problems related to Nuclear Engineering.

Dr. Aviva E. Gileadi participated in the 13th Annual Conference of the American Nuclear Society held in San Diego, California, during July. Following this, Dr. Gileadi visited the Brookhaven National Laboratory for consultation concerning computer calculation related to neutron cross sections.

Dr. Knud Pedersen presented a paper entitled, "Measurement of Shutdown Margin," to the 11th Annual IEEE Nuclear Science symposium held in Los Angeles, California, October 31 to November 5.

During August, Dr. Sasscer visited the Associated Midwestern Universities-Argonne National Laboratories, Summer Engineering Practice School at the Argonne National Laboratory for an evaluation of the research activities of Mr. Antonio Rivera Cordero, a graduate student in Nuclear Engineering at the UPR, who was attending the school. At the end of August, Dr. Sasscer attended the Nuclear Science and Engineering Fellowship Advisors meeting at Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

---Page Break---

8

## STUDENTS

During 1967, an Ecuadorian, a Mexican, a Cuban, a student from nationalist China, and seven students from Puerto Rico participated in the Masters Degree program. Three of the students were US AEC trainees and one an International Atomic Energy Agency fellow.

Three students presented papers to the Fifth Annual Student Conference of the American Nuclear Society held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, in April:

1, Antonio Rivera - "Investigation of Puerto Rico Nuclear Center Beam Tube Explosion."

2, José E. Aguiar - "Design Criteria to Increase the Sensitivity of the Total Absorption Calorimeter for Soft X-Rays".

Francisco Jiménez - "G-Value Determination of the Fricke Dosimeter for Monochromatic X-Rays from 5 to 10 Kev".

Mr. Antonio Rivera attended the three-month Associated Midwestern Universities-Argonne National Laboratories, Summer Engineering Practice School held at Argonne National Laboratory during June, July and August.

Four students obtained the Master of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering from the Mayaguez Campus of the University of Puerto Rico under the research direction of the scientific staff of the PRNC (See Table 1).

The progress of the students active in the Nuclear Engineering program during 1967 is shown in Table 2,

Students enrolled in the Nuclear Engineering Master of Science degree program are given in Table 3.

---Page Break---

?TABLE 1.

19

Master of Science Degrees in Nuclear Engineering 1967

student

Aguilar Aranburu,

José

Jiménez Rosado,

Francisco

Mufioz Ribadeneira,

Fausto

Reoyo Sinchez,

carlos



Thesis

"Design Criteria to Increase the  
Sensitivity of a Total Absorp-  
tion Calorimeter for Soft X-Rays"

Value Determination of a Frick  
Dosimeter for Monochromatic X-  
Rays from 0 to 15 Kev"

"Estudios de la Relación de Lixi-  
viación de un Mineral de Uranio

Tipo Carnotita con Acido sulfi-

rico Bupleando Métodos Comnes y  
Enerela Ultrasénica?

1e1 Element Maximum Temperature  
as a Result of a Loss of Coolant  
as a Function of Operating Power  
Before shutdown"

TABLE 2

Research Director

Dr, Peter

Paraskevoudakis

Dr. Peter

Paraskevoudakis

Dr, Rafael Mufioz

Candelario

?Prof, Kenneth

Soderstrom

Progress of Nuclear Engineering Students in 1967

a

Students who received the M.S. degree

in Nuclear Engineering

Students who have completed all course

work for degree (presently working on theses)

?students engaged in course work for

M.S, degree

4

---Page Break---

TABLE 3

Students Enrolled in Master of Science Degree Program

ss

Name Sponsor

Antonio Castro Rosario, Puerto Rico UPR

Cho-fu Lee, China IAEA

Fernando L pez Carrasco, Mexico CNEN

Gilberto Ramos Cuesta, Cuba self

Fernando P rez Bracetti, Puerto Rico UFR

Antonio Rivera Cordero, Puerto Rico ABC

Inis Rivera Oyole, Puerto Rico ABC

Francisco Rodriguez Perazza, Puerto Rico UPR

Rafael L. Ufret Acevedo, Puerto Rico apc

Gilberto V lez Delgado, Puerto Rico ?PRARA

(Puerto Rico Water

?Resources Authority)

---Page Break---

aL

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

Design Criteria to Increase the Sensitivity of a Total Absorption Calorimeter for Soft X-Rays - Dr. Peter Paraskevoudakis

?and José E. Aguiar.

G-Value Determination of a Frick Dosimeter for Monochromatic X-Rays from 0 to 15 Kev - Dr, Peter Paraskevoudakis and Francisco

?Timénez.

Fuel Element Maximum Temperature as Result of a Loss of Coolant as a Function of Operating Power Before Shutdown - Prof.

Kenneth Soderstrom and Carlos B, Reoyo.

Estudios de 1a Relación de Lixiviación de un Mineral de Ure

nio Tipo Carnotita con Acido sulfurico ando Métodos Comunes

Energia Ultrasónica - Dr. Rafael Mufioz Candelario and Fausto J.

Mufioz-Ribadeneira.

Measurement of the Transfer Function of the I-77 Reactor -

Dr. Aviva E. Gileadi and Fernando Lopez.

Burn Up Calculations in Uranium Fueled, Water Moderated Reactor - Dr. Aviva B, Gileadi and Cho-fu Lee.

Criticality Calculations - Dr. Aviva E. Gileadi and Manuel Rodriguez Perazza.

Investigation of Puerto Rico Nuclear Center Beam Tube Explosion - Dr. Donald S. Sasser and Antonio Rivera.

Calculation of the Time and Space Dependent Neutron Densities

Calculation of the Time and Space Dependent Neutron Densities Following an Underground Nuclear Explosion in Various Rocks - (Plowshare Oriented Calculation) - Dr, Aviva . Gileadi.

Stress Corrosion Cracking of Metal Alloys - Dr. Phillip

Osborne and Erick Méndez.

---Page Break---

Dr. Jose P.A. Castrión Of AEGER

us for the chromatographic of  
tioxanthene.

---Page Break---

## PHYSICAL SCIENCES \*

the long range objective of the Physical Sciences Division (formerly called the Radioisotope Applications Division) is to offer advanced training opportunities for Puerto Rican and Latin American trainees primarily through participation in research projects involving the use of high energy radiation and radioisotopes. Since this program is geared to regional needs, it includes an introductory training course in the use of isotopes, and requires a heavy participation of the scientific personnel in the academic activities of the natural sciences departments of the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus. The latter cooperative effort is encouraged through joint appointments.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Activities range from a four-week non-credit training course in the techniques of radioisotope applications to research training in the laboratories of the Center.

### Radioisotopes Techniques Course

Offered four times during 1967. The distribution of the seventy-seven trainees (Table 1) by geographical origin shows

seven participants from Puerto Rico, three from the Dominican Republic, two from Colombia, and one each from Uruguay, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, and Venezuela.

#### University Level Courses

+ Radiochemistry one-semester graduate course, taught by Dr. José PLA. Castrillón, Associate Scientist, with the participation of four students, and utilizing the FRIC Laboratory facilities.

\* As a reflection of the development in the division of research training opportunities in more general areas related to a certain field, the AEC approved the change in the name of

the division from "Radioisotope Application: to " Sciences" on July 6, 1967. See Physical

---Page Break---

ak

ee

?TABLE 1

PARTICIPANTS IN BASIC COURSE IN RADIOISOTOPE TECHNIQUES, 1967

1. Silvio

Avistizabal, M.D.

+ Francisco

Touya, M.D.

Emperatriz

Chavarro

4. MJ, Melo

Batista, M.D,

5. Alba L. Rico

de Puente

6. Abel

Rosy

+ Tvia

Minn

8, Lydia Ne

de Reyes, M.D.

9. Roger Ramos



Aliaga

10, Helen Rodríguez

de Curet, M.D.

1. Sergio

Silva,

Resident III in Radiotherapy (Had additional training in Clinical Applications, PRIC).

Member of the Faculty of Medicine-Nuclear Medicine Center, Montevideo, Uruguay. (Had special training in Clinical Applications and in Medical Sciences and Radiobiology, PRNC).

Radioisotope Technologist, National Institute of Cancerology, Colombia (Had additional training in Clinical Applications, PRIC).

Doctor in Medicine, Radioisotope Dept., Hospital Dr. S.B. Gautier, Sto. Domingo (Had additional training in Clinical Applications, PRIC).

Medical Technologist-Experimental surgery, UR, School of Medicine (Had additional training in

Clinical Applications).

Research Technician, Terrestrial Ecology

Program, PRNC.

Medical Technologist-Pulmonary Function studies,

UPR School of Medicine (Had additional training

in Clinical Applications).

Radiologist, University District Hospital,

Medical Center, Rio Piedras,

Biochemist, Faculty of Medicine, Cajamarca, Peri.

(Had additional training in Clinical Applications,

and is having special training in Medical sciences

and Radiobiology).

Clinical Research Center, UPR, School of Medicines

Graduate student in Biochemistry, UPR School of

Medicine.

---Page Break---

Or. Manfred Eberhardt

Preparing equated

Samples for gamma-  
radiolysis studies.

12. Claudio  
Zafra

+ Manuel  
Tallo

1s, Mercedes Titigues  
de Mufio, M.D.

15. Jorge  
Mariaca, M.D.

16. Zobeida  
Malpas

17. Américo

Rivera, Ph.D.

---Page Break---

+ Theory of Organic Chemistry A two-semester graduate course, taught by Dr. H. Harry Samant, Chief Scientist, with the participation of twelve students.

+ Advanced Physical Chemistry A one-semester graduate course, taught by Dr. Alec Grinison, Chief scientist, with the participation of twelve students.

+ Chemical Kinetics A one-semester graduate course, taught during the summer session by Dr. George A. Simpson, Associate Scientist, with the participation of eight students.

+ Instrumental Analysis and Advanced Inorganic Chemistry

Two one-semester graduate courses, taught by Dr. Mariel Muir, Associate Scientist, with the participation of fifteen students in each course.

Graduate Research

The graduate students supervised by PRNC personnel, and their geographical origin, are shown in Table II.

During 1967 Miss Gladys Rodriguez completed her thesis work for the M.S. degree, and has joined the teaching staff of the Chemistry Department, Catholic University of Ponce, P.R.

#### Non-Credit Graduate Research Training

+ During the summer of 1967 Dr. Martin Feldman, Assistant Professor at Howard University, Washington, D.C., worked on the gamma-radiolysis of diethyl sulfoxide in freon and methyltetrahydrofuran matrices in collaboration with Drs. Simpson, Grimison, and Semant. Dr. Feldman's visit was under the auspices of the Oak Ridge Research Participation Program.

+ Mr. Sergio Quadri, Assistant Professor, University of Concepción, Chile, received nine months' training which included work with Drs. G. Simpson and A. Grimison on gamma irradiation of heterocyclic molecules.

#### Undergraduate Research Trainees

The following senior science students took advantage of the research training opportunities of FRNC during 1967: \* Sonia Cruz Vega, Sandra Piflero Acosta, Marfa de los Angeles Carrera, Humberto Reyes, and Angel Canales with Dr. N. Muir; Alex Bonilla, Carnon Meléndez, Donald Dexter and Félix Martínez with Drs. A. Grimison

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a

?TABLE TT

?NESTS RESEARCH SUPERVISED BY PRC PERSONNEL DURING 1967

eee

Student Country of Origin Supervisor

1. Birke, Arnoldo chile HH, Smant
2. Cancio, Baith Puerto Rico HH. Semant
3. Castellanos, Jaine Colombia Ae Cotas
- 2, Weisz

Conén, Jaine Puerto Rico Hu, Semant

S.PsAy Castrilion

5. Costa, Agnes Ruerto Rico HAH, Snant
6. Feméndez, cigs Cuba My Mate
7. Gémez, Elsa Venezuela HH, Semant

8 Mata, Alfonso Costa Rica EH, Semant

9. Rechani, Pio Puerto Rico Me Mair

10, Riquelme, Ta Cuba, HH, Semant

Li. Rodriguez, Gladys Puerto Rico A. Grimison

12, Trujillo, wrtha cuba. ?A. Grimison

13. Werr, Fayez Lebanon HH, Semant

2k. Zea Ponce, Ima Guatemala HH, Smant

M. ?Boerharat

15. Sprangle, Fuihp Ue8Ae A, Grimison

Several of the graduate students are expected to complete their M.S, thesis requirements during 1968, and some plan to continue work toward the Ph.D. degree in Chemistry since this program is soon to be officially approved,

---Page Break---

land G. Simpsons Aida Dfaz, Francisco Rivera, Olga Rotrlguez,  
Janice Petrovich, Gregoria tarreo and /Sonia Vazquez with Drev Wa,  
fmant ani J. Castrillén; José Marrero with Drs. A. Cobae and

Z. Weise.

"Atoms in Action" Exhibit in Quito, Bouador

In November, 1967, Dr. He Harry Smant participated in the  
ARC "Atoms in Action" Behibit in Quito, Ecuador. Small research

projects were initiated with two instructors of the Central University. Some results of previous participation by Dr. Ssmant and Dr. Castrillén at the Costa Rica Exhibit presented at scientific meetings in Kingston, Jamaica, and Chicago, Illinois, are reported later.

## SDR

Dr. Manfred Eberhardt Joined FRC as Associate Scientist in September 1967. Dr. Eberhardt worked previously at the Radiochemistry Institute, Technical University of Munich. He will work on the gamma-radiolysis of dimethyl sulfoxide, and on steric effects in radiation chemistry.

During 1967 the following graduate students resigned their part-time PRIC research assistantships:

Mr. Jaime Colén, who continues his studies under an assistantship of the Department of Chemistry; Mr. Eagar Rodríguez and Mr. Thagdish Jhaveri, who discontinued graduate studies for personal reasons. Few appointments were extended to Mrs. Agnes Costa, Miss Elsa Gémez, and Miss Myrtha Trujillo.

Participation in Scientific Meetings and Courses outside Puerto



Rico,

Dr. H. Harry Semant participated in the meeting of the Council of the American Chemical Society in Miami Beach, Florida, April 9-13, 1967. He formed part of the Organizing Committee for an "International sulfur Chemistry Conference? to be held in Puerto Rico. On June 15, Dr, Semant presented "Research in the Chemistry of Sulfoxides? as part of a cycle of lectures on "Contemporary Research in Organic Sulfur Chemistry" at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan.

In June and July 1967 at the Institute of Physical Chemistry,

---Page Break---

Professor A. G. Maddock, Ci

(right), viewing the rea

PRNC staff.

University of Bologna, Italy, Dry  
research on the theoretical spec  
collaboration with Professor Carl  
tute.

On June 16, 1967 Dr. Semants  
chanism of the Wolff-Kishner  
Detroit, Michigan,

On June 24-26, 1967 Dre  
received training in special  
chemistry by Dr. Alfred Wolf at  
haven National Laboratory.

On september 6-11, 1967 in  
Illinois, Dr. George A. Simpson 3  
Electron Spin Resonance Spet

On September 11-15 at the  
Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Semant

of the Organic Division, and was  
Institute of Chemists.

---Page Break---

30

On November 21-28, 1967 in the "Atoms in Action" Exhibit,  
Quito, Ecuador, Dr. Semant delivered lectures on "Application  
of Isotopes in the Study of Reaction Mechanisms," and on "Energy  
and Chemical Changes."

On October 13, 1967 at the "Science in Research" sessions  
of the Southeastern Regional Conference of the National Science  
Teachers Association, San Juan, Dr. A. Cobas spoke on "Nuclear  
Experimentation in Puerto Rico," and Dr. H.H. Semant on "Chemical  
Research at the University of Puerto Rico."

RESEARCH

The research programs of the division can be classified under the following headings: Radiation Effects, Radioisotopic Studies, and Supporting Research, The projects are described briefly below, with the senior investigators and graduate student trainees.

### Radiation Effects

These projects study the effects of high-energy deposition in chemical systems. In some of the projects the emphasis is on the initial, or primary, products of radiation, while others emphasize the final products subsequent to secondary chemical reactions. However, the aim is always to trace the detailed mechanism by which radiation-induced changes occur.

Gamma-Radiolysis of Dimethyl Sulfoxide (HH, Samant, Me Hherhardt)+ The previous G values of several radiolysis products have now been determined with greater precision, In a typical experiment, G values of 2.24 for dimethyl sulfide formation, 0.37 for dimethyl-sulfone formation, 0.23 for formation of the methyl ester of methanethiosulfuric acid, and 0.5 for formation of a probable DM@ 'dimer' were obtained, The effect of dose and added water on these G values is currently under study. Graduate Student trainees: Agnes Costa, Edgar Rodriguez.

Stereoselective Reactions in the Gas Phase

1,2-Dimethylcyclohexane (M. Eberhardt). The effects of stereo-

chemistry on the radiolysis of cis and trans-1,2-dimethylcyclo-

hexane are being studied. In particular, the steric effects on

formation of hydrogen. This is a project

by Dr. Eberhardt at the Technische Hochschule, a university

which is now to be continued at PRNC, , ,

---Page Break---

Dr. Manfred Eberhardt and Mr. Alfonso Mata

student from Costa Rica, operating

Student from Costa Rica, operating a vapor phase

Radiation-induced Addition of Thiols

(M. Eberhardt). The stereo-

chemistry of homolytic addition of thiols to olefins

and the results compared with those in

actions. Graduate student trainee: Irma)

(A. Grimison, G.A. Simpson)s

rt from the AEC Division of Biology and.

the nature of primary species formed by:

heterocyclic molecules, ?he work is de:

in this Annual Report under Biological and

grans, Graduate student trainee: Myrtha

Radiation Danage in Organic:

Se aol =e

Division. Radiation damage in well=d

naterials is studied by conductivity

described fully eloevhere in this Anmal

Research Program, Graduate student

?Tritium Distribution in the Recoil

Lithium salts t

Ject investigates the radiation damage,

ipally, the tritium distribution in the!

ing neutron irradiation of organic lithium

---Page Break---

results for phenylacetic acid indicate that irradiation of the Lithium salt rather than the free acid results in a completely different tritium distribution, with much higher label yields. Thus 20% of the total activity is located on the  $\alpha$  carbon atom, as against less than 2% with the standard technique. Graduate student trainee: Pio Rechani (part-time participation).

Photochemistry of Transition Metal Complexes (M. Muir). This new project studies the ultraviolet irradiation of a series of complexes of Pt(II) with ligands, such as pyridine, bipyridine, phenanthroline, and ethylenediamine. The major reaction suggested by the preliminary work is photosolvation, proceeding to a different extent with the various ligands.

#### Radioisotope studies

These projects mainly involve the use of incorporated radioactive tracer atoms, as a diagnostic aid to the study of reaction mechanisms.

The Chromic Acid Oxidation of 1,1-di(p-iodophenyl) ethane-

(FH. Semant). The mechanism of the chromic acid oxidation of 1,1-di(p-iodophenyl) ethane-2-one continues to be studied. Graduate student trainee: Jaime L. Colén.

tion of C-14 labeled Dimethyl sulfoxides (lit. Semant,  
G. Molina) C-14 labeled dimethyl sulfoxide has been prepared by  
the reaction of dimethyl sulfoxide with C-14 labeled methanol,  
and the subsequent decomposition of the methylsulfonium salt with  
pyridine. This material will be used in other research projects,

Effects of Ketones and Sulfoxides in Liquid scintillation  
counting (H. Sant, J.P.A. Castrillón), The effect of the -  
Fructures of a series of ketones and sulfoxides on the liquid  
Scintillation counting of weak beta emitters is being studied.

Graduate student trainee: Elsa Gémez.

Preparation of Tritiated Benzochenone-hydrazone (H. Sant,  
G. Molina). This preparation is now completed. The material  
will be used in the study of the Mechanism of the Wolff-Kelch  
reactions

Supporting Research



The projects described under this heading do not directly involve the use of radiation of radioisotopes. However, they

---Page Break---

3

exist in order to provide support for the previous

projects

Producing essential information on the systems of interests

Decomposition of Benzhydryldiazine (H.H. Semant). This pro-

ject studies the preparation and base-catalyzed decom-

position of

Denzhydryldiazine. This decomposition is directly related to the study of the Wolff-Kishner Mechanism.

Studies of the Anions of Diaryl Ketone Hydrazones (H.H.

Semant), The Kinetics of the generation and Wolff-Kishner re-

action of the anions of diaryl ketone hydrazones are being studied.

Graduate student trainee: Arnoldo Birke.

Solvent Effect of Dimethyl sulfoxide on Wolff-Kishner Re-

action (Grit Semant) The effect of dimethyl sulfoxide on the

Kinetics of the Wolff-Kishner reaction is being elucidated.

Graduate student trainee: Ida Riquelme de Grimany.

The Stereochemistry of the Thiol-olefin Addition (H.H. Semant, J.P.A. Castrillón). The stereochemistry of the homolytic addition reactions of thiols to olefinic bonds is being studied, as support for the research on the radiation-induced addition.

Graduate student trainees: Balthazar Cancio and Janice Petrovich.

Molecular Orbital Calculations on Heterocyclic Molecules (A. Grimison, W. Adam). A series of all-valence electron calculations on heterocyclic molecules and radicals is being carried out, using the Extended Hückel Theory. This work aims at the elucidation of the electronic structures of these systems, and derived properties. Work during 1967 was mainly concentrated on the calculation of nuclear magnetic resonance parameters from all-valence electron wavefunctions. Treatments of aryl intermediates, and of hydrogen bonding between pyridine and water, and pyridine and methanol were also completed. Graduate student trainees: Gladys Rodriguez,

Phillip Sprangle.

---Page Break---

Above: Liver function

study in thioacetamide-

treated dog. Below:

Radiographic and radio-

isotopic localization

study of thyroid gland.

---Page Break---

## CLINICAL RADIOISOTOPE APPLICATIONS

The Division of Clinical Applications of Radioisotopes is primarily oriented to Latin American and Puerto Rican physicians who wish to acquire special skills in the human applications of radioisotopes for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes. The main training activity, the basic Clinical Applications Course, is offered to physicians wishing to qualify for obtaining a license to practice nuclear medicine or use radionuclides in humans in other connections. The Division also offers extended participation to trainees in special fields of interests, such as: extended practice in a field of the trainee's choice, a special training project, or a form course of nuclear applications in a medical specialty. In addition, the Division offers informal teaching to the Medical Faculty, Medical Students, Nursing Staff at clinics, wards and courses through medical consultations, rounds and lectures. A semester course for medical residents (orientation

clinical uses of radioisotopes) has been discontinued. Long term training for students desiring at least one year's experience is also offered,

The Division is aware of the needs of preparation of personnel with more advanced skills, As the clinical uses of radioisotopes become more generalized the need for stratification is more apparent. Special clinical radioisotopes procedures are not available to the majority of radioisotopes facilities everywhere. Hence, the need for training in this area, The Division anticipates future efforts to meet these needs.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Training program in the Clinical Uses of Radlot sotopes, The courses offered are:

### Basic Clinical Radioisotope Applications Course

This formal eight week Course offers the trainee an opportunity to learn by direct personal experience the human uses of radioisotopes in diagnosis and therapy of diseases; provides sufficient exposure to clinical material to facilitate the correlations between laboratory and clinical findings; permits the

trainee to acquire sufficient technical proficiency in diagnostic and therapeutic radioisotope procedures to enable him to qualify for license requirements, This is accomplished by a formal program of lectures which include diagnostic procedures that are currently in use in the following areas of medical diagnosis:

---Page Break---

?Thyroid disorders

Cardiovascular system

Renal tract

?The liver

Gastrointestinal absorption

Hematological applications

Fluid compartments and electrolytes

?more localization and organ visualization

Radioisotope therapy

The lectures are followed by clinical radioisotope laboratory exercises: clinical discussions of incoming patients for diagnostic work up, observation of laboratory procedure; demonstrations, and personal participation or direct performance of work by the trainee under close guidance by clinical and laboratory staff.

By the end of the course trainees usually complete an average of over 100 diagnostic procedures, the minimum performance being 80 adequately performed procedures for the entire period (see Table 1).

#### + Clinical Applications of Radioisotopes in Pediatrics

This course was intended to attract pediatricians to study this phase of nuclear medicine in their specialty. It was organized with help from the Department of Pediatrics and a staff member of the Division who is a pediatrician doing radioisotope work jointly with the Department of Pediatrics of the University Hospital, School of Medicine. Since nuclear applications in Pediatrics are moving slowly in Puerto Rico, enrollees for this course have not yet appeared. But this Division has trained three pediatricians on the University Hospital medical staff who are now leaders in their respective subspecialties: one is engaged in

pediatrics neurology, another in pediatric hematology, and a third is doing pediatric endocrinology,

+ Doformal Courses

These are extended periods of practical training 41

the major areas of medical medicine under the guidance of the clinical and laboratory staff, the areas of greater interest for trainees have been radioisotope localization studies, hematology

---Page Break---

Participants in the training program during FY 1967 are listed in Table IT. A numerical tabulation of the professional background and countries of origin of the participants in the training program is presented in Table IIT.

Table IV presents procedures used in the teaching program by and for the students.

Table V illustrates the diagnostic and therapeutic procedures carried out at the Division.

Table VI shows the relation of the research program to the teaching units of the clinical radioisotope course.

## TABLE

Two Month Training Program on  
Clinical Applications of Radioisotopes

EE

AVERAGE NUMBER OF

TEST PROCEDURES PER TRAINEE

Myoia Function 35

Routine uptake measurements (as)

Assay of radioactive thyroid

hormone levels in blood (as)

Modified tests of thyroid

function (5)

Dynamic functions of the hepatic, 20

renal, and vascular systems

Hematologic applications of radioisotopes 5

Tumor Localization studies 10

Gastrointestinal absorption 5

Electrolyte and fluid balance 2

tic procedures a

Therapeutic programs 2



---Page Break---

TABLE-2

Basic Course in Clinical Applications of Ruttot sotoves

Doce 19, 1966 to February 10, 1:

1. thago Ranfrez Maria nite

2) Yooasta aiverv{ Bontita Dominican Republic

February 14 to March 17, 1:

3. Marcelino Rispoli Argentine

April 3\_ to May 2%, 1:

4. Buperatriz Chavarro Rojas Coloabia

5+ Eduardo Tonya Uruguay

6. luis FP, Barragin Bolivia

7. Silvio Aristizabal CoLenbia

June 12 to August 4, 1967

8. Alba L. Rico de Puente Puerto Rico

9. Mercedes Melo Bautista Doninican Republic

August 7 to September 29, 1

10, Tivia L. Millén Zaccheus Puerto Rico

LL, Lidia D. Mteves de Reyes Puerto Rico

12. Claudio Ziifiiga Garcia Chile

TABLE-3

Murber of Trainees

a A cc

M.D. 8

Medical Technicians 2s

z

ORIGIN, NUGER.

Puerto Rico 3

latin Anerica 9

chile (2)

Dominican Republic (2)

Colombia (2)

Argentina (Q)

Bolivia (a)

Uruguay a)

?TOTAL 12

---Page Break---

TABLE-&

Procedures completed, observed or discussed by students

Ante couse seluca\_P&° Gita: Gorsions ME

Hugo Ramfrez Madrid, M.D. Clin. Applic.Rad. 71 9% 255 hee

Yocasta Subervi Bonilla " " " 9 82 279 370

Marcelino Rispoli, M.D, Nephrology - 6 : 6

?Emperatriz Chavarro Rojas Clin. AppliceRad, 883 104 256 WB

Eduardo Touyd, M.D. " " " 82 13 256 4s.

nis F. Barragin, M.D. " " " 87 10 256 453

Silvio Aristizdbal, M.D. " \* . mM U5 akg, Wis

Alba L. Rico de Puente " " " 89 110 hy Aas,

Mercedes Melo Bautista, M.D. " " " 1 10h eb 439

Tivia L. Millén " " " wa 1 228 480

Lidia D, Nieves de Reyes,M.D. " " "awh 16 a8 478

Claudio Zifiiga Garcfa, M.D." sm ai 6 as 4B

?TOTALS (1025 1255 2703 4983

---Page Break---

40.

2

Thyroid studies

Liver studies

Heart studies

Kidney studies

GastroIntestinal

Studies

Blood studies

?mor Localization =.

?Training Procedures =

?TOTAL

TABLE-6&

Clinical Applications twiy Unit

1, Tests of thyroid function

2, Kidney function

3. Liver function

4, Hematology

?Tumor localization

6, ?Therapeutic procedures

Research Project

Clinical and laboratory evalua-

?tion of thyroid disorders.

Effect of radiation of ?Thyroid

?Tissue in Patients.

Renogram followup study in can-  
cer of the cervix uteri.

Combined clinical, renographic  
studies in kidney diseases.

Renogram studies in diabetics.

T-131 rose bengal Localization

?and dynamic studies: scinti-  
gram, hepatogram, Experi-  
mental pathology of liver with  
?TMhicetanide,

?The absorption of B-12 in pa-  
?tients with Tropical g3ue,

Clinical~pathologic correlation  
of scanning studies,

Review of patients treated with  
T3I.

---Page Break---

a

Student: Research

Students attempt to solve specific problems of their own choice or which have been assigned them. Last year we informed on work done by a student on the labeling of human platelets in normal and abnormal states with  $^{51}\text{Cr}$  with which he studied survival of these blood corpuscles. During the present year we are reporting on the work done by three of our trainees,

+ Consideraciones acerca de un programa para un curso de Aplicaciones Clínicas de Radiomoléculas, (Considerations about a Program on the Clinical Applications of Radionuclides). Dr. Claudio Zifraga, trainee from the University of Chile, analyzed relevant factors in the preparation of an adequate training program as seen from the standpoint of a Latin American practicing physician, Dr. Zifraga notes the fundamental needs of the Latin American physician as a whole, and then his particular needs as an individual, For the first part he offers an outline of subjects for a basic program. For the second part, he suggests specialized training, preferably in the form of research work, guided by the trainee's special interest. Such training, supported in part by the Center, could be best carried out in association with one of the teaching hospitals of the Medical Center, preferably the University Hospital. The points raised

by Dr. Ziffi are worth considering. Some of his suggestions have been in operation for some time.

+ Summary of work done by trainee during one month following the basic Clinical course. This is a summary of activities of Dr. Luis F. Barragin, trainee from Bolivia, who spent one additional month of training. During this month Dr. Barragin worked on pulmonary scanning in the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism; he learned the technique of preparation of albumin  $^{131}\text{I}$ -macroaggregates, the agent employed to label pulmonary vascularity to diagnose pulmonary embolism; he studied the chromatographic method used to detect thyroid gland amino acid with the aid of labeled thyroxine and triiodothyronine.

The trainee reviewed the pertinent bibliography on pulmonary scanning and studied the work previously done at this Division, which was largely based on clinical material referred from the University Hospital with signs and symptoms of pulmonary embolism. During his stay at the Division, he performed 6 lung scans on 6 patients in whom the radioisotope technique demonstrated abnormal patterns of significant diagnostic value. Five patients had signs and symptoms of pulmonary embolism, and one of acute bronchitis.



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we

The preparation of albumin macroaggregates was performed in three steps:

1, Following the technique of James L. Quinn, macroaggregates of human albumin (nonradioactive) were prepared without any aseptic controls. The colloid was checked by microscopic examination for size range by comparison with red blood cells. size range found varied between 20 and 150 micra,

2. Step 1 above plus aseptic precautions and bacteriologic control of samples prepared. These were checked for bacterial sterility in sabouraud dextrose agar, trypticase say agar

and Thyoglycollate culture media, Preparations remained sterile for 15 days; thereafter positivity appeared in the Thyoglycollate medium.

3, T-131 macroaggregates were then prepared following steps 2 and above using commercially available radioalbumin. This was successfully accomplished and tried in a dog in which an adequate image of the lung was obtained. Via subsequent re-scanning the material was seen to leave the lungs in 2 1/2 hours

Radiochromatography of thyroid hormones: Blood obtained from hyperthyroid patients treated with I-131 was treated chromatographically according to the technique of Raurog: Detection of labeled thyroid hormones, and 13 was successfully accomplished by autoradiography of the chromatographic paper strips.

+ Measurements of Effective Renal Plasma Flow and Glomerular Filtration Rate by Isotope Techniques

This report is based on work submitted by Dr. Hugo Ramirez Madrid. He studied 42 subjects employing clearance methods of renal function described by their authors: the effective renal plasma flow (ERF) according to R.D. Wagoner et al and the glomerular filtration rate (GFR) according to C.D. Farner et al,

A brief description of the ERPF, also applicable to the GFR, follows: after intravenous administration of the labeled substances orthoiodohippurate I-131 for ERPF or Diatrizoate I-131 for GFR the plasma clearance of these substances is followed up at 5 minute intervals. Plotting the activity on semi-logarithmic paper gives a biexponential curve: one with rapid decay, gives a line with slope denominated  $\alpha_1$  and intercept on O denominated  $\int_0^{\infty}$  the second exponential curve gives a line with slope  $\alpha_2$  and intercept at O denominated A,  $T_{1/2}$  of A

---Page Break---

43,

and B is determined for each function by the expression:

$$t_{1/2} = 0,693$$

and the clearance for the labeled substance is obtained from the application of Sapiirstein double exponential forma; thus

Clearance = I al

TYEE ETE

injected activity

slopes lines B+ A

intercept of B line at 0

intercept of A line at 0

$t_{1/2}$  halftime of lines A and B, respectively

PweH

uno

Clearance of diatrizoate I-131 represents glomerular filtration rate (GFR) and should be compared with that of imilin, the

standard test of GFR; while clearance of hippurate  $^{1-131}$  represents effective renal plasma flow (ERPF: clearance of para-aminohippuric acid, PAH). The following observations will be presented under 3 items: a) technical difficulties, b) results, c) conclusions.

1. There were 3 major technical difficulties:

a, Vein clotting precluded the obtaining of samples occasionally at the pre-scheduled time, Difficulty best handled by appropriate use of heparin as an anticoagulant,

b. Criticality of injected dose. Loss of a tiny amount of volume of injection adversely affected the estimated activity injected (I) by giving it a higher value; giving thus a higher value for clearance.

c. No correlation of counted activity 8-10 minutes after injection and injected dose. According to authors, activity to be expected at 8-10 minutes was to be much greater than that was observed. A lower cpm of samples lowers values for A and B and hence increases the values for clearance.

2, Results: Healthy subjects. A group of 10 healthy subjects composed of 7 males and 3 females with average age of 35

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My

(range 15-58) were studied, ?The GFR determined averaged 132,  $\phi$  5.8 ml/min., which is somewhat higher to the standard inulin test, 2 #15 ml/min,

The ERPF was determined in 7 healthy subjects. ?he results

averaged 641.1  $\pm$  29.3 ml/min. ?This result compares favorably

with the standard test of PAH clearance for ERPF which is 612  $\pm$  2

68 ml/min,

Patients: Eleven patients with renal disease and hypertension were examined, Results of the GFR correlated with the clinical picture yielded values of impaired function and in two instances in which renal function did not seem to be impaired (normal blood chemistry), the GFR detected a minor degree of impaired function.

?The ERPF was investigated in 14 patients with renal disease and hypertension. Again the results of impaired renal function correlated well with the clinical picture, ?This test seems to reflect better the state of normal renal function than the GR.

3. Conclusion: The methods employed for determination of ERPF and GFR appear to be reliable means to determine renal function in healthy individuals and patients with renal diseases. Its application to the study of patients with renal disease complicated with hemodynamic and extracellular fluid space changes may prove equally helpful, provided the physical assumptions upon which the test is based would hold under these conditions.

The participants in the courses offered during 1967 are listed in Table 2. A numerical tabulation of the professional backgrounds and countries of origin of the participants in the training program is presented in Table 3. A large portion of the laboratory activity is made available to student participation. A

tabulation of the number of completed procedures by each trainee is given in Table 4,

Me ongoing diagnostic radioisotopes services 4

sufficient variety of clinical material for the training program,

Table 5 presents a numerical analysis of the diagnostic and

therapeutic services rendered during 1967. The clinical work

program generates new ideas which are incorporated in the work

mm, aiding stimuli and a fresh outlook to the teaching efforts

ing are shown in Table 6,

---Page Break---

## COMPLETED

% total of 120 patients with hyperthyroidism

have been treated over the past 7 years at PRI. Ana-

lysis of dose and therapeutic effects observed indicate that

response rate to full therapeutic dose was of the order of 90%

of the treated patients. This includes response to one or more

doses (as necessary) of the I-131; the average dose needed to

achieve this result was of the order of 6.0 mCi (6.6mCi), not

very far from responders to a single dose which averaged 4.5 mCi

ation dose in rad estimation at tissue level was

5500 rad. While the dose level employed in this

5 is generally lower than in other places, the

post treatment sequelae of hypothyroidism is within the limits

observed everywhere (10-30%). The incidence of hypothyroidism

observed in this group was 19.4%.

Study of the field of vision

---Page Break---

+ Use of Technetium-131 Rose Bengal excretion test in the differential diagnosis of obstructive jaundice in infants. Biliary obstruction in infants in the first few months of life is a perplexing problem because conventional liver function tests are unable to differentiate intrahepatic jaundice (usually hepatitis) from extrahepatic jaundice (usually biliary atresia). The first is a medical condition in which delay in diagnosis is not of paramount importance; in the second type, the best chances of adequate treatment and cure are insured only by a correct and early diagnosis,

Rose Bengal I-131 is a dye taken up by liver cells and excreted via the biliary system into the intestine. Patients with blocked biliary tree and undamaged liver tissue may show good uptake but poor release of the dye into the intestine, whereas those with injury of hepatic cells may fail to show a good liver uptake, and yet be able to excrete whatever is taken up in a short time, because the biliary tree does not suffer a complete



or permanent degree of blockade.

