



## Dr. Marshall Brucer Receives USAEC Citation

Dr. Marshall H. Brucer, distinguished physician and research specialist in nuclear medicine and radiological physics, has been named to receive the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission Citation for outstanding service to the nation's nuclear energy program.

Dr. Brucer first entered the atomic energy field in 1949 when he was appointed Chairman of the Medical Division of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies (ORINS), a corporation of 40 southern colleges and universities which conducts education, training and research under contract to the AEC in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

From the time of his appointment until he retired in 1961 because of failing health, Dr. Brucer combined his abilities of leadership and administration in nuclear research with his talents as a research specialist, inventor designer and draftsman to make contributions to the U.S. nuclear medical program which gained international recognition.

Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, presented the citation, accompanied by a symbolic medallion, to Dr. Brucer on Thursday, May 27, at 11:30 a.m., at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D. C.

### CITATION

#### Marshall Herbert Brucer

For contributions to the theory, development and use of radioisotopes in medicine and notably  $^{60}\text{Co}$  and  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  in cancer therapy; for the concept and development of a practical approach to interlaboratory comparison of methods for assaying  $^{131}\text{I}$  uptake *in vivo*; for construction of one of the first practical scanning devices for localizing the presence of radioisotopes over the whole body; for establishing and directing the ORINS Medical Division, and for his continuing leadership in nuclear medicine.

The Atomic Energy Commission Citation is presented to persons not in the employ of the Commission who have made meritorious contributions to, or have been outstanding in, the nuclear energy program. Private individuals and employees of AEC contractors, of other Federal agencies or departments, including the military forces, and of industrial, educational and research institutions are eligible to receive the award. Formal nominations for the citations are made by a Commissioner or the General Manager and approved by the Commission.

In 1946 Dr. Brucer joined the physiology department of the University of Texas where he rose rapidly to the rank of associate professor. In 1949 he was appointed Chairman of the Medical Division of the AEC's Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, a position he held until he retired because of chronic illness in 1961.

As the leader of the Medical Division, Dr. Brucer was vigorous in pursuing research in nuclear medicine. A major effort of the division was the development of  $^{60}\text{Co}$  and  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  teletherapy devices. Under Dr. Brucer's leadership the clinical use of internal radioisotopes was advanced, and the reliability of measurement of uptake of radioiodine in the thyroid gland was enhanced by an international testing program which made use of a combination of two long-lived radioisotopes to simulate the radiations from  $^{131}\text{I}$ . In collaboration with P. R. Bell, J. Francis and C. C. Harris of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Dr. Brucer promoted significant developments in medical gamma ray spectrometry and scanning.

With respect to his research programs, Dr. Brucer's objective has been to see them progress and he has cared little whether the projects he conceived were carried out in his laboratory or elsewhere. He has published a large number of scientific papers on hypertension, the abnormal physiology of drowning and many aspects of nuclear medicine. He is an editor of the International Journal of Applied Radiation and Radioisotopes and a past president of the Society of Nuclear Medicine. In 1960 he was given a special award by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists; in 1961 by the American College of Radiology.

Dr. Brucer is now in semi-retirement but maintains his interest in nuclear medicine and research. He and Mrs. Brucer live in Tucson, Arizona.