

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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002. list	re: SSNs and DOBs [partial] (1 page)	03/28/1997	b(6)
003. list	re: Interagency Working Group [partial] (1 page)	n.d.	P3/b(3)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Elizabeth Drye
OA/Box Number: 10455

FOLDER TITLE:

Event Planning - ACHRE [Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments]

2014-0046-S

rc1435

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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Steve Carlson 586-7700

Carmen McDangal

Blk Jones 273-4845

Eli Attie 126

Steve Carlson 586-7700

Ann 586-1607

James Corallo

~~James Corallo~~ 305-0691

Asst. Secy for Environment, Safety, and Health

Lori Azim 586-5319.

Fat 586-0956

226
Dirksen

11:00

**The Administration Announces Actions
Responding to President Clinton's Advisory Committee on
Human Radiation Experiments
March 28, 1997**

Background

In January, 1994 President Clinton established the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE) to examine reports that the government had supported unethical human radiation experiments and releases of radiation during the Cold War. He asked ACHRE to uncover the truth, recommend ways to right past wrongs, and suggest ways to make sure the government will not repeat past mistakes.

In October, 1995 ACHRE issued its report. ACHRE found that the government had conducted several thousand human radiation experiments from 1945 to 1975 and that the majority advanced biomedical research. The Committee found, however, that some were conducted unethically. For example, scientists injected plutonium into 18 patients without their knowledge, and researchers conducted experiments on indigent patients and children. ACHRE made 18 recommendations to open the public record, protect human subjects of future research, and compensate those wronged by the government's actions.

In October, 1995 the President received the Advisory Committee's report and made it clear that the report would "not be left on a shelf to gather dust." He directed his Cabinet to "use and build on these recommendations." Over the past year and a half, the Administration has acted to implement ACHRE's recommendations to improve openness in government, strengthen ethics in human subjects research, and compensate individuals for the government's mistakes.

Today's Announcement

- **The Administration released *Building Public Trust*, outlining its comprehensive response to the President's Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE).** The report summarizes actions to address ACHRE's 18 recommendations.
- **The Departments of Energy and Justice announced that the government has settled compensation claims with families of all of the known individuals ACHRE recommended for compensation.** ACHRE recommended the government compensate the families of 18 subjects of plutonium injection experiments. The government has settled with all 16 families that came forward.
- **President Clinton signed a memorandum to strengthen the rights and protections of people participating in secret, government-supported research.** ACHRE recommended that subjects of secret experiments have special protections and information. Acting on that recommendation, the President directed agencies today to propose new rules for secret research that would require scientists to: obtain informed consent from all potential subjects of all secret experiments (current rules allow researchers to waive informed consent in certain cases); disclose the identity of the sponsoring agency to potential subjects; and tell potential subjects that an experiment is classified. The new rules would

also establish a more independent review process; require the head of the agency conducting secret human research to approve each project; and require permanent records of secret experiments. The President also directed federal agencies to report annually on the number of classified human research projects and the number of subjects in each project. **A preliminary review by the Administration's human radiation Interagency Working Group indicates that the government is not supporting any classified human research at this time;** today's directive initiates a formal, routine accounting of secret human studies.

- The Administration announced proposed **amendments to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act of 1990 to compensate hundreds of uranium miners who would not be compensated under current law.** ACHRE found that some deserving miners do not qualify for compensation under the Act. The amendments would establish fairer, science-based criteria for compensation. The Administration will also propose regulatory changes to RECA to facilitate claims processing.

Previous and On-going Actions Described in *Building Public Trust* Include:

Actions to Improve Openness in Government.

- ACHRE transferred more than 4,000 cubic feet of documents to the National Archives. The Administration has made 300,000 fully searchable pages of documents available on the Internet, and will add an additional 200,000 pages shortly. The Departments of Energy and Defense have published document search guides.
- The President signed Executive Order 12958 directing Federal agencies to review and declassify thousands of documents, including documents on radiation experiments.

Actions to Protect human subjects in the future.

- President Clinton established the National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC) to examine bioethical issues, including human research issues. A subcommittee of NBAC will address certain broad questions raised by ACHRE, including how to strengthen Institutional Review Boards -- the local ethics panels for Federally-sponsored research.
- In October, 1995 President Clinton directed agencies to develop plans to improve their oversight of ethics rules. The agencies have completed their review and upgraded protections, and NBAC will review agency procedures in the coming months.
- Agencies have undertaken nationwide education efforts to raise the profile of ethical considerations, and are funding research to improve our understanding of informed consent.

Actions to Right Past Wrongs.

- In October, 1995 President Clinton apologized to subjects of radiation experiments and their families on behalf of an earlier generation of American leaders and citizens; former Energy Secretary O'Leary made apologies in certain individual cases.
- The Administration will propose legislation to make veterans treated with nasopharyngeal radiation eligible for health care services under the Veteran's Administration's Ionizing Radiation Program.

Executive Summary

.....

"Our greatness is measured not only in how we . . . do right but also [in] how we act when we know we've done the wrong thing; how we confront our mistakes, make our apologies, and take action."

—President Clinton
October 3, 1995

In January 1994, President Clinton established the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE) to examine reports that the government had funded and conducted unethical human radiation experiments and releases of radiation during the Cold War. The President directed ACHRE to uncover the truth, recommend steps to right past wrongs, and propose ways to prevent unethical human subjects research from occurring in the future. The Committee published its findings and recommendations in October 1995.

This report presents the Administration's actions to respond to ACHRE's findings and recommendations. The Committee found that the government had conducted several thousand human radiation experiments from 1945 to 1975. Although the majority of the experiments advanced biomedical science and were unlikely to have caused harm, some were conducted unethically. ACHRE made 18 recommendations to improve openness in government, protect human subjects in the future, and redress past wrongs. The Administration has adopted most of ACHRE's recommendations and has acted throughout the government to implement them.

The Administration has adopted most of ACHRE's recommendations and has acted throughout the government to implement them.

Opening the Record

ACHRE recommended that the government take a number of steps to organize the historical records of human radiation experiments and to give the public access to these records. ACHRE identified the National Archives as the appropriate repository for documents. The Committee also recommended an independent review of the CIA's recordkeeping system and all of its documents related to human radiation experiments.

Key Actions

- The Administration has invested heavily in making documents accessible. ACHRE transferred more than 1 million pages of documents to the National Archives. The Administration has made 300,000 fully searchable pages of documents available on the Internet, and will add an additional 200,000 pages shortly. The Departments of Energy and Defense have published document search guides.
- The President signed Executive Order 12958 directing Federal agencies to review and declassify thousands of documents, including documents on radiation experiments.
- The National Records and Archives Administration is conducting an independent review of the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA's) recordkeeping system and the CIA's Inspector General reviewed and reported on the CIA's human experiments.

The Administration has invested heavily in making documents accessible.

Protecting Human Subjects in the Future

The Advisory Committee recommended steps to strengthen protections for human subjects and ensure the government does not repeat past mistakes.

Key Actions

- President Clinton is issuing a directive to strengthen protections for subjects of classified (secret) research. Agencies will propose new rules to eliminate waiver of informed consent; disclose the identity of the sponsoring agency; ensure a more independent review process; and require permanent records. Agencies will also report annually on the number of classified human research projects and the number of human subjects involved in each project.
- President Clinton established the National Bioethics Advisory Committee (NBAC) to examine bioethical issues, including human research issues. A subcommittee of NBAC will address certain broad questions raised by ACHRE, including how to strengthen Institutional Review Boards (IRBs)—the local ethics panels for federally sponsored research.
- President Clinton directed agencies to develop plans to improve oversight of ethics rules. NBAC will review these plans in the coming months.

A subcommittee of National Bioethics Advisory Committee will address certain broad questions raised by ACHRE, including how to strengthen Institutional Review Boards—the local ethics panels for federally sponsored research.

- Agencies have undertaken nationwide education efforts to raise the profile of ethical considerations, and are funding research to improve our understanding of ethical issues.

Righting Past Wrongs

The Advisory Committee recommended, among other things, that the government apologize to all subjects, compensate certain subjects, and consider modifying the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, and its regulations, to compensate additional uranium miners.

Key Actions

- The President apologized to all subjects on behalf of the government; former Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary made apologies in certain individual cases.
- The Federal government has paid compensation to the families of 16 of the 18 known subjects ACHRE recommended be compensated, and is in negotiations with others. The government has not been able to identify an additional 52 subjects ACHRE recommended be compensated.
- The Administration will propose legislative and regulatory changes to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to incorporate the latest science and better compensate affected uranium miners.
- The Administration will propose legislation to make veterans treated with nasopharyngeal radiation eligible for health screening under the Department of Veterans Affairs' Ionizing Radiation Program.

The Federal government has paid compensation to the families of 16 of the 18 known subjects ACHRE recommended be compensated

The actions and policies described in this report will help bring justice to those harmed by the mistakes of the Cold War, and prevent the recurrence of past wrongs. The report presents those actions that are completed or underway. The Administration will continue to take steps to open the government's records, raise ethical standards, and right the wrongs of the past.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bruce Reed *BR*

SUBJECT: Announcement of Administration Response to your Advisory Committee on
Human Radiation Experiments

Phil Caplan passed on your note suggesting that the First Lady participate in the pending release of: *Building Public Trust: Actions to Respond to the Report of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments*. My staff met with Maggie Williams yesterday to explore that option. Maggie could not work the event into the First Lady's schedule in the next two weeks. Since we are facing outside pressure to release the report, we agreed to go ahead and release it Friday; Secretary Pena will lead a White House press briefing. We will work with Maggie to look for opportunities for the First Lady to amplify Friday's announcement.

Jan 3, 1996

- Transcripts of Feb. meeting

A.C. in California — not feeling well — atomic vets

① How soon can we hand it out?

Ac — wants mandatory insurance ^{of vets} in
updating epi. tables —

- non-secret environmental releases —

+ medical followup, medical compensation —

GMBMEMO3 - RAD

Plan →

- Radiation Exposed Veterans Comp Act — are entitled to benefits
w/out showing causation. (p. 812)

TO DO on Radiation

- hot lines. -

White. pap

- Fact Sheet
- memo to circulate
- memo to Mac Reed (list)
- circulate in White House
- clear w/ CIA, OPRE, Bill Corr. -
- Set up mtg. of work group
- talk to Bruce, Phil about event.
- talk to Cabinet Affairs (Ann, Chris)
- Get FACT riding.

- Read NP section again. -

- Talk to COS's

Chris - Pediatric labeling

Carol - e-mail re. Papers

- George Tennet. -

Questions

Who would do briefing -

O'Leary

Taro

Gary Ellis

Jim Pereira?

Jack Webbons. -

What does POTUS want say -

- building public trust

- ACTRE last fall

- My Administration has already acted on
~~put in place~~ - plan ^{was} ^{reconsidered}

Take additional actions and
to ~~be~~ ^{put} in place today

~~Steps to additional actions.~~

Involve legislators?

New Mexico

Olson, Wickham

Bitpartisan?

How many studies are going on now. -

Congressmen - New Mexico ^{Delegation}

Stuart Udall - knows his deal.

- Extend invitations. -

Stuart Udall - No Udall's younger
brother -

- Kennedy's sec of Interior

- Eva Playa.

A.C. Byrd -

FO Conclude
77 0 Copies of the Reports

Findings

- (1) 1944-74, Gov't conducted several thousands of h're's. Mayors were tracer studies unlikely to cause harm. Done for biomedical science, nat. security interests, or both.
- (2) Mayors were radioisotope studies unlikely to cause harm. Experiments:
Iodine 131 in children - 500 people exposed to $> 1 \times 10^{-3}$ risk $\Rightarrow$ 1.3 cases
(tracer)
- (3) h're's during 1944-74 contributed significantly to advances in medicine.
Treatment of cancers, radiotherapy.
- (4) The gov't did not have comprehensive policies requiring consent of all subjects of research, including both patient and healthy subjects, until 1974.
1953 The principle of consent^{articulated in the Nuremberg code} was adopted by the Dept. of Defense.
- (5) Gov't agencies did not generally take effective measures to implement consent requirements.
- (6) 1946, some gov't agencies had procedures for reviewing risks from radioisotopes.
By 1974, gov't required review in other forms of research.
- (7) primary function of radioisotope v. the review was to ↓ hazard, not enforce consent.
- (8) 1944-1974 - no evidence that any gov't statement or policy on research involving human subjects contained a provision permitting a waiver of consent requirements for national security reasons.
- (9) no requirements or policies to ensure equity in selection of subjects - some ethically troubling experiments were conducted on institutionalized children, seriously ill, and sometimes comatose patients, African Americans and prisoners.
- (10) as early as 1944, consent from healthy subjects norm. But 44-74, physicians engaged in clinical research generally did not seek consent.
- (11) Gov't officials are morally responsible in cases where they did not take effective measures to implement the gov't's policies and requirements, and the medical profession and biomedical scientists are morally responsible for instances in which they failed to adhere to professional norms.

- (15) by code's standards - wrong that subjects' ^{rights} not adequately protected
(16) gov't officials ~~are~~ are blameworthy for not having in place protocols for subjects of nontherapeutic research - more so for riskier research
12. 1953 Nuremberg code memo ~~with~~ little evidence. It was transmitted to those conducting human experiments at atomic tests. Gov't did not create or maintain adequate records at atomic tests
200,000 service personnel in tests 1946-1960's
13. 1944-47 - hundreds of intentional releases for research purposes; in only a few cases to study effects on humans.
14. Green Run etc.
15. ↑ risk & 1 case at Green Run (Hanford)
16. gov't failed to act w/ hazards in Uranium mines and failed to warn of hazards, even though it posed no natural sources risk
17. HRS's since 1946 have typically not been classified, but important discussions took place in secret and info was kept secret to avoid liability & embarrassment
18. All intentional releases were conducted in secret and remain secret
19. Gov't did not routinely create records to ensure that secret programs could be understood in later years
20. Human research involving radioactive isotopes better safeguarded. No differences b/w treatment of subjects in r. and non-r. research
21. Research may be conducted in secret but must comply w/ common rule -
question of what must be disclosed to subjects in order for them to make an informed decision is not covered in common rule. -
22. Since 40's and 50's - significant advance in protection of subjects' rights/interests.
Evidence of serious deficiencies in some parts of system.
23. Some ^{type of intentional} releases can occur today

X

Will the IAWG continue to work on these issues?