This work was performed in 10 infants from the University Hospital who were suffering from neonatal jaundice. There were 8 male babies and 2 females, with age range of 3 weeks to 3 1/2 months, and body weights varying from 3 1/2 to 11 pounds. Jaundice lasted 1 week to 3 months. Liver function tests showed marked alteration of hepatocellular function. Final diagnosis was: 8 patients had hepatitis and 2 biliary atresia. Six of the 8 patients with hepatitis were unequivocally identified by entrance of tracer material into the intestine. Four patients who failed to show entrance of tracer into the intestine turned out to be: 2 with hepatitis and 2 with biliary atresia.

The diagnostic significance of the I-131 Rose Bengal excretion test is that it could correctly detect the patients with biliary atresia, and was able to clearly identify 3/4 of patients not having this condition, It reduces the differentiation to 1/4 of the population of infants with hepatitis in which this test cannot differentiate one way or another.

Perfil Funcional Hepático durante la Experimentación con la cctanlda (Liver Profile during the Biperinental: hinint etre etamide to Dogs). The administration of thicace-tamide to dogs induces hepatic toxicity of such degree that it may result in two types of liver cirrhosis, depending on dosage

and exposure, Acute hepatic necrosis with profound alteration

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a7

of liver biochemistry and inability of the liver to image on

scan record after administration of I-131 Rose Bengal occurs within a period of 3-4 weeks. Animals surviving 3 to 6 months develop a hypertrophic cirrhosis with fine granularity, while those surviving longer (over 6 months) develop atrophic Laennec like nodular cirrhosis, All these changes are accompanied by biochemical alterations, characterized chiefly by low levels of albuminemia, and high levels of Globulinemia. Poor uptake of I-131 Rose Bengal indicates persistent hepatic injury but recovery of at least part of the reticuloendothelial system is apparent by improved liver uptake of colloidal gold-198, which in the initial phase of acute hepatic necrosis had been somewhat affected.

Plasma B-12 Co 57 Levels at 6 and 12 hours as indices of B12 absorption B12 Uptake of ETS as indices of B12 were examined in 20 patients and 6 nonpatients (controls), Since the values of 8 and 12 hours did not differ markedly, only values of 8 hours were considered, Fifteen patients with malabsorption

syndrome (sprue or pernicious anemia) showed a level of 0.37% dose per liter of plasma with a range of 0.07 to 0.41% per liter. Five patients with no absorption difficulties gave a value of 1.21% dose per liter of plasma with range 0.19 to 3.734/L. A control group of persons gave a similar value with 1.234/L and range 0.52 to 2.164/L.

The variability of the instrument, the low level of counting, and the marked degree of overlapping because of the group of individuals analyzed (patients with absorption defects, patients with no absorption defects, and nonpatients) made us consider that the test was of no clinical benefit for the diagnosis of intestinal malabsorption of vitamin B-12.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

+ The use of radioiodine studies to assess response of hyperthyroid patients to antithyroid medication, Radioiodine is used to predict pharmacologic response of the thyroid gland of hyperthyroid patients to antithyroid treatment with drugs currently used in clinical management: Tapazole and Propylthiouracil. These drugs inhibit binding of free iodide trapped by the thyroid gland and thus inhibit synthesis of thyroid hormones. There are two basic ways in which this pharmacologic effect may come under observation with the use of radioiodine studies:

1, Thyroid uptake at an early time, say 3 hours vs, 24 hours,

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2. ?Thyroid uptake at 3 hours followed by observation of release of trapped free iodide upon the administration of a thiocyanate salt.

In both instances one wishes to measure how much iodide got trapped and then released, without actually having entered the usual metabolic cycle of hormone formation. In the first instance, iodide levels obtained at 3 hours may or may not be present at 24 hours; in the second instance iodide trapped at 3 hours may or not be released by the gland. We measure the amount released by the amount retained in the gland, which is compared to a baseline or pre-medication value.

When the gland is pre-medicated with tapazole or propylthiouracil, a certain degree of blockade of thyroid hormone occurs in all instances. In the patients studied, a retention of more than 25% of the baseline value at 24 hours indicates a substantial

amount of iodide going through the blockade to thyroid hormone formation. ?Thus, we arbitrarily set a 25% residual thyroid uptake at 24 hours or 11/2 hours after administration of thiocyanate salt as indicative of a nonresponse level.

Four groups of patients have been studied:

18 patients with Tapazole

18 patients with Propylthiouracil

70 patients with Tapazole, iodide

discharge with KCNS

11 patients with Propylthiouracil,

iodide discharge with KCNS

Of 18 patients with tapazole, 14 responded and 4 did not in the group of propylthiouracil, 2 responded well and 16 did not.

Again this sharp difference between responses to tapazole and propylthiouracil is observed in the following two groups:

1) In 70 patients with tapazole and iodide discharged from the thyroid gland measured after the administration of KCNS, 56

responded well and 1h did not.

2) ?The same procedure in 11 patients treated with propyl-thiouracil showed 2 good responders, and 9 poor responders.

Since antithyroid drug therapy is a long t 5  
the patient and a treatment with a clgnifiesnt anceeon tiesrcr

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4g

which drug allergies, insensitivity, and bone marr

» Anskensitivity, and bone marror texte!

the more troublesome, it is important to know in advance er to"  
predict the probable response of the patient since it may take @  
year before that judgment can be made by clinical means.

. id I~: uptake in Puerto Rican Children, 24-Hour Thy-  
yo i ae Re a, Os Be

low Through Project of the Head Start Program to which we are  
offering collaboration, The group consisted of 60 boys and 55  
girls with ages ranging from 6 to 10 years,

?The mean thyroid uptake was  $17.4 \pm 4.3\%$  with range 7.3 to  
32.84. At the 95% confidence level. 4 subjects were excluded:  
one below with value of 7.3%, and three above with values 2.2,

30.9 and 32.6%. It appears in this group that while average thyroid uptake is close to that of adult values obtained at this Division, the upper range of normal, and even the highest value obtained in all the group, is much lower than in adults, which usually varies from 8 to 15% and in some instances may extend well above 15% in clinically euthyroid individuals.

Thyroid uptake was also determined in a heterogeneous group of 22; six were said to be "normal" and the remaining 16 were suffering from nonthyroid diseases. Some of these patients were on medication, which at the time of examination was presumed to exert no influence on thyroid function. The group consisted of 14 females and 8 males with age range from 2 weeks to 11 years.

The mean uptake was 18.3 and the range was 3.4 to 35.2%. Six patients showed low uptakes (3.4 and 6.2%).

This group is small and shows wide scattering of values. While no conclusions can be drawn, the scattering suggests some effect of dissimilarity of the composition of the group as compared to the one above, and perhaps some influence of the non-thyroid disease process or its treatment on thyroid function.

**Effect of Radiation of the Neck Region and Its Effect on a**  
Function. Twenty-seven patients with head and neck cancer were irradiated to the neck; the thyroid region underwent irradiation

concurrent with the treatment. Radioiodine studies consisting of 2h hour uptake, Protein Bound Conversion Ratios of I-131, Protein Bound Plasma levels of I-131 and scintiscanning of the thyroid gland were performed immediately before, during and immediately after the conclusion of the radiotherapy. Observations

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50

Of the functional tests performed demonstrated « marked 4

stra kod det

of thyroid uptake during the radiotherapy period, Mitrasettg to recovery one month after completion of radiation. (see Table

T and Graph 1).

in spite of heavy radiation to the thyroid tissue estimated in the neighborhood of 7000 r in 7 weeks, and the apparent absence of thyroid uptake of I-131, the scintiscanning studies failed to reveal any areas of sharp localization of iodine 1-131 distribution, It may be that radiation affects the tissue in a general and diffuse manner, so that a depression of function was not detectable by mapping because there might not have been any areas of isolated major tissue injury.



Tle I

Radiodine Studies of Thyroid Gland and Radiation

??

Radiotherapy (RT)

RAI Test py (RT)

Before ?After One Nonth After

??\_??\_\_\_\_\_Efore After the Month After

9.6% 3.8%

2k Hour I-131 Uptake 18.5%

Protein Bound Conversion 9.4% 6.2% 6.36

Ratio I-131

Protein Bound Plasma 0,048

caeeigread 0.042% 0.040% St

Hyperthyr ith I-131. A total of 120 pa-

?Treatment of Hyperthyroidism wit "

idism treated with 1-131 were evaluated in

follow-up post therapy., three new cases of post treatment hypo-

follow-up post therapy. res

A group of 53 patients within o

thyroidian were detected in a group of patients observed

year of previous evaluation. Average thyroid uptake observed |

was 100%. Contrary to expectations from reported experience

the "incidence of post treatment hypothyroidism in this

series does not follow a regular pattern, nor is there a tendency

to increase during the period of observation (7 years).

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+ Tung Scanning in Pulmonary Embolism. This project is carried

out in collaboration with the Pulmonary Laboratory of the UFR

School of Medicine under the direction of Dr. Adelaida Elfes. It

is proposed to correlate data of clinical value with other labo-

ratory diagnostic procedures including pulmonary function tests, enzyme studies, electrocardiograms, angiograms and pulmonary scanning.

The diagnosis of pulmonary embolism and its differentiation from other acute or chronic pulmonary or cardiovascular problems is of utmost importance, particularly when massive emboli obstruct major pulmonary arteries, in which case prompt surgical intervention to relieve the obstruction is a life saving procedure. Equally important is the detection of other degrees of embolization since adequate management of the patient depends on this.

During the present year, 55 lung scans have been performed on 66 patients, the majority of which were referred to this Division to rule out the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism. A group of 10 patients in which the final diagnosis of pulmonary embolism was unequivocally established by clinical laboratory tests (which included WBC, EKG, enzyme studies, and chest x-rays), angiography, and post mortem examination had abnormal lung perfusion patterns; (poor circulation) by scanning. The lung scan was also abnormal in 10 disease categories involving the lungs, besides embolic phenomena. These included a heterogeneous group of diseases such as lung tumors (primary or metastatic), acute exacerbation in chronic Bronchitis; chronic Bronchial Asthma, Pneumonia, Pleural Effusion, cardiac disease, Bronchiectasis, etc. In another group of patients with strong suspicion of pulmonary embolism there was a

marked discrepancy in the findings detected by pulmonary scan and by angiography of the pulmonary arteries, The angiogram was positive in only one instance, while the scan was definitely abnormal in all of them.

Lung scanning is very useful in the detection of pulmonary emboli of all kinds: large, medium, or small. It is also sensitive to other pathologic or vascular abnormalities of the lung parenchyma. Its capability to detect emboli when no other diag-

nostic procedures can is probably its greatest merit. Further experience with the method and its correlation with other dias-

nostic procedures and clinical information is being sought to ?increase the chances of accurate diagnosis and appropriate management.

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SDF

Dr. J.O. Morales, Specialist in Internal Medicine, was appointed jointly between the Nuclear Center and the school of Medicine for one year to work part time at the Department of

Medicine and Radioisotope Laboratory of the University Hospital.

Miss Myrna Rivera resigned her position as Research Technician to accept a position as a chemist at the laboratory of Toxicology of the Medical Center.

Mies Norma Gindara resigned her position as Research Technician to accept a position as chemist at the Public Health Laboratory of the Department of Health.

During the past year  
and Argentina to attend  
present two works (listed

At these meetings  
people interested in o  
contacts at teaching  
interest in prospective

Measurement of a flu

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Mrs. M. M. Palacios de Lozano, Res  
and Mr. Michael Gileadi, Research

on the Li F dosimetry project,

of the use of lithium fluoride mic  
solution of radiotherapeutic probl

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## RADIOTHERAPY AND CANCER

?The Radiotherapy and Cancer Division program is designed to provide education, research and service in the application of radiation therapy to the treatment of cancer.

The Division functions as the Radiotherapy Department of the Dr. I, Gonzdlez Martinez Oncologic Hospital, which is adjacent to the PRNC Bio-Medical Building in the Rierto Rico Medical Center. The Hospital provides some of the paranedical personnel, beds, operating rooms, clinical laboratories, outpatient faciities, equipment, space, and other medical services essential for the care of cancer patients.

Me Oncologic Hospital renders service to over two-thirds of the indigent cancer patients in Puerto Rico. Tt has also provided all the radiotherapy services offered to patients in the Puerto Rico Medical Center since May 1966.

At the academic level, the Division operates as the Radiation Therapy Section of the UPR School of Medicine. It also works in close collaboration with the Cancer Control Program of the Puerto Rico Department of Health,

Rico Department of Health,

Partial support for the Division program is received through a National Cancer Institute Training Grant to the UPR School of Medicine.

## EDUCATION

### Description of Courses

A brief description of the principal formal educational activities follows.

Radiotherapy Residency Program. This program is designed to prepare qualified radiation therapists and meets the requirements of the American Board of Radiology. The trainees are physicians with a year of internship or equivalent clinical experience. The training period is three years, but trainees are required to take an additional fourth year of supervised practice (preceptorship) before admission to the specialty examinations. Diagnosis of can-

cer, determination of the extent and radiosensitivity of tumors, selection of appropriate treatment, and the planning and conducting of radiological therapy are included in the curriculum. Background in clinical oncology is imparted to residents through su-

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Pervised work with new, follow-up, and hospitalized cancer patients, Radiation therapy experience is acquired by working with roentgentherapy machines of various voltages, cobalt and cesium teletherapy units, and the internal application of radioactive material such as radium, strontium, cobalt, iridium, and cesium in solid (needles, tubes, wire) sources.

Special Short-Term Radiotherapy Course. ?This course is pre-

pared according to the needs of the individual requesting the training; the person must have had previous radiotherapy experience, Participants may engage in research and may participate in all training activities of the Division; however, they are not extended the privilege of patient responsibility. A minimum of one month of training is required.

In-Service Cancer Course for Medical Students, ?This course is designed for future physicians with clinical problems and current research in cancer and radiation therapy. the minimum length for this course is one month.



In-Service Training for Radiological Physics Personnel.

?This course is offered periodically as requested.

In-Service Training for Radiotherapy Technicians. ?This

course is offered as requested.

Radiotherapy of Cancer Lecture Course. ?his course for third year medical students is offered yearly as part of the UPR school of Medicine curriculum. ?Wwelve lecture hours are offered, high-Lighting: epidemiology of cancer, radiological physics, radiobiology, clinical radiotherapy, and radioisotopes in therapy.

#### Educational Activities

?The educational activities offered to physicians included lectures, seminars, demonstrations, and patient care under supervision with rotation through the various sections of the Division: FRNC treatment area, Oncologic Hospital treatment area, Curie~therapy and Hospital inpatient area, follow-up, and radicological physics. the Residents rotated through the Pathology Department of the Oncologic Hospital and also took the PRNC Radioisotore ?Training courses. (?Table 1 presents a swmary of the regular ac~tivities of the Radiotherapy Division; Tuble 2 provides informa-

tion on the trainees in the Division courses; ?Table 3 presents

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Wednesday

?Thurstay

Friday

37

?TABLE 2.

## REGUIAR ACTIVITIES OF THE RADIOTHERAPY DIVISTON

8:00 = Curietherapy patients evaluation and plan-  
ning clinic

8:00 ~ Head and neck cases followup clinic

12:00 = Oncedegic Hospital new patients conference

2:00 = Examination of new patients end  
consultation

7:30 = Journal Club

8:00 = Application of radioactive material

Pelvic cases fellow-up clinic

12:00 = Oncedogie Hospital new patients conference

1:00 = University Hospital tunor conference

1:30 = Municipal Hospital tuncr conference

1:00 = Examination of nev patients and

consultation

8:00 - 10:00 asm, Radictherazy Grand Rounis

10:00 = 12:00 asm. Radiotherapy Staff and consultation

conference

12:00 = 1:00 pem. Onccllogic Hospital new patients

conference

1:00 = 5:00 pom. Examination of new patients and

consultation

5:00 pam. Curietherapy cases evaluation

8:00 = 10:00 asm. Esophagus cases follov-up clinic

11:30 = 12:00 asm. Oncologic Hospital morbidity conference

2:00 - 1:00 pm. Oncologic Hospital new patients

conference

1:00 = 5:00 pem. Examination of new patients and

consultation

8:00 - 12:00 asm. General follow-up clinic

12:00 - 1:30 pem. PRNC Seminar

2:30 - 3:30 pam. Radiotherapy Weekly Conference

?eletherapy applications are scheduled for the PRNC and

Oncologic treatment areas from 8:00 to 12:00 asm. and

1:00 to 5:00 Dette

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BADIOMERAPY AND CANCER DIVISION TRAINEES, 1:

BADIONERAPY RESIDENCY PROGRAY

1. Silvio Aristizdbal, M.D. - Colombia - August 2, 1965 to present,

Tow in his third year of residency in the Radiotherapy Diviston,

Félix Rodriguez Cabrera, M.D. - Venezuela - Jamary 1, 1967 to

February 10, 1967, Had to interrupt his training because of

health reasons.

2

## SPECIAL SHORT TERM RADIOTHERAPY TRAINING

1. Dr. Herman Nussbaum - U.S.A, Experienced radiologist receiving  
?a year of advanced training at the San Francisco Tumor Insti-  
tute; spent the month of March 1967 training at the Radiotherapy  
Division, His training was supported by the U.S, Public Health  
Service.

Dre Jacobo Ramos - New York - Novenber 1967. Dr. H. Treitel =  
New York = December 1967. One month training for residents in  
Radiology at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Bronx, New  
York, by special arrangenent with Dr. B, Roswit, Chief of Radia-  
tion Therapy Service at that Institution,

## CANCER COURSE FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

2

One month training for third and fourth year medical students  
at the U.P.R, School of Medicine under the auspices of the Cancer  
Control Division of the P.R. Department of Health and the National  
Cancer Institute Radiation ?therapy Training Grant.

1987 eA. - ith Year 1967

Jamary José A. Lozeta October Carlos M Rivas

Frank Kolodziej £

a pk Decenber Carlos M, Ramirez

Jorge A, Blanco

May Robert M, Friedman

June Juan A, Torres

Iuz M. Lopez x

July ?Nitza A. Vanga 2281

Iuis A, Vazquez gune

August =? Manuel Nater Antonio R, Villanil

Iuis A, Oliver duly Juan Me Rosa

José V, Figueroa

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mame 3

?CLINICAL RADIATION THERAPY ACTIVITIES

## A, Distribution of New Cases Treated in the Radiotherapy and

?cancer Division

### BY SITE

ORAL CAVITY 6

?Anterior 2/3 tongue 19

Floor of mouth ES

Other aL

?OROPHARYNX. 105

Base of tongue

Other

as

HYPOPHARYNX ue

TRACHEA II 9

[RESPIRATORY SYSTEM 6

?Paranasal sinuses

BBE

DIGESTIVE SYSTEM 95

Esophagus

Other

re

BREAST 103

Bs Telgtherapy Applications

(e060, X-ray, and Cesium

Cy curgetherary

(co, Radium, Iridium)

Dz Follow-up

By Consultations

FINALE GENTTAL ORGANS 9

Cervix Uteri ar

Endonetrius Ea

Ovary uy

Other uy

MALE GENTIAL ORGANS 10

?URINARY ORGS Ey

Bladder a9



Kidney 6

sc 6

[BRAT AND TERVOUS SYSTOM ae

BONE AND CONNECTIVE TISSUE 5

?LMGHATIC AND HENATOPOTETIC syed 3

Hodgkins disease 2

Other 32

ona ag

rom. om

6,169

259

5,393

315

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TABLE 4

AINEES NOW

University of Miami

National Cancer Institute, Mexico city

National University, Caracas

- Juan Reusche Radiology Institute Cayetano

Heredia, Lima

Alva Roffo Cancer Institute, Buenos Aires

. Ernesto Amadey Universidad Nac: del Nordeste,

Dr. Lucas Di Rienzo

. Arturo Valencia

lapoleén Matos

Dr.

Miss C. Ramirez examin=

ing mould work used in  
radiotherapy.

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information on the distribution of cases treated in the Radio-  
therapy and Cancer Division; and Table 4 provides information on  
former trainees.)

The training program was enhanced during 1957 by the partici-  
pation of the following consultants and present specialists from  
other institutions: Dr. Alfred Gellhorn, Chief, Institute of Ca-  
ncer Research, Columbia University and Head, Department of Medicine,  
Francis Delafield Hospital, New York City; Dr. Jerome Yaeth, Direc-  
tor and Chief of Radiotherapy, San Francisco Thoracic Institute,  
San Francisco; Dr. Carl Hansen, Director, Radiation Research Pro-  
gram, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda; Dr. Bernard Rosit,  
Chief, Radiation Therapy Service, Veterans Administration Hospital,  
Brooklyn, New York City; Dr. Herman Siit, Associate Radiotherapist,  
Radiotherapy Department, M.D. Anderson Hospital and Thoracic Insti-  
tute, Houston; Dr. William Caldwell, Associate Professor of Ra-  
diology and Chief, Radiotherapy Division, School of Medicine,  
Vanderbilt University, Nashville; and Dr. A.W. Elias, Principal  
Research Officer, Patterson Laboratories, Christie Hospital and  
Folt Radium Institute, Manchester, England.

The Division staff also participated in the teaching of other FRNC training courses, the weekly Tumor Conference of the UPR School of Medicine, the weekly Tumor Conference of the San Juan City Hospital, and the daily New Patients Conference of the Oncologic Hospital. Dr. Antonio Bosch continued supervising the Radiotherapy Technicians Course for the Oncologic Hospital and other members of the Division staff participated in the teaching program until the course terminated in May.

#### RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

The following research projects were active at the end of the year:

Dose-time relationships in the external irradiation of carcinoma of the uterine cervix: comparison of 4,500 R vs. 5,000 R.

Fractionation in radiation therapy of carcinoma of the uterine cervix: 3 vs. 5 fractions per weeks

Fractionation in radiation therapy of inoperable breast cancer: 4 vs. 5 fractions per week.

---Page Break---

In the photos, clockwise:

Or. Ghelman loading radio-  
active sources for curie=  
therapy; Mrs. Lozano engaged  
in dosimetry work with the

Telecesium unit; Dr. Arenas  
and technician plan radiation  
therapy of oral cancer in a  
patient.

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Fractionation in radiation therapy of head and neck eancer:

3 vs. 5 fractions per week. oe cancers

Split-course technique in radiation therapy of cancer.

Study of results of trestuent techniques in adenoe  
of the endometrium, " Sreinone

Surgical adjuvant breast project (participating in a Nation-  
al study),

Carcinoma of the cervix in sterilized women,

Study of prophylactic irradiation of adjoining anatomic  
Batic regions in Hodgkin's Disease (participation in a National  
project).

Radiotherapy for carcinoma of the prostate - Stage C (partici-  
pation in a National study).

Study of the incidence of leukemia in patients with cervical  
cancer treated with radiation (participation in a National study).

#### RESEARCH COMPLETED

Study of the optimal tumor dose in radiation therapy of can-  
cor of Ectoparasitosis: 5000 R in 4 weeks vs, 6000 R in 6 weeks.  
This project was ended when a total of 200 cases were accumulated.  
The data will be published when a minimal two-year follow-up is  
achieved for all cases. It appears that the results to date con-  
firm the preliminary impressions reported in the PRNC 1966 Annual  
Report, page 61,

The significance of persistent tumor cells in the vaginal  
swear after radiation therapy of carcinoma of the uterine cervix:  
stic significance. This project was ended and its results  
presented at the annual meeting of the American Radiation Society in

Toronto in May 1967. The paper has been accepted for publication in the American Journal of Roentgenology, Radium Therapy and Nuclear Medicine.

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ou

Preliminary of the study: Fractionation in radiotherapy.

therapy of carcinoma of the uterine cervix: Two groups

Of prospective study of 3 vs. 5 fractions per week, to be compared?

cases were analyzed. The preliminary results of this study suggest

a more favorable situation regarding completeness of response,

local control and survival, when the stated weekly dose is delivered to

three fractions versus the conventional fractionation; this is especially

notable in the advanced cases.

Study of modified "split-course" technique in the treatment

of cancer of the esophagus (see PRNC 1966 Annual Report Page 66),

A total of 100 cases were included in the study. It was found that

this technique is well tolerated by patients. Due to time limitations

caused by continual use of the therapy machines, the project

was discontinued, to be resumed at a later date,

A pilot study of a "split-course" technique in the treatment

of advanced cancer of the urinary bladder and of the uterine cervix.



Vix, Details of this study appear on page 66 of the FRNC 1966 Tin  
nual Report. It has been found that two courses of 2500 R adminis  
tered in 10 daily fractions of 250 R each in a two week period,  
separated by a rest period of 2-3 weeks prior to curietherapy, is  
well tolerated by patients with advanced cancer of the uterine  
cervix. Advanced bladder cancer cases tolerated well two and  
at times, three courses of irradiation with daily fractions of  
250 R for 10 fractions, separated by rest periods of two to three  
weeks.

The influence of the intracavitary curietherapy applicator in  
the prognosis of cases with carcinoma of the uterine cervix. This  
project was reported in the PRNC 1 ?Annual Report on page 66.  
The study has been completed and is being prepared for publica-  
tion,

Evaluation of treatment results in carcinoma of the bladder.

From 1950 to 1965, a total of 179 cases with bladder cancer were  
seen at the Oncologic Hospital. Surgery was the preferred treat-  
ment, with radiation therapy used for inoperable cases or post-  
surgical recurrence. The overall five-year survival achieved was  
28%. A complete course of radiation therapy for surgical recur-  
rence or persistence produced a five-year survival  $\phi$  30%.

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65

total of 51 cases were submitted to radiation thera,

ip because of

inoperability or post-surgical persistence; the five-year surviv-

2 AgMeved in the group with non-pituitary lesions (49 cases)vas

## STAFF

Dr. Guillermo Gémez Cárdenas, Radictherapist at the Instituto Nacional de Cancerologia in Bogota, Colombia, joined the Division staff on May 15, 1967, to serve as a Visiting Radiotherapist.

While Dr. Gémez is carrying out educational and clinical research activities, he is receiving advanced training in radiation thera-

PY

At the end of 1967 the Division staff included 4 radiothera~pists, 1 visiting radiotherapist, 1 physicist, 1 assistant physi-cist, and 1 biostatistician. Additional paramedical services were provided by 1 research medical records librarian, 3 graduate nurses, 3 office employees, and a photographer-electronic techni-cian. ?the Division staff is still not large enough to handle the present needs, especially at the radiotherapist level. ?he pre-sent load should be handled by 6 radiotherapists.

## SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

During 1967 various staff members presented scientific papers at professional meetings and these are listed in the Appendix. In addition, Dr. Victor A. Marcial attended the First Gray Memorial Conference at the Mount Vernon Hospital in London, England on September 20-22, 1967. Dr. Jeannie Ubifias and Mrs, Marfa Palacios de Lozano attended a meeting on Computer Dosimetry sponsored by Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri on November 11-12, 1967. Dr. José M. Tomé attended the Annual Meeting of the Radiological Society of North America in Chicago during the period of November 25 - December 1, 1967.

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Or. Ferrer Monge studies the cytogenetic effect of ionizing radiation, using irradiated root tips of *Vicia faba*. Below: Drs. Koo and Kamath at the control console of the x-ray spectrometer used to produce monoenergetic x-rays,

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## AGRICULTURAL BIO-SCIENCES

The purpose of the Agricultural Bio- Sciences Division remains a two-fold one: first, the training of students in agricultural research in its broadest sense, emphasizing nuclear techniques; and second, the continuation of basic research programs which are concerned with problems in tropical agriculture that can uniquely be studied by nuclear techniques.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In 1967, the Division continued to further the application of nuclear technology in the agricultural and biological sciences.

This was done in part by training students in agricultural and biological research, with emphasis upon nuclear techniques. Training was frequently related with the Division's basic research activities, which are outlined in a later section.

During 1967, the emphasis upon training continued to be directed toward the graduate and post-graduate level, since graduate programs in science at both the Río Piedras and Mayaguez campuses of the University of Puerto Rico are now well established.

As honorary members of the various science departments of the University, Division staff offered the following courses during the year:

Instrumental Techniques in Biological Research - Dr. S.H.

Kanath, This course was offered through the UPR School of Medicine and was attended by six graduate students, two of whom were faculty members. It was the first time a course in instrumental analysis with biological orientation was offered at the University.

Radiobiology - Dr. ReA, Iuse, Dr, JeA. Ferrer-Monge, Mr. J.

Cuevas. Five graduate students at the University in Mayaguez attended this new course, which made extensive use of the PRNC gamma facility for laboratory experiments--an uncommon feature in

such courses.

ties - Dr. J. Ferrer-Monge. This course serves as core for one of the three areas of specialization chosen for emphasis in the graduate program by the Biology Department in Mayaguez.

Biology: Research and Thesis. - Dr. F.K.S, Koo. This course was taken by students doing thesis work in biology.

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onomy: Research and Thesis - Dr. luse. Thi, was taken by sbudents doing M.S. theses in agriculture ® CO

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sity's course in radiochemist: 7 ~

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Graduate Research

The number of graduate students engaged in research for master's degrees in biology or agriculture continues at the 1956 level, which was double that previously. Their research topics reflect the broad interests of the Division:

, Effects of ionizing radiation on enzyme kinetics - Adriana Baez (Puerto Rico). This project is designed to determine quantitatively the relative radiosensitivities of the two enzymatic activities of a bifunctional system. The peptidase and esterase activities of carboxypeptidase A were chosen for study. This work was discontinued due to lack of funds.

Effect of temperature on the mitotic cycle of *Vicia faba* - Carmen E. Cintrón (Puerto Rico). The effect of temperature (in the range 0 - 40°C) on the mitotic frequency, synthesis of DNA, and frequency of chromosome aberrations in the broad bean is being studied. Completion is expected late in 1958,

Radiation inactivation of the enzyme polyphenol oxidase - Alicia Garefa de Fournier (Puerto Rico) - Estimation of the molecular weight of this enzyme, which may be a monomer or tetramer, has been made from the radiation sensitive volume and found to agree well with the tetrameric weight. This thesis will be completed by March, 1958,

Effect of ionizing radiation on levels of plant nucleic acids

- Tsu Hui Lin (Taiwan). New chromatographic methods using NAK columns effect separation of several fractions of plant nucleic acids and permit their quantitative analysis following various irradiation treatments, ?This work was discontinued after seven months when student transferred to Texas A&M University.

Fixation of phosphates in tropical soils - José Narvaez (Nicaragua). ?The fixation of Phogghorus by four Puerto Rican soils was determined by addition of  $3^*P$ -labeled phosphate salts to soil columns, their elution with water or acid, and subsequent measurement of eluted ("non-fixed") phosphorus by radioactivity and chemical techniques, ?Thesis was completed in August and student has returned to Nicaragua to conduct soils research.

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Rodiation-indueed delay in ripening of bananas - Joagufn oy  
ver {hstte Hico)e the entent of delay in Tipeniay of Johnson ay



Montecristo variety bananas given low doses of gamma irradiation has been determined. The interaction of radiation delay with subsequent artificial ripening by chemicals also has been studied. This thesis will be completed in the spring of 1968, \*

Host plant preference of *Diatraea saccharalis* (Fab.) - Vitoiano Quintana (Puerto Rico). Seasonal curves of the infestation by the sugar cane borer in 120 species of grasses have been made, using the University's world grass collection. The eight grass species with greatest borer infestation are now under study to determine the oviposition rate, survival rate, and development time of the borer in each host. Thesis should be completed by

October, 1968,

Combined effects of chemicals and gamma rays on the production of chromosomal aberrations in *Tradescantia paludosa* - Edith Robles de Irizarry (Puerto Rico). Three chemicals (Guthrie's, 5-aminouracil, kinetin) and gamma radiation have been used separately and in combination to produce chromosome aberrations in *Tradescantia paludosa* root-tips. When the chemical and radiation were applied in combination, synergistic effect was observed in the production of chromosome breakages and interchanges at different recovery times, the latter result is of special interest because it indicates an interaction between chromosome breakages produced by two agents. Thesis will be completed by May, 1968,

Influence of ionizing radiation on methionine utilization b;  
E. coli - Frederick Rushford (Puerto Rico). Rapidly multiplying  
populations of E. coli exposed to various doses of gamma irradiation  
are being studied as to their ability to incorporate <sup>35</sup>S-labeled  
methionine into cell constituents, this thesis is expected to  
be completed in early 1969.

Degradation by radiation of pectinic acid and related  
polymers - Gregory Telek (Puerto Rico). Ionically-bonded gels  
of citrus pectinic acid were studied after their gamma irradiation  
to determine the extent of depolymerization produced by

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Right: Atomic absorption

Spectrophotometry permits

measurements of trace met-

als in plant material at

the parts per million

level or less Here, Tech-

nician A. Colon runs plant

digests. Below right

Dr. Kamath collects fractions following a chromatographic run to separate components of irradiated biochemicals on the basis of molecular weight. ? Be=  
low: Technician M. Pagan  
Prepares a sample of *Escherichia coli* cells for irradiation with monoenergetic x-rays

in a special micro-chamber

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Genetic effects of chronic gamma irradiation in *Salicourea riparia* - Robert Venator (Puerto Rico)  
Spermatogenesis in *Pisonia* was studied cytologically following a short form chronic gamma-irradiation in the rainforest at E1 Verde. In general, the results show that the meiotic abnormalities in spermatogenesis increased with dose and these aberrations appeared to decay with time. Pollen abortion was found to be re-

Tatively lov, presumably due to the small chromosomes and polyploidy nature of this species. Also uncovered in this species were several inherent cytological anomalies such as cytomixis, binucleate sporocyte formation, and polyspory. This thesis will be completed in the summer of 1968,

### Advanced Training

At a more advanced level of training, the Division provided a nine-month period of training to an TABA Fellow, Sergio Quadri C., Assistant Professor at the University of Concepción, Chile. This was a further example of the individualized training which has been offered by the staff to four other trainees (sponsored by ORINS, IAEA, the Peace Corps, and CAS) since 1965. Mr. Quadri's research consisted of the examination--by optical absorption, photobleaching behavior, electron spin resonance, and thin layer chromatography--of the radiation damage produced in thymidine, ascorbic acid, and vitamin B<sub>12</sub>. Working in cooperation with members of the Physical Sciences Division, Mr. Quadri was able to irradiate these compounds as solids in an organic glass matrix at 77°K to stabilize reactive intermediates. Upon completion of these studies in December, 1967, Mr. Quadri returned to Chile where he has become a member of a group studying radiation preservation of Chilean food products.

"Atoms in Action!" Exhibit

?The Division staff continued to serve as Scientific Advisors

at the USABC "Atomos en Acci3n? Exhibit in latin America. In

1967 their activities were as follows:

site and Subjects covered

Panama City, RA, Use Food Preservation by Radiation

and

Quito, Ecuador D.W. Walker ?Insects Control by Radiation

sterilization

Quito, Ecuador J. Cuevas

Food Preservation by Radiation

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?This contribution of time and effort towards encouraging

scientific research in Latin America has attained positive results; research groups in El Salvador and Guatemala have requested and obtained USAID or local national government support for their research in the past two years. Projects for insect control by radiation sterilization are in active progress in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Ecuador. Numerous theses have been supervised, so that both students and faculty members have been brought into contact with nuclear techniques. It is felt that such cooperation with Latin American scientists will continue to foster application of nuclear techniques in Central and South American agriculture.

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

The Division continued active in basic research, in problems in tropical agriculture that can uniquely be studied by nuclear techniques. Division research in this area may be discussed within three main categories:

- 1, Radiobotany of sugarcane.

the induction of plant mutants having high sucrose content

offers a solution to the declining yields returned by sugarcane, still the most important crop in Puerto Rico's economy. Initial experiments to determine the radiosensitivity of seeds and buds to mixed gamma-neutron radiation produced in the FRNC megawatt reactor were completed in 196. Subsequently, thousands of seeds and vegetative buds have been irradiated, germinated and planted in the field. Second and third generation material, likely to contain a higher frequency of mutants, has been mass screened during the past year using automated analytical techniques. Small tissue samples are taken from each stalk; those individuals showing high sugar content are vegetatively propagated and grown for later evaluation in the Sugarcane Improvement Program of the University Agricultural Station. This year over 5,000 assays were run in the initial screening program, with about 40 superior mutants found and propagated. Visible mutations such as wider, stiffer leaves indicate that other favorable characteristics may be induced.

Another project directed toward improved sugarcane yields was that of the radiation induction of resistance to the mosaic virus disease. Seven strains of sugarcane showing desirable breeding

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tic effects of chronic irradiation on micro-

organisms in Polycoures riparia - Robert Venator (Puerto Rico)s-

*Fallicourea riparia* was studied cytologically following a short term chronic gamma-irradiation in the rainforest at E1 Verde. In general, the results show that the meiotic abnormalities in microsporogenesis increased with dose and these aberrations appeared to decay with time, Pollen abortion was found to be relatively low, presumably due to the small chromosomes and polyploidy nature of this species, Also uncovered in this species were several inherent cytological anomalies such as cytomixis, binucleate sporocyte formation, and polyspory, This thesis will be completed in the summer of 1968,

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characteristics but susceptible to the virus were irradiated with mixed gamma-neutron radiation from the megawatt reactor. Over 2,000 seed pieces were irradiated at 2-3 kilorad doses and grown in the field. At present, some 1500 cuttings from the first generation plants (grown from the irradiated seed) have been grown to the second generation crop and tested for their virus resistance through a sandblast infection technique, Seedlings showing resistance will be incorporated into the University's breeding program.

