

the



# Record

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

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NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

## University of Colorado Team Improves Surgical Treatment of Biliary Atresia

Two young girls celebrated their third birthdays last Friday, July 21, thanks to the efforts of research surgeons at the University of Colorado Medical Center in Denver.

Linda Puentes and Paula Highstreet were feted at a party arranged by the staff of the Children's Clinical Research Center, where both were treated for a congenital condition called biliary atresia.

Children born with this condition have closed bile ducts, which means that bile cannot flow from their liver to their intestine. Bile aids the body in the digestion of fats and in absorption of essential vitamins. Back up of bile produces liver cirrhosis.

Until recently, children born with this condition almost always died before they were 3 years old.

About 10 years ago, a revolutionary surgical procedure was first attempted in Japan which used part of the child's intestine to replace the blocked bile duct. This operation, while often successful, resulted in frequent infectious complications of the bile ducts leading to death for some of the treated children.

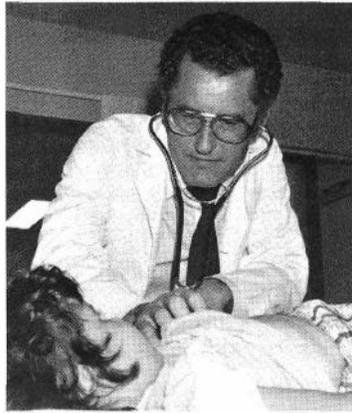
Since 1974, Dr. John Lilly and a research team from the University of Colorado Medical Center have been working to improve the surgical treatment of biliary atresia, a condition which affects one in 10,000 births.

### Developed 4 Years Ago

Using the special facilities of the Children's Pediatric Research Center, Dr. Lilly and his colleagues have developed an operation that over the last 4 years has resulted in some bile flow for 60 percent of their patients. Thirty-three percent of the children now have normal bile drainage, representing a possible cure.

According to Dr. Lilly, the operation is done within several weeks of birth, and no child has died if there has been normal bile flow at 3 years of age. Thus, the birthday party celebration for Linda and Paula both of whom have normal bile flow and will turn 3 in the near future.

The Children's Clinical Research Center, where Dr. Lilly's biliary atresia patients are treated and studied, is a special patient-centered hospital research unit funded for the medical center by the Divi-



**Dr. Lilly examines Paula who had been treated for biliary atresia. Because of his work on developing a surgical technique for treatment of this condition, Dr. Lilly was presented a Citation for Accomplishment in Clinical Research by DRR. Dr. Thomas G. Bowery, DRR Director, made the presentation.**

sion of Research Resources. One of 80 such centers supported by DRR, this miniature research hospital within the larger hospital provides highly specialized clinical research facilities to the entire Colorado Medical Center staff.

The major improvement in the surgical treatment accomplished by Dr. Lilly involves bringing a portion of the newly constructed bile duct to the exterior of the patient.

### Bile Drains, Is Rejected

When the operation proves successful, bile drains from the liver to the exterior of the patient where it can be collected and analyzed. It is then injected back into the other side of the opened bile duct which leads to the child's intestine where it can aid in nutrition.

When physicians determine that bile drainage is normal and the chances for complications are minimal, the opening in the bile duct is closed. After this is accomplished, bile flows directly to the intestine.

Temporary exteriorization of the new bile duct makes infection less  
(See *SURGERY*, Page 7)

## NIAID Plans for P3, P4 Level National Biomedical Containment Lab in Frederick

Construction of a National Biomedical Containment Laboratory (NBCL) for the safe conduct of ongoing scientific research requiring high-containment conditions is now in the planning and design stages, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases announced at a local press briefing in Frederick, Md., on July 6.

Upon completion, the NBCL—which will contain both P3 and P4 laboratories—will function as a permanent facility available to NIH researchers and to qualified investigators nationwide.

The current architectural and engineering studies—managed by Litton Bionetics, Inc.—represent the first phase in the physical renovation of three preexisting, adjoining buildings on the grounds of the Frederick Cancer Research Center, Frederick, Md.

Covering an area of more than 30,000 square feet, the NBCL will house laboratories with safety specifications exceeding those in conventional laboratories available at

NIH and in the scientific community.

These laboratories will be used primarily for health-related research on infectious diseases and for projects using recombinant DNA technology and other techniques that present real or potential risks to the investigators or to the environment.

### Aids Disease Research

The bulk of the scientific work at the NBCL will be carried out in the Laboratory of Microbial Virulence—a new intramural laboratory of NIAID. NIAID staff will conduct experiments aimed at understanding disease-causing microorganisms and the basic mechanisms involved in the development of infections.

Infectious diseases remain a major cause of illness in the U.S., as well as posing significant public health problems for the developing countries of the world.

Experiments involving recombinant DNA technology, including risk assessment studies, are expected to serve as valuable tools in  
(See *CONTAINMENT*, Page 6)

## Mouthrinsing Is Found Effective in Reducing Tooth Decay in Children

Representatives from 17 communities participating in demonstrations in school-based fluoride mouthrinsing programs met on July 10 in Bethesda, Md., to report and evaluate results after 2 years.

The demonstrations were designed and funded by the National Caries Program of the National Institute of Dental Research, and will continue until February 1979.

Data reported from the communities indicate that a reduction in dental decay as high as 46 percent can be achieved at a cost as low as 32¢ per child per year. School superintendents reported that the preventive program is easily accommodated into the school activities.

Researchers, dental public health workers, and school officials agree that weekly fluoride mouthrinsing in schools is a feasible and highly cost effective method of preventing tooth decay in children and should be implemented nationwide in communities which do not have access to fluoridated drinking water.

An estimated 25 million American children could benefit from such programs.



**This boy, swishing with a fluoride solution, participated in the NIDR study to measure decay reduction in children who used the mouthrinse once a week in school.**

# the NIH Record

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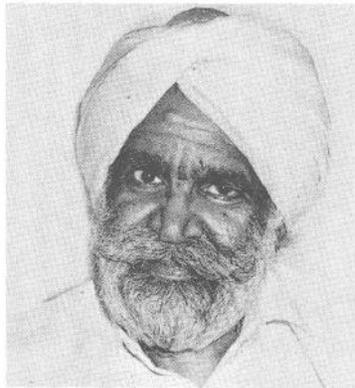
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**Darshan Singh—Yoga Master,  
Urdu Poet—Gives Talk Aug. 8**



Sant Darshan Singh will speak on the subject of the Science of Inner Relaxation on Tuesday, Aug. 8, from noon to 1 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.

