

PRNC208A

PUERTO RICO NUCLEAR CENTER

TENTH OAK RIDGE REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM,

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO,

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ATOMIC EITRGY AFPLICATIONS TO AGRICULTURE

John Be Rust

(A synopsis of talks to be presanted at the University of Puerto Rico,

Qoeicires campus on Jomuery 26, 0°, and on the Mayaques Carus on

Sanuary 28, 1957+)

?The application of atomic energy to agricultural problems holds

great promise though one must confess that there does not appear to be

any spectacular chances in the field. At the gains that can be anticipated

will be through the ingenious and intelligent application of this new tool

to the unmet needs of the world. It is likely that the advances will be gradual and

unfolding but when summed up will be a significant contribution. At present

the applications of atomic energy to agricultural problems seem to be

principally to increasing crop yields through the development of

disease resistant and higher yielding food plants by applying genetics, the

control of plant parasites, the improvement of the quality of fertilizers

and their utilization, insect control, the control of plant and animal

diseases, improvement in the preservation of foods, and in some special

agricultural industrial applications. One should be warned that it does

not seem necessary to confine investigations to these fields alone for

other fields may well be more important if looked at closely.

?The applications of atomic energy to agriculture can be broken

down into two broad categories which are based upon physical considerations.

The first is the utilization of tracers or isotope techniques. The

Second 12 concerned with the effects of large amounts of radiation upon Genetic or schematic cell materials. In order to understand some of the GRny vaye in which etonie energy has been applicd to ecr-culture, it wil Se well to review scne of the succecefd uses which have been reporvel.

Fertilizer studies are among these which have been conducted for the lowest period of time and yet new information is being constantly developed for as everyone can see, and there are endless combinations of plants and soil types which need to be studied. There are many elegant techniques which can be presented here but for illustration we can mention such as the comparative uptake of fertilizers labeled with ^{32}P by the leaves and by the roots. It is rather surprising [in the conventions] finding that the leaves were more effective (Isaacs Division of Agriculture, No. 277a) in absorbing the fertilizer. A practice derived from the fact also developed particularly on the West Coast where orchardists spray trees with fertilizers. This method of fertilization has proved out to be particularly successful innovation. Urea, an inexpensive by-product of the chemical industry, is being used extensively as a foliar fertilizer by orchardists and vegetable gardeners. The urea molecule when attacked by the naturally occurring plant enzyme yields ammonia which can

So used in nitrogen metabolism by many plants. By labeling the carbon in the urea molecule the ability of the various plants to use urea has been determined by the formation of radioactive CO₂. These new techniques of foliar fertilization in combination with urea have given a cheap effective fertilizer for several crops. It is interesting to note that foliar fertilizers are not effective for all plants nor for all nutritional needs - for example calcium is not satisfactorily utilized.

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42 interesting application of radiocesium with the problem of orange

Sformge was concerned with sulfur containing spray residues. "A break down

Of the spray residue into some substances when water were impossible to store Of

Grates, Using a radiocesium counter in test sprays, the depth of penetration

Under various conditions and the nature of the test substances were

determined, It was then found that the sun light and heat would promote

the formation of the toxic substance in question. Proper steps were essential

to correct the trouble and the removal of vexing problem for orange

growers was made (Isotopes Division slide No. 41).

Soil scientists have been pressed for many years for a technique

to measure soil moisture without disturbance to the soil structure and the

associated plants, A probe system was developed in which a fine needle

source was inserted into the soil at one point and at another soils

netal foil, for capturing slow neutrons was placed. The resulting radioactivity in the foil was then measured. The advantage of the fast neutron flux of the eluting of fast neutrons was by the Light Water Reactor. The resulting radioactivity was therefore a direct measure of the water content of the soil.

Forest trees are an important natural resource. For a good number

of years now there has been concern about the depletion of our forest resources through diseases of trees. Thus anything that can be done to give some aid in silviculture has economic interest, and

there occurs natural root grafting among the trees in the forest which

play an important part in the movement of water and nutrients and

particularly in the transport of disease organisms from one tree

to another. The extent of this was not realized until labeled materials

were used. The use of radioisotopes has clarified some special problems

Peers and Peacock, In a representative experiment where trees were some ten

feet apart the treatment of one tree with a radioactive substance disclosed

that five nearby trees were grafted to it by the roots, and these

additional five were treated and twenty more trees were proved to be grafted.

When these twenty-one trees were created ten more trees were found to be

grafted. Thus with only three successive radioactive treatments thirty-six

trees were found to be grafted directly or indirectly with one original tree

It is easy to see that by means of root grafting disease could be spread quite

rapidly through a forest. The basic information developed proved of future

Am developing control measures for tree diseases. For example, in laws and Paris areas where individual trees have a rather large value ever since the Gouneetions to a depth of about 36 inches around the diseased tree was allowed. Grate to prevent the spread of the disease by means of erecting a wooden fence. Where individual trees are of low value the fencing of healthy ones within 25 feet of the diseased tree usually could control the infection. Using these methods it was possible to control the spread of some diseases of trees that were becoming a serious economic problem,

One of the most interesting of all recent developments in which radioactive isotopes were used has been that of the role of certain substances in the milk, in promoting the absorption of calcium. In a series of studies, calves were being observed for their ability to absorb calcium from the diet. It was noticed that there was a marked difference between calves at two months of age and those at six months of age in the

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Total calcium absorbed from dietary sources. This age difference was investigated more closely and we found that the difference was related

to weaning. The weaned animals, on standard commercial diets of good quality, were not able to absorb nearly as much calcium as those that were still nursing their mothers. It was then established that it was substances in milk that promoted the absorption and these are primarily lysine, arginine, and lactose. This is even true in old animals. For even when

an aged cow given like solids with calcium, was able to absorb a considerably greater amount of calcium than her calf. Thus a new system of feeding was established, one in which the milk solids were incorporated with calcium here. It was desired to get good calcium absorption in growing animals.

Another interesting aspect of the resiccalcium studies came about through the study of the Total transfer of fetal utilization of calcium from the maternal blood stream. The fetus draws heavily upon the mother's store of calcium so much so that it has been suggested that the irritability of the mother often shown is related to the hypocalcemia. Rhyoseleeria or low calcium in the blood has been known for many years (O produce eel @ condition in man and animals. Studies with Mocalcium have shown that the fetus will draw calcium from the dietary calcium first: if it is available and if it is not from the skeletal calcium the reserve stores of the mother. The ordinary three nestle de Jy permitted skeletal stores

to be drawn upon to a large extent. Therefore, in order to protect the mother from excessive drains upon her calcium stores it has been a policy to advise frequent intakes with an adequate calcium diet for pregnant mothers. This in turn has the tendency, in the eyes of some authorities, to reduce the irritability of pregnant mothers by preventing the low blood calcium levels which develop when calcium is being mobilized.

Please pardon me for including a personal incident involved with tracers. It will serve to let you know that there are pit-fellies that

befall the investigators when Tefioactive tracers. For some years it has been noticed that form of Phenouazine, an encephalintic, would vainly attempt to end this very useful and many cases to the removal of the parasite from the intestinal tract. It has also been observed by the more astute

observers that animals without parasites would gain weight. A troubling paradox indeed. These facts were known to us and we could not explain them.

In some prior work by a colleague, rats were given phenothiazine and the uptake of radioactive iodine measured. Animals treated with phenothiazine did not concentrate radioactive iodine to any extent at all. This work was repeated with burros and sheep with similar results. This led us to believe that because the thyroid activity was depressed we had uncovered the cause for the weight gain noted. Some very extensive studies were done in exploring

this possibility and it was responsive to

the failure to pick up radioactive iodine was overcome. Instead it was

found. It was used as a catalyst in the preparation of the

phenothiazine compound. It still left unanswered the gain

in weight as the weight gain was seen even with phenothiazine. Some time

Aster T noticed that the structure of the phenothiazine molecule was very similar

to that of the nucleus of the chlorzoxazone molecule. If you will recall,

Chlorzoxazone is a drug that is used in furan medicine as a

tranquilizing agent. It then occurred to me that phenothiazine might

be a tranquilizing agent and that the animals that were being given Phenothiazine

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were in effect getting a tranquilizing drug as well as an anthelmintic. This year in a report in a scientific journal it came to my attention that some investigator had studied phenothiazine in respect to its tranquilizing ability and sure enough it does have some effect of that type. Now I believe that the weight gain noted was at least in part due to this. Incidentally some very highly respected race horse owners think that phenothiazine will cause a horse to run slower.