Rec 1.) Where are total body irradiation cases?

Rec 9.) ~~What have we done re: major release~~

Rec 11.) open forum - 3 specific issues

- minimal risk w/ healthy children

- regulations to cover conduct of research w/ institutionalized children

- guidelines for research w/ adults of questionable competence.

Q.) waived informed consent for head trauma - how is this consistent.

- Funding - set - will find money / NIH -
None back to OMB -
- Director of NIEHS -

- Trailers around 24 to 48 hours -
loss of autonomy

Dan Cuthman - OSHA Administrative
Law -

- National Journal -
NISC - Specialty Press -

- Quineach
- Constituencies

- Marhee's staff
 - want a
- Faith Burton → offer a briefing

- House -
- Schaeffer
 - Marhee
 - Barnes, Frank

314-1653 514-4047

James Castello

305-0091

- Rachael Jacobson -

- Senate -
- Glenn
 - Dromenici
 - Lieberman
 - Hatch -

John Dwyer -

- will do press briefing Friday.

Have DOJ set up a briefing -

- Thursday -

- 205

① Briefing

② Briefing Friday

-
- Hill Members - in advance - ?
 - Advisory Cmte. members. - DOE in advance?

- Embargoed to Friday at 1:00

- Ruth Faden

- other members. -

- Press -

- Other - Task Force on ~~Environment~~ Radiation & Human Rights.

- Agency people → constituencies.

- Timing on each of these. -

When I accepted the Advisory Committee's report in October, 1995 I promised that it would not be left on the shelf to gather dust. I made a commitment that we would learn from the lessons that the Committee's report offered and use it as a road map to lead us to better choices in the future. We have actively worked to respond to the Advisory Committee's recommendations-- to make the record of these experiments open to the public, to improve ethics in human research today, and to right the wrongs of the past.

The report we are releasing today is an important milestone in our progress, but we are by no means at the end of our journey. Much work remains to be done. I am confident that all of us -- the eminent committee that produced the original report, the Federal officials who worked so hard to support the Committee's efforts, and most importantly, the citizens of this great country from whose experiences we have learned so much -- can together help ensure a better world for our children.

**ACTIONS TO RESPOND TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RADIATION EXPERIMENTS
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION)**

April 28, 1997

Overview of Advisory Committee Scope, Findings, and Recommendations

Q: What is the universe of experiments studied by the Advisory Committee?

A: The President directed the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE) to review government sponsored biomedical experiments on individuals involving intentional exposure to ionizing radiation, focusing on the period from 1944 until 1974. The Committee did not consider common clinical practices that involved incidental exposures to ionizing radiation (e.g. x-rays).

The President's charge also covered intentional releases of ionizing radiation designed to test human health effects or to measure the extent of human exposure. The Committee studied a number of populations exposed to radiation during the government's Cold War activities, including veterans of atomic test blasts, western uranium miners, and residents of the Marshall Islands.

Q: How many experiments does this include?

A: No one knows exactly how many experiments this includes. The Advisory Committee reported that the government had sponsored several thousand human radiation experiments between 1945 and 1974.

Q: How many people were involved in these experiments?

A: Because only fragmentary information has survived about many of these experiments it was not possible for the Advisory Committee to estimate how many people were involved.

Q: How many people were harmed in the experiments?

A: The Advisory Committee was not in a position to answer this question completely. In general, the Committee found that the majority of experiments they studied involved trace amounts of radiation given to adults, similar to those used in research today. These were unlikely to have caused physical harm. The Committee identified several groups of experiments that may have increased individuals' risks, including total body irradiation experiments on ill patients and iodine-131 experiments involving children.

Q: How many people were not informed in advance that they were the subject of an experiment?

A: Only very limited documentation about consent in individual experiments has survived and no estimates can be made. Generally, the Committee found that researchers obtained consent from healthy subjects, but not from patient-subjects.

The Advisory Committee did look more broadly at issues of informed consent across the government and found that the government did not have comprehensive policies in place before 1974. Although the government has strengthened informed consent procedures significantly since 1974, the Committee recommended -- and the Administration is taking -- additional steps to improve informed consent, including requiring informed consent in all classified research (eliminating a current waiver provision) and studying further the informed consent process.

Q: What did the Advisory Committee recommend?

A: The Committee made 18 recommendations to open the record to the public, compensate those who were wronged, and protect human subjects of future research.

Q: What has the Administration done to respond?

A: The Administration has already taken steps in each of these areas. For example, to open up the record, the Administration has put thousands of pages of documents on the Internet and in the National Archives, and has developed document search guides. To better protect human subjects in the future, the President established the National Bioethics Advisory Committee (NBAC) and asked NBAC to examine many of the questions raised by ACHRE. To redress the wrongs of the past, the President apologized to subjects of radiation experiments and their families, and agencies have worked hard to settle compensation claims. These and many other actions responding to the Committee's recommendations are outlined in the report released today.

Today the Administration also announced two new actions -- the President is issuing a directive strengthening protections for subjects of classified research, and the Administration is proposing legislation to improve compensation for uranium miners.

Q: Are current protections for subjects of human research inadequate?

A: A strong system of Federal oversight, education, and sanctions is currently in place to ensure the protection of the subjects of government sponsored human research. The Administration has taken a number of steps to further strengthen protections for human subjects based on the Advisory Committee's recommendations. For example, the National Bioethics Advisory Commission is reviewing Institutional Review Board policies -- IRBs are the local boards that review the ethics of individual research projects. And today the President signed a directive to protect subjects of classified research.

The Administration is also working to improve the informed consent process. Despite the vigor with which all parties embrace the informed consent process, the Advisory Committee found that little is actually known about the effectiveness of this transaction between researcher and prospective subject. In response, the NIH and the Departments of Energy and Veterans Affairs are initiating research to develop new knowledge about the informed consent process.

Q: Now that the National Bioethics Advisory Commission has been given a special assignment on cloning, does this mean that there will be a delay in addressing protection of human research subjects.

A: No. the National Bioethics Advisory Commission has already established an ambitious plan of work to address the current status of Federal protection for human research subjects. The work will proceed in parallel with the special assignment on cloning. NBAC is planning to issue a report to the President and to Congress in October and hopes that little or no delay will be incurred as a result of the additional work.

Q: What is being done to provide compensation in connection with the human radiation experiments?

A: The Advisory Committee recommended the government compensate or consider compensate subjects of certain biomedical experiments. The Department of Justice has worked closely with other Departments to resolve individual claims. As announced today, the Administration has resolved all claims brought forward for experiments the Advisory Committee specifically identified for compensation. The Administration has settled with families of 16 plutonium injection subjects. The plutonium injection cases were singled out by the Advisory Committee as being particularly troubling ethically and deserving of compensation because efforts were made by the government to keep information secret from the subjects or their families to avoid government liabilities or embarrassment. The Advisory Committee also identified two other experiments for compensation (see Recommendation 1), but the subjects of those experiments are unknown.

Several other experiments were identified by the Advisory Committee for consideration for possible compensation, subject to further development of the facts surrounding the experiments. That fact-finding continues in a number of these cases. [Refer detailed questions to DoJ].

Some populations exposed to radiation releases studied by the Committee are already eligible for compensation under existing law, including atomic vets and uranium miners. The Committee recommended certain changes to these programs. The Administration has reviewed and acted on those recommendations. For example, today we are announcing new legislation to improve compensation for uranium miners.

Presidential Directive on Classified Human Research

Q: What portion of past experiments was classified?

A: Only a very small number of past experiments were classified, mainly those that took place during the Manhattan Project and were associated with the war effort. However, information about unclassified experiments was not necessarily easily accessible to the public or generally known and made available.

Q: Why is there a need for the Presidential Directive on classified research and what does it do?

A: The Advisory Committee acknowledged that the government should maintain the ability to do secret human research where such research serves national interests, but the Committee found that the subjects of secret research need safeguards beyond those provided for subjects of unclassified research. The President's directive require agencies to propose new protections through regulation. For example, Agencies will propose to require consent from subjects in all classified human research without exception, to require permanent recordkeeping, and to require scientists to tell potential subjects that the research is classified. Agencies will also propose a new review process for classified human research requiring, among other things, that the head of any agency sponsoring secret research personally approve the project. These actions address concerns raised by the Advisory Committee and should prevent the mistakes of the past from occurring again.

Q: How many people are currently involved in classified human research? How many classified experiments are currently taking place?

A: As far as the Administration's Interagency Working Group has been able to determine, there are currently no classified human subject experiments being sponsored by the government and consequently there are no people involved in classified human subject research.

Up to now, there has been no regular reporting requirement in relation to classified human research. Under the President's directive on classified research, the Government will closely monitor and regularly report on any classified human subject research that may be taking place.

Proposed Amendments to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act / Uranium Miners

Q: What is the purpose of the proposed legislation to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA)?

A: Uranium miners were exposed to high levels of radon daughters. The government knew the mining conditions were hazardous and how to reduce the hazard, but did not take action. As a result, hundreds of miners have developed preventable lung cancers and other lung diseases, and many have died. Congress passed RECA to provide proper redress, but the Advisory Committee found that the present RECA eligibility criteria for compensation should be improved. This legislation would amend the RECA to incorporate new compensation criteria for lung cancer that reflect the latest scientific data, and better achieve the statutory goal of providing compassionate payments to individuals who suffer or have suffered from lung cancer as a result of their exposure to radiation in uranium mines. The legislation would also expand the existing list of compensable diseases for downwind and onsite participant claimants to reflect current scientific knowledge.

Q: Who will benefit from this legislation?

A: This legislation will principally benefit uranium miners who suffered or suffer from lung cancer. The legislation would incorporate new eligibility criteria for lung cancer, including defining eligibility for partial compensation. The new criteria would apply to uranium miners covered by the Act who presently suffer from or contract lung cancer in the future (prior to 2010 when the Program is scheduled to terminate), as well as all uranium miners with lung cancer who previously were denied compensation because they did not meet the present eligibility criteria. The Administration anticipates that most of the claimants who will benefit from this legislation reside in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah or Wyoming, the states covered by the RECA.

Q: How many people will benefit from the legislation, and how much compensation will they receive?

A: The Administration estimates that over 500 uranium miners who do not presently qualify for compensation under the RECA would receive either full or partial compensation under the proposed amendments. The Administration estimates that these newly eligible miners would be paid approximately \$45 million dollars in compensation over 15 years: over 300 miners would be eligible for full compensation (\$100,000 per miner), and over 200 miners would be eligible for partial compensation (\$50,000).

Q: What is the budget impact of the proposed changes to RECA? What would be the source of any additional funding made necessary by the proposed changes?

A: The Administration estimates that the proposed changes to RECA will lead to no more than \$50 million in additional compensation over the next 15 years. The actual figure may prove to be lower, though such estimates involve substantial uncertainty. Compensation will be provided

through annual appropriations to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Trust Fund, which the original 1990 RECA legislation created to remain active through the year 2012. To date, the Department of Justice has provided about \$200 million in compensation through the Trust Fund, which received a replenishment of \$30 million in 1997.

Additional Questions on Veterans, Persian Gulf, and Environmental Releases.

Q: Is the government taking any steps to help veterans?

A: The Advisory Committee looked at two types of radiation exposures affecting veterans -- atomic test blasts and nasopharyngeal radium treatments. Hundreds of veterans were exposed to radiation during atomic test blasts. Congress has already passed legislation to compensate veterans harmed by these exposures. In response to Advisory Committee recommendations, the Administration is taking steps to improve the administration of these programs (see below). Some veterans -- particularly Navy submariners -- were exposed to nasopharyngeal radium treatments during their service. The Department of Defense is working to identify those affected and, if appropriate, will follow up with subjects of the experiments.

Q. What specifically is the Administration doing to improve compensation for atomic vets?

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides disability and healthcare benefits to certain veterans exposed to radiation while in the military. Recently, VA proposed to expand the list of diseases it recognizes as radiogenic by including all forms of cancer. This means that a veteran with cancer will no longer have to establish that a specific cancer is radiogenic before VA can determine entitlement to benefits based on the estimated level of radiation that the veteran was exposed to while in the military. As recommended by the Advisory Committee, the VA is also updating the "epidemiological tables" used to determine the likelihood that a veteran's disability is the result of radiation exposure.

In addition, VA is drafting legislation to make veterans exposed to nasopharyngeal radium irradiation during military service eligible for VA's Ionizing Radiation Program. This includes eligibility for a screening examination and special eligibility for treatment of conditions recognized by VA by statute or regulation as being potentially radiogenic

Q: Are the controversies surrounding radiation experiments and the Persian Gulf illnesses in any way similar or related?

A: Yes, there are some similarities regarding the Administration's response to public concerns about the two sets of events. President Clinton appointed advisory committees to thoroughly investigate both events and directed complete cooperation from all Federal agencies. Issues of secrecy in government recordkeeping have created a "credibility gap" with the participants and their advocates regarding both events.

The Administration's openness initiatives and related directives will help ensure the future welfare of our nation's military personnel and the American public. In addition, hundreds of thousands of pages of documents on these two events are now openly accessible via the Internet.

Q: What steps is the government taking on environmental releases of radiation?

