



# Bulletin

U. S. NAVAL RADIOLOGICAL DEFENSE LABORATORY  
SAN FRANCISCO 24, CALIFORNIA

January 4, 1952

"There is nothing either good or bad,  
but thinking makes it so."

-- Hamlet.

## IT WAS A GOOD PARTY

May our concentrated approbation descend on the several Laboratory employees whose diligence contributed so handsomely to our recent conviviality. Most especially to Harry Wellhouser and his committee who provided plenty of decorations, food, and fun -- but also to Perry Finch who directed the work of Robert Leen and Frank Leachman, painters; George Thompson and Reuben Crady, electricians; Eugene Petersen and Charles Bajada, carpenters.

Those saucy signs, fawncy figures on the mural were contributed, as usual, by the artists of the Illustration Section, - Frances Brady, Doris Denison, Stan Bennett, and Chick Hayashi.

In mentioning names of other non-committee members, we would be remiss in overlooking Clancy Parker's recorded three hours of music, and Porter Evans' Santa Claus Portrayal. Almost 500 people attended the affair! Laboratory participation justified, indeed, the toil of all who arranged a wonderful party.

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## ANY CHESS PLAYERS IN THE LAB?

There's a rumor that the Laboratory is well equipped with Chess players of marked ability. If this is true, let's organize a tournament to determine who is the champion of the "Brains." If you are interested in the game of Chess, call Information Services, Ext. 3160. Something exciting may come of this!

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## MORE TAXES -- CHEERY THOUGHT!

California Income Tax Forms (540) are now available from Employee Services, Code 3-282E. The deadline for filing this form is April 15, 1952. The return should be filed with the Franchise Tax Board, Sacramento.

Federal Income Tax Statements will be given out by the Fiscal Department the end of January, and the tax forms (1040, long and short) will be available at Employee Services after that time.

A representative of the Internal Revenue Department will be in the Shipyard and available for consultation with Laboratory employees after February 15, 1952. More information on this later.

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## SOILED COATS FOR CLEAN

Beginning January 2, after the initial issue, no clean lab coats will be issued unless a dirty coat complete with metal identification tag is presented. Coats may be exchanged at the NRDL laundry, Building 503, by each individual, or by one representative for a group.

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## RED LETTER DAYS

Four long week ends will bring joy to our hearts and rest to our weary bones this year. Three holidays fall on Friday -- Washington's Birthday on February 22, Memorial Day on May 30, and the Fourth of July. Labor Day will be on Monday, September 1.

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NAVY WINS BENNY SUGGS AWARD

The Navy has been awarded the National Association of Suggestion Systems Achievement Award for the fiscal year 1951.

The purpose of the Association is to promote employee suggestions both in industry and Government, and the award is presented each year to the government agency showing the greatest annual increase in its suggestion participation rate.

During the fiscal year 1951, Navy employees submitted 51,990 suggestions of which 13,346 were adopted. The total payment was \$346,828 for suggestions that saved the Navy \$8,414,182.

This represents 14 suggestions for every 100 employees, leaving a large majority from which to draw a still further increase of participation. So, put on your thinking caps and turn in suggestions for more efficient and more economical operations!

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MOVING DAY FOR MAT. AND ACC.

Materials and Accounts Division has begun the big move! The storerooms and offices now located in Buildings D19, D20, D21, and the second floor of Building 351 will all be moved to Building 351B. The tentative schedule calls for completion of the move on January 19. While the operation is being carried out there may be a slight delay in filing orders. Please be patient.

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LAB TRAVELERS

Members of the staff who left for Boston this week on Laboratory business were: Messrs. W. E. Strobe, M. B. Hawkins, M. M. Bigger, M. H. Rowell, H. R. Rinnert, and Francis Kawahara. Messrs Strobe and Hawkins will also visit the Bureau of Ships before returning to San Francisco.

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JUST A REMINDER

As we go to press, a total of \$5.88 has been collected for Santa's PANTS. Poor old fellow! He can't even buy the cuffs for that.

