

GENERAL SCIENCE

**Civil Defense Assumes Soviets Have 67 A-Bombs**

► WHILE FORMER President Truman doubts that Soviet Russia has yet mastered the mechanism of a fully completed A-bomb, while President Eisenhower announces that it is certain the Russians have A-bombs, the Federal Civil Defense Administration is "assuming" that they have at least 67 A-bombs.

For civil defense planning purposes, at least, the FCDA assumes that the Soviets can now send over a 400-plane raid which can deliver at least one A-bomb to each of the 67 critical target areas in the United States. These A-bombs, the agency assumes, will be two and one-half times the

strength of the Hiroshima bomb, or about the equivalent of 50,000 tons of TNT.

Though it is said that this assumption is made on the basis of security information and military intelligence, the agency also says: "It must be realized that the total number of bombs involved in the assumption has no connection with estimates of the Soviet bomb stockpile at any given date."

The 67 target areas contain 89 major cities, nearly half the American population and more than half the production facilities of the nation. If they were all hit at once, a top possibility of 11,000,000 killed and wounded can be assumed, the FCDA estimated.

All these assumptions appear in the agency's annual report to the President and Congress. (See p. 140.)

Science News Letter, February 28, 1953

PEDIATRICS

**Child Cancer Research Supported in Mexico**

► A GRANT of \$21,000 for three years research in the field of child cancer has been granted to Dr. Alejandro Aguirre of the Hospital Infantil, Mexico City, by Playtex Park Research Institute, New York.

This is the first pediatric research grant, so far as known, made for work in Mexico by any group outside of Mexico.

Presentation was made by Dr. Federico Gomez, director of the Hospital Infantil and newly elected member of the board of the Institute, at a banquet in Mexico City at which the president of Mexico and Dona Ruiz Cortinez, his wife, were present.

Science News Letter, February 28, 1953

# Science Leaps Barriers of Language With Journal, Scientia International

Monthly Edition of *Science News Letter* in Interlingua

Scientia International carries the news of science to the non-English speaking areas of the world. Appearing monthly, it can be read by anyone anywhere. Terse, packed with information, it contains careful selections from the English-language weekly edition.

Subscribe to Scientia International for friends abroad. A gift card will be sent in your name.

Subscription to Scientia International is only \$2 a year. For airmail transmission, add the actual cost of 12 half-ounce airmailings: \$1.20 airmail postage for Latin America, \$1.80 for Europe and \$3.00 for the Near and Far East

and Africa, etc.

Help the free international flow of scientific information by subscribing to Scientia International for friends and acquaintances in non-English speaking countries abroad. In other countries there is no journal like Science News Letter. But now you can supply them with one in a language which is not their native tongue but which they can read with utter ease.

Take out a subscription to Scientia International for yourself and keep up with the progress of the first periodical appearing in Interlingua.

Send as gift in my name **SCIENTIA INTERNATIONAL** to the following by  Regular Mail  Air Mail

Name .....

Address .....

City.....

Country.....

Name.....

Address.....

City.....

Country.....

Send gift card in name of:

Donor's Name.....

Address.....

City, Zone, State.....

Enter my subscription also.  Bill me. \$ ..... enclosed. (\$2 for each subscription, plus airmail postage if ordered.)

2-28-3

Mail to **SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.**