A: The Advisory Committee made several recommendations to ensure that secret environmental releases could not occur in the present without being appropriately approved and documented. EPA, in conjunction with Federal agencies conducting classified research, is taking steps to improve environmental oversight and enforcement capability over all classified activities. EPA will also establish and maintain a permanent file to document EPA's classified reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The Government is also taking a number of steps to improve its program for providing compensation and redress to certain groups of people who developed radiation-related diseases as a result of radiation exposure from the government's Cold War nuclear weapons program, including atomic veterans, uranium miners, and Marshall Islanders.

Additional Background on Status of Compensation Claims:

In its final report, the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments recommended, in effect, that the government offer an apology and compensation to the families of eighteen subjects of certain plutonium injection experiments conducted at several hospitals under contracts with a Department of Energy predecessor agency in the mid-1940s. Representatives of sixteen of the eighteen families filed lawsuits against the hospitals, the doctors involved in the experiments, and the United States (or former employees of the United States), or filed administrative claims with the Department of Energy. The United States has now settled all of these lawsuits and administrative claims, providing for compensation for the families of all of the plutonium injection subjects who have come forward and to one additional subject of a uranium injection experiment that was not included in the Advisory Committee recommendation.

The total amount of these settlements was \$6,332,500 (\$2,755,625 of which is payable from the Judgment Fund, a continuing appropriation to pay settlements by the United States, the balance being paid by the Department of Energy pursuant to its contracts with the hospitals where the experiments took place).

Examples of some of the additional cases that the Advisory Committee identified for further consideration were the following:

In re Cincinnati Radiation Litigation (Southern District of Ohio)

The United States has cooperated with counsel for the plaintiffs and the defendants in this case involving total body irradiation at the University of Cincinnati and has agreed to share in the \$4,269,500 in compensation to be paid there. The United States' share will be \$1,030,000. That class-action settlement is currently under consideration for preliminary approval by the district court.

Vanderbilt University Nutrition Study

Craft v. United States (M.D. Tenn.)

Plaintiffs are two subjects and the child of one of these subjects, who participated in an iron uptake study among pregnant women in the Vanderbilt University Medical Center. The only defendant is the United States; but Plaintiffs filed a related class action against the State of Tennessee, private institutional entities, individuals, and Monsanto, a government contractor that operated Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Plaintiffs agreed to accept a monetary settlement and dismiss the United States.

Fernald School Cases

Beaulieu v. Blemont, Shattuck v. M.I.T. (District of Massachusetts)

These cases involve claims of 26 individuals arising from experiments in calcium metabolism at the Fernald State School, a residential school in Massachusetts, some of the students of which had special needs. The claimants have sued the State of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Quaker Oats Company, individual researchers, and the United States. The United States has joined all of the other parties in court-annexed mediation.

Oregon Prisoner Case

Bibeau v. Pacific Northwest Research Foundation, Inc., et al. (District of Oregon)

A husband and wife, Harold and Melanie Bibeau, have filed an action premised upon Mr. Bibeau's voluntary participation in a testicular irradiation experiment while he was an inmate of the Oregon State Penitentiary from 1963 to 1969. Defendants are Pacific Northwest Research Foundation, Battelle Memorial Institute, Oregon Department of Corrections officials in their individual and official capacities, former federal employees of the AEC in their individual capacities, and the United States.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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002. list	re: SSNs and DOBs [partial] (1 page)	03/28/1997	b(6)
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Elizabeth Drye
OA/Box Number: 10455

FOLDER TITLE:

Event Planning - ACHRE [Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments]

2014-0046-S
rc1435

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

TO: Officer in Charge
Workers and Visitors Entrance System
Room 065, OEOB

Please admit the following appointments on Friday, March 28, 1997
for Elizabeth Drye of the Domestic Policy Council.
This group is attending an 11:00 AM PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY
in West Wing press gallery.

	NAME	DOB	SSN	CITIZENSHIP
	John Dwyer			US
	Tara O'Toole			US
	Elanor Melamed			US
	Steven Galson			US
	Francisco Devries			US
	Brooke D. Anderson			US
Press	Joby Warrick		(b)(6)	US
Press	Karen MacPhearson			US
	Gary B. Ellis			US
	Eva Plaza			US
	Paul Yanowitch			US
	Donald England			US
PRESS	Helmut Josef Herbert		(b)(6)	US

Wash Post
Albuquerque Tribune, Santa
Howard

AP

This group will enter through the northwest gate.

Michael Tobin

Press (states News)

(602)

The Bioethics Institute

624 N. Broadway
Hampton House 511
Baltimore MD 21205-1996
(410) 955-3018 / FAX (410) 814-9567

Ruth R. Faden, Ph.D., M.P.H., Director
Philip Franklin Wagley Professor of Biomedical Ethics

March 27, 1997

MEMORANDUM

TO: Elizabeth Drye
Domestic Policy Council

FROM: Gwendolyn Thomas for
Dr. Ruth Faden

Here is the list of people that will be available to speak to the press after the Clinton Administration releases its response to the Advisory Report to the White House core.

Names	Telephone Numbers
Ruth Faden - Dr. Faden will be traveling but will be reachable	Cell phone - 410-733-9875 Car phone - 301-580-0925 Main house - 508-645-8066 Guest house - 508-645-8045
Kenneth R. Feinberg	212-527-9600
Sarah Flynn	410-268-2966
Eli Glatstein	215-349-8406
Dan Guttman	202-606-5370
Jeffrey P. Kahn	612-625-7575
Steve Klaidman	510-527-3616
Jonathan D. Moreno	202-234-5946



To DO - Radiaam

a. p.7 Bailes review language

Call Lieberman's staff -

Pena

Shalala -

Gibbons -

Talk to Pross about time -

NBAE extension -

690-7755

Call Ruth —

Call April —

Call Cooper Brown

C

Call Diane Regas

— # of Agency folks

— names

— waiters

— Reporters

— waves - Agencies, Diane

— Statement DODS Draft

— order of speakers

DOD answer settlement questions

— Finish Q's and A's → to ELL

— Seabelt EO —

Calm
calm
calm

CO A2 NM Wyoming
LTRAH, —

6033 people

Long cancer
C.D.

\$200, millions already

disbursed

2,800 women miners

2,500 domestics

1,000 on site participants

Approx

1303

1300

S. 152

- Who briefs. —

- Who answers Q's. —

Logskarmu/clarified, —

Report/ Settlement. —

- Peña
- Shalala

- Tara
- Eva
- Basley

Outreach —

with/
Press — pool
Some other. —

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bruce Reed 

SUBJECT: Announcement of Administration Response to your Advisory Committee on
Human Radiation Experiments

Phil Caplan passed on your note suggesting that the First Lady participate in the pending release of: *Building Public Trust: Actions to Respond to the Report of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments*. My staff met with Maggie Williams yesterday to explore that option. Maggie could not work the event into the First Lady's schedule in the next two weeks. Since we are facing outside pressure to release the report, we agreed to go ahead and release it Friday; Secretary Pena will lead a White House press briefing. We will work with Maggie to look for opportunities for the First Lady to amplify Friday's announcement.

**ACTIONS TO RESPOND TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RADIATION EXPERIMENTS
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION)
-- DRAFT --**

Overview of Advisory Committee Scope, Findings, and Recommendations

Q: What is the universe of experiments studied by the Advisory Committee?

A: The President's directed the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE) to review government sponsored biomedical experiments on individuals involving intentional exposure to ionizing radiation, focusing on the period from 1944 until 1974. The Committee did not consider common clinical practices that involved incidental exposures to ionizing radiation (e.g. x-rays).

The President's charge also covered intentional releases of ionizing radiation designed to test human health effects or to measure the extent of human exposure. The Committee studied a number of populations exposed to radiation during the government's Cold War activities, including veterans of atomic test blasts, western uranium miners, and residents of the Marshall Islands.

Q: How many experiments does this include?

A: No one knows exactly how many experiments this includes. The Advisory Committee reported that the government had sponsored several thousand human radiation experiments between 1945 and 1974.

Q: How many people were involved in these experiments?

A: Because only fragmentary information has survived about many of these experiments it was not possible for the Advisory Committee to estimate how many people were involved.

Q: How many people were harmed in the experiments?

A: The Advisory Committee was not in a position to answer this question completely. In general, the Committee found that the majority of experiments they studied involved trace amounts of radiation given to adults, similar to those used in research today. These were unlikely to have caused harm. The Committee identified several groups of experiments that may have increased individuals' risks, including total body irradiation experiments on ill patients and iodine-131 experiments involving children.

Q: How many people were not informed in advance that they were the subject of an experiment?

A: Only very limited documentation about consent in individual experiments has survived and no estimates can be made. Generally, the Committee found that researchers obtained consent from healthy subjects, but not from patient-subjects.

The Advisory Committee did look more broadly at issues of informed consent across the government and found that the government did not have comprehensive policies in place before 1974. Although the government has strengthened informed consent procedures significantly since 1974, the Committee recommend -- and the Administration is taking -- additional steps to improve informed consent, including requiring informed consent in all classified research and studying further the informed consent process.

Q: What did the Advisory Committee recommend?

A: The Committee made 18 recommendations to open the record to the public, compensate those who were wronged, and protect human subjects of future research.

Q: What has the Administration done to respond?

A: The Administration has already taken steps in each of these areas. For example, to open up the record, the Administration has put thousands of pages of documents on the Internet and in the National Archives, and has developed document search guides. To better protect human subjects in the future, the President established the National Bioethics Advisory Committee (NBAC) and asked NBAC to examine many of the questions raised by ACHRE. To redress the wrongs of the past, the President apologized to subjects of radiation experiments and their families, and agencies have worked hard to settle compensation claims. These and many other actions responding to the Committee's recommendations are outlined in the report released today.

Today the Administration also announced two new actions -- the President is issuing a directive strengthening protections for subjects of classified research, and the Administration is proposing legislation to improve compensation for uranium miners.

Q: Are current protections for subjects of human research inadequate?

A: A strong system of Federal oversight, education, and sanctions is currently in place to ensure the protection of the subjects of government sponsored human research. The Administration has taken a number of steps to further strengthen protections for human subjects based on the Advisory Committee's recommendations. For example, the National Bioethics Advisory Committee is reviewing Institutional Review Board policies -- IRB's are the local boards that review the ethics of individual research projects. And today the President signed a directive to protect subjects of classified research.

The Administration is also working to improve the informed consent process. Despite the vigor with which all parties embrace the informed consent process, the Advisory Committee found that little is actually known about the effectiveness of this transaction between researcher and prospective subject. In response, the NIH and the Departments of Energy and Veterans Affairs are initiating research to develop new knowledge about the informed consent process.

Q: Now that the National Bioethics Advisory Commission has been given a special assignment on cloning, does this mean that there will be a delay in addressing protection of human research subjects.

A: No. the National Bioethics Advisory Commission has already established an ambitious plan of work to address the current status of Federal protection for human research subjects. The work will proceed in parallel with the special assignment on cloning. NBAC is planning to issue a report to the President and to Congress in October and hopes that little or no delay will be incurred as a result of the additional work.

Q: What is being done to provide compensation in connection with the human radiation experiments?

A: The Advisory Committee recommended the government compensate or consider compensate subjects of certain biomedical experiments. The Department of Justice has worked closely with other Departments to resolve individual claims. As announced today, the Administration has resolved all claims brought forward for experiments the Advisory Committee specifically identified for compensation. The Administration has settled with families of 16 plutonium injection subjects. The plutonium injection cases were singled out by the Advisory Committee as being particularly troubling ethically and deserving of compensation because efforts were made by the government to keep information secret from the subjects or their families to avoid government liabilities or embarrassment. The Advisory Committee also identified two other experiments for compensation (see Recommendation 1), but the subjects of those experiments are unknown.

Several other experiments were identified by the Advisory Committee for consideration for possible compensation, subject to further development of the facts surrounding the experiments. That fact-finding continues in a number of these cases. [Refer detailed questions to DoJ].

Some populations exposed to radiation releases studied by the Committee are already eligible for compensation under existing law, including atomic vets and uranium miners. The Committee recommended certain changes to these programs. The Administration has reviewed and acted on those recommendations. For example, today we are announcing new legislation to improve compensation for uranium miners.

Presidential Directive on Classified Human Research

Q: What portion of past experiments was classified?

A: Only a very small number of past experiments were classified, mainly those that took place during the Manhattan Project and were associated with the war effort. However, information about unclassified experiments was not necessarily easily accessible to the public or generally known and made available.

Q: Why is there a need for the Presidential Directive on classified research and what does it do?

A: The Advisory Committee acknowledged that the government should maintain the ability to do secret human research where such research serves national interests, but the Committee found that the subjects of secret research need safeguards beyond those provided for subjects of unclassified research. The President's directive require agencies to propose new protections through regulation. For example, Agencies will propose to require consent from subjects in all classified human research without exception, to require permanent recordkeeping, and to require scientists to tell potential subjects that the research is classified. Agencies will also propose a new review process for classified human research requiring, among other things, that the head of any agency sponsoring secret research personally approve the project. These actions address concerns raised by the Advisory Committee and should prevent the mistakes of the past from occurring again.

Q: How many people are currently involved in classified human research? How many classified experiments are currently taking place?

A: As far as the Administration's Interagency Working Group has been able to determine, there are currently no classified human subject experiments being sponsored by the government and consequently there are no people involved in classified human subject research.

Up to now, there has been no regular reporting requirement in relation to classified human research. Under the President's directive on classified research, the Government will closely monitor and regularly report on any classified human subject research that may be taking place.

Proposed Amendments to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act / Uranium Miners

Q: What is the purpose of the proposed legislation to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA)?

