Safeguards in Isolation Lab at Primate Center Reduce Spread of Microorganisms

A new special isolation facility for infectious disease research has opened at the Delta Regional Primate Research Center, Covington, La. This is one of the country's seven primate research centers supported by the Division of Research Resources. Rhesus monkeys, squirrel monkeys, owl monkeys, chimpanzees, and other species are the principal experimental animals. This new facility supplies exhaustive safeguards to prevent the spread of viruses, bacteria, and other microorganisms.

Complete protection is achieved with the aid of:

- An exhaust system with a bank of filters that makes it possible to remove 99.99 percent of all infectious particles from the air.
- Air-tight special isolation cages that enable researchers to eliminate the problem of cross contamination.
- An autoclave for sterilization and decontamination large enough to accommodate a whole animal cage.
- An isolated location for the laboratory on the center grounds and a limit on traffic through the facility to researchers.

**Includes Special Cabinets**

- Biological containment cabinets that feature either negative pressure or a laminar airflow curtain.
- A locker room in which workers change and take a shower before returning to street clothes.

Building renovation for the isolation facility included strengthening the outside walls with cement, sealing the outside windows, and constructing a ventilation system that is rivaled by few laboratories in the country.

The flow of air within the building always travels one way—from the outside toward the inside where it is filtered before being discharged. As a lab worker enters the structure, he finds himself in a corridor with slightly lower air pressure than outside.

As he progresses to the changing room, he finds it still one stage of pressure lower. The air from the changing room is drawn toward a filter bank which is 99.99 percent effective.

Walls inside the “hot” area are specially coated to repel dirt, and the floor is a super hard epoxy surface.

Dr. Peter Gerone, director of the center, noted that if a research project is particularly hazardous, materials can be used inside of special cabinets.

Scientists have two types available: one in which air moves from the experimenter into the cabinet and another in which a curtain of air serves as a screen between inside and outside air.

**Other Protection Described**

"As another protective measure," Dr. Gerone added, "when one of the animal cages has become contaminated, it is placed in a large autoclave where it remains overnight for complete sterilization."

Among the five principal projects presently underway in the new laboratory are those involving:

**Delta Herpesvirus**—Dr. Ambhan Folsenfeld is studying this variola-like virus that produces a disease in Patas monkeys similar to chicken pox in man. If these viruses are related, a model will be provided to study human-like chicken pox in primates.

**Epidemic Keratoconjunctivitis**—Dr. Bruce Golden and Dr. Robert Lowrie are searching for a primate model for this serious eye disease. The ultimate aim of the program (See ISOLATION LAB, Page 6)
Dr. David Fried Retires: Led in Developing New Rehabilitative Technique

Dr. David M. Fried, chief of the Clinical Center Rehabilitation Department since 1956, retired Jan. 24.

Dr. Fried and his staff advanced the use of serial casting techniques for correction of knee flexion contractures. The technique, used in patients with arthritis and various neuromuscular diseases, reduces pain and enables them to walk again.

Constructs Plastic Splints

Under his direction the department was a leader in the development and use of plastics for construction of splints. Plastic splints are lighter weight and last longer than splints made of plaster of Paris.

For developing and maintaining outstanding patient care in physical medicine and rehabilitation at NIH, Dr. Fried received a PHS Meritorious Service Medal in 1972.

Background Given

He joined NIH in 1962, serving for 2 years as chief of the Center's outpatient clinic before spending 2 years as a fellow in physical medicine and rehabilitation at New York University, Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, and Mayo Clinic.

Since then, he has taught several courses and seminars in this field. During his retirement, he plans to continue writing and also spend considerable time at his second home in Spain.

NIH Visiting Scientists Program Participants

1/2—Dr. John Tredger, United Kingdom, Pharmacology and Toxicology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. R. S. Chhabra, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
1/6—Dr. Monique Dubois-Dalcq, Belgium, Infectious Diseases Branch. Sponsor: Dr. John L. Sever, NINDS, Bldg. 36, Rm. 5D04.
1/6—Dr. Constantine Londos, U.S.A., Laboratory of Nutrition and Endocrinology. Sponsor: Dr. Martin Rodbell, NIA, Bldg. 10, Rm. 8D09.
1/6—Lucille Stewart, Canada, Laboratory of Molecular Genetics. Sponsor: Dr. Philip Leder, NICHD, Bldg. 6, Rm. 322.
1/7—Dr. Angelo Carenzi, Italy, Laboratory of Preclinical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Erminio Costa, NIMH, William A. White Bldg., Rm. 101, St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D.C.
1/8—Dr. Rosanna Supino, Italy, Laboratory of Cell Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Peter Mora, NCI, Bldg. 8, Rm. 123B.

