Dr. Alvin M. Weinberg to give two public lectures

March 7, 1975

Dr. Alvin M. Weinberg, former director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and a leader in the field of nuclear-energy development since its inception, will give two public lectures dealing with today's problems of energy on Monday, March 17 and Thursday, March 20, at the University of California, San Diego.

Both lectures are set for 8:00 p.m. and both will be given in the new Mandeville Auditorium located in the center of the UCSD campus. Free parking for both lectures is available in the lots north of the Center and accessible from North Torrey Pines Road.

Weinberg is coming to UCSD as a Regents' Lecturer and his talks are being sponsored by the UCSD Energy Center. His lecture topic on March 17 will be "Is Nuclear Energy Acceptable?" On March 20 he will speak on "Project Independence and Energy R and D."

During 1974, Weinberg served as Director of the Federal Energy Administration's Office of Energy Research and Development where his major responsibilities included formulating U.S. energy research and development policies, ensuring the consistency of research and development priorities with overall energy policy, and evaluating proposed energy research and development programs.

Prior to his Washington appointment, Weinberg served briefly as Director of the Institute for Energy Analysis which he conceived and established at Oak Ridge Associated Universities. The Institute was developed to deal in a coherent manner with the complexities associated with energy problems and to provide government with long-range thinking and planning about energy.

In 1942 Weinberg became one of the first members of the University of Chicago's wartime Metallurgical Laboratory where he helped design the first large nuclear power reactors. In 1945 he joined the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (at that time known as Clinton Laboratories) where he served as Director of the Physics Division and as Research Director. He was named Director of the Laboratory in October, 1955. For some 45 years Weinberg helped administer major U.S. nuclear energy programs and guided the Laboratory from its status as a wartime pilot plant to its present recognition as one of the world's pre-eminent centers of basic and applied research.

Weinberg has been the foremost advocate of the so-called fluid fuel reactor-- one in which the uranium or plutonium fuel is dissolved in a liquid. He is the holder or co-holder of several reactor patents and was the first to propose the idea of clustering reactors and their sub-systema in nuclear parks.

For his role in the development of nuclear reactors, Weinberg, in 1960, shared the Atoms for Peace Award and was one of the first recipients of the E.O. Lawrence Memorial Award. In 1966 he received The University of Chicago Alumni Medal for "pioneering contributions to the application of science and technology to the service of mankind."

Weinberg was born in Chicago in 1915 and received his Ph.D. in physics from the University of Chicago in 1939. He is a skilled pianist and has helped to promote the development of the entire cultural life of the community of Oak Ridge where he maintains a permanent residence.

He has served on numerous advisory groups and during the fall of 1959 was one of a six-man U.S. scientific team that visited nuclear energy installations in the Soviet Union. He has served as a member of the President's Science Advisory Committee and the President's Committee on the National Medal of Science.

He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is a fellow of the American Nuclear Society and of the American Physical Society and was one of 14 Americans "whose unique achievements over their entire careers" were recognized in "Citations for Significant Contribution to Society" in the 38th Edition of Who's Who in America.

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