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ONE YEAR AGO AT USNRDL

The San Francisco CHRONICLE'S "This World" review of radio and TV programs stated that our Laboratory program, "The A-Bomb and Your Survival" was "intelligent and exciting" . . . . . New employees on January 4, 1951 were:  
Allen R. Dale ( Eng. Serv. )  
George Liik ( Eng. Serv. )  
Herbert F. Lindsay ( Ad. Manag. )  
Theodore E. Sivley ( Eng. Serv. )

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LABORATORY VISITORS

Lt. Col. Baxter C. Madden Jr., USAF,  
Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio.

FROM UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
RADIATION LABORATORY:

Mr. Alexander J. Stripeika,  
Mr. Hugh D. Farnsworth,  
Mr. Robert M. Eisberg, and  
Mr. Wilbur N. Jarmie.

Mr. C. Norman Hicks,  
USN Electronics Laboratory,  
San Diego.

Capt. John C. Duncan, USA,  
Oakland Army Base.

FROM STANFORD RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE:

Dr. Robert B. Vail, Jr., and  
Mr. Carl C. Hughes.

Mr. Irwin L. Cherrick, Bureau  
of Ships, Washington, D. C.

FROM SFNS:

John L. Harris, YNC, USN, and  
Lewis J. Stalcup CHBOSN, USN.

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" A drunk who wants another drink is an object of  
censure. A fat lady can order a pint of whipping  
cream without being noticed. "

--- Gus of Gisholt.

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" PERPLEXED "

It would appear the Russians, too,  
Have A-Bombs now in store,  
Which makes things even whackier  
Than what they were before.

It's strange, indeed how men will toil  
Perfecting bomb and shell,  
Which some fine day will surely blow  
All mankind straight to Hell!

And yet there might be reason  
For such suicidal trend  
For, after all, the present world  
Appears in need of mend.

With money systems breaking down,  
Like Britain's mighty pound,  
While so-called statesmen merely run  
in circles round and round;

With farmers yapping high and loud,  
About their surplus crop  
While folks can't buy because the law  
Keeps prices at the top;

With politicians on the loose,  
Who smile and smirk and sob,  
And simply drip with friendliness --  
Because they need a job;

With gal folks wearing girdles  
And a lot of stuff and goo,  
To make 'em look like something  
Old Nature never knew;

With kiddies reaching for a gun  
To shoot their Ma or Dad  
Because they dared to scold 'em  
And tell them good from bad;

With all these things and many more,  
Perhaps it is quite wise  
To look upon those Atom Bombs  
As blessings in disguise.

If nothing else will teach us sense,  
Because we are too dumb,  
We might as well get ready  
FOR THAT TRIP TO KINGDOM COME!

Submitted by Sally Jones.

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WE WERE WRONG

Good thing we put a question mark after last  
week's announcement of "our last baby of 1951."  
There were three more -- two born on December  
30 and one on December 28.

A football player, Mark Henry, weight 9 pounds,  
11 ounces, came to Pat and Jack Habermeyer. His  
father is a member of Pathology Services of Bio-  
Med Division. His mama was formerly with Physics  
Branch.

The Lewis Gevantmans have a daughter, Sandra  
Cay, who weighed 5 pounds, 6 ounces. Papa Lewis  
is with Applied Research Branch, Chemical Tech-  
nology Division.

Joseph Mars Cusart arrived at the home of the  
Bob Cusarts. He weighed 6 pounds 4 ounces. Mother  
and child are doing fine, but Father Bob, of Mater-  
ials and Accounts Division, is tired!

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NEW MILITARY PERSONNEL

John Elton Calvert, HN, USNR, has recently  
come to the Photodosimetry Division of Medical  
Services Department from the Oak Knoll Naval  
Hospital, Oakland. HN Calvert was born in St.  
Landry, Louisiana. He graduated from high  
school in Redwood City, where and his wife,  
Geraldine, now reside at 224 Harrison Street,  
phone Emerson 8-3082. HN Calvert returned  
not long ago from duty in Korea.

