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COVER LEGEND

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the United States was
established by an Act of Congress on August 5, 1937. In October
1939, a research facility at the National Institutes of Health was
opened at Bethesda, Maryland, a suburb of Washington, D. C.
The Cancer Institute was staffed by investigators from two pre-
exisiting Public Health Service Research units: these were a group
from the Pharmacology Laboratory of the National Institutes of
Health, located in Washington, D. C., and a group associated with
the U. S. Public Health Service’s office of Cancer Investigations
in Boston, Massachusetts. From 1938 to 1943, Dr. Carl Voegtlin
served as Chief and first Director of the NCI. Dr. Roscoe R.
Spencer acted as Director from 1943 to 1947; Dr. Leonard A.
Scheele from 1947 to 1948; Dr. John R. Heller from 1948 to 1960.
The first twenty years of the National Cancer Institute were re-
viewed in a special issue of the J. Natl. Cancer Inst., 19: 133–190,
1957.

In recent years, the NCI, under the auspices of the Public Health
Service, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, has
grown among a complex of other national health institutes. It
currently employs nearly 1300 persons quartered on the Bethesda
“campus” and in adjacent township facilities. Recent innovations
include a new laboratory building (Building 37), incorporating a
modular design.

The year 1970 also marks a transition in administration at the
National Cancer Institute. Dr. Carl G. Baker (b. 1920, Louisville,
Kentucky) was installed on July 1 as NCI Director. He succeeded
Dr. Kenneth M. Endicott (b. 1916, Canon City, Colorado), who
had served as Director since 1960.

The cover illustrates recent photographs of former NCI Director
Endicott, top left, and present Director Baker, top right. Center
left, Building 6, the original cancer research facility of 1939; lower
right, Building 37, the newest cancer laboratory at Bethesda.
The assistance of Drs. Endicott, Baker, Jesse L. Steinfield, and
Mr. James F. Kieley is gratefully acknowledged.