Faculty members tied to Biogen

By Richard Salt

Biogen, the Swiss chemical company seeking to establish a base of operations for recombinant DNA work here in Cambridge, has ties with members of the MIT and Harvard faculty.

Philip Sharp, an MIT biology professor, and Walter Gilbert, professor of Biology at Harvard University, were both members of the group of scientists and in-ventors which founded Biogen in the spring of 1977. Given the state of the art of recombinant DNA technology, any commercial venture in the field would have to be closely related to basic research of the kind being done at universities such as Harvard and MIT, according to Sharp.

In addition, Daniel Wang, MIT Professor of Nutrition at Food Science is also a member of the Biogen board. The board is comprised of nine scientists who meet four to five times each year to decide the scientific direction of the company. Gilbert, Sharp, and Wang are all native American on the board; the other six members are European.

Testing before the Cambridge Biohazards Committee

By Alain Alvez

By Presidential Directive 59 (PD-59), the strategic arms policy directive issued by President Carter last July, is not a first strike strategy and does not offer plans for winning a nuclear war, asserted Walter Slocombe, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense. Policy. While PD-59 does offer a plan for winning a nuclear war, Slocombe said, it offers a plan for winning a nuclear war.

Returning to the subject of how one divides one's time, Slocombe said, thus making it clear that the Soviets could in no circumstances achieve anything except victory strategies in nuclear war, he said. While PD-59 offers a choice of options for striking at the targets which the Soviets value most, political and military control structures, nuclear and conventional military forces, and military-industrial capacity.

PD-59 stresses improved capacity for retaliation in all consequences. It offers provisions for a conventional war that should break out between the superpowers. It must be made clear that the Soviets could in no circumstances achieve anything by total retaliation. It offers a choice of options for striking at the targets which the Soviets value most, political and military control structures, nuclear and conventional military forces, and military-industrial capacity.

Department of Defense

By Byrnes Seales

After the collapse of the organized military system within the USSR, the Russian people will "know whether they dare not" according to the Provost's Office. Commenting on his position, Sharp claimed that, "There are no more problems here than different consulting roles.

Biogen has other local ties in addition to the contributions of the three faculty members. One of the sources of the company's initial funding was T.A. Associates, a venture capital a stockholder in T.A. Associates.

By Dennis Miller

Professor Walter Gilbert, left, and MIT Professor Philip Sharp, both members of the Biogen scientific board, take part in last Tuesday's public hearing before the Cambridge Biohazards Committee. (Photo by Rick Parker)

Harvard Professor Walter Gilbert, left, and MIT Professor Philip Sharp, both members of the Biogen scientific board filed suit in last Tuesday's public hearing before the Cambridge Biohazards Committee. (Photo by Rick Parker)

USSSR to build automobile factories for the industrially weak

By Jim L. Hensley

After a few years in the USSR, Herman entered flight school. He became a test pilot and parachutist. In 1937, he broke the world record for free fall parachute jumping by falling for over 24,000 feet in a jump that lasted 142 seconds. This exploit was reported by the international press, which dubbed Herman as "the Lindbergh of Russia." After Herman had attracted such widespread attention, the Soviet government invited him to renounce his American citizenship, assume Soviet citizenship, and join the Communist party. Herman refused.

In 1938, Herman was arrested and imprisoned without ever being formally charged with a crime. In his book, "Casting Out of the Ace," published last year, Herman detailed the horrible conditions he experienced within the Soviet penal system during the Stalinist era. After serving just fifty-four straight days of beatings until "I was bleeding from every opening in my body," hunger so severe that he was forced to kill and eat raw rats in order to survive, and eight years of banishment to the frozen wastes of Siberia. After eighteen years of punishment, Herman received a letter from the Soviet government acknowledging that he had never committed any crimes.

Herman was able to leave the USSR in 1976, under terms of an agreement organized as part of the Helsinki Accords. Within two years, he was married to his wife and two daughters in the US. Asked how long it took him to adjust to freedom, he replied "one second."