Scientist From Sweden

1/9—Dr. Ragnar E. Ekholm, Sweden, Laboratory of Physiology. Sponsor: Dr. Seymour H. Wollman, NCI, Bldg. 10, Rm. 4B47.
1/11—Rina Chen, Israel, Biometry Branch. Sponsor: Nathan Mantel, NCI, Bldg. 10, Rm. 8D09.

Regents Appoint Marston President, U. of Florida

Dr. Robert Q. Marston has been appointed president of the University of Florida by the state's Board of Regents at a meeting in Tampa on Jan. 11.

Dr. Marston, NIH Director from 1968 to 1973, is currently a Scholar-in-Residence at the University of Virginia. He will report to Gainesville according to University of Florida officials, sometime between July and September.
not poppy, nor mandragora, nor all the drowsy syrups of the world, shall ever medicine thee to that sweet sleep which thou ow'dst yesterday—Shakespeare's Othello

Wires connected to a muscle tension biofeedback device are being attached by Dr. Frankel to the head of Rene Buchbinder, a lab assistant who is posing as a patient in LCP. By paying attention to the feedback signals, it is possible for a patient to learn to relax tense skeletal muscles which may be associated with headaches and insomnia.

Scientists at the National Institute of Mental Health are conducting a research program at the Clinical Center to help find better, and more natural ways for people with insomnia problems to fall asleep.

Patients under 50 years of age who have had serious difficulties in getting to sleep for at least 2 years are needed for this study.

Dr. Bernard L. Frankel, a scientist in NIMH's Laboratory of Clinical Psychobiology, stated that insomnia without a mental or physical explanation too often is treated with only partially effective medications that may be habit-forming.

Employees with insomnia who wish to know more about Dr. Frankel's research may contact him at the CC, Room 3N-222, Ext. 60884.

Dr. Ernest M. Allen of NLM Elected to AAAS Council Post

Dr. Ernest M. Allen, National Library of Medicine associate director for Extramural Programs, has been elected by the members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science as a charter member of the new AAAS Council.

Dr. Robert W. Berliner, recently retired NIH Deputy Director for Science and now Dean of the Yale University School of Medicine, was also elected.

Drs. S. E. Mergenhagen, H. W. Scherp Edit Book

To explain the importance of animals used in research and the care given to them, the Division of Research Resources has released a new publication, Do We Care About Research Animals?

Since it is too dangerous to administer a previously untried drug or attempt an untested surgical procedure on human patients, medical scientists use animals whose basic life processes resemble man's to make useful conclusions about the effects of the new drug, surgery, or other therapy.

Conducts Full-scale Program

DRR's Animal Resources Branch conducts a full-scale program to aid laboratory animals and to assist scientists in using new research animals.

The branch trains professional and technical personnel to give their best care to research animals.

A free copy of the publication may be obtained from the Division of Research Resources, Office of Science and Health Reports, NIH, Bldg. 31, Room 5B-39, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

NIH Graduate Program Begins Spring Registration on Jan. 31

Spring semester registration for the Graduate Program at NIH will take place from Jan. 31 through Feb. 6 in the FAES office and bookstore in Bldg. 10, Room B1-L-101.

Registration will be 10 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Feb. 2.

Information may be obtained by calling Ext. 69273.

Frederick-Bethesda Bus Service Will Be Discussed on Feb. 10

A second meeting concerning bus service between Frederick and Bethesda will be held on Sunday, Feb. 10, at 3 p.m. at the Junior Fire Hall in Frederick.

Public service commissioners and other public officials are expected to attend.

About 80 people were at the first meeting in January, and several bus line representatives discussed the need for added service in the area.

For further information call Nancy Crist, Ext. 64236, or Joellyn Mesa, Ext. 61881.


