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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Alfred H. Keil has been appointed as Professor and Head of the Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The appointment was announced by Dr. Gordon S. Brown, Dean of the M.I.T. School of Engineering, and will become effective July 1, 1966.

Dr. Keil will succeed Professor C. Richard Soderberg, Institute Professor (Emeritus) who has been serving as Acting Head of the Department since February, 1965, when Dr. H. Guyford Stever left to become President of the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dr. Keil, a native of Germany, received the Doctor of Natural Science degree summa cum laude from Friederich Wilhelm University in 1939. He was a research associate for the German Navy during the war, and worked for the U.S. Naval Technical Mission in Germany in 1945-46. In 1947, he came to the United States to work on the Underwater Explosion Research Program of the Navy's Bureau of Ships. As chief scientist of the Underwater Explosion Research Division in Portsmouth, Virginia, for 12 years, he was responsible for many significant contributions to the field of ship protection and weapons effects research. He became the recognized authority in the United States on the physics of underwater explosions and their effect upon ship structures.

In 1959, Dr. Keil became Technical Director of the Structural Mechanics Laboratory at the Navy's David Taylor Model Basin in Washington, D.C. He guided the laboratory on a program of steady expansion through which the Underwater Explosion Research Division was integrated into the Structural Mechanics Laboratory. He also played a leading role in the development of the structures of U.S. submarines for greater depth.

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Dr. Keil -- 2

Dr. Keil was appointed as the first Technical Director of the David Taylor Model Basin in 1963 and since then has been responsible for the planning and direction of the total research and development program of the organization. Among specific projects initiated there under Dr. Keil's leadership are formation of a ship acoustic and vibration laboratory, a study on high-speed ships which identified the potential of large air-cushion vehicles, and formation of a computer-aided design division to apply modern computer techniques to ship design and construction.

Dr. Keil has been active on a number of advisory committees including the planning group for Polaris long-range research and development until its termination last year, the Undersea Warfare Research and Development Planning Council of the Navy, the Technological Forecasting Committee of the Office of the Chief of Naval Developments, and the steering committee of the Deep Submergence Systems Project of the Navy, among others.

Dr. Keil is a member of the American Physical Society, the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers and the Armed Forces Management Association. His work has resulted in nearly a hundred papers and many citations and awards. In 1962, he received the Navy's Distinguished Civilian Service Award, and in 1964 the Gold Medal of the American Society of Naval Engineering. In April 1966 Dr. Keil was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

Dr. Keil and his wife, the former Ursula M. C. Leppelt, have two sons, Michael, 23, and Juergen, 21. The family will live on Hillside Terrace, Belmont, Mass.

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April 28, 1966