A: Uranium miners were exposed to high levels of radon daughters. The government knew the mining conditions were hazardous and how to reduce the hazard, but did not take action. As a result, hundreds of miners have developed preventable lung cancers and other lung diseases, and many have died. Congress passed RECA to provide proper redress, but the Advisory Committee found that the present RECA eligibility criteria for compensation should be improved. This legislation would amend the RECA to incorporate new compensation criteria for lung cancer that reflect the latest scientific data, and better achieve the statutory goal of providing compassionate payments to individuals who suffer or have suffered from lung cancer as a result of their exposure to radiation in uranium mines. The legislation would also expand the existing list of compensable diseases for downwind and onsite participant claimants to reflect current scientific knowledge.

Q: Who will benefit from this legislation?

A: This legislation will principally benefit uranium miners who suffered or suffer from lung cancer. The legislation would incorporate new eligibility criteria for lung cancer, including defining eligibility for partial compensation. The new criteria would apply to uranium miners covered by the Act who presently suffer from or contract lung cancer in the future (prior to 2010 when the Program is scheduled to terminate), as well as all uranium miners with lung cancer who previously were denied compensation because they did not meet the present eligibility criteria. The Administration anticipates that most of the claimants who will benefit from this legislation reside in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah or Wyoming, the states covered by the RECA.

Q: How many people will benefit from the legislation, and how much compensation will they receive?

A: The Administration estimates that over 500 uranium miners who do not presently qualify for compensation under the RECA would receive either full or partial compensation under the proposed amendments. The Administration estimates that these newly eligible miners would be paid approximately \$45 million dollars in compensation over 15 years: over 300 miners would be eligible for full compensation (\$100,000 per miner), and over 200 miners would be eligible for partial compensation (\$50,000).

Q: What is the budget impact of the proposed changes to RECA? What would be the source of any additional funding made necessary by the proposed changes?

A: The Administration estimates that the proposed changes to RECA will lead to approximately \$50 million in additional compensation over the next 15 years. The Administration believes that this estimate is conservative, and that the actual figure may prove to be lower, though such

estimates involve substantial uncertainty. Compensation will be provided through annual appropriations to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Trust Fund, which the original 1990 RECA legislation created to remain active through the year 2012. To date, the Department of Justice has provided about \$200 million in compensation through the Trust Fund, which received a replenishment of \$30 million in 1997.

Additional Questions on Veterans, Persian Gulf, and Environmental Releases.

Q: Is the government taking any steps to help veterans?

A: The Advisory Committee looked at two types of radiation exposures affecting veterans -- atomic test blasts and nasopharyngeal radium treatments. Hundreds? of veterans were exposed to radiation during atomic test blasts. Congress has already passed legislation to compensate veterans harmed by these exposures. In response to Advisory Committee recommendations, the Administration is taking steps to improve the administration of these programs (see below). Some veterans -- particularly Navy submariners -- were exposed to nasopharyngeal radium treatments during their service. The Department of Defense is working to identify those affected and, if appropriate, will follow up with subjects of the experiments.

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VA recently proposed to expand the list of diseases it recognizes as radiogenic by including all forms of cancer. This means that a veteran with cancer will no longer have to establish that a specific cancer is radiogenic before VA can determine entitlement to benefits based on the estimated level of radiation that the veteran was exposed to while in the military. As recommended by the Advisory Committee, the VA is also updating the "epidemiological tables" to improve the scientific basis for veterans' compensation under the existing compensation system.

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Q: Are the controversies surrounding radiation experiments and the Persian Gulf illnesses in any way similar or related?

A: Yes, there are some similarities regarding the Administration's response to public concerns about the two sets of events. President Clinton appointed advisory committees to thoroughly investigate both events and directed complete cooperation from all Federal agencies. Issues of secrecy in government recordkeeping have created a "credibility gap" with the participants and their advocates regarding both events.

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The Government is also taking a number of steps to improve its program for providing compensation and redress to certain groups of people who developed radiation-related diseases as a result of radiation exposure from the government's Cold War nuclear weapons program, including atomic veterans, uranium miners, and Marshall Islanders.

Friday? key pieces

(1) Memorandum
~~for review~~ - WH / CIA

(2) uranium mine legislation - DoJ

(3) Settlements - DoJ

(4) Overall Report / Background - DOE

Elly

DOE energy

CIA

VA

John OSTP

Joe March Defense

No HHS - Toby

Advisory -

Anne

Re

Mark Mansfield

Fax 703-482-6790

482-4908

Joe March

703-697-3501

703-697-5131

- Carol Florman

Fax 514-7971

Ph 616-2765

- Toby Graft

Fax 690-5673

HHS

Ph 690-2854

Gary Ellis -

Press - Lori

- Cooper Brown - Not in advance - just that day.
- Ruth - embargoed copy in advance -
- Hill - Glenn -
Mawkey -

Uranium Miner / Hatch -

Lori - Julie

Radiation

Perms on release

- (1) President commissioned report
- (2) Speech on its findings - won't sit on shelf

minutes of Congress Glen

Why does legislation need to be
more

Justice -

"separable discretion"

2/7/96 George - { prefer to
decreasing amount of compensation
corresponding to probability

- States do that in some cases -

- Sliding standard - less precedential -

- minimum

Room

Vetting - like

11:00

Questions for Diane

RELA

where is language?

where is analysis of #'s

who else (besides ~~DOJ~~, OMB, JUSTICE) saw VA?

Paper

- where is edit to OMBMEMOS.RAD?

- Glenn

Marklee?

names of radiation victims groups
stationary
bottom drawer

Diane

list of invitees

- Questions - Q's and A's

- list of interested Congressmen

- when is she coming back?

Propose Changes



Tables aren't probability tables.

↳ 90-95% probability that person whose cancer is eligible

"

Unethical"



Fader see discussion on notification

TO DO 1/8, 119

✓ Fax Directive to Maybeth, Exec Sum

- Forward to Leon Firth

* - Cab Affairs - conf call

- Elys - conf call

- List of people to interview

- questions -

- Fact Sheet -

- Cab Affairs

- Public Liason

- (VP)

{ - Work group -
- public affairs -

- Circulate to WH Staff.

- Transmitted memo -

- short note to President -

✓ Cabinier-level grp -

✓ RECA - George - Jan 14

✓ Talk to Tony - Leon Firth

Radiation - VP's involvement.

✓ Call Public Liason

✓ Call Ian Foster - look in ^{Sack's} ~~his~~ schedule

- "unethical"

- Cabinier-level grp? who chairs?

- Harold Gracie

Phil - 12:30 - 2:00 ✓

- Jack Gibbons

- VP's - 8/12 -

- One media advisory - each agency issues it?
- Affirmat American media -
- Ellie call each member of the com. -
- Ruth Faden - ok for Tuesday -
- Nonf's advisory members -
- Fed ex Monday pm. -

- One press release -

- Phil Hiltz - NYT -

- Who ~~Quotes~~ Gives on the record quotes -

- background -

Work w/ congressional to decide who to invite

* Cab Affairs who comes

* Who chairs JAWs -

* Transcript press release

* Son Biall -

* Gibbons - de to Panagore

* Sophism for Diversion.

Mrg

made press list

Q's / A's

How many experiments
going on

Presidential Message Approved —
~~See~~ Draft Q's

Look at transcript of Oct. 95 press Conference
for Q's —

what experiments were conducted at CIA. —

(NBC Bob Hager) —

— ABC Barry ~~Wintz~~ Samrafin. —

NYT Phil Hiltz

O'Leary

Mtg Tuesday pm with 4 families —

Spokesperson —

— How does it relate to the past.

MSG — — Never before

Never again — sounds for —

TO DO — back to AC/Cooper

Cooper — umbrella. — NARS, NAB —

AZ — atomic vets

— VP participate in rad report?

(202)
Fax to 586-0956

537-1431 Jan Foster hr 428,5080B
Carmine Madrogall 586-4940

Ann 202-586-1607 voice
Elliot 586-5823 fax

Crime cover — by Mandy. —

Carol - speaking role?

P

Eli-

From Phil (Dave)

- Trans script of Press conference
- C.O. of Trustees

Compensation

- who is giving money
- how much research was classified
-
- how does this relate to Persian Gulf Commission. —

EPA - what are we doing on environmental releases.

Shindler-decker
Cindy 586-8730

Elle at home 203-536-3997

— fax to Elle at DOE Sunday night. —

— April Melodey —

Non-political spoke

- VA - ionizing radiation screening program - ~~package~~ will be submitting as part of a larger ~~answer~~ -
- VA ionizing radiation registration/exam program
 - free exam + any lab tests to work up claimants.
 - Have "special" eligibility for health care ^{for} conditions VA recognizes as radiogenic. - 20-30

Update of epi tables -
solicited proposal for \$2 M. from IOM
over 30 months - Asking NIH for
less than

NIH in violation of orphan drug Act. -

working grp recommended IOM. -

Sec Brown -

- updated table
- adequacy of rules for compensating vets -
added cancers to list of radiogenic conditions -
allowed showing that particular

PL Y (1) Hiroshima/Nagasaki -

PL Y (2) Dose estimate - mods will be for this case.

3/19/97

DRAFT: Q's & A's for Radiation Event

- Q1. A) How many people are currently involved in classified research?
B) How many classified experiments are currently taking place?

Elly

- Elizabeth asked for agencies to respond on (A) & (B) by Monday
- CIA will have answer by today (Friday)

- Q2. A) Who is receiving compensation?
B) How much compensation are they receiving?
C) Who is excluded from receiving compensation?

Plutonium injection cases —
16/18 (all who filed)
+ uranium

- Q3. A) What is the universe of experiments under consideration?
B) How many experiments does this include?
C) How many people were involved in these experiments?
D) How many people were harmed in the experiments?
E) How many people were not informed that they were in an experiment?
F) What portion of past experiments were classified?

- Q4. A) What steps is the government taking to prevent ethically problematic experiments from taking place in the future?
B) Would the new Presidential directive have prevented past mistakes?

Ritchie

Elly

- Q5) Is the government taking any steps to reform legislative relief measures for veterans?

- nasopharyngeal irradiation cases
- update of epi tables

VA

Why isn't VA doing more for veterans. —

- Q6) Are the controversies surrounding radiation experiments and Persian Gulf syndrome in any way similar or related?

Record keeping — The

To Elly

- Q7) A) What is the relationship between human radiation experiments and environmental releases of radiation?
B) What steps is the government taking on environmental releases of radiation?

Uranium Miners — Paul Banerjee —

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: March 14, 1997

____ **ACCEPT**

____ **REGRET**

____ **PENDING**

TO: Anne Hawley
Stephanie Street

FROM: Bruce Reed
Kitty Higgins

REQUEST: To unveil the Administration's Report on Human Radiation Experiments, "Building Public Trust: Actions to Respond to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments," and announce two new actions by the President on this issue.

PURPOSE: This event would highlight the steps the Administration will be taking to address the issues surrounding human radiation experiments. Specifically, the President would sign a Directive strengthening protections for human subjects participating in classified research and requiring agencies to disclose the number of secret research projects they have underway. The President would also announce new legislation to better compensate uranium miners.

BACKGROUND: In January, 1994 the President established the Advisory Committee on human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE) to examine reports that the government had funded and conducted unethical human radiation experiments during the Cold War. The President received the Committee's findings at an October 6, 1995 event

This report presents the Administration's total response to the Committee's findings, including our record to date on the issue of human radiation experiments and several new actions the President will take.

Note: If the President does not participate in this event, the Secretaries of Energy, HHS, and others would like to release the report at the White House and then brief reporters in the White House Press Briefing Room.

DATE AND TIME: sometime in March, 1997

DURATION: 20 minutes

LOCATION: Oval Office

PARTICIPANTS: POTUS
Secretary Pena
Secretary Shalala
Former Secretary O'Leary
Advisory Council Members (Optional)
Members of Congress (Optional)

**OUTLINE OF
EVENTS:** The President could receive the report from the relevant Cabinet
Secretaries in the Oval Office, make a brief statement, and then sign the
directive at his desk.

**REMARKS
REQUIRED:** Yes

**MEDIA
COVERAGE:** Pool Spray.

**RECOMMENDED
BY:** Bruce Reed

CONTACT: Christa Robinson, x6-5165



Building Public Trust

ACTIONS TO RESPOND TO THE REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RADIATION EXPERIMENTS



Executive Summary

"Our greatness is measured not only in how we . . . do right but also [in] how we act when we know we've done the wrong thing; how we confront our mistakes, make our apologies, and take action."

—President Clinton
October 3, 1995

In January 1994, President Clinton established the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE) to examine reports that the government had funded and conducted unethical human radiation experiments and releases of radiation during the Cold War. The President directed ACHRE to uncover the truth, recommend steps to right past wrongs, and propose ways to prevent unethical human subjects research from occurring in the future. The Committee published its findings and recommendations in October 1995.

This report presents the Administration's actions to respond to ACHRE's findings and recommendations. The Committee found that the government had conducted several thousand human radiation experiments from 1945 to 1975. Although the majority of the experiments advanced biomedical science and were unlikely to have caused harm, some were conducted unethically. ACHRE made 18 recommendations to improve openness in government, protect human subjects in the future, and redress past wrongs. The Administration has adopted most of ACHRE's recommendations and has acted throughout the government to implement them.

The Administration has adopted most of ACHRE's recommendations and has acted throughout the government to implement them.

Opening the Record

ACHRE recommended that the government take a number of steps to organize the historical records of human radiation experiments and to give the public access to these records. ACHRE identified the National Archives as the appropriate repository for documents. The Committee also recommended an independent review of the CIA's recordkeeping system and all of its documents related to human radiation experiments.

The Administration has invested heavily in making documents accessible.

Key Actions

- The Administration has invested heavily in making documents accessible. ACHRE transferred more than 1 million pages of documents to the National Archives. The Administration has made 300,000 fully searchable pages of documents available on the Internet, and will add an additional 200,000 pages shortly. The Departments of Energy and Defense have published document search guides.
- The President signed Executive Order 12958 directing Federal agencies to review and declassify thousands of documents, including documents on radiation experiments.
- The National Records and Archives Administration is conducting an independent review of the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA's) recordkeeping system and the CIA's Inspector General reviewed and reported on the CIA's human experiments.