Another aspect of the use of radioactive substances is in the sterilization of foods. This requires large sources of radiation and is dependent upon destruction of enzymes or bacteria. I have a number of slides showing various foods which have been treated with radioactivity in large amounts and the keeping quality has been improved (Isotopes Division slide file). Recent methods by which various meats can be effectively pasteurized have involved destruction of proteolytic enzymes before irradiation. The results are quite effective.

A use of large exposures of sperm plasma has been where corn and other
grains have been irradiated and to hasten the maturation process. This slide

(Isotopes Division slide Tio.) shows the relative number of grains of corn

that one has to inspect to see under various circumstances @ sizeable increase

in the number of mutations; somatic mutations as illustrated by this slide

(Teotares Division slide Ho.) of the carnation plant, The plant in the center

is red compared with its sisters which are white. This is considered to be

somatic mutation. Similar reports have been made which indicate that early

maturing, disease resistance, and various other things can be induced by radia-

tion.

Another, and very interesting, use of large doses of radiation has been

to expose the larva of the screwworm fly to sterilizing doses of radiation

and releasing the males. The irradiated sterile males mate with the females

in competition with fertile males. So many sterile matings, with sterile

eggs, are made in such large a number that the total population of the screwworm

flies in an isolated area can be reduced to essentially none. This is

done by the Department of Agriculture on the Island of Curacao and a very

serious economic hazard was removed from animal population.

?These silustrations are meant to stimlate more of your thoughts elong

?the Line or vhat can be done and viet has been done in the field of egricul-
tere. ?They are certainly not ali that are possible and as I said carlier that
possible uses of atomic energy in agriculture are Limited entirely by one'e ince
nuity and intelligent approach to rroblens. It scons to me that the venefite
from the use of atomic energy in agriculture are vell on the vay to surpass the
Seadvantages.

1 than you.

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UNIVERSITY CF PUER *D RICO

Rio Piadkas, Pueria Rico

ATOMIC ENERGY AND THEY ORLD TODAY

By: A.M. V einberg, Director

(Cok Ridge National Loboratory

I" is @ great pleasure to be in Pusr> Rico to toik to you about atomic energy.

?Many of you may be puzzled about this atomic energy "Chatougua?

jnich we bring

to you. I should explain that this

one of a series of Regional Atomic Energy

Symposia sponsored by the CRN! the CRIN"? and the Atomic Energy Commission,

(Our purpose is to present first an overall view of the current status of the nuclear

?energy arts, and second, to indicate, in each of the regions where we put on our

show, how nuclear energy, in its many ramifications, can hove importont implication

for that re

?You will therefore hear, during this symposium, talks on economics and education,

talks on cancer and agriculture, talks on radioisotopes and power.-- In short, you

will be told that nuclear energy bears, in some way or onot

for a remarkably wide

Gamut of human activities. Our medi

ine show, \$0 Yo speak, it selling very strong

medicine indeed: yet, at the outset I should make clear that we do not seek to

represent our product-nuclear energy at a panacea. If we should sound too

enthusiastic remember always that no single technical achievement, no matter how

?magnificent, can solve all of mankind's problems-- that the release of nuclear

?energy, by i

If, has certainly not ?Set the ¥ orld Free

os H.

= ells predicted

in 1713.

?My talk will be concerned mainly with the present state of nuclear power, and

its implications for Puerto Rico. The possibl

?TGak Ridge Nationa? Laboratory ~~

2 Ook Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies

interest of Puerto

0 in nuclear power

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work well stated in a paper presented at the International Conference
of Atomic,
Energy at Geneva by A. Mayne of the A.

of the Peaceful use

of the Atomic Energy Planning Board and P. Mullenbach

of the National Planning Association. The economy of Puerto Rico is expanding
very rapidly. Fundamental to any such expansion is adequate power. In Puerto Rico
?most of whose energy comes from burning imported oil, this meant that two questions

?con one count on oil at, the present price of about \$2.10 one barre!

te Future; end can one see any clerrate energy source which would

ther ot lower cest thon oil, or should! oi! become tcorce, in greter

?bundance than oil. Iti my belief that nuclear powor might vory walt be such on

?alternate rource fr Puerto Rice should ait become scarce for any reason in the Futur.

As measured by U.S.A. standards, 1

First sight not very high. Moyne ond Mullenbach in th

about 7.510 0 mills por kwh. Of this about 4 mills per kwh is the cost of fuel,

?about 1/2 mill per kwh goes for operation and maintenance, and 3.5 te 4 mills

per kwh goes for depreciation and other Fixed costs. The fraction of the total cost

of electricity which goes for fixed casts is very low by L

comporad to 13.594,the mojour di

costs were so high

(5 on the mainland, the cost of conventional electric power in Puerto Rico would

be nearer 10 to 12 mills per kwh rather than 7.5 to 3 mills per kwh.

It is very important in discussing the economies of nuclear power that one reduce all such discussions to a common base of computing costs, Thus by mainland cost

1 the target which nuclear power must meet is not the very low figure

of 7.5 mills per kwh but rather the much higher figure of 19-12

19-12 mills per kwh.

Moreover, again because of accounting, fixed costs are much less important in

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costing electrical costs in Puerto Rico than on the mainland. Insofar as we can

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future of nuclear energy technology, it appears that nuclear reactors
will be expensive devices. Low fixed costs would therefore be extremely important

in making

possible for nuclear energy to be competitive with conventional power.

To summarize then, the quoted conventional electrical costs in Puerto Rico-- 7-2

mills per kwh unusually low because the Fixed charges are computed at such a low

Tate. If the Fixed charges are computed by U.S.A. standards, Puerto Rico becomes

one of the moderately high electric cost areas of the world; or conversely, if the

fixed charges on a nuclear plant are computed at the low Puerto Rican rate, the

possibility of nuclear power competing with conventional power in the relatively

near future is good- at any rate much better than in the states where the fuel costs

are often less than half what they are in Puerto Rico

Present Status of Nuclear Power

Just where does the Nuclear Power Enterprise of the world stand today=- how

close are we to achieving 7.5 mills per kwh (at 6.75% fixed charges) (2) To give an

?idea of the current state of the

nology» | shall describe in some detail three of

the currently operating or nearly built nuclear power plants=- The British gas cooled
Colder Holl Reactors, the American Pressurized ater Reactor (pwp) and the

American Homogeneous Reactor Test (HRT). As you will see, the

sh Reactor,

built in country which faces @ drastic energy shortage right now, represents @
relotively conservative technology. The American HRT, builtin a country for which

nuclear power can make little imm

}e contribution because Fuel is s0 abundant and

so cheap, is a very advanced device.

In between, perhaps in the

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Two major lines of development of nuclear power have emerged during the post

war-- one based on the exploitation of natural, unenriched uranium, the other

based on the exploitation of uranium which has been enriched in Uranium-235, The

latter of development is followed largely by countries such as England and France:

which possess only limited facilities for separating Uranium-235 from Uranium, the second line

of development strongly domi

tes the United States atomic energy program.

Broadly speaking, reactors based on natural uranium tend to be larger than reactors based on enriched uranium. In consequence, one has the impression, though this is not proved, that natural uranium reactors may be more expensive to build than enriched reactors. On the other hand they will probably be cheaper to operate than at least some enriched machines. Thus in situations where operating costs are more important than capital costs as in Puerto Rico-- unenriched types may be very

attractive; in places like the U.S. where capita

operating costs, er

between the European and American programs corresponds rather well to the technical

tand economic needs of the two arest.

1 is well to point out that even the enriched non-regenerative systems will have fairly low operating costs if the reprocessing of the fuel can be done cheaply enough.

Consider U235 at \$17 per gram, then at 25% overall thermal efficiency, and

complete burnup, the fuel cost is about 3 mills per kWh, Such economics is often

unappealing to countries outside the United States since it implies that the country's

fuel would always depend on U. S.

diffusion plants. Such an argument loses its

force when one speaks of Puerto Rico which is closely tied to the Uni

ted States. == In

?other words, burning of U5, even without regeneration ought to be an economic

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possibility in Puerto Rico relatively soon; and such a possibility would not resolve the some problem of power self-sufficiency which seems to trouble many other countries.

I turn now to a short description of the three nuclear power plants which represent the major developmental lines-- Calder Hall, @ natural Uranium gas cooled system, PVR, @ water cooled enriched U system, and HRT, a liquid fuel, enriched and possibly regenerative reactor. I shall describe each of these reactions by means of a number of slides.

