Institute Snowed - For A Change

Mile of Microfilm

MIT Acquires Unique Records

Sears, Roebuck and Company presented MIT with nearly a mile of microfilm last week. The fifty-one roll set consists of a complete transcription of the last sixty-six years of Sears catalogues. It was presented to MIT by Theodore V. Houser, a retired chairman of the board at Sears, and will be kept in the Dewey Library for the use of persons doing research in business, finance and related subjects.

Professor William N. Locke, Director of Libraries, cited one of an extraordinary gift on behalf of the Institute. "They can be used to study such things as the history of lighting equipment, commodity prices, development of commercial art and advertising," he stated.

Among the items once sold by Sears, the researcher may find artificial glass eyes for horses - a steal at $5; 10 pounds of salt trout for only 85c, and a churn powered by your dog.

Polaris Guidance System Improved

Officials at the MIT Instrumentation Laboratory recently released information pertaining to the latest inertial guidance system now being developed for use in the Navy's improved A-2 Polaris missile. Designated the Mark II, this system contains the first digital type computer ever incorporated in a missile guidance package.

In addition, the computer, together with the super-sensitive gyros, accelerometers and other components incorporated into the system, has been so miniaturized that the total weight of the system is less than that of the earlier Mark I model.

Weight reduction, added to the range of the missile, and the A-3 Polaris will more than double the 1200 mile range of the now-operational A-1 model, making the AS.3 a powerful weapon for another combat mission.

In inertial guidance, a missile is pre-programmed for a set course just prior to launching. Gyrosopes and accelerometers sense the rocket's position in space without reference to landmarks, radio or radar signals, thus making it impervious to jamming. The information received from the sensing devices is used by the computer, which operates the rocket motors in such a way as to automatically correct for any deviation from the set path. Once a certain point in space is reached the missile continues to its target on a ballistic trajectory.

Charles Draper, professor and head of the Department of Aeronautics and

Ralph Reagan of Lincoln, Mass., left, and David Hong of Medway, Mass., right, inspect a Mark I inertial guidance system for a Navy POLARIS missile.

In the next issue of The Tech will be published January 6.

Six Already Appointed

Faculty Members Named Kennedy Advisers

Six faculty members have been selected to advise President-elect John F. Kennedy.

Professor Walter R. Stave is likely to be an adviser on defense and foreign policy. At 44, he is noted as a mathematician and an expert in international relations. His advice on these matters may be sought, according to an aide, in order to learn what to expect from the American military establishment. Mr. Stave has taught at Harvard and is a specialist in economics.

Professor Charles Draper, a specialist in technical aspects of science, has also been selected to advise on foreign policy.

Professor Robert C. Wood, Dr. Max F. Millikan, and Dr. Lucian Pye. Wood is a specialist in metropolitan problems, and Pye is considered an authority on advice on disarmament.

Kennedy has claimed that he would "demulce" the MIT faculty in his cabinet and advisory staff.

Tau Beta Pi Elects Fifty Students To Membership

The Massachusetts Beta Chapter of Tau Beta Pi, at MIT recently announced a selection of the following seniors:

Also:

To Membership

The traditional Christmas Convocation, Junior Rings, will be held today at 11:00 a.m. in Kresge Auditorium. All classes will be can-

President's Open House, Christmas Convocation, Junior Rings, will be held Thursday, December 20 from 4-6 p.m. at 111 Memorial Drive, Cambridge.

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