Protecting Human Subjects in the Future

The Advisory Committee recommended steps to strengthen protections for human subjects and ensure the government does not repeat past mistakes.

Key Actions

- President Clinton is issuing a directive to strengthen protections for subjects of classified (secret) research. Agencies will propose new rules to eliminate waiver of informed consent; disclose the identity of the sponsoring agency; ensure a more independent review process; and require permanent records. Agencies will also report annually on the number of classified human research projects and the number of human subjects involved in each project.
- President Clinton established the National Bioethics Advisory Committee (NBAC) to examine bioethical issues, including human research issues. A subcommittee of NBAC will address certain broad questions raised by ACHRE, including how to strengthen Institutional Review Boards (IRBs)—the local ethics panels for federally sponsored research.
- President Clinton directed agencies to develop plans to improve oversight of ethics rules. NBAC will review these plans in the coming months.

A subcommittee of National Bioethics Advisory Committee will address certain broad questions raised by ACHRE, including how to strengthen Institutional Review Boards—the local ethics panels for federally sponsored research.

- Agencies have undertaken nationwide education efforts to raise the profile of ethical considerations, and are funding research to improve our understanding of ethical issues.

Righting Past Wrongs

The Advisory Committee recommended, among other things, that the government apologize to all subjects, compensate certain subjects, and consider modifying the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, and its regulations, to compensate additional uranium miners.

Key Actions

- The President apologized to all subjects on behalf of the government; former Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary made apologies in certain individual cases.
- The Federal government has paid compensation to the families of 16 of the 18 known subjects ACHRE recommended be compensated, and is in negotiations with others. The government has not been able to identify an additional 52 subjects ACHRE recommended be compensated.
- The Administration will propose legislative and regulatory changes to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to incorporate the latest science and better compensate affected uranium miners.
- The Administration will propose legislation to make veterans treated with nasopharyngeal radiation eligible for health screening under the Department of Veterans Affairs' Ionizing Radiation Program.

The Federal government has paid compensation to the families of 16 of the 18 known subjects ACHRE recommended be compensated

The actions and policies described in this report will help bring justice to those harmed by the mistakes of the Cold War, and prevent the recurrence of past wrongs. The report presents those actions that are completed or underway. The Administration will continue to take steps to open the government's records, raise ethical standards, and right the wrongs of the past.

Agenda
Interagency Working Group on Human Radiation Experiments
January 9, 1997

I. Introductions

II. Where are we?

- . Report
- . RECA legislation
- . Outreach
- . Event

III. Invitees to Event

- . Public *AC - armic vets; Coroner Brown - unprepared;*
- . ACHRE Committee members
- . Congressional
- . Press
- . Departmental

V. Press Materials

- . Press release - *join from all departments; DOE drafted;*
- . Q's and A's
- . Statements
- . *Spokesman. — msg --- I brought these agencies together to.*

IV. Brainstorming Q's & A's

V. Ongoing Classified Human Subject Experiments

VI. Next Steps

Media Advisory — 11:00 deadline

Press Release — ~~statements from O'Leary~~
~~Bob~~ Friday; draft quote from Secretary

O'Leary
PSTUS
SH-1010101

1-page Fact Sheet on RECA. —
— Bios

Done — Exec Summary

DOE — Web Access Sheet

DOE — phone number help line

DOE — chronology

- bullet talking points
- Fact sheet on dinosaurs
- Fact sheet on RECA

DOE • ~~DOE~~ Desk statements / talking pts.
 Presidential Statement

Q. HHS. - NO
 VA - NO

DOJ - NO

DOH - NO but check

DOE -

NASA.



HUMAN RADIATION EXPERIMENTS CHRONOLOGY

- November 1993 Eileen Welsome series in Albuquerque Tribune on plutonium injection experiments.
- December 1993 Openness press conference #1; announced plutonium experiments, DOE effort to find the story behind Cold War government-sponsored human radiation experiments.
- January 1994 White House announces Interagency Working Group and intention to form independent Advisory Committee. Executive Order issued.
- January 1994 First meeting of Interagency Working Group.
- April 1994 Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, chaired by Dr. Ruth Faden, holds first public meetings in Washington, DC.
- October 1994 Advisory Committee publishes interim report.
- February 1995 DOE publishes Roadmap to the Records, a narrative history of human radiation experiments records.
- July 1995 DOE publishes its final list of experiments; announces in press conference.
- October 1995 Advisory Committee presents final recommendations to the President in press conference. President commits to Interagency Working Report within one year. Executive Order recommending improvements in human subjects protection also announced.
- February 1996 Interagency Working Group meeting with stakeholders to gain input into the government response to the Advisory Committee recommendations.
- January 1997 Interagency Working Group releases government response to the Advisory Committee recommendations. [anticipated]

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:

Anne Elliott, 202/586-1607

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 10, 1997

MEDIA ADVISORY

The Clinton Administration will detail its actions in response to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments in a press briefing January 14, 1997. Copies of the Administration's report "Building Public Trust: Actions to Respond to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments" will be available at the briefing.

WHO: John T. Gibbons, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and Director, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy

Hazel R. O'Leary, Secretary of Energy

Jesse Brown, Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Phil Lee, Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services

WHAT: Clinton Administration Response to Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments

WHEN: Tuesday, January 14, 1997
12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Room 450
Old Executive Office Building

CONTACT: Anne Elliott, Press Office, U.S. Department of Energy
202/586-5806

N-97-00

**CLINTON ADMINISTRATION STRENGTHENS PROTECTIONS
FOR HUMAN RESEARCH SUBJECTS**

Response to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments Report

Today, the Clinton Administration announced steps to assure that American citizens never again will be subjects of classified research without their informed consent. The Administration's actions today will strengthen protections for human research subjects and ensure the government does not repeat past mistakes. President Clinton's Human Radiation Interagency Working Group released its action plan in response to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments Report.

The Cabinet-Level Human Radiation Interagency Working Group (Working Group) includes representatives from the Executive Office of the President as well as representatives from the Departments of Energy, Defense, Health and Human Services, Justice and Veterans Affairs, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Central Intelligence Agency.

"In October of 1994, when I accepted the report of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE), I made a commitment that this report would not be left on the shelf to gather dust," stated President Clinton. "We would use it as a roadmap to ensure that the mistakes of the past lead us to better choices in the future."

The Working Group's report, "Building Public Trust: Actions to Response to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments" details the Administration's roadmap on expanding public access to records on the human radiation experiments, protecting human research subjects in the future, and righting past wrongs.

President Clinton is issuing a directive to strengthen protections for subjects of classified research. As part of this action, agencies will propose new rules to eliminate waiver of informed consent; disclose the identity of the sponsoring agency; ensure a more independent review process, and require permanent records. Agencies will also report annually on the number of classified human research projects and the number of human subjects involved in each project.

The Administration will propose legislative and regulatory changes to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to incorporate the latest science and better compensate affected uranium miners.

Is there any problem

with asking now for
Departments to send people
to help on this.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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003. list	re: Interagency Working Group [partial] (1 page)	n.d.	P3/b(3)
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Elizabeth Drye
OA/Box Number: 10455

FOLDER TITLE:

Event Planning - ACHRE [Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments]

2014-0046-S

rc1435

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

VA

*T. Muen Rom
w/ Conference*

INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP

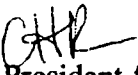
(b)(3)		[003]
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DEFENSE	✓ BAILEY, CLAUDE	703/442-5675	FAX 847-0890
	✓ PIERRE, JOAN MA	703/325-7302	FAX 325-2959
	✓ SOPER, GORDON	703/697-5561	FAX 695-0476
ENERGY	AZIM, LORI	586-5319	FAX 586-0956
	GALSON, STEVEN	586-7700	FAX 586-9626
	MELAMED, ELLY	586-6857	FAX 586-2268
	NORDHAUS, BOB	586-5966	FAX 586-1499
	O'TOOLE, TARA	586-6151	FAX 586-0956
	SCHIAVO, LISA	586-5289	FAX 586-1499
EPA	FRANK, BILL	564-2584	FAX 501-0069
JUSTICE	✓ GLYNN, PAT	616-4200	FAX 616-4473
	PLAZA, EVA	514-3309	FAX 514-8071
HHS	BALDWIN, WENDY	301/496-1096	FAX 402-3469
	✓ ELLIS, GARY	301/496-7005 (#205)	FAX 402-2071
NASA	✓ FERGUSON, EARL	358-4538	FAX 358-3038
	NICOGOSSIAN, ARNAUD	358-0215	FAX 358-4174
	STOKLOSA, JANIS	358-2209	FAX 358-3038
OMB	GLAUTHIER, T.J.	395-4561	FAX 395-4639
	✓ MACRIS, ERIC	395-4706	FAX 395-4817
OSTP	✓ LEVINSON, RACHEL	456-6137	FAX 456-6027
VA	✓ DEVESTY, BOB	273-8453	FAX 273-9080
	✓ MATHER, SUSAN	273-8575	FAX 273-9079
	OTCHIN, NEIL	273-8578	FAX 273-9078
	COLLIER, CATHY	273-7226	
WH	CAPLAN, PHIL	456-2702	FAX 456-2215
	DRYE, ELIZABETH	456-5573	FAX 456-7028
	REGAS, DIANE	456-5589	FAX 456-7028

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 9, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR TODD STERN

FROM: Carol H. Rasco 
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

SUBJECT: Release of Administration Report, *Building Public Trust: Actions to Respond to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments*

Attached is a draft report setting forth the Administration's response to the President's Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE). Secretaries O'Leary and Shalala, and Jack Gibbons, tentatively plan to release the report in an OEOB press conference on Tuesday, January 14. I would appreciate your circulating the report to senior White House staff with a comment deadline of COB Saturday, January 11.

Content of Report and Press Conference

In January, 1994 President Clinton established ACHRE in response to reports that the government had funded and conducted unethical human radiation experiments and releases of radiation during the Cold War. This report fulfills the President's October, 1995 promise that ACHRE's 18 specific recommendations would not simply sit on a shelf. It summarizes steps the Administration is taking to open the public record, strengthen protections for human subjects, and right past wrongs.

A DPC-chaired working group prepared the report. Through the OMB process, relevant agencies have concurred on all but one narrow issue regarding proposed changes to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA). If we cannot resolve the RECA issue by Tuesday, we will release the report without the proposed legislation.

The Administration has announced previously many of the actions presented in the report (e.g. declassification of thousands of pages of documents; establishment of the National Bioethics Advisory Committee; DOE's settlement of 13 of 18 plutonium injection cases). We will announce two specific new policies at the report's release: (1) a Presidential memorandum directing departments to propose new regulatory protections for human subjects of classified research and to disclose annually the number of human subjects participating in classified research; and (2) proposed legislative changes to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to better compensate Cold War uranium miners (if cleared). The press conference will focus on the Presidential memorandum.

Expected Reaction

We expect public reaction to the report to be generally positive, although some members of the public will be very disappointed that the government is not providing financial compensation and medical care to a broader array of experimental subjects and their families. Over the past two weeks we have discussed the report with the Chair of ACHRE, Dr. Ruth Faden, with staff from Senator Glenn and Representative Markey's offices, and with representatives of the Task Force on Radiation and Human Rights, the key stakeholder group. We have incorporated the comments we received from the Committee Chair. Congressional staff did not have comments that would affect the report.

The stakeholders have pushed us to substantially expand compensation of experimental subjects -- which we cannot justify on policy grounds. We have closely adhered to ACHRE's recommendations regarding compensation. The Committee recommended more generous compensation for certain specific populations (e.g. uranium miners) only.

The White House Conference Center

6-7507 Fax 6-6791

RESERVATION REQUEST

Date of Meeting: 3/19

Time Reserved: 11:00

From: 11 To: 12

Elizabeth Dye
Name of Individual Hosting/Attending Event:
"

Domestic Policy Council
Office/Agency:
6-5573
Extension:

Staff Person Responsible for Room Reservation:

Type of Event:

☒ Meeting ☐ Reception ☐ Other

Description of Event:

Planning for Radiation Event

Number of Attendees:

~15

In Attendance:

☐ President ☐ First Lady ☐ Vice President

Room(s) Requested:

☐ Truman Room ☐ Wilson Room ☐ Eisenhower Room ☒ Jackson Room ☐ Lincoln Room

Special Room Arrangements for the Truman Room:

☐ Truman Room Number of Chairs

☐ Reception:

☐ Other:

☐ Coffee ☐ Water Service

Number of Attendees:

Additional Requirements or Requests:

DRAFT: Q's & A's for Radiation Event

- Q1. A) How many people are currently involved in classified research?
B) How many classified experiments are currently taking place?
- Elizabeth asked for agencies to respond on (A) & (B) by Monday
 - CIA will have answer by today (Friday)
- Q2. A) Who is receiving compensation?
B) How much compensation are they receiving?
C) Who is excluded from receiving compensation?
- Q3. A) What is the universe of experiments under consideration?
B) How many experiments does this include?
C) How many people were involved in these experiments?
D) How many people were harmed in the experiments?
E) How many people were not informed that they were in an experiment?
F) What portion of past experiments were classified?
- Q4) A) What steps is the government taking to prevent ethically problematic experiments from taking place in the future?
B) Would the new Presidential directive have prevented past mistakes?
- Q5) Is the government taking any steps to reform legislative relief measures for veterans?
- nasopharyngeal irradiation cases
 - update of epi tables
- Q6) Are the controversies surrounding radiation experiments and Persian Gulf syndrome in any way similar or related?
- Q7) A) What is the relationship between human radiation experiments and environmental releases of radiation?
B) What steps is the government taking on environmental releases of radiation?

