Zeuthen into collaboration. Among the fruits of the growing scientific relations with the former Soviet Union is collaboration on an international research project into cosmic background radiation in Siberia, among others. At the bottom of Lake Baikal, at a depth of 1,300 meters, neutrino detectors (collectively a "neutrino telescope") were installed, with whose help it is hoped to obtain the signatures of neutrinos, which are very difficult to detect in space.

## Strengthening basic research

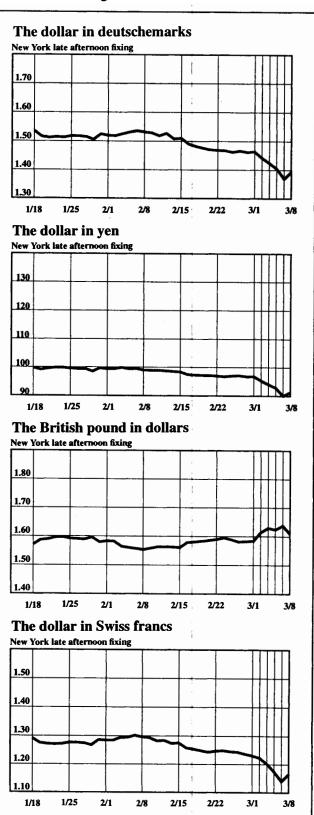
We hope that the public will show more interest in the progress of this basic research. The more so since it is precisely in collaboration and openness of interchange of scientific discoveries (there is *obligatory* publication) with guest scientists of other nations that a model will be created of how mankind should jointly explore the decisive issues for the future that confront man and nature. This is credibly reported, at least, in the DESY annual report. That this no longer can be taken for granted, one can see in the repeated concern in the DESY annual report to justify basic research and the funding it requires (250 million marks a year).

After the enumeration of various possibilities for applications in medicine and technology, under the title "An Essential Element of the Human Quest," the report reads: "All these arguments ought not, however, to conceal from view that the essential motivation for elementary particle research lies in the desire and the curiosity to understand nature. Were one to seek to measure the value of this knowledge-oriented research only by its practical uses, and only orient oneself to that, an essential element of the human quest would be excluded, an essential element of that which ultimately constitutes man. The effort to penetrate the secrets of nature for their own sake is a tradition which, after being cautiously founded in antiquity, has powerfully and continuously advanced, from generation to generation, since the Renaissance. We are confident that even the discoveries which we are today achieving will one day belong to the self-evident wealth of thought and knowledge of mankind, even if today they appear occasionally abstract and not so easily accessible." (DESY Annual Report p. 12.)

One hopes that the newly created technology adviser to the Federal Chancellor will not follow so much the fruitless pragmatist spirit of the times (the ozone hole issue, etc.) or implement downright punitive malthusian obstructionism (the ban on the HTR nuclear reactors, for example), but rather will make it possible for researchers to answer the truly fundamental questions of our future existence. For example, the "cold fusion" phenomena which have been rejected by established science give a totally different insight into the play of forces of atomic and molecular interactions, than the experiments based on the generally accepted standard models can ever show.

It is probably also no accident that the DESY scientists have founded a very successful chamber orchestra.

## **Currency Rates**



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