

Picture Story No. 430

SCIENCE WORKS FOR CONSUMERS

Scientists in the research laboratories of the National Bureau of Standards in Washington are constantly searching for new and better standards and methods for accurate measurement which are used by commercial and industrial companies to improve the quality and performance of their products. Countless operations and transactions in the American economy -- from the mass production of automobile engines, to the purchase of a gallon of gasoline, or to the determination of the mass of a nuclear particle -- require accurate and reliable national standards of measurement. All segments of the American community benefit from the work of Bureau scientists, including the consuming public. The accompanying photographs show these scientists at work.

8-10 In this unique sound-absorbing room, called the "dead room," specially constructed by the Bureau to establish standards of sound measurement, scientists test the responses of microphones, hearing aids, etc., and calibrate sound-level meters. They can accurately measure the amount of noise made by appliances such as electric fans. Walls, ceiling and floor are made of deep boxes constructed of glass wool and wire which absorb virtually 100 per cent of any sound in the room. (58-4248)



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Science: Research

En esta singular sala de absorción de sonido, llamada la "sala del silencio", ~~establecida~~ especialmente construída por el Departamento de Pesos y Medidas de los Estados Unidos para establecer sistemas de medición del sonido, los científicos prueban las respuestas o réplicas de micrófonos, de auriculares, etc., calibrando los medidores del nivel del sonido. Pueden medir con exactitud la cantidad de ruido realizado por aparatos tales como ventiladores eléctricos. Las paredes, el techo y el suelo, están hechos de compartimentos de fibra de vidrio y alambre que absorben virtualmente el cien por cien del sonido de la habitación.

SCIENCE — RESEARCH