- Kris Bullock -

- Press -

- Release with briefing -

-



OEBOB CONFERENCE & ROOSEVELT ROOM RESERVATION

6-2506

Date of Meeting:	Tue, Jan. 14
Time:	12:30 PM
To:	2:00 PM

All reservation forms should be submitted at least 48 hours prior to events.

Name of Individual Hosting Event:	E. Drye	Office/Agency:	OPD - DRC				
Staff Contact:	D. Craft	Extension No.:	65571	Pager No.:	4792	Room No.:	222
Type of Event:	☐ Meeting ☐ Reception ☐ Other <u>Press Conf.</u>						
Name/Description of Event:	~~_____~~ Radiation						
Number of Outside Guests:	75	In Attendance:	☐ President ☐ First Lady ☐ Vice President ☐ Mrs. Gore				
Total Number of Attendees:	100	<u>X Cab. Secretaries</u>					
Room(s) Requested:	☐ Roosevelt Room * ☐ Room 180 ☐ Room 472 ☐ Room 474 (Indian Treaty Room) ☐ Room 476 ☒ Room 450 ☐ Room 459						
General Services:	☐ Elevator Service (elevator #4) Time Reserved: <u>12:15</u> - <u>2:00 PM</u> ☒ Podium ☒ Flags						
Special Room Arrangements for the Indian Treaty Room:	☐ Conference Style ☐ Theatre Style ☐ Other _____ Number of Chairs: _____ Number of Table(s): _____						
Entrance/Gate Preferred:	☒ Pennsylvania Avenue (OEBOB) ☐ East Visitors Gate Note: the 17th & "G" Street entrance is wheelchair accessible.						
Additional Requirements or Requests:	<u>Cabinet Secretaries will attend. Total #</u> <u>of guests not yet confirmed.</u>						

* Roosevelt Room Reservation Forms must be returned to the West Wing receptionist (FAX # 6-1210)

OEBOB Room Reservation Forms must be returned to Room 1, OEBOB (FAX # 6-6472)

All reservation forms should be submitted at least 48 hours prior to events.

Internet Access to Human Radiation Experiment Information

The report being released today is available via the Internet's World Wide Web at **The DOE Office of Human Radiation Experiments (OHRE) Homepage** (<http://www.ohre.doe.gov>). Hard copies are also available by calling

A listing of human radiation experiment and related information sources on the Internet is provided below.

- **Human Radiation Experiments Information Management System (HREX)**
(<http://hrex.dis.anl.gov>)

HREX was originally created by the DOE Office of Human Radiation Experiments to provide Internet access to the records it collected during the human radiation experiments project. In the spirit of openness, the other agencies involved in human radiation experiments (DoD, HHS, VA, NASA, and CIA) have joined DOE in this effort.

This new interagency version of the database contains over 300,000 pages of records collected by the agencies for the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments. Upon completion later this year, it is expected that HREX will include half a million pages of historical documents from all agencies.

All agency documents have been imaged and the complete document text captured electronically via OCR (optical character recognition). Researchers are able to conduct searches of the full text of the document collection and to view the actual images of the relevant documents. Researchers may search the records of all agencies or may limit their searches to a particular agency of interest.

- **The DOE Office of Human Radiation Experiments (OHRE) Homepage**
(<http://www.ohre.doe.gov>)

The OHRE Homepage was made available to the public in February 1995. The homepage, which is periodically updated includes:

-Link to HREX

-The IAWG final report, *Building Public Trust: Actions to Respond to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments*

-OHRE's publications

- *Human Radiation Experiments: The Department of Energy Roadmap to the Story and the Records*, which includes project background, site histories, records series descriptions, topical essays, and a preliminary list of experiments.
- *Human Radiation Experiments Associated with the United State Department of Energy and its Predecessors*, which contains the summary of over 400 experiments identified by DOE.
- *Human Radiation Studies: Remembering the Early Years*, which consists transcripts of 29 oral histories of individuals important to this topic.

-The Final Report of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments

-Transcripts of the February 1996 Stakeholders Workshop

-Photographs

- **Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments Homepage at the National Security Archive (<http://www.seas.gwu.edu/nsarchive/radiation/>)**

The site includes information such as the transcripts and related materials for Committee meetings, the text of the Final Report, and the complete listing of the Research Document (Archives) collection, Publications (Library) collection, and ACHRE-identified experiments. Word searches can be performed using the capabilities of an Internet browser.

- **OpenNet (<http://www.doe.gov/html/osti/opennet/opennet1.html>)**

OpenNet is sponsored by the DOE Office of Declassification and was originally designed to provide public access to recently declassified documents. Its scope has been expanded to include may other publicly available documents from throughout the DOE complex, including the complete index of the collection at the Coordination and Information Center (CIC) in Las Vegas, which has a voluminous collection of AEC/DoD historical records from the Cold War period and of documents related to the health effects of ionizing radiation.

- **DOE Protecting Human Subjects Program Homepage (<http://www.er.doe.gov/production/ohr/humsubj/index.html>)**

This site, sponsored by the DOE Office of Health and Environmental Research, includes general information resources such as a handbook containing detailed guidance for all research parties in protecting human research subjects. The site also provides access to the DOE Human Subjects Research Projects Database, which

provides information of all research projects funded by DOE which involve human subjects.

- **The FDA Homepage (<http://www.fda.gov>)**

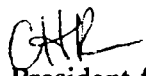
Copies of the FDA's Information Sheets for Institutional Review Boards and Clinical Investigators are available at this site.

- **The National Bioethics Advisory Committee (NBAC) Homepage (http://www.whitehouse.gov/wh/eop/ostp/html/ostp_home.html)**

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 9, 1996

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The Administration has adopted most of ACHRE's recommendations and has acted throughout the government to implement them.

Opening the Record

ACHRE recommended that the government take a number of steps to organize the historical records of human radiation experiments and to give the public access to these records. ACHRE identified the National Archives as the appropriate repository for documents. The Committee also recommended an independent review of the CIA's recordkeeping system and all of its documents related to human radiation experiments.

Key Actions

- The Administration has invested heavily in making documents accessible. ACHRE transferred more than 1 million pages of documents to the National Archives. The Administration has made 300,000 fully searchable pages of documents available on the Internet, and will add an additional 200,000 pages shortly. The Departments of Energy and Defense are publishing document search guides.
- The President signed Executive Order 12958 directing Federal agencies to review and declassify thousands of documents, including documents on radiation experiments.
- The National Records and Archives Administration is conducting an independent review of the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA's) recordkeeping system and the CIA's Inspector General reviewed and reported on the CIA's human experiments.

The Administration has invested heavily in making documents accessible.

Protecting Human Subjects in the Future

The Advisory Committee recommended steps to strengthen protections for human subjects and ensure the government does not repeat past mistakes.

Key Actions

- President Clinton is issuing a directive to strengthen protections for subjects of classified (secret) research. Agencies will propose new rules to eliminate waiver of informed consent; disclose the identity of the sponsoring agency; ensure a more independent review process, and require permanent records. Agencies will also report annually on the number of classified human research projects and the number of human subjects involved in each project.
- President Clinton established the National Bioethics Advisory Committee (NBAC) to examine bioethical issues, including human research issues. A subcommittee of NBAC will address certain broad questions raised by ACHRE, including how to strengthen Institutional Review Boards (IRBs)—the local ethics panels for federally sponsored research.
- President Clinton directed agencies to develop plans to improve oversight of ethics rules. NBAC will review these plans in the coming months.

A subcommittee of National Bioethics Advisory Committee will address certain broad questions raised by ACHRE, including how to strengthen Institutional Review Boards—the local ethics panels for federally sponsored research.

- Agencies have undertaken nationwide education efforts to raise the profile of ethical considerations, and are funding research to improve our understanding of ethical issues.

Righting Past Wrongs

The Advisory Committee recommended, among other things, that the government apologize to all subjects, compensate certain subjects, and consider modifying the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, and its regulations, to compensate additional uranium miners.

Key Actions

- The President apologized to all subjects on behalf of the government; Energy Secretary O’Leary has made apologies in certain individual cases.
- The Federal government has paid compensation to the families of 13 of the 18 known subjects ACHRE recommended be compensated, and is in negotiations with others. An additional 52 unknown subjects have not been identified.
- The Administration will propose legislative and regulatory changes to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to incorporate the latest science and better compensate affected uranium miners.
- The Administration will propose legislation to make veterans treated with nasopharyngeal radiation eligible for health screening under the Department of Veterans Affairs’ Ionizing Radiation Program.

The Federal government has paid compensation to the families of 13 of the 18 known subjects.

The actions and policies described in this report will help bring justice to those harmed by the mistakes of the Cold War, and prevent the recurrence of past wrongs. The report presents those actions that are completed or underway. The Administration will continue to take steps to open the government’s records, raise ethical standards, and right the wrongs of the past.

January 14, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR DON BAER

FROM: ELI ATTIE
Communications

DIANE REGAS
Domestic Policy Council

SUBJECT: Human Radiation Experiments – Possible Presidential Event

Bruce Reed has asked us to communicate to you his support for a Presidential event to announce the Administration's actions to respond to the President's Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments.

BACKGROUND

In January, 1994 President Clinton established the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE) to examine reports that the government had funded and conducted unethical human radiation experiments and releases of radiation during the Cold War. The Committee found that the government had conducted unethical experiments and identified changes to ensure that the government does not repeat past mistakes. In October, 1995, ACHRE made 18 recommendations to improve openness in government, protect human subjects in the future, and redress past wrongs.

We are ready to release a report detailing the Administration's actions to respond to ACHRE's findings and recommendations. The Administration has adopted most of ACHRE's recommendations and has acted throughout the government to implement them. (The report explaining the Administration's actions is titled "Building Public Trust" and can be ready for the printer with 24 hours' notice.)

One of the Advisory Committee's recommendations was to protect human subjects of *classified* research. While very few classified human subject experiments are undertaken, they raise deep concern about government abuse of individual rights.

The central new announcement in the response to ACHRE is a Presidential directive to protect human subjects of classified research, and to give the public information about how many such experiments are going on at any time. Protections include a prohibition of waiver

of informed consent, disclosure that the research is classified, disclosure of the sponsoring agency, and improvements in the review and approval of experiments--including a new appeal to the White House. This breakthrough in openness about classified research is an important step towards closing the door on a repetition of the abuses that ACHRE documented.

A second new action is a legislative proposal to expand compensation to uranium miners who have gotten lung cancer because the government failed to warn or protect them while they worked in the mines. This action will affect southwestern states--New Mexico and others.

MESSAGE

President Clinton is taking the first-ever action to protect human subjects of secret research. The President's action closes the door on a repetition of the secret experiments that took place in the past.

The President's directive builds on the actions we have taken to open the government to public scrutiny and is an important part of the Clinton Administration's response to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments.

PRESS INTEREST

Press interest in this story has been somewhat variable, however the *New York Times* and ABC have reporters who have done stories. A few dailies are very likely to cover this on the front page, including the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*. Families of those who were experimental subjects can provide a human interest angle.

Some news organizations will likely draw parallels to the Persian Gulf War stories, heightening the visibility of the story.

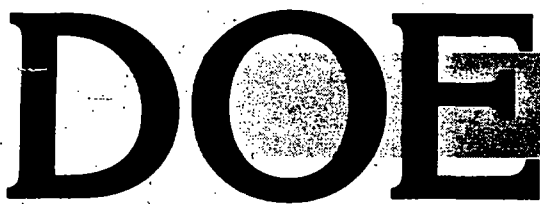
POTENTIAL NEGATIVES

The principle negative reaction we expect is from the stakeholders that are not getting compensation. They object to our failure to expand compensation to all experimental subjects and to veterans who were exposed to radiation. These stakeholders had the same objections to the original ACHRE report, but their objections have not detracted from the overall positive reaction to the report.

POSSIBLE EVENT OUTLINE

We have not identified a local site for this event that would be an alternative to the White House. We can be very flexible on the level of participation in an event. Here are two possibilities:

Oval Office Photo Opportunity



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Congressional, Public, and Intergovernmental Affairs
1000 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-6827

REGIONAL NEWSCLIPS

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY
MARCH 29, 30, 1997

I. ARTICLES ON RADIATION EXPOSURE	Various Papers	1-30
II. ARTICLES ON SAVANNAH RIVER SITE	Various Papers	31-40
III. ARTICLES ON HANFORD	Various Papers	41-49
IV. ARTICLES ON LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LAB	Albuquerque Journal	50-51
V. ARTICLES ON FERNALD	Various Papers	52-54
VI. ARTICLES ON PANTEX	Various Papers	55-57
VII. ARTICLE ON BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LAB	Long Island Newsday	58
VIII. ARTICLE ON IDAHO NATIONAL ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENT LAB	Post Register	59
IX. ARTICLE ON LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LAB	Tracy Press	60
X. ARTICLE ON NATIONAL RENEWAL ENERGY LAB	Kansas City Star	61
XI. ARTICLE ON LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LAB	Philadelphia Inquirer	62
XII. ARTICLE ON OAK RIDGE	The Oak Ridger	63
XIII. ARTICLE ON WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT	New Mexican	64
XIV. MISCELLANEOUS DOE ARTICLES	Various Papers	65-67
XV. ARTICLE ON GAS & OIL	Minneapolis Star Tribune	68
XVI. ARTICLES ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY	Various Papers	69-71
XVII. ARTICLE ON POWER GENERATION/ UTILITIES	Oakland Tribune	72-74
XVIII. ARTICLE ON NUCLEAR ENERGY	Chicago Sun Times	75-76



Sat., March 29, 1997 Rocky Mountain News

More miners to be paid for radiation exposure

\$50 million requested to compensate victims of past nuclear testing

By H. Josef Hebert

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration will ask Congress for \$50 million and changes in the law to compensate hundreds of uranium miners exposed to radiation in the government's nuclear weapons program.

