

## DR. KARL E. J. WIRTZ BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Dr. Karl Wirtz is a professor emeritus in the basic principles of reactor engineering at the University of Karlsruhe and was the director of the Institute for Neutron Physics and Reactor Engineering, Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Center in the Federal Republic of Germany. He obtained his doctorate at the Physics Institute of the University of Breslau in 1934. After having worked for two years with Professor Karl Friederich Bonhoeffer at the Physical Chemistry Institute of the University of Leipzig, he joined the then Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institut für Physik in Berlin in 1937, which is now the Max-Planck-Institut für Physik. At the beginning of World War II, he became a member of Professor Heisenberg's group working on nuclear power production. In 1944 he was appointed head of the experimental department of the Max-Planck-Institut für Physik, which was moved to Göttingen after 1945. Between 1946 and 1957, he was also professor of physics at the University of Göttingen. In 1957 Dr. Wirtz became one of the founding members of the Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Center and was appointed full professor at the University of Karlsruhe. He was responsible for the basic design and all physics activities associated with the construction of the FR2 research reactor and his institute was the birthplace of the German Fast Breeder Project in 1960. He is coauthor of *Elementare Neutronenphysik* (1958) and *Neutron Physics* (1964). He has been a member of the editorial board of the *Atomwirtschaft* periodical and associate editor, Europe, of *Nuclear Technology*. He is a fellow of the American Nuclear Society, scientific member of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, member of the executive board of Deutsches Atomforum, and was a member of the German Advisory Committee on Atomic Energy from 1956 to 1971.