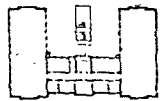


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"The Old Red Brick." The Army medical library and museum stood on the Mall from 1887 to 1968.

useum of Health
for a comeback.

al C. Everett Koop is chairing a new foundation that will try to raise private
cum the attraction it once was. A search for a new home on the Mall will begin

the repository of 325,000 historic artifacts, 17,000 anatomic specimens, and
and photographs, museum director Marc Micozzi says the museum will also
topics such as AIDS. He adds that human anatomy scientifically presented may
servative legislators currently railing against "obscene" artistic efforts.

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of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, with 13,522 references. The single most cited paper of the decade originated in Japan: "The role of protein kinase C in cell surface signal transduction and tumor production," published in *Nature* by Yasutomi Nishizuka of Kobe University.

Free Software "Genius" Honored

Each year, the Chicago-based John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation surprises around 30 individuals with 5-year "genius" grants of \$150,000 to \$375,000. Most go to recognized talents in science, public policy, and the arts, but the foundation also likes to include the occasional offbeat character.

This year's oddball choice is Richard Stallman, 37, a Cambridge, Massachusetts, programmer best known for writing a flexible and extremely popular text editor known as GNU Emacs—a program he gives away free to anyone who asks.

To Stallman, the success of GNU Emacs is just the first step toward achieving a much larger goal: the elimination of restric-



Simson L. Garfinkel

Richard Stallman. \$240,000 to a radical who thinks software should be free.

tions on the copying and redistribution of computer software. Five years ago, Stallman founded the Free Software Foundation, which is building GNU, a free alternative to the popular UNIX computer-operating system. There's no telling when GNU might be complete, although many pieces of the system are already available.

Up to now, Stallman has been leading a monastic existence, living and working in an office donated by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. "Since I haven't had to spend much time making a living," he says, "I haven't thought much about what I'll do" with the

\$240,000 award. He may do some traveling and learn some "non-computer-related skills"—like cooking and swimming.

This year's other scientist awardees are John C. Bailar III, professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at McGill University; Stanford biologist Paul Ehrlich; Harvard astronomer Margaret J. Geller; Harvard mathematician David Kazhdan; biologist M. A. R. Koehl of the University of California at Berkeley; Boston University mathematician Nancy Kopell; ethnobotanist Gary Paul Nabhan of the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix; University of Michigan anthropologist Sherry P. Ortner; and anthropologist Eric Wolf of the City University of New York.

Army Decontaminant Gets Washed Up

Since the early '60s the Army has stockpiled a toxic and highly corrosive chemical, DS2, for decontaminating weapons and equipment exposed to chemical weapons—despite the fact that its own tests have shown it doesn't do the job.

So says a recent report by the U.S. General Accounting Office.* It relates that, for starters, DS2 can cause severe health problems, including chemical burns and damage to the nervous system and internal organs. The Army requires personnel to protect themselves with breathing apparatuses and rubber clothing, but the chemical causes rubber to decompose.

The use of DS2 might still be justified if it did its job well. But according to the report, when the Army tested DS2 on an M1 tank in 1984, it "caused the rubber road wheels and tracks to become soft and decompose." Electronic cables softened, and one began smoking within 30 minutes as the DS2 ate through it. Nonetheless, the Army continues to stockpile the chemical,

*DOD Should Eliminate DS2 From Its Inventory of Decontaminants (U.S. General Accounting Office, GAO/NSIAD-90-10, April 1990).

explaining that the obvious alternative—household bleach—too corrosive.

But other branches of armed services have managed to find effective substitutes for expensive (\$14 to \$28 per gallon) DS2. The Navy uses a hypochlorite similar to household bleach. And the advanced technical fix preferred by the Force? Hot, soapy water.

New Brain Journal

The number of research papers published on the hippocampus in recent years has been, well, mind-boggling more than 1000 papers in search journals last year alone. So, David Amaral at the S Institute for Biological Studies decided to face the deluge head on: he has started a new quarterly journal dedicated just to the hippocampus and related structures.

The first issue of *Hippocampus*, published by Churchill Livingstone in New York, is out in January. It will be the first journal dedicated to just one region of the brain—"very few brain regions can sustain a journal," says Amaral proudly. If more may be on the way: a journal called *Cerebral Cortex* is set to be introduced by researchers at Yale University. Lest we worry that neuroscience is becoming too specialized and fragmented, Amaral says the hippocampus

Spidery Trompe l'oeil

Researchers have discovered that loving insects entice their patterns resembling flowers. Using a type of silk that stro component of insect vision. Yale University biologist Cary D. Bernard of the University first to define the role of ultraviolet of spider webs. They say the bars, or crosses--resemble the have contrasting UV-reflective ters. Experiments showed that attracted to decorated than un The UV-reflecting silks also findings in the April issue of the webs also attract bugs that