

Talent Search Vital

► **THE ACUTE** shortage of scientists that prompted the Science Talent Search in the early days of World War II has not abated. The intervening years have brought the greatest scientific developments ever known. This has caused the shortage of research scientists to continue in spite of ever-increasing numbers of talented students entering scientific disciplines.

The Science Talent Search is currently sending invitations to participate in the 26th annual event to some 60,000 principals and science teachers of prospective research scientists now in their senior year in the private, parochial and public high schools throughout the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Rules, instructions and examination materials will be mailed in November to school officials requesting them. The test is administered locally, and completed entries must reach SCIENCE SERVICE, Washington, D.C., by midnight, Dec. 27.

Selection based on a two-hour science aptitude examination, personal data, high school scholastic records and a report on the student's scientific project will determine the members of an Honors Group, consisting of the top 10% of fully qualified entrants.

Further intense judging will determine 40 winners who will receive an expense-paid trip to Washington, and will share \$34,250 in Westinghouse Science Scholarships and Awards.

More than five million dollars in other scholarships and financial aid have gone to past Science Talent Search Winners and Honors Group members as a direct result of their placing in the Search. Unlike many scholastic competitions, the Search does not prohibit winners from accepting other scholarships.

State Science Talent Searches held in 42 states and the District of Columbia in conjunction with the national Search offer considerable additional benefits to the participants in the states involved.

California, Delaware, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin currently do not hold State Searches. Interested universities, foundations, professional groups or state agencies seeking to assist talented science students in these states should contact STS headquarters at 1719 N

St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 for details.

Interested seniors should contact their science teachers early to assure that materials will be requested for them.

The Science Talent Search is administered by SCIENCE SERVICE through its Science Clubs of America, is supported by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, and is approved by the National Association of Secondary-School Principals.

OCEANOGRAPHY

New Ocean Camera Is Just Dropped Overboard

► **A CAMERA** that simply gets thrown overboard is the latest tool of scientists investigating the ocean floor.

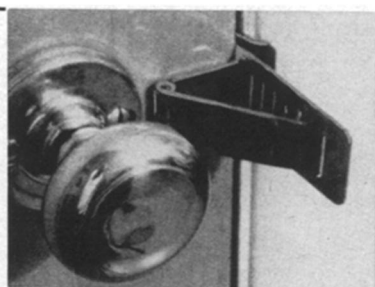
Dropped over the side of a ship, the camera descends freely to the ocean bottom, where it automatically begins taking pictures at a rate of one every 15 minutes. After a preset length of time, which can be up to several days, the device shuts itself off and rises to the surface.

The camera was developed at the

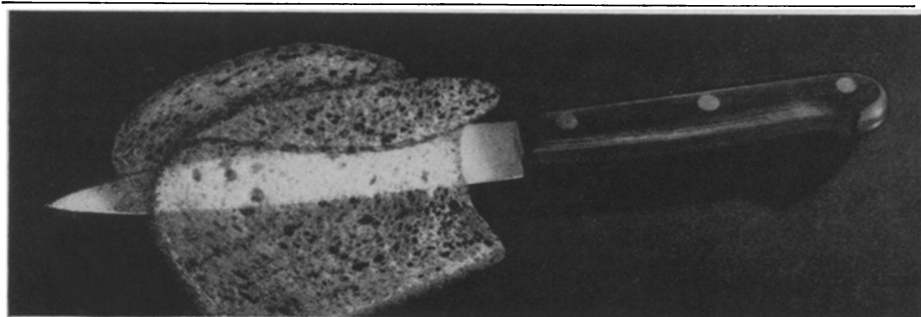
University of California's Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, and reportedly performed "admirably" in its first deep-ocean test.

Three 30-to-60-hour missions were completed off Cape Colnett, Baja, Calif., at depths of 4,560 feet, 6,788 feet, and 11,262 feet. From 100 to 240 clear, distinct photographs were taken at 15-minute intervals during each mission. On one of them, color photographs were taken.

The free vehicle enables long time-sequence photography of one area of the sea floor, and can also be used with a baited lure to attract and concentrate ocean bottom creatures.



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