Darshan Singh is a master teacher of the yoga of inner light and sound—surat shabad yoga—a simple form of meditation.

Darshan Singh is the spiritual head of Sawan Kirpal Ruhani Mission located in Delhi, India, with more than 500,000 members. He is also considered the world's foremost living mystic poet of the Urdu language.

### Note: Employee Assistance Program Has New Phone

The Employee Assistance Program has new telephone numbers: 496-3164/3165.

For further information or to make an appointment for confidential counseling, call or visit the office, now situated in its permanent quarters—Bldg. 31, B2B47, Rooms 4 and 5.

## Caribbean Trips: Enjoy Sailing, Time on Shore

Enjoy 5 full days of sailing aboard a large sloop or ketch in the Virgin Islands, then 2 days of pampered luxury at the new Sugar Bird Hotel on Water Island, all for \$580 per person, including airfare.

This Caribbean Holiday also includes: all food, liquor, and provisions while aboard the yacht, MAP at Sugar Bird Hotel, sailing, swimming, snorkeling, tennis, and sight-seeing.

### Licensed Captain Aboard

A licensed captain will be aboard each vessel. Tours leave Washington Sept. 18, Oct. 16, and Nov. 6.

R&W is happy to assist in making travel arrangements, so don't delay—a limited number of berths are available. Contact June Jontiff, 496-6061, for further information.

## Music of Outer Space, Laser Light Show: Tickets Available

R&W invites you to join us for a unique celestial happening: Music From Outer Space and Laser Light Show—a spectacular summer concert at Merriweather Post Pavilion in Columbia, Md., on Friday, Aug. 11, at 8 p.m.

Don't miss this marvelous program offering selections from 2001: A Space Odyssey, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, and Star Wars, all in a beautiful setting.

Hurry and sign up for reservations at the Activities Desk in Bldg. 31. Pavilion and lawn seats will be available at a considerable discount. Children under 12 admitted free with an adult when purchasing lawn seats.

May the "force" be with you!

## Health's Angels 24-Hour Relay Mileage To Aid PEF

At noon on Aug. 8 at Ft. Meade, at least one team of 10 NIH Health's Angels will begin the grueling 24-hour relay. Running 1-mile laps in sequence, the team expects to compile a total of 240 to 280 miles by Sunday noon.

A women's team from NIH also expects to enter this year in competition with approximately 30 other teams.

Help the Patient Emergency Fund and cheer the team on: attach a check for \$1 to your guess or guesses of how many miles and yards the NIH team will run (1760 yards per mile), and drop it in the fishbowls (envelopes provided) in any R&W Gift Shop. The person with the closest guess to actual mileage run will receive a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond from the R&W Association.

Spectators and loyal supporters are most welcome at the event. Ft. Meade is off the Baltimore-Washington Parkway on Route 198. Call Dr. Marc Lippman, 496-1547, for further details.

## Visit Greece, Its Islands, Istanbul on Air/Sea Tour

Join R&W for an unforgettable holiday to Greece and its islands and Istanbul. Leave Dulles International airport Oct. 27 and arriving in Athens board the luxury liner, TTS Atlas, and begin an adventure by sea.

After a week in the Aegean—touring the Greek islands of Delos, Rhodes, Crete, and Santorini—return to Athens and explore its ancient classical sites in the beautiful city, with shopping in the famous flea market.

This air/land/sea all inclusive package offers the finest accommodations, meals, and tours for \$1,289 per person, Oct. 27 through Nov. 11.

For further information on this and other R&W trips, contact June Jontiff, 496-6061, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Greece, Islands Subject Of Free Film on Aug. 1

Join R&W and Golden Holiday Travel Ltd., for a film journey to Greece and Its Islands—legendary places and mythical shores alive with history and romance. This informative presentation will take place in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1, from noon to 1 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 1.

A must for those who plan to embark on the Holiday in Greece, Oct. 27-Nov. 11.

Admission is free. All NIH'ers are invited to attend.

## 'After-Hours' Program Offers College Courses In Downtown Buildings

More than 60 college-level courses will be offered after working hours to civilian, military personnel, and the general public in 31 downtown Federal buildings in the District of Columbia this fall through the Federal After-Hours Education Program.

The College of General Studies, George Washington University, offers undergraduate and graduate courses leading to the associate in arts, the bachelor of science, and the master of science degrees.

Those seeking self-improvement courses may enroll as non-degree students.

"After-hours" courses include accounting, anthropology, art, business administration, economics, English, geography, geology, history, humanities, international affairs, management, mathematics, oceanography, political science, psychology, public administration, sociology, speech and drama, and statistics.

Also available are courses leading to a master of science in administration with areas of concentration in such courses as automatic data processing, business financial management, governmental administration, public personnel management, systems management, and research and development.

Registration for the fall semester will be held in Conference Rooms A, B, and D, just off the lobby, Department of Commerce Bldg. 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 30, and Thursday, Aug. 31.

Tuition is \$82 per semester hour, and all courses are 3 semester hours.

The Government Employees Training Act of 1958 gives Federal agencies broad authority to pay all tuition costs and other fees if courses to be taken are related to present or anticipated job requirements.

Fall semester classes will begin Sept. 14, continuing through Dec. 22.

For further information, contact Robert W. Stewart, Jr., field representative, College of General Studies, GWU, 676-7018.

## FAES Registration: Correction

The FAES Graduate School at NIH is conducting registration for the fall semester by mail through Aug. 18.

Registration may be made in person from Thursday, Sept. 7, through Wednesday, Sept. 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Registration on Saturday, Sept. 9, is from 10 a.m. to noon.

Catalogs are available in the FAES office in the Clinical Center, Bldg. 10, Room B1-L-101. To have one sent, call 496-5272.