Broader Aspects of Nuclear Energy

While the possible utilization of nuclear fuel as an energy source in Puerto

itself sufficient reason for the interest in nuclear development here, I believe

mediate reasons for this interest. I

there are other, possibly more persuasive or

refer first to the possibility of using nuclear energy technology as a jumping off

point for the expansion of technological activity of all kinds—~ not only nuclear

energy— here in Puerto Rico; and I refer secondly to the significance of nuclear

energy of « symbol of the newly arrived Scientific Era.

The breadth of nuclear technology—~ the fact that on the one hand it makes

demands on all the fields of science and that on the other hand it can give impetus

to a wide variety of scientific o

of great variety-- means that institutions which

more established first as atomic-energy institutes in fact require the capability of

pursuing every phase of scientific and technical investigation. For example

Oak

Ridge National Laboratory-- the largest of the American national laboratories-- has

on its staff representatives from every branch of science and technology.

core on

atomic-energy laboratory, yet we are competent in computers, in biology, in

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seology, in ecology. Thus, the trend towards establishment of notional scientific

laboratori

even in smaller countries, around prices of atomic-energy hardware,

{view as 0 trend which will, in the long run, have implic

ns beyond atomic

?energy per se. It has been argued that nuclear-energy laboratories give to @

spacial segment of technology= \sim nuclear

Ice too large @ fraction of ovcilable

talent; to this, I rejoin that scientific activity is infectious. A science

tradition having its roots in nuclear energy can well be used as a base for expansion

into other

fields of science. This

is, for example, exemplified by the Boris

Kidric Institute in Yugoslavia; this laboratory, of moderate size, serves not only as a

notional nuclear-energy laboratory, but also as a notional physical laboratory for

Yugoslavia. With the rapid industrialization of Puerto

+ on educationally oriented

laboratory whose original mission lies in the field of nuclear energy, but which has

the flexi

ity necessary to expand into other fields of

significant to the Puerto Rican economy, s

| turn now to nuclear energy as « symbol of the new Scientific Era which mankind

is now entering. {trust that #

symposium, and perhaps even my remarks, will

give you some idea of the ultimate significance of nuclear energy to science and

technology. Great though this signi

?cannot help but feel that the

incredible public reaction to the possibilities of peaceful nuclear energy is not

justified by the actual possibili

of nuclear energy. Rather,

seems to me that

?nuclear energy has been seized upon by mankind to symbolize what mankind has

suddenly realized: that our science and our technology generally= not only nuclear

?energy-- have become so successful as to open the possibility of dealing with all

of our human wants in a drastically more effec

fe monner than in the post. in short,

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the real fuss about peaceful nuclear energy hat to do with nuclear energy o& symbol
?nd harbinger of what het been called the Scientific Era.

The first-order achievement of nuclear science has been the imposition on mankind
ofthe Thermonuclear Peoce. om one of those who believe that monknd can hardly
bbe reatoned, or cojoled, or subverted into peace-- mankind ean muck more effectively

ed ond frightened into peace. I is this belief which bosically hos sustained
2th scientist who has been concerned with nuclear weapon development.

But, othe current events have shown, a Thermonuclear Peace isnot o stable
thing. Its true thatthe ectivation energy required for war hos been rated by the
existence of thermanuclear weapons; yet, without @ boric amelioration of mankind's
lot, itis hord to believe that the Thermonuclear Peace will lot forever.

Was this most worthwhile accomplishment -- the amelioration of the condition of life, and the consequent stabilization of the Thermonuclear Peace-- that we optimists believe is possible through our science.

Is it wishful thinking to believe

that @ world which has solved, by science, its shortage-- food, water, energy, materials-- will, under the threat of thermonuclear war, in fact become a world without war? IF we look at the trouble spots in today's

world:

we look at history's trouble spots

is almost no exaggeration to say

?that major trouble has always been the result of a lack of abundance.

Optimists have strong hope that this lack of abundance is amenable to solution

by the techniques of modern science-- that the tr

jonal causes of wor, insofar at

they lie in poverty and want can be eliminated by science; that even extreme political doctrines such as Communism, which were based on the assumption that there was

?not enough to go around for everyone, will be s

1 to be irrelevant in the new age of

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ebundance which modern science is making possible.

In the achievement of 1

10, nuclear energy development will certainly play

an important role. But other branches of science will be no less important. We

shall require new methods of agriculture; we shall require new methods of collecting
and computing data; we shall require new methods of extracting minerals from rocks.

We shall require new techniques for dealing with human relations; we shall need to

learn how to maintain our population below the explosion point; we shall require

better ways to deal with the new

problems at our disposal; we shall need achievements

in psychological science of the same order of our achievements in physical science.

And finally, we shall need people to

learn the new techniques-- people who

see the possibilities in the new era of science and who are in position to give advice

concerning the impact of these developments on society. Much people have come and

come from your great university here; we trust that, in a small way, our

symposium will help give further impetus and encouragement to you here in Puerto

Rico who have started the expansion of your scientific base, and who are prepared to

Use nuclear energy as the vehicle for furthering this expansion.

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Remarks Prepared by Levio I. Strauss, Chairman,

U.S. Atomic

Energy Commission,

for delivery to

Regional Symposium on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

Uatveretty of Pusrts Rico, Rio Pleérae Cenpue

San Juan, January 25, 1957

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It is a great pleasure to return to Puerto Rico for your
Semiannual meeting here, for many years, had a very secure spot in my
affections, On this occasion that pleasure is enriched because of

the opportunity which you afforded me to participate in this Symposium
on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy,

As I shall try to do with my most passionate interest in the story
of Christopher Columbus and his voyages, I, of course, come to know
about Puerto Rico, and determine that it was one of the most important
places which he would visit at the earliest opportunity. But I was surprised
by something of a contradiction about the place, according
to my school books when he stepped ashore here 463 years ago named
the island San Juan -- San Juan Bautista. and fifteen years later,
when Ponce de Leon came back to explore and colonize, he settled into
the beautiful bay and established a settlement which he called Puerto
Rico. I never could understand the strange inversion of names -- why
the island which Columbus christened San Juan came to be called Puerto
Rico, and why the city -- christened Puerto Rico -- came to be known
as San Juan. Perhaps there is a simple explanation, which I have
never been able to find, but I must confess that I am still perplexed; it seems

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I'm hoping someone will clarify for me before
I leave for home.

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During the past two days you have, in your various seminars
and panel programs, discussed in considerable detail the rapidly
expanding progress and prospects in the field of atomic energy -- in
medicine, biology, basic research, agriculture and industry. Such
outstanding authorities as Dr. Hall, Dr. Saper, Dr. Follmer, Dr.
Veinturg, Dr. Goodson, Dr. Grigorieff, Dr. Rust, Dr. Sorenson and
others have outlined for you various aspects of the United States
program. I shall not, therefore, engage in any repetitious account
of these activities. Instead, I shall endeavor to describe the broad
basic policies which underlie President Eisenhower's
program of Atoms for Peace.

As a preface to my remarks I should like to recall to you an
unusual message which was telephoned from Chicago on the afternoon
of December 2, 1942, I believe that message bears a relevant historical
association with this enlightening event, as well.

with the topic of

our interest,

You will no doubt recall that Columbus, when he stepped ashore on the west coast of this island one November day in 1493, was very apprehensive as to what kind of a greeting he and his men would receive from the Doringueno natives. The natives fortunately turned out to be very friendly,

But to return to the date of December 2, 1942, and the telephone message from Chicago:

The cell was placed by Dr. Arthur H. Compton, a Nobel laureate

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then in charge of the highly-secret laboratory operated by the U.S. Government at the University of Chicago. On the other end of the

line -- at Harvard University, in Cambridge, Massachusetts -- was

Dr. Juneo 5, Conant, at that time associated with the wartime office of Scientific Research and Development.

The conversation of the two men was brief and cryptic. There

were no wasted words of erecting when Dr. Compton spoke into the microphone and announced,

"The Italian navigator has reached the new world."

"And how did he find the natives?" asked Conant, anxiously.

"Very friendly," answered Compton.

421 of you, I am sure, must be familiar with that episode. The "Italian Navigator" was Enrico Fermi, illustrious son of Italy. The "natives" in this instance were not the Indians of San Salvador, nor

the Aorinquenos of San Juan; they were the neutrons liberated in countless billions that December afternoon

when they had submitted to Fermi's design as they penetrated and split apart

the heart of uranium atoms. In controlling and sustaining nuclear

fusion, man, for the first time, had tapped what appeared to be the

"friendly" natives because

desic energy of the Universe.

