

tion, manipulation of the ecosystem, and even preventive and therapeutic practice. In a sense, allergic diseases are due to failures of adaptation. Thus, intensive investigations of these conditions are most relevant to the Human Adaptability program.

4. Biological Consequences of Human Activity

The human activity cycles have been discovered to depart markedly from idealized accounts. We have virtually no observed and quantified information on other than limited groups within western societies. Therefore, the Human Adaptability program will include studies of:

- a. Activity cycles in peoples of different cultures.
- b. Human energy costs of specific activities.
- c. The skills involved in various activities, such as ecological exploitations, hunting, running, and burden bearing.

These studies should be designed to provide information on the consequences of these activities to both the individual and the population.

MORPHOLOGY, GROWTH, AND AGING

Data on morphology, physical growth, and aging will be collected in the context of other studies on human adaptability. However, our knowledge of the relation between developmental and environmental factors is so inadequate that special studies are also recommended. Suitable topics include:

1. Early (perinatal to young child) human development in relation to environmental stress.
2. The relation between physical and behavioral development.
3. The adaptive aspects of child development.
4. Man's physiological adjustments to such stresses as heat, cold, hypoxia and work.

These studies would be particularly valuable if they would compare genetically distinct populations. Longitudinal studies should be favored over cross-sectional ones, although both are necessary.