

Dr. Marshall N. Rosenbluth Appointed Professor of Physics

October 13, 1960

Dr. Marshall Nicholas Rosenbluth, one of the nation's outstanding theoretical physicists, has been appointed Professor of Physics in the School of Science and Engineering of The University of California, La Jolla.

Dr. Rosenbluth's appointment was announced by Director Roger Revelle of The University's La Jolla campus. Dr. Revelle stated that the appointment would be on a part-time basis, and that Dr. Rosenbluth would retain his present position as a key staff member of the General Atomic Division of the General Dynamics Corporation.

Revelle stated that Dr. Rosenbluth is one of the world's leaders in the study of plasmas, hot rarefied gases which are the principal form of matter in the universe. "All stars and most of the matter between the stars, such as the material of the famous Van Allen Radiation Belts, consist of plasmas," he said. "Only the planets and the interstellar dust contain the solids, liquids and gases with which we are familiar."

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.

Dr. Rosenbluth will teach in the newly-established Physics Department of the School of Science and Engineering at La Jolla. This School enrolled graduate students this fall for the first time.

While serving on The University faculty, Dr. Rosenbluth will continue as senior research advisor and member of the Director's office of General Atomic's John Jay Hopkins Laboratory for Pure and Applied Science, as well as carrying on his work in the controlled thermonuclear research program conducted jointly by General Atomic and the Texas Atomic Energy Research Foundation.

Before joining General Atomic in 1956, Dr. Rosenbluth was one of the principal theoretical physicists at Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory. In addition to classified work for the Federal government, he took an active part in high energy physics and developed the Monte Carlo theory of the liquid state.

Dr. Rosenbluth attended Harvard University and received his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1949, joining Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory that same year. In 1954, while on leave of absence from Los Alamos, he served as a staff member of The University of California Radiation Laboratory at Berkeley.

In 1958 he was a scientific advisor to the U. S. delegation to the Second International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Geneva, Switzerland, and was the author, or co-author, of four scientific papers included in the Conference proceedings.

The controlled thermonuclear research program at General Atomic, of which Dr. Rosenbluth is one of the leaders, was initiated in the spring of 1957 as a four-year, \$10-million joint effort of General Dynamics Corporation and the 11 investor-owned electric utility companies which comprise the Texas Atomic Energy Research Foundation. The Foundation recently extended the joint program for an additional four years.