James Bobby Mason, HN, USNR, is also a new  
arrival in Photodosimetry Division. He is a na-  
tive of Calion, Arkansas, attending Smackover  
High School in that state. Before reporting to  
USNRDL, HN Mason was on duty at Oak Knoll  
Hospital. His hobbies are reading, fishing, and  
hunting.

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TRANSPORTATION TROUBLES

Ride Wanted  
San Francisco  
Agnes Winfough (Manag. Eng. )  
47 Hemway St.  
SK 2-3341  
(Vicinity of Fulton & Ashbury)

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TWO LAB EMPLOYEES LEAVING

Lillian Lee, of Reproduction Section, Tech Info, and Patricia L. Kelley, of Personnel Branch, bade the Laboratory goodbye today. Lillian will keep a rendezvous with the stork in a few weeks. Pat will be a lady of leisure, devoting former Lab time to hubby and their huge Boxer, Rip.

The girls of Personnel office gave Pat a surprise luncheon today at George's Lodge, highlighting the party with a lovely gift. Those attending were: Laverne Seidenkranz, Donna Tousley, Beatrice Albee, Penny Lentz, Dee Franco, Joan Antram, Martha Klein, Vickie Vrudney, Jean Rentmeester, and Helen Power.

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NEW CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

Carl Frederick Miller, a Chemist, has this week joined Applied Research Branch. He was born in Osceola Wisconsin, and finished high school in Minneapolis in 1935. He graduated with a B. S. degree from the State Teachers' College, Wisconsin, and received a M. S. degree in physical chemistry at the University of California in 1948. His Ph. D. degree, also in physical chemistry came from Iowa State College, Ames, Ia., where he was employed as a research physical chemist before he joined USNRDL. Dr. Miller and his wife, Abigail, live at 63 Henry Street, San Francisco. His hobbies are photography, music, and fishing.

ENGINEERING SERVICES DIVISION

James Alphonse Violette, a Machinist, is a new member of Plant Maintenance Branch. A native of Winterville, Maine, Mr. Violette attended high school in his home town. He transferred to the Laboratory from SFNS. Mr. Violette, his wife, Freda, and their children, Korleen, James Junior, and Pattie Ann, live at 245 Village Way, South San Francisco, phone JUno 3-1832. Auto repair is Mr. Violette's interest.

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MARCH OF DIMES

The drive for the March of Dimes has started. The BULLETIN will print further information on it next week.

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SPLITTING THE INFINITIVE

By Norman R. Jaffray.

One of the most closely guarded secrets of the era can at last be told: how an anonymous group of grammarians working in secrecy in a remote section of the country have finally succeeded in splitting the infinitive.

The so-called "Bronx Project" got under way in 1943, with the installation of a huge infinitron specially constructed for the job by Cal Tech Philologists. Though the exact details are still withheld for reasons of security, it is possible to describe the general process.

From a stockpile of fissionable gerunds, encased in leaden cliches to prevent the spread of radioactivity, a suitable subject is withdrawn and placed in the infinitron together with a small amount of syntax. All this material must be handled with great care, as the slightest slip may lead to a painful solecism. Once inside the apparatus, the gerund is whirled about at great speed, meanwhile being bombarded by small participles. A man with a Gender Counter stands always ready to warn the others if the Alpha-Beta rays are released in such high quantities as to render the scientists neuter.

The effect of the bombardment is to dissociate the whirling parts of speech from one another until at length an infinitive splits off from its gerund and is ejected from the machine. It is picked up gingerly with a pair of hanging clauses and plunged in a bath of pleonasm. When it cools it is ready for use.

The question is often asked: Can other countries likewise split the infinitive? I think we can safely answer, no. Though it is true that Russia, for one, is known to have large supplies of thesaurus hidden away behind the Plural Mountains, it is doubtful if the Russians possess the scientific technique. They have the infinitive, but not the know-how.

And that is something on which to congratulate our own brave pioneers in the field of grammatical research. Once it was thought that the infinitive could never be split--at least not without terrible repercussions. We have shown that it is quite possible, given the necessary skill and courage, to unquestionably and without the slightest shadow of a doubt, accomplish this modern miracle.