## TRAINING TIPS

The Training Assistance Branch is sponsoring the following Civil Service courses at NIH:

Secretarial decision making, \$165, Sept. 11-14

Office management, \$190, Oct. 16-20

Secretarial techniques, \$190, Nov. 13-16

Word processing—a clerical orientation, \$175, Dec. 4-6

Nomination procedures are the same as for other CSC courses, i.e., HEW-350 and OF-37 forms should be completed and routed through the B/I/D Personnel Office to the Training Assistance Branch.

Deadline for submission to the personnel office is 4 weeks before course date. Early nominations are encouraged.

Call Meadie Osborne, 496-2146, for additional information.

### Executive Courses Offered

The Executive and Management Development Branch is sponsoring the following courses at NIH in the next 2 months:

#### Supervisory

Management of conflict and agreement July 26-28

Supervisor's role in adverse actions & grievances Aug. 2

Communication issues Aug. 7-9

Supervisory and managerial effectiveness Sept. 12-14

Introduction to supervision Sept. 18-22

Effective communications Sept. 26-29

Managerial

Understanding and managing stress Sept. 7-8

Human interaction in the work environment Sept. 27-29

For further information concerning these courses call Sacelia Damuth, 496-6371.

### FAES Social Center Closes In August; Reopens Sept. 14

The Social and Academic Center, at Cedar Lane and Old Georgetown Rd., will have the last summertime Open Afternoon for FAES members and guests, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Friday, July 28.

The Center will be closed during August.

Open Afternoons will resume on Thursdays and Fridays on Thursday, Sept. 14.

### 'The Music Man' at Wolf Trap: Reserve Tickets Now at R&W

This salute by Meredith Wilson to his native Iowa makes even Oklahoma look to its laurels . . . a great show!

Order your tickets now at the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31. Ticket prices are: front orchestra: \$12.75, rear orchestra: \$10.62. Don't miss this light hearted, high spirited musical.

Annual dues of \$12 (\$9 renewal if you joined since April 1) entitle members to attend one party a month free from July to December. Contact Susan Skuntz, Bldg. 37, Room 1A09, for further details.

Informal get togethers continue from 5 to 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the Rec Room, Bldg. 20. Music and refreshments are provided. Visitors are welcome.

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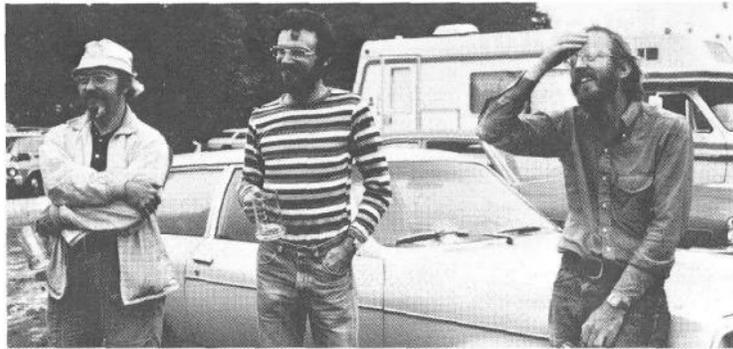
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## Foul Weather Foils Not Intrepid NIH'ers In Sailing Club's Second Chance Regatta



Tired but happy, the winners of the Second Chance Regatta are (l to r): Dick Grann; Keith Gorlen, skipper; and Wayne Rasband.

Neither foul weather, nor equipment failures, nor long delays keep the NIH sailors from their intended rounds.

The Second Chance Regatta got underway in a driving rain on Saturday, June 17. Enthusiastic racers completed a long course in the Sailing Association's 19-foot Flying Scots.

Keith Gorlen captured the skipper's trophy with help from his crew, Wayne Rasband, and Dick Grann.

### Club Meets July 27

The Sailing Association meets on the last Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be Thursday, July 27, in Bldg. 30, Room 117, at 8 p.m.

Those wishing to have dinner before the meeting will get together at the San Francisco East Restaurant in Bethesda at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

### Singles Plan Club Picnic, Meeting, Fall Activities

The NIH Singles Club is planning a picnic in Virginia—at the home of a member and at an adjacent park—on Saturday, July 29, beginning at 1 p.m. Contact Russ Ulshafer, Westwood Bldg., Room 154, 496-7337, for details. The charge of \$3 will include food and drink.

### Meet August 3 at Noon

A business meeting will be held at noon on Aug. 3, in Bldg. 31, Conference Room 10 (11th floor, A wing).

Informal get togethers continue from 5 to 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the Rec Room, Bldg. 20. Music and refreshments are provided. Visitors are welcome.

Annual dues of \$12 (\$9 renewal if you joined since April 1) entitle members to attend one party a month free from July to December. Contact Susan Skuntz, Bldg. 37, Room 1A09, for further details.



The "Heather"—one of the NIH Sailing Association's 19-foot Flying Scots—heels in the wind.

### Sailing Club To Picnic In Annapolis on August 5

The NIH Sailing Association will hold its annual picnic in Annapolis at Thomas Point Park on Saturday, Aug. 5, from noon until dusk.

Everyone interested in the sailing club is invited to attend and participate in sailing the club's boats and socialize. Boat owners are encouraged to bring their own boats as well.

The park overlooks the bay, and has a shelter with tables and grills. Please bring your own food.

Directions are available at the R&W Activities Desk in Bldg. 31.

If the 9 o'clock C&P weather forecast indicates a 40 percent or more chance of rain the picnic will be cancelled.

### R&W Offers Special Advance Tickets for Alvin Ailey Dancers

Once again R&W offers tickets for the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater. This electrifying group will be performing at the Merriweather Post Pavilion on Sunday, Sept. 3, at 8 p.m. Don't hesitate to seize this opportunity to see this remarkable company.

Sign up for your reservations at the R&W Activities Desk in Bldg. 31. Pavilion seats will be available for \$10. Hope to see you there!

## USDA Grad. School Fall Catalog Available Offers New Courses

The Graduate School, U.S. Department of Agriculture's schedule of 1978 fall quarter courses is now available. Hundreds of day, evening, and correspondence courses will be offered, and are open to all adults interested in improving their job skills or pursuing new interests.

### Courses Listed

Some new courses are career counseling in personnel management; photography for the media; quotable quotes; transactional analysis in life and work; special topics in toxicology; and taxation: myths and realities, a course by newspaper.

