

The first page of this issue contained the announcement that John Wiley & Sons had given up the publication of the Journal and that the new publisher would be J.W. Arrowsmith of Bristol, the printers of ISR since 1976. John Wiley had started with issue ISR 7/3 and was only its publisher for 3 issues.

My editorial "War and Peace in Space" in June 1983 was a summary of the published facts about Soviet Killersats, US Warsats and Laser Gunships with their political background, leading to the escalation of preparation for war in space. I stated that war in space was nothing new, and that the concept was originated by H.G. Wells's masterpiece *War of the Worlds* in 1898. Laser guns and beam weapons, essential armoury for space soldiers in all science fiction; were a natural development of Röntgen's discovery of X-rays in 1895.

That actual research on beam weapons was going on was revealed to me by Major-General George Keagan, retired Chief of US Air Force Intelligence in March 1977, during a private lunch at the Cosmos Club. He told me that at the Soviet high-energy physics research establishment near Semipalatinsk 'Directed Energy Weapons' were being developed, judging from satellite reconnaissance photographs. Their use would be against hostile satellites and for Anti-Ballistic Missile Defence.

I did not doubt that similar research was also being pursued in US Establishments, as President Reagan announced in March 1983 that an "intensive and comprehensive research and development effort would begin to intercept and destroy strategic missiles in space". Fortunately nothing came of it, because disarmament in space, often enough discussed internationally, was marginally effective. However, research appears to have started again in 2000. [See Title 356 A]

The Challenge of Style by Paul Erni, a former Board Member of Ciba-Geigy, Basle, was an outstanding interdisciplinary contribution: He enlarged the standard definition of 'style', as a characteristic of a work of art, as he considered style to embrace all human activities and in particular in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries. One illustration was 'Technology remembered through Art' in Diderot's *Encyclopédie* of the 18th century and as modern art, Hans Erni's (the author's brother) 'World of Chemistry'.

Industrial illustrations were the 'Spirit of Ecstasy', the figurehead on the radiator of all Rolls-Royce cars, the packaging of products, the clarity of the logotypes and ingenuity of advertisements, all as various aspects of style. Ciba-Geigy, for example, declared the concepts of responsibility, appropriateness and clarity as valid elements of style for the behaviour and conduct of all its staff. Style-consciousness of employees was thus easily developed, once managerial attitude and approach had been generally understood.