The nev world of the atox -- eti11 only in its fifteenth year, and not yot of the full stature of its growth -- presents to man the moet fatefud choice of his entize efvilized existence; For the power of the atom can be used to creete a nev sorld, rich in abundance and Unitless blessings, or {t om be perverted to fashion a barren and Primitive world, The choice tetueen these alternatives sti22 remaina

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oa

to be made by the peoples of the world ?- in their combined endighten-
rent or their mass blindness, a0 they nay decide,

(on that wintry afternoon in Chicago a Little over fourteen years ogo, end in thet ronent of eternity uben Femi and his assoctates cautiously inched the control rods out of their pile of eraniun and graphite to start the world's fizst atone rector, they hed Little ?tine to speculate on the future ond the altematives it would pose. reams of etonfe poser for man's poneeful pursuits, and of redtation to combat the diseases which tesct his and enrich the harvests of his felts, had to be pet aside, for ve were then at var, Freedom, not slone of our Nester Hentephore but of vast areas of the world, was in @eadly peril and would be lost were ue to lose the deadly serious rece to produce an atomic weazen before it might become the ultinete mens of world enslavenent in the hands of the aggressors, Yet Fert and

is colleagues fores:

ty even then, @ time when the "friendly natives!

Of his discovery would show us the way to richer extstenc

We Americans are fortunate that our land became the refuge of

so many scientists and scholars of other countries -- such as
Einstein, Fermi, Wigner, Teller, von Neumann and many others. We
do not regard the great progress made in nuclear science in the United
States as an achievement peculiar to our American culture. On the

contrary, it is a vivid example

of international teamwork -- and proof

of that scientific excellence and achievement that is not

sociated with any

particular birthright, This teamwork among men of different nations

is not less essential today than it was during the grim wartime years

To develop the atomic bomb, for the peaceful, productive potentialities

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It was obvious, however, that any comprehensive system of

disarmament could be realized only through the most serious and

conscientious effort. He, in all his recorded existence, has never

been able to achieve voluntary disarmament. Something new had to be

called for if the deadly weight of the world's fears was to be

lifted and the atom put to work for peace on a truly international

scale.

In 1959 the President's thoughts were running in this vein:

Perhaps if the peoples of the earth could be brought to realize
and comprehend the many ways in which the atom stood ready to serve
them and improve their lives, they would reject even the suggestion
of atomic war as unrelieved misery.

The President was eager to strike out into the new world and
to enlist its "friendly natives" in the cause of peaceful progress:

He declared, therefore, that, just as we had offered so far
back in 1946 to give up our nuclear weapons in the interest of peace,
we would do so in the same spirit -- share with the rest of the world
what we had learned about the terrible atom.

His inspiration was translated into sincere, concrete proposals
when he went before the United Nations General Assembly on December
8, 1953, and, in an historic message, rejected the thesis of "atomic
warfare doomed inevitably to see each other explode in a
world." He said that to resign one's self to that kind of thinking
would be to accept helplessly the probability of civilization destroyed
and the annihilation of the irreplaceable heritage of mankind handed
down to us from generations,

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He went on to say:

"The United States knows that if the fearful trend of atomic military building can be reversed, this greatest of destructive forces can be developed into a great boon, for the benefit of all mankind. The United States knows that peaceful power from atomic energy is no dream of the future. That capability, already proved, is here today."

He then proposed that the governments of the world establish,

and contribute to, an international "pool" of fissionable materials, to be devoted to the pursuits of peace, and administered under prudent safeguards by an International Atomic Energy Agency. This, as the President explained, would be an effective start toward diminishing

the potential destructive power of the world!

stockpiles of nuclear

nsteria!

Accordingly, a little later, the United States Government allocated 200 kilograms of fissionable material to serve as fuel for experimental research reactors in foreign countries.

We have not been content to pay mere lip-service to peace and

nuclear progress, it has been our aim to carry out President Eisenhower's

objectives by promoting the fullest measure of international cooperation in exploiting the benign atom while -- at the same time -- we strive with steady purpose to establish a basis for disarmament. We mean to continue these efforts.

In translating the President's words into action and substance we have negotiated agreements of cooperation with 42 nations and agreements have been undertaken with seven others. These 49 countries

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represent almost every area of the free world and eleven of them are with our sister republics of the Americas. The agreements facilitate an immediate exchange of information and nuclear materials as well as technical assistance for the development of atomic energy programs in those countries.

The state of atomic art varies widely among the countries with which we have negotiated such Agreements of Cooperation, ranging from countries with a minimum of people trained in basic science to those with a real capacity for advancing nuclear technology. Therefore, the assistance contemplated under the agreements Likewise encompasses wide scope,

Some provide for assistance in research and training programs in order that those countries may establish the necessary basis for an atomic industry of their own. Other agreements, known as "bilateral" provide for cooperation in the design, construction and operation of nuclear power plants.

The program of Agreements of Cooperation has been underway now only about two years -- since early 1955 -- yet there is substantial and gratifying progress to report.

For example, eight American research reactors have been contracted for by friendly countries with whom we have agreements,

and several other countries are discussing similar contracts. We anticipate that a number of these research reactors will be built in American Republics with U, S, financial and technical

assistance.

Also, seven power reactor projects abroad are currently being discussed by American and foreign interests.

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It feels that much emphasis should be placed upon the progress provided for in the "research bilateral" -- that is to say, the construction and use of research reactors. There is no better means to create a sound basis for nuclear development and progress.

Even one research reactor will, in itself, permit a wide range of activity in the field of nuclear energy. It will produce many of the radioactive isotopes of various kinds which can be of benefit to medical science, agriculture, industry and basic research -- radioactive iodine for use in the treatment of cancer, or radioactive gold to treat other malignancies, It will produce Carbon 2% with the many applications in biological research, and other isotopes capable of performing the most delicate

cate measurements and of testing materials in
countless Industrial applications. These same radioisotopes, applied
to agriculture] research, will show the way to improving fertilizers,
increasing crop yields through mutations, and combating plant

Atteese and pe

4nd most important of e12, such research reactors serve as a
magnificent device for training young nuclear scientists, engineers
and technicians, who represent the prime requirement for any sound
and productive atomic a

Dey program, utilization reservoir of such
scientific and technologies?

ule has been established, no country
om reasonably expect that {t s:11 have state power to ght ite

homes and operate its factories on transportation facilities, which is a component of an effective atomic program not less essential than nuclear energy or money.

The system of bilateral agreements of cooperation, covering both research and power development, is but one facet of the U. S.

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program of international cooperation for the development of the peaceful atom.

It was the United States which originated the International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Geneva, in August 1955, when 400 delegates from 73 countries broke the seals of silence on scientific communication that had lasted for many years.

It was the United States also which cut through the international deadlock and, in President Eisenhower's inspired address to the United Nations -- to which I have steadily referred -- called for the creation of an International Atomic Energy Agency and a world "pooling" of nuclear materials to extend and accelerate the peaceful Uses of the atom. The President's bold and imaginative proposal had

So dramatic fulfillment last October 24 at the United Nations in New York when some 60 nations of the world adopted his plan and signed a statute creating such a world agency dedicated to serving man's welfare. This represents a great stride forward in international cooperation to promote the peaceful atom and to draw away from weapons production, here and in other countries, the atomic materials required for the development of the peacetime uses of nuclear energy.

In our effort to encourage, to the fullest extent possible, the building and operation of research reactors in other countries the United States is not only supplying enriched uranium fuel for

such reactors, but we stand ready to grant up to \$350,000 in each case toward the building of such a reactor. One of these American

research reactors is already in Switzerland and grants for similar

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such reactors have either been made or earmarked for a number of other

countries, including, of course, the Americas,

Furthermore, to encourage activity by our friends abroad under the so-called "poover bilsterela," President Bteenhover on Februazy 22 of last year epzroved the Atcate Snergy Commission's recomentation and designated 40 retric tons of enriched uranium for civilian usea 4n our country end overseas, and primarily es fuel for muclesr power Plante, This s2location ? which will be increased as moy become necessary -- was evenly divided between the United States and our foreign friends, 20-thousand kitograns for each, Thus far, the com nitmenta of epecia? miclear metertal vnich the United Stetes hes made to other nations axounts to nearly tio-thousand kilograns of Uraniun-235. Sales of heavy vater to other countries exeeded 250 tons.