Other subjects in the curriculum include procurement, public affairs, editing, computer sciences, paralegalism, management, accounting, journalism, and audiovisual communication, foreign languages, personnel administration, typing, shorthand, and more.

Liberal studies include antique furniture, house renovation, residential solar systems design, genealogy, establishing and operating a small business, interior design, oil painting, sketching, and sculpture.

Mail registration ends Sept. 2. In-person registration will be held Sept. 16-23.

For information, class schedules, and the new 1978-80 catalog, visit Room 1031, South Agriculture Bldg., Independence Ave., between 12th and 14th Streets, S.W.; or call 447-4419.

## Federal Payroll Figures Show Little Total Change

How many Federal employees are there? Surprisingly, the total has not changed much in recent years. In March 1978, it was 2,853,000. The Executive Branch had 2.8 million, and Congress and various other agencies—such as GAO, GPO, and Library of Congress—employed the others.

Slightly over 2.5 million were full time, and 247,000 part time.

The Federal payroll (civilian) was \$4.3 billion for March; of this, \$4.1 billion was paid to employees in the U.S., including \$612 million to employees in the Washington, D.C., area.

Biggest employers were Defense (981,000), Postal Service (650,000), VA (229,000), and Treasury (137,000).

Peak employment was 2,980,000 in 1969, with a gradual decline since then, while U.S. population rose from 204 million to 218 million in the same period.

In terms of number of employees per 1,000 population, the ratio has dropped from 14.7 in 1969 to about 12.8 today.

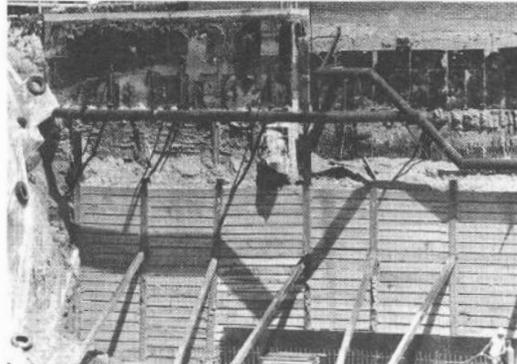
# UP AND UP THEY GO!

## Clinical Center Construction Radiation Oncology Department

Photos by Frann Beckwith, Mike Knepler, Heather Banks



Old entrances close while new ones are constructed.



On the north side of the CC, deep excavations proceed for the underground facility.



While bulldozers dig, steel reinforcement rods are stockpiled, and wood bracing and plastic sheeting anchored by tires prevent erosion.

## Ambulatory Care Research Facility



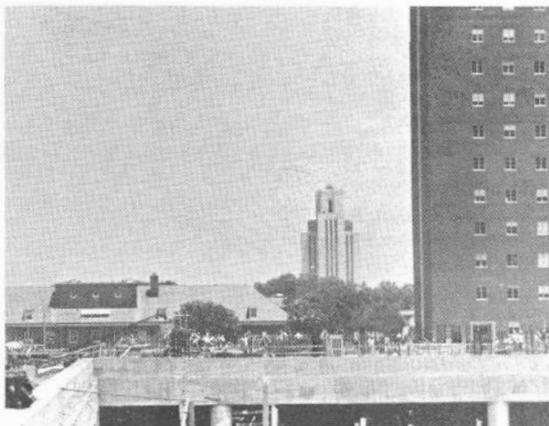
First, men and machines dig the foundations.



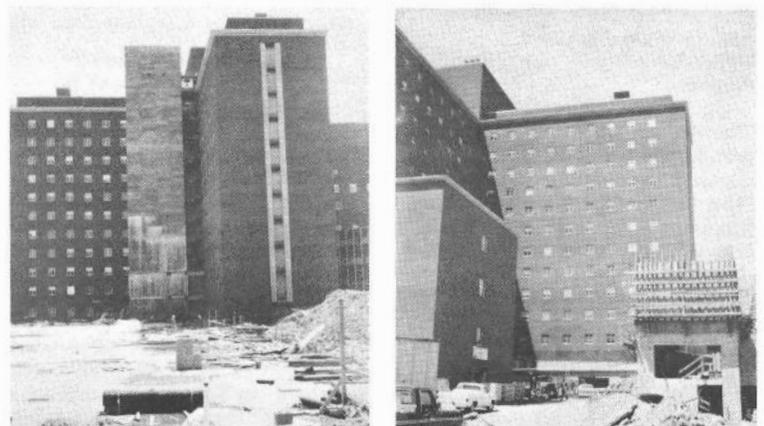
Demolition makes way for the addition.



Some equipment is "airlifted" by cranes.



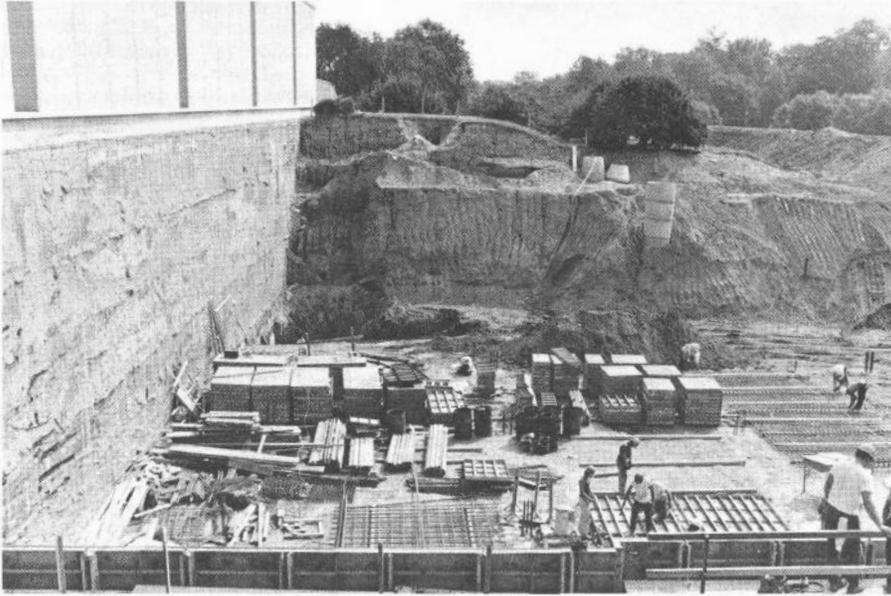
The ACRF parking garage takes form, with the Naval Medical Center visible in the background.