## 2, Radiation Sterilization of the Sugarcane Borer,

Division activity in this research area is carried out by Dr. D.W, Walker, with primary financial support provided by the USAEC Division of Biology and Medicine, and is reported elsewhere in this Annual Report.

## 3. Radiation Preservation of Tropical Fruits.

Within the Division, considerable effort is now being directed to the underlying processes associated with radiation preservation of tropical fruits such as mango and banana, ?This research supplements the feasibility studies which are supported by the USAEC Division of Isotope Development.

To study the relationship between degradation of structural polysaccharides in the fruit tissue and fruit softening, pectic constituents were extracted from irradiated and non-irradiated mangos, Here fruits of the Mayaguezano and Sandaresha varieties Were irradiated to doses of 500 to 1,500 Krad and their pectic constituents from the alcohol-insoluble residue were fractionated on the basis of solubility and extent of methylation by successive extraction with cold water, 0.5% EDTA solution, and 0,05N hydrochloric acid. Each fraction has been characterized by determination of total uronide content, degree of methylation, and mole-



cular weight (both weight and number average). It was found that there was a nearly linear decrease in number and weight average molecular weights over the dose range studied, Water soluble pectinic acid exhibited considerable change in number average weight at doses above 1000 Krad and may be considered more radiation sensitive than the other pectin fractions. The rather small changes in extent of pectin depolymerization (5-15 percent for 500 Krad doses) result in appreciable loss of firmness in the irradiated mango, Methoxyl content of the fractions decreased to ap-

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proximately two-thirds of control values when fruits were irradiated to 1000-1500 Krads. There was no appreciable change in the total uronide content of the various pectin fractions with increasing radiation dose.

Preliminary studies were carried out on the volatile components so important for flavor in the mango. Macerated fruit was swept with nitrogen and the volatiles trapped at liquid nitrogen temperature. Gas chromatographic analysis indicated a predominance of carbonyl compounds. New chromatography equipment is now being calibrated and a new low temperature extraction system is being built to permit quantitative studies of flavor in both irradiated and non-irradiated fruit.

## Other Research

In addition to the Agricultural Bio- Sciences Division's basic research in agriculture, two projects of fundamental radiobiological importance are incorporated within the Division. These may be summarized as follows:

### 1, Resonance in Radiation Effects.

It has been shown that there exists a resonance in radiation effect in onion root tips containing BUDR, i.e., there occurs a maximum of chromosome damage for a given dose of monochromatic x-rays at a photon energy at or near the K-absorption edge of bromine. These studies have been extended to *Tradescantia paludosa* root tip cells treated with BUDR and monochromatic x-radiation.

Chromosome aberration frequency passed through a maximum at 13.5 Kev as x-ray photon energies were varied from 12.5 to 15.5 Kev, with 68 breaks per 100 cells found at 13.5 Kev (Br K-edge) compared with approximately 23 at 12.5 and 15.5 Kev. No such peak was observed in similarly x-irradiated cells containing no BUDR. These results seem to provide further support for the existence of the resonance in radiation phenomenon,

To test if this resonance effect is also expressed in mutation induction, experiments have been carried out using *Escherichia coli*

and *Corynebacterium equi*, In the present studies the same target atom, bromine, was incorporated into the bacterial DNA by treating the culture at log phase for five hours with 100 ug/ml concentration of BUDR. The samples were exposed for 18-20 hours to monochromatic X-rays of various energies. The irradiated as well as

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controls were plated on agar media for mutation and survival assay. Presented in the following Table are the results for all the series treated with both BUDR and X-rays (these results are not corrected for the slight changes in beam intensities and mass absorption coefficients at various photon energies).

Color Mutation Reversion rate

Color Mutation Reversion rate  
Gy<sup>-1</sup>

Color Mutation Reversion rate  
Gy<sup>-1</sup>

Color Mutation Reversion rate  
Gy<sup>-1</sup>

Color Mutation Reversion rate  
Gy<sup>-1</sup>

Color Mutation Reversion rate  
Gy<sup>-1</sup>

Color Mutation Reversion rate  
Gy<sup>-1</sup>

Apparently in both organisms the mutation rates at the K-edge energy (13.48 Kev) were significantly higher than those below and above the K-edge energy. The reversion rates (from tyrosine-de-

pendent to independent) for *B. coli* obtained with X-ray treatment alone at these same energy levels were very low, ranging from a low as the spontaneous reversion rate up to  $0.007 \times 10^{-6}$ , the average reversion rate for BUdR treatment alone was about  $0.15 \times 10^{-6}$ . For color mutations (from the original orange color to red, yellow, white, etc.) in *C. equi* the mutation rates for X-ray treatment alone were again very low at all energies studied, ranging from the spontaneous rate to  $0.05 \times 10^{-3}$ . The average mutation rate for BUdR treatment alone was about  $0.09 \times 10^{-3}$ . These results once again unequivocally confirm that the resonance phenomenon can be produced in genetic systems by low energy nonchromatic X-rays.

Previous work with metalloenzymes likewise has indicated that there is an energy dependence of damage (inactivation) related to the constituent metal. Catalase shows a ten-fold increase in inactivation at 7.1 Kev, the K-edge of iron, compared with damage a few Kev above or below this energy (constant dose). To determine more precisely the nature of the damage produced by x-irradiation at the iron K-edge, irradiated catalase was studied by some of the latest techniques of protein chemistry (molecular gel sieving, electrophoresis, fluorescent tagging), to determine the structural changes in the enzyme induced by such radiation. No cleavage of the protein portion of the molecule was indicated at totally in-

activating doses. Study of the release of iron from the enzyme's porphyrin structure is now in progress using very highly sensitive methods (fluorescence spectrophotometry, atomic absorption spectrophotometry, electron spin resonance spectrometry).

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2, Radiobiological effects of neutrons in plant systems.

In order to further a world-wide program being established by the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Division has started experiments on the effects of fast and thermal neutrons in plant systems. The first of these, most directly related to the Agency's program, is to utilize barley seeds as a biological dosimeter of neutron irradiators (such as reactors). By measurement of seedling growth following germination of irradiated seeds, a useful index of the neutron flux and relative energy distribution may be deduced without reliance on elaborate physical characterization. A second series of experiments now underway by Dr. Ferrer involves the effect of temperature on frequency and type of chromosome aberration in neutron irradiated plant tissue (seeds, root tips). A third series of experiments initiated to determine biochemically the changes in plant nucleic acid following sub-lethal neutron doses was abrogated due to loss of personnel.

Dr. Luse served in 1957 as President of the Sociedad Americana de Ciencias Agrícolas ("American Society of Agricultural Sciences), and Mr. Cuevas as Secretary-Treasurer. Dr. Koo, in conjunction with members of the University of Puerto Rico faculty, organized a seminar group called the "Geneticscope Club" to promote exchange of new findings and ideas in the field of genetics and its allied disciplines.

Dr. Luse was an invited participant in the FAO/IAEA study Group Conference on "Coordination of Research on the Use of Neutrons in Seed Irradiation" held in Vienna, December 11-18,

The year 1957 saw the Division in new quarters in Nayaguez.

The new Plant Sciences Building adjacent to the Greenhouse provides space for the two walk-in plant growth chambers, as well as two laboratories and a low temperature room. A new cytogenetics laboratory and a new biochemistry laboratory were constructed in space in the Reactor Building made available by moving the shops.

The Division continues to carry out field work in many sites on the island: a new plot south of Mayaguez (Cornelia Hill), the two acre banana plantation near Mayaguez, and sugarcane plantings in Rio Piedras and Gurabo.

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Right: Dr. Ramiro Martinez Silva using lamina flow hood in tissue culture. Below: Mr. Roger Ramos Aliaga with

Dr. Jorge Chiriboga viewing the special auto-

matic spectrophotometer.

Mr. Ramos Aliaga, from  
the School of Pharmacy  
and Bio-Chemistry, Uni-  
versity of San Marcos,  
Lima, Peru, is here  
studying enzymatic kine=  
tics for his doctoral  
thesis.

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## MEDICAL SCIENCE AND RADIOBIOLOGY

?the Medical Sciences and Radiobiology Division offers train-  
ing and research opportunities in fundamental aspects of radia-  
tion biology, biochemistry, parasitology, virology, and medicine.  
Research is directed in large part toward biological problems en-  
countered in tropical areas such as Puerto Rico. Facilities  
include a tissue culture unit, an animal house containing a  
mouse colony and a snail colony, a biochemistry laboratory, and  
other modern equipment and laboratory facilities.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES



?The following courses were offered during 1967:

1, Tissue Culture and Radioisotope Techniques at Cellular and Subcellular levels. This course was offered in November, ?1967 under the direction of Dr. Martinez Silva, in collaboration with the UPR School of Medicine's Department of Microbiology.

Participants were:

WE counmRY TEOTURES LABORATORY

Antonio Rodriguez, M.D. Cotonbia x

Humberto Rendon, "M.D. Ferd x

Berta Morales Lira, M.D. Fert x x

?Antonio Pedraza Ruiz Spain x x

Ivonne Lastra, Ph. De Puerto Rico =X x

Carmen Romaguerra, M.S. Puerto Rico =X x

Iylia Esther Parts Puerto Rico = -X

?Angel H. Torres Rivera Puerto Rico =X

Carmen Me Walsh de Rivera Puerto Rico -X

Aida Mercedes Diaz Puerto Rico =X x

Carmen Minerva Nieves Puerto Rico =X

2. Graduate Course in Virology. Sponsored by the UPR school of Medicine's Department of Microbiology, this course is offered at PRNC under the direction of Dr. Julio I, Colén, Associate Scientist (ad honorem). Participants, all from Puerto Rico, were: Dr. Ricardo Rosa, Wilda Alicia Méndez Neves, Guadberto 1, Borrero Aldahondo, and Muri R. Rodriguez del Valle.

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3. Sueotal Training, the following persons were given training in the topics listed: G

Tair Cleon Medical Radicbiological tech

Boje de Towa Uruguay student niques applied to Parae sitology.

Rosaura Puerto Medical tech- Chromatographic separa-  
Rivera Rico nician, Munici- tion of aminoacids,  
pal Hospital

Wilda B, Puerto Public Health Labeling of snail and  
Knight Rico Service cercariae of Shistosom  
mansoni.

George V. Puerto Veterans Ai- Radiol sotopie techniques  
Hyllier Rico ministration in immunology.

Bauardo Uruguay 7 months labeling of antibodies

?Touya, M.D. for the @iagnosis of

tuners.

Berta Morales Peri «2 months Chromosomal. techniques.

Tira, M. De

Inis Chromatographic techni

Barragin, M.D, Bolivia 1 month ques for separation of

Jabeling compounds.

Chromatographic purifi-

Chile 1. month cation of labeled com

pounds.

4, Ra@icbiology and Isotope Techniques, A special 3-day course at PRNC was offered to the following students as a contribution to a graduate course in Bubryology at UPR, Rio Piedras:

Melania Rodriguez, Dominican Republic; Zaidi Bagar, Pakistan, and Carmelo Camacho, Olga Vazquez, Maria Bobonis, Rafael Goytia, Miguel Bisbal and Ivonne lastra, Th. D., all from Puerto Rico,

5. Orientation on PRNC Program in Tropical Nuclear Bicology and Medicine. A special orientation was given on July 2, 1907 Zo the following postgraduate fellows attending a Tropical Medicine Course at Louisiana State University: Allan James Cooper, M.I

Hugo

Ranirez, M.

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Ingersell, Woe cneasencs MERZ MIMI, Mss Rtn

6. thesis Rese 4 :

thesty reese Research. The folloving students initiated thetr

Source of Spon-

Kane Country Degree serehtp mitre

camen PR. Mastery NIH

Re er, Effect of irradiati

Rivera Microbiology in interferen levels

Marto Master, NII\_?\_Bffect| of irradiation

josa, M.D. Microbiology of the antigenicity of

Eeho viruses

Roger Ronos Peri Mh.D, in PAD. Labeli s

De ing of cocaine

?linge Biochemistry and metabelie studies

orlando Ph.Ds in School Effect of irradiation

Rendén Prysislogy "of on chronosone function

(Preliminary Medicine on human diploid cells

work started)

## COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND TRAINING

Cooperative research and training programs are maintained

with the following institutions and agencies:

A, School of Medicine, UPR

1. Department of Microbiology - Dr. Julio I. Colén,

virologist, has been assigned to work at PRIC as an "ad honoren

member of the staff.

2. Department of Parasitology - ?The interchange of in-

formation and biological material with this department has been

continued.

3. Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition - Dr. By

Toro Goyco, Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Nutrition, has begun a study of the biochemistry of *Schistosoma mansoni* eggs he is receiving help from the Division.

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ee

4, Dr. Jorge Chiriboga, Professor of Biochemistry (ad honorem) at the UPR School of Medicine, has lectured at the Department of Biochemistry.

B, U.S. Public Health Service

Cooperation on Schistosomiasis research with the group

headed by Dr. Frederick Ferguson has continued. *Bionphalaria dabrata* snails are labeled with 89 gr and *Schistosoma cercarise* with se to study the biological characteristics. It is hoped that these studies will eventually contribute to the control of this disease. Mrs. Wilda B, Knight of the USPHS is assigned to PRNC on a part-time basis:

C. Veterans Administration Hospital

A project on the resistance of mice to *Schistosoma man-*

soni introduced into the peritoneal cavity in Millipore diffusion  
Chambers is being conducted by Dr. Menéndez Corrada and Mr. George  
Hyllier of the Veterans Administration Hospital in collaboration  
with PRNC, A note with the results is ready to be sent for publi-  
cation.

Dr. P, Crosby of the VeA, Hospital is conducting research  
on xanthene-cxidase levels in mice infected with normal and ir-  
radiated cercariae provided by PRIC.

D, Schistosomiasis Laboratory

Dr. José Pellegrino, Director of the Universidad Federal  
of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, spent one month at PRNC  
with the Schistosomiasis group.

Dr. Celio Murilo de Carvalho Valle spent three months at  
FRNC working on the rhythm of shedding of the *Schistosoma* cercariae  
by *Blomhalaria glabrata* snails, studying the effects of radiation  
on host-parasite relationships of snails infected with *Schistosoma*  
*mansoni*, and learning radiobiological and isotopic techniques in  
parasitology.

E. Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

Dr. Lawrence S, Ritchie of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, D.C., has been temporarily assigned to

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RNC to collaborate with the Schistosomiasis group as an ad honoren staff member.

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Research is associated with radicbiological training activities offered at animal, cell and subcellular levels. Special emphasis has been given to the study of tumors and the effects of radiation on the host-parasite relationship in various biological systems using tissue culture, arthropods, snails, and other animals. schistosomiasis research is described separately in this Report. An account of current research, organized by sections, follows:

?A. Mammalian Metabolism Section

1 Seandiun-li6 to Test its Utility in



ation Dynamics Research. The study of the biological behavior of  $^{35}\text{S}$  in the vectors of various diseases was continued, When injected into the mouse either intraperitoneally or intravenously,

$^{35}\text{S}$  is permanently retained. When injected in the stomach it is eliminated within the first 24 hours. If  $^{35}\text{S}$  comes in contact with the skin it is not absorbed.

When the isotope was injected intravenously, a blood clearance of 1.6 hours was found. Lizards, frogs, and different

invertebrates such as *Yareia cormarietti* and *Biombelaria glabrata* were successfully labeled with  $^{35}\text{S}$ .

Generally, the liver is the organ that picks up most of the activity when  $^{35}\text{S}$  is injected intravenously. After cell fractionation of the liver, the nuclei and cell debris have the largest activity.

Following intraperitoneal injection, most of the activity was present in the intestine.

Results thus far indicate that  $^{35}\text{S}$  is satisfactory for population dynamics studies.

The feasibility of adding two or more radioactive labels

that could be detected by whole body counting with gamma spectrometry to the predator of the snail, *Biomphalaria glabrata*, was

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ah

explored. This snail is one of the hosts of Schistosomiasis, a parasite which affects man.

## 2, N-demethylation of Cocaine and Nutritional Status -

Ten million natives of South America's Andean regions chew coca leaves, which contain cocaine. This addiction is associated with the low nutritional levels prevalent among the population. In rats it was demonstrated that cocaine reduces to normal levels the high lipid content in the liver of the animals being fed a low protein diet. One of the goals is to label cocaine with  $^{14}\text{C}$  in the methyl group of tertiary amine in order to learn about the mechanism of methyl donation. The enzymatic N-demethylation of cocaine has been studied as a possible important pathway in the metabolism of rats and mice. The  $K_m$  of the enzymatic reaction for cocaine is  $1.09 \times 10^{-6}$  M (See Figure 1).

The enzymatic reaction is catalyzed by a microsomal system of the liver. The enzymatic system uses NADPH and NADPH as cofactors, The system needs a continuous generator to produce a

reduced coenzyme, the animal's nutritional state changes the rate of the reaction. Animals with low protein diet have a 70% reduction compared with the controls.

Chromatographic methods and chemical synthesis of the metabolites has been accomplished.

### 3. Correlation between body burden and *Schistosoma mansoni*

Correlation between body burden and *Schistosoma mansoni* in the liver of mice experimentally infected with *Schistosoma mansoni*. \*

### 4. The study of the effectiveness of Schistosomidal drugs with the aid of $D^{59}Fe$ . \*

## B, Mammalian Radiobiology Section

### 1. Radiation effect (6900) on the host-parasite relation:

ship in mice infected with *Schistosoma mansoni*. \*

### 2. Susceptibility of mice to *Trypanosoma cruzi*.

a. Effect of irradiation. Because of numerous

\* See Schistosoma report elsewhere in this Annual Report.

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direct or indirect physiological effects of radiation on animals (anemia, leucopenia, plasma, electrolyte and protein disturbance, ulceration of the gastrointestinal tract, etc.), it is expected that the host-parasite relationship in mice infected with *Trypanosoma cruzi* will be affected by radiation. In one experiment a group of newborn mice was irradiated with 400 Rads and another group was kept as control. Both groups were inoculated by the intracerebral route with 10<sup>25</sup> ml of a five-day culture of *Trypanosoma cruzi*; thirteen days later the animals were bled from the tail and tested for parasites. When the mice died, the tissues were examined in search of parasites, the results are summarized in the following table:

Non-Irradiated Control Irradiated (400 Rads)

No. of, Now No, of Nos

Bissue Positives Examined Positives Examined

Brain T 7 8 8

Blood 2 7 8 8

Heart ° 6 5 8

liver ° 6 5 8

Spleen ° 6 6 8

As can be observed, irradiated mice showed 100% parasitemia when the controls showed only 14% ?The other organs showed a still more striking difference.

(1) As can be seen in Figure 2, a radiation dose of 400 Rads induces death of the infected animals at an earlier stage than in non-irradiated animals. Under these circumstances, the LD<sub>50</sub> occurs in the irradiated group on the 17th day after inoculation: in the non-irradiated group, the same effect takes place 26 days after inoculation.

bd, Dime of radiation relative to infection, It has been reported that the moment selected for radiation during the course of an infection is of great importance. An experiment was designed in which mice were exposed to 400 Rads and infected at different time intervals. the infective doses of *Trypanosoma cruzi*

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were administered by the intracerebral route 7, 2, and 1

al route 7, 8) an 3 days

Yefore irradiation, mediately after irradiation, and 1) 2) and

Tiays after irradiations, the sesuita, swmarised in me?

dnowed an increased effect on noreality by Fadiavion, wore evi-

dant aten given one day after infection.

c+ Resistance in mice to Mypenosona crust infections

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SOT Ceaet Cent multiply in the mouse host without PPO

Hep disease ut inducing resistance, one experinent vas Ae~

Signed in which the strain Corpus Christi was subjected to aif

fetent radiation doses: A nonirradiated group vas used a8

Sontrol, the six ice groupe treated aid not show parasitenia

within the first 2h days. Five of these groups were challenged

Whee he fulamsen etrein and the remuits are sumarized in Table 2,

3. Radiation activation of latent viruses in wild arthropods

and vertebrates.

a. Effect of Gamma irradiation on the infection of mice

and rats with Coxsackie virus, Adult white mice and adult wild (Fats Umtus Fattas), normally resistant to coxsackie infection, were exposed to whole body radiation with gamma rays from a cobalt source of 1510 curies. Immediately afterward, they were inoculated with coxsackie virus type ALO. Nonirradiated controls were inoculated with the virus at the same time. Nonirradiated uninoculated controls were also included in the experiment. These groups of animals were bled daily and the virus content of the blood was determined in suckling mice.

The mortality rates in irradiated mice inoculated with coxsackie virus type ALO are shown in Table 3. Virus inoculations in unirradiated mice and in the group of mice irradiated with 1000 Rads caused no deaths over a period of 21 days. The deaths shown in Table 1, that appeared in the groups of mice irradiated with 1000 or more Rads and inoculated with virus, were due to the irradiation and not to the virus. The pattern of deaths was very irregular when the inoculated and uninoculated groups were compared, but the death rate increases on the average day of death decreases with the increase of radiation regardless of the presence of virus (Table 4). These results indicated that there was not a synergistic effect of virus and gamma radiation when only death of the animal was taken as the criterion. However, when infectivity was taken as the

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criterion, a consistently higher concentration of virus was demonstrated in the blood and tissues of the irradiated ones (Table 5). The viremia lasted for several days, depending on the radiation doses. Groups of mice irradiated with 100, 200, 300, and 400 Rads had a viremia that lasted up to 3 days. In the groups of mice receiving 500, 600, 700, and 800 Rads, the viremia lasted from 4 to 8 days, depending on the radiation dose. At present, we do not know if the virus is indeed replicating in the mice tissues or if it is just the inoculum that persists longer in the irradiated animals. However, the high titer of virus recovered does indicate that some multiplication is taking place in some of the irradiated groups.

The results obtained with the rats are very similar to those obtained previously with adult mice. Among the rats irradiated with 400 Rads and inoculated with virus a significantly high concentration of virus was found in the blood from the first to the 7th day after irradiation and inoculation with the virus. The rats irradiated with 600 Rads and inoculated with virus showed viremia on the 1st day which lasted for more than 7 days (Table 6). Although not at a very high titer, virus seems to persist longer



in animals irradiated with 800 Rade. Rats that were not irradiated and inoculated with virus showed a very low titer viremia for only one day.

b. Activation of coxsackie virus by radiation in adult

?After an observation 22 days follow-

ing the Original treatment, surviving mice were again tested for the presence of virus in the blood, feces and from some selected organs of animals that were sacrificed. No viral activity was found in the blood of any of these animals nor in the organs of those sacrificed. A second dose of irradiation (400 Rads) was

then given to these mice. After 48 hours they were bled, sacrificed, and the following organs were selected and harvested individually: brain, lungs, heart, Liver, pancreas, and spleen, Pools of similar organs from animals of the same group were made and tested for the presence of virus in suckling mice, Viral activity was found in the spleen, brain, heart, liver, and pancreas (table 7). Only the original virus, coxsackie A10, was found in these organs. The important point here is that after the second irradiation treatment virus was isolated from groups of mice that just previously had shown no virus in the blood, nor in any of

the organs tested. Either the active virus had been present in very low concentration, and was not detectable by our methods or

the virus was in a latent state and was activated by radiation:

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The wild rats that survived 25 days after the original treatment showed no viral activity from the 16th day after treatment. These animals were further irradiated with 600 Rads. Fifteen days later they were bled, sacrificed and the following organs tested for viral activity: lungs, heart, liver, pancreas, and spleen. Coxsackie A10 was again isolated from the pancreas of rats that were previously irradiated and inoculated with coxsackie virus. As shown earlier in the mice, here we also have an indication of activation of a latent infection by radiation.

4, An attempt to induce immunity in mice to *Schistosoma mansoni* using milipore diffusion technique.\*

Cc. Invertebrate Metabolism Section

. Labeling of *Biophalaria glabrata* with Radioselenium\*

2. labeling of *Marissa cormarietis* with Radioselenium and Strontium 69."

3. Periodicity of cercarial energy.\*

4. Labeling of cercariae of *Schistosoma mansoni* with radioisotopes.\* ee

5. The antigens of *Biomphalaria glabrata* haenolymph. characterisation and identification of bands by Immunoelectrophoresis.#

6. Labeling the *S. mansoni* with  $^{75}\text{Se}$ . *S. mansoni*, *S. mansoni* in the Tepe he aR phat yas given JOC  $\phi$  Growth phase was given JOC of  $^{75}\text{Se}$ . After Fraays the culture contained  $1.72 \times 10^7$  trypanosomes and 60,400 cpm. After centrifugation at 5,000 rpm and resuspension in a new selenium-free medium, 3 groups of mice were inoculated by the muscular, peritoneal, cerebral, and venous routes. In order to determine the fate of the inoculated parasites, mice were sacrificed at different intervals and total body counts, as well as of organs were made. Results are summarized in Table 8.

#### D. Invertebrate Radiobiology Section

1. Effect of irradiation on the reproductive potential, of *Biomphalaria glabrata*.\*

% See *Schistosoma* report elsewhere in this Annual Report.

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2. Effect of irradiation (60Goba1t) on the host-parasite relationships in insects infected with *Sehtstesien* mannose

## B, Cellular Radiobiology Section

1, Cellular lines derived from a murine chondrosarcoma.

It was reported previously that at PRNC three cellular lines had been isolated and serially propagated in vitro from a murine chondrosarcoma. Work is being carried out in order to determine characteristics related to the chromosomal complement and immunology of the cells.

The methods used to obtain the cellular lines as well as the chromosome study were reported in the 1966 Annual Report, page 85.

It was reported in the PRNC 1966 Annual Report that the DC II-2 cells showed a bimodal distribution of chromosomes with peaks of 74 and 128. After cloning the cells it was possible to obtain a clone with a distribution of 69, while one of the clones showed 14% of the cells with 75 chromosomes and 86% of the cells with 136. The studies with DC-II-4 have showed a clone with a modal distribution of 70 chromosomes.

2, Effect of irradiation on *Trypanosoma cruzi*. Further studies have been conducted in order to determine the mechanism of action by radiation on *Trypanosoma cruzi*.

Besides the Corpus Christi and Bartoldo strains reported on in PRNC 1966 Annual Report, the Tulahuen strain of *Trypanosoma* (kindly provided by Dr. Irving Kagan, from the National Communicable Disease Center, Atlanta, Ga.) was used,

Results concerned with modifications by the different doses of radiation under Morphology of *Trypanosoma cruzi* have been reported previously.

Reproduction: After exposure to doses ranging from 100 to 100,000 Rads the lag phase is increased in relation to the dose. With 1,000,000 Rads, viability is entirely abolished,

In order to determine the ability of irradiation exposed *trypanosoma* to incorporate thymidine into DNA, one experiment was designed and the counts per minute of <sup>3</sup>H labeled thymidine determined per 3 days every 24 hours. The results, summarized in Figure 3 show a close relationship with the growth in vitro.

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tivity in cells (Figure 4).

3, Bffect of Irradiation in muman diploid cells. - Himan

lung fibroblasts of fetal origin (Wi-33) com be ultivated, in

vitro for about 50 passages. When the cells have reached this

state they are no longer able to divide and gradually die. ?This

Process has been compared with aging in the superior animals and

might be used as a tool for studing the effect of radiation on

the aging process at cellular level.

During the 20th passage, WI-38 cells seeded in Leighton

tubes (100,000 celis per m1) incubated for ' hours at 37°C.

While attached to the glass they vere subjected to the following

doses from a 60 source: 25, 50, 100, 200, and 400 Rads. After

radiation the medium (Eagle's plus 10f calf serun) vas changed

and the cells incubated again at 37°C. The cells were observed

daily. When they reached a confluent sheet in the tubes that had

received the higher doses of radiation, they were trypsinized,

counted and split 1 to 2 in new Leigiton tubes. After 24 hours

of incubation, one tube in each series vas renoved and the chrono-

somes were counted. ?The other tube vas further incubated and

observed daily until sheets were present. They were trypsinized, split 1 to 2 and the same process repeated. The number of splits of the control was considered the reference and compared with the irradiated cells.

Six days after irradiation the cells that received 25 and 50 Rads reached approximately the same population as the controls. However, the cells treated with 100 Rads reached only 50% of the control population, and those exposed to 400 Rads showed a greater delay in division, reaching only 20% of the control group after

6 days. Even though the cells exposed to 400 Rads were the most damaged, and always showed a smaller population, this effect is not observed in the total number of cell divisions. They reach the same level of multiplication and the cumulative number of cells is not significantly smaller.

Chromosome alterations: When designing this experiment it was hypothesized that chromosome aberrations induced by radiation might lead to heteroploidy and, therefore, to the appearance of a new cell line. In the experiments conducted so far, it has not been possible to obtain a new line of cells even with the highest

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radiation dose (400 Rads). However i

However, qualitative alterati

?the chronosomes were obtained from split 1 to split s2 when the cells had reached the limit of their reproductive capacity,

Now experiments are being planned in order to study

of the meta

olism of DIA and RU that could serve as a clue to understand

the observed alterations. © to unders ine

4, Effect of irradiation on the host-parasite relationship

of *Trypanosoma cruzi* at cellular level. As previously reported,

cell monolayers irradiated with doses from 100 to 50,000 Rads

were able to support the cellular multiplication of *Trypanosona*



emuzi. It was observed that the number of parasites per cell

Was greater with increasing radiation doses. In order to study the radiation effect on cells infected with *Trypanosoma cruzi*, one group of cell monolayers in Leighton tubes was irradiated with 6,400 Rads. The medium was replaced and the cells inoculated with 1,000,000 culture forms of *Trypanosoma cruzi*. The control group was treated in a similar way, but it was not irradiated. Every 24 hours one tube of each series was removed, fixed, and stained.

The results (Table 9) showed a greater number of parasites in the irradiated cells at an earlier stage. The mechanism accounting for this phenomenon could be an alteration of the cellular membrane by radiation that would permit the earlier entrance of the trypanosomes. Once inside the cells, the parasites multiply by binary fission with a generation time of approximately 12 hours. When the multiplication of the Leishman-Donovan bodies reach a certain number inside the cells, the parasites undergo morphological changes. These are characterized by the acquisition of protoplasm, appearance of a flagellum, and separation of the nucleus-kinetoplast complex. At this stage, the parasite

becomes motile, enabling the cell to move. The maturation process continues until the elasticity of the cellular membrane is overrun and the cell is disrupted, liberating the intracellular trypanosomes. The liberated parasites swim in the nutrient media until they penetrate the new cells, to repeat the cycle. The whole process of intracellular infection from the penetration of a single parasite

into the cell, until the cell is disrupted and the parasite becomes free, lasts about four to five days.

An experiment was designed to determine whether the parasites reproduced in cultured medium irradiated or non-irradiated, kept their

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infectivity for mice and cells. Monolayers of DC-II Cells were irradiated, and one non-irradiated monolayer group was used as a control. Both groups were inoculated with 1 ml of cultured trypomastigotes and were left undisturbed during 4 days. The medium was changed and the cellular sheets washed three times with Hanks solution. The last washing was titrated in order to determine the infective activity, both in mice and in cells. From the fourth day, the medium was changed every 24 hours, the trypanosomes counted and infectivity tests in mice and cells were carried out. The infectivity of trypanosomes was not affected for at

least a period of 32 days. (Figure 5).

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TABLE 1

lethality of 1, emuzi Infection on Mice Exposed to  
400 Rads at Different Stages of Infection

Day of Infection Uso at 35 Days

1 860

-2 834

a 700

° who

4 87

+2 620

7 390

No Radiation 1,000

TABLE 2

Cross Strain Protection

Corpus Christi Death Rate

Group 1.5107 in mice i. p. Parasitemia (7-21 Days)

1 untreatea Sg ag/a0e 0-208\*

2 60% x1 Hour Ey 23/23 23/23

3 105 Rade gif unk ui/ah

4 5 x 109 Reds Ga 8 17/17 L317

5 10 Rads dB p 25/25 25/25

6 Medium Only 8° @ 26/26 26/2

er

\* Minimal and delayed (appearance in some up to 99 days).

#\* 2/20 at 35 days; 7/20 at 9 days.

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?TABLE 3

Mortality Rates in Irradiated\* Mice Inoculated and  
Non-Inoculated With Coxsackie Virus

Mortality\*\*

Radiation Not Inoculated Inoculated

Groups ads Ratio Per Cent Ratio Per Cent

I 0/0 0/16" ° 0/14 °

Ir 100 0/14 ° 0/12 °

III 200 Of15, ° ofa °

wv 300 0/16 ° 0/16 °

v hoof we Wak ag

VI 500 /y 29 w/t 29

vit. 600?«10/14 70 6/uy 43

VIII 700 14/14 100 14/1k 100

x 800 14/14 100 16/16 100

Mice (28-30 weeks old) were inoculated with 105-7 suckling mice coxsackie virus type A10 immediately after irradiation with gamma ray from a cobalt60 source of 1,510 curies

\*\*Animals were observed for 21 days.

Numerator is the number of mice dying; denominator is the number of mice exposed to risk.

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TABLE 7

Viral Activity in Organs of Mice Irradiated\* With Gamma  
Rays and Inoculated With Coxsackie Virus

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Number Organs Testea\*\*

Treatment of © ???\_\_

Groups Fads Mice Spleen Brain Heart liver Pancreas

?e\_s \_Mice Spleen Brain Heart \_\_ldver\_\_Pancreas

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ur 200 6 - - = \_ a

v 400 5 = + = + +

v 500 5 = - - - Z

VI 600 5 - - -

?lice (28-30 weeks old) were inoculated with 105-71D, suckling mice Coxsackie Virus A10 immediately after the first @rradiation.

A second dose of radiation 400 Rads was given 22 days after the first irradiation dose vas given.

?Similar organs of the animals of a group were pooled and tested for viral activity in suckling mice.

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Above: Silvio Aristizabal, M. D., a radiotherapy trainee from Colombia, is taking @ radiobiology course in the Medical Sciences and Radiobiology Division. Below: Medical School student Gualberto Borrero propagates sindbis virus into chicken embryo by inoculation. Observing are Dr. Julio I. Colom and Research Associate Mrs. Mirta Toro de Rodriguez

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Right: Control rod drives and operating Platform for one kilowatt reactor. Below: Reactor control room.

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## REACTOR

The Reactor Division offers support and services to other divisions of PRNC which require neutron and/or gamma irradiation.

It operates and maintains: (1) a one-megawatt, pool-type research reactor, (2) a ten watt, aqueous-homogeneous L-77 reactor, (3) a cobalt sixty gamma irradiation pool, and (4) high level hot cells.

The Reactor Division also operates and maintains all the auxiliary equipment associated with the reactor such as beam tubes, rabbit system, fuel element irradiator and gamma room, transfer port, etc., and all pool water cooling and purification equipment.

During the year, the one-megawatt reactor has been operating routinely two shifts per day, five days a week accumulating a total of 2939.76 megawatt-hours. During this same period, a total of 968 side-of-core irradiations were performed. In the gamma pool a total of 747 irradiations were carried out.

The L-77 reactor has been used intermittently for training and student experimentation. During the month of August, a pile oscillator was introduced in the L-77 reactor core. This oscillator is being used to carry out the experimental portion of the work of a graduate student.

Preparatory work to determine the worth and characteristics of the oscillator poison material and calibration of the associated electronic equipment was performed during the remainder of the year.

Installation of the one-kilovatt reactor facility in the north end of the one-megawatt reactor pool has been completed. Fuel grid plate, control rod drives and nuclear instrumentation have been mounted and tested. Installation of the ionization chambers is the only work remaining to be done,

A draft of the "Final Safety Analysis Report for the PRIC One-Kilowatt Reactor" has been prepared and submitted for ABC review and approval. Other documentation for which AEC approval is required prior to reactor startup is being prepared.

During the year, an experimental run with the one-megawatt reactor was carried out. This run was made at two megawatts and was of approximately three days duration. From the information gathered from this experiment, it was determined that the power

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level of the present reactor can be increased to two megawatts with minor modifications to the present reactor operating limits.

?A recommendation to that effect has been submitted,

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Mr. Fernando Lépez-Carrasco, from México, finished his reactor supervisor course in June. He is now finishing the thesis work necessary for the completion of the requirement toward the M.S. degree.

During this year, the Reactor Division initiated a Reactor Operator Refresher Course. This course is designed to review all the material covered in the original reactor operator course and to bring up-to-date the operational aspects of the operator's duties which have changed during the past years. Course duration is expected to be two years. One operator trainee will become a qualified operator after successfully completing the course.

## SMAFF

Mr. Richard Brown-Campos, who served for several years as Reactor Supervisor, has been named Head of the Reactor Division.

Mr. Pedro Cruz-González, formerly with the Health Physics Divi-

sion, is now working with the Reactor Division as Associate Reactor Supervisor. Also, Mr. Fernando Lépez-Carrasco is now working Part time with the division as Associate Reactor Supervisor. Mr. Ermatto Guerre, Associate Reactor Supervisor, left the division in

june, 1967.

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1967

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REACTOR OPERATION PER MONTH

1964

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Personnel monitoring. The developing of the films has just finished.