A sleeping "patient" with electrodes attached to her head is seen through a glass panel. The electrical activity of the brain is carried on wires to recording equipment in the next room. A later analysis of the brain patterns is used to explore the sleep characteristics of such insomniac patients.

James Graves, a lab assistant in LCP, monitors the brain wave recording of a patient who is sleeping in an adjacent room.

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Dr. Stephan E. Mergenhagen, chief of the National Institute of Dental Research's Laboratory of Microbiology and Immunology, and Dr. Henry W. Scherp, former NIDR associate director for the National Caries Program, are the editors of a newly published book entitled Comparative Immunology of the Oral Cavity.

The book discusses immunological relationships in and around the oral cavity that present a number of unusual features, including the unique physiological response to caries of the teeth, the unexplained local resistance to infection of the oral soft tissues, and the body's reaction to transplanted teeth.

Comparative Immunology of the Oral Cavity.
Eighty-two recommendations to implement Equal Employment Opportunity resulted from a recent conference held by the Office of Administrative Services, ADA, at Hagerstown, Md.

Recommendations dealt with OAS morale, communications, hiring and job placement, promotion policies, employee training and career development, management/supervisor development, employee rights/privileges and management prerogatives, and personal safety and security.

The conference brought together managers and employees who explored EEO-related issues and helped to develop an OAS Affirmative Action Plan.

About 85 OAS personnel representing managers, supervisors, unions, and employees from varied pay schedules and grade levels, as well as 20 resource persons from NIH, attended.

At the opening session, James B. Davis, OAS Director, reaffirmed his commitment to EEO. He invited participants to be candid and cited the need to produce tangible results.

A major difference between this first OAS conference and earlier ones, explained Deloris Dozier, OAS EEO coordinator,
Conferences Recommend 
To Implement EEO

The emphasis was on organizational improvement rather than on individuals.

At the initial get-together, Raymond Jackson, EEO officer for NIH, set the tone for the examination of vital issues. He touched on several points: racism, EEO legislation, the need for total commitment, and the importance of realistic goals.

Samuel Hoston, director of the HEW EEO office, also spoke on the promotion of a program to be developed by both management and employees.

The conference was conducted under contract by Curber Associates, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in management and organizational development.

In the concluding sessions, the conference stressed the need to improve communications, to maintain the current emphasis on employee training and development, and to change the racial and sex imbalance at the mid- and upper-level positions.

After the conference — as promised by Mr. Davis — actions taken on recommendations were reported to all OAS employees.

Photos by Ed Hubbard
is the development of a vaccine against it.

*Scrub Hepatitis*—Using the chimpanzee as a model, Dr. William P. Allen is trying to identify the causative agent of the disease and to develop a method of effective treatment and control.

*Simian Herpesvirus*—Dr. Allen is also studying immune mechanisms that keep the natural host of *Herpesvirus saimiri*, the squirrel monkey, from developing the disease, while other species of monkeys inoculated with virus develop fatal leukemias.

Dr. Allen is trying to identify the causative agent of the disease and to develop an effective method of treatment and control. Simian Herpesvirus—Dr. Allen is also studying immune mechanisms that keep the natural host of *Herpesvirus saimiri*, the squirrel monkey, from developing the disease, while other species of monkeys inoculated with virus develop fatal leukemias. Dr. Golden and Dr. Lowrie collect conjunctival cells from the eye of an owl monkey in their studies on epidemic keratoconjunctivitis. They hope that eventually a vaccine against this disease can be developed.

**Carl L. White Retires**

Carl L. White has retired from the National Institute of Dental Research after serving 31 years as a statistician with the Federal Government.

He joined the Research Branch of the National Cancer Institute in 1950, and, after 2 years, transferred to the NIDR. He worked in the Epidemiology and Biometry Branch, the Office of Program Studies and Analysis, and the Data Processing Section.

Mr. White's participation in human and animal studies on periodontal disease, nutrition, oral hygiene, and apthous stomatitis (canker sores) led to more than 40 publications.

**Comm. Chairman Tells Cultural Program Aims**

George S. Yee, EEO, was named permanent chairman of the NIH Minority Cultural Committee. He was selected for this post by the Committee on NIH Minority Cultural Programs at a meeting held on Jan. 8. This committee was approved by Dr. Robert S. Stone, NIH Director.

