

about \$12 million per year, which represents about 13 percent of ORNL's total operating budget.

As things are now going, we may find ourselves drawn ever further into matters that grow naturally from what we already do. For example, civil defense, with its requirement for dual-purpose tunnel shelters, inevitably impinges on the whole question of the basic structure of the city. Thus to do civil defense properly, we become involved in the city itself; and HUD is interested in involving our civil defense staff in some of its research.

Or from our interest in desalting, we are drawn to the fascinating question first of desalted water for agriculture, and then to the possibility of agro-industrial complexes in desert areas as an instrument of international development. Here we become involved, very naturally, and almost inevitably, in dry-land agriculture and irrigation; hence, our involvement with the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Reclamation, foreign aid agencies, and possibly those agencies concerned with natural resources, since cheap power can be used to extend our resources.

Or again, from our interest in radiation ecology, co-carcinogenesis, and analytical chemistry, we find ourselves drawn toward the general question of pollution, and particularly the matter of eutrophication of fresh waters. In this we are being encouraged by the Joint Committee, and also by the recent amendment to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 that directs AEC laboratories to participate, under proper circumstances, in research aimed at promoting public safety and health.

General Observations.—What general lessons do I draw from our experience at Oak Ridge in partial redeployment? Perhaps the most important is that successful redeployment is possible, but only if the redeployment flows naturally from the interest and capability of the laboratory itself. We discussed desalting for more than 2 years before we took the plunge; during that time many of our people acquired familiarity with the issues. I like to use the phrase, "Successful redeployment must be done adiabatically"—that is, gradually, so that the redeployment activities are natural extensions of the old ones.

The big mission-oriented Government laboratories are to my mind uniquely useful and powerful instrumentalities for helping to solve difficult sociotechnological problems. Perhaps the most important advantage that these mission-oriented, interdisciplinary laboratories afford is their ability to impose a reintegration on the fragmented research that is inherent in the splinter organization of the Federal Government.

Mr. DADDARIO. You would then somewhat support the Bell Committee's recommendation of such an institute?

Dr. WEINBERG. I think I would support that in the long run, but I agree with Dr. Hornig's view that gradually giving Government agency laboratories much more of the flavor of Government laboratories is the proper direction to move at the present time.

Whether we should eventually seek some Federal policies that officially deals with redeployment that now seems to happen rather naturally, I can't say at present. At any rate, I agree with Dr. Hornig that the time is not yet ripe to make a general Federal policy on the matter as was envisaged in the Bell report.