Construction continues above the parking garage level of the ACRF as seen from the east side (r) and including an elevator shaft on the CC's west side.

# National Library of Medicine

# Lister Hill Center for Biomedical Communications



The first forms for the concrete foundation are readied in August 1977.



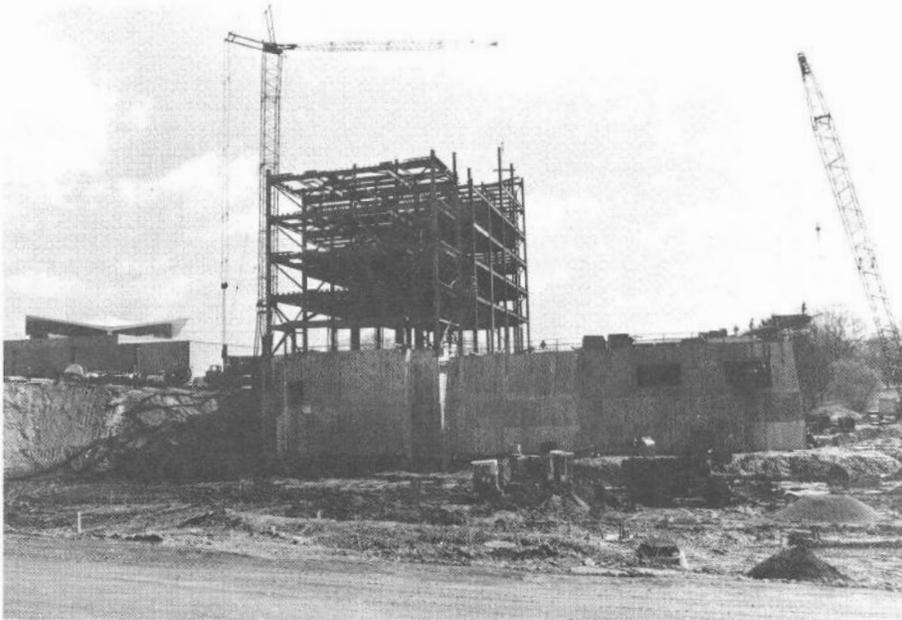
A worker perches precariously on a support and concrete ledge.



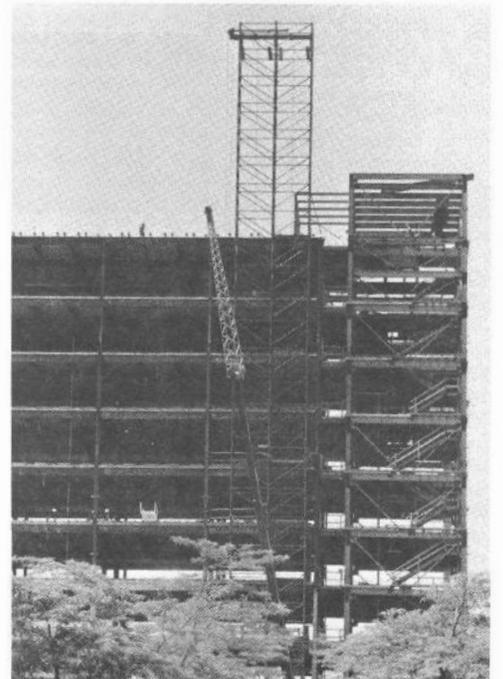
Steel workers walk the girders, as seen through the windows of NLM.



New signs point to new buildings underway.



After the foundation is laid, the steel framework rises.



Cranes assist in the construction of the 10-story tower.

## DCRT Worker Stays Home on the Job: Quadriplegic Voice-Operates Computer



Rick Pilgrim, 23-year-old quadriplegic, gets instructions for logging-on to communicate with the NIH Central Computer Utility from his supervisor, William Vincent, head of the Clinical Support Section, Data Management Branch, DCRT. Special software being developed by DMB will soon enable him to use his own voice-operated minicomputer to interface with DCRT's computers. Now, his mother types in what he dictates on this NIH terminal.

By Mary Hodges

Richard Pilgrim, of Fairfax, Va., was a computer programmer looking for a job. When he offered his services to the Data Management Branch of the Division of Computer Research and Technology last June, he included a few stipulations: that he be allowed to stay in bed and that he be given a private telephone. DCRT agreed.

Rick is not receiving red carpet treatment. He has, on the contrary, earned this unique bargaining position through determination, hard work, and modern technology.

A quadriplegic since 1973, Rick works at computer programming with his eyes and his voice while lying flat on his bed at home.

For the past 2 years, he has studied FORTRAN, COBOL, and computer operations and has amassed the equivalent of more than 800 hours of computer training with "hands-on" experience.

Modern technology, in the form of a voice-operated computer terminal at his bedside, has enabled this 23-year-old to compete in today's job market with a saleable skill.

He comes to DMB with practical experience, having already designed, programmed, debugged, and documented COBOL programs, one of which currently serves as an inventory control system for an electronics laboratory.

At DMB, he has been assigned to the Clinical Support Section which is developing the Clinical Information Utility (CIU) system, a clinical data management system that receives, organizes, archives, and retrieves clinical data for research analysis at the Clinical Center.

During these initial months, while special software is being prepared by DMB's Clinical Support Section to enable Rick's own

computer terminal to interface with NIH's Central Computer Utility, he is familiarizing himself with DCRT's programs and facilities via a keyboard-type terminal which his mother operates.

Once her son starts using the new voice-controlled software program in the fall, Mrs. Pilgrim's role as "programmer's assistant" will be reduced to telephone dialer and general clerk.

She hardly views this as a demotion, however, because she is delighted to let her son manage "his first paying job" since his paralyzing accident 5 years ago.

Rick's career in computer programming began in the summer of 1975 when his sponsor, the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation of Virginia, worked with George Washington University Medical Center's Rehabilitation, Research, and Training Center to arrange for him to study with Scope Electronics Inc. of Reston, Va.

During 1976, Rick studied Introduction to FORTRAN and COBOL with Scope, which had developed a word recognition system for severely handicapped programmers.