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## HEALTH PHYSICS

Mayaguez with two main functions: (1) it is intended as a needed for safe operation of the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center; (2) At contributes to the educational and research programs of PRNC. the responsibility of the Director of the Division of FRE

The services (see Table I) include consultation and supervision, as needed, in all matters concerning safety and especially in radiation safety. The Health Physics publications, PRIC-1, PRNC-2, PRNC-3, PRNC-4, PRNC-5, PRNC-6, and PRIC-89, establish the rules, regulations, and procedures to be followed by all PRNC personnel for safe operation, and by the Division in fulfilling their responsibilities.

In order to implement and enforce the safety regulations, the Division instituted monthly safety inspections and establish

ed safety committees with members within each Division. ? Indoc-  
trination on safety is offered to all PRNC personnel either  
through special courses or through the safety coordinating com-  
mittee.

?The education and research program includes: (1) courses in  
basic Radiation Protection at the graduate level for students not  
specializing in the field, (2) a program leading towards the M.S.  
degree in Health Physics, (3) advice and supervision of student  
research theses, (4) special training in applied Health Physics,  
and (5) basic research.

rogram leading towards the M.S. degree in Health Phys-  
es to be béfered through the Department of Preventive Medicine  
265 Ranie'tealtn of the UR, San Juan campus, 1s being consid-  
ered. ?he program is expected to start in August 1968 pending  
creas al of the Council of Higher Biueution of Puerto Rico, and  
GRE ?U.s. Atonie Energy Comission.

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Table I

?The following services are offered by the Division to any  
other project at PRNC:

&. Personnel monitoring\* J. General laboratory safety

D. Area monitoring k. Industrial safety

ç. Calibration of radia~ 1. Fire safety

tion monitoring equipment © m, Consultation on matters

4, Radioactive materials concerning all safety, es-

handling pecially on radiation ani

Environmental surveillance radioactive materials.

Dosimetry\* n, Indoctrination of staff men-

Nuclear accident dosimetry\* bers in Health Physics, In-

Decontamination dustrial liygiene, Industrial

Waste disposal Safety and Fire Prevention,

¥\* This service is also offered to BONS.

## SERVICES

A11 service functions have been improved with emphasis on prompt service. Procedures have been revised and updated. ?the PRNC personnel exposure report, for example, is now distributed within two weeks after the collection of the film badges, Further improvements are expected when the computer program, now in de~ velopment, becomes effective. Personnel monitoring films are nov

being supplied to the T. González Martínez Oncologic Hospital, University Hospital, the UFR School of Medicine, and the BONS power plant, as well as to PRC personnel (see Table II).

The environmental surveillance of soil, water, and vegetation in the vicinity of Mayaguez was discontinued. Only one sample of each is collected in addition to a water sample from the well of the India brewery, and these samples are processed monthly. The laboratory, however, is maintaining complete capability of performing a surveillance in case of an emergency.

The construction of the calibration facility was discontinued. New constructions in Mayaguez permitted the Division to hold the old calibration facility for lower range calibrations. The 20 Ci Cesium 137 source will be placed in one of the hot cells which will be modified into a calibration room for higher range calibrations.

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The installations at Cornelia Hill will not be used at the present time. The film badge service and the Nuclear Accident Dosimetry (NAD) program will remain at the same place. A com-



plete revision and updating of the NAD program is planned for the next year.

The radiation safety program at the Oncologic Hospital has greatly improved. Our aim is to adequately train hospital personnel so that they can implement the program under our supervision. The program, except for the film badge service, includes regular radiation surveys at the wards and rooms used for patients with implanted radiation sources, advice and recommendations on radiation protection, training in radiation protection of the nurses in charge of the patients carrying radioactive sources, and indoctrination in Health Physics to new hospital personnel.

All necessary Health Physics assistance was given to the oncologic Hospital during the transfer of a Cobalt-60 Teletherapy unit from the San Juan City Hospital to the Oncologic Hospital.

A rough draft of an emergency plan relating PRNC problems and competencies to the surrounding community was prepared.

New procedures for the production and use of radioactive materials are now in effect.

Two committees were organized to deal with all safety problems. The committees have branches both in Mayaguez and in

Rio Piedras. The first consists of all division heads and one member from the Director's office. Through this committee, general safety policy and rules will be approved. The second consists of one member from each division who has supervisory or technical background. Through this committee, follow up of recommendations will be implemented, indoctrination of personnel is offered in two ways: first, through safety institutes both in Mayaguez and in Rio Piedras in conjunction with the Labor Department of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and second, through lectures, personal contact and information pamphlets and posters supplied by the National Safety Council.

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Health Physics Services 1967

Film Service to PRNC and BONUS ?~

Beta Gamma Neutron totals

PRNC 5,41 853

BOWS 1337 L110

Total 6,748. 1,963 8,71.

Radiation survey meters calibrated:

gamma, 149

neutron ?23

total fe ae

Area monitoring samples analyzed:

snears 896

water 7

air 2

Total 933 933

Environmental surveillance samples analyzed:

water ee

air 59

soil, 5

vegetation 45;

?Total 33 331

Review of questionnaires for reactor

experiments: 202 202

Review of requests for use of irradiation

facilities other than reactor: 4 4

Medical Dispensary - Number of cases seen:

minor accidents 83

physical exams 74

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See

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## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The education program in Health Physics has two objectives. The first is to provide a graduate program leading to the M.S. degree and advanced training in Applied Health Physics for students who are planning a career in Health Physics. The second is to provide indoctrination in radiation safety and (general as well) for PRNC personnel and for students who will be working with radiation sources, but do not intend to

Three students were accepted during the year in the Health Physics master's program: Amalia Vélez Paradis; Luis Martínez Bayrés; Efigenio Rivera,

One student was accepted in the Applied Health Physics Program: Ignacio Maldonado-Rico,

Three courses, one at the College of Arts and Sciences, Na~

yaguez, and the others at the School of Public Health, San Juan, have been given for non-specialists. Each course covered such topics as: basic nuclear physics, radioactivity, interaction of radiation with matter, the biological effects of radiation, Instrumentation and methods of measurement, and the principles of handling of radiation in all its forms. Public health aspects of radiation were emphasized in the San Juan course since the students were either physicians or sanitary engineers. In addition, lectures related to radiation protection were given as part of the regular PRNC "Radioisotope Techniques" course offered four times this year (see Table 3).

## OLE IIT

### List of Students

A. Biol. 601 (Health Physics): Aida Roca de Mari; Jorge Pérez Rivera; Efigenio Rivera; Michael Gileadi.

b. Rf Pi 232 (Radiation Hygiene): Tuts D. Dernier Rivera; Pranses Fernandez Irizarry; Francioco Folch Castafiers Juan, Prangi fe lage} Rafuel Orta Allende; Radanés Rotriguez Guonins Tegret Sincher Valentin; Angel Santiago Garcia,

c. Radiological Physics Course for Residence in Radiology:

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Personnel monitori

on special film by n

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Jos\$ A, Berlingery; Priseiia Dfaz de carauj Bernanto J. Marquéss

José A. Nassar; Lidia D. Neves de Reyes; César H. Soto} santiago

Vidat,

?Thesis research status under the supervision of

Dr. Paraskevoudakis is as follows:

Determination of G-values of the Fricke Dosimeter for Mono-  
chromatic X-Rays in the Range of 5 to 15 Kev. Francisco Jiménez.

?This work was completed and included a calibration of the calori-  
meter, measurement of dose rates of fluorescent monochromatic  
X-ray beams. The student received his M.S, degree in August 1967.

Sensitivity Improvements of the X-Ray Calorimeter. José Aguiar.

This work was completed and included the construction of two new

absorbers with reduced mass, use of new type thermistors, construction of a new Wheatstone bridge, noise reduction, calibration, and X-ray measurements, The student received his M.S, degree in August 1967.

Gamma-Ray Spectra Around the PRNC Reactor. Heriberto Cucbas.

This work is Incomplete. The purpose of this study is to determine the spectral distribution of gamma radiation around the reactor, The results so far indicate that the predominant gammas have an average energy of about 0.1 Mev. The student is not working at the present time.

Study of Exposure Received by Patients During Chest X-Ray Examinations, Amalia Vélez. The purpose of this study is to determine the dose delivered to the patients during routine chest X-ray exposure in Puerto Rico. The age and the size of the patients, and the particular X-ray unit used, kVp, mA settings and the filtration used are considered, The entrance, the exit, and the gonadal dose are to be determined utilizing thermoluminescent dosimetry techniques.

## BASIC RESEARCH

The calorimeter project. Substantial progress was made last year in the improvement of the sensitivity of the calorimeter.

The purpose of this work is to measure the weak monochromatic

X-ray beams produced by crystal diffraction, The work so far has demonstrated that this is feasible. Powers lower than 0.05 will can be measured. A new design of a multiple bridge is completed

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and it is expected to reduce the noise level sufficiently to  
Pactan ROMGTS of the order of 0.02 ul. the power content or ai.

fracted X-ray beams is considered to be within this . ~

Feo Reutron dosimetry project. This work is also in progress

senate date completed only if requested by another project,

pending decision on the new reactor. ?The data collected ve fer

at the beam tube suggested the redesign of the plug system with

& new shutter and a new collimator four inches in diameter. the

filter will be of pure bismuth and is expected to reduce the

gamma field considerably, A new development in this project is

the purchase of a solid state neutron spectrometer, This system

is the best available today for measuring neutron spectra. Thus

it will be possible to develop fairly accurate neutron dosimetry

for chemical and biological studies using the neutron beam and

?the pool as well.

?The enzyme inactivation project, ?This work has been reactiv-

ated recently. The purpose was to study the heat inactivation

pattern of Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP) in solution before and



after irradiation, and to determine the radiation damage induced.

It was found that a dose of 200 rads delivered in the solution was capable of inducing considerable damage which could be made manifest by heat inactivation but which has not been detected by other means. The new development includes reconfirmation of HRP results and use of other enzymes to check the same effect.

of the tritiated water project. This work

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the rain Forests The transpiration of tritiated water from the  
rain forest soils was studied in cooperation with the Terrestrial  
Ecology Project. The Terrestrial Ecology Project is studying the  
Retention of tritiated water in soils, and the health Physics Di-  
visions are also interested in the problem.  
There. A cold trap technique using liquid nitrogen was utilized  
to collect tritium samples from the atmosphere at different  
heights and around the 1-square meter area sprinkled with 50 mCi  
of tritiated water diluted to 1 gallon of water. The results thus  
far indicate that the transpiration of water in the rain forest is  
a very slow process. Following an initial rise of a few hours  
the activity persisted for several weeks at low rates. The rela-  
tive humidity was 80 percent. The experiment will be repeated at  
a higher relative humidity level in the near future.

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The phantom dosimetry program. This is a joint project with the Radiotherapy Division. Measurements are taken using the microrod teflon version of LiF thermoluminescent dosimeter in a plexiglass phantom. The advantage over the past technique is that one is able to place the dosimeters 0.5 cm apart. Dose distribution and depth dose measurements are being carried out.

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Finally, it is worth mentioning a new effort in measuring the gonadal dose to patients undertaking abdominal X-ray exposures. It is felt that this kind of exposure may be more hazardous to the public in Puerto Rico than any other exposures. The work will consist of compiling data throughout the island and will include statistical variations. This work has just been initiated and there are no reportable results as yet.

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10th anniversary symposium:

U.S. Ambassador to the OAS

Sol M. Linowitz reviews the

day's activities with PRNC

Director Henry J. Gomberg

prior to Mr. Linowitz's  
symposium luncheon address  
on October 31. Below: Par-  
ticipants at one of the sym-  
posium's technical sessions  
many of them using simul ta=  
neous translation "wands."

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#### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

The Office of the Director is responsible for planning and directing graduate level training and research activities and programs at PRNC, all of which are concerned with peaceful applications of nuclear energy.

The Office serves as the focus of internal and external communications for FRNC. Its staff prepares documents and reports on all organizational activities, assists in planning and managing special meetings and conferences related to PRNC's program, and participates in the teaching and research of several divisions of PRNC. The Office also handles the dissemination of public information.

## MEETINGS

During 1967 the staff of the Director's Office participated in meetings outside of Puerto Rico, and assisted in planning and preparing for others held on the island, An account of participation in meetings not listed in the "Papers Presented" section of this Report follows:

Dr. Howard L. Andrews, Assistant Director for Health and safety, attended a meeting of Subcommittee 23 of the National Council on Radiation Protection in Washington, D.C, on January 23-24.

In February, Dr. Henry J. Gonberg, Director of the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center, represented PRNC at a meeting convened by the Education Committee of Associated Midwest Universities at Argonne National laboratory. The need for a conference on Nuclear Energy Education in Latin America, to be sponsored by Associated Midwest Universities, was considered at this meeting. Among others invited to participate in this meeting were: Dr. Carlos Vélez, Instituto Politécnico Nacional, Mexico; Dr. Milton Campos, University of Minas Gerais, Brazil; Professor José Enilio Amorés, Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores, Monterrey, Mexico; and Mr. John C. Cera, Division of Nuclear Education and Training USABC.

Following the Argonne meeting, Dr. Gomberg visited the mines

of the Inspiration Consolidated Copper Company of Arizona to observe techniques, processes and problems related to copper mining and refining. This information is needed in connection with development of the FRNC program in "Plowshare."

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From Arizona, Dr. Gonberg went to the Nevada Test site as an official observer of the Cabriole shot in the Plowshare program. Though the shot was delayed because of adverse weather, he observed other related activity at the site, including inspection of results of previous tests, the U.S. Public Health Service field headquarters for study of fallout effects, and the nuclear Rocket Test Station installations.

On February 6, a joint meeting of the Puerto Rico Radiation Control Commission and the Radiation Advisory Board was held at the offices of the Department of Health of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in San Juan. Dr. Amador Cobas, Deputy Director of FRNC, is a member of the Radiation Control Commission. The following FRNC personnel are members of the Radiation Advisory Board:

Dr. Howard L. Andrews, Assistant Director for Health and safety;

Dr. Victor A. Marcial, Associate Director for Medical Programs and

Dr. Sergio Irizarry, Head of the Clinical Applications Division.

All FRNC members attended.

?The purpose of this meeting was to initiate revision of Legislation governing the use of ionizing radiation in Puerto Rico in accordance with Law 79 dated June 24, 1965, In this Law the Governor of Puerto Rico was given the authority to sign an agreement with the USKEC to assume responsibility for controlling the use of radioactive materials in Puerto Rico which is now controlled by the USEC. This responsibility will be assumed jointly by the Departments of Health and Labor of Puerto Rico. This was the first meeting of the Commission and Board. At this meeting Dr. Howard L. Andrews from PRC was named chairman of the Radiation Advisory Board.

Dr. Gonberg represented FRNC at the USEC Bio-Medical Program Directors Meeting at the AEC Health and Safety laboratory in New York City on February 13-14. The first day and a half of the meeting was devoted to the Health and Safety Laboratory program, Aspects of procedures on clinical research and investigation involving human subjects were discussed during the program of the USAEC Bio-Medical Division, The Congressional Sub-Committee Report on Food Irradiation was also discussed.

On February 16-17, the Advisory Committee to the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center met in San Juan, In keeping with the recommendations of the USKEC Oak Ridge Operations Office, the Committee was

expanded and broadened to cover the physical sciences and engineer

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Ang, in addition to biology and medicine. Two outstanding scientists accepted invitations from University of Puerto Rico President Jaime Benitez to join the Committee: Dr. Michael Ference, Vice President for Research and Development at Ford Motor Company, and Dr. Frederick Seitz of the National Academy of Sciences. Also, Dr. John C. Bugher, who served as PRIC's Director from July 1960 to November 1966, accepted an invitation to return to the Committee, on which he had served before becoming Director.

Dr. Gonberg presented a paper at the Seminar on Applications of Nuclear Energy in Latin American Development, held at UCLA on March 27-28. During the trip, Dr. Gonberg also made arrangements for a future PRNC teaching program in "Plowshare" technology+

On April 24, Dr. Andrews, who is a past President of the Health Physics Society, officially installed the Florida Chapter

of the Health Physics Society, in Jacksonville. Dr. Andrews also st-

fended a special meeting of the International Academy of Sciences Advisory Committee to the Federal Radiation Council in Washington, D.C. the meeting was held to consider the problem of radiation exposure of uranium miners.

Dr. Gonberg attended the Conference of Presidents and Rectors of Caribbean Universities at the Crown Point Hotel, St. John's, on April 27-30. He served as a delegate from Puerto Rico at this conference together with UFR President Benítez, and participated in sessions on research program planning for developing countries.

On May 1, Dr. Gonberg went to Washington, D.C. to attend the presentation of the Atomic Energy Commission Citation to Dr. John C. Bugher, former PRNC Director, by Dr. Glenn Seaborg, Chairman of the AEC, the Citation included mention of Dr. Bugher's outstanding leadership and foresight in developing and directing the training, education and research programs of the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center.

From Washington, Dr. Gonberg traveled to Mexico City for the International Conference on the Utilization of Research Reactors and Reactor Mathematics Computation, sponsored by the Reactor Group of the Centro Nuclear de México and by the Mathematics and Computation Division of the American Nuclear Society. At this meeting, Dr. Gonberg met with Dr. Graef Hernández, Chairman of the Mexican Atomic Energy Commission; Dr. Albert Barajas, Chairman of the Ai-



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visory Board of the Centro Nuclear de Mexico; and with starr members of the Centro, of the Instituto Politénico, and of the Universidad Nacional Auténona de Mexico. Preliminary plans were made to train Mexican students and staff at PRNC.

Dr, Victor Mareial, Associate Director for Medical Programs, attended the USEC Bio-Medical Program Directors Meeting at the Lawrence Radiation laboratory in Livermore, California,

On May 3, the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Health Physics Society was inaugurated by Dr. Walter Snyder, President-elect of the Health Physics Society, during a meeting in Mayaguez. Dr. Peter Paraskevoudakis, Head of the Health Physics Division, was installed as President of the new Chapter; Mr. Carlos Jinénez, an engineer at the BONUS Power Plant, was installed as President-elect; Miss Heidi Pabén, Research Associate in the Health Physics Division, was installed as Secretary; Miss Rosa Julia Santiago, Research Associate in the Marine Biology Program, was installed as Treasurer, Approximately 50 persons attended the meeting.

The 15th Annual Meeting of the Radiation Research Society was held at the San Jeronimo Hilton, San Juan, on May 7-11, Over

800 persons registered for the meeting, establishing a new attendance record. PRNC's staff prepared an exhibit for the meeting, organized a symposium on Tropical Radiation Ecology, and presented papers at many of the sessions. Dr. Bugher served as chairman of the symposium. The local committee, responsible for coordinating meeting activities, was staffed entirely by PRNC scientists:

Dr. Howard L. Andrews, chairman; Dr. José A. Ferrer Monge; Dr. Francis K. Koo; Dr. Robert A. Luse, and Dr. Peter Paraskevoudakis, Mr. Teodoro Moscoso, Board Chairman of Commonwealth Oil Refining Company and former Coordinator for the Alliance for Progress Program of the U.S. State Department, presented the address at the Society Banquet.

On May 3, the Technical Sub-Committee of the Puerto Rico Committee for Bilharzia, held its quarterly meeting at PRNC in San Juan, Personnel from the following institutions attended: Puerto Rico Nuclear Center, U.S. Public Health Service, Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, Fisheries Commission, Department of Health, General Clinical Research Center, UFR School of Medicine, Walter Reed Army Research Institute, and the San Juan Veterans Administration Hospital,

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On February 25, approximate

students visited PRNC in May  
with the annual Open House sessions

University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez  
members prepared exhibits in  
Agriculture, Physical Sciences  
and International Nuclear Energy  
House. A documentary film

was shown at registration  
photos on this page show various  
Open House at PRNC.

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On June 11-15, Dr. Gonberg attended a meeting of the Committee on Honors and Awards during the annual meeting of the American Nuclear Society in San Diego, California. On June 16, Dr. Gonberg visited the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the USIBC Headquarters in Washington, D.C. to confer with officials on insect control and other FRNC programs.

On September 28-29, the PRIC Advisory Committee met at FRIC,

Mayaguez.

On October 16-20, Dr. Wheeler attended the study Group Meeting on Research Reactor Utilization organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency at the Japan Atomic Energy Establishment, Tokai, Japan.

Tenth Anniversary Symposium

The UPR and the USAEC organized a "Symposium on Nuclear Energy and Latin American Development" to mark the tenth anniversary of the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center. The symposium was held at the San Jerónimo Hilton Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico during the period of October 29 to November 1, 1967.

Among the distinguished participants in the Symposium were:

Dr. Glenn Seaborg, Chairman, USABC; Mr. James T. Ramey, Commissioner, US\EC; Honorable Sol M. Linowitz, U.S. Ambassador to the Organization of American States; Honorable Ben S. Stephansky, Deputy U.S. Representative to the CAS; Mr. Teodoro Moscoso, former Director of the Alliance for Progress; Mr. Sam S. Sepirie, Manager, Oak Ridge Operations, USAEC; Mr. Jaime Benitez, President of the University of Puerto Rico; and Dr. Sigvard A. Exlund, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Mr. John T. Commay, Executive Secretary of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, read a "Statement" by Congressman Chet Holifield,

Vice Chairman of the JCCAE, to the participants.

Puerto Rico's Governor Roberto Ginchez Vilela and his wife attended the cocktail and dinner held on Monday, October 30, 1967, during which Dr. Glenn Seaborg spoke on "Nuclear Energy in Latin - America." All participants in the Symposium were invited by the Governor to a cocktail in his home, la Fortaleza, which was held on Tuesday evening.

Approximately 113 persons participated in the Symposium, including 25 from South and Central America, 49 from Puerto Rico,

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and the remainder from continental United States and Europe.

On November 2, 1967, tours were arranged for the participants to visit PRIC facilities in either Rfo Piedras or Mayaguez.

From November 6-8, 1967, Dr. Gouberg attended a meeting of the advisory group for program planning in nuclear energy activities (OAS Regional Scientific and Technological Development: Program), as one of two representatives from the United States. The other representative was Dr. E.S. Friedman from the Division of International Affairs of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

The advisory group prepared a preliminary report outlining an international nuclear energy program. The meeting was held in Oaxtepec, Mexico.

On November 18, 1967, the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Health Physics Society held its quarterly meeting in the Conference Room of the PRNC Bio-Medical Building.

The following PRNC staff members presented brief papers at the meeting:

a. Marfa Palacios de Lozano, "Radiological Protection Problems Associated with Interstitial and Intracavitary Therapy"

b. Heidi Pabén, "Radiologic Protection in X-Ray Technology"

c. Peter Paraskevoudakis, "Health Physics in Space"

In addition, Dr. Victor Marcial, Dr. Owen H. Wheeler, and Dr. Robert A. Luse participated from PRNC. Dr. Charles Meinhold of the Brookhaven National Laboratory spoke on "Health Physics Training in Brookhaven National Laboratory."

Dr. Gonberg departed from Puerto Rico on November 20, 1967,

in response to an invitation to Join an IAEA Panel of Experts on Research Reactor Utilization which met in Vienna from November 27 through December 1, 1967.

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Following the meeting in Vienna, Dr. Gonberg visited the facilities of the Greek Atomic Energy Commission in Athens to review its program and met with the President of the Commission, Dr. F Demopoulos and members of the staff. Also at the invitation of the IAEA, Dr. Gonberg visited the IAEA Monaco Laboratory to discuss possible cooperative programs related to problems arising from discharge of radioactivity into the sea.

Dr. Marcial was in South America during the period of November 23 to December 16, 1967, participating in the following activities

a. the Latin American Regional Conference of Cancer Control which was organized by the International Union Against Cancer in Santiago, Chile during the period of November 25 to 29,

?b. the IV Latin American Cancer Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina during the period of November 30 to December 5.

ce the IX Inter-American Congress of Radiology in Punta del Este, Uruguay during the period of December 6 to 12 where he served as a representative of Puerto Rico in the capacity of Counsellor. Dr. Marcial presided at the session on "Fractionation in Radiation Therapy.?"

@, he National Cancer Institute in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on December 13 where he met with Dr. Adayr Erias de Araujo, Head of the National Cancer Service.

Mr, Héctor Bareelé, Assistant Director for Operations, attended the IAEA study Group Meeting on Research Reactor Utilization in Bogoté, Coloubia, on December 11-15, 1967. Mr. Barcel attended this meeting as a representative of the U.S. Goverment.

?The American Society of Agricultural Sciences ("sociedad Americana de Ciencias Agricolas, "or S\CA) held its 27th Annual Meeting in the PRIC Conference Room, Mayaguez, on December 1.

Dr. Robert A. Luse, Head of the Agricultural Bio-Sciences Division, presided over the meeting as President of the society. ?Mr. José Cuevas, also of the Division, assisted as secretary-Treasurer. Fifteen scientific papers on Puerto Rican Agriculture were pre-



sented at the two simultaneous sessions in the morning. At this meeting Mr. Cuevas presented a paper entitled "Radiation Preservation of Tropical Fruits." This meeting marked the end of the

term of office for Dr. Ise and Mr. Cuevas, though both continue on the Board of Directors of SACA through 1969.

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er on the first night of the symposium. Seated,

left to right: Roberto Sanchez Vilella Governor of Puerto Rico; Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, Chairman, US AEC; Sol M. Linowitz, U. S. Ambassador to the OAS.

Standing: UPR President Jaime Benitez, PRNC Director Henry J berg.

Left: UPR President Benitez; John Conway, Secretary

Of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy

James T. Ramey, Commissioner, US AEC. Right: During

one of the technical sessions. PRNC Deputy Director

Dr. Anador Cobass Or. Stgvard ?. Eklund, Director General

of the International Atomic Energy Agency; Dr. Shields

Warren, Cancer Research Institute, New England Deaconess

Hospital, Boston.

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?EDUCATION

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His disseration, entitled "F Center Formation at 78°K in Kir

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K Edge," was prepared in Puerto Rico under the supervision of Dr.

Gonberg. Mr. Cruz was granted a Ph.D. degree in Physics by

Harvard.

Dr. Owen H. Wheeler submitted a proposal in May to the Dean of Arts and Science of the UPR at Mayaguez for the participation of FRC (Mayaguez) in a doctorate program in Chemical Physical Sciences.

## STAFF

From May 29 to June 10, Dr. Howard L. Andrews served as a Temporary Adviser for the Pan American Health Organization, Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Regional Office of the World Health Organization in Venezuela, Trinidad, and Guyana. In August,

Dr. Andrews resigned his position as Assistant Director for Health and Safety to accept an appointment as Professor of Physics in the University of Rochester Medical School.

Miss Vivian Taylor terminated her appointment in November as Technical Assistant to the Director.

Mr. Hector Barcelé, who has served as Head of the Reactor Division and Technical Services, was appointed Assistant Director for Technical Operations in October. His responsibilities in this new position include supervision of reactor operations, supervision of Technical Services, coordination of planning and

conceptual design preparation for general plant projects and capital projects, development of technical training programs, provision of logistic support for the International Exhibit

gram,

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## "ATOMS IN ACTION" IN LATIN AMERICA

Since 1965, the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center has assumed responsibility for the research activities conducted in conjunction with the "Atoms in Action" exhibits

in Latin American countries.

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Above: Inauguration day at the "Atoms in Action" exhibit in Quito, Ecuador. Below: Otto Arosemena, President of Ecuador, speaking at the inaugural ceremony.

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## PRNC PARTICIPATION IN THE US AEC "ATOMS IN ACTION" EXHIBIT IN LATIN AMERICA

Since 1965 the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center has been responsible for research conducted in conjunction with the Atoms in Action Exhibits in various countries of Latin America. The exhibits provide information on peaceful applications of nuclear energy to persons of varying backgrounds. The general public is given guided tours of special displays which demonstrate the nature, applications, and developments of atomic energy. Students, scientists and physicians are offered demonstration lecture courses and supervised participation in research involving applications of radiation to problems of regional origin and interest, with emphasis on the use of gamma and neutron sources available at the Exhibit.

In May and June, the exhibit visited Panama City, Panama.

In November and December it visited Quito, Ecuador.

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN PANAMA

A preliminary visit to Panama indicated that the research emphasis should be directed to the biological sciences because of the existence of the Gorgas Memorial laboratory and the well-established Department of Biology at the National University. Projects were selected according to local needs, similarity of current research, and availability of PRNC personnel. Most of the projects were designed to be of service to graduate students working on their theses at the College of Pharmacy and Natural Sciences of the National University. The 5000-curie <sup>60</sup>Co gamma irradiation facility, the principal research tool, was used in projects related to mathematical statistics, radiation chemistry, food preservation, parasitology, bacteriology, and radiation effects in biological systems. A 6-curie Pu-Be neutron source was utilized primarily for neutron diffusion theory experiments. Phosphorus-32 was utilized for rice-soil fertilization studies. The exhibit's program in Panama received special cooperation from the Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry; the University of Panama (College of Engineering, Natural Science and Pharmacy, Agricultural Engineering, Specialized Laboratories for Drug and Food Analysis) and the Gorgas

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Memorial Laboratories. The National Association of Engineers and Architects cooperated in a special lecture program on Plow-share.

LECTURES IN PANAVA In conjunction with the research program, PRNC personnel gave the following lectures during the "Atoms in Action" Exhibit in Panama, which were attended by 645 persons.

Dr. Rupert Lee, PRNC Nuclear Science Division: Radiation Chemistry and Gas Evolution; Degradation of Polymers with Gamma Radiation.

Dr. Jorge Chiriboga, PRNC Assistant Director for Scientific Programs: Radiobiology in the Tropics I and II.

Dr. Robert A. Iuse, PRNC Agricultural and BioSciences Division: Actual Status of the Food Preservation Program; The PRNC Projects in Food Preservation by Radiation.

Dr. Donald Sasscer, PRNC Nuclear Engineering Division: Neutron Cross Section; Neutron Diffusion Theory I and II; Neutron Activation Analysis.

Mr. Fausto J. Mufioz-Ribadeneira, International Exhibits Program: Introduction to Radiation Chemistry; Applied Statistics in Chemical Analysis; Calculation Formulas in Nuclear Homogeneous

Reactors I and II; Chemical Dosimetry of Gamma Radiation.

A series of lectures on Plowshare using slides and films

were also offered to the Association of Engineers and Architects of Panama. Mr. Harold Curtis from the ABC's San Francisco Operations Office, and Mr. Peter Myget from the Interoceanic Canal Studies Commission helped prepare the lectures and answered questions pertinent to the Panama Canal.

The PRNC representative, Mr. Fausto J. Mufioz-R. (M.S.) was in charge of this special lecture program on Plowshare requested by the AEC Division of Peaceful Nuclear Explosives (PNE). One

hundred and forty people attended lectures on: Characteristics of the Nuclear Explosives and Nuclear Explosions; safety Considerations of Nuclear Explosives in Large Scale Civil Engineering

of Rule B02 Belteerdng obese

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A List of the graduate student theses already accepted at the University is indicated below: v

A, PROJECTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA



\* "Statistical Paired Comparison of Results Found in the Fricke Dosimetry System Using Measurements at Three Different Wave Lengths." Persons in Charge: Miss Beatriz Green and Miss Evelyn Marshall,

+ "Application of the Least Square Theory to Chemical Analysis". Person in Charge: Mr. Rubén Rivera.

\*"Statistics and Nuclear Disintegration." Persons in Charge: Mr. Rolando Carvajal and Miss Delia Falcón.

+ "G Value Determination in Fricke-Copper Solutions" I. Sulfuric Acid Concentration. Persons in Charge: Mr. Carlos Re Córdova and Mr. Brajil Morén,

"Quantitative Determination of  $Fe^{*+}$  by the Prussian Blue Complex" . Persons in Charge: Miss Jacinta Him and Miss Gladys Ortiz.

+ "Dosimetry by Gas Evolution." Persons in Charge: Mrs. Nitza de Diaz and Miss Myrna Barreto.

+ "Depolymerization of a Polymer of Methyl Methacrylate

?by Gamma Radiation." Persons in Charge: Miss Angela Tellos and Mr. Francisco Flores.

+ "Binding Energy of the Deuteron" (H@). Persons in Charge: Mr. Gonzalo Molina and Mr, Francisco Flores.

+ "Determination of Diffusion Length of Neutrons in Water Using Foil Detectors." Persons in Charge: Miss Elvira Cabada and Miss Irma Rios

+ ?Determination of Thickness of Water for Moderation of Neutrons from a Neutron Source." Persons in Charge: Mr. Plutereo Ranos and Mr. Félix Cuevas.

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+ "Pitting of a Thermal Neutron Flux in e Cylindrical Arrange- Mr. Bolivar Vazquez and Mr. Jorge

+ "Neutron Activation Analysis." Persons in Charge: Miss

Analida Ardila and Miss Teresita Jaén.

+ "Determination of the Range of Beta Particles." Persons

in Charge: Mr. Silvio Candanedo and Mr. Bladimiro Castillo.

\* "Orange Preservation by Gamma Radiation." Persons in Charge

Miss Blasina Siavedra, Miss Aganda Monge, Miss Elizabeth Roariguez, and Nrs, Mercedes de León.

+ "Radiobiology of *Rhodnius prolimus*." Persons in charge:

Miss Geneva Luciani and Miss Carolina Windehake.

+ "Special Project in *Rhizobium* §." Persons in Charge: Miss

Alina Torres, Miss Mitzi Sarenga and Mr. Carlos Delgado.

"Radiation Effects on *Daphnia*, Sp". Persons in Charge: Miss

Sabina Gonzdlez and Mr. Alberto Cruz.

+ "Radiation Effects on Frogs? Pignentation," Person in

Charge: Mr. Raimundo Husband and Mr. Domingo Lépez.

+ "32p in Soil-Rice Plants Fertilization Studies." Person in Charge: Mr. José M. Chaverri.

## B, PROJECTS AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

+ At the Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry

The research divisions of this Ministry participated in radiation preservation studies of potatoes and onions. The main objective is to control sprouting and extend product shelf life. The projects are being satisfactorily continued.

+ At the Gorgas Memorial Laboratories

The Gorgas Memorial Laboratories are sponsoring the project on the radiobiology of *Rhodnius prolixus* where radiation effects were carried out in eggs, fifth pupae stage, and adult insects, by two students of the university. This institution has already completed studies of radiation effects on the development of infection by *Tripanosoma rangeli* in *Rhodnius prolixus* and *Rhodnius pallens*. A third part of the project, initiated in cooperation with the PRNC Division of Medical Sciences and Radiobiology, consisted of studying the virulence of infection caused by *Tripanosoma cruzi* under the parameter of radiation.

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## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES 1H BOUADOR

The same procedures used for the establishment of the PRNC program in Panama were followed, although the scientific development of the universities in Ecuador and the interest of government institutions in introducing the nuclear energy parameter in their current research problems was taken into account. This made it possible, for the first time in the AEC International Exhibits Program, for institutions located in Guayaquil (400 kilometers from Quito), Cuenca (600 kilometers from the capital), and Portoviejo (350 kilometers from Quito) to actively participate in the program.

The research program at the Exhibit in Ecuador had the cooperation of the Franco-Ecuadorian Institute of Agronomic Investigations (IFEIA, Guayaquil), the National Commission of Wheat (CNT); the Central University of Ecuador (College of Pharmacy, College of Engineering, College of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine); Polytechnic Institute (BPN); Ministry of Agriculture (Division of Agronomic Institute), the Catholic Institute (Institute of Natural Sciences), and the University of Guayaquil (College of Agronomy).

With the coming of the "Atoms in Action" Exhibit to Quito,

for the first time studies in problems related to the agricultural economy of Ecuador were initiated using nuclear techniques. These studies on the preservation by radiation of "naranja" (*Solanum esculentum*); the radiation effects on "Picudo negro" (*Cosmopolite sordidus*); and third, the first shipment of irradiated bananas was exported to the United States. For the first time also in South America, experiments on radiation effects on *Anastrepha fraterculus* Wied, were carried out. Due to the special cooperation received from Dr. Luis A. Romo (Ph.D. University of Wisconsin), a professor at Central University, it is anticipated that the number of publications produced will be the largest ever generated from an Exhibit research program,

## LECTURES IN ECUADOR

In conjunction with the research program, personnel of the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center gave the following lectures during the "Atoms in Action" Exhibit in Ecuador, which covered the cities of Quito, Guayaquil, and Cuenca; registering a record attendance of 1731 people. Lectures offered outside of Quito are

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indicated.

Dr. David Walker: Nuclear Techniques in Agricultural Research; The PRIC Research Project in the Irradiation of the Sugar Cane Borer; Nuclear Techniques in Agricultural Research (Guayaquil).

Dr. H. Harry Semant: Mechanism of Chemical Reactions Using Radioisotope I and II; Mechanism of Radiation Induced Reactions.

Mr. José Cuevas Ruiz: Food Preservation by Radiation; The Fat Research Projects in Food Preservation by Radiation (Guayaquil).

Mr. Juan Silva Parra: Nuclear Power and Desalinizations  
Radiation Sources and Their Application:

Dr. Badie Ortiz: Neutron Cross Section; Neutron Diffusion Theory I and II,

Mr. Fausto Muñoz-R: Research Programs of Atoms in Action Exhibit in Central America; Possibilities of Research at the

British laboratories; Principles of Radiation Chemistry (Guayaquil); Atoms in Action Exhibit in Ecuador (Cuenca); Theory of the Free Radical Formation in Radiation Chemistry; Chemical Dosimetry of Gamma Radiation; Research Programs of Atoms in Action Exhibit (Guayaquil); The Development of Atomic Energy and its Importance in Modern Technology.

