Gray inaugurated as 14th MIT President

By Ivan Fong

Following his 13 predecessors into office, Paul E. Gray '54 accepted a copy of MIT's charter Friday and symbolically began his administration.

The investiture of Gray and his subordinates in inaugural addresses held in Killian Court before an estimated audience of 1000, was at the focus of four days of inaugural events.

Present as principals during the ceremony were four former presidents of MIT: Dr. James R. Killian, Jr. (President, 1949-59), Dr. Julius A. Steinberg (President, 1959-69), Howard W. Johnson (President, 1966-71) and Dr. Jerome B. Wiesner (President, 1971-80). Johnson, as chairman of the MIT Corporation, presided over the inaugural ceremony.

The processional on Massachusetts Avenue and Memorial Drive leading to Killian Court began at 10:05 am and included the principals and guests of honor, members of the MIT Corporation, faculty, and staff, and delegates from academic institutions.

Virginia Wilson Gray Army, daughter of President Gray and a student at the Divinity School, opened the ceremony with the invocation.

Killian gave the opening remarks, in which he noted Gray's "total immersion" in MIT except for two years in the Army. Gray has spent all of his academic and career life at MIT and cited Gray's record of commitment to undergraduate education and administration.

Gray began his inaugural address following the religious service, and was met with scattered applause from the audience throughout his address. He described his feelings as "a bit like a human cannonball," in hallucinostic free flight, nearing apogee...but with faith and confidence that out there somewhere are people with a big net." In a well-delivered address, Gray stressed the need to preserve MIT's historic intellectual focus and its insistence on excellence...and transform its programs to serve the needs of the future.

He concluded with a dedication to the goal of "the creation of a more humane and a more complete intellectual milieu, educational program, and sense of community at MIT."

We must...preserve research and education as complementary activities on this campus. Indeed, I would say that the blending of research and education defines MIT, and our

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Local picket ceremony

By Richard Salz

Between 25 and 40 Cambridgeport residents protested Paul Gray's inauguration Friday. The protesters handed out leaflets and marched on Memorial Drive in front of Killian Court and on Massachusetts Avenue in front of the Loeb Library. The protest, organized by the Simplex Steering Committee, had "bull effect" on the proceedings, according to one Alpha Phi Omega member ushering at the ceremonies. The protest was organized to "bring increased pressure on MIT to change the Institute policy of trying to create a research and development center in the middle of our neighborhood," according to a Committee spokesman asking not to be identified.

"Cambridgeport is one of the few remaining areas in Cambridge with a firm industrial base. MIT has been trying to undermine this daily with no regard for the integrity of the community," said the spokesman.

The Committee's primary concern is to get MIT to accept the Neighborhood Planning Process Priorities as guidelines for the development of the still-empty land purchased by MIT from the Simplex Wire and Cable Company in late 1968.

The six points comprising the "priorities" focus on creating low- and moderate-income housing, light industry, and blue-collar jobs. These priorities were approved by a two-to-one margin in a community referendum, but were ignored by the Cambridge Community Development Department (CCD). MIT, in turn, has co-operated with the CCD, and therefore is not using the Committee's priorities.

Border conflict escalates

By Jerri-Lynn Scelfo

Iraqi artillery and aircraft continue to penetrate further into Iranian territory, having reportedly fought their way close to the oil-skirts of the oil cities of Ahvaz, Khuzestan, Abraaz, Suangerd, and Dizful.

According to reports emanating from Baghdad, Iraqi troops may be as far as fifty miles into mainland Iran.

The US and the USSR are attentively watching the rapidly escalating conflict between the two Middle Eastern nations, although both superpowers have vowed to remain neutral in the dispute.

The struggle is an attempt by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to enhance his personal influence and his nation's position in the shifting balance of power in the Persian Gulf region. Hussein's immediate goal is the repeat of a 1975 treaty between the two nations providing for the joint administration of the Shatt al Arab waterway, an agreement which now claims was imposed by a bullying Iran on a powerless Iraq. Ultimately, Hussein hopes to weaken the already-stricken Iraqi government and overthrow the century-old oil-infused regime.

At this point in time, it is unclear how widespread the hostilities will become. The conflict is now confined to a local dispute between Iran and Iraq. Recognizing the general volatility of the Persian Gulf region, however, observers have expressed concern that this fighting could escalate and become more severe.

Despite US protestations to the contrary, the Iranian government claims that the Iraqi attacks are being encouraged by the United States. Secretary of State Edmund S. Muskie and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko met in New York last week and re-affirmed their promise to settle any disputes by negotiations, not neutrality in the burgeoning conflict.

Both the United Nations and the Palestine Liberation Organization are encouraging the peepeing nations, however, neither the attacking Iraqis nor the besieged Iranians are anxious to entertain these attempts.

Energy policy discussed

by Tom Londo

An atmosphere of thoughtful seriousness dominated the inaugural symposium on energy despite numerous humorous remarks by the chairman and the three speakers. The symposium, held from 11 am to 1 pm in 10-290 last Thursday, was chaired by Provost and Karl Taylor Compton Professor of Physics Francis E. Low. The symposium was titled "New Large Scale Energy Supply Technologies: Prospects and Problems."

The speakers were, in order of appearance, Pierre Aigrain, Secretary of State of Research in the Government of the Republic of France; Charles J. Hitch, President Emeritus of the University of California; and John Deutsch, Arthur C. Cope Professor of Chemistry here at MIT.

Both Aigrain and Hitch emphasized that the development of any large-scale technology, especially energy technologies, must be implemented through a long-term policy. All three speakers felt that the success of a new large-scale technology would depend largely on financial and organizational support from government.

Deutsch explained why the development of new large-scale energy technologies is important. He pointed out that the energy problem is no longer simply an energy problem; it is now a

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