See how easy it is, once you know how?

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY 7

8:00 PM Audio Engineering Society, at Room 100, City College of San Francisco, Ocean & Phelan Aves.  
Speaker: Mr. Bart Locanthi, J. Lansing Sound Inc., Burbank.  
Subj: "Fundamental Loudspeaker Problems."

TUESDAY 8

6:00 PM Am. Inst. of Elec. Engrs., at (dinner) Engineers' Club, 206 Sansome Street, San Francisco.  
Speaker: Mr. R. H. Miller, PG&E.  
Subj: "Electronics in Power Industry."

WEDNESDAY 9

7:45 PM Am. Inst. of Elec. Engrs., San Jose Sub-Section, at Room 210, Science Bldg. San Jose State College.  
Speaker: Mr. J. P. Tynes, Pac. Tel. & Tel. Co. Office of Chief Engr. San Francisco.  
Subj: "Micro Wave Radio Systems for Telephone and TV Transmission."  
Student speaker: Wayne Whistler, Senior in Electronics.  
Subj: "Electronic Musical Instruments."

THURSDAY 10 (Wives are welcome)

7:00 PM Institute of Radio Engrs., Palo Alto (dinner) Sub-Section, at Rickey's Studio Club, 4219 El Camino Real.  
Subj: "Behind the Scenes in Color TV Receiver Development."

FRIDAY 11

7:00 PM Natl. Assoc. of Power Engrs, at 3053 - 16th Street, San Francisco.  
Subj: Visit to Illinois Glass Co., Oakland.

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SLIDE RULE FOR RADIOACTIVITY

A slide rule for radioactivity computations has been developed by J. L. Herson. It is designed for computations of decay factors and related data. It consists of an outer frame and movable inner portion. There are three pairs of scales. Instructions are printed on the face of the slide rule; reverse side contains a table of radioactive isotopes, emissions and energies.  
-- From Chem. & Eng. News.

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CALENDAR OF ENTERTAINMENT

California Palace of Legion of Honor

Exhibits

Religious Art ----- Through January 6  
Louisiana Heritage ---- " " "  
(43 Photographs)  
Henry Wolf ----- " " "  
(American Wood Engraver) At Public Library.  
Lives of the Hermits ---- Through January 13.  
(Prints from Achenbach Foundation)  
Early Asiatic Art ----- Opening January 10.  
(Original Persian & Indian) At Public Library.

Educational Activities

Classes for children each Saturday 10:00 AM.  
Spring series of classes start January 19.

Television

Marjorie Trumbull on KRON -- January 8 at 4:00 PM.  
(Museum staff will discuss special exhibitions.)

Motion Pictures

Grapes of Wrath -- January 5 at 2:30 PM

Music

Organ Recitals every Saturday and Sunday.  
Mr. Richard Purvis -- Saturday, January 5 at 3:30 PM and Sunday, January 6 at 2:30 PM.

San Francisco Museum of Art

Exhibits

Albert M. Bender Collection - Through January 13.  
Modern American Color Prints - Through January 20.  
Permanent & Loan Collections - Through January 20.  
Contemporary Textiles - Through January 27.  
Museum Menagerie ----- Opening January 8.

Educational Activities

Children's classes Saturday mornings 10:00 AM (Fee).  
Adventures in drawing and painting - Friday-evenings 7:30 to 9:30 (Fee).  
Studio Art for the Layman - Tuesdays 10:00 AM (Fee).  
Lecture - "Twentieth Century Art" - Monday, January 7 at 8:00 PM.

Gallery Tours Sunday, January 6 at 2:30 PM.

Music

Griller Quartet - Monday, January 7 at 8:30 PM.

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"If of thy mortal goods thou art bereft,  
And from thy slender store two loaves  
alone to thee are left,  
Sell one, and with the dole  
Buy hyacinths to feed thy soul."

-----Persian Poet, about 1184.

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