We have sought to e2iminete, wherever possible, the roadblocis Voich hamper our friends abroad {n efforts to determine the econonte foctora in the atomic energy prograns on which they hope to embark. We have helyed to solve many of these problens ty means of @ two-uey ?spprocch, Firat, ve have relecsed fron @11 classification large seounts of tecinfcol infomation, and secondly, ve have established price echedules for special nuclear meterfal -- applying not only to prices to be charged for such materials, but also the prices ve vill Poy for by-product materials generated in reactors using fuel from the United States. These policies, vhtch vere announced in mid-tovenber, will assist soportantly in arranging dnvestoent and financing for muciesr projects,

In the matter of technical information, which we are sharing

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a
4m large volume with our friends of the free world, there has been
underway for some time now a greatly accelerated effort to

Declassify such data, within the limits of prudent regard for military

Security, The Commission has reviewed all the thousands of secret
and top secret reports accumulated over the past 15 years with the
result that last year over thousands of them were widely available
and over one-third of them were declassified completely. Recently --
in agreement with the United Kingdom and Canada -- our wartime partners
in atomic energy development -- we proceeded to make public es-
sentially all the information on reactors designed for research and
commercial power, This information is freely available to our friends
abroad with whom we are cooperating and continues to be added to the
atomic energy libraries which we are happy to have sent thus far to
48 countries,

Since 1947, we have been supplying radioisotopes -- those
miraculous by-products of atomic sectors -- to our friends
abroad for use in medical research and therapy, in agriculture and

in industry. To date, we have made more than 5,000 shipments to a total of 54 countries,

To have coped with the continent-wide need for projects and facilities to train larger numbers of our young people in the nuclear arts, if we are to take advantage of the promise of the peaceful atom, the lack of trained talent stands as the only limiting factor, of any serious proportions, in nuclear development -- in the United States and in all the nations of the free world.

In the United States, for example, it is estimated that during the 1955-56 academic year there were about 200 college students

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majoring in nuclear engineering, and that in the current year there are about 600 such students. Next year the number may be doubled -- to nearer 12-hundred. However, this increase -- encouraging though it is

is considerably short of our requirements. Based on the best estimates of anticipated meteoric growth and expansion we will need a much larger crop of post-graduate scientists and engineers

qualified to take their place in the ranks of nuclear specialists.

The existing and future shortage poses

difficulties not only

for our own domestic nuclear program -- particularly in reaching the

goal of plentiful, economical and safe nuclear power; it also serves as

① Limiting factor to the amount of skilled manpower which we can as-

sign to our program of international cooperation, we are determined

to continue to extend, to the fullest extent possible, our technical

assistance to other friendly countries in helping them to obtain the

required talents. The ultimate answer and solution, of course,

is to help those nations to train their own nationals

so that they may become skilled in the nuclear arts and qualified to

guide the creation and operation of their own atomic enterprises,

The Atomic Energy Commission has been aware for some years

of this urgent need and has attached great importance to the solution,

both as regards our own requirements in the United States and those

of other friendly countries,

We have established and operated a number of schools such as

the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies and the International

School of Nuclear Science and Engineering at the Commission's Argonne

Laboratory near Chicago, to which are welcomed students from our own

end many other countries for training in the production and applications

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of radioisotopes and in reactor technology, I am happy to say that

students from Puerto Rico and from @ number of the American Republics

exe among the enrollees.

However, our authority and our facilities for those educt

ional activities must necessarily have their limitations, There

a0 for the language difficulty, as well as the additional expense

of bringing students to the United States rather than affording each

?training opportunities to them nearer to their homes,

It was for this reason that the Commission last year extended

the program of international cooperation by helping to establish a

nuclear training center in Puerto Rico, of the University of Puerto Rico.

We are extremely gratified of the response, and the extent of the enthusiastic collection which has been evidenced by the administration of Governor Livos and by the officials and faculty of the University of Puerto Rico.

There is a sound and promising basis for this decision to expand the Spanish language training facilities here in Puerto Rico, to serve as a bridge of scientific and technological cooperation among the American Republics.

As far back as 1950 your University, under auspices of the Atomic Energy Commission, was engaged in important research in the field of electron radiation of cosmic rays. In the years since then, the University has carried on still other major studies for the Commission, such as for example, the researches in radioactive iron contents

in soils and crops, which are presently being conducted for the Commission by the University's Agricultural Experiment Station. This

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work is now to be extended through the opportunities afforded by the new research center which will include U. S. assistance to the

University's School of Veterinary, School of Science, College of
Arts and, of course, the Agricultural Ex-
perimental Station,

This program will provide the University of Puerto Rico with
unique training and research facilities. Because these facilities will
be truly outstanding -- and the most up-to-date in concept and design --
Puerto Rico
Puerto Rico may well become a training center of interest to many countries
of the hemisphere.

and because instruction will be in Spanish, the Uni-

It is noted that about 200 students from Central and South America
are now attending the University, some of them under the Tech-
nical Assistance Program of the United States International Cooperation
Administration. It may soon develop, with the nuclear center in
operation here, that Puerto Rico will be attracting steadily larger
numbers of Spanish-speaking students from other countries, and all
cooperate enthusiastically and support that expansion.

Under this training program, a broad horizon of opportunity
will be unfolded for the youth of Puerto Rico. The skills
and knowledge which they will acquire -- working with the peaceful

tom here + will qualify then to assure important roles in the
Development of this exciting new art which attends to urgent need of
such trained men, There will be a steadily increasing demand for
these talents, here at home, in the United States and in the nations
of Central and South America

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As another component of the United States desire to promote --

in a spirit of friendly and neighborly cooperation -- the development
development of the Western Hemisphere, the Commission is, as you know,

presently arranging for an Inter-American Symposium on Nuclear Energy

to be held this year at its Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long

Island, New York, It is our plan that this symposium will embrace

both the scientific and economic aspects of nuclear energy and that

It will be attended by appropriate representatives of the 21 American

Republics, we hope to be able to announce more detailed plans in the

near future, not only will the delegates discuss such topics as the

?see of radioisotopes in industry, agriculture and medicine, the various types and uses of reactors and the economic factors involved, ?but also the feasible courses to be followed in the establishing and operation of effective nuclear energy programs.

In conclusion, I should like to refer again to the prime requirement of atomic growth and progress -- that is to say, the training of scientists and engineers,

We have given much thought to ways and means by which it is possible for the Argentine Republic might accelerate the use of this new force to bring greater health and happiness and abundance into the lives of our people, we are convinced that the surest and soundest approach to that goal is through educational projects such as the one being established here.

President Eisenhower at the signing of the Declaration of Principles at the night be taken

ing of Parana last July spoke of steps which + ++ to hasten the beneficial use of nuclear forces

?throughout the hemisphere, both in industry and in combatting disease."

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(on that occasion he said:

"The coming years will bring to mankind limitless ways in which this nuclear science can advance human welfare,

with

us progress together, as one family, in achieving for our

peoples these results.?"

That, Ladies and Gentlemen, is the very essence of the program

of international cooperation to which we are pledged.

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MUCLEAR REACTORS FOR UNIVERSITIES

Excerpts from the address of Dr. Robert A. Charpie, Assistant Director,

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, at the afternoon session of the Symposium on Atomic Energy, University of Puerto Rico, January 25, 1957.

Nuclear energy is the most powerful force to appear on the world scene during the past two decades. The dramatic story of the military conquest of the nucleus which has led to our present uneasy "thermonuclear peace" is now common knowledge. It is my belief, however, that the taming of nuclear energy has brought us to the threshold of even more dramatic changes in our way of life. A new dimension is being added to human experience--which dimension has been variously designated as the Scientific Era or the Era of Science.

Last evening, January 24, Dr. Alvin M. Weinberg characterized nuclear energy as the harbinger of this Era of Science. In keeping with the changes which nuclear energy has already wrought in international affairs, we must anticipate that virtually every aspect of our way of life will be affected by the rapid application of scientific methodology to vast new areas of our living experience.

It follows quite directly that as we gain increased understanding of the details of nature, of the origin of life and our universe, and of the psyche of man that both our individual and collective living patterns must respond with changes. So we see, as Dr. Weinberg has pointed out, that our society must be increasingly sensitive, as time goes on, to the most recent discoveries at the very frontiers of

science.

It is my belief that the proper degree of scientific sensitivity can best be achieved in a growth society such as Puerto Rico through the organization of a strong central scientific laboratory to which both the universities and industry contribute as full partners.

To be most effective, such an establishment must acquire the attributes and breadth of inquiry characteristic of the university while at the same time retaining the organizational flexibility and dedication of purpose typically found in industrial research.

