This February, the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum established a large electronic digital computer (a CDC-3600/3200 combined system produced by Control Data Corporation of the United States; 93 k memory, 48 bits) for joint use by the atomic industry of Japan which is demanding a unified and efficient computing system to meet its growing computing demand. The computer was imported through C. Itoh & Co., the sales representative in Japan for Control Data Corporation.

The Japanese atomic power industry plans to build proven reactors capable of putting out a total of 7,000 MWe by 1980, and is preparing to develop advanced converters and fast breeders for the purpose of electric power generation in the subsequent period.

Such large development programs naturally require the use of large electronic computers. JAIF also set up a "Panel on Development of Nuclear Code" in order to develop and put to joint use the so-called "nuclear code" (nuclear calculation programs for electronic computers). The Panel also engages in exchanging information on nuclear code with other countries. In addition, JAIF has set up in the secretariat the Electronic Computer Office to assume the responsibility for business related to this subject.

Electronic Computers for Nuclear Calculation in Japan:

Other than this Control Data 3600 system, Japan now possesses several large scale scientific computers which could be used for the nuclear calculations, though they are not all for nuclear purposes. They are an IBM-7090 at Mitsubishi Atomic Power Industries, Inc.; an IBM-7090 installed at Tokyo Shibaura Electric Co.; and IBM-7074 at Hitachi Ltd.; an IBM-7044 belonging to Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute; a Univac-1107 at Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries and an IBM-7090 at the Electric Power Development Co.'s Computing Service Center. In addition to these, there are some data centers including IBM Japan Ltd.'s center equipped with an IBM-7090 and Nippon Remington Univac Kaisha's center with I/U-III. Recently, domestically developed large computers such as FONTAC and HITAC are being commissioned. But of these numerous computers, only the one installed at JAERI is used exclusively for atomic energy researches. All the others are utilized for a variety of other purposes.

- 1 -