

letters to the editor

Basic facts

I read with Interest your report "Rebuilding a Lasting fabric" [EN 26 (1995) 93]. Indeed the scientific integration of Mittel-Europa is an important issue, worthy of more than lip service.

It is unfortunate that the map accompanying your article contained several errors. The lines showing the borders did not recognize the existence of several countries (Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, etc.) and Zagreb was marked at a funny place.

I am sure that you acted in good faith. Nevertheless, if we should integrate, and I am working hard that we do, we should first know some basic facts.

Nikola Cindro

Ruder Boskovic Institute, Zagreb

Ed.: A low-resolution map was used to make the point that that proposals for new or expanded regional facilities encompass a large area. Europhysics News indeed aims to continue focussing on regional issues and a more accurate map will be published shortly, together with a report of the last EPS meeting of the Presidents of the region's national physical societies (Budapest; 20 November).

Research catalogues

Forwarded by A. Suzor-Weiner, Chair, Interdivisional Group for Physics for Development (IGPD).

From the *Information to EPS Members* I learned about the IGPD, and, even though its goals are a little bit different from what I plan to do, I think your information could be very helpful to me. I am working at the 1st Institute of Theoretical Physics, Hamburg, and plan to go to St. Petersburg shortly to evaluate research in Russia (especially St. Petersburg). The goals are: to create a catalogue of research activities (this coincides with what the IGPD has done in Africa); to collect information about how current research is financed, and about what cooperation with the European Union exists and what is possible.

Of course, Russia is not a developing country, and, therefore, does not probably fit the goals of the IGPD. I still think that the experience that the Group has gained in creating the *Catalogue on Research Activities in Africa* could be very helpful to me. If you can hand over some information on how the whole project was organized, etc., and about links to Russia, I would be indebted.

Volker Reinstorf, Hamburg

In Memoriam

• **Rudolf Peierls**, Wykeham Professor of Physics at Oxford University from 1963 until his retirement in 1974 died on 16 September at the age of 88. He was elected an Honorary Member of EPS in 1994. He made seminal theoretical contributions in several fields, but his most momentous work is perhaps a 1938 report concluding that an atomic bomb made of enriched uranium was feasible (it eventually led to active involvement in the politics of nuclear weapons).



• **Werner Zinn**, Professor for Experimental Physics at the University of Cologne and Director of the Institute of Magnetism and Low Temperature Physics, Forschungszentrum Jülich, under whose influence the Institute gained an international reputation, died suddenly on 13 April 1995, 11 years after his retirement, at the age of 66. His experience and skill brought him great esteem in several national and international committees, including the Board of the EPS Condensed Matter Division. He served for nearly 20 years as an Advisory Editor of the *J. Magnetism & Mag. Materials*.



W. Schilling, Ch. Sauer, S. Methfessel

• **Jean-Louis Calais**, Chairman of the Editorial Board of *Svenska Fysikersamfundet*, the Swedish Physical Society's bulletin, died unexpectedly on 30 May 1995 at the age of 63. Well known for his work in the quantum theory of the electronic structure of matter, he served as the Editor of the Uppsala office of the *Int. J. in Quantum Chem.* since it started in 1967.



P.-O. Löwdin, O. Goscinski

• **Nicole Bel**, who among here many appointments found time to be an invaluable meetings correspondent for *Europhysics News*, died in September at the age of 63. She joined the Institut d'Astrophysique, Paris, in the mid-1950's where she soon established herself as a theorist. As a Directeur de Recherche in the CNRS she served on several committees and Councils and on the Editorial Board of the French Physical Society's bulletin.

E. Schatzman

• **Stanley Runcorn**, an outstanding geophysicist, was found murdered in his hotel room in San Diego CA, USA, on 6 December. He was 73 years of age. He had moved to the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, on retiring as Head of the Physics Department and Professor of Physics at the University of Newcastle, UK.

G. Simnett

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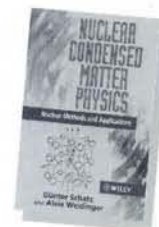
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