I believe that the effect of such a central establishment on the university and industrial interests in Puerto Rico would serve the people of Puerto Rico well in paving the way for them to achieve the greatest possible beneficial impact through the Era of Science.

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UNITED STATES

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Washington 25, D. C.,

FOR RELEASE AT 10:0 A.M. (EST)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1957

?EVARIS PREPARED BY CLARK D. GOODIN

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF REACTOR DEVELOPMENT,

U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

FOR PRESENTATION AT

TENTH OAK RIDGE REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM,

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO,

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

JANUARY 25, 1997

ATOMIC ENERGY AND THE EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS OF OUR AGE

Dear Bueso, members of the faculty, and students of the Institute

of Technology, my colleagues, in the Institute Energy Commission and in the Oak

Ridge National Laboratory, I am pleased and honored to participate

in this symposium, the first of its kind to be held on this lovely

island of Puerto Rico.

The title of this letter is far more important than I would have

chosen, however, I accept it as a challenge.

As students you may have some unpleasant associations with

"educational problems." You may be thinking of these as problems that must be solved to complete an assignment or to pass @ final examination. On the other hand, as viewed by your professors, such problems are mainly necessary evils which may serve the questionable functions of making students study and of forming the basis for final grades.

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The "educational problems" to which I wish to direct your attention are of quite a different sort. You have been living with them most of your life. You may have even become unaware of their existence. These educational problems are the obstacles you have met and will continue to meet in your preparation for life. For education is surely the preparation for life as well as for professional accomplishment.

In this sense, I believe the number one educational problem of our age is the increasing complexity of our culture. Science continues to shrink distance, to increase leisure and comfort, to reduce manual labor, to widen communications among mankind and to open new vistas of the mind. But to partake of this expanding existence you must pay for it. You must know and understand more. As students of the atomic

?ege you mist learn more and lean it faster.

\net is mre

adults you mst keep on learning in order to
otay sbroadcast of the tines. Dr. ortiner Gravee, executive eizector of
?the American Council of Learned Societies, in an address lest spring
put it aptly when he sold "to keep pace vith this new age the American
must learn as long es he Lives; termine] education ané the undertaker
will arrive on the same day."

In its first interim report the Presitent's Committee on
?Edueducation emphasizes the need for every individual "to develop his or
her talent to the fullest? to meet national needs and the increasing
complexity of civilization, Furthemore,

ny good friend Aéetzed

H. G, Blokover recently steted before the Thonss A. Eétson Foundation,
?the more complex a society Becomes, the Langer proportionately fe
?the number of intelligent, highly treined en needed for its proper

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functioning."

He pointed out "that a 3 per cent annual increase in our

gross national product will require 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 per cent annual in-

crease in scientific and engineering manpower. Or, to put it differently,

in the last 20 years our population has increased by 35 per cent, but

the number of scientists has increased by 450 per cent, and engineers

by 225 per cent. Yet even this tremendous increase leaves us seriously

short," "With the rapid industrialization and population growth which

you are experiencing in Puerto Rico, it will be necessary to increase

your production of scientists and engineers at an even greater rate

since many of your technically trained men and women migrate to the

States or to South America,

?The purpose of this essay is to

assist you and your leaders

in the effort that ac

all of us to work out practical means of meet-

ing these educational needs, In particular we feel that the pe

ful applications of student energy provide a new and exciting area

in which to develop this expanded educational program.

In order to carry out such a program you will need more teachers,

particularly those trained in modern science and technology. This

brings us face to face with the second big educational problem of today.

At a time when good technical teaching is most urgently needed,

both in our colleges and in our high schools, the number of trained

teachers in the United States is decreasing at an alarming rate. The

number of qualified teachers of high school science and mathematics

has fallen off stout £3 per cent in the pest five years while the

high school student body hes increase? 16 per cent and continues to

wise. The U, S, Atomic nergy Comission 1s keenly evare of this end

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42 doing « great deal to helpgotve the problen. Chatman L, 1, Straues
and Comisotoner V, F. Libty have made mineros appeals to inéuistriot,
scadenio, goverment and philenthrepte groups to aveken to this
national need and to assist in told, nev educations) prograns designed
to £121 thie need.

They have opazkplugged vigorous trafning end edveation enotstance
prograns by the Conission of which thts eyapoefum fs tut one exemple,
Since your nev miclecr currioulus vi2i want to follow much the sane
patten as the Coomission's astivities in sone areas, I vill sunerize
briefly our edueutional and training progress. it the advanced level
the Comission has established three special graduste schools, The
Oak Ridge Sohool of Reactor Tectology which hes graduated 469 students
sponsored by Anericen industries and goverment agencies, tho Inter
national Schoo? of Itielear Sefense and Hngineering hich hes 100 alumt
from 29 countries ond The Onk Pldge Institute of Nuolear Stuétes vhtch
has provided training ond spectaitzed reoeceh feot2ities for 4800

students and visiting faculty, As American universities take over the responsibility, these efforts, which were established to meet exigent needs, are gradually being converted to advanced laboratory training centers, ADC Fellowships in Nuclear Energy Technology (150 per year) in Retiologieel Myaies (69 for 1956-57), and in Industrial Medicine (7 in 1956-57) are attracting talented scientists, engineers and physicians to these fields in which the need is especially acute, Graduate student research training (about 1120 per year) is provided through approximately 300 research contracts with about 100 colleges and universities.

Summer courses have been conducted in nuclear reactor technology

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5

for engineering faculty (90 in 1956), Likewise an additional 265

university faculty members participated in research programs at AEC Institutes during the summer of 1956.

49 You may, the Commission is providing assistance to educational

Institutions to acquire training reactors, teaching aids, demonstration

apparatus, laboratory equipment, and certain nuclear materials to be used primarily for educational and training purposes in nuclear technology courses. The University of Puerto Rico has applied for this a

stance,

We now come to the third major educational problem of our age. This

is the language barrier. Even if we had an adequate number of qualified teachers and students adjusted to the complexities of modern civilization, there must be easy communication in the classroom. Language serves

this purpose:

but 4% must be native, or nearly so, to both the teacher and the student,

I recently spent a year in Japan as « Fulbright Professor at Columbia University. Fortunately the students in my nuclear physics course could all read English. Despite this advantage it was very difficult to communicate orally any but the simplest concepts -- in a subject in ton 1

of concepts are the real keys to understanding.

Needless to say, had it been necessary to communicate in written Japanese

the barrier between us would have been almost impenetrable, You are

indeed fortunate in having an essentially bilingual university, Spanish

and English have common roots and hence are very similar both in the

written and in the spoken language, The University of Puerto Rico is,

therefore, ideally suited geographically, culturally and academically

to serve as an educational bridge between the Americas.

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There is a veritable flood of technical information in English

but this needs to be reduced to Latin America's needs and presented

in Spanish in order to be of greatest usefulness in most of the Central

and South American countries, Next we come to the fourth big educational

problem which is particularly close to my heart but which is difficult

to express simply and clearly, It is what I alluded to a moment ago.

You might call it conceptual teaching as contrasted to factual teaching.

This approach is applicable to nearly all fields of knowledge but is

essential in the physical sciences,

In brief the student should be presented with the true education

ageence of mathematics, physics and chemistry. This does mean that practical applications are ignored. Quite the opposite; for fn the ultimate gil knowledge ie first derived from experience. The relevance of fundanental imovledge to resl situations mst be understood and put to practical use,

However, in learning applied science the basic principles ere often Jost in a plethora of practical details, As a result the student finds it not only difficult to mow where to hang his intelectual hat, tut he is also Likely to forget where ho hung it, It te truly amazing how Little ve reatly need to remeber and how mich ve can forget and still retain the real nourisiment of subject.

T submit that there aust te sonething wrong vith our teaching for ?this to be the cose, Clearly we an no longer afford the luxury of gorging our minds in much the sane mamer ao ve so often gorge our

stomachs. We must vork out vays to make our teaching more effective, to inerease our educational effieienoy, se it vere. Ressoning murt

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replace rote learning, The accumulation of facts about science and technology is secondary to the mastery of a scientific method of thinking. The attainment of professional stature in science and engineering is best achieved through an orientation of mind and habit which begin in early childhood and follow continuously through high school and college. The education of future teachers in these fields is as an objective of equal importance to that of training scientists and engineers, We must improve the instruction by education of detailed content and by increased emphasis upon fundamental principles and upon the development of power of judgment and discrimination in the formulation and application of these principles. I will illustrate what I have in mind with only two of the numerous examples which could be cited, In classical mechanics as well as in the more modern wave

mechanics, the principle of conservation of momentum is applicable without any exception, The best principle is certainly simple, It is hardly even necessary to defer acquaintance with this concept until the senior year in high school. Yet that was my experience, and I believe such is still the case in general,

(on the other hand, valuable elementary school time is spent in teaching the child about temperature, presumably because he meets this so frequently in everyday life and hence should know it.

