

funds—in particular countries—may represent a significant or even a main part of the research support given to scientists. These funds may also be the best or the only chance for gifted scientists in developing countries to gain access to resources and advanced training in the United States.

Several special factors sensitize NIH program relationships with foreign governments:

(1) The loss of intellectual resources suffered by various countries through emigration to United States of scientists drawn by more attractive research careers here.

(2) The potential for individual and governmental misunderstandings arising from recent NIH need to reduce levels of overseas research support to counter U.S. "gold drain" problems.

(3) The opportunity to negotiate specific research uses of foreign-blocked currencies, generated by the Public Law 480 (agricultural surpluses) program.

ii. Existing coordinating arrangements: Assuring a reasonably consistent NIH program image before the non-U.S. world is a responsibility of the Director, NIH, exercised through the Office of International Research. At the Public Health Service level, a similar office broadens and supports this unifying role.

In terms of coordinating activities with foreign governments, foreign research communities or international organizations, neither NIH nor the PHS has formal or continuing responsibilities. (These are State Department responsibilities, necessitating certain policy clearances with that Department on specific NIH support proposals.) Yet a number of useful coordinating arrangements have in fact been worked out informally by NIH; and NIH negotiates use of Public Law 480 funds on an ad hoc basis, as opportunities arise. NIH maintains overseas offices and scientific representatives in Paris for Western Europe, Rio de Janeiro for Latin America, and Tokyo for the Pacific area. Special coverage is also provided in London and New Delhi. Through these liaison points, NIH is kept informed of medical research underway in other countries; also of research opportunities and scientific manpower resources not available in the United States.

A number of informal agreements exist for advance "clearance" of NIH support proposals with one or more members of national Medical Research Councils (or similar entities).

Also, in award of international postdoctoral fellowships to foreign scientists, special arrangements are of some interest. For this program, scientists are nominated to NIH by ad hoc research committees set up in each nation, with NIH designating the first member.

(g) *With nonprofit organizations or institutions:*

i. The need for coordination or cooperation: In its efforts to achieve health research goals, NIH has developed very special relationships—in fact a state of interdependence—with several categories of nonprofit institutions which constitute the core of our national health research community. (NIH depends on these institutions for research progress; and they in turn on NIH funds to sustain and extend their research capabilities.) The closest of these relationships is with the Nation's medical schools and their associated teaching hospitals. But NIH support through its extramural programs is similarly critical to research levels in dental and other health professional schools; also