

Milton S. Eisenhower Research Center Issue

On September 19, 1979, at formal ceremonies following the annual fall meeting of the Trustees' Committee on the Applied Physics Laboratory, President Steven Muller officially dedicated the Laboratory's Research Center to Milton Stover Eisenhower. Over the past third of a century, the Research Center has become a tradition as well as an organization and a building. It is now also a monument to both the vital spirit of Dr. Eisenhower and the spirit of basic science at APL.

Dedications are typically the occasion for reflection and introspection, and this was no exception. Thus, the proceedings of the Trustees' meeting and the ceremony that followed (see pp. 4-7 for details) brought the Research Center into unusually sharp focus from several points of view and presents the *Johns Hopkins APL Technical Digest* with a unique opportunity to overview one of the Laboratory's Divisions.

First, three short presentations on the Research Center were made to the Trustees: Richard B. Kershner reviewed Research Center history as seen by the former supervisor of the Space Department, Joe T. Massey discussed Research Center history as observed by the Director of Biomedical Programs, and I covered the Research Center of today. These glimpses, from three different points of view, are presented here as they were summarized for publication, by the respective presenters.

Second, in his address at the dedication ceremony Dr. Alexander Kossiakoff, Director of the Laboratory, included a brief overview of the role of the Research Center at APL (pp. 64-66).

Third, one of the mementos presented to Dr. Eisenhower is an account of the Research Center's objectives and accomplishments (pp. 8-33). It describes the Research Center (in greater depth than was permitted by time constraints at the Trustees' meeting) from the perspective of its chairman and vice-chairman for an audience representative of APL. (Regrettably, a perspective of the Research Center by and for research scientists has never been written.)

Finally, a deeper look into research is provided by two articles on Research Center instruments and their applications (pp. 38-48). Additional contributions in this issue touch on other, diverse Research Center activities.

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