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SOCORRO: Inhabited Since 1540—Home of NMIMT "CITIES DON'T GROW, PEOPLE BUILD THEM"

SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO

International Metallurgy Conference Rated Big Success

by Leona Klipsch

The five-day International Conference on the Metallurgical Effects of High Strain-Rate Deformation and Fabrication, held in Albuquerque June 22-26, was the successful fruition of efforts on the part of two men, Dr. Marc A. Meyers and Dr. Lawrence E. Murr, both of Socorro and associated with New Mexico Tech. Dr. Meyers is Associate Professor of Metallurgy and Dr. Murr is Professor of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, president of

National Science Foundation (Div. of Materials Research) and to the U.S. Army Research office (Metallurgy and Materials Science Division.) And that, too, materialized successfully.

"It was the right moment," Dr. Meyers says. It was a time to establish leadership on a world-wide basis through a forum for exchanging ideas and expertise. Both scientists knew personally those leaders in the special field to which, as young as they are, they had already contributed signifi-



Russian scientists, Dr. Anatoly Staver of the Institute of Hydraulics USSR, and Dr. Maria Bondar, also of the Institute, are with Dr. Marc Meyers (center), co-chairman of the International Conference which was in progress last week, as they tour TERA. The Russians presented Dr. Meyers with a beautifully illustrated book on their science city in Siberia, as well as some Russian coins. (Staff photo by Walt Green)





As the two chartered buses came down from TERA with a full load each of distinguished visiting scientists — there was Dr. Lawrence E. Murr right on target to greet them. "There's Larry!" several inside one bus called out in voices full of enthusiasm and friendship. And that was exactly what the International Conference turned out to be — right on target.



At TERA scientists were briefed by Senior Engineer Marvin L. Kempton on TERA projects in progress. In addition to the scientists from major research centers all over the world, also attending were representatives from the sponsor groups, Dr. George Mayer, Metallurgy Branch Director of the U.S. Army Research Office; Dr. Robert Reynik of the National Science Foundation, and Dr. Richard Spriggs of the National Materials Advisory division of the National Academy of Sciences. Other sponsors were R and D Division of New Mexico Tech, N.M. Tech Research Foundation and the Physical and Mechanical Metallurgy Committees of the Metallurgy Society of AIMME. (Staff photo by Walt Green)

the New Mexico Tech Research Foundation, and chairman of the New Mexico Joint Center for Materials Science.

There was no large staff of metallurgical department assistants...no pool of secretaries...no previous conferences of this kind as guide—in fact, the two young metallurgists were entirely on their own with a big idea international in scope.

Their innovative idea was to initiate a conference whose program would meld the most advanced approaches of forming metals through explosives and shock waves. And they envisaged that the conference should attract the most prestigious scientists from two diverse groups, leading metallurgists and physicists, who even on a day to day encounter in their own research centers, rarely exchanged or integrated theoretical and technical scientific data in both fields as to the

cant research. Among the outstanding contributors in the field were three Russian scientists from the USSR Academy of Sciences located in Akadem Gorodov, Siberia, the Russian science city. Also giving papers were outstanding American scientists from major universities.

Another time-consuming task, incidentally, which the New Mexico Tech metallurgists had to face was to call for papers from the top scientists. Seventy were asked to submit papers and of these, after personal study by Dr. Meyers and Dr. Murr, they settled on 60 which were then presented at the conference.

Dr. Meyers feels that it was because of their early contact with the Russian scientists that they were able

to procure visas and permission to attend. President of Tech, Dr. Kenneth Ford, also sent a personal letter to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow requesting their presence. And the Russians expressed a great deal of appreciation for the conference and contributed to its success.

In the gigantic effort put forth by Dr. Meyers and Dr. Murr, they were able to get a contract from Plenum Pub-

lisher of New York City to publish the proceedings of the entire conference. The book will be called "Shock Waves and Dynamic Phenomena in Metals: Concepts and Application," with Dr. Meyers and Dr. Murr named as editors. It will be sold world-wide.

Another development from the conference, and undoubtedly of many more to come, has been an invitation to Dr.

Meyers to do a large scale research effort over the next three years, funded from \$150,000 to \$170,000 by Pratt & Whitney, leading manufacturers of jet turbines. It will be a study of new techniques and materials for jet engines.

Tech's team of metallurgists also had many other duties in formulating the program for the conference including meal menus and entertainment (Indian dancers and belly dancers).

"Nothing went wrong," Dr. Meyers said appreciatively, reflecting in his mind

