Dr. Rosenbluth and Mr. Morse to attend plasma physics seminar in Trieste

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Dr. Marshall N. Rosenbluth, Professor of Physics at the University of California, San Diego, and Mr. Richard L. Morse, a physics graduate student at UCSD are scheduled to attend an international plasma physics seminar in Trieste this month (October 5, through 31). Mr. Morse is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Nicholson of San Bernardino.

Dr. Rosenbluth will serve as director of the seminar which is being conducted by the International center for Theoretical Physics in Trieste. The Center is operated by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

About 100 physicists from throughout the world are expected to gather to discuss the most recent developments in the field of plasma physics-- the study of the properties of extremely high temperature materials. The study of plasmas involves the hot rarefied gases which are the principal form of matter in the universe. All stars and most of the matter between stars, such as the material of the famous Van Allen Radiation Belts, consist of plasmas.

Plasmas have assumed great practical importance in recent years because they represent the principal hope to obtain and control thermonuclear energy. This is the energy that drives the sun and which is released explosively in hydrogen bombs. They are also being studied for use in the propulsion of rockets and the direct conversion from heat to electricity.

Dr. Rosenbluth, one of the world's leaders in the study of plasmas, joined the faculty of UCSD in 1960. He also serves as a Senior Research Adviser at General Atomic, San Diego. Before joining General Atomic in 1956, he was one of the principal theoretical physicists at Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory.

He was named as one of four men to share the Ernest Orlando Lawrence Memorial Award for 1964, for "meritorious contributions in the field of atomic energy." The award is made by the United States Atomic Energy Commission.

Mr. Morse has been a graduate student at UCSD for four years and expects to complete work toward his Ph.D. in physics next year. After he receives his degree, he plans to continue his research work in the field of plasma physics.