In describing the aims of the cultural program of each minority group that is to take place at NIH, Mr. Yee said he hoped for a better understanding about the various cultures and lifestyles of these groups.

**Change in NIH-DHEW Shuttle Schedule**

The Parklawn-DHEW shuttle bus service now services the NIH Bethesda reservation and the Westwood Building. The present NIH-DHEW shuttle will be discontinued on Jan. 31. The two shuttle systems were combined to save manpower and reduce gasoline consumption. The new shuttle service began on Jan. 2, and will operate on the following schedule:

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**Representatives Named**

The Committee representatives are: Black minority group: Louis L. Perkins, UMC, and Ruth C. Smith, DRS. American Indian: Thomas L. Thomas and Lucille Brayboy, HRA. Spanish Speaking: Guadalupe J. Hernandez, ODA, and Dr. Cirilo Gonzalez, DRR. Asian-American: Dr. Richard S. Yamamoto, NCI, and Dr. Freda K. Cheung, ODA.

Also, ERRB representative: Catherine M. Dougherty, ODA. Public Information Office representative: Harold P. Osborne, ODI. Representative from executive office staff: Francis L. Mills, NIAMDD Representative from OPM-G&C Branch: James C. Moore, ODA Representative from EEO Office Mr. Yee, OD.
Conservation Measures Are Necessary
To Cope With Labware Shortage at NIH

NIH, along with other medical research facilities, faces a labware shortage which could lead to the complete loss of plastic and glass equipment within the next 3 or 4 months. One laboratory chief has already been notified that no disposable items will be delivered from suppliers after March 1.

A major glass company has informed NIH that it may be necessary to discontinue production of disposable glass lines in the next 2 months. Other reports of short supplies are mounting.

Some of these shortages are created because oil for petrochemicals is unavailable or too expensive for chemical industries to supply adequate basic materials to plastics' manufacturers.

Other shortages occur because fuel supplies needed to operate glass furnaces have been cut. For example, 12 million to 15 million BTU's are required to melt a ton of sand and soda ash to produce glass.

One pound of fuel oil represents about 19,000 BTU's. That means approximately 710 pounds (roughly 92 gallons) of oil are needed to produce 2,000 pounds of glass.

Over the years, there has been a massive switch from glass to disposable plastic in biomedical research.

The Media and Glassware Section of the Veterinary Resources Branch, Division of Research Services, reports an almost 100 percent conversion to plastic petri dishes at NIH.

But reconversion to glass may not be possible. Even if it were, budgets might not be able to stand the strain.

At present, NIH pays 2 cents each for 125 x 16 mm standard disposable glass test tubes. A reusable test tube of the same size costs 25 cents. Disposable plastic pipettes cost 7 to 15 cents each.

Reusuable glass pipettes cost as much as $2.50 to $5 each.

Rosalie Silverberg, special assistant to the deputy director, National Heart and Lung Institute, is retiring from the Federal service after a 40-year career in research and administration.

A native of San Francisco, she received a B.A. degree in biochemistry and bacteriology from the U. of California, Berkeley, in 1938.

For the next 4 years she served as a research assistant at the University of California Medical Center, and from 1938 to 1951 worked at the Stanford Medical School.

Ms. Silverberg came to NIH in 1953 as a medical bacteriologist with the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

In 1961 she joined the NIH Manual Issuance #3032 detailing the procedures to be used in preparing glassware for reuse. DRS is also working on other measures to alleviate the impending situation, including methods for reprocessing "non-system glassware," possible reuse of certain plasticware, recycling non-reusable glass back to the manufacturer, and systematic storage and reissue of surplus items.
Prograrns Honoring NIH Black History Week
Feature Speakers, Athletes, Choral Groups

The third annual observance of Black History Week at NIH will start on Monday, Feb. 11, and continue through Friday, Feb. 15. From Monday through Thursday, the programs, featuring prominent speakers, athletes, school bands, and choral groups, will take place in the Masur Auditorium from noon to 3 p.m. On Friday, the program will be held at the same time in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.

Before the programs start, there will be an audio-visual presentation of Black inner-city life planned for more than 20 years.