This system, which is a multi-user, programmable system and is called Voice Data Entry Terminal System (VDETS), stores its vocabulary of reference patterns in a Data General Nova minicomputer capable of handling some 50 state-

## CONTAINMENT

(Continued from Page 1)

acquiring information about these problems. Much of this research will be performed in eight, fully equipped P3 laboratories and their associated facilities.

In addition to conducting an intensive intramural scientific program, the NBCL will be designed to provide the scientific community with access to modern, safe, maximum containment facilities, specified as P4 under the NIH guidelines. To solve various operational problems, seven P4 labs will be constructed in three different configurations.

For instance, large-scale manipulations requiring maximum containment may be performed in "suit-rooms," where investigators dress in positive pressure "space" suits that protect them from potential contamination.

In other situations, where the level of biological containment can be increased one step, a P3 laboratory located inside a "P4 shell" may be preferred for maximum ease of operation and safety.

Standard P4 cabinet systems equipped with enclosed, gas-tight cabinets and glove boxes will also be available.

A major responsibility of the NBCL staff will involve training visiting scientists in high-containment procedures, including recombinant DNA techniques at both the P3 and P4 levels of physical containment.

Managed and staffed for NIH by NIAID, the national facility is expected to begin operations during the latter part of 1980.

It will replace the three interim P4 laboratories located at the Frederick Cancer Research Center and on the grounds of NIH, Bethesda, Md. Renovations are expected to cost \$6 million and a resident staff of approximately 50 is anticipated.

ments as well as all the standard keyboard characters.

Rick initially "trained" his VDETS to recognize his enunciation of the words in the vocabulary. It now will respond to his spoken command with an appropriate action.

In the subsequent year, Rick studied advanced COBOL and received practical job training with the Mitre Metrek Division of Mitre Corporation in McLean, Va.

The software program which DMB will develop will actually replace Mrs. Pilgrim as Rick's typist and will collect and process the information he dictates. The Branch plans to explore the potential uses of this newly developed technology for data entry.

Rick's experience with VDETS will be useful in these explorations, says J. Emmett Ward, chief of Data Management Branch, DCRT.

## NIH Visiting Scientists Program Participants

6/18—Dr. Mrinal Kanti Sanyal, India, Laboratory of Environmental Toxicology. Sponsor: Dr. Robert L. Dixon, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.

6/21—Dr. Verena Gauss, Germany, Laboratory of Developmental Biology and Anomalies. Sponsor: Dr. Elliott Schiffmann, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. 410.

6/30—Dr. Abdo R. Jurjus, Lebanon, Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology. Sponsor: Dr. David Gillespie, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 6B04.

### Visits From Bangladesh

7/1—Dr. Mehnur Abedin, Bangladesh, Neonatal and Pediatric Medicine Branch. Sponsor: Dr. James Sidbury, NICHD, Bg. 10, Rm. 13N260.

7/1—Dr. Krishnamoorthy Chandrasekaran, India, Macromolecular Biology Section. Sponsor: Dr. Samuel Luborsky, NCI, Bg. 8, Rm. 107.

7/1—Dr. Tommaso Costa, Italy, Endocrinology and Reproduction Research Branch. Sponsor: Dr. David Rodbard, NICHD, Bg. 10, Rm. 12N206.

7/1—Dr. Charles Erlichman, Canada, Clinical Pharmacology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Bruce Chabner, NCI, Bg. 10, Rm. 6N110.

7/1—Dr. Shigeyoshi Fujihara, Japan, Laboratory of Experimental Pathology. Sponsor: Dr. George G. Glenner, NIAID, Bg. 10, Rm. 3N112.

7/1—Dr. Stefan Korec, Czechoslovakia, Laboratory of Immunodiagnosis. Sponsor: Dr. Ronald Herberman, NCI, Bg. 10, Rm. 8B03.

7/1—Dr. Francesco Meloni, Italy, Laboratory of Immunology. Sponsor: Rose Lieberman, NIAID, Bg. 10, Rm. 11N322.

7/1—Dr. Zvi Metzger, Israel, Laboratory of Microbiology and Immunology. Sponsor: Dr. Joost Oppenheim, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. 323.

7/1—Dr. Sita Naik, India, Immunohematology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Kamal Mittal, Bureau of Biologies, Bg. 29, Rm. 232.

### Comes From Peru

7/1—Dr. Nicanor Navarro, Peru, Laboratory of Immunodiagnosis. Sponsor: Dr. Ronald Herberman, NCI, Bg. 10, Rm. 8B11.

7/1—Dr. Rajiv Saxena, India, Gerontology Research Center. Sponsor: Dr. William Adler, NIA, Gerontology Research Center, Baltimore, Md.

7/1—Dr. Jayantha Wimalasena, Sri Lanka, Endocrinology and Reproduction Research Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Maria Dufau, NICHD, Bg. 10, Rm. 12N216.

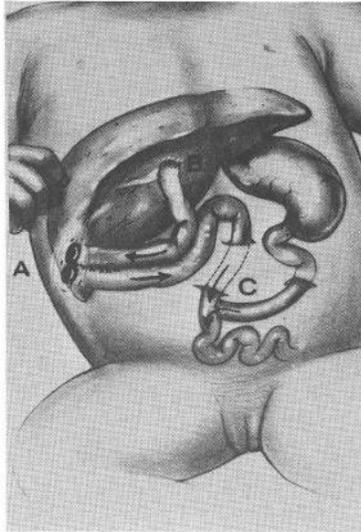
7/2—Dr. George P. Chrousos, Greece, Neonatal and Pediatric Medicine Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Marvin Cornblath, NICHD, Bg. 10, Rm. 13N260.

## SURGERY

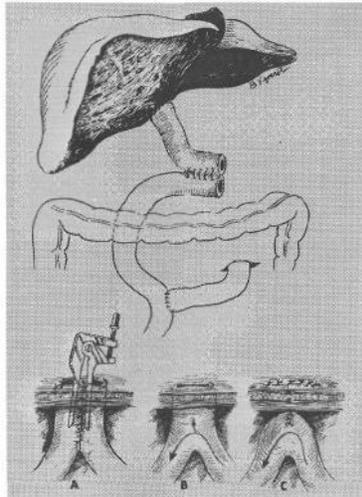
(Continued from Page 1)

frequent and far easier to control. Unlike the early Japanese operation, no child has died of infection of the bile ducts.

