GIFTS FROM MEMBER STATES

At the Agency's Seibersdorf laboratory a mass spectrometer worth more than \$26 000 donated by the Federal Republic of Germany is now being used in the hydrology programme.

The instrument, in which charged particles of selected materials are deflected by magnetic fields in directions which vary according to their mass, will help specialists to answer questions about sources and availability of water in certain areas and whether its use would prejudice other water supplies.

In making the presentation on 26 February Dr. Josef Löns, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Austria and Resident Representative to the IAEA, emphasised the importance his Government attached to the Agency, to its excellent laboratory at Seibersdorf, and to the necessity of technical aid to developing countries. He hoped that the instrument would assist in promoting work on the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

Examining the new mass spectrometer at the Agency's Seibersdorf Laboratory are Dr. Henry Seligman, Deputy Director General for Research and Isotopes (extreme left); Mr. Phil-Heiner Randermann, (Alternative Resident Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to IAEA (fifth from left); Mr. Josef Löns, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Austria and Resident Representative to the Agency, who handed over the gift; Dr. Sigvard Eklund, Director General; and Dr. Vadim Vasilyev, who will be in charge of research with the machine at Seibersdorf.



Dr. Sigvard Eklund, Director General, in accepting the gift on behalf of the Agency, said that studies with it would form part of an extensive programme being carried out with other international organizations and in collaboration with scientists in many countries as part of peaceful collaboration in the Hydrological Decade. He expressed thanks on behalf of the Agency and all who would profit from the use of this mass spectrometer, a notable addition to other equipment already received through the generosity of Member States and in used at the laboratory.

EQUIPMENT TO ASSIST TRAINING COURSE

The Agency in conjunction with the International Labour Organization has organized a course starting in April at the ILO Centre in Turin on the repair and maintenance of nuclear instrumentation.

In order to increase the practical value of the course the U.K. Government has donated nine new items of specialized equipment to the value of approximately \$6 000. All of it was tested beforehand at the UK Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell. The gift is additional to the UK voluntary contribution to the General Fund, and it will remain available for any future similar courses or for such other purposes as the Agency may find valuable, especially in the field of technical assistance.

TWENTY YEARS FIGHT AGAINST DISEASE

After 20 years of fighting to improve world health and to combat disease the World Health Organization can claim some impressive achievements.

Malaria has been stamped out in large parts of Asia, Africa, Europe and America to the benefit of more than 450 million people. A massive programme for examination of yaws affecting 150 million people has led to 46 million being treated with long-acting penicillin. At present a world-wide drive against smallpox has been launched with the aim of eradicating the disease by 1977.

While this has been going on WHO has also been carrying out programmes to ensure that the full advantages gained by reducing disease can be maintained. For this purpose better health services and improved environmental conditions must be established. Support has accordingly been given to less spectacular tasks which will produce equally useful long-term results. These include aid to schools for encouragement of interest in the professions