

Dr. Revelle awarded "Star of Imtiaz" from Pakistan

March 24, 1964

Dr. Roger Revelle, Director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and University Dean of Research of the University of California, received a decoration from the Government of Pakistan on Monday, March 23, in Washington.

The ceremony was held at the Pakistan Embassy as part of the celebration of Pakistan Day.

The Ambassador of Pakistan, His Excellency G. Ahmed, presented the award of the "Star of Imtiaz" (Sitara-i-Imtiaz), given by the President of Pakistan, Field Marshall Mohammod Ayub Khan, for "conspicuously distinguished service in literature, art or science.

Dr. Revelle was honored for his work as Chairman of a panel of scientists and engineers appointed by the late President John F. Kennedy to study the problems of salt accumulation in the irrigated lands of the Indus Plain of West Pakistan. The panel made an extensive study over a two-year period from 1961 to 1963 and arrived at a series of far reaching recommendations for agricultural development in the Indus Plain. These recommendations are being put into effect by the Pakistan Government with assistance from the United States Agency for International Development and other countries including West Germany, the United Kingdom, and Japan, that provide economic and technical assistance to Pakistan.

The program of development recommended by Dr. Revelle and his associates will eventually cover 25 million acres-- the largest irrigated area on earth-- and will continue for a generation. Agricultural modernization will be initiated on a million acres each year. The entire program will cost about 2.5 billion dollars.

At the time of this study Dr. Revelle was Science Adviser to the Secretary of the Interior.

Mrs. Revelle witnessed the ceremony together with two of their daughters, Mrs. George Shumway of York, Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Piero Paci of Boston, Massachusetts. Following the ceremony the Revelles were being honored at a luncheon being given by the Pakistan Ambassador on Tuesday, March 24.

Lt. Gen. E. C. Itschner, formerly Chief of the U. S. Army Engineers, also was given the same award.