Mr. Muñoz-R. also offered several lectures on "Plowshare" which are listed under the PRNC Peaceful Nuclear Explosive Program.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF IME RESEARCH PROGRAM IN PANAMA AND ECUADOR

Results are gratifying, since several scientific papers are being prepared for publication and some graduate students from the Universities will receive degrees through theses prepared under the PRNC research program at the Exhibits. A list of continuing and completed research projects is presented.

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#### FOOD PRESERVATION

studies were carried out on the radiation preservation of bananas (Ecuador's most important export product), "naranja,"



a typical fruit of the Eoudorian highlands, and potatoes.

+ Studies on Banana Preservation ~ The Franco-Beuadorian Institute of Agronomy Research (IFEIA) carried out this project. Banana fruits from the Pichilingue area were irradiated with doses from 10 to 60 kilorads; the most favorable doses in "Gross Mitchell" variety were found between 30 to 40 kilorads, and the retardation on the maturation time was 6 days when bananas were kept at 65°F. A refrigeration chamber of the National Institute of Fishery and Hunting was adapted for this experiment.

+ Radiation Effects and Mycology Studies on Bananas - The objective of the project was to study the behavior of the fungus infection in bananas which were irradiated for preservation studies. The fungus species which were used were *Clethrotium musanena*, *Fusarium solani*, *Botryodiplodis theobromae*.

The procedure was as follows:

a) a series of fruits were irradiated before the inoculation; b) a series of fruits were irradiated after the inoculation,

Doses of 30 to 40 kilorads, were found to be the most favorable in the preliminary studies.

+ Export of Irradiated Bananas to the United States - Through direct action of the Exhibits? Office in Washington (DIL), Dr. E. ©. Maxie of the College of Agriculture, University of California, at Davis, California, agreed to study the irradiated bananas (35 Kilorads) from Ecuador, which were shipped from Puerto Bolivar (Pais de El Oro) on Novenber 27 to Long Beach, California. | The daily newspapers "El Comercio" from Quito and "EL Universo" from Guayaquil published a first page article titled "First Exportation of Irradiated Bananas to the United States.

+ Preservation of Potatoes - ?his project vas located at the college of Tharmacy, Central University, and will form a base for ?a thesis project. In addition to physical tests on the accepta- Dility of the product, the following biochemical tests related to dose and time parameters are being carried out: total sugar,

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reducing sugar, and vitamin C.

\* Radiation Effects on "Naranjilla" Preservation - "Naranjilla"

(*Solanum guitoense*) is a delicious fruit which has a wide internal market but foreign markets have not yet been found due to the fast deterioration of the fruit. This project was located at the Polytechnic Institute where a special maturation chamber with controlled temperature was built. The project, being carried out under the direction of Marcelo Coronel, has thus far shown that doses higher than 200 kilorads produce a physical damage in the fruit

as well as destruction of flavor and aroma. Near ripe fruits show the most favorable aspect for irradiation treatment.

+ Entomology - Studies on insects attacking valuable food stuffs and export products in Ecuador were carried out in cooperation with the Exhibit.

+ Radiation Effects on the Highlands Fruit Fly -Fruits of sweet pulp that are cultivated in the highland valleys are suffering great damage from infestation by a fruit fly (*Anastrepha fraterculus* Wied). Studies performed by researchers from the College of Agronomy, Central University, preliminary studies on the radiation effects on this insect were carried out by Mr. Cristóbal Barba and Mr. César Wanderberg from the Research Division, Ministry of Agriculture. Two thousand insects in pupal stages were irradiated with different dosages.

+ Work on "Picudo Negro" (*Cosmopolite sordidus*)-For the first time in Latin America, studies on the radiation effects of *Cosmopolite sordidus* were carried out, thanks to the interest of IFEIA. Using special precautions, about 1000 insects were brought from Prebilingue to Quito. The study showed that doses of the order of 100 kilorads killed the insects in one day. If these studies are a success, they may constitute a real contribution to Ecuador; although much effort should be dedicated to studying the appropriate diet in rearing this insect, first in the laboratory and later in massive form,

+ Disinfestation of Wheat and Flour-Due to the interest of the National Commission of Wheat (CNT), a project on radiation effects in *Platiedra gossipeda* was initiated with the Exhibit in Ecuador; this insect is causing great damage in Quito's flour mills. CET hired Miss Beatriz Hidalgo and asked Mr. Jaime Flores, employee of CNT, to work on a full time basis for the project whose main objective was to determine the ovoposition rate and

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fertility of the eggs of *Platiedra gossipiela* in relation to the dose parameter. The Ministry of Agriculture also cooperated in this project and Mr. Flores will use the data when submitting his thesis to the College of Agronomy, Central University.

## RADIATION EFFECTS IN ORE DRESSING OPERATIONS

Studies on the radiation effects in the flotation of sulfur and copper ores (Chalcopyrite type) were initiated at the Exhibit in cooperation with the Polytechnic Institute and the College of Engineering of Central University. Preliminary flotation trials in both projects indicated the most significant parameters that should be taken into account for the success of the operation. Based on this information, a factorial experiment was designed. Analysis of variance indicated the influence of the effects of the different factors by themselves, and in their combinations, on the yield of the operation. In both projects the equation of yield is being calculated by taking into consideration the replications and factors used in the experimentation. Correlation of data done by using the reciprocal matrix concept.

A second part of the project consisted of irradiated sulfur ore and chalcopyrite ore samples at different dose levels; the yield on the valuable component will be correlated to the dosage received by the examples.

The third part consisted of selecting sulfide and sulfur crystals and submitting them to an intensive gamma radiation field. Possible effects in crystalline structure are being

studied at the laboratories of the National Bureau of Mines and also at the PRNC, using X-ray analysis diffraction techniques. Data from X-ray analysis will be correlated with the yield of flotation due to radiation effects, if any.

two graduate students from Central University (Mr. Biuardo Vega and Ue, fafacl Peonitio) and one from the Polytechnic, Mr. Trajeno Randves, participated in these projects and will use the sta unen submivting theses. The thesis is prerequisite for @ professional degrees

## GEIBTICS

IFEIA and the Catholic University at Quito initiated the folloving projects at the Exhibit.

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+ Banana Buds - IFEIA decided to study the radiation effects on banana buds of the "Gross Mitchell" variety, which is very susceptible to fungus infection, ?The objective was to study the possible development through radiation of a mutation resistant to the fungus infection called "Panama sickness."

+ Work in *Chalceonaria crenata* - *Chalceonaria* is a plant cultivated in the Ecuadorean highlands for ornamental purposes. Brother Cleonente Amas (M.S. Biology, University of California at Berkeley), now a professor at the College of Science, Catholic University in Quito, irradiated seed samples of *Chalceonaria* for studies of chromosomes.

Special Research Program at the College of Pharmacy,  
Central University

Due to the special interest of the Dean of this College of Central University, and through the special cooperation of Dr. Inis A. Romo (Ph.D. University of Wisconsin), the following projects were carried out during the "Atoms in Action" Exhibit in Quito:

+ Adsorption of Cobalt-60 in Silicates - Several samples of Ecuadorean clays activated by different procedures were used in this project. Mr. Claudio Carrillo cooperated with Dr. Romo and will use the data for a professional thesis at the university.

+ Radiation Effects in the Crystalline Structure of Kaolin as Measured by Phosphate ( $P^{3-}$ ) Adsorption and X-Ray Diffraction

Studie:

+ Depolymerization of Polysaccharides by Gamma Radiation -

Pectine samples were irradiated and viscosity measurements were used to evaluate the depolymerization rate.

+ Radiation Effects on the Degradation of Vitamin C and

Stabilizing Effects of Polysaccharides. An experiment was de-

signed to study the possible stabilizing mechanism of polysaccha-

rides in Vitamin C under gamma irradiation conditions. Thin

layer chromatography techniques were used to evaluate the results.

+ Investigation of the Minimum Dosage of Gamma Radiation for

breakdown of Vitamin B6 and B12

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\* Dimerization of Acenophthylene - ?The dimerization of Acenoph-

thylene was achieved under a variety of experimental conditions

and the mixture of trans and cis dimers is being separated by

chromatographic means. ?This project, suggested by Dr. Harry

Semant, is being continued; all the other projects were com-

pleted in their experimental part.



## Other Projects in Radiation Chemistry

The Exhibit's gamma irradiation facility was also used to study the decomposition of bipyridine, and in a polymer chemistry project.

+ Radiation Effects on Bipyridine - Mr. Guillermo Romero, a graduate student from the Chemical Engineering Department, Central University, has been studying the copolymerization of vinyl acetate and crotonic acid using the concentration of this acid and the radiation dose as parameter. The copolymerization rate and reactivity ratios have been evaluated and the molecular weight of the polymer will be determined at the PRNC laboratories. Mr. Romero will use this data for a thesis at Central University.

## GRADUATE STUDENT THESES

Graduate students from the Central University and the Polytechnic Institute participated in different research projects and will use the data for submitting a thesis, prerequisite for a professional degree. The students and project titles are:

+ Radiation Effects on the Flotation of Chaleopyrite. Mr. Rafael Pazmifio and Mr. Eduardo Vega (U.C.)

+ Radiation Effects and Copolymerization. Mr. Guillermo

Romero (U.C.)

+ Adsorption of Cobalt-60 in Silicates, Mr. Claudio Carrillo

(u.c.)

+ Radiation Effects on Flatiedra gossipiela, Mr. Jaine Flores

(u.c.)

+ Radiation Effects on Bipyridine. Mr. Edwin Acosta (E.P.N.)

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+ Radiation Effects and Flotation of Sulfur. Mr. Trajano

Ramirez (E.P.N.)

+ Radiation and Preservation of Naranjilla. Mr. Bolivar

Izurieta (E.P.N.)

+ Preservation of Potatoes Through Radiation, Miss Rosario

Jacho (U.C.)

Consultant services have been rendered to several students of the College of Education, Catholic University, in relation to their thesis,

Special Program, Department of Physics, Central University

Due to the interest of this Department, a special demonstration program in neutron diffusion theory was presented, It was attended by all the professors of physics from the University and also by three professors from the College of Science, University of Cuenca, a city located about 600 kilometers from Quito. The Director of the Department of Physics (U.C.), has written a letter of acknowledgement to Dr. Eddie Ortiz indicating the benefit received by Central University from this lecture and demonstration program.

Acknowledgement from the College of Pharmacy

to PRIC Personnel

The Dean of the College of Pharmacy, Dr. Gerardo Armendariz, and the Faculty of the same College of Central University, held

a reception for PRIC personnel who participated in the "Atoms in Action" Exhibit in Quito. He gave Diplomas of Acknowledgment to Dr. H. Harry Scmant, Mr. José Cuevas, and Mr. Fausto J. Mufioz.

The diplomas clearly show the impact made by the lectures and research projects initiated with "Atoms in Action" in Quito.

Other Activities and Services

+ Irradiation Services - Irradiation services were offered to high school students for projects which were included in the First National Service Fair of Ecuador, Several seed irradiations were also performed for people in the flower business interested in observing the possible changes in color of ornamental flowers, as well as for agricultural people interested in observing the radiation effects on barley and wheat seeds. Irradia-

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Above: President Arosemena and other Ecuadorian government officials hear explanation of the uses

of the gamma radiation facility in agricultural-economy research programs initiated at the time of the "Atoms in Action" exhibit in Ecuador. Below: President Arosemena and Education Minister Dr. Fabian Jaramillo with the "At in Action" staff in Quito, Ecuador.

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tions were performed, too, for several small fruit and vegetable packing companies interested in observing the radiation effects

on the preservation of their products.

+ Attendance of Special Groups from the Universities of Ecuador = Due to direct action taken by the RNC representative, professors and students from the College of Engineering, University of Manabá, came to Guito and attended a special seminar on Plowshare and other lectures related to the nuclear engineering field. Four of the young assistant professors have already written to the University of Puerto Rico requesting application blanks for graduate studies. This program took place during November 27 ~ November 29, 1957.

Professors and students from the College of Pharmacy, University of Guayaquil, also visited the Exhibit during December 1-5, 1967, and a lecture-demonstration in radiation chemistry and nuclear instrumentation was offered to them, two students from this College attended the Exhibit courses offered by personnel of the Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU).

By request of the religious order of the Christian Brothers (H.I.C.C) a seminar was arranged on November 26, 1967. For twelve brothers of the order, and for professors of physics and mathematics from the La Salle, Carlos Marfa de la Torre and Ovalado Schools in Quito, and San José, in Guayaquil.

PRNC personnel participated in the special "VIP" seminar prepared for The National Assembly, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary and Lions Clubs.

+ Consultant Services - PRNC personnel rendered the following consultant services

a) of Health, Dre

Jorge Chiriboga stopped in Guayaquil on his way to Peru, and discussed with members of the NIH of Ecuador the implementation of nuclear techniques in parasitology studies, NIH sent four people to attend the Exhibit courses and is initiating radiobiology studies on several parasites using an X-ray source from the Cancer League (SOICA) in Guayaquil.

>) Sugar Exporters Association and INRIA, Guayaquil, Dre

David W. Walker discussed the uses of radiation on the control of insects, and advised these organizations on the steps to

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follow in order to correctly apply the radiation parameters.

ø) College of Science, University of Cuenca, and Central

University, Quito. Dr. Eddie Ortiz gave advice on the improvement of a curricula in Physics to professors of these univer-

sities who attended his seminar on neutron diffusion theory.

4) Central University of Ecuador. At the request of the Vice-Chancellor, Mir, Fausto Mufioz R., scientific coordinator of the PRNC Program at the International Exhibits, presented a memorandum indicating the need to establish a Nuclear Science Institute at this University.

We think the success of the PRNC Program at the International Exhibits has opened a very wide field of possible applications of atomic energy in problems related to the agricultural economy, public health and scientific development of the universities in these countries. Several publications from work initiated during 1965 and 1966 have appeared during 1967.

One, by Dr. Pedro Solé of Guatemala, titled "Gamma Radiation Sterilization of Canned Pineapple," has been submitted to Intern J. App. Radioisotopes. Another, by Dr. Ricardo Bressani (INCAP) and Mrs. Aurea de Monzén of Guatemala, titled "Radiation Effects in Incaparina," was also submitted to the same journal.

The other three papers, prepared in collaboration with PRNC personnel, will appear in the Appendix of the annual report after publication,

Four other papers are ready and will be presented at the 10th Latin American Congress in Chemistry in February, 1969. Another paper has been accepted for publication by the magazine of the Entomological Society of America, Washington, D.C.

Several young university professors from the countries which the Exhibit visited have been or are presently enrolled in graduate studies at UPR and are doing their research work at PRNC, (Table 1). Some students received their professional degrees in 1967 through thesis work initiated with the Exhibits in their countries. This was made possible by the continuous association of FRNC scientists who had participated in the Exhibits and the local personnel who participated in the projects (Table 2).

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## TABLE 1

List of Persons who Have Continued Graduate studies  
Through Assistance Given by the PRN Exhibits Program



Tames Original Institution Studies agin Or Tn

Fellowship (Mos.)

1. Dr. Alicia Instituto Salvadoreño M.S. Agri- AD (1)12

Pineda de Investigaciones del Café culture

2. Dr. Armando ?Ministry of Public Health Post-graduate AID (1)28

Tustemante «El Salvador studies in Ra~  
dicology (UPR) \_

Prof. Mario Dept. of Physics, cics UR

Saca Univ. of El Salvador ee:

Mr. Roger Ministry of Agriculture ?MiS. Agri- apm (1)\*6

Tandaverde El Salvador culture

+ Virgilio Ministry of Agriculture M.S. Agri- Am (1)\*6

be ee Ne BT salvador culture

. so Dept. of Chemistry PheD. ?UPR he

+ Prof. Alfonso Torts Gf Cowta Rica ?-?Chenistry

of. Delia Dept. of Chemistry MoS. ?UPR oh

?T. Profs Dergegn Univ. of Kicaragua Chemistry Univ. of

Prof. it. of Chemistry M ae 2h

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S ?Benedet Biology

g. Prof, Ima Dept. of Chentstry Mes. sara R

Zea ?Univ, of San Carlos, Ghenistry

Guntenala

x six month extensions were obtained in order to pes en to 0

their graduate work. permit them to complete

(2) Returned already to their country.

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?TABLE 2

wr

List of Students Who Have Received Their Professional Degrees

?Through Thesis Work Initiated with the

Atons in Action Bynibit, Progran During 1965-1

anes Thesis Gitie Gameetion Tegies,

iar Jaine Effects of the Forme

Cdeeres \_Acsa in the Fricke

Dosimetry system Nov. 1965 Chemist

Nr. Rafael ?-?Radiatiion Effects on

Granados Beans (Phaseolus July 1966 Agronomic

?vulgaris 1) Engineer

Mrs Max She Femi Acid-Fricke

heel «System Te Ng004, Con

centration Dec. 1965 Chemist

Mrs, Puuline Radiation Chemistry

de Rodriguez of Titanium Sulfate Chem,

Solutions June 1967 Engineer

Mr. Mario Kinetic Interchange

Tépez ?Between Cyclo Alkine Chloride

& Radioactive Chlorine Ton Chen.

(See Table I) Mar. 1967 Engineer

Mr. Roberto Radiation Effects on Canned chen.

Gutiérrez Pineapple (See Table 1) June 1967 Engineer

Mrs. Aurea Radiation Effects in Inea~ Chen.

?de Monzén parina (See Table 1) Apr. 1967 Engineer

Miss Juanita Sulfur-35 Exchange Reac- Nov. 1967 Chemist

Freer tions in Triphenylphos-

phine Silfide (See Table 1)

Mr, Carlos Preservation of Bananas Nov. 1967 Chemist.

Rodriguez Cavendish variety

?through gamma radiation

Mr. Luis Nuclear Energy & lav Dec. 1956 Lawyer

Guillén

Country

EL Salvador

El Salvador

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Costa Rica

Costa Rica

Costa Rica

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?The PRNC International Exhibits Program was visited in

Ecuador by Dr, Henry J. Gonberg, PRNC Director, and Dr. Amador Cobas, PRNC Deputy Director, We express our gratitude for their coments, suggestions, and support of the Program, Mr. Juan Silva Parra also attended the exhibit in Ecuador. He is taking over the responsibilities of the field operation of the program, The special support in logistics from the USKEC Division of ?Technical Information is acknowledged. A resumé of the Exhibits in Panand and Ecuador is presented in Table 3.

### TABLE 3

Réauné of the FRNC Program at

The Atons in Action Exhibit in Panama and Ecuador

Panand Bouador

FRNC Participating seientiets 5 5

Total Number of Research Projects 6 20

Research Projects at Government Institutions 2 7

Research Projects at Private Institutions 1 -

Student Participation 45 8

Tecturés Offered by PRIC Scientists 18 2B

Attendance at Lectures 705 2B.

Expected Publications During 1968 1 10

SS

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## BIOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS

The research activities in biology and medicine (also called the 06 Program) are sponsored by the US AEC Division of Biology and Medicine, and comprise approximately one-third of PRNC's total program.

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Right: Preparation of

an orange

for use in

a sample of marine bot-

tomato-peel-grab

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tom sediment off the

west coas

Rico.

Right: TI

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Left: A technician sepa-  
rates infaunal polychaetes

from a sample of marine bot-  
tom sediment for trace ele-  
ment analysis on individual  
organisms.

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## MARINE BIOLOGY

?The aims of the research in the Marine Biology Program have not changed during the past year although the methods of approach and points of emphasis have, in a few instances, been altered.



?The work includes field and laboratory investigations with the major emphasis directed toward neamrenents wer naturel conditions.

The field area on the west coast of Puerto Rico includes a 20-mile stretch of coast which encompasses the watersheds and offshore marine areas of three rivers. ?the northernmost river, ?the Culebrinas, drains a watershed with large amounts of limestone. ?he central Aflasco River has its origin in volcanic terrain with hydrothermal deposits of copper. ?The Guanajibo River, to the south, drains an area with extensive outcroppings of serpentinite. Each river carries a unique assenblage of trace elements into the marine waters; the influences of these additives upon the productivity of the marine areas, and the trace element composition of the marine organisms are being studied.

Investigations of trace elenent distributions in the sea is of interest in the study of oceanographic chemistry and in allied areas including those concerned with biological productivity, the {influence of organisms upon the chemical and physical forms of elements in sea water, the geochemical histories of elements introduced into marine waters by natural processes, and the distribution of man-made radionuclides deposited in the sea.

A knowledge of the biogeochemistry of trace elements is of

critical importance to man insofar as radioactive isotopes of the same elements may become incorporated into food webs from which human food is derived. The distribution patterns of many of the trace elements in marine waters, organisms, and sediments have not been measured. Little is known of the relative influence of physical, chemical, and biological mechanisms which control the transport and distribution of these elements. Thus, little is known of the relationships between rates of photosynthesis by marine plankton and the rates of incorporation of trace elements into marine food webs. Even less is known of the relative rates of loss of trace elements with the death and decomposition of marine organisms.

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Investigations designed to measure and define the relative

and individual influences of the physical, chemical, and biological

trace elements in the same environment. In the Marine Science

Program, analyses are being made for cadmium, calcium, carbon, cobalt, copper, hydrogen, iron, lead, manganese, mercury, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sodium, silver, strontium, sulfur, and zinc (and limited number of other elements) rockers sell,

river Waters and river sediments from the land which contribute to the trace elements to the neighboring marine waters, the pelagic, Littoral and benthic organisms and sediment. For A11 biological samples, micrograms of trace elements are reported per gram of wet, dry and ash weight, per gram of carbon and nitrogen per 10,000 calories, and per microgram of phosphorus

In addition to the distribution studies of stable elements, other areas of investigation being carried out off the west coast of Puerto Rico include basic studies in marine ecology and taxonomy; measurements of biological productivity; background observations in physical, chemical, and biological oceanography; analyses for rare earth distribution patterns in the watersheds and the neighboring marine waters, organisms, and sediments; and laboratory measurements of the rates of accumulation and loss of selected organisms for given radionuclides,

## DEVELOPMENT OF ANALYSIS METHODS

A significant part of the work is concerned with the development of methods for stable element analysis in a variety of sample types. Among the methods used in the Marine Biology Program are destructive and non-destructive neutron activation analysis, x-ray emission spectrography, atomic absorption and flame spectrophotometry, colorimetry, fluorescence analysis, arc spectrography, polarography, gas chromatography, and automated chem

ical analysis using, primarily, colorimetry. During the past year a non-destructive neutron-activation method has been developed for the analysis of aluminum in sediments, rocks, minerals, and modern biogenic carbonates. A method is under development for the analysis of the same element in river and sea water. A rapid separation for neutron-activated scandium in rocks, minerals, and biogenic carbonates by liquid-liquid extraction has been developed to replace a slower precipitation method. An ion

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Technicians measure gamma radiation dose from a rabbit with samples irradiated in PRNC's research reactor. Several elements, including manganese, aluminum, copper, silver, iron, scandium, mercury, cobalt, zinc, iodine, strontium, lanthanum, tungsten and chromium, are analyzed by this method.

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Dr. R. Gordon Pirie removing a sediment sample from the orange-peel-grab.

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exchange method has been tested and used for the determination of Cu, Fe, Zn and Sc, and rare earths by neutron activation in samples of marine organisms. A method for measuring zinc and

manganese in sea water samples by coprecipitation and liquid~

Liquid extraction followed by atomic absorption spectrophotometry has been developed. In sea water samples containing large amounts of silica from phytoplankton, the samples must further be purified by an ion-exchange step using a chelating resin.

\_\_, During the past year a Technicon Autoanalyzer has been put into operation for the analysis of phosphate, nitrate and silicate in samples of river and sea water and marine organisms. The equipment performs 20 analyses per hour. Methods are being developed to analyze for Ca, Sr, Fe and Ni.

## INVESTIGATIONS

Studies have been started on the influence of age and size upon carbon-nitrogen ratios and trace element content in zooplankton. Analyses of 150 individual specimens of the marine copepod, *Pontella micocera*, have been completed. In conjunction with these analyses, a study is in progress of the total CHN content in specimens which have been subjected to lipid extraction. The fatty acid distribution patterns in these lipids are being analyzed by gas chromatography of the methyl esters.

Field investigations, related to uptake studies of Cu, Fe, Mn and Zn by populations of the intertidal clam, *Donax dentatus* and the nine-armed starfish, *Luidia senegalensis*, were

completed. Natural populations of the starfish were collected from areas under the direct influence of two river outflows. An analysis of their stable element content demonstrated that, of the elements analyzed, the levels of Fe and Zn were different between the two areas. These elements varied in relation to feeding activity in previous studies.

Levels of the stable elements Zn, Sc, Fe, Sr, and Cu have been compared between inshore-offshore populations of benthic fauna in an area adjacent to the Afiasco River. Levels of Cu and Sr in the fauna are enhanced by proximity of the landmass, while levels of Zn, Sc, and Fe are not. In both areas the sediment-water interface, and the feeding activities of the fauna that live above and below it, proved to be important in the partitioning of Zn, Fe, and Cu in the organisms. Change in the taxonomic

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composition of faunal groups does not appear to influence the stable element composition of the group, but feeding types seem to have a major role in stable element distribution.

No studies of diurnal variation in zooplankton abundance, species composition, and elemental content were completed. In the first study, marked changes in the species composition of the surface-water plankton were accompanied by fluctuations in concentration in several of the 15 elements analyzed. In the

second investigation changes were again observed at the surface and also at 100 meters depth,

A survey was begun of the concentration of plant nutrients important in primary production off the mouths of the three rivers on the west coast. In conjunction with this study, salinity measurements are being made in order to better understand the magnitude and direction of flow of the rivers.

Studies were made on the frequency distributions of Cd, Ca, Co, Cr, Fe, Pb, Mn, Ni, Cu, Zn and Sr in the shells of *Donax dentatus* and the queen conch, *Strombus gigas*, and in the soft tissues of thread herring, (*Ophisthionena oglimm*), and mullet, (*Jugil curena*). Although the frequency distributions for the trace elements approximate a log-normal shape, statistically significant differences do not occur in the concentrations of the elements within a population from one location,

Preliminary investigations on uptake of a wide variety of elements by the invertebrate, *Artemia*, show that the elements in sea water are concentrated in patterns by chemical groups. In general, the "B groups" of elements are concentrated to a higher degree than the "A groups."

Studies on the taxonomy and distribution patterns of foraminiferans in the marine sediments off the west coast of Puerto



Rico have been continued. Over 160 species and subspecies have been identified to date. Seven living foraminiferal assemblages have been found including near shore, reef, inner shelf, middle shelf, outer shelf, muddy sediments and deep water.

The topography and bottom sediments of an off-shore-onshore transect in Afiasco Bay have been investigated. Samples were analyzed for percent sand and gravel and for mean diameter and Standard deviation, Carbonate was determined by gasometric analysis and the amounts of organic carbon and nitrogen were measured, the parameters vary in a regular pattern which may be

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related to sedimentary processes and sediment types along the transect. Four sediment facies have been identified.

## VISITING INVESTIGATORS

In addition to work conducted by the staff, a group of visiting investigators worked in the Marine Biology Program during the summer of 1967.

Dr. Tudor Davies and Mr. Ian Evans of the University of

South Carolina did the field work for an investigation on the microarchitecture of living molluscan shells, their contained trace elements, and the changes which occur in the structure and compositions of the shells after death of the organism.

Dr. R. Gordon Pirie, Mr. Robert Kattman and Mr. John Comer of the University of Wisconsin investigated the sedimentology and petrology of the carbonate sands on the Cabo Rojo platform, a submerged reef off the west coast of Puerto Rico; the clay mineralogy of the Afiasco River sediments and the marine sediments of Afiasco Bay<sup>3</sup> and the distribution of trace elements in the waters and sediments of Joyuda Lagoon.

Dr. James Zischke, an Oak Ridge fellow, from St. Olaf College in Minnesota, completed a study of calcium deposition in the shells of marine molluscs.

#### PANAMA-COLOMBIA STUDY

As an extension of the work in Puerto Rico, field collections and measurements were made in Panama and Colombia as part of a feasibility study for the possible use of nuclear explosives for digging an isthmian sea-level canal. The marine biology group at PRIC conducted the estuarine and marine phase of the project. The research ships were in the isthmian region for seven months, returning to Puerto Rico September 6, 1967.

Samples of water, sediments, phytoplankton, zooplankton, fish, crustacean, and other benthic invertebrates, including mollusks, were taken for analysis of H, C, N, P, Mn, Fe, Ca, Sr and &, In addition, a limited number of analyses for I, rare earths, and U are being made. ?

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The distribution patterns of the trace elements in the sediments and waters of the Gulf of Panama and the Pacific Coast conform to the patterns expected as a result of runoff from the land and upwelling of deep waters of the sea. The results from the survey will be utilized to evaluate, by a specific activity approach, the possible hazards provided by the incorporation of radionuclides into food webs leading to humans.

Foster anchor dredge with a s  
collected for infaunal analysis

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Injecting radioisotopes into

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TERRESTRIAL ECOLOGY PROGRAM |

THE RAIN FOREST PROJECT

The Rain Forest Project is a series of studies on one small area of the montane rain forest 1500 feet up the side of El Yunque mountain in Eastern Puerto Rico. It has three objectives:

1) to study the effects of gamma radiation on the tropical ecosystem; 2) to study mineral cycling and dispersion in the systems 3) and to study the basic biological functions of this ecosystem, such as respiration, transpiration, and photosynthesis, to better understand phenomena related to the first two objectives.

The project is in its fifth year. A section of the forest has been irradiated and many follow-up studies have been completed, (For details of the radiation experiment see FRIC-82, Annual Report 1965). Present efforts are being directed to long term studies on recovery and succession of vegetation in the irradiated area, and to detailed investigations of mineral cycling and distribution in the tropical ecosystem. Studies are carried out at both the FRNC Rio Piedras Laboratories and at the El Verde field laboratory, on the Northwest slope of El Yunque.

## RECOVERY AND SUCCESSION STUDIES

Vegetation Indices, The objective of the recovery and succession study is to determine whether gamma radiation produces long-term specific effects on the tropical ecosystem after the irradiation has terminated. The study is carried out by comparing various indices of vegetation quality and quantity in the irradiated center with similar indices from areas in the rain forest which have been damaged by mechanical clearing or by application of herbicides. Measurements in the irradiated area include a detailed annual survey of plant species and size in addition to the various comparative indices. Details on the radiation center measurements are given in a previous annual report (FRNC-102 p. Va-1h2),

Indices being used to compare the irradiated area with other damaged areas include species diversity, importance values, similarity index, and optical measurement of leaf area index. The irradiated center has an area of well drained soils and an area

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of poor drainage. Since this may influence recovery, the above indices were computed separately for both areas.

Species diversity for each area was determined by counting individuals and species, Diversity indices were plotted using standard regression analysis techniques, and differences between lines were calculated by analysis of covariance. Species diversity for seedlings in the irradiated area in March 1961, was measured by McCormick, a former consultant to the project. Species diversity did not differ significantly between the two herbicide areas, nor between the well drained and the poorly drained portions of the irradiated area. Differences between all other areas existed at greater than the 99 percent level of confidence (1).

Diversity after the irradiation was greater than before in the irradiated center. Differences in diversity between one area and another are probably related to the size of the canopy opening. The herbicide damaged areas had the greatest canopy opening while the radiation center was intermediate and the cut center the least after regenerative canopy sprouting. Thus the greater penetration of light may have produced a greater diversity in the herbicide areas. There is no reason at this time to believe that the diversity differences are primary treatment effects.

To compare quality of vegetation in the experimental areas, the importance values of all species were calculated, and the most important values are presented (Table 1). *Psychotria berteriana* and *Pellicourea riparia* are woody species which become es- \_

Established in open areas near El Verde. They are sub-canopy trees, and can survive, at least for awhile, beneath the shade of canopy trees. *Tabebuia heterophylla*, *Didymopanax morototoni*, and *Cecropia peltata* are canopy trees, and also commonly become established in open areas. *Heliconia bihai* is a semi-herbaceous plant similar to the banana tree, *Phytolacca icosandra* is an herb having a niche similar to *Phytolacca americana* of the Northeastern United States which is that of an early colonizer of forest openings. *Phytolacca icosandra* had a low importance value in the irradiated area at the time of sampling. Most of the plants were decaying, and there were no new seedlings. However, *P. icosandra* was the most conspicuous plant in the irradiated area several months after radiation ceased. Although there is a considerable amount of natural variation, the data generally show that the same species are invading all four areas of study.

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Light at two wavelengths, and the ratio between the

two, above

the canopy, on Nov. 16, 1967.

Figure 2

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To quantify differences between plots, percentage similarity between all pairs of plots were calculated (Table 2). The wet drained area of the irradiated plot was approximately as similar to all other plots as the two herbicide plots were to each other. This indicates that differences between the irradiated plots and other plots is not a function of treatment. Radiation recovery studies are continuing although at this time it appears that recovery and succession is not primarily related to the original treatment. Within the natural variation of small plots the recoveries of vegetation are similar for all damaged areas,

Optical Measurements, For many ecological studies, the leaf area index (the ratio of leaf surface per unit area of ground) must be known. Optical density has been used as a measure of canopy thickness. However, there are several problems with optical density as a measure of leaf area index. One is that the optical density method, which compares photocell read-



ings above and below the canopy, assumes that all light is either transmitted or absorbed. Actually, much of the light is scattered as it moves downward through the canopy. Another problem is that photocells must be read simultaneously above and below the canopy.

Leaf area index can be calculated by measuring the infrared-red light intensity ratio (800 m/675 mu) on the forest floor, thus eliminating the difficulties of traditional optical density measurements. The theoretical basis of this measurement is as follows. Light at a wavelength of 675 mu is absorbed in proportion to the amount of chlorophyll in the canopy, and thus its attenuation is a better measure of leaf area index than light at all wave lengths. However, the amount of 675 mu light is independent of time of day, at least between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (Fig. 2), and also time of year. Since there is very little attenuation of infrared light as it passes through the canopy, the infrared-red ratio appears to be a good measure of leaf area index, at least on sunny days. Calibration of leaf area index with the 800m /675 mi ratio was repeatable within limits of instrument error and sampling variability (Fig. 3), using direct measurement of leaf area index from a tower.

Insect studies. Dr. Elizabeth McMahan surveyed termite survival during the summer of 1967. It was found that 7 out of 13 termite nests in the 80 meter circle around the radiation center were abandoned since the end of irradiation. Four of these nests

were in the region between 30-80 meters from the position of the

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Figure 3

Kline adjusts a plastic Dag used for measurement of metabolism in lea

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eee youre?. Three of these vere alive during the sumer of 1966 but were abandoned sonetine during the following years The Jowest calculated radiation dose to an abandoned nest was 100 R near the 80 meter circle. By contrast only one abandoned nest Gut of 12 studied was found in the 80 meter circle of the control center. the long delayed abandoment of termite nests (rafiation geased in April 1965) may be due to sterilization of reproductives in the nest without actually killing the existing insects,

## MOURAL CYCLING STUDIES

The objectives of the mineral cycling projects are to measire existing distribution of macro and micro elements in the rain forest, to study pathways of movenent of these elements, and to measure rates of movenent along these pathways. ?hese studies are expected to provide in the short run an empirical basis for the prediction of the fate of radionuclides which may be released in tropical commnities, and may lead in the long run to a theoretical understanding of material handling mechanisms in tropical, ecosystems. ?the mineral cycling studies are divided for convenience into four categories of activity. These are: 1) Fallout Measurements; 2) Radioactive Tracer Experiments; 3) Stable Element Analyses; 4) Water Budgets.

## EALLOUT MEASIREMENTS

<sup>137</sup>Cs Residence Time. Measurement of radiocesium residence time in the El Verde forest is a continuing effort in which the half-life estimates in various compartments are revised approximately at six-month intervals. The estimates are based on a group of samples collected monthly at the field site from canopy, Understory, and litter. The samples are oven-dried after collection and counted in a Marinelli beaker by the method of gamma scintillation spectrometry, utilizing a shielded NaI (17) crystal connected to a 400 channel pulse height analyzer. The complex spectra are resolved into their individual components by computer solution of simultaneous equations, the data for each radiocesium is then plotted as a function of time on a semilogarithmic scale and regression lines are fitted by the method of least squares.

Residence times for <sup>137</sup>Cs in canopy, fresh leaf litter, and understory leaves are given in Figure. Understory leaves have

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Effective residence times for <sup>137</sup>Cs in freshly fallen Litter, Canopy leaves, and understory leaves in the rainforest at El Verde,

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the greatest burdens, followed by canopy leaves and fresh leaf litter. The low values in leaf litter indicate a possible loss of cesium by leaching since these leaves are collected only once each month. The computed residence times for each forest compartment are given in Table 3 along with deposition data.

Understory leaves have the longest residence half time while canopy leaves have the shortest. The values of environmental half life for cesium are shorter than those for strontium and imply a less effective retention mechanism for cesium, similar measurements have been made for Whigs, strontium, mercury, and lead,

#### TRACER EXPERIMENTS:

Behavior of cesium in Soil. A tracer experiment described in a previous report was terminated with the conclusion that

very little cycling of this radionuclide from soil occurred in understory vegetation. (PRNC-102, p. 146). After the conclusion of the vegetative phases of the experiment, soil and litter experiments continued.

$^{137}\text{Cs}$  was leached by rain from the organic surface litter of the plots with an environmental half life of approximately 15 days. Upon reaching the soil, however, nuclide movement became extremely slow. Figure 5 shows the depth of penetration of the nuclides into the soil after 18 months of leaching.

