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Resume of Oscar Bryan Wilson, 1993-08

Wilson, Oscar Bryan

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RESUME OF OSCAR BRYAN WILSON

O. B. Wilson, born in Texas in 1922, received his undergraduate education in physics at the Texas Technological College, Lubbock and the University of Texas. After serving as a Naval aviation electronics officer during the second World War he continued his education at the Los Angeles campus of the University of California receiving a Ph.D. in Physics in 1951. His dissertation on ultrasonic absorption processes in electrolytic solutions, performed under the direction of the late R. W. Leonard, was the first work which helped to quantify the importance of the magnesium sulfate ionization reactions to what was then considered to be an anomalous sound absorption in sea water at frequencies below about 80 kHz. After leaving UCLA,



he was employed as a member of the technical staff at Hughes Aircraft Company. From 1952 to 1957, he was engaged in research and development work on high amplitude sound, combustion oscillations and their control, and on industrial applications of mechanical vibrations at the Bodine Soundrive Company in Los Angeles. He has been on the faculty of the Naval Postgraduate School since 1957, involved in teaching and research. Teaching duties have been concentrated in acoustics, underwater sound, and especially sonar transducers, and he is the author of a textbook on the last subject. He has been involved in research in the areas of elastic and inelastic properties of materials, acoustic properties of marine sediments, ambient noise in the ocean and in acoustic transducer design. He also served in several part-time academic administrative posts, including Chairmanship of his department in 1970-1971. In 1989-90, he was a visiting scientist at the Institut Supérieur d'Electronique du Nord, Lille, France. He has also been active in acoustical consulting in architectural acoustics and noise control. Wilson is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, a member of the American Physical Society, The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the American Geophysical Union and the Society of the Sigma Xi. He was recently honored by the French Acoustical Society with the silver medal, *la médaille d'argent (étranger)*, for 1992, awarded each year to a foreign acoustical scientist for interactions with French acousticians.