The request to broaden the current compensation program for uranium miners was part of a series of responses the White House announced Friday to a report issued more than a year ago by a presidential commission that investigated human radiation experiments during the Cold War.

The Energy Department, which manages the nuclear weapons program, said the miners' exposure was "a tragedy created by the government's failure to use available resources" to adequately ventilate the mine shafts and reduce the risks of exposure.

The miners worked in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming between 1947 and 1991, and many are believed to be dead, officials acknowledged. Compensation would go to their families if Congress agrees.

A 1990 law already provides compensation for some miners, but the administration wants the criteria to cover about 600 more.

The White House also said it had reached a cash settlement with four families of individuals who, unknown to them, had been

injected with plutonium in the 1940s as part of secret research.

The department previously had announced a settlement with 12 of the families and the family of another person injected with uranium. The cost of the settlement for the 17 families was \$6.5 million.

The cases of two additional victims from the plutonium experiments are still not settled — one person has yet to be found and another of the families has told the government it wanted no compensation, officials said. The victims have not been identified.

The announcement brought criticism from a group representing survivors and families of victims.

The Task Force on Radiation and Human Rights, a coalition of families seeking compensation, accused the Energy Department of not doing enough to identify subjects.

The group maintains there were thousands of victims whose families deserve to be notified and compensated. But the presidential advisory group said that except for a few cases such as the plutonium injections, it could not find evidence of either medical harm or reason for compensation.

The actions, responding to the 18 recommendations made by the presidential advisory panel, are "designed to increase public trust ... and make our government accountable to the American people," Energy Secretary Federico Peña said.

Peña said an interagency task force has found no evidence of any secret human research project now under way.

Most claims settled on radiation testing

U.S. conducted secret experiments

By GREG E. NORMAN
Los Angeles Times

P.2A

WASHINGTON - The Clinton administration announced Friday it has settled all but two claims made by families of civilians subjected to involuntary radiation experiments, and is close to resolving other claims brought by victims of the Cold War-era research.

The administration has paid a total of \$6.5 million to 16 of the 18 people who were injected with uranium or plutonium without their knowledge as part of secret research conducted by the Defense Department and the Atomic Energy Commission after World War II.

In addition, the administration said it is pursuing possible settlements with a second group of research subjects who were aware of the tests but were not warned adequately about the potential risks. Those subjects must demonstrate they were harmed by the experiments before they may receive compensation.

The settlements are part of a larger effort by the Clinton administration to comply with guidelines established by a human radiation advisory committee that investigated several thousand human radiation experiments conducted between 1944 and 1974.

"Today's announced actions are designed to increase public trust, to ensure public accountability, and demonstrate this administration's continuing commitment to openness in government," said Energy Secretary Federico Peña.

President Clinton also has proposed legislative changes to ensure that miners who contracted lung cancer after being exposed to haz-

ardous levels of radon in government-operated uranium mines will receive compensation. According to Department of Energy estimates, the changes will make approximately 600 additional victims' families eligible to receive a total of \$50 million to be paid out over 15 years.

The advisory committee, which released its report last October, established guidelines for the specific claims that required compensation. According to Elly Melamed, the director of the Energy Department's office of human radiation experiments, two types of experiments fit the committee's guidelines.

The first group, consisting of persons who unknowingly participated in radiation experiments, deserves compensation regardless of whether they were injured by the tests, Melamed said.

Sixteen victims of radioactive injections have received an average of \$400,000 in compensation. The Department of Energy has been unable to locate one of the two remaining uncompensated victims. The other family has chosen not to participate in the settlement process, according to Tara O'Toole, the assistant secretary of Energy for environment, safety and health.

The second group consists of subjects who were aware that they were participating in radiation experiments but were misled as to the potential risks.

Clinton wants to expand the 1990 Radiation Exposure Compensation Act in response to the advisory committee's finding that "the government failed to act to require the reduction of the hazard by ventilating the mines," which it operated to extract uranium for use in nuclear weapons.

The miners worked in Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico from 1947 to 1991. Most of the 600 miners are believed to be dead, but their families would still receive compensation if the bill is made a law.

Uranium-miner compensation sought

Clinton will ask \$50 million for weapons workers

Associated Press

B3

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration will ask Congress for \$50 million and changes in the law to compensate hundreds of uranium miners exposed to cancer-causing radiation in the government's nuclear-weapons program.

The request to broaden the current compensation program for uranium miners was part of a series of responses the White House announced Friday to a report issued more than a year ago by a presidential commission that investigated human radiation experiments during the Cold War years.

The Energy Department, which manages the nuclear-weapons program, said the miners' exposure was "a tragedy created by the government's failure to use available resources" to adequately ventilate the mine shafts and reduce the risks of exposure to lung cancer.

The miners worked in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming between 1947 and 1991, and many of them are believed to be dead, officials acknowledged. Compensation would go to their families if Congress agrees.

A 1990 law already provides compensation for some miners, but the administration wants the criteria eased to cover about 600 additional miners.

The White House also said it had reached a cash settlement with four

families of additional individuals who, unknown to them, had been injected with plutonium in the 1940s as part of secret research.

The department had previously announced a settlement with 12 families and the family of another person injected with uranium. The cost of the settlement for the 17 families was put at \$6.5 million.

The cases of two additional victims from the plutonium experiments are still outstanding — one person has yet to be found, and another of the families has told the government it wanted no compensation, officials said. The victims have not been identified.

The announcement brought criticism from a group representing some survivors and families of victims of human radiation exposures.

The Task Force on Radiation and Human Rights, a coalition of families who are seeking compensation for what they maintain were radiation exposures, accused the Energy Department of not doing enough to identify research subjects.

"The administration continues to hide behind passive outreach and notification programs ... under the pretense that few if any were harmed by the experiments," said E. Cooper Brown, a spokesman for the group. "No one should be fooled for a moment."

He maintained that there were thousands of victims whose families deserve to be notified and compensated. The presidential-advisory group acknowledged thousands of experiments but said that, except for a few cases, it could find neither evidence of medical harm nor reason for compen-

sation.

Among the exceptions were the plutonium cases.

They prompted Hazel O'Leary, the former energy secretary, to order a detailed investigation into human radiation experiments. It also led to the president's appointment of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, which issued its report in October 1995.

The committee urged that the plutonium victims be compensated along with 52 other individuals who were subjects of various unethical experiments in the 1940s and 1950s. Little is known about the 52 research subjects, and officials said Friday their identities remained unknown.

The actions, responding to the 18 recommendations made by the advisory panel, are "designed to increase public trust ... and make our government accountable to the American people," said Energy Secretary Federico Pena, who succeeded O'Leary.

Pena said an interagency task force has found no evidence of any secret human research projects under way at this time. But he said neither the advisory panel nor the administration would rule out such projects in the future as long as they are conducted ethically.

Government settles radiation testing claims

■ 16 civilians exposed
to Cold War tests to
share \$6.5 million

By GREG E. NORMAN **A-2**
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration announced Friday it has settled all but two claims made by families of civilians subjected to involuntary radiation experiments, and is close to resolving other claims brought by victims of the Cold War-era research.

The administration has paid a total of \$6.5 million to 16 of the 18 people who were injected with uranium or plutonium without their knowledge as part of secret research conducted by the Defense Department and the Atomic Energy Commission after World War II.

In addition, the White House said it is pursuing possible settlements with a second group of research subjects who were aware of the tests but were not warned adequately about the risks. Those subjects must demonstrate they were harmed by the experiments before they may receive compensation.

The settlements are part of a larger effort by the Clinton administration to comply with guidelines established by a human radiation advisory committee that investigated several thousand human radiation experiments conducted between 1944 and 1974.

"Today's announced actions are

designed to increase public trust, to ensure public accountability, and demonstrate this administration's continuing commitment to openness in government," said Energy Secretary Federico Peña.

President Clinton also has proposed legislative changes to ensure that miners who contracted lung cancer after being exposed to hazardous levels of radon in government-operated uranium mines will receive compensation. According to Department of Energy estimates, the changes will make about 600 additional victims' families eligible to receive a total of \$50 million to be paid out over 15 years.

The advisory committee, which released its report in October, established guidelines for the specific claims that required compensation. According to Eli Melamed, the director of the Energy Department's office of human radiation experiments, two types of experiments fit the committee's guidelines.

People in the first group, who unknowingly participated in radiation experiments, deserve compensation regardless of whether they were injured by the tests, Melamed said.

Sixteen victims of radioactive injections have received an average of \$400,000 in compensation. The Department of Energy has been unable to locate one of the two remaining uncompensated victims. The other family has chosen not to participate in the settlement process, officials said.

Saturday - March 29, 1997

Page 7A

Page 1 of 1

Clinton seeks protection for human guinea pigs

■ President wants to ensure those who take part in government experiments are informed of risks

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Clinton took steps Thursday to protect those who participate in secret, government-sponsored experiments from mistreatment and assure they are fully informed of the risks.

The administration also said it has settled the last of a number of claims, totaling \$6.5 million, from families of civilians who were injected with plutonium or uranium as part of secret experiments in the 1940s.

The actions are "designed to increase public trust . . . and make our government accountable to the American people," said Energy Secretary Federico Pena, whose department has spearheaded the public review of past radiation experiments.

Mr. Pena said the administration also will ask Congress to expand a program that provides compensation to uranium miners who were exposed to radiation as part of the government nuclear

weapons program. He said up to 600 additional miners would be compensated at a cost of about \$50 million.

The plans for giving greater protection to research participants were prompted by recommendations more than a year ago by a presidential commission that investigated the government's use of humans in radiation research during the Cold War years.

The advisory panel warned that past excesses might be repeated unless there are new safeguards.

The White House said today that Mr. Clinton had signed a memorandum strengthening the rights and protections afforded individuals who agree to be subjects of secret, government-supported research.

The White House said a review by an interagency task force uncovered no government-supported classified human research at this time. But officials acknowledged that formal accounting for such research needs to be improved.

Meanwhile, the White House said it had settled claims with four additional families of 18 individuals who were given plutonium injections as part of 1940s experiments. One victim has not been located and the family of another does not want compensation, said

Tara O'Toole, DOE's assistant secretary for environment, safety and health.

Associate Attorney General John Dwyer said the 16 claims — 12 of which totaling \$4.8 million were made public last November — total \$6.5 million.

Under the new presidential directive on human research, agencies must develop new rules that clearly require scientists to obtain informed consent from all poten-

tial subjects of secret experiments. Currently, such consent may be waived under some circumstances.

The president also ordered that any research subject be told the identity of the sponsoring agency and whether the experimentation is classified. The new rules also would require the head of the agency to approve such research

and develop a more independent review process.

Also in response to the October 1995 findings by the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, the president said he will:

■ Ask Congress to broaden a 1990 law that allows compensation to underground uranium miners who became ill because of expo-

sure to radiation. Under current law, hundreds of miners are ineligible for compensation.

■ Will propose legislation to make veterans' health care benefits available to airmen and sailors who were subjects of radioactive nasal treatments more than 50 years ago. The treatments were to prevent broken eardrums during flight or in submarines.

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

MAR 29 1997

Administration Moves to Prevent Experiment Abuses

An order to protect test subjects' rights

Chronicle News Service

Washington

The Clinton administration, revealing what it hopes will be the lasting legacy of Cold War-era human radiation experiments, announced new measures yesterday that are intended to prevent Americans from ever again becoming unwitting subjects for government medical research.

Energy Secretary Federico Pena disclosed new cash settlements in cases involving what he called some of the worst abuses, and he also announced plans to expand compensation eligibility for hundreds of uranium miners who were exposed to radiation in mines that supplied raw ma-

terial for making atomic weapons.

Officials of the Justice and Energy departments said yesterday that government attorneys had settled — for a sum of \$6.5 million — 17 out of 19 cases in which government researchers during the Cold War era injected civilians with plutonium or uranium without their informed consent.

Of the two remaining cases, one test subject was never found, and the family of the other refused compensation. All but one of the 19 subjects are now dead, and the settlements have taken the form of payments to their families. Scores of other victims or their families are still trying to collect damages.

"Compassion and concern are at the core of our responses to human radiation experiments," Pena said in an announcement at the White House.

In taking the measures, Pena said

the government is nearly finished with what he called the most egregious cases: ones in which the experiments had been kept secret "for the purposes of avoiding liability or embarrassment to the government."

But the government is still defending at least five lawsuits, with about 80 victims identified and hundreds of others who may come forward.

The cases still outstanding include studies at Oregon State Prison and at Washington State Prison from 1963 to 1971, in which prisoners' testicles were irradiated to learn what doses made them sterile. They also include experiments involving mentally retarded children at a state school in Waltham, Mass., who, from 1946 to 1956, were told they were joining a "science club," and were given radioactive material in cereal.

Another lawsuit involves Vanderbilt University, where 820 pregnant

women were given small doses of radioactive iron from 1945 to 1947. And during the 1960s and '70s, subjects at the University of Cincinnati and three other universities were exposed to radiation over their entire bodies to measure the effects.

Under the new rules of human experimentation, Pena said, informed consent will be required; the sponsor of the experiment will be identified to the subject; the subject will be told the experiment is classified, and permanent records will be kept. Government agencies will report annually on whether such experiments are in progress; none is now, "as far as we can determine," he said.

The administration announced it will propose a bill expanding a compensation program now in place for uranium miners, asking Congress for \$50 million in order to pay the claims of an additional 600 miners.

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BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
Energy Secretary Federico Pena announced the initiatives at a White House news conference

THE OREGONIAN
Portland, ORAL
MARCH 30 1997

U.S. pays most of radiation claims

■ The government gives \$6.5 million to people injected with radioactive substances in Cold War experiments

By GREG E. NORMAN

LA Times-Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration announced Friday that it has settled all but two claims from families of civilians subjected to involuntary radiation experiments and is close to resolving other claims brought by victims of the Cold War-era research.