The relationship is exponential and shows that activity is reduced by about half in the soil for every inch of depth. This behavior is unexpected for highly weathered soils in a high rainfall area. A partial explanation for this behavior is given by the results of laboratory extractions of soil (Figure 6).

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The results show that  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  reacts with some component of the soil more or less irreversibly and cannot be removed by successive extractions with a neutral salt. When extractions of the soils with HCL were done, similar amounts of the nuclide remained in the soil.

The results of the field and laboratory analyses of soil size

gest that  $^{238}\text{U}$  became irreversibly bound to, or fixed by, clays of the soil, Fixation of alkali metals is well known in soil chemistry when expanding lattice clay minerals are present. X-ray diffraction analyses of rain forest soils are planned to determine whether such minerals are in fact present.

Reactions of Nuclides With Epiphyllae. Epiphyllae are mixtures of organisms which grow on the surfaces of leaves in the rain forest. Their populations may include algae, fungi, lichens, Liverworts, mosses or bacteria. These organisms have been suspected of playing a role in the nutrient cycling mechanisms of the forest because they were found to contain large amounts of fallout radionuclides. Experiments were carried out in cooperation with Dr. Raymond Henzlik, an Oak Ridge Research Participant from Ball State University, to examine some reactions of these organisms with radionuclides.

Leaves from four species of trees were contaminated with radioactive solutions containing  $^{134}\text{Cs}$  and  $^{85}\text{Sr}$  for a period of 20 minutes, after which the leaves were washed in tap water for 6 minutes. All species had leaves both with and without epiphytic growth. The results are shown in Table 4, Epiphyllae were from 4 to 7 times more efficient in retaining radionuclides than were leaves which had no surface growth. This indicates that these organisms may be adapted to deriving their mineral nutrient re-

Requirements by interception of rain water or canopy leachate.

Minerals which are intercepted by epiphyllous leaves might be transferred to the leaves by foliar uptake. If this happens it could be an important source of nutrients for the higher plants of the area. An experiment was done to determine whether leaves received nutrients from labeled epiphyllae. Excised leaf sections containing labeled epiphyllae were placed firmly against the surfaces of leaves in the field and held there for 2 hours. Leaves in the field were matched for those having surface growth and for those which did not. After up to 10 days the leaves were harvested, sectioned and counted,

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The results (Table 5) show that epiphyllae took up more radioactivity from the labeled overlays than did clean leaf surfaces. The activity in the tip portions of the leaves probably indicates surface translocation since the leaves are adapted to shedding water in this direction, the activity in the basal portion of the leaves may indicate some uptake and translocation by the leaf. It is apparent, however, that most of the activity remained in the region of the leaf which was originally contaminated. It is concluded that epiphytes of this type are not efficiently adapted to furnishing their higher plant hosts with minerals through



foliar uptake. The strong binding adaptation exhibited by these organisms for mineral elements suggests that the opposite may be true. Minerals leached from leaves by rain water may be the sources of nutrients for the epiphyllae.

Nitrogen Fixation. The source of biologically available nitrogen in the tropical rain forest is a question of long standing interest. This is because there are no significant geochemical sources of nitrogen and also because the environmental conditions favor rapid nitrification of biologically released nitrogen which may be lost from the system due to leaching. One possible source of nitrogen in this system is fixation of atmospheric nitrogen by epiphyllae which grow in abundance on practically all leaf surfaces in the forest. An experiment to test for nitrogen fixation by these mixed communities was carried out in cooperation with Dr. Joe Ranisten (University of Georgia) using Fig.

Five leaves of a grapefruit (*Citrus paradisi*) tree were enclosed in plastic bags with an airtight seal. The normal atmosphere was withdrawn from the bags through hypodermic needles and the atmosphere was replaced with an artificial one consisting of 15% argon, 20% oxygen, and 5% nitrogen-15. The leaves were allowed to remain in this atmosphere for 48 hours and were then harvested. Epiphyllae were scraped from the leaves immediately, and pooled into one sample. Leaves and pooled epiphyllae were

sent to a commercial laboratory for  $^{15}\text{N}$  ratio analysis.

Results are shown in Table 6. The epiphyllae had 9.67% of their total N in the form of  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , the leaves from which the been scraped were also enriched above the natural level of  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  which is 0.36. It is apparent that N fixation took place and that some transference to the host leaf also occurred. This suggests a possible symbiotic relationship in which N may be furnished

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directly to forest plants by these organisms, the epiphyllae

in turn receive inorganic nutrients from the trees, whether or not the relationship is truly symbiotic, epiphyllae certainly add to the pool of available N in the forest through leaf fall and cell turnovers. It is apparent that potentially important new source of biologically available N in the tropical rainforest has been found.

Radionuclide Distribution in Animals, this study was designed to evaluate the utilization by forest animals of plants growing on tree trunks. Three tree trunks were tagged by spraying each with 1 mCi of carrier free  $^{65}\text{Zn}$  solutions. Absorption of the tracer nuclide was effective and similar to that

previously discussed for leaves, the three trees were spaced in the form of a triangle. Collections of snails, lizards, frogs, spiders and insects are made weekly from within and outside of the triangle by various methods. Animals are counted live by gamma ray spectrometry when possible and released near the area of capture. All of the groups of animals mentioned have shown measurable levels of  $^{65}\text{Zn}$ .

Herbivorous insects have failed to show levels of  $^{65}\text{Zn}$  that would indicate direct feeding on epiphytes, even when they are taken from labeled trunks. High levels of tracer in vertebrate and invertebrate carnivores, however, suggest that a herbivorous link exists. Relative levels of tracer indicate that snails may be the principal herbivores utilizing this source of food,

Lizards, frogs, and snails have been captured, marked, counted and released through several repetitions. This procedure has allowed the acquisition of information on homing behavior and territoriality as well as feeding habits. This behavior is well developed in snails and lizards,

Figure 7 shows an example of homing and territorial behavior of 137 snails of this species are available and indicate that there are 2 categories of behavior following release at the point marked X. Some snails leave the study area in apparently random directions after remaining in one place, usually a tree, for several days.

These are called transients. Others, designated as residents, move at once to other locations, which, when plotted over several releases, delineate a territory, or home range. There seem to be two distinct types of residents, one with a small home range

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## RECAPTURE POINTS

© snot! 028, wt 32.0 gm

(© Snot 095, wt 24.4 gm

Snoil\_ 085, wt 30.4 gm

© Sno 086, wt. 30.2 gm

Scale | cm\* 1 meter

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dependent of snail sizes the other type has a larger range tiny

are classified as narrow-ranging or wide-range inna

full significance of this difference Let not set one ee

transient snails entered the study area voluntarily while the

were carried in experimentally, none of the latter eventually

home ranges in the study area,

Overall recapture percentages for snails has been 79%, for M6 recaptures. The number of recaptures has ranged from one to 16 per individual, with no indication of a limit of tolerance for this treatment. There is no evidence that snails develop either evasive tactics or increased susceptibility to capture. The mean recapture interval is 13 days based on weekly collections with extremes up to 106 days.

Most of the snails have low levels of  $^{65}\text{Zn}$ , which is probably due to foraging in contaminated litter that now surrounds the base of the contaminated trees. It is obvious, however, when a snail actually grazes on one of the treated trees, because of a sudden large increase in body burden of  $^{65}\text{Zn}$ ; Such jumps in radioactivity are termed a "high-level uptake" (HLU) and are useful for describing snail behavior. Table 7 gives a description of snail behavior for various categories of snails. It is apparent that the transient snails contact and feed on the contaminated trees with much greater frequency than the resident: Among the residents the wide-ranging individuals contact the treated trees with greater frequency than the narrow-ranging individuals in spite of the fact that their greater range should lower the probability of contacting a radioactive tree. The tree climbing behavior of transient snails is so dependable that it has been utilized intentionally to obtain a group of labeled snails for a

bio-elimination study.

Sixty snails were made radioactive by the above method for a bio-elimination study. Thirty were released into their home ranges while the remainder were retained in cages. The biological half-life of  $^{65}\text{Zn}$  in snails released in their home range was estimated to be in the range of 18 to 24 days, with an indication that there was more rapid early release. Dissection of individuals revealed that within one week 80% of the radioactivity was confined to the liver while the remainder was in muscles and other soft parts and almost none in the shell.

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## STABLE ELEMENT ANALYSES

The project received a Perkin Elmer Model 303 Atomic absorption spectrophotometer during the past year and put it into service immediately upon arrival, the first analytical project involved the determination of Ca, Mg, Mn, Sr, and Co in canopy, understory, and litter leaves to determine whether stable ele-

ments in natural mineral cycles follow the same pathways as the fallout nuclides. While this project has not yet been completed or summarized, preliminary results indicate that the stable elements are enriched in understory vegetation, as was found with the fallout nuclides. The results also indicate that there are significant differences in mineral content among species and that these contents do not undergo seasonal variation.

A second project was initiated to measure Ca, Mg, Mn, and Na in water collected from various points in the forest. Sources of water include rainwater, canopy leachate, stem flow, and soil water. More than 150 samples of water have been analyzed for the above elements thus far, on monthly composites. Significant amounts of the above elements are found in all phases of the forest water although tentative conclusions would be premature at this time. The project will continue for at least one year, at which time a calculation of mineral budget based on water flow volumes for each compartment, stand densities, and leaf turnover will be computed.

A third project is being initiated at this writing to study mineral contents of secondary successional vegetation. The project will continue for at least one year and will attempt to characterize mineral cycling in successional communities,

WATER BUDGET

Tritium Experiments. Tritium in the form of tritiated water could be released to the tropical environment through thermonuclear detonations of either a peaceful or military nature. The behavior of such releases in the high rainfall tropical ecosystem is not known. An experiment was carried out to measure some aspects of this behavior in soil of the rain forest.

Tritium ( $\text{HTO}$ ) was applied to a small soil plot in the rain forest. The plot was equipped with a lysimeter (see PRNC-102, p. 1K7) and a runoff collecting device, both of which drained

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27h

into plastic water collection vessels. Water samples were collected from the plots at first after every rainstorm and later at weekly intervals for a period of seven months. Samples were counted by standard methods of liquid scintillation counting.

Results of the experiment are shown in Figure 8, Tritium reached a peak of activity at the depth of the lysimeter (18 cm) in approximately 16 days. The environmental residence time of tritium in the soil profile was calculated by least square analysis to be 16.3 days after reaching the peak. Tritium loss in the soil litter was shown to be a 2-compartment system. The first



phase of loss had an environmental residence time of 2.9 days;  
the second had a residence time of 35.6 days.

The results for the soil profile and surface litter indicate that there must be compartments which do not have rapid exchange by self diffusion of water. Restricted self diffusion could be the result of the tortuosity of clay pore spaces, absorbed water films on clay surfaces, or exchangeable hydrogen. Regardless of the reason for restricted self diffusion, it is apparent that tritiated water has a considerable persistence in soils and litter of the tropical rain forest. This persistence must be considered in predicting the effects of thermonuclear detonations in a tropical environment because it is evident that plant roots growing in contaminated soil will be exposed to this nuclide for considerable periods after even a single input pulse. Crops grown in forest clearings for human or animal consumption will be correspondingly contaminated.

Water Balance, Measurements of water flow through the forest environment, Compartments measured include total input, water reaching ground level, soil flow through, surface runoff, and tree trunk runoff. A preliminary water budget based on 8 months of measurement at one location is given in Table 8. The results show that 72.6% of the total rainfall reaches the ground at this location and that 36.9% of the total rainfall moves through the soil. Only 4.5% of the total water runs off the soil

surface. The difference between input to the ground and bulk loss must be a measure of evapotranspiration, Computations from Table 8 indicate that this quantity is of the order of 2.65 mm/day. Odum (personal communication) has previously measured evaporation from a free water surface at the top of the canopy and has given an average value of 1.8 mm/day. A computer program is being written to process the data from more than 30 lysimeters and 10 rain

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Gages. It is expected that this will allow more precise evaluation of the water budget. \* ? ?

Stem flow is an important means by which chemical elements are transported from the canopy to the forest floor, It is also an important segment of the water budget of the forest.

?Twenty-two stem flow collectors were put out in the summer of 1967. The total amount of stem flow per tree collected from August through October 1967 is shown in Figure 9. Quantity of

stem flow is independent of species, for the five species measured. Amount of stem flow increases with increasing size of tree, up to the intermediate size trees, and then drops off sharply with the larger trees. This may be caused by the shape of the crowns. The large trees tend to have rounded crowns, whereas the smaller ones have V-shaped crowns.

## SOTL METAROLTSY

Metabolism of decomposer organisms and roots in the soil is difficult to measure, because the respiration rate is influenced by the rate at which the air being analyzed for change in content is passed over the soil. However, by putting a relatively large box over the soil surface, and measuring CO<sub>2</sub> buildup inside the box, soil respiration can be calculated. An objection to this approach is that the buildup of CO<sub>2</sub> in the box inhibits further respiration. However, in a large box, inhibition begins only after about 20 minutes.

The results (Table 9) are based on the rate of CO<sub>2</sub> increase in the box during only the first 10 minutes of measurement. They show a respiration rate of 0.03 g CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup>/hr. These results are lower than have been previously reported (PRNC-82, p.143), but may be more realistic since they agree more closely with known

rates of leaf fall and decomposition,

## STAFF

Dr. George Drewry completed requirements for the Ph.D. in Zootology at the University of Texas. He has initiated nov projects on the cycling of radionuclides through animal population: of the rainforest. sme ee

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ur

Mr, Douglas Krom joined the project as an instrunent technician to operate the weather station. He also has skills in computer programing and has written a progran to process water budget data.

Dr. Raymond Henzlik (Ball State University) spent June, July, and August working with project staff as an Oak Ridge Research Participant. His work consisted primarily of studies on reactions of radionuclides with epiphytic plants.

Dr. Elizabeth MacMahan (University of North Carolina) received support during July and August 1967 to continue studies on the

effects of radiation on termite populations.

Dr. Joe Edmisten (University of Georgia) visited the project during September 1967, to participate in nitrogen fixation studies using  $^{15}\text{N}$ .

Dr. Joe Koranda and Mr. John Martin (Lawrence Radiation Laboratory) visited the project in September 1967, to discuss the possibility of doing a cooperative tritium experiment in the rain forest. It was decided to attempt to study the kinetics of tritium behavior in mature canopy trees early in 1968. Dr. Jerry Kline visited Dr. Koranda's Laboratory in November 1967, to study tritium analytical techniques. At that time Dr. Koranda agreed to loan the project some specialized equipment for tritium analyses to be installed in the forest laboratory at El Verde. The equipment has been received and installed.

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Table 1, Importance values of secondary successional species in a tropical rain forest.

Irradiated Center

Well Poorly Cut ?Herbicide Herbicide

2

drained grained Center \_\_\_\_1

*Psychotria berteriana* 118\* 16 05\* a2 ho

*Fallicourea riparia* 265 20 52 182+

*Tabebuia heterophylla* 36 aoe 3 2 3

*Fhytolacca icosandra*, 99 0 aT 18 0

*Didymopansx morototont* 45 33 25 we 45

*Gecropia peltata* wae 7 we ge 3

*Heliconia bina* a) 61 °. °

% Indicates the most important species in the area,

Table 2, Percentage similarities!between pairs of experimental plots.

Paire of Plots Percentage similarity

Well drained - Poorly drained 52.3

Well drained - cut iscr

Well drained - Herbicide plot no. 1 61.0

Well drained - Herbicide plot no. 2 13.9

Herbicide plot no, 1 - Herbicide plot no. 2 4g

Poorly @rained - Cut 30.3

Poorly drained - Herbicide plot no. 2 lero

Poorly drained - Herbicide plot no. 2 39.2

Cut - Herbicide plot no. 1

Cut - Herbicide plot no. 2

1, percentage similarity of 100 means

that the plots are identical; one of

© means they are entirely different.

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?Table 3. Residence times of  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  of fallout origin in various rainforest compartments.

Environmental ?Leaf Biomass  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  Burdens

Compartment half life (days) ? (gn/nary) nein

canopy 588 859 5.8

?Understory 937 D\* -

Leaf fall TO ?40.5\*\* 0.2e

leaf litter - 12h 1.2

\* ND = Not determined, Included in canopy estimate.



%\* Average per month.

Table 4, Adsorption of  $^{134}\text{Cs}$  and  $^{85}\text{Sr}$  on epiphyllous and non-epiphyllous leaves of the tropical rain forest.

High  $^{85}\text{Sr}$  g/g

Leaf surface  $^{134}\text{Cs}$   $^{85}\text{Sr}$  /  $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^2$

Epiphyllous 9134 5363

Non-epiphyllous 1405 1269

Table 5. Uptake of radionuclides by epiphyllous and non-epiphyllous leaves and translocation of the nuclides within the leaves.

High  $^{85}\text{Sr}$  g/g

Leaf surface  $^{134}\text{Cs}$   $^{85}\text{Sr}$  /  $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^2$

Epiphyllous tip and 498

overleaf 1062 60

base 180

Non-epiphyllous tip % 34

overleaf nT 332

base 12 8

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Table 6, Amounts of total nitrogen in leaves and epiphyllae and percent of total N as  $^{15}\text{N}$  after 48-hour exposure to  $^{14}\text{N}_2$ ,

Wt. of Material ??

Sample Kjeldahl (g) (g) N

Pooled epiphyllae 0.2059 0.0224 9467

Scraped leaf #1 261703 0.0234 5.65

Scraped leaf #2 1.7533 0.0085, 0.99,

Scraped leaf #3 1230 0.0280 0.70

Scraped leaf #4 0.0220 0.82

Table 7. Utilization of  $^{65}\text{Zn}$  trees by various groups of snails.

Number of Number of Number of Releases

snails \_releases \_\_HLU\*

?Transients 7 5 est

Involuntary a 190 5 x

Voluntary Br 26 6 4.33

Residents

Wide ranging a Bg 20 6.95

Narrow ranging 39 362 35 10.3!

Inner Zone 2B 88 1 8,00

?Transition 35 210 20 10.50

Outer Zone n 6h 4 16,00

?Total 8 ey % 6.43

?\*HLU = High level uptake, an indication that

@ snail has grazed on a labeled tree trunk.

?Table 8, Water balance at one location in the rain forest at

HI Verde.

Percent of

Location Water Flux total input

cn/aay %

ower rain gage 0.847 a

Ground rain gage 0.616 6

Lysineters 0.333 36.9

funeff 0.038 45

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Table 9. Results of soil metabolism experinents.

Volume of bax 249.6 liters

soil covered by box -625 sa.meters

Change in CO concentration,

in 10 mimites (2 trials) 100 ppm

Rate of CO production +40 g/n2/nr.

Rate of carbon release 211 @/n2/nr.

Rate of oxidation of aa

organic matter 3 22h @/2/r.

Dr. Drewry prepares the gamma

the measurement of radioactive

experiment.

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Miss Mirtha Trujillo, a st

Dr. Alec Grimison and Dr.

the equipment for the detection o

of gamma irradiated samples.

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RADIATION CHEMISTRY PROJECT: MATRIX ISOLATION  
STUDIES OF PRODUCTS OF GAMMA-RADIOLYSIS OF  
HETEROCYCLIC MOLECULES

The project aims at the trapping and subsequent characterization of the species formed by  $\gamma$ -radiolysis of heterocyclic molecules of possible biological importance. Emphasis is therefore placed on direct observation of the usually labile intermediates formed after the absorption of high energy radiation. This is made possible by utilizing the matrix isolation technique, in which the molecule is irradiated in some form of rigid matrix, normally at low temperatures. Under appropriate conditions, radicals and molecular ions can be stabilized by this technique for extended periods of time, and studied by spectroscopic techniques. An important part of the program involves the quantum-mechanical calculation of electronic properties of heterocyclic radicals and ions, these results are then used in conjunction with the experimentally measured properties to help identify unknown intermediates.

A description of current research projects follow:

#### 1, Absorption Spectra of io Intermediates at T7°K.~

the work carried out in previous yeare with heterocysiic solutes in nethyltetrahydrofuran (WIMP), 3-nethylpentane (3HP), and Freon Glasses has been extended considerebly. In particular, the Characterization of the properties of the Freon mixture under gamma-radiclysis has been reported, denonstrating the importance Of positive-charge migration in halogen glasses. This has led fo the assignment of the absorption naxima for irradiated pyrrole, in Freon at 600m to the pyrrole radical cation, that of pyridine at 360 my to the pyridine radical cation, and thet of thiophene at 320 and 830 mu to the thiophene radical cation. ?his represents the first characterization of these species.

A list of the new absorption maxima obtained from gamma-irradiated heterocyclic in MIE?, 3MP, and Freon glasses during the past year is given in Table 1, ?he results obtained for pyridine, pyridazine, and pyrazine in MIHF are particularly interesting. The radical anions of pyridine, pyridazine, pyrazine, and pyrimidine have previously been prepared by Dr. Hush, at the University of Bristol, England, by chemical means. He reported absorption maxima of pyridine anion at 335 mi, pyridazine anion at 352mu, and pyrazine anion at 36 m., all measured in liquid THF, These reaults are obviously in close accord with the species formed by gamm-irradiation in Table 1, especially for pyridazine. This

represents the first demonstration of the importance of ionic intermediates in the radiolysis of heterocyclic molecules. The

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18h

TABLE 1.

NEW ABSORPTION MAXIMA FROM GAMMA- IRRADIATED

HETEROCYCLIC MOLECULES IN RIGID GLASS AT 77°K

Substance Glass A max (mu) Effect of bleaching solvent band

- Silica 256 increase

cell (uv bleach)

Indole Freon 1000st, 620, -

600, 565, 550

Imidazole Freon 580 decrease

Pyrazine ?-MIHF\_?\_340,500 7

Pyrazole MEE san -

Pyridazine MIF 354 increase

Pyridine MoE 350 increase

Pyridine SMP 360,1200 =

Pyrrole MEF 400 decrease

Thiazole MF 330 increase

?Thiophene MIHF 670,370 increase

Thiophene ? 3MP-??\_-830,320 decrease

mee

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results for indole in Freon glass are in partial agreement with flash-photolysis studies by Grossveiner. Thus he reported intermediates with absorption maxima in the region 600-400 m, and tentatively assigned this to a neutral radical in early papers, Our results suggest that the intermediate observed by Grossveiner may have been the indole radical cation.

2. Luminescence of Irradiated Glassy Solutions. The purpose of the luminescence experiments recently initiated is two-fold. The existence of new emitting species formed by gamma-irradiation,



and having different excitation and emission characteristics from the original solute, can be demonstrated. Also, recombination luminescence of charge-separated states formed by gamma-irradiation can be stimulated by infrared or thermal excitation of the matrix. This causes the breakdown of trapping sites in the matrix, and under suitable conditions gives rise to the characteristic luminescence of the original solute molecule, subsequent to its regeneration, Table 2 shows some of the preliminary results obtained for a range of irradiated solutes in 3MP, including some aliphatic and homocyclic compounds previously studied by other groups; and for which excellent agreement is obtained. In some cases, extremely long-lived (10 mimes) luminescences are observed which may be due to radical cation-anion recombinations.

3. Electron Spin Resonance Studies, the ES spectra of the irradiated Freon mixture have been measured on a Varian E3 spectrometer. The resonance associated with the degassed, irradiated sample and tube is complicated, extending over 500 gauss with unresolved and overlapping structures, the analysis is further complicated by hydrogen atom resonances which change on exposure to Visible light. the hydrogen atom resonances are produced from water molecules adsorbed on the silica sample tubes. The sensitivity of light suggests that an intermediate adsorbing in the visible region, such as the trapped electron or adsorbed  $Hg^{0-}$ , may be present. ESR spectra of irradiated frozen Freon droplets, without the use of a sample tube, were therefore studied. some experimental

difficulties remain, but an ES resonance at 2800 gauss and 9.2 gigacycles has been? shown to decrease on bleaching with ultra violet light. This is concomitant with the decrease in the 585 and 330 mu u.v. absorption bands of irradiated Freon. It can therefore be assigned in the same way to positively charged species produced in the Freon matrix by gammi-radiation.

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#### 4, Photochemistry of Heterocyclic Molecules in Rigid

Mateless SE7PK: As an aid to the identification of radiolytic

Tninterdiates, @ series of experiments on the ultra-violet ir-

radiation of heterocyclic compounds and aromatic amines have

been noted. The generality of biphotonic ionization of a large

class of compounds via the triplet state has recently been demon-

strated. This therefore provides an alternative route to the pro-

duction of the radical cations of heterocyclic molecules. A large

number of aromatic amines were first photolyzed, since many of

these are already known to photoionize, his provided a test for the suitability of the present experimental setup for observing photoionization, and a confirmation of the earlier published work, The results (Table 3) were in excellent agreement with earlier work in almost all cases, and the first steady-state (as opposed to flash-photolysis) photoionization of ethylaniline and Diethylaniline was observed.

Of fifty heterocyclic compounds screened in preliminary testing, only fifteen gave significant production of intermediate absorptions. One particularly interesting result was the production of a band at 20  $\mu$  from photolysis of indole. This corresponds closely to the spectrum assigned to the indole radical cation in our gamma-radiation experiments and the flash-photolysis work of Grossveiner, described earlier. The fact that the photoionization of heterocyclic molecules appears to be an inefficient process is not entirely unexpected, It is already known that the triplet lifetimes of many heterocyclics are much shorter (1/1000) than those for corresponding monocyclic molecules, Modifications in future experimental procedure should permit more effective production of photoionization.

## 5. Self-Consistent Field Calculations on Heterocyclic

Radicals and Radical Ions. A computer program has been completed which utilizes the input Luecke wave-functions to carry out Pariser-

Parr-Fople self-consistent field calculations on open and closed shell systems. This program calculates wave-functions and eigenvalues for up to 10 pi-electron systems. The Pariser-Parr-Pople program is then linked to a second program which computes the molecular repulsion integrals, and thus the singlet-singlet and singlet-triplet electronic transition energies and oscillator strengths for neutral molecules, and the doublet-doublet electronic transition energies and oscillator strengths for radicals. This produces a theoretical absorption spectrum of a given radical, which can be compared to the experimental spectrum assigned to that species.

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The greatest uncertainty in such calculations lies in the choice of the best values of semi-empirical parameters for radical species. The approach taken here is to first carry out an extensive set of calculations on the parent heterocyclic molecule to find the values which best reproduce its known spectrum. These parameters are then used in calculating the spectra of the derived radicals. This approach is extremely time-consuming, since no general search method can be implemented. However, the results obtained in this way for the lowest transition of the pyrrole molecule are:

Theoretical ? Experimental

Transition Energy Energy (eV)

3+ 4 ("BD 5.62 5.88

3+ 4 Ga) 4.19 4.32

?These calculations now yield an absorption maximum for the pyrrole radical cation of 1.2 eV, against the experimental value

assigned in this laboratory of 1,5 eV. In spite of this encouraging result, anomalies have appeared in calculations on some systems, particularly radical anions, in which spin correlation effects may be very large. In view of this, the matrix elements for a limited configuration interaction treatment of the Pariser-Parr-Pople wave functions have been derived. A program using this is being tested now. It will link with the earlier programs and produce configuration-interaction improved wave functions and energy values which should be more reliable.

6. Valence-Bond Calculations on Heterocyclic Systems. These calculations are being carried out in cooperation with Professor C. Zauli, of the University of Bologna, Italy, and his group. They aim at calculating the electronic structure of triplet states of simple heterocyclic systems, and doublet states of derived radicals, using a non-empirical valence-bond method. The preliminary calculations are being made on cyclopentadiene as a model compound.

The formal expression of integrals among determinantal basis functions in terms of integrals among atomic orbitals is completed. During a two month visit by Dr. A. Grimsen to the University of Bologna, some 500 atomic integrals were computed on an IBM 7094, for a set of exponent values, and using a very accurate self-consistent field potential for the ring carbon atoms. These values are now being inserted into a program at FRNG to produce



the singlet, triplet, and quintuplet energy levels of cyclopentadiene, An advantage of the approach used in this project is the ease of computing radical species by setting certain sets of Integrals equal to zero in a cloved shell molecule calculations

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Or. Lawrence S. Ritchie

fish with cercariae 0:

which have been labeled

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## SCHISTOSOMA MANSONI PROJECT

This research program is directed toward a better understanding of the mechanism of the host-parasite relationship that could eventually lead to the control of schistosomiasis, a disease which affects over 200 million people throughout the world.

During 1967, a special agreement with Walter Reed Army Institute of Research? enabled us to secure the assistance of Dr. Lawrence S. Ritchie, an authority in the schistosomiasis field. Dr. Ritchie's participation in the project since July 1967 made possible the

Standardization of snail culture and the infection of the definitive host used by us (the mouse). Several experiments were also started and others completed under his supervision. Some were presented to scientific meetings; others have been submitted for publication, some of which have been approved by such journals as *Experimental Parasitology*.

Cooperation was greatly increased with a group at Minas Gerais from Belo Horizonte, Brazil, headed by Dr. Jos Pellegrino. Last year we were visited by Dr. Celio Murilo de Carvalho Valle and Dr. Pellegrino, who worked with us for four months and one month, respectively. Collaboration begun last year with the U.S. Public Health Service Laboratory (directed by Dr. Frederick Ferguson) was continued and various results were obtained, especially in relation to labeling of snails and cercariae. Accomplishments warranted extending this project to include field observations. Cooperation continued with the group from the U.S. Veterans Administration Hospital under Dr. Menendez Corrada with reference to certain immunological investigations; some results are ready to be submitted for publication,

The following abstracts describe the major projects carried out during 1967.

?The Maintenance of Schistosoma nannoni at the Puerto Rico

Nuclear Center, Several changes have been made in maintaining the

Life cycle of Schistosoma mansoni, They are concerned primarily

with snail culture and standardizing the exposure for mice.

Tap water in this laboratory was found to be toxic for snails,

presumably due to copper ions from the piping. Water was then

obtained from a river source for snail culture, Since this limited

the size of the stock that could be maintained, an attempt was made

to condition the tap water by passing it through sand and charcoal.

?This proved effective and 15 shallow aquaria (30 x 18 x 6 inches)

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were constructed in tiers of three. These were provided with a

continuous flow (fast drip rate) of conditioned water. This in-

creased the stock of about 2,500 uninfected and 800 in-

fect snails, Young snails are cultured in small aquaria until

they are 3-5 mm in diameter and are then transferred to the aqua-

ria. They normally reach a size of 12 mm in about 2 months. ALL

snails are fed a formula of ground alfalfa, pulverized dry dog

food, wheat germ and powdered milk (4:2:2:1 parts, respectively),

The alfalfa was substituted for Cerophyl recently, since it proved

equally satisfactory and is sold locally as dairy feed at much less cost.

The sample of cercariae for mouse exposure is provided by means of a semi-automatic pipette. Before the multiple samples are taken for group of mice, each of five samples is dispersed in a serological spot-plate. A drop of iodine is added to each spot and the cercariae are counted. For this series of 5 counts, the standard deviation is determined; a standard deviation of #5 is deemed acceptable for a sample of 100 cercariae.

Exact worm counts have been made for 10 mice from each of 2 series of mice exposed weekly. The mean worm counts have been between 40 and 50, with a standard deviation of 10-15. The number of cercariae recovered as worms represents a recovery rate of 40-50%.

#### Effect of Radiation on the Reproductive Potential of *Bion*

*Hyalina glabrata*. During 1967 groups of laboratory-reared *Bion* *Phalaria glabrata* were irradiated with a <sup>60</sup>Co gamma source to provide exposures ranging from 125-1000 Rads. These results complemented data collected in 1956 which involved exposures ranging from 4,000-64,000 Rads (See 1966 PRNC Annual Report, p. 165).

With 16,000 Rads, marked damages were noted in all parameters, including 100% mortality after 60 days, no movement or ingestion

of food subsequent to exposure, termination of egg laying within  
two weeks, and no hatching of the eggs that were laid, With 8,000  
Rads, results were intermediate, while with 4,000 Rads near-normal  
results were obtained in all the above parameters. However, the  
development of eggs showed abnormalities even with 4,000 Rads, and  
it was deemed advisable to determine the effects of lesser dosages  
(125-4,000 Rads). Five hundred (500) Rads marked the threshold of  
irradiation effects and reference will not be made to the lower  
doses used.

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Irradiation with 500-4,000 Rads did not cause significant  
deaths among mature *B. glabrata*, the mean number of clutches laid  
per snail per day was reduced for snails exposed to 4,000 Rads, but  
not with 2,000 and 1,000 Rads. With increase in radiation from  
500-1,000 Rads the number of eggs per clutch and eggs produced per  
snail per day declined somewhat. Egg development was not affected  
except for eggs laid by snails exposed to 4,000 Rads. Even with  
this radiation, eggs laid during the first month developed in num-  
bers equalling the non-irradiated controls. During the second

month, development of eggs laid was reduced about one-third.

Hatching of eggs was the aspect of snail development most sensitive to irradiation. Whereas 13% of the eggs from non-irradiated snails hatched, the corresponding figures for 500, 1,000, 2,000 and 4,000 Rads were 42, 25, 14 and 2%, respectively (table 1).

In comparing the results of the two experiments, it was noted that egg production was reduced more by 1,000 Rads in the experiment carried out in 1967. The most important finding for the radiations within the range of 500 to 11,000 Rads was the marked reduction in hatching.

Snails exposed to 0, 14,000, 8,000, 16,000, 32,000, and 61,000

Rads (Co) were sectioned serially for histopathologic studies.

Three snails from each of the above categories were sectioned weekly for 7 weeks. After exposure to a dosage of 16,000 Rads, the snails were permanently sterile. The corresponding histopathological picture and the histology of a normal snail are shown in Figures 1 and 2,

Labeling of *Biomphalaria Glabrata* with Radioselenium. The objective of this study was to evaluate radioselenium for labeling

B

*Blabrata*. Both  $^{75}\text{Se}$  (175se03 in HCL) and  $^{75}\text{Se}$ -methionine

Proved very effective for this purpose; these isotopes should be

effective for studying a wide range of parameters in relation to the population dynamics of *B. glabrata*. Since these observations were made in conjunction with attempts to label cercariae, the snails used were infected.

In each of two trials, 20 infected snails were exposed to 10  $\mu\text{Ci}$  of  $^{75}\text{Se}$  methionine by mixing the isotope with 250 mg of food formula. Seven weekly feedings with a total of 70  $\mu\text{Ci}$  were administered in both the first and second trial, but in the case of the latter, 3 additional feedings were given during the 8th week for a total of 100  $\mu\text{Ci}$ . In the first trial, radiations were

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19h

?TABLE 2.

Effects of Cobalt 60 Irradiation (500 - 4,000 Rads)

On Biological Potentials of *Biom; ia glabrata*

ee

Weeks after

irradiation Amount of Irradiation (Rads) |

jontrôle

Death rate

(A) 1-8 10 ° °

Mean

clutches/day 1-8 AS 78 +75

Begs/Clutch 1-8 rr 6 18

Bags/snail/

Day 18 6 Boos

& Eggs with 1-4 6 99 99

Embryos 5-8 67 9 99

4 Bebryos

Hatched 1-8 2 wa 25

76

22.

29

99.6

98.5

43

ee \_ \*"



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started 2 weeks after snails were exposed to

5 weeks after: were exposed to miracidia. In the

second trial, the infections were patent at the onset of radiation

A group of 20 infected snails without the isotope were:

these specimens without isotope were kept as

Snails were rinsed thoroughly before determining radioactivity,

Counts were made with a Model 186-A Iclear Chicago Counter, At

the end of the second experiment, 4 snails were killed by immersion

in water at 70°C for 30 minutes, after which soft tissues were re-

moved and radioactivity was determined for shell and soft tissues

separately. This was also, done for a group of 5 snails exposed one

week to 25 Ci of <sup>75</sup>Se (ligand 5203).

Two days after the first feeding of <sup>75</sup>Se-methionine (10 µCi),

the radioactivity exceeded 200,000 cpm. There was no increase

after 12 days, but some occurred after 26 days. he counted  
?exceeded 400,000 cpm after 40 days and increased after 54 days to  
more than 850,000 cpm in one trial and to over 672,000 cpm in the  
other (See Table 2).

Separate counts of soft tissues and shell from infected snails  
given 100  $\mu\text{Ci}$  over 8 weeks in food showed that  $^{75}\text{Se}$ -methionine was  
{incorporated chiefly by the soft tissues, the ratios ranging from  
 $^{75}\text{Se}$  to 17.78 (Table 3). For 5 snails exposed to 25  $\mu\text{Ci}$  for  
only one week, higher tissue and shell counts were obtained but  
the differences between activity in soft tissues and shell were  
less.

?The mortality rate for infected *B. glabrata* exposed to  $^{75}\text{Se}$ -  
methionine was found to be a little less than for infected snails  
not exposed to the isotope.

Feces accumulated during the final week were found to be  
highly active (156,624 cpm) while the water had only 2,179 cpm/ml.

?This indicates that, at least in part,  $^{75}\text{Se}$ -methionine was ac-  
cumulated through food? consumption.

Evidence that *B. glabrata* incorporated  $^{75}\text{Se}$ -methionine was  
obtained by precipitating homogenates of soft tissue with 10%  
trichloroacetic acid and determining the radioactivity of the super-  
natant and residue after centrifugation, The activity of the

precipitate was about 7 times that of the supernatant

Since the half-life of <sup>75</sup>Se is 127 days, relatively long-term experiments on dispersion and population dynamics of *B. glabrata* should be possible when they are labeled with radioselectronium. Studies on radio-damage will be pursued,

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## TABLE 2

ist

Labeling of *Biomphalaria glabrata* with <sup>75</sup>Se-methionine

Dial Tia?