Also, bile output can be easily checked, making it possible to determine if there is reobstruction of the bile ducts. In the case of obstruction, reoperation can be done promptly.



This drawing shows the surgical procedure developed by the University of Colorado Medical Center team for the treatment of biliary atresia. Important aspects of the operation include the double barreled enterostomy on the abdominal wall (A) formed by the piece of intestine taken from the child which is used to construct a bile duct leading from the liver (B) to the abdominal wall and then doubled back to join the intestine (C). (Reprinted by permission of American Journal of Diseases of Children, Volume 129, page 1430, December 1975, Copyright 1975 American Medical Association.)



The other drawing shows the conversion of the double barreled enterostomy (two openings in the abdominal wall) (A) to a regular enterostomy (B) and the eventual closure of the opening. Once the wound is closed, bile flows through the constructed duct directly from the liver to the intestine as seen in (C). (Reprinted by permission of Springer-Verlag, Inc., World Journal of Surgery, Copyright 1978 Springer-Verlag, Inc.)

So far, the University of Colorado team has operated on 42 infants suffering from biliary atresia, more than any other research center in the United States.

Of the 42 patients, 25 have drained bile and 14 are now having normal bile drainage. Twenty-four of the patients are still alive, with the longest survivor being almost 4 years old.

Linda and Paula are the eighth and ninth patients to reach their third birthdays.

Dr. Lilly's work also was supported by the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases and the VA.

## Treatable Brain Diseases in the Elderly: Consensus Conf. To Publish Conclusions

Few physicians would turn a patient away with a diagnosis of "middle age chest pain"; many more are likely to do so with a diagnosis of "old age senility."

While more than three million persons over 65 are afflicted with symptoms of brain failure, it is estimated that as many as 20 percent of these could be retrieved from the diagnostic wastebasket of "senility."

On July 10 and 11, the National Institute on Aging and the Fogarty International Center brought together experts in the fields of internal medicine, neurology, psychiatry, radiology, and general medicine for a consensus development conference on treatable brain diseases in the elderly.

With this meeting, NIA began work towards the development of a document that will encourage primary care physicians to take a closer look at symptoms of cognitive dysfunction in their elderly patients rather than dismiss these symptoms as inevitable consequences of old age.

During the 2-day conference, the participants arrived at several important conclusions.

- Despite growing evidence that depression is a common response to crises occurring late in life, this disorder is one of the most frequently overlooked reversible causes of cognitive impairment in the elderly.

This may be because physicians do not look for depression in their elderly patients; it may also be because stereotyped images of age-related mental decline cloud their perception.

- Drug toxicity is another prevalent reversible cause of brain failure in the elderly. While the elderly constitute 11 percent of the U.S. population, it is currently esti-

estimated that they consume 25 percent of all drugs sold in the U.S.

Because of the frequency of multiple disease states in old age, it is not uncommon to find one patient simultaneously taking five or six different drugs.

Drugs should be administered to elderly patients with extreme caution and only after the physician has established what and how much medication the patient is currently taking.

- Physicians should be aware that psychosocial factors may cause or complicate cognitive dysfunction in old age.

Persons in nursing homes and other institutions with diagnoses of brain syndrome are most likely to be poor, isolated, widowed, and suffering from some sensory deprivation.

- A patient with intellectual impairment is as deserving as a patient with any other complaint of a comprehensive workup including a thorough history to determine the extent and tempo of the decline as well as a thorough physical examination to detect treatable causes of that impairment.

- The mental status examination may be the most useful instrument for taking a patient's history, but none of the standardized tests currently being used in this way provide an adequate measure of all signs of brain failure.

At this time, psychological testing can be valuable in suggesting treatment modalities and in assessing impact of treatment, but not in establishing a differential diagnosis.

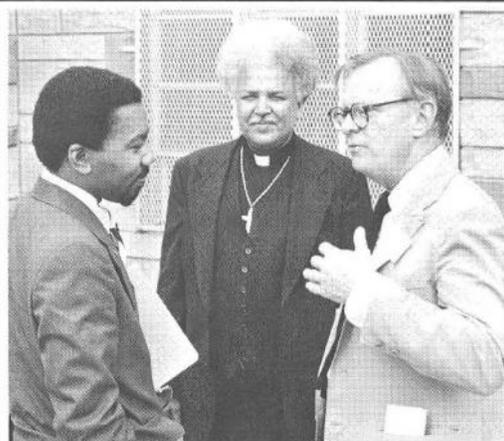
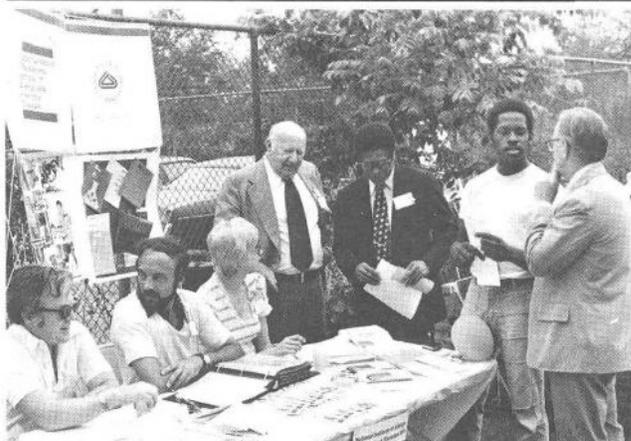
- The CAT scan (computerized axial tomography) may be valuable in ruling out certain treatable causes of cognitive impairment but cannot be used to diagnose senile dementia or cerebral atrophy.

- The so-called irreversible disorders—most notably senile dementia of the Alzheimer's type and multi-infarct dementia—are by no means hopeless ones.

Much can be done in terms of general care for the patient to lessen discomfort, to slow, and sometimes to arrest deterioration, and to help the patient make use of residual strengths.

It may be several months before final consensus is reached on all of the issues discussed during the conference.

A final document clarifying the issues presented at the conference will then be prepared and circulated through a number of professional medical organizations.



