

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE LAUNCHED

The first scientific research and educational institution to be set up on a completely international basis was officially inaugurated in Trieste on 5 October 1964 by the Director General of IAEA, Dr. Sigvard Eklund, when he opened the first seminar of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics. As evidence of the international nature of the institution he noted that the scientists who would work and teach there during the first year represented sixteen different countries.

By the end of 1964, the Centre building was nearing completion and three of the five floors were occupied. A successful symposium had been held on the subject of plasma physics, and a score of professors and fellows were at

The International Physics Centre, Trieste





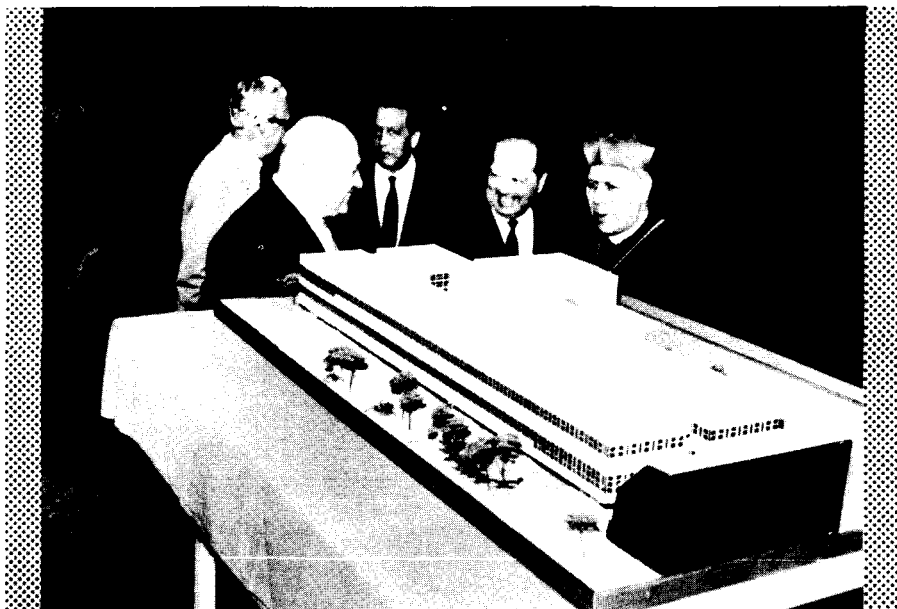
Library at the Trieste Centre.

work, from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Greece, India, Japan, Jordan, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. A dozen scientific papers had been issued as preprints.

The main purpose of the Centre is to foster the advancement of theoretical physics through training and research; at first the chief subject will be high-energy and elementary particle physics. Plasma physics, low-energy physics and solid-state physics will also be dealt with.

Special attention is paid to the needs of the developing countries. Of the 25 fellows selected for the academic year 1964-65, more than half are from South America, Africa and Asia. In conjunction with the Research Centre, there is an Advanced School for Theoretical Physics to provide graduate training for fellows who need such preparation before they embark upon research.

The Centre works under the guidance of a Scientific Council comprising the president, Prof. M. Sandoval-Vallarta (Nuclear Energy Commission of Mexico); Prof. A. Abragam (Saclay, France); Prof. R. Oppenheimer (Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, USA); Dr. V. Soloviev (Dubna, USSR); Prof V.F. Weiskopf (Director General, CERN); Prof Abdus Salam (Imperial College, London); Prof. P. Budini (University of Trieste), and (secretary) Prof. A. Sanielevici (IAEA).



At the official opening of the Trieste Centre, the Mayor of Trieste, Mr. Franzil, the representative of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mrs. Gerin, and Archbishop Santin of Trieste, inspect the model of the future building.

Prof. Salam is Director of the research centre, and Prof. Budini Deputy Director.

Establishment of the Centre was first proposed in 1960, and after plans had been worked out, the IAEA Board of Governors approved the programme in June 1963. The Italian Government has lent its support and co-operation; it is providing a building for the needs of the Centre, and staff housing, and is supplying staff services and \$28,000 a year for fellowships as well as an annual contribution of \$250,000 for five years. The IAEA Budget for 1965 includes a similar amount of \$278,000 for the Centre. The Centre plans to work in close collaboration with the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN); the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation is also a party to the Centre and is making contributions.