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Dr. H. Guyford Stever will head two departments at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under an appointment announced by President Julius A. Stratton. He will be in charge of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering.

Dr. Stever, an authority on many aspects of aeronautics and space technology, has been professor of aeronautics and astronautics since 1956 and was recently elected president of the Institute of the Aerospace Sciences. From 1956 to 1959 he served as Associate Dean of the M.I.T. School of Engineering. His new appointments took effect yesterday (July 1).

In his announcement, Dr. Stratton said: "The appointment of one man to head two departments is not without precedent at M.I.T., and it in no way means that we are combining the Department of Mechanical Engineering with that of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering.

"Under Dr. Stever, each department will retain its professional identity and will award degrees in its own fields of specialization. At the same time, both departments have common interests in a number of areas, and the new administrative structure should strengthen these collaborative efforts to the mutual advantage of each department."

In the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Dr. Stever will succeed Professor Joseph H. Keenan. Professor Keenan, whose work in thermodynamics has won him international distinction, will devote full time to teaching and research. In the Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, Dr. Stever will succeed Professor Laurens Troost, who retired in 1960 to return to his native Holland.

Stever Appt.

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Dr. Stever was born in Corning, N.Y., in 1916 and was graduated from Colgate University in 1938. He received his doctorate in physics in 1941 from the California Institute of Technology, where he did research on cosmic rays, Geiger counters and in electronics. He came to M.I.T. in 1941 as a staff member of the Radiation Laboratory, then served from 1942 to 1945 as Scientific Liaison Officer in London representing the National Defense Research Council in work on radar and guided missiles. In addition, he was a member of various intelligence missions in France, The Netherlands and Germany. In recognition of his contributions to the war effort, he was awarded the President's Certificate of Merit in 1948.

After the war, Dr. Stever returned to M.I.T., becoming a member of the faculty in 1946. At the Institute, he has collaborated in establishing graduate courses in the field of orbital and ballistic flight and has conducted research and carried out engineering work in the fields of guided missiles, high-speed aerodynamics, high-speed flight and nuclear-powered aircraft.

In 1955 and 1956 Dr. Stever served as Chief Scientist of the U.S. Air Force while on leave of absence from M.I.T. and received the Exceptional Civilian Service Award from the Air Force for his work. He is now chairman of the NASA Research Advisory Committee on Missile and Space Vehicle Aerodynamics, vice chairman of the U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, and a member of the scientific advisory committee to the Committee on Science and Astronautics of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Dr. Stever is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Physical Society, and is a member of the American Rocket Society and other professional societies. He lives at 87 Rutledge Road, Belmont, Mass.

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