Actually the concept of temperature, at least its true physical meaning, is much more difficult than resonant. Furthermore, because of its commonplace nature, temperature in the everyday sense is something the child will pick up easily outside of school. Why do we teach children about temperature but not about resonance?

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I believe the answer to this question lies at the root of the problem. (Our elementary science teachers have not been trained to appreciate what are the truly significant concepts. This is no reflection on them, rather it is part of the broad problem of the

gap between our professions of scientists and engineers and those who have the responsibility of teaching our children, updating of our textbooks. They contain too much scientific stuffing

Furthermore, there should be continuity

need a thorough

and not enough scientific neat

in content from grade to grade. In addition, for each group of text=
?books there should be a teacher's companion reference book giving
?background information and perspective. Otherwise how can we expect
our teachers to keep abreast authoritatively on the many new discoveries
and developments of the atomic age? Textbook publishers should take
more responsibility for providing the teachers with such backup
Information, Continuing with the momentum example, this concept
would flow into the minds of our students in an unbroken sequence which
might go something like this:

Grades 3 - 5...., First introduction of linear

Grades 6 - 8...., Simple numerical examples of conservation
of momentum in collisions with marbles
and tuning bells as examples.

Grades 9 - 10...4.20 Dimensional notion with numerical

examples and problems. Extension to angular

rotation with spinning tops and the angular momentum
of the earth and of the planets as classical
examples.

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Grades 11 = 12, (University and angular momentum 6 numerical)
examples in algebra and trigonometry. The
momentum of fluids, gyroscopes, stone, nuclei
and light waves would be among the examples.

College 2 - 2+ (via)

quanta, relativistic action, space
quantization, spin and nuclear selection
rules, [Classical] mechanics lead naturally
into modern mechanics at this level with the
proper preparation,

College 3 = 4 - (even mechanics, quantum electrodynamics, etc)

feds, advanced zechentos and cenere)

relativity.

In this way we have been able to cover in college much of what is usually reserved for graduate school. However, we have actually expanded rather than telescoped the learning period largely by an early introduction followed by a slow scalding in which is a gradual that the student accepts the concept as one of nature's laws and not as an esoteric educational hurdle. In his technical education as

at the end of

the freshman or sophomore year, he would have a much better understanding of the world around him than is now the case. Likewise, the conservation of energy could follow a similar pattern, where we probably would begin with the general principle that the momentum the conservation of energy is applicable without known exception. Then as the understanding of the student gradually increases we would broaden the definition of energy to include the various forms such as heat, chemical, electromagnetic, and mass (nuclear). The introduction to kinetic and potential energy would be a natural part of this subdivision.

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Likewise, the means of transforming from one kind of energy to

another would serve as familiar practice] examples. By the time the student had reached the freshman year in college he would be able to understand and appreciate the significance of experiments such as that of Dr. Frederick Seines and Dr. Clyde Cowan, Jr. who recently established experimentally the existence of the neutrino, a particle without

electrical charge and with vanishingly small mass. We have known for

20 years that such particles must exist -- otherwise our laws of the conservation of momentum and of energy would be violated. But until nuclear reactors were available as a source of neutrinos, it was not possible to measure these elusive little beasts. This brilliant work was supported by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. It is only one of any examples of fundamental discoveries which have been made under the sponsorship of the AEC. Needless to say, such discoveries are not made by more than a very small proportion of the scientific needed in this rapidly expanding field. Likewise, not every engineer can come up with a revolutionary development in reactor technology. Still there is

wealth of satisfaction in being a member of a scientific group that is carrying out fundamental research or in being a member of an engineering team that develops, constructs and places in operation a nuclear power plant.

Talented people are needed and needed in large numbers for these jobs, we are not producing nearly enough to meet the demand. This is the fifth and final educational problem which I will mention today.

The speech of Admiral Mezerov, from which I quoted earlier, was

devoted to this problem, "The Education of our Talented Children

Be

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has pointed out that one half of our children who are endowed with the ability to enter college and university do not do so. For every high school graduate who eventually earns a doctoral degree there are 2% others who have the mental capability to achieve that degree, but do not.

Riclover lays much of the blame for this "waste of our most precious national asset" to the fact that with few exceptions the talented children, the top 15 to 20 per cent who are capable of more intensive and more extensive training, "are being taught with the 80 per cent of average and below average mentality." Because the above average child is kept from advancing at the speed appropriate to his ability, he often loses interest in learning and may become a poor student from sheer boredom. I certainly agree with the Admirel's

4, "We shall not do justice to our talented youth until we peek them out at an early age -- no later than 10 or 22 -- and

educate them separately", not necessarily in a

parate

setool but in a college preparatory section of the school;

b. "The schooling must be purely academic, and the teachers must have professional competence in the subjects they teach

ç. "Admission as well as advancement into each higher grade should be by examination";

4, "If possible, the school year should be extended to 210 days", and

e, Industry, together with our educational foundations should set up model secondary schools (5th grade and above) which would be free but which would require passing entrance examinations designed to select only the talented for specialized

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training and preparation for entry into college at age 16 or earlier.

In summary, I consider the five major educational problems to be:

1. The complexity of our culture is increasing faster than

the efficiency of our education,

2, The number of trained teachers is decreasing at an alarming rate,

3+ Language barriers impede our international communication of ideas,

4+ There is too much emphasis on facts (knowledge) and not enough educational effort on conceptual understanding, and

Our educational system neglects the talented in favor of the average

?There ere undoubtedly other big eduational problens, but these
{five seem foremost to me. In formulating plans for the future of
?technical education at the University of Puerto Rico, I en sure your
Jeaders in goverment, industry and education are avere of the

protien, The U, S, Atomfo Znengy Comission and ite latoretories
etend ready to help thom and you in every way that we can to build a
Spanish opeaking technicel education center vnich will te @ moøel for
21 the vorié to admire end to exutute.

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UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO

Rfo Piedres, Puerto Rico

"A NUCLEAR PROGRAM FOR THE COLLBOES XD MAYAGUEZ?

. Background.

Active interest in miclear eticetion began on this campus of the
University of Puerto Rico about eight years ago vith the visit of DR. T
Overman, Heed of the Special Training Division and Dr. R. 5. Poor, then Head
of the University Relations Division of the Oak Ridge Inatitute of Wuclear

in this field and the following

Studies, They made clear to us the possibilities

need of trained personnel for the various uses of the peaceful atom, As a result one member of our Physics Department went, in the summer of 1950, to Oak Ridge and took the short course in Isotope-handling Techniques, The following year a member of our Faculty of Agriculture took the same course, and since then two others, both from our Chemistry Department have taken it, These men have kept up their interest in the nuclear field. One of them, Dr. P. Siitero has now using a radio isotope in his current research. A recent activity of another, Dr. B. Ortiz, is mentioned further on. We also were visited by

Dr. Ralph Lapp in connection with the ranging Lecture Program of the Oak

Ridge Institute and by Dr. W. G. Pollard its Executive Director.

IT, Selection of the Type of Program.

As a result of this activity, the Government soon developed that we should offer to our students some kind of course in nuclear science, and we were evaluating the question of the type of course or courses to be offered, when two years ago the Puerto Rico Natural Resources Authority announced its interest in nuclear energy and the possibility of establishing a nuclear power plant

om the Island. This helped us in making a decision, and we settled on four

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advanced courses of advanced undergraduate level: @ course in nuclear
engineering in the Faculty of Engineering and Mines in Atomic, Nuclear and
Reactor Physics in the Faculty of Science. This brings us up to last summer,

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a.

