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EURATOM PLACES ORDER FOR HIGH-ENERGY LINEAR ACCELERATOR

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 11 -- The European Atomic Energy Community has contracted for a linear accelerator from the French firm C. S. F. (Compagnie Générale de Telegraphie sans Fil), to be installed at Euratom's Central Nuclear Measurements Bureau at Geel, Belgium. The Euratom contract with C. S. F. marks France's biggest nuclear equipment export order to date.

The linear accelerator ordered by Euratom is a development from accelerators already installed by the C. S. F. at the French nuclear research centers at Saclay and Orsay. Of the "progressive waves" type, it is especially designed to measure so-called "differential" neutron cross-sections with as high a resolution as possible, particularly in the epithermic field of some hundreds of KeV. To accomplish this, the apparatus will feature very short "pulse" periods (which may vary from one hundred-millionth of a second to two millionths of a second) and very high instantaneous and mean intensity.

Operating on a wave length of approximately 10 cm., the accelerator employs amplifying "Klystron" type batteries, reaching peak power levels of 20 MW which may later be increased to 30 MW. It will be capable of attaining an electron energy output of 57.5 MeV and approximately 100 MeV when operating at full power.

Installation of the linear accelerator, which is 10.3 meters long, at Geel (not far from Euratom's Nuclear Research Center at Mol) is expected to be completed by C. S. F. in November 1963.

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