The NIH Library in Bldg. 10 and the A-wing lobby of Bldg. 31 will hold exhibits stressing the contributions made to the United States by Black Americans.

Dewey Shurtleff Retires; NIH Statistician Has 36 Years' Fed'I Service

Dewey Shurtleff played a major role in the preparation of the Framingham monograph series, which presented data on factors increasing susceptibility to coronary heart disease and other cardiovascular disorders.

Dewey Shurtleff, a statistician with the Biometrics Research Branch of the National Heart and Lung Institute since 1957, has retired after 36 years of Federal service.

Mr. Shurtleff received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in physics from the University of Arizona in 1929-33, and his M.P.H. in biostatistics at the University of California, Berkeley in 1951.

He also did graduate work in statistics at several other universities during the summers of 1960-63.

Mr. Shurtleff began his career in the Federal service in 1938 at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, where he worked until 1950, except for a 5-year stint in the U.S. Army.

From 1951 until he joined the NHLI staff in 1957, he was an analytic statistician in the PHS National Office of Vital Statistics. During his years with NHLI, Mr. Shurtleff worked closely with the Biometrics Research Branch of the National Heart and Lung Institute since 1957, has served as a member of the school's choral group, and will perform.

Dr. William Montague Cobb will address the Feb. 13th audience. Mr. Cobb is Professor Emeritus, department of anatomy, Howard University College of Medicine. The Shaw Junior High School band will play.

On Feb. 14, a program on sports featuring prominent Black athletes will be presented. The musical part of that program will be given by the McKinley Senior High School choral group, Vernon Jordan, Jr., will address the audience on Friday, Feb. 15 in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. Mr. Jordan is executive director of the National Urban League.

The Anacostia Senior High School choral group will perform at this final program which ends the ceremonies for Black History Week.

DRS Names Dr. Hayes To Head Surgery Unit

Dr. Norman R. Hayes has been named head of the Experimental Surgery Unit, Veterinary Resources Branch, Division of Research Services. The unit is a component of the Experimental and Clinical Medicine Section.

Dr. Hayes received his B.S. in 1954 from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College.

After serving a 3-year tour in the U.S. Armed Forces, he attended Tuskegee Institute and earned his DVM in 1962.

During the following 9 years, Dr. Hayes was a research veterinarian at the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga.

While completing a 2-year residency at the University of Michigan in 1971-73, he received his MPH in laboratory animal medicine.

Shurtleff worked closely with the Framingham Heart Study, in which 5,000 participants were observed for more than 20 years.

Three Institutions Added To Network of Asthma, Allergic Disease Centers

Three more institutions have been added to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases' network of Asthma and Allergic Disease Centers, bringing the total to 17.

Dr. Dorland J. Davis, NIAID Director, announced the new centers at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Allergy in Bal Harbor, Fla.

In his remarks Dr. Davis said, "In the past 20 years, we have witnessed the major development of scientific knowledge for the study of allergic diseases which, through the efforts of these centers, should now yield ways to treat more effectively, as well as to prevent, allergic diseases."

The centers—Creighton University, Omaha, Nebr.; Duke University, Durham, N.C., and University of Colorado, Denver—are to receive a total of $178,808 for their first year, which began on Jan. 1, 1974.

The Creighton center will be directed by Dr. Robert G. Townley.

His group will study the mechanisms of various pharmacological mediators naturally occurring chemical substances involved in allergic reactions, such as histamine—how they relate to hypersensitivity in the respiratory tract.

The studies, which are continuations of ongoing basic research at Creighton, will focus on the role of these mediators in bronchial asthma.

Investigators at Duke will be led by Dr. Rebecca H. Buckley, the first woman to direct an AADC.

Scientists in this group will study the basic mechanisms involved in allergy.

They will compare the antibody response of allergic individuals to that of other people with high levels of immunoglobulin E (IgE—the antibody associated with some forms of allergic disease) who are also very susceptible to infections.

Colorado to Study Vasculitis

This group is also interested in evaluating the genetic control of allergic disease.

The third group at Colorado, headed by Dr. Henry N. Claman, will investigate the problem of generalized vasculitis, an inflammation of the blood vessels which may involve immunological factors as the cause or in the disease process.

These clinicians will study individuals affected by allergic vasculitis.