Days after No. Gpm per Now Cpm per

Exposure Snails fail\_\_?smile ?Snail

2 20 225,570 19 2a, 26

w 18 211,228 9 21,625

6 6 231,358 19 363,274

ho ak tahoe ag 420,03

oh 10 85,985 12 672,531

TABLE 3

Radioactivity determination on the shell and soft tissues  
from snails exposed to <sup>79</sup>Se-methionine.

Gail Soft tissues shell Soft tissues

To. oom. op shel

ct 476,192 70,337 6.77

Fe 384,766 21,64h 17.78

3 399,863 36,0h0 12.09

he 523,647 43,788 1473

Se 163,652 «38,547 476

Gun 173,999 38,653 4.50

7% 197,851 9,199 hs.

Geer 13,225 12,397 20.83

Infected snails (Experiment 3)

\*

Control snails (8-week exposure)

Control snails (4-week exposure)

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labeling of *Marisa cornuarietis* with Radioselenium and

proved a *Marisa* snail against the vector of *Schistosoma mansoni*), to

P 2 means of studying its distribution when introduced in.

© Colony of unlabeled snails. Adult *Marisa* exposed to 2  $\mu$ ci

$^{75}\text{Se}$  acquired a radioactivity of about 3,000 cpm/snail. With

0  $\mu$ ci of  $^{75}\text{Se}$ , juvenile *Marisa* were much more active, giving

about 3,000,000 cpm. Further tests will be required to compare

the relative merits of these two isotopes for labeling *Marisa*,

The time necessary for tagged *Marisa* to achieve a distribu-

tion coincident with an untagged population will be computed from

observations on the snails in an artificial canal at the Tropical Disease section of the U.S.P.H.S. This information will be useful in planning field assessments of snails by the tag and recovery method,

Periodicity of Cercarial Emergence (Circadian Rhythm), It is known from the literature that the emergence of *S. mansoni* cercariae from infected snails occurs chiefly during the day and is dramatically reduced at night (Faust & Hoffman, 1934, Puerto Rico J. Publ. Health & Trop. Med. 10: 1-19; Giovannola, 1936, Proc. Helm. Soc. Wash. 3: 60-61; Maldonado, 1959, Bol. Assoc. Med. Puerto Rico 51: 336-339; Rowan, 1955, Bull. World Health Org. 33: 63-71). In field experiments conducted in Puerto Rico it was found that cercarial densities vary during the day and a consistent sharp peak was noted between 11 a.m. and 12 noon (Rowan, 1958, Am. J. Trop. Med. & Hyg. 7: 374-382).

Determinations of the numbers of cercariae shed by laboratory infected *B. glabrata* were performed every two hours for consecutive days in Belo Horizonte, Brazil and in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Each snail was placed in a beaker containing 50 ml of dechlorinated water. The experiments were conducted outdoors under indirect sunlight. The cercariae that emerged within the 2-hour periods were killed with formalin and counted. Practically all cercariae are shed within a 6-hour period of the day. In Puerto Rico the peak

of emergence was found to be between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m, whereas

in Belo Horizonte the peak was between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. This fact is clearly shown in Figure 3. The seasonal fluctuations of cercarial shedding are being investigated in Belo Horizonte, Brazil as well as in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

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Labeling of Cercariae of *Schistosoma Mansoni* with Radioisotopes. The immediate goal of the present study was to label *S. Mansoni* cercariae with radioselenium. This is desirable as a means of studying a wide range of parameters in relation to cercariae dispersion under field conditions, and the role of cercariae predators in natural control of the infection,

The study was divided into three parts.

Exp. 1 - Snails with patent infections of *S. mansoni* were placed in a glass aquarium containing one liter of dechlorinated water. <sup>75</sup>Se was added to the water (specific activity 5.5 Ci/mg)

for a final concentration of 2001 Ci/liter. Water containing radio-selenium was changed weekly for 4 weeks.

Exp. 2 - Snails exposed 2 weeks previous to *S. mansoni* miracidia were placed in a glass aquarium containing 5 liters of de-chlorinated water.  $^{75}\text{Se}$ -methionine (sp. activity 4 Ci/mg) was mixed with the powdered snail food, A total of 70  $\mu\text{Ci}$  were administered (for details see the preceding abstract).

Exp. 3 - Snails which had started to shed cercariae 2 weeks before exposed to  $^{79}\text{Se}$ -methionine through the food. A total of 100  $\mu\text{Ci}$  were administered with the diet.

labeled cercariae were observed as early as 3 days after exposure of the snails to radio-selenium, The counts per minute increased slowly, reaching the maximum after 3 weeks 6.99  $\mu\text{cpm}$  per (organism). Although labeling of cercariae was also observed with  $^{59}\text{Fe}$ -methionine, the activity per organism was lower than for  $^{79}\text{Se}$  (table 4). A control experiment indicated that feeding the radio-isotope gave about the same results as mixing it in the water.

As soon as the cercariae began to emerge from infected snails they were already tagged. Figure, an autoradiograph of the labeled cercariae, clearly indicates that radio-selenium was in-



corporates ty then with « concentration occurring, particularly in the penetration glands, Cercariae labeled with <sup>75</sup>Se-methionine retained the ability to infect mice. About 20% were recovered as adult schistosomes, in comparison with about 35% for normal cercariae. The worms were not radioactive.

Preliminary trials have shown that cercariae labeled with radio-selenium are quite reliable for conducting studies on cercarial predators.

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Figure 4

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TABLE

Mean counts per minute for cercariae of  
Schistosoma mansoni exposed to radioselenium

a a

(days) setentun Psereniun Pserentun

No,Gere. Mean Gem No.Cerc. Mean Com No.Ceres Mean Com

7 13 0.90 363 1.10 \* \*

i 2eT 2.14 835 1.20 \* \*

e313 "1,3 0.73 \* \*

a a 6.99 Ee = \* \*

6 8h 5015 1,038 1.51 520 1.7h

29 64 4.06 - ~ - \_-

Bo 853 akg 618 1450

Yoo 831.98 903 (Ons

47 - 1,215 1.63 880 0.57

sh - = 1,185 0.98 3151.70

~ not done

\* prepatent period

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"Effect of Irradiation (Co) on the Host-Parasite Relation-

Effect of Irradiation on the Emergence of Cercariae from Snails

Experiments in Snails Infected with *Schistosoma mansoni*

Experiments at the P.R.N.C. by Mg, Celio Murilo of Brazil were

conducted using 1,000 to 6,000 Rads (0.01 to 0.06 Mr). The number of cercariae

that emerged from the snails was determined every 3rd day for

two weeks. A temporary inhibition of emergence occurred with

2,000 to 4,000 Rads, while 6,000 Rads were lethal for the in-

fecting snail,

Radiation of the infected snails did not influence the

periodicity of cercarial emergence.

Experiments in Mice Infected with *Schistosoma mansoni* Acquired resist-

ance against *Schistosoma mansoni* has been conclusively demon-

strated, but the mechanism has not been established. Experiments

have failed to show that any of the numerous antibodies are in-

cluded, but the possibility of unidentified protective antibodies

should not be abandoned. A second possible mechanism is that

resistance is mediated by cells, or that it is a complex of both humoral and cellular mechanisms. In order to dissociate these two possible mechanisms, whole-body radiation of the host was used as a means of depressing humoral antibody formation, whereas cellular components such as macrophages and reticular cells are relatively more radioresistant.

In a preliminary experiment, mice were exposed to wholebody radiation with  $^{60}\text{Co}$  and then infected with 100 cercariae. The death rate among these animals was compared with mice that were infected but not irradiated. In a second experiment, mice were exposed to 100, 200, 400, 800 and 1,600 Rads, and each of these groups was infected with 16, 32, 64, 128 and 256 cercariae.

The results showed that 400 Rads was the optimal dosage, since it did not kill significant numbers of normal mice and provided a difference in the death rate among infections with 64 and 128 cercariae; no differences were noted with 8, 16, 32 and 256 cercariae. Moreover, the differences in mortality occurred after 3 - 4 weeks following exposure to infection, as well as later when the disease was clearly manifested. One group of mice, irradiated a second time after 4 weeks of infection, showed a significantly higher death rate than control animals, but only

when the infections were 60 days old.

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A pilot experiment involving whole-body radiation of mice as a means of suppressing acquired resistance induced by irradiated cercariae gave results that warrant further trials.

Correlation Between Worm Burden and schistosome Pigment in the Liver of Mice Experimentally Infected with *Schistosoma mansoni*, It is known that red blood cells are ingested by schistosomes and that hemoglobin is actively metabolized inside the lumen of their gut and finally transformed into a granular pigment. This pigment is swept back mainly to the liver of the vertebrate host where it is taken up by phagocytic cells. Moetzel & Lewert (1966, *Ann. Trop. Med. & Hyg.*, 15:28) claim that the pigment produced by *Schistosoma mansoni* is not a free porphyrin but a complex compound soluble in 70% ethanol, containing 0.4g potassium hydroxide. A proteolytic enzyme with a marked substrate specificity for hemoglobin has been found in ground-up preparations of *S. mansoni* adult worms (Tims & Bueding, 1959, *Brit. J. Pharmacol.*, 18, 08).

In mice harboring bisexual and male *S. mansoni* infections, it was observed that a linear relationship exists between the schistosome pigment accumulated in the liver and the duration of infection. Daily pigment production, expressed in terms of hemin, was estimated to be 1.19 micrograms per pair of schistosomes and 0.2 micrograms per ml in unisexual male infections. (Kloetzel & Levert, loc. Cit).

In order to investigate the relationship between the schistosome pigment present in the Liver and the worm burden, 5 groups of 10 mice, each weighing 20 grams, were infected with 25, 50, 75, 100 and 125 cercariae of *S. mansoni* (Puerto Rican strain maintained at the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center, San Juan) per animal, using the tail immersion method. The mice were sacrificed 8 weeks after cercarial exposure and the worm burden determined by perfusing the liver and mesenteric vessels with normal saline and by a thorough examination of these vessels for remaining schistosomes. The liver of each animal was then weighed and minced with fine scissors. The whole liver was homogenized with a sonifier and an acetone powder prepared. Hemin was extracted from a 25 mg sample of the acetone powder according to the technique of Kloetzel & Lewert (loc. Cit). Hematin concentrations were determined spectrophotometrically at 400 m $\mu$  by comparison with a hematin standard under the same conditions and the total liver pigment was then estimated, Determina-

tion of hematin content in livers of 10 control mice showed that it ranged from 0.17 to 0.343 mg, with a mean value of 0.255 mg.

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20h

Although these values were rather low when compared to the figures obtained from infected mice, it was found advisable to correct the data from infected animals by subtracting 0.255 ng.

The results obtained in 46 surviving infected mice are shown in Figure 5. The worm burden varied from 0 to 60 schistosomes, with an average of 28 worms and with a sex ratio of 1.0 male:0.83 female. The regression curve, determined by the least-square method, obeys the equation  $y = 23.89x + 115$ ,  $x$  representing the worm burden and  $y$  the total schistosome pigment in the liver, as expressed in mg of hematin. The coefficient of correlation ( $r = 0.80$ ) was statistically significant at the 0.01% probability level,

Our data demonstrates that a linear relationship exists between the total pigment in the liver of infected mice and the worm burden and confirms the observation of Kloetzel & Lewert (Qoc. Cit.) that no "crowding effect" is apparent as far as pigment formation is concerned.

An Attempt to Induce Immunity in Mice to *Schistosoma*



Using the Millipore Diffusion Chamber (Tevine and Kagan (J Parasitol 16:767, 1960) were able to induce some protection in mice against *Schistosoma mansoni* by inoculating them with metabolic products from the cercariae of this parasite. In order to test this concept further, we introduced live worms into the peritoneal cavities of mice, in Millipore diffusion chambers (pore-size, 0.45). We assumed these mice would be exposed to large amounts of antigen in the form of excretions and secretions, and that high titers of antibodies would be produced,

The experimental design was as follows: a Millipore diffusion chamber containing 5 pairs of live adult worms of *S. mansoni* was surgically introduced into the peritoneal cavity of each of ~25 Swiss albino mice (Group I). They were removed after one week and the liquid that they contained was collected and used for inoculating a second group of 25 mice (Group II). These animals were inoculated twice, over a period of two weeks. A third group of mice received a Millipore chamber without worms (Group III). All three groups were exposed to one hundred bisexual *S. mansoni*. This was done two weeks after the capsules were removed from mice in Group I and one week after immunizations were complete in Group II. Seven weeks later the mice were perfused in order to

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MG WEMATIN/TOTAL LIVER

Correlation Setueen Korm Burden and Scaistosone

Pigment inthe Liver of infected tee

0 20 30 40 30

NUMBER OF ScHISTOSONES

Figure 5

60

oer ao Roubaaana GABAA EEL

Tentative Classification of Haenolynph Antigens ofF

Blonphalaris glabrata, snaty vector of

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determine worm recovery rates.

The slide flocculation test, the Ouchterlony double diffusion method, and immunoelectrophoresis were used to detect serological antibodies. Sera were taken from the animals in Group I one week after Millipore chambers were removed, and from Group IT one week after the last injection (1 day before challenge). sera were again collected at necropsy.

At the time of challenge, Group I and IT had a positive slide flocculation test, i+ and 1+, respectively; the control group was negative. At the time of sacrifice all three groups had 2-3+ reactions. For Groups I and TI, gamma G and gamma M globulin components were elevated at the time of challenge, especially Group I as demonstrated by the immunoelectrophoretic method (Hillyer, G.V., L.P. Frick, *Exp. Parasit.*, 20:321-25 1967).

Worm counts revealed that no resistance had been induced against the challenge exposure in each of the two experimental groups. The worm burdens for Groups I, II and III were 32, 28, and 29 mature worms.

This experiment provides no evidence of resistance to *mansoni* infections. In spite of the presence of circulating

antibodies, protection against schistosomiasis could not be correlated (Hillyer, G.V., L.S. Ritchie, Exp, Parasit., 20:326-33, 1967; Jachowski, L.A., Rol. Anderson, E.H, Sadun, Am H.J. Hyg, 77:137-45, 1953}. "If" specific antibodies do confer resistance to Schistosomiasis, be it humoral or cellular, one must determine the type in order to use it as an index of resistance. We are still confronted with the need to demonstrate this relationship.

The Antigens of *Biomphalaria glabrata* . \_ Te

Characterization and Enumeration of Bands by Immunoelectrophoresis.

This study was concerned with immunoelectrophoretic analysis of the haemolymph of normal *Biomphalaria glabrata*. The objective was to provide a base-line of comparison for changes that might occur when *B. glabrata* are exposed to ionizing radiation. By means of the latter, attempts will be made to produce strains of snails that are resistant to *Schistosoma mansoni*, several investigators have studied the protein components of tissue extracts, haemolymph

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and eggs of *B. glabrata* using electrophoretic and immunoelectrophoretic (IEP) techniques. Only Michelson (1966, Ann. Trop. Med & Parasit., 60:260) has analyzed haemolymph by means of IEP, and he reported 5-7 antigenic components in the haemolymph of these

Preparation of antisera: High titers of *B. glabrata* antisera were prepared in rabbits by means of six injections of 0.5 ml of haemolymph mixed with 0.5 ml Freund's adjuvant ("complete" for the first inoculation and "incomplete" thereafter).

Zoological tests: Ouchterlony double diffusion and IEP were performed as reported by Hillyer and Frick (1967, Exp. Parasit 20:321). Control slides using human serum were used as an aid in designating the relative electrophoretic mobilities of the haemolymph antigens.

Column chromatography: Haemolymph was fractionated using Sephadex G-75, G-100, and G-200, the fractions were concentrated by water dialysis and lyophilization,

Haemolymph labeling: Adult snails were exposed to  $^{59}\text{Fe}$  for one week, and haemolymph was then collected and submitted to IEP. The slides thus obtained were processed by autoradiography.

Results: Agar electrophoresis of haemolymph revealed a strong band having 0.2 mobility. Unstained slides showed this region to have red pigmentation, indicating the heme fraction. Heavily stained slides using a protein triple stain (Crowle, 1961) showed

trace components in the  $\alpha$ -1 and Electrophoretic positions, Weak haenolymph antisera showed very strong components in the  $\alpha$ -2 region, one of which presumably is the heme fraction. On the other hand, higher titer antisera showed a dramatically different immunoelectrophoretogram. When compared to the human serum IEP pattern, one observes haenolymph antigens from the fast  $\alpha$ -1 region to the slow  $\gamma$  (83).

Sephadex G-100 was found to be preferable to Sephadex G-200 for fractionating haenolymph. Three or four significant peaks were found, the fastest always containing the heme portion. Further analysis will be required to detect fractions in each of the peaks.

A tentative classification of haenolymph antigens is proposed

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In Figure 6, two  $\gamma$ , five  $\alpha$ , eight  $\beta$ , and one  $\beta$  3 antigens have been identified as the main members representing the haenolymph antigen structure of *B. glabrata*. Several other antigens in the  $\beta$  1 and  $\beta$  2 regions still must be identified. Presently, twenty antigenic components can be consistently identified,

Autoradiography was used to identify the heme antigens. One component picked up the 59fe but cannot be conclusively identified. Further trials will be required for clarification.

Congeneric and heterogeneric studies: Haemolymph from *Maris snails* was reacted with anti-*E. glabrata* serum by JEP. No precipitin lines were found. Haemolymph obtained from *B. glabrata* maintained in another laboratory in Puerto Rico was found to have an extra band in the # 3 region. A comparison was made between Albino and normally pigmented *B. glabrata*. The Albino appeared to have fewer bands, both qualitatively and quantitatively, in all areas of the immunoelectrophoretic picture. Further study is in progress on this comparison. Haemolymph of mature snails (12-weeks old) was compared with young snails (6-weeks, 8-10 m). The young snails had no precipitin bands corresponding to  $\phi$ j-I and 2-II, this, however, could be quantitative, not qualitative.

the results of this study are highly significant, at least on two points. The number and complexity of the antigens in *B. glabrata* haemolymph exceeds considerably what has previously been reported. These results, along with those of Dusanic and Levert

(1963, J. Infect. Dis., 112:243), also give evidence that invertebrates may have the capacity to produce specific antibodies, which is contrary to previous reports. It is noteworthy that such a large number of antigens with R and Y mobilities were found.

Lewert (1968, in preparation) discusses the possibility of immune mechanisms occurring in *B. glabrata*,

the, eee of the Effectiveness of Schistosomicidal Drugs with

the ?The need for a rapid and simple method for test-

ing new schistosomicidal drugs is evident, At present, the only method for testing drugs is the oogram method developed by Dr. Pellegrino and J. Paria (1965, Am. J. Trop. Med & Hyg, 14:363)+

Because *S. mansoni* parasites are fed on the host's blood, oogram may be helpful to measure the degree of sickness caused to the parasites when schistosomicidal drugs are administered to infected animals.

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Right: Irradiating cercariae of *Schistosoma mansoni* with a special cobalt source. Below: technicians take care of mice infected with *Schistosoma mansoni*.

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Experimental Procedure: Forty mice, Rastested with 150 cercariae, were used after eight weeks for the preliminary experiment to test the effectiveness of Anbilbar. "One tablet containing 500 ng was ground in a mortar and a few drops of "gin arabic" added to help homogenize the suspension that was diluted to 333, the final concentration of this solution was 1.5 mg/ml,

The mice were divided into four groups of 10 each. The first group was used as a control and the rest of the mice were treated

with 0.15 mg, 0.3 mg, and 0.6 mg, respectively,

The mice were fed the drug orally through a cannula for 7 days and simultaneously given 5  $\mu$  Ci of  $^{99}\text{Fe}$  intraperitoneally to tag the blood. At the end of the 7 day period, five control and five treated animals were killed with Nembutal and their livers perfused. The worms were separated from the porta, mesentery and the liver. Males and females were separated and viewed twice with saline. The worms were assayed for radioactivity with a well scintillation counter. It was found that the radioactivity in the schistosomes from the control animals was 2 1/2 times higher than the radioactivity found in the schistosomes from the treated animals (Table 5). This suggests that it may be possible to evaluate the effectiveness of schistosomicidal agents using this technique. However, the technique is long and, in an effort to simplify it, worms were chosen at random and placed on a cellophane film. The film was exposed for seven days. When developed, no differences in the radioactivity could be detected with the methods available to us.

In an effort to investigate this further, another group of 20 infected mice was chosen for a second experiment. This time, the animals were treated with Anbilhar for 2 days before the  $^{99}\text{Fe}$  was injected. Two animals from each group were killed with Nembutal and the livers perfused. The worms were separated and washed three times with saline containing a small amount of hydrochloric

acid to get rid of any  $^{29}\text{Fe}$  that may have been coating the schistosomes.

sted at random from each of the groups and placed on tn foray fline ?It ig aitfieate to evaluate the data using densitometric techniques because the worms vary in size and particularly the schistosones from the treated animals seemed to have morphological changes. ?he sensitivity of this technique mist be evaluated further and work is in progress for testing other drugs.

---Page Break---

?ARLE 5

Incorporation of  $^{59}\text{Fe}$  by s&histosona after drug treatment of the host

CEM Average \*

Male 336

Female 752

c

Portal Vein

? Male 183

T

Female 403,

Male ake.

c

Female 815

Mesontery

Male ash

2

Female 164,

a ,,

Male 333

c

Femle 82

Liver

Male 138

:

Female 176

a

¥ Average of 5 animals

Drug used: Anbilhar

Host: Mice

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Victor Quintana transferring larvae by aspirator.

Aurea Lugo removing pupae from artificial food.

Sugarcane borer moth

on a corn stalk leaf.

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## SUGARCANE BORER PROJECT

The sugarcane borer, *Diatraea saccharalis* (Fab.) (Lepidoptera, Crambidae) causes loss of two to three million dollars annually in Puerto Rico. It is a serious pest throughout the Caribbean, in the United States, Mexico, Central America, and the northern and western sugar-producing areas of South America. This project began in 1963 to determine if it was feasible to sterilize this species by radiation. We have found that the adult stage can be sterilized by radiation exposure to 30 Kr. of  $^{60}\text{Co}$  gamma without adverse effects on longevity or mating behavior.

We first measured the radiation effect on different life stages of the organism. The egg stage and all of the larval stages are extremely radio-sensitive. The late pupal stage, fifth day and older, and the adult stage are considerably more resistant. Adults have survived exposure to 240 Kr. However, these adults do not mate normally.

The normal mating behavior has been described, and compari-

sons have been made of the mating behavior of treated individuals.

Other aspects of the development of this species have also been studied intensively.

A sterilizing radiation exposure (30 Kr.) given to the adult does not reduce the oviposition rate. The average egg production for normal fertile females is 350, although some females may lay as many as 700 eggs. Over 90 percent of the eggs laid are fertile. A high percentage (usually over 90 percent) of the fertile eggs hatch, but there is a variation in the hatching rate throughout the years.

Adult longevity was observed in 1966 with individuals reared on corn in the field, Average lifespan of adult males was in excess of 5 days, Average life of adult females was 7 days. Adults reared on the artificial diet developed at PRNC live 1 1/2 to 2 times as long as adults reared in nature.

Field tests have been carried on in a large cage at the nearby UPR farm, Population change of the borer has been measured in the plant hosts (corn) growing in the cage when the sterile adults were released, Different test series have been conducted involving the release of sterile males and normal males with

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normal and sterile females; and the release of sterile males and sterile females simultaneously with normal adults, and with normal adults without sterile adults. When only normal adults were released, the next generation was fifteen times the greater than the released population. In all tests where sterile individuals have been released, there has been a decrease in population, this series of experiments has not been completed. However, it appears that the sterilized individuals behave in nature in a similar manner to their behavior in the laboratory. On the basis of our preliminary information, we have evidence that population suppression will take place under natural field conditions.

The next major objective of the project is the development of our capacity to mass-rear the species. The PRNC diet was developed in 1965. Many modifications of this basic diet have been tested since it was developed. We are presently producing from 40 to 60 adults each day on one of these modified diets. Cost per adult is 0.1 to 0.2 cents, or \$1,000 to \$2,000 per million adults,

Several basic diets have been tried with this species. Early diet tests were based upon the inclusion of the natural food, or other gramineous products in the food, Corn stalk, cane stalk, grass stem, leaves, and other plant parts were included in the diets being tested. Our objective is a diet that is cheap, easy to prepare, and easy to use, that produces a high yield of vigorous



adults in the shortest time possible. The present modification produces a 30-to-40 percent yield under mass-culture conditions within 25 to 30 days.

The adults that we are producing live longer than adults produced in nature, they mate more times, and they lay more eggs than those collected from natural host plants,

After hatching, the larvae are collected and placed in artificial food. This food contains carrot powder, corn stalk extract, Brewer's yeast, ascorbic acid, vitamin supplement, hydrochloric acid and mold inhibitor. A technique for self-transfer is being used, so that the number of larvae per vial varies from 15 to 100. Larvae are manually transferred to fresh food when necessary. At the time of transfer only five larvae are placed in each 30 ml. vial. As many as 25 pupae per vial have been produced with this method.

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Above: Life stages of the sugarcane borer: eggs and adults in and near hatching cups, larvae and pupae in food vials and on egg hatchability recording sheet, and pupae removed from vial on

table. Left: Victor

Quintana harvesting larvae

from the egg incubator.

ie.

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Right: Josefa Torres

and Victor Quintana

examining larvae in the

Laboratory insectary.

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?Tests were made to select a strain of this species that is well-adapted to laboratory rearing. Desirable traits that were sought include short larval life span and long adult lifespan, Approximately two-hundred lines were inbred over five successive generations. ?here was a great variation in the length of larval Lifespan among individuals within strains as well as. between strains.

Further work on diet improvement is in progress at this time, Handling techniques are also under study to provide the optimum conditions for survival, with minimum labor equipment. We are testing other methods for self-transferring of larvae after hatching. These are based on the attractive substance produced by the natural host plant that stimulates feeding. In addition, improved methods of cleaning vials, transferring mature larvae, and removing pupae from food are under development.

During the earlier phases of the project, occasionally it was necessary to use the surviving offspring from sterility tests for laboratory tests. It was observed that these offspring were partially sterile. On the basis of this knowledge, further tests were made to measure the inheritance of lethal factors over more than one generation. Recently we completed a series of tests where sterility was observed in several different lines over five generations after irradiation, two main types of lines were established. The first included a series where the irradiated lines were inbred over successive generations, and the second where survivors were outbred with mates from non-irradiated lines, the lethal effect, as measured by egg hatch, larval survival, and pupal survival was observed through the third generation. This data is to be published in the near future.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has established a program

of investigation on the Island of Vieques, eight miles east of Puerto Rico. There are approximately 1,000 acres in cane production as well as several thousands of acres in guinea grass, which is also a host plant of *Diatraea saccharalis*. Experiments are planned to measure the effect of an integrated control program for suppressing and eventually eradicating this pest from Vieques. This program will involve the study of parasites as well as the release of sterile adults, ?This cooperative program includes personnel of ?the Entomology Research Division of the USDA and the FRNC.

The field operation is expected to begin early in 1968 by Biologists of the USDA. PRIC will produce the sterile insects for release on Vieques after the initial study phase has been completed.

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## PHYSICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Research in physical sciences, sponsored by the US AEC Division of Research, represents approximately

one-tenth of PRNC's program.

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Dr. M. I. Kay (left) and Dr. K. Okad

mounting of a crystal on the goniome?

PRNC's automatic neutron spectrometer.

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## NEUTRON DIFFRACTION

The neutron diffraction group at the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center is working on two types of problems: (1) the chemical binding of atoms in crystals and molecules; (2) the nature of ferromagnetism, Both are related to the spatial arrangement of atoms in molecules.

If either X rays or neutrons are scattered from crystals, patterns can sometimes be analyzed that show the arrangement of atoms in the crystal. Since the amplitude of X rays diffracted is proportional to the atomic number of the scattering atom, if both light and heavy atoms occur in the same compound, the contribution of the light atom is very weak and its position can

be determined only with great difficulty, Neutrons, however,

are scattered by the nuclei of the atoms. Diffraction

of neutrons by light elements compares favorably with that from heavier elements, and the coordinates of the lighter atom may be

determined with greater precision than with X rays, Tn compounds having atoms with unpaired electrons, a neutron-electron spin interaction is also present. Since the magnetic properties of substances are related to the way the electron spins are arranged within the crystal, determination of such spin arrangements by neutron diffraction provides information about magnetic structures.

Overall Progress. The last two progress reports listed several completed problems, In the past year and a half several new problems were initiated and new work on different phases of the old problems extended. Some of these problems are now nearing completion and enough results are available to make preliminary reports.

I. Phenanthrene. Damask and Arndt have reported that phenanthrene undergoes a phase transition about 72°C as detected by heat capacity, electrical conductivity, and polarization measurements. Since the effect was found to be uniform throughout the crystal, the authors consider it possibly due to some type of ordering effect in the crystal, perhaps to hydrogen atom motion, since no change in X ray pattern was noted on heating phenanthrene through its transition.

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We have not yet done any work at high temperature, and the

room temperature data collection has just been completed. However, some analysis was carried out when about half the neutron diffraction data now available was taken. These preliminary results which confirm previous conjectures about the structure of phenanthrene are presented in Fig. 1a and 1b, and in Fig. 2,

The structure of phenanthrene was solved in the 1950's by Trotter who reported the three rings (see Fig. 1) to deviate slightly from planarity. When we undertook the neutron work, Okaya at TEM laboratories took new X-ray data to obtain more accurate carbon positions. His results confirmed Trotter's on ring puckering in that the hydrogen positions determined from the neutron diffraction data show that it is the close H<sub>4</sub> - H<sub>5</sub> approach of 1.96 Å that causes the deviation from planarity as surmised by Trotter.

The nature of this deviation is shown in Fig. 2 in which the distances from the average plane of the central six carbons are given for all atoms. (It should be noted that at this point the hydrogen atom positions are known to only ca. 0.1 Å). The top ring is bent below the plane of the center ring; the bottom ring is bent up from the plane of the center ring. The three six-member carbon rings are each independently planar to  $\pm 0.018$  Å, and the top and bottom ring are about 45° from the central ring.

It would be extremely interesting to compare final neutron

and X-ray positions to see if the electron density has any effect on the position of the carbon atoms, However, it is doubtful if the neutron data will be of sufficient accuracy to make such a comparison meaningful because of the high incoherent hydrogen background and the low PRNC reactor flux. Another possible procedure that could help shed light on the electrical properties would be scattering electron densities above and below the transition.

II, Spiral Oscillator Problem in Na Al<sub>5</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> 212820. The structures of the Alums were reported in PRIC-9%. On page 9 of that report we note that three of the sulfate oxygens in sodium Alum (Na Al (904)<sub>2</sub> .12 120) seem to undergo a translational motion down the threefold axis which is correlated with a rotation about the threefold axis to avoid a near hydrogen neighbor. The scattering from this "spiral oscillator" is really not well approximated by the usual form of the Debye-Waller factor which assumes

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Fig. 1(a). Phenanthrene:

Carbon atoms are at the intersection of 3 solid lines. Hydrogen atoms are at the ends of solid lines. Atom numbering



is denoted by integers.

Bonds are denoted by solid lines with distances adjacent to the lines.

Intramolecular H-H distances are denoted given in dashed lines. Note the short H4-H5. The standard deviations of the hydrogen atoms are about .05 Å at the current stage of refinement.

Phenanthrene Bond Angles.

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@ gaussian distribution of scattering density about an equilibrium position,

It is easy to write the expression for scattering from a given distribution. Classically, the average time that an atom spends at point  $r$  is dependent upon potential  $V(r)$  through the Boltzmann distribution. If  $H$  is the reciprocal lattice (scattering) vector and the scattering power of the atom is given by  $b$ , then the average scattering amplitude from an atom is given by:

$$J \propto \int \exp(2\pi i H \cdot r) \exp(-V(r)/k_B T) d^3r$$

The above integral is rather difficult to evaluate in closed form, unless  $V(r)$  is rather simple. It and its derivatives may, however, be evaluated numerically.

The numerical values of the scattering, as evaluated from estimated positional and potential function parameters, and their derivatives is the information needed for a least squares fit of those parameters to the measured scattering data. We are now in the process of trying to evaluate the constant for the sulfate group in sodium alun. If this approach is successful, it could be generally used to evaluate and interpret the Bragg scattering from many types of molecules undergoing varied types of large torsional and other anharmonic oscillations.

II. Ferroelectrics.

A, the ferroelectric, sodium nitrite, has been studied

a great deal in the last nine years, at least partly because the molecular motions are large and therefore more likely to be easily interpreted in terms of the electrical properties than many other compounds. In spite of all this work there is still some doubt about the direction of rotation of the NO<sub>2</sub> groups during the transition.

To try to clear up this point, three-dimensional neutron diffraction data was taken at 150°C, about 15° below the transition. The results were ambiguous, i.e. the rms. amplitudes of motion perpendicular to the a axis of the crystal were about equal to those perpendicular to the c axis.

Further three-dimensional data will be taken at about 185°C and 225°C to see if one type of motion predominates,

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Fig. 2. Distances of atoms from the average plane of the central carbon atom ring (C9 through C14).

Note the top ring is bent down and the bottom ring

bent up from the central

ring. Hydrogens have  
standard deviations of  
about .05 Å.

Ove Com © sew onorcen

. jum Trihydrogen Selenite projected down  
fey axtte ¥ coordinates (in fractions of a unit  
ENF ate given for the asymmetric unit. The ree  
sults are for @ preliminary refinement and should  
pu eegarded as demonstrating the general molecular  
geometry rather than details.

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B, ?The room temperature (paraelectric) phase of Na H<sub>3</sub> (Se O<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>  
Sodium Trihydrogen Selenite has been studied.

The space group 42

b= 565, Be 578 ends eee

Ax},

While the final refinement has not been carried out, the ordered set of hydrogen positions indicated in Fig. 3 was determined. The Sodium, Oxygen, and Selenium parameters were refined, starting with Unterleitner's positions.

lattice parameters are:  $a = 10,32$ ,  
as determined by Unterleitner

The notable features of the structure shown in Fig. 3 are described as follows: The sodium is octahedrally coordinated to six oxygens, 2 each at 2.38 Å, 2.43 Å and 2.48 Å. The Se-O distances are 1.75 Å, 1.70 Å and 1.74 Å for O1, O2, O3, respectively. Comments on the significance of these distances should probably await the final refinement of the structure. The selenite groups are linked through two types of hydrogen bonds (Fig. 3).

The O1 - H1 - O1 seems to be symmetrical, although a double minimum cannot be ruled out, with an O - O distance of 2.52 Å and O - H distance of 1.25 Å. The other, O2 - H2 - O3, hydrogen bond which is even shorter seems asymmetric. The O2 - O3 distance is

2.49 R with  $02 - H2 = 1.10$  f and  $H2 - 03 = 1.39$  R. ?the anisotropic motion should be analyzed before commenting further on the above results.

Cross Section Measurements. In connection with a neutron Liquid scattering project by Dr. H. Ritter (see section on staff), ?the scattering lengths for tin isotopes 116, 117, 118, 119, 100, 122, 124 have been measured, The results are  $0.587 \pm 0.01$ ,  $0.60 \pm 0.02$ ,  $0.64 \pm 0.01$ ,  $0.55 \pm 0.03$ ,  $0.59 \pm 0.02$   $\times 10^{12}$  cm, Scattering lengths are the data that describes the scattering power of an atomic or isotopic species for coherent processes.

Hewlett-Packard. An experimental dewar for taking diffraction data at Liquid nitrogen or helium  
The dewar for low temperature has been purchased

?The U.S.S.I. four circle neutron

A spectrometer has been  
and is now taking data under punched-card control, using a

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STAFF

Dr. Ritter, professor of Chemistry at Yale University:

Dr. Ritter returned to Oxford in August 1967 for a year at FRNC and a month at Argonne National Laboratory,

While at PRNC, he measured the coherent scattering cross sections of seven stable tin isotopes. He was going

to measure the scattering from Molten  $Cu^{135}$ ,  $Cu^{137}$ ,  $Cl$ , and  $CuCl$  at Argonne, where the higher reactor flux would provide more suitable conditions. Since Dr. Ritter's untimely death in November of this year, the project has been continued under the auspices of the Argonne metallurgy groups

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Mr. Jaime A. Castel

Length of a

100 megawatt Q-switched

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## SOLID STATE PHYSICS

### STUDY OF RADIATION DAMAGE IN ORGANIC CRYSTALS.

The primary interest in this project is to study the effects of radiation on organic crystals. It is felt that such studies on well defined crystalline structures can provide a firm foundation for a later study of more complex materials including those of direct biological interest. Anthracene was chosen as the initial material to be studied for the following reasons: (1) large and very pure anthracene crystals can be obtained; (2) a large amount of information is known about its electrical and optical properties; (3) radiation damage due to high doses of neutron and gamma irradiation in anthracene has been studied. Radiation damage in anthracene after gamma irradiation in the high dose range (larger than 105R) was studied by measuring the degradation of its fluorescence. Radiation damage due to neutron irradiation was studied by measuring the changes in the photoconductivity properties.

### EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUES



Experimental methods used in studying radiation damage include: (1) Space-charge limited current measurements; (2) delayed fluorescence measurements; (3) electron spin resonance measurements; (4) chemical analysis. A complete description of the deflection of radiation by the space-charged limited current technique and by the delayed fluorescence techniques are given in PRNC-58 and PRNC-107, respectively.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

1, Singlet-Singlet Annihilation Rate Constant  $k_{SS}$  in Anthracene. As described previously (PHO-107), by measuring the degradation of fluorescence and delayed fluorescence caused by gamma radiation, valuable information concerning radiation damage is obtained. The luminescence of anthracene is blue and is due to excitation of the singlet states. By illuminating the crystal with red light, triplet excitons are produced. The triplet state energy level in anthracene lies more than half way between the ground state and the first excited singlet state. Two triplet excitons can annihilate each other, producing a ground state and an excited singlet. The fluorescence arising from this excited singlet is known as the

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delayed fluorescence, By irradiating the anthracene crystals with gamma rays, triplet and singlet quenching centers are introduced, Since the diffusion length of the triplet exciton is about one hundred times larger than that of the singlet exciton, degradation of the delayed fluorescence will occur by irradiating the crystals with gamma rays more than that for showing degradation in the normal fluorescence, The equation,  $Y = \frac{K_s}{k_n} \left( \frac{T}{a} \right)^{1/2}$ , that relates the radiation dose  $Y$  needed to reduce the intensity of the normal and delayed fluorescence to half their original values and the concentrations of the introduced singlet and triplet quenching centers, was derived. In this equation,  $Y_0/2$  and  $Y_1/2$  are the radiation doses in rads that are needed to reduce the intensity of the normal and delayed fluorescence, respectively, to half their original values.  $K_y$  and  $K_q$  are the bimolecular rate constants, and  $k_s$  and  $k_t$  are the bimolecular rate constants for the singlets and triplets, respectively.  $N_g$  and  $N_p$  are the concentrations of the singlet and triplet quenching centers introduced in the crystal by one rad. The values of  $Y_0/2$ ,  $Y_1/2$  and  $K_p$  are obtained from the above experiments, the values of  $K_y$  and  $S_p$  are taken from the literature. The value of the singlet-singlet annihilation rate constant found in the literature varies from  $5 \times 10^{10}$  cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> to  $2.5 \times 10^{11}$  cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. We have calculated  $k_s$  by measuring the fluorescent quantum yield as a function of light intensity using very high intensity pulsed light sources and found  $k_s = 10^{10}$  cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. Using that value in the above equation, it is found that

the concentration of the singlet quenching centers introduced by one rad is three orders of magnitude larger than the concentration of the triplet quenching centers introduced by one rate

2. Foenanthreng, Extensive information is available on the optical properties of phenanthrene, However, the electrical, properties and radiation damage have not been studied as thoroughly. The reason appears to be that optical properties and part of the

1 Giver, M. et. al., *Phys. Rev. Letters* 10, 12 (1963).

2 Bergman, A. et. al., *Phys. Rev. Letters* 28, 598 (1967).

3 Gostot, N.A., and Abranoy, A.P., *Soviet Physics Sot*  
*Biata* 9, 255 (1967).

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Instrumentation used in conductivity

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radiation damage can be studied utilizing thin vapor or solution

grown crystals; while the study of electrical properties and low dose radiation damage requires the bulkier pure melt grown crystals which are more difficult to obtain. Attempts are being made to study low dose radiation damage in phenanthrene along the same lines as used in studying anthracene. No delayed fluorescence has been observed in phenanthrene by utilizing a high intensity xenon flashlight in an attempt to excite enough triplets directly from the ground singlets. It appears that the singlet-triplet absorption coefficient for phenanthrene is smaller than  $\approx 10^{-1}$ , which is the value for anthracene. Experiments are in progress utilizing the second harmonics of a 100 megawatt Q-switched neodymium doped glass laser. Results of these experiments might lead to the calculation of parameters such as the singlet-triplet absorption coefficient, triplet-triplet annihilation rate constant and the diffusion coefficient for the triplet excitons,

3. Electron Spin Resonance Measurements. The quenching centers introduced by gamma radiation in anthracene are paramagnetic and their ESR spectra are studied. The ESR signal consists of apparently four unresolved lines. The magnitude of the signal increases linearly with the dose. The half band width of the signal is 60 gauss. The  $g$  value calculated is approximately 2. There is no difference in the ER spectrum by using the highly purified Eastman X-480 anthracene or by using the synthetic Eastman H-480 anthracene. A model was proposed \* in which a cross-

Linking between the anthracene molecules takes place, the validity of that model is now being checked by using deuterated anthracene.

4, Chemical Analysis, Attempts were made to analyze chemically the radiation induced quenching centers in anthracene by using the thin layer chromatography method. The following solutions were used: Benzene, chloroform, ethyl acetate, heptanol, isopropyl alcohol, acetone, carbon tetrachloride, nitryl acetate, ether, dichloroethylene, trichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene. No separation could be seen. The maximum radiation dose to the crystal was  $2 \times 10^9$  rad. By assuming that the linear extrapolation is valid up to such a high radiation dose, the maximum concentration of the quenching centers would have been  $10^{-3} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,

4 Blum, H. et. al., Bull Am, Phys. Soc. 12, 400 (1967).

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## LABORATORY SPACE

This project is housed in the Facundo Bueso Science Building at the Rio Piedras Campus of the University of Puerto Rico because of the shortage of space in the PRNC Bio-Medical Building. When

the project was initiated in January 1962, a room with 360 square feet of space was utilized, In February 1965, the project was moved into a room with approximately 900 square feet of floor space. In addition, two offices with a combined area of approximately 240 square feet were provided. The increase in space has made it possible to set up the equipment more advantageously and to make additions to the staff.

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Analysis for Hp obtained in radiolytic experiments.

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## HOT-ATOM CHEMISTRY

The program is principally concerned with the study of the mechanism of Scilari-Chalmers processes in organic compounds containing multiple bonds between the activated atom and carbon

atoms of the organic radical, These organic radicals are either

phenyl or cyclopentadienyl. the activated atoms include Si, Py, He, BI, Sa, TM, and I as phenyl derivatives, and the cyclo-

tadienyl derivatives (metallocenes) of Co, Ni, Zn, Hf, Os, and Re.

The equipment available includes glove boxes, and a specially ventilated laboratory to handle radioactive gases. The analytical techniques used cover various forms of chromatography, including radio-gas chromatography and high-voltage electrophoresis.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

Metallocenes - with Mrs. M.L. McClintock, Previous studies on metallocenes (see following section) are being extended to dicyclopentadienyl osmium and dicyclopentadienyl rhenium hydride. These compounds were activated and processed by solvent extraction in a nitrogen atmosphere. The organic fraction was analyzed by sublimation and the inorganic fraction by paper electrophoresis.

Organic Silicon Compounds - with Miss J.B. Trabala. The neutron activation products formed from tetraphenylsilane, triphenylsilane, and diphenylsilane are being separated by rapid column chromatography and electrophoresis.

Recoil Labeling with Iodine and Bromine - with Miss H. Lépez Saoneo (graduate student), Liquid aromatic compounds such as benzene, nitrobenzene, aniline, and methyl benzoate, are being

labeled with  $^{181}\text{Gd}$  by recoil from dissolved iodoform, carbon tetrachloride, carbon tetrabromide or carbon tetrabromide.

## WORK COMPLETED

Szillard-Chalmers Reactions in Metallocenes - O.H. Wheeler and M.L. McClintock. The radioactive products formed in the neutron activation of cobaltocene and nickelocene have been separated by solvent extraction in a nitrogen atmosphere. This rapid procedure permitted the study of  $^{60}\text{Co}$  (half-life 10.5 min.). Nickelocene

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showed 65% retention of activity, and 35% as nickelous ion. Cobaltocene gave 25% retention, 15% as cobalticinium ion and 5% as cobaltous ion. The activity in the cobalticinium ion fraction was greater for  $^{60}\text{Co}$ , thermal annealing increased the retention in both cases.

Dicyclopentadienylzirconium dichloride and dicyclopentadienyl hafnium dichloride were similarly activated and the products separated by solvent extraction, the retention was only 1.8 and 0.54, respectively, in these compounds. This must be due to the low probability of reforming multiple bonds. The inorganic zirconium



activity amounted to 611,24, and inorganic hafnium 80.9%. The remainder of the activity appeared in a polymeric fraction. Thermal annealing did not increase the retention in these cases but led to a redistribution of the activity between the inorganic and polymeric fractions.

Hot-Atom Reactions of Methylmercuric Compounds - 0.1. Wheeler and McClin, The products formed in the neutron activation of diphenylmercury and phenylmercuric chloride and acetate have been studied using chromatography on alumina, Diphenylmercury-203 and labeled phenylmercuric compounds were formed in low specific activity, and exchange was noted between inorganic  $^{203}\text{Hg}$  in solutions. The highest retention for diphenylmercury was obtained when the compound was activated in benzene.

Hot-Atom Reactions in Aromatic Bismuth and Thallium Compounds  
O.H. Wheeler, J.E. Trabala, and M.L. McClin. The products formed in the activation of triphenylbismuth were separated by column chromatography on alumina. The triphenylbismuth fraction amounted to 27.5% of the total activity, with 35.0 and 23.5% appearing in the diphenylbismuth and phenylbismuth fractions. Activation in benzene resulted in 92.0% "retention." Diphenylbismuth chloride afforded 24.6% triphenylbismuth, little  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  (2.4g),  $\text{Pu}^{2+}$  (15.4f) and a large (56.5%) inorganic Bi fraction.

Similar studies on diphenylthallium chloride showed an in-

crease in retention with activation time as a result of radiolytic decomposition. Thermal annealing led to an increase in retention and an increase in the  $\text{O/T}$  inorganic fraction, at the expense of the  $\text{PT1}^*$  activity.

Radioactive Decay Correction Tables - O.H, Wheeler, A.S. Kay  
ana J.E. Trabal. A FORTRAN program was written to compute the fraction of activity remaining at intervals of time for a series of short half-life isotopes.

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ARE

?The group consists of Mrs, Marfa Laisa MeClin, M.S., Miss J:  
Eliofn Trabal, 3.8, (part tine) and Migs Hilda Lopez Alonso, Bese  
Miss Carmen Lecunberry, instructor, Chemistry Department, Univer:  
sity of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, also participates in the programe

Both Miss Lépez. Alonso and Miss Lecusberry are graduate students

in chemistry. Mrs. Carmen I. González, M.S., resigned in May 1967,

In order to accept an appointment as Chemist in charge of the Analytical Laboratories, Puerto Rico Public Health Service in Mayaguez,

Dr. A. Gordus, University of Michigan, Wolf, Brook-

haven National Laboratory :

Institute; visited the Center

Dr. Owen H. Wheeler

of Aromatic Phosphorus Compounds

University of Puerto Rico at

Miss Elsin Trabala

(research assistants)

unstable radioactive  $\phi$

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## PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES

PRNC's studies in this area are

financed by the U. S. Atomic Energy

Commission's Division of Peaceful

Nuclear Explosives (PNE).

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At right: Mr. Samuel Rodriguez observes the operation of a column used in dynamics studies of leaching with sulphuric acid. Below: Dr. Dan Taylor lectures on Project Gasbuggy at a Plowshare Workshop session.

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## MINING WITH NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES

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vision of Peaceful Nuclear Explosives (PIE), The project con-

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WORK IN PROGRESS

Effect of Heat and shock Wave on Chalcopyrite. With 8.

Roariguez. and Carmen Vincenty, Chalcopyrite type copper ore was obtained from the Puerto Rico Mines at Utuade, Puerto Rico, and its physical properties were determined: density, humidity, and screen analysis. Data is presented in Table 1. Based on screen analysis data, a statistical procedure was made following recommendations given by Rodean (Geophysics 4, 616 (1965)), and from Figure 1, one can see that the logarithmic size-weight distribution Found in the rubble material of nuclear chimneys can also be applied to study the size-weight distribution of a pulverized ore.

Several analytical techniques for copper quantitative determination were put in operation: spectrophotometric determinations, electrolytic techniques and titration with sodium sulfate solutions. Statistical analysis of the time employed for analytical measurements indicated the convenience of using titration methods. Using Nlag8203 complexed with iron ( $Fe^{***}$ ) and ammonium bifluoride, The ore samples were separated from silica with hydrofluoric acid, followed by evaporation to dryness with concentrated sulfuric acid, Following this procedure, the content of copper in the Utuado ore was found to be between 3/l) and 1%, The precise data are contained in the scientific reports of this work.

Studies on the differential thermal analysis of chalcopyrite up to 850°C have been made. A Cahn electrobalance has been modified to permit thermogravimetric analysis in atmosphere of air or nitrogen. Statistical analyses of available results are being done; the structural changes corresponding to thermal transitions are being analyzed by X-ray. Procedures to study the leachability of the copper from the chalcopyrite by pumping the acid through an

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2ho

aerated column of mineral, as well as a method for determining the free-acid content of the copper leach solutions, are being considered.

#### WORK COMPLETED

Teaching of Chalcopyrite Ore: O.H. Wheeler, F. Mufioz-Ribadeneira, and S. Rodriguez Morales.

Preliminary studies on the

leaching behavior of the Puerto Rico chalcopyrite ore with

0.5N  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  have been initiated, using batch type operations when no air is present during the leach time. After 3 days, 13.2% of copper was leached; 26.7% after 8 days and 35.9% after 18 days.

Exposure of the ore to gamma irradiation either in the dry state, or wetted with water, did not alter the leachability. After heating to 500°C, 60% of the available copper could be leached in 6 days, Heating to 650°C released 75% of the copper in a similar period.

## OUER ACTIVITIES

Fuerto Rico Sumer Workshop on Nuclear Civil Engineering. Dr. James A. Cheney and Dr. Wilson K. Talley from the University of California, Davis, California, attended a sumer workshop on Flowshare technology during June-August 1967, at the invitation of PRNC Director, Dr. Henry J. Gonberg. Representatives from the departments of chemical civil, mechanical and miclear engineering, physics, and staff members of PRIC also attended. At the end of the workshop, each participant presented a detailed analysis of a specific engineering or scientific use of mclear explosives. The topics covered in the sumer workshop are listed in Table 2,

ABC International Exhibits 1» During the Atoms in Action Exhibit In Quito, Ecuador, Eng. Mufioz-Ribadeneira offered a series of lectures at universities and other institutions, describing the cmrent status of Plowshare, as well as applications of nuclear explosives in modern technology. Only two lectures at the University of Guayaquil were originally scheduled, but broad local press cover=

age prompted invitations to speak at other institutions. Economic assistance is now being sought to permit several young Ecuadorian engineers to take graduate studies at UPR and participate in Plowshare-related research projects at FRNC. See Table 3 for details on the lectures offered.

---Page Break---

% Weight of Passing

20

30

40

50

60

70

80

90

95)



10 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 0 0

Size of Screen in Microns

Figure 1- Logarithmic Size- Weight Normal Distribution (Rodeon)

for @ Pulverized Chalcopirite Type Ore, Utuado Mines, PR.

au

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## FLOWSHARE APPLICATIONS IN ECUADOR

?The Houadorian Institute of Hydraulic Resources (INERKT) ais-  
played strong interest in Plowshare, as related to water Paani  
the eACcording to INERIT staff members, it appears that two pos-  
sible applications of mclear explosives for irrigation purposes

presently exist. One is to dig a channel through a mountain range;

another is to excavate a huge reservoir.

1. The Channel -- The Province of Manab{ is one of Ecuador's  
most fertile regions, but sparse rainfall and few rivers hinder

agricultural development. There are several rivers heading south-southwest for one-third of their length, but a series of small mountain chains diverts them in a north-northwest direction, INERHI has studied the possibility of tunnelling through these mountains to permit the water to reach the other side, but the time and money involved make it prohibitive for Ecuador to undertake such a project. The proposed cut is 8 kilometers long; the peak height is 280 meters.

2, The Reservoir -- INERHI believes that between the mountains off Chimborago and Carihuayrazgo there is enough water to irrigate the Province of Tunguratua, where most of Ecuador's temperate zone fruits and vegetables could be planted. A huge reservoir is needed to contain rain water and melting snow on the mountainsides, INERHI states that a crater similar in dimension to Project SEDAN would hold an adequate water supply.

The staff consists of Dr. John D. Weaver, Chairman of the Department of Geology, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, on a part time basis, and Mr. Samuel Rodriguez-Morales, B.S., research assistant and graduate student in chemistry. The leaching studies are directed by Dr. John H. Wheeler, Associate Director and Mr. Fausto Mufioz-Ribedeneira, M.S., Associate Scientist. Miss Carmen Vincenty,

(B.S.), is research assistant in charge of computer calculations.

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TABLE 1.

Physical Characteristics of the Copper Ore,  
Chaleopyrite Type Orte (Utuado)

8) sereen Ana

) vais ~o

7 Screen Weight % Weight Sereen Average

Number Retained Passing Microns Diameter

aa 0.1 99.89 1190235

20 0.81 99.08 840 01s

28 3.16 95.92 590 ns

35 4450 90.52 420 505

48 7.85 82.67 207 359

65 dan 1. a0 25h

200 14.70 6656 ag 229

150 13.18 43.38 105 127

200 13-70 29.68 7 89

270 5.20 abLMB 53 co

270 UB - e -

b) Other properties: Density (by volume of water displaced)

$2.76 \pm 0.13 \text{ g/cm}^3$

Humidity (dried at  $110^\circ\text{C}$  for 48 hours)

$0.54 \pm 0.02\%$

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ab

TABLE 2

Topics Covered in Sumer Workshop

+ Mechanical Action of Nuclear Explosions

Equations of hydrodynamics

?Thermodynamics and statistical mechanics

Equation of states

?Thomas-Fermi model

Rankine-Hugoniot relations

Reflection and interaction of shocks

Physical and mathematical instabilities

+ Engineering Principles Applicable +

?to Nuclear Explosions

Planning and organization of construction projects; CBI

Theory of elasticity

Waves in elastic media

Failure theories in mechanics

Soil mechanics; slope stability

Flow in porous media

Seepage forces; settlement of saturated soils

Structural dynamics;

spectra,

response

Descriptive geology

Drilling of large diameter holes

Phenomenology of Nuclear Explos!

Size, shape, cost and yield

Nuclear radiation and hazards

Radioactivity production

fission and fusion

Distribution of radioactivity

fallout and groundwater

Contained explosions: cavity,

chimney formation

Cratering explosions:

formation

crater

Measurement of parameters:

instrumentation

Prediction of parameters:

scaling laws and hydrocodes

Hazards due to groundshock  
and airblast

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Engineering Applications

Scientific Applications

Earthmoving Applications: Neutron physics  
Canals and mountain cuts Nuclear structure  
Harbors  
Water resource development Seismology

Contained Applications: Meteorology

Aggregate production Chemistry

Petroleum reservoir stimulation

Underground storage Material science

Oil sands and oil shale

Mr. Fausto J. Munoz-Ribadeneira

problems related to temperature on  
ability of chalcopyrite type ores.

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M6

?TABLE 3

Plowshare Lectures Offered During

?Atoms in Action in Ecuador

Place where they Attendance

lecture Title

were offered

sere offered

Characteristics of Nuclear Explo- College of Engineering

sives and Nuclear Explosives

Civil Engineering Applications

of Nuclear Explosives

Flowshare, its nature and its

goals



Plowshare, its nature and its  
goals

Industrial Applications of  
Nuclear Explosives

Application of Nuclear Explo-  
sives in Water Conservation  
Programs

Plowshare its Nature and its  
Goals

University of Guayaquil 49

College of Engineering  
University of Guayaquil 39

Association of Former  
Students of "La Salle,"  
Quito 82

Professors and students,  
Univ. of Manabi, at the  
Exhibit's Conference 32  
Room, Quito

Professors and students

Univ. of Manab{ at the

Exhibit's Conference

Room, Quito 28

Institute of Hydraulic

Resources, Quito 42

College of sciences,

Catholic Univ., Quito 120

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## ISOTOPES DEVELOPMENT

PRNC's food irradiation program

(08 Program) was started during the

latter part of 1965 and is supported

by the US AEC Division of Isotopes

Development.

uy

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Technician C. Asencio determines the weight average molecular weight of pectins by viscometry.

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249,

## RADIATION PRESERVATION OF TROPICAL FOODSTUFFS

Research has continued in our base program of determining the feasibility of preserving tropical fruits by radiation. Emphasis is placed on those factors of pre-irradiation condition, radiation dose, and post-irradiation treatment which produce maximal delay of ripening and extension of shelf life. Quantification by chemical assay of changes in food quality due to irradiation treatment and post-irradiation storage has permitted evaluation of the feasibility of radiopasteurization of important varieties of banana, plantain, and mango produced in the Caribbean area. This program emphasis is now directed to evaluation of the economic feasibility of radiation treatment of such fruits. Study of the marketing potential for mangoes in the United States has been initiated and simulated shipping studies using air and ocean shipment have begun,

Bananas of the Montecristo variety were studied intensively during the period October, 1966 to March, 1967, since in earlier work ripening patterns were highly erratic. The factor of fruit age became recognized in the course of the later work, in that in 15-day old fruit after 20 days of storage, only 26% of fruit irradiated at 40 Kr were ripe, compared with 72% ripening in controls. On the other hand, in younger fruit (90-95 days) at this storage time there is little difference in extent of ripening between irradiated and control lots. The young fruit showed no significant shelf life extension, whereas in the more mature fruit 25 to 6 day extension was observed. Fruits--at least of the Montecristo variety--younger than about 100 days or older than 130 days do not show marked shelf life extension within normal temperatures (65-70°F). That ripening may be delayed from the 21st to the 26th storage day offers considerable promise of irradiation treatment at 40 Kr levels. In the older fruit, there is no significant loss of vitamin C with doses to 40 Kr. While the younger fruit show some loss of ascorbic acid with irradiation after 0-3 days storage, at longer storage times (18-19 days) there is no real difference between controls and irradiated fruit, nor between the two lots of bananas. The data for changes in sugar content, total acidity, and starch tend to correlate with the observed stage of ripening in all fruit. Research in the radiation treatment of the banana has not been continued, despite the favorable response of this fruit, due to the apparent lack of economic feasibility for

such treatment.

The plantain or "cooking banana" is an important food source in the humid tropics and large quantities are shipped regularly

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about 9 days, 28 complete ripening, {soe extension  
about 9 days, This delay, eoushee with the insignificant losses  
maintains amin content, indicates @ very fevespse Fesponse of plans  
doses £0 Tadlation?troatnent, ?that nies delay is induced at  
Shon rept 82 20 Ke de interesting, Buchea aeaye se a in radia  
thongregponse in the plantain as compared. cath ie! Danana, even

Mangoes of the Mayaguezano, or "Native", variety have been  
Joo uated in the mature or alnostarripe stage at deeds 50, 75,  
Aon 20s and 200 Kr, stored at 68°F, checked date eee ripening,  
acid any ea, St Antorvals tor sugars, starchy aclalty: ann  
previons nemde carotenoids, For thie variety, we hive sree  
Prostous results, vchich indicate «6-8 day sheit Lite ce  
than PRE doses. The effect of a hot vater eip (ces fort nin,  
shen, mine cooling) followed by irradiation \$050; fs, cryin  
doses has been studied for the Redondo variety mango.? Heres om  
Piste Control of fruit spotlage due to anthrasnose intern ons

irradiated only. An initial loss of ascorbic acid (about 15%) occurred. Sure, due to the heat; no significant difference between controls and irradiated fruit, with or without heat, was noted after 8 and 16 days storage,

Simulated shipping experiments have been conducted on the irradiated mangoes, Mayaguezano variety fruit were sent on a 5-day trip, extending over five days. Five and ten krad or 100 krad doses, plus non-irradiated controls, were packed tightly in a crate using shredded paper as packaging material between layers of fruit. Following the travel, the fruit were stored at 68°F and analyzed chemically at intervals. The vibration and exposure to temperatures up to 64°F during travel speeded ripening in all fruits, but the radiation doses caused a considerable re-

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Ors. Graham and  
Deshpande and  
Miss Asencio chemi-  
cally measure meth-  
oxy!) content of  
mango pectins fol-  
lowing microdis-

\ tillation.

Iodometric

for cha?

deg

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tardation of ripening (li

tion of anthracnose spott:

Vitamin content in the fruits. Data obtained from shipping mangoes,

Miami and back to San Juan are now beige

by air from San Juan to

collected.

of gamma radiati

6 days later than controls) and elimina

ting. ?There was no significant loss er

on on p

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## APPENDIX

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## PUERTO RICO NUCLEAR CENTER

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Soot". emesis avons sles iy fib, Ue of enon Aires

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Miriam H. Vega Soderstrom, Health Physics Assistant II

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Rico (Nuclear Engineering)

Juan Silva Parra, Research Associate TIT

U. of Puerto

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Donald K. Phelps, Chief Scientist I, Ph.D., U. of Rhode Island (Marine  
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Robert Y. Ting, Associate Scientist I, Ph.D., U. of Washington (Fisheries  
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Steven B. Barnes, Associate Scientist I, Ph.D., U. of California (Chesapeake)

John H. Martin, Associate Scientist I, Ph.D., U. of Rhode Tele (Botological  
Oceanography; Zooplankton)

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Carl P. Jordan, Associate Scientist 1, Ph.b., Rutgers U. (sore

Barbara Bannister\*, Research Associate 7

Radiation Chenistry

Alec Grinison, Head (See also Physical Sciences Division) sista)

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Schistosoma mansoni Project

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Touts Waventin de Bauzd, Ned. Res. Technician I in Virology and Tissue  
culture

Felix Liard Bertin, Research Assistant 11

Fremh

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Sugarcane Borer Project

David W. Walker, Head (See also Agricultural Bi

Wietoriano Quintana, Research Assistant Ty nce? Division)

## Neutron Diffraction Program

Mortimer I. Kay, Head, Chief Scientist I, Ph.D., U. of Connecticut (Chemistry)

Robert Kleinberg, Chief Scientist I, Ph.D., Michigan State U. (Chemistry)

Seymour F. Kaplan, Associate Scientist II, Ph.D., U. of New Mexico (Geology)

## Solid State Physics Program

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## Peaceful Nuclear Explosives

Donald S. Sasser, Head: (See also Nuclear Engineering Division)

Fausto Mafioz Ribadeneira, Research Associate III (See also "Atoms in Action"

Exhibit Project)

## Radiation Preservation of Tropical Foodstuffs

Robert A. Inse, Head (See also Agricultural Bio-Sciences Division)

Horace D. Gratam, Chief Scientist I, Ph.D., U. of Illinois (Food Technology)

Jose Cuevas Ruz, Research Associate T (See also Agricultural Bio-Sciences Division)

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Alfredo Carmona Trutten, Electronic Technician Supervisor

Nelson Quifiones, Technical Supervisor

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Sanitary Science

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Victor Davila Cintrén, B.S.

Mechanical Engineering

Jose Noel Correa, M.D.

Radiotherapy



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3.

## PAPERS PRESENTED

Adan, W., Grimison, A., and Rodriguez, G., Effects of Protonation on 21,  
Densities in N-Heterocyclic Molecules, presented (by A. G.) at the Metta  
Caribbean Chem. Symp., Kingston, Jan. 1967.

Aden, W. and Grinison, A.» Signa-Polarization in Five-Membered Heterocyclic  
presented (by W. A.) at the 1st Caribbean Chem, Symp., Kingston, Jan. 1967.

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Calorimeter for Soft X-Rays, presented at the 5th Ann. An. Mcl. Soc. State  
Cont., Gatlinburg, April 1967.

Almodévar, T. - See Kay, M. I.

Blanco, M.S. - See Marcial, V. A.

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WEEKLY SEMINARS, RIO PIEDRAS

Drs. W. L. Russell and Liane Russell, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Recent  
Developments in Radiation Induced Genetic Changes, January 4.

Dr. George Simpson, Recent Advances in the Matrix Isolation of Intermediates  
from Gamma Irradiated Heterocyclic Compounds, January 13.

Dr. Mortimer Kay, Crystal Structures of Transition Metal Foruates, January 20.

Dr. Martin Pope, Radiation and Solid State Laboratory, New York University,  
Electric Currents in Organic Crystals, January 27.

Dr. Owen H. Wheeler, Radiolysis of Proteins, February 3.

Dr. Howard L. Andrews, Clinical Applications of Whole Body Counters, February 13.

Dr. Ezra Khedouri, Inter-American University, San Juan Campus, On the Mechanism

of Action of Glutamine synthetase, February 2h,

Dr. Jean P. Changeux, Pasteur Institute, Paris, Allosteric Interactions and

?Their Relevance to Membrane Problems, February 28.

Dr. Adon Gordus, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Chemical Effects of Nuclear

?Transformation, March 3.

Dr. Efraim Toro Goyeo, UPR School of Medicine, Substrate Specificity and Possible

Mechanism of Action of Pinguinain, the Proteolytic enzyme of the Naya Fruit,

March 10.

professor Malcolm Dole, Technological Institute, Northwestern University, The

Use of Ultraviolet Spectroscopy in the Study of the Effects of Radiation on

Polyethylene, March 16.

Dr. Peter Paraskevoudakis, Total Absorption X-Ray Calorimeter, March 17.

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Dr. William A. Mosher, University of Delaware and American Chemical Society,

1, 3-Rearrangements, March 21.

Dr. Alfred P. Wolf, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Non-Synthetic Methods of

labeling, April 7.

Dr. Michael Byer, University of Puerto Rico, Microdistribution Analysis ty  
Correlation Between Species Abundance, April 14.

Dr. Evelina Ortiz, University of Puerto Rico, Hormones and Manmalian Sex  
Differentiation, April 21.

Dr. Shrinivas H. Kanath, Myeloperoxidase, April 28.

Dr, Glen A, Russel, Iowa State University, Addition Reactions of the Methyl-  
sulfinyl Carbanion, May 5.

Dr. Heriberto Batiz, UPR Agricultural Experiment Station, Experimental and  
Theoretical Measurements of Geminal Spin-Spin Coupling Constants, May 12.

Dr. Mortimer Mendelshon, University of Pennsylvania, Tumor Models and Cancer  
Therapy, May 17.

Dr. James Mair, Preparation and Properties of a New Semiconductor, May 19.

pr. Inds R. Otero Villaderté, UPR School of Medicine, Structural and Functional  
Aspects of Mitochondria, May 26.

Dr. Aldo Ianaro, Tratamiento de Afecciones Tiroideas con Iodo-131 (Treatment  
of Thyroid Disorders With Iodine-131), June 2.

Dr. Thonas R. Tosteson, University of Puerto Rico, Biological Effects of

Nelanocyte Stimulating Hormones, June 9.

Dr. George Drewry, Hybridization and Behavioral Analysis as Taxonomic Tools,

June 16.

Dr. John H. Martin, Diurnal Variations in Zooplankton Abundance, Species Composition, and Elemental Composition, June 23.

Mrs. Rosa Tirado, Exchange Reactions in Inorganic Coordination Complexes, June 3

Dr. J. R. Plinner, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Maryland, Pesticide Breakdown: Some Chemical Studies, July 6.

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Dr. William H. Hamill, Radiation Laboratory, University of Notre Dame, Fundamental Ionic Processes Observed by Mass Spectroscopy; Ionic Processes in Glasses Relevant to Radiation Chemistry; Ion Dynamics in Viscous Liquids: Rate of Charge Recombination, Charge Separation, Evidence for Ion Pair Correlations; Chemical Consequences of Ionic Processes in Organic Liquids: Charge Transfer, Electron Capture, Proton Transfer, Recombination; and Unsolved Problems and

New Approaches With Low Energy Electron Impact and Thin Films; July 10, 11,

Dr. Martin Feldman, Oak Ridge Research Participant, Howard University, Electron Affinities of Carbonium Ions, July 21. party ?



Dr. Carl F. Jordan, Recovery of Tropical Rain Forest After Gamma Irradiation,  
July 28.

Dr. Wilson K. Talley, University of California, Davis, Phenomenology of Under-  
ground Explosions, August 4,

Dr. James A. Cheney, University of California, Davis, Critical Path Method for  
Scheduling, August 11.

Dr. Raniero Martinez Silva, Radiation Effects on Trypanosoma cruzi, August 18.

Dr. Biuardo Touya, "Centro de Medicina nuclear," Uruguay, Ganagrafia de Cerebro  
con 990s (Brain Gonmagraphy with 998), September 1,

Dr. H. Harry Semant, Dethionylation, September 8.

Dr. Iais Anorés, University of Puerto Rico, Synthesis and Reactions of Dibenzo-  
quinoxilinium Salts, September 22.

Dr. Art Bloch, University of Puerto Rico, Radial Intensity Distributions of  
Infrared Super-radiant Sources (All about lasers!), September 29.

Dr. Owen H. Wheeler, Hot-Atom Chemistry of Aromatic Phosphorus Compounds,  
October 4.

Dr. Jerry Kline, Resonance Times of Fallout Radionuclides in a Tropical Rain Forest, October 6.

Dr. William Caldwell, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Hyperbaric Oxygen in Radiotherapy, October 13.

Dr. José Pellegrino, University of Minas Gerais, Brazil, Science Against Schistosomiasis, October 20.

Dr. Anthony E. W. Mas, Christie Hospital and the Holt Radium Institute, Effect of Continuous Irradiation on Cell Cultures, October 27.

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Dr. Jesús Tharrats, University of Puerto Rico, Monte Carlo Methods, November 3,

Dr. Antonio Bosch, Results of Cancer Radiotherapy, November 10,

Dr. Robert A. Luse, Status of Radiation Preservation of Food Project at Pat  
November 17. ?

Dr. Angel L. Rodríguez Olleros, UPR School of Medicine, Experimental Cirrhosis  
November 24, ,

Dr. José A. de Jesús, UPR School of Medicine, Alcohol in the Central Nervous System, December 1,

Dro. Fred F. Ferguson, J. Miles Butler, and Byron Chaniotis, US PHS Ecological Investigations Program, Comparative Ecology of Four Important Puerto Riese Snails--Biomphalaria, Marisa, Tarebia, and Lymnaea, December 8.

Dr. J. Harry Szmant, Advances in the Study of the Wolff-Kishner Reaction Mechanism, December 15.

#### WEEKLY SEMINARS, MAYAGUEZ

Dr. Julio A. Gonzalo, Radiation Effects on Ferroelectric Crystals, January 30.

Dr. Owen H. Wheeler, Radiolysis of Peptides and Proteins, February 6.

Dr. Frank G. Lowman, The Application of the Specific Activity Approach to Environmental Assessment of Hazards from Radioisotopes, February 13.

Dr. Adon A. Gordus, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Neutron Activation Analysis in Archaeology, February 27; Chemical Effects of Nuclear Transformations, March 1,

Dr. Mortimer Kay, Crystal Structures of Transition Metal Formates, March 6.

Rev. Dr. Ignacio Cantarell, Research on Color Centers in Alkali Halides, March 13.

. José A. Ferrer Monge, Aberraciones Cromosómicas Inducidas por Radiación (Chromosome Aberrations induced by Radiation), March 20.

Mr. Antonio Macias, Indiana University, Quantum Mechanical Calculations in the  
Hy; Molecular Jon, March 21.

Dr. Robert Carter, National Bureau of Standards, The Reactor Program at the  
National Bureau of Standards, March 27,

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Dr. Alfred P. Wolf, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Non-Synthetic Methods of  
labeling, April 4; ?Reactions of Energetic Carbon Atoms, April. 5-

Dr, Donald J. Swift, late Quaternary Glaciation and Sea Level Rise in the Bay  
of Fundy, Canada, April 10.

Mr. Antonio Rivera Cordero, Investigation of Puerto Rico Nuclear Center Reactor  
Beam Tube Explosion, April? 13,

Professor Kenneth G. Soderstrom, University of Puerto Rico, Free Convection  
Heat Transfer to Air Through Narrow Vertical Channels, April 24.

Dr. Wilson K. Talley, University of California, Peaceful Uses of Nuclear  
Explosives in Outer Space, April 28.

Dr. Don 7. Cromer, Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, The Crystal Structure of  
K<sub>2</sub>CuCl<sub>4</sub>, and the Determination of its Absolute Configuration, May 1.

Dr. Walter Snyder, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tritium Retention in Humans,

May 3.

Dr. George C. Summerfield, University of Michigan, Neutron Scattering and the Dynamics of High Polymers, May 16.

Mr. Frank Kabot, Perkins Elmer Corporation, Program on Gas Chromatography,, May 2,

Dr. Dan Teylor, University of Puerto Rico, Computer Control of Chemical Plants, May 29.

Dr. William H. Hamill, University of Notre Dane, Chemical Consequences of Ionizing Processes in Organic Liquids, July 12.

Dr, David Fisher, University of Miani, Potassium-Argon Dating of Oceans and Meteorites, October 10.

Dr. Kurt Bostrom, University of Miami, Exhalation from the Mantle Into Pelagic Sediments, October 11.

Dr. Koud Pedersen, Measurement of Stut-down Margin, October 16.

Dr. Florencio Vézquez, Band Structure Studies in Sentconductors gain, Mgate, and MgoSi, Through Electroreflectance Measurenements, Novenber 13.

Dr. Fred H. Pollak, Brown University, Piezoelectro Reflectance in Semiconductors,

November 21,

Dr. José A. Ferrer Monge, Efectos de Radiación en Cromosomas (Effects of Radiation on Chromosomes), December 4.

Dr. Rupert A. Lee, Radiation Chemistry of Gases, December 11.

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10th Anniversary plaque presented to Puerto Rico  
Nuclear Center by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commis-  
sion. See Introduction and chapter on Office of  
the Director for more details.

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