On Saturday, June 3, NIAID participated in a Career Fair held at St. Paul Christian Community Church in Washington, D.C. Youths interested in careers available in the metropolitan area talked with representatives from Government agencies as well as public and private firms. Edna Miller, employee development specialist in NIAID, coordinated the Fair and was assisted by the NIAID Personnel Office. Speakers included several D.C. officials. At the NIAID booth at the Fair are (l to r): a visitor, Robert Chames and Lelia Hooton of the NIAID Personnel Office, NIAID deputy director Dr. John Seal, NIH Deputy Director Dr. Thomas J. Malone, another visitor, and NIAID Director Dr. Richard M. Krause. Right photo, l to r: Lewis Anthony, special assistant to D.C. Mayor Walter Washington, and the Reverend Earl S. Luckett, pastor of the church where the Fair was held, talk with Dr. Krause.

## 1978 Instrumentation Symposium and Exhibit Will Be Held Aug. 7-9

The NIH Instrumentation Symposium, sponsored by the Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Branch, Division of Research Services, will be held at the Masur Auditorium, Monday through Wednesday, Aug. 7-9, with sessions from 9:30 a.m. to noon and from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.

Topics will be: Modern Detection Techniques in Liquid Chromatography, Novel Chemical Sensors, Biomedical Applications of Fluorescence, Biological Applications of Instrumental Microanalysis, New Approaches in Application of NMR to Biology, and Newer Methods of Ionization in Organic Mass Spectrometry.

Registration is not required. For programs or further information, call 496-5771.

The 1978 Washington-National Instrumentation Exposition is being held concurrently at the Sheraton Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Over 100 exhibits featuring the latest in research and medical instruments will be on display.

Free bus service will be provided between NIH and the hotel as follows:

Leave NIH	Arrive Sheraton Pk.
8:30 a.m.	9:15 a.m.
10:30 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
12:30 p.m.	1:15 p.m.
1:30 p.m.	2:15 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	3:15 p.m.
3:30 p.m.	4:15 p.m.

Leave Sheraton Pk.	Arrive NIH
9:30 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
11:30 a.m.	12:15 p.m.
12:30 p.m.	1:15 p.m.
1:30 p.m.	2:15 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	3:15 p.m.
*4:30 p.m.	5:15 p.m.

\* Two buses

Admission to the exhibits is free.



On July 14, as a highlight of her experience in Girls Nation, Jennifer Meyer of Bridgeport, W. Va., met with NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson to discuss the administration of NIH. Jenny is an active member of a Medical Explorers Post and Medical Careers Club. She also plays several musical instruments and participates in a choir, handbell choir, ensemble, and youth orchestra.



**Avital Shcharansky**—wife of Anatoly Shcharansky, a Soviet scientist recently convicted of treason in Moscow—spoke to an overflow audience in the Masur Auditorium on July 18. Speaking with the aid of an interpreter, Mrs. Shcharansky presented her views on ways that the American scientific community can aid their Soviet counterparts. Her visit to NIH was sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences.



## PBB Subject of Special Issue of NIEHS Journal

The controversial 1973 Michigan incident in which a flame retardant chemical was accidentally distributed as a cattle feed additive has resulted in substantial scientific research to study the incident and the chemical involved, polybrominated biphenyl, better known as PBB.

The next issue of the NIEHS journal, *Environmental Health Perspectives*, to be published in August, will be devoted to scientific papers presented at an October 1977 conference on PBB.

This conference, held at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., was partially funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and sponsored by the Michigan State Agricultural Experiment Station.

The accidental contamination of cattle feed with the chemical flame retardant caused abnormal hoof growth, skin lesions, and other pronounced health problems in exposed cattle. Before the problem was pinpointed, some of the less conspicuously diseased cattle were used in dairy production or butchered for meat, leading to human exposure. PBB was also detected in swine and poultry.

### Effects Reported

Health complaints reported in exposed people included extreme fatigue, disorientation, loss of memory, as well as skin lesions, and immune alterations.

In the preface to this special issue of *Environmental Health Perspectives*, Drs. Steven D. Aust and Lee R. Shull, co-chairmen of the PBB conference, state: "The objectives set for the conference were to provide a forum for the discussion of what is known about PBB's and to delineate what is now known. Another objective was to facilitate publication of the knowledge. This issue of *Environmental Health Perspectives* represents attainment of this objective."

Copies of the PBB issue may be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. The cost of a single issue of *Environmental Health Perspectives* is \$5.10 within the U.S. The domestic annual subscription rate is \$30.15 for six issues.

## Does Your Paycheck Come to Your Office? There is a Better Way



Have you ever been inconvenienced or annoyed trying to catch up with your paycheck after returning from leave or travel?

Have you ever experienced waiting your turn in long lines at the Agent Cashiers' windows?

Have you ever requested that your check be held for pickup only to find that it had been ordered mailed, and that the address used was the one you moved from 3 months ago?

Have you ever experienced frustrating delays while you waited for the Post Office to deliver your pay check?

### THERE IS A BETTER WAY!

The U.S. Treasury is encouraging all employees to request delivery of their salary checks directly to a financial institution or a Credit Union.

The plan is simple, safe, theft-proof, efficient, and fast.

Contact your Payroll Representative and request Standard Form 1189, or for more information about how the plan works, contact Disbursing Services Section, 496-1298.

## Traffic, Parking Tickets Affect License, Registry

Acting Governor Blair Lee recently signed Bill H.B. 1479 which permits the Maryland State Department of Motor Vehicles to treat Federal traffic offenses in a manner similar to State traffic offenses.

Briefly, if a person fails to pay a parking or traffic ticket, or fails to appear in court as scheduled, the court will notify the State Department of Motor Vehicles.

The *SDMV* will then flag the of-

fender's file so that his/her driver license will not be renewed and his/her vehicle re-registration will be prohibited until the offense has been satisfied.

The State of Maryland also has a mutual agreement with the District of Columbia and all States; therefore, the agreement also applies to employees with vehicles registered in other jurisdictions.

## PHS Commissioned Corps Orientation Is on July 26

You and the Commissioned Corps, an orientation program for Commissioned Officers of the Public Health Service—especially those newly called to active duty—will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, July 26, at 9 a.m. in the Masur Auditorium.