

Bulletin

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

LPS-HRA-634

Mr. Walker - Please give
this to Pat

Thanks

Helen

6 June 1952

EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!

BIDDING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDING COMPLETED

On 4 June bids were opened for Building 815, the new Laboratory Building. It is most gratifying that the bidding was highly competitive, with a total of nine bidders, and that the successful bid was even lower than was expected.

The successful bidder was a combination of Rothschild, Raffin, & Weirick, and James I. Barnes Companies, both firms of San Francisco, who bid \$4,418,300. Many other bidders were close to this figure, which is substantially lower than the designer's estimate. This discrepancy, which of course is to our advantage, apparently results from two favorable developments: (1) According to our plan the bids were advertised in May, which we believed was the optimum time, (2) Superimposed on this was a comparative lull in building activity in this area which resulted in keen competition.

Since we can now award a contract for less than we had anticipated, we can restore the 20% floor area which was eliminated from the building design last fall. Within a few days a contract for construction will be awarded the successful bidder and construction will commence as soon as the contractor can move on to the premises. The site of the new building is now being cleared under a separate contract. Four Quonset huts have already been relocated. The new gasoline filling station is being erected, and the Commissary Building is on giant skids preparatory to the move to its new location near the SFNS Chapel and Navy Exchange.

The structural steel for Building 815 was ordered in March 1952 and will be delivered and erected in October or November of this year. Completion of the building is scheduled for March or April 1954.

Alternative methods of restoring the floor area previously removed from the plans are being studied: (1) The presently planned building might be extended on one, or both ends, or (2) A large two or three-story annex might be erected on one end, or (3) Several annexes or satellite buildings might be erected in the immediate area. Final decisions naturally must await completion of these studies which will have to weigh the economics of construction as compared with the functional requirements of the facilities and apparatus to be housed.

OTHER NEW CONSTRUCTION

Meanwhile construction of Building 351-A has been resumed. The carpenters' strike was settled last week and on Monday the men returned to work. It is regrettable that we lost approximately two months as a result of this strike which means now that the project will be completed in August or September of this year. We shall start moving into this building surely by September. There are also several minor construction projects now under way which should all be completed within three or four months.

The moves incident to the availability of Building 351-A will be the last moves made

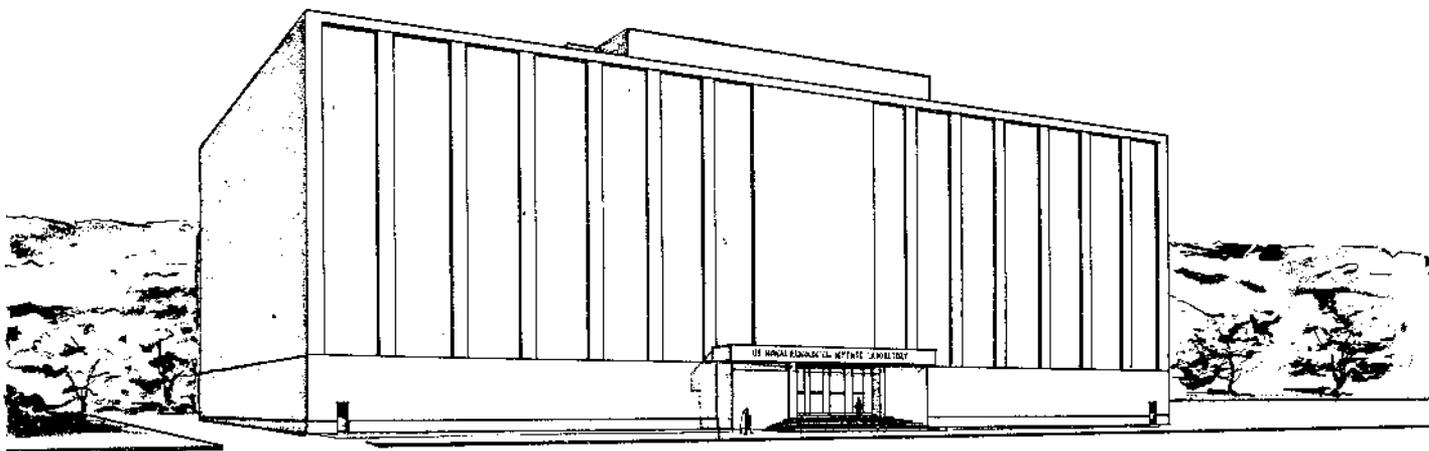
prior to the completion of Building 815. Consequently, by the end of September, the Laboratory should be settled down to "facility-wise stability" marking the beginning of an era of "uninterrupted productivity," wherein everyone should be able to relax and not hang on too tightly to his chair!

THE TASK AHEAD

With the prospect of "815" beckoning, all of us in the Laboratory have an inspiring task ahead--getting ready for its occupancy. The final details of design of this splendid new building must be completed. The great mass of equipment and apparatus which will go into it must be selected and specific locations in the new building identified to the end that ours will in all respects be one of the best designed laboratories in the country. This will require the interest and effort of every person in the Laboratory. We shall ALL benefit from this excellent facility which is considered a symbol of the reputation USNRDL has earned in the short period of its existence.

LAB WELCOMES DISTINGUISHED VISITOR

Information has been received that on Monday, 9 June, NRDL will be honored by a visit from the Honorable John H. Floberg, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air and Comptroller of the Navy. The only other activity Mr. Floberg will visit in this area is the Bio-Med Laboratory at the Naval Supply Center, Oakland. Accompanying the Secretary will be his Aide, CAPT J. S. Thach, USN, CAPT George F. Beardsley, USN, Production Division Director, BuAer, and CDR L. J. Hunt, Special Technical Assistant. CAPT A. L. Becker will also be with the group and CAPT Bird will conduct them on a tour of NRDL facilities. The purpose of this west coast visit is inspection of various scientific and air contact installations. From here the inspection party will visit Moffett Field, Monterey, and Southern California activities.



BUILDING 815 PERSPECTIVE LOOKING FROM SOUTH