Prof. J. Le Garsse de Quevedo of the Engineering Faculty and Prof. Ortis, of
Science were sent to the Brookhaven National Laboratory, where they took an
accelerated course in Nuclear Engineering which was offered under the auspices
of the National Science Foundation. It was these professors who were to offer
two of the subjects mentioned above during the fall semester. But things

happened differently. On August 20, there was a meeting in Rio Piedras with representatives of all sectors of the University attending, at which Admiral FF, Postel, of the International Relations Division of the Atomic Energy Commission described the new assistance program of the Commission. Shortly before this we had received an invitation to the Conference on Engineering Education and Nuclear Energy at Gatlinburg, Tennessee held under the joint

sponsorship of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies

» the Oak Ridge

National Laboratory and the American Society for Engineering Education, Dean Y. Gonsky-Mandry of our Faculty of Engineering and I attended this conference where the new programs of the Atomic Energy Commission were described in detail. We were also impressed with the amount and variety of activity already existing in the nuclear field and with its growing need of personnel of various types. It became apparent that the minimum type of offering we

had planned would soon become inadequate and upon our return started planning a more ambitious program. Two other meetings in Rio Piedras followed at

which ideas were clarified and overall planning for the Univ

ty vas

initiated. At the socood of these, the Chancellor, Dr. Denfter tescribed
?the remulte of the talk he and Dr. Marston Bates, Director of Recoarch for
the University had had vith representatives of the A. B.C. in Washington.
Te was thee decided that the offering on the Mayagier campus should be a
cue-your graduate program in Ricloar Science and Tectnolowy.

Dean Consdlee-Wantry prepared the first draft of this program and after
consultation abd discussion vith meabers of the Faculty of Science nnd vith
Fepresentatives of both the Atomic Bnergy Comission and the Oak Ridge

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Inetitude of Miclear Studies it asmmed tte present form.

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WOOEITED SPECIAL PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION

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TUCLUR SCIENCE JD TECHNOLOGY

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course Lact. ab.

Masber Course Nae Meskiy Weekly Boure

suman (6 veers)

Wath. 75 Math, of Modem Science I 9 °

Phys. M10 Atomic Physica 9 °

Puys. 45 Atomic Physics Laboratory 2

9

FIRST SEMESTHR (18 Weeks)

Math. 476 Math, of Modern Science IT 3 °

Phys. 503. Muclear Phys 3 °

Chea. SOL Radiochenistry 2 3

Biol. 501 Health Physice 2 3

WA. B 501 Muclear Reactor Technology 1 3 °

MA. E51. Reactor Inatrumentation

?ant Controle a 3

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SECOND SIMETTIR (16 Veeks)

Mhys. 504 Reactor Physica 3 °

Phys. 506 Muclear & Reactor Phys. Lab. 0

Cem, 02 Com. Processing of Riclear

ues 2 °

Mes B 502 Nuclear Reactor Tectmology IT 3

Wi, 512 Reactor Metallurey 2 3

as 552 Oeminer 3 3

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TIL Propose Graduate Progres in Nuclear Science ant Tectnology.

: ?he can be ween this progras, which is to lead to a Master's decree
ta the Field aomainte of three sessions, coe during the sumer folloved by
two wmester seenions Guring the regular acadente year. A total of 41 credit
noure of vork are required of viloh 31 are in gratuate level courses and the
other 10 are in advanced undergraduate courses, Tbe sumer seveioc 18
frenuly preparatory and vas put in because ve realized that any of the
posible cenditates for this course would not have the required training
te matbenstice or plysice. During the first senester the expphasis is on the
panic scienees related to resctar operation, ant during the secon? ecnester
the epplict science and technology of reactors ts given greater consiierat on,

It is clear that the main objective of the program is to give the student an adequate command of reactor theory and operation. Most of the individual courses included are quite standard, and require no further comment, but it

is perhaps advisable to state what is to be included in four of them. The

First of these is Nuclear Reactor Technology I. This is a course intended

to introduce the student to the nuclear reactor and its engineering problems.

Their terminology, types of reactors and their component parts are to be considered.

Towards the latter half, considerable time is to be given to the production of heat in reactors and its transfer and utilization elsewhere,

The next is Reactor Instrumentation and Controls. This course, besides

its various sections includes those on the measurement of quantities important

to reactor operation, such as neutron flux, gamma intensity and power levels.

In addition to the second course in Nuclear Reactor Technology. Here we

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preqoes Wo tonjnde conedideretion of the more taportant prohlane related to

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Aaserined 18 Reactor Metallurgy. This course te intended t6 acquaint the student vith the metallurgical problens inherent in reactar technology.

Bovever, due to the possibility that many of the students may not have any

Previous kmovietge of the field, there will be an intratutory section on

elementary physical metallurgy, Tale vill be folloved by the netalluray of

?the principal rector elenente, such as ureniuua, alinimum, rtrconium and

others, Besides mechanical properties of these metals and their fabrication

probleme, consideration vill also Le given to the dapege vaich my be

produced by radiation on reactor components

Two other things need be said about the program itself. First it is intended for Spanish-speaking students with « reading knowledge of English.

Instruction is to be in Spanish but the textbooks will be in English due to the scarcity or total absence of suitable material of this type in Spanish.

We, therefore, expect to get most of our students from Puerto Rico and the area. The OME thing is that, although at the completion of the second semester the successful student will have completed his requirements and

will obtain his degree, he will nevertheless be advised to take one or another of the intensive summer programs given at one of the national laboratories in

order to round out his education in this field. It is our intention to

cooperate with such students by making the a:

necessary arrangements for them:

wherever possible.

/, Problens Related with the Establé

ment of this Program.

at us nov consider the principal problems related with the establishe

ment of thie graduate program. The first of them concerns personnel.

Autbough at present ve ave or sho=tly expect to have the personnel necessary

for handling the progrea the first your, ve realise that it will soon be

necessary to expand the studect capacity at the program, This vill require

?more personnel, and it vill be necessary to send some of our professors to

(eon of the Hetional Laboratories or to an American University vith a veil -

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curther

stabLished graduate course in Mucleer Engineering in ordey to 6°

training or experience. In some cass en intensive wimer wins should Ee

wuffictent, In others tt vill te ©

for to wend thee for ene whaie year.

Preparation for this eventual !iç snou?4

eat het wong, apt a faculty

subcommittee has been appointed to generate proposals

The next important provision

Amortization equipment. Even with the

still, quite a provision due to the importance of the time available between

now and the date on which the proposed program

provisionary period

for sometimes Yong, and it takes time and effort to install

equipment once it has a: ready only on Leontory need be ready

con the starting date, an: thst [5 the one. Atonie Phyetzs, for the precistnary

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aifricalty, as tt requires sore ?nstallationa then the

senester laboratories present @ Lesser problen, es more tins te @

Related to the above protieaa is that of securing space and othe:

for the isvoratories. Space bos a

4y been asctgred, but it must be sate

ready for the purpose :t is to serve. Partitions misc be moved or set uPy

seat

ory tavlea must te obtained and installed, ons, wacer end ?

factiities mist de secured, end 60 on, A second Faculty eubsomittce 48

aareniy vorking on these problens. The remaining ex

ative probleme

eonstitute the province of a thind eubcommittee, Tory bave to deal vith auch

mettere aa securing and acreeing the candidates, public relations, and otvera-

?Adwinistration of the program {4 hanclet by « alne-nan comittes coapnec) of

?the three eubcommittecs ment

toned, and the Chairman of which is Dean P.

Montgomery-Mandry.

nie.

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¥. Plans for the Future.

To conclude, let us consider briefly some of our plans for the future. The first and most important is securing a critical reactor, a# during the first year of operation none will be available, the educational functions being substituted by a subcritical assembly and a reactor simulator. Final selection of the type to be obtained has not been made yet, but it will probably be one of the materials testing types which have proved useful for training purposes. The power level should be between 10 Kw and 50 Kw, A building will be required to house the reactor as well as the other laboratories of the program, as the space now assigned for the latter is temporary.

Additional equipment must be obtained for all the laboratories, as the initial installations will contain only the minima required, and it is also intended to add a laboratory to the subject dealing with Chemical Processing

of Nuclear Fuels. This labor

ry was not included in the first-year

installations due to the expense involved.

Another of our plans is that of expanding facilities and personnel

to accommodate more students, if the demand proves to exceed the proposed

first year capacity of 15 students per laboratory session.

We have also given serious consideration to the possibility of adding

other types of offerings to our nuclear curriculum, such as an undergraduate

option in one of the conventional engineering fields, in Physics or in

Chemistry. Another possibility is a short training course in isotope

techniques similar to those proposed for the Rio Piedras campus, but with

emphasis on industrial use

Finally, we have been giving some thought to research possibilities. We recognize that research is a necessary adjunct to graduate instruction, especially if good teachers and students are to be attracted. On the other hand it has already been agreed that basic research in the microar field is

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research for the Mayagüez Facilities, 6 ten 1s quote aultente > ce type

of instruction we are to offer a

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Engineering Experiment Station.

Meiguel Wiewall, Jr, Dean, Faculty of Setenct

University of Puerto Rico

January 28, 1957

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