The administration has paid \$6.5 million to 16 of the 18 people who were injected with uranium or plutonium without their knowledge as part of secret research conducted by the Defense Department and the Atomic Energy Commission after World War II.

In addition, the administration said it is pursuing possible settlements with a second group of research subjects who were aware of the tests but were not warned ade-

quately about the potential risks. Those subjects must demonstrate they were harmed by the experiments before they may receive compensation.

The settlements are part of a larger effort by the Clinton administration to comply with guidelines established by a human radiation advisory committee that investigated several thousand human radiation experiments conducted between 1944 and 1974.

"Today's announced actions are designed to increase public trust, to ensure public accountability and demonstrate this administration's continuing commitment to openness in government," said Energy Secretary Federico Peña.

President Clinton also has proposed legislative changes to ensure that miners who contracted lung cancer after being exposed to hazardous levels of radon in government-operated uranium mines will receive compensation. According to Department of Energy estimates, the changes will make approximately 600 additional victims' families eligible to receive \$50 million to be paid out over 15 years.

The advisory committee, which released its report last October, established guidelines for the specific claims that required compensation. According to Elly Melamed, the director of the Energy Department's office of human radiation experiments, two types of experiments fit the committee's guidelines.

The first group, consisting of persons who unknowingly participated in radiation experiments, deserves compensation regardless of whether they were injured by the tests. Melamed said.

Sixteen victims of radioactive injections have received an average of \$400,000 in compensation. The Department of Energy has been unable to locate one of the two remaining uncompensated victims. The other family has chosen not to participate in the settlement process, said Tara O'Toole, the assistant secretary of energy for environment safety and health.

The second group consists of subjects who were aware that they were participating in radiation experiments but were misled as to the potential risks.

Clinton wants to expand the 1990 Radiation Exposure Compensation Act in response to the advisory committee's finding that "the government failed to act to require the reduction of the hazard by ventilating the mines," which it operated to extract uranium for use in nuclear weapons.

The miners worked in Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico from 1947 to 1991. Most of the 600 miners are believed to be dead, but their families would still receive compensation if the bill is made a law.

According to an interagency task force, there are no classified radiation experiments currently being conducted. Clinton outlined the specifications for future experiments in his response to the advisory committee's report.

Clinton has established new rules meant to preclude any more government-financed secret experiments on unwitting human subjects using radioactive, chemical or other dangerous materials, the White House announced Friday.

BURRELLE'S
NewsExpress

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

DATE: MAR 29 1997

White House seeks wider radiation compensation

GOVERNMENT: The administration would add 600 miners' cases. It reports settling with the families of 2 more research subjects.

By H. JOSEF HEBERT
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration will ask Congress for \$50 million and changes in the law to compensate hundreds of uranium miners exposed to cancer-causing radiation in the government's nuclear-weapons program.

The request to broaden the current compensation program for uranium miners was part of a series of responses the White House announced Friday to a report issued more than a year ago by a presidential commission that investigated human radiation experiments during the Cold War years.

The Energy Department, which manages the nuclear-weapons program, said the miners' exposure was "a tragedy created by the government's failure to use available resources" to adequately ventilate the mine shafts and reduce the risks of developing lung cancer.

The miners worked in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming from 1947 to 1991, and many of them are believed to be dead, officials acknowledged. Compensation would go to their families if Congress agrees.

A 1990 law provides compensation for some miners, but the ad-

ministration wants the criteria eased to cover about 600 more.

The White House also said it had reached a cash settlement with four additional families of individuals whom researchers had secretly injected with plutonium in the 1940s.

The department previously had announced a settlement with 12 other subjects' families and the family of a person injected with uranium. The cost of the settlement for the 17 families was put at \$6.5 million.

The cases of two additional subjects of the plutonium experiments are still outstanding — one person has yet to be found and the other's family has told the government it wanted no compensation, officials said. The two have not been identified.

The announcement brought criticism from a group representing some survivors and families of victims of human radiation exposures.

The Task Force on Radiation and Human Rights, a coalition of families seeking compensation for alleged radiation exposures, accused the Energy Department of not doing enough to identify research subjects.

"The administration continues to hide behind passive outreach and notification programs ... under the pretense that few if any were harmed by the experiments," said E. Cooper Brown, a spokesman for the group. "No one should be fooled for a moment."

He maintained that there were thousands of victims whose families deserve to be notified and

compensated. The presidential advisory group acknowledged thousands of experiments but said, that except for a few cases, it could not find evidence of harm nor reason for compensation.

Among the exceptions were the plutonium cases.

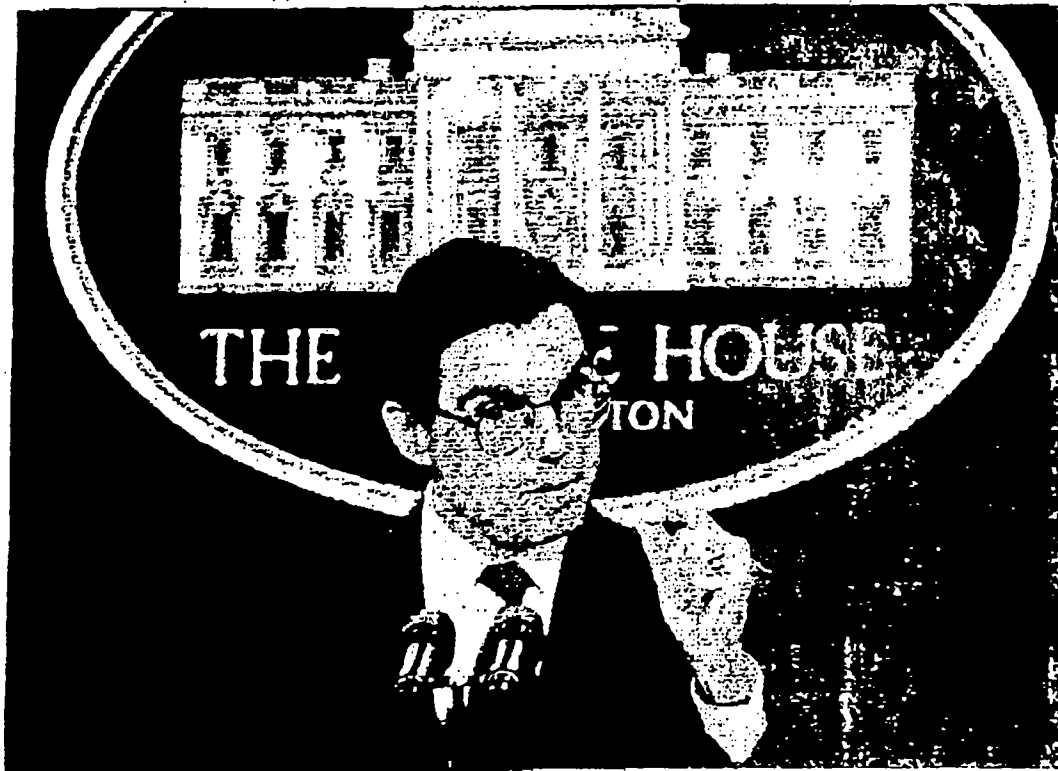
They prompted Hazel O'Leary, former energy secretary, to order a detailed investigation into human radiation experiments. It also led to the president's appointment of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, which issued its report in October 1995.

The committee urged that the plutonium victims be compensated along with 52 other individuals who were subjects of various "unethical" experiments in the 1940s and 1950s. Little is known about the 52 research subjects, and officials said Friday that their identities remain unknown.

The actions, responding to the 18 recommendations made by the panel, are "designed to increase public trust ... and make our government accountable to the American people," said Energy Secretary Federico Pena, who succeeded O'Leary.

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PENA MAKES POINT: Energy Secretary Federico Pena tells reporters Friday about compensation campaign. The Associated Press

U.S. acts to prevent abuses in its medical research

The government used several Americans as guinea pigs in post-WWII radiation experiments without their consent.

Washington Post

A4

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Clinton administration, unveiling what it hopes will be the lasting legacy of Cold War-era human radiation experiments, announced measures Friday aimed at preventing Americans from ever again becoming unwitting guinea pigs for government medical research.

Energy Secretary Federico Pena also disclosed new cash settlements in cases involving some of the worst abuses, and he

announced plans to expand eligibility for compensation to hundreds of uranium miners who were exposed to radiation in mines that supplied raw material for making atomic weapons.

"We stand here today to make our government accountable to our citizens," Pena said at a White House news conference, "and to ensure the American people of our commitment to do the right thing."

Clinton signed a presidential order directing federal agencies to post rules for research that protect the rights of test subjects, Pena said. The order also puts in place a system of checks and safeguards to guard against future abuses. In addition, he said, the government will be required to give an annual accounting of any classified research projects that involve human subjects — regardless of whether radiation is

used. No such experiments are believed to be underway, Pena said.

The initiatives are part of the administration's formal response to a 1995 report on human radiation experiments by government-funded scientists in the early years of the atomic era.

A presidential commission recommended apologies and cash compensation for the families of 18 people who were injected with plutonium without their knowledge. Another person who was injected with radioactive uranium was added to the list later.

Pena announced that government attorneys had settled 17 of the 19 cases for a sum of \$6.5 million. Most of the settlements were announced last fall. Of the two remaining cases, one test subject was never found and the family of the other re-

fused compensation. All but one of the 19 subjects are dead. Clinton and former Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary issued formal apologies to the 19 families.

"It's very heartening," said Jeffrey Kahn, the former associate director of the presidential commission, who now heads the University of Minnesota's Center for Biomedical Ethics. "To have the administration take positive steps even this long after is... remarkable and a big step."

He said the goal of his panel was trying to assure that "things that happened in the past won't occur in the future."

— For the complete report issued last year by the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, go to: <http://www.seas.gwu.edu/narchive/radiation/>.

NATIONAL

New rules ban secret tests on humans

■ The guidelines are in response to revelations of government-backed experiments with radioactive materials

By **MATTHEW L. WALD** *PA6*
New York Times News Service

WASHINGTON — President Clinton has established rules meant to preclude government-financed experiments on unwitting human subjects using radioactive, chemical or other dangerous materials, the White House announced Friday.

Officials of the Justice and Energy departments said Friday that they had made progress in settling some cases involving such experiments. In those cases, dating from the 1940s and 1950s, government researchers injected civilians with plutonium or uranium without their informed consent.

Nearly all the subjects, who were adults when the doses were given 40 years ago, are long dead, and the settlements have taken the form of payments to their families, generally in

the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Scores of other victims or their families are trying to collect damages.

"Compassion and concern are at the core of our response to human radiation experiments," Energy Secretary Federico Peña said in an announcement at the White House.

Sixteen cases have been settled; one is in the late stages of settlement; one family declined to participate; and one subject could not be found, government officials said. That means, Peña said, that the government is nearly finished with what he called the most egregious cases, the ones in which the experiments had been kept secret from the public and the victims "for the purposes of avoiding liability or embarrassment to the government."

But the government is defending at least five lawsuits, with about 80 victims identified and hundreds of others who may come forward.

Under the new rules, Peña said, informed consent will be required; the sponsor of the experiment will be identified to the subject; the sub-

ject will be told the experiment is classified; and permanent records will be kept. The advisory committee also wanted external reviews, and that process is being developed, Peña said. Government agencies will report annually on whether such experiments are in progress; none are now, "as far as we can determine," he said.

The cases that still are outstanding include studies at Oregon State Prison and at Washington State Prison from 1963 to 1971, in which prisoners' testicles were irradiated to learn what doses made them sterile. They also include experiments involving mentally retarded children at the Walter E. Fernald State School in Waltham, Mass., who, from 1946 to 1956, were told they were joining a "science club," and were given radioactive material in cereals.

Another lawsuit involves Vanderbilt University, where 820 pregnant women were given small doses of radioactive iron from 1945 to 1947. And during the 1950s and 1970s, subjects at the University of Cincinnati and three other universities were ex-

posed to radiation over their entire bodies to measure the effects.

The latter case, which extended into the early 1970s, includes 45 "active living plaintiffs," said E. Cooper Brown, a lawyer who represents them, and another 45 yet to be discovered.

Government officials divide the experiments into three categories:

■ Studies such as the ones with retarded children and pregnant women, in which researchers added traces of radioactivity to foods or minerals so they could study metabolism or organ function.

■ Radiation studies such the one in Cincinnati in which researchers may have thought the exposure would benefit the patient, as well as providing valuable military information on the effects of radiation exposure.

■ Injection experiments, which could not conceivably benefit the subjects, but might help government officials set exposure limits for workers in nuclear bomb plants and related industries. It is this category that the officials say they have put behind them.

MAR 29 1997

New rules for secret tests on humans

Clinton wants to prevent any repeat of abuses

By Leo Rennert

Bee Washington Bureau Chief *RAY*

WASHINGTON — President Clinton ordered all federal agencies Friday to prevent possible recurrence of dangerous human-guinea-pig tests like those conducted during the Cold War, when many civilians and military personnel became unwitting victims of radiation experiments.

Clinton issued a wide-ranging directive that mandates tight safeguards, close supervision and public accountability for secret experiments with humans — whether they involve radiation or any other methods such as genetic engineering.

After checking with the Pentagon and the CIA, officials said there appear to be no such research projects under way, but Clinton wanted to lay down guidelines in the event a national security need arises again to engage in such research.

To atone for past sins, the government announced payments of \$6.5 million to compensate 16 people who were injected with plutonium or uranium.

In addition, Clinton asked Congress to liberalize eligibility standards to enable an additional 600 uranium miners in Western states to collect \$50 million.

In most instances, officials said, the intended beneficiaries are dead and the money will go to their estates. One family of a plutonium-injected decedent refused to accept any payment.

"This is an important milestone, but we are by no means at the end of our journey," Clinton said. The administration's action came in response to a scathing 1996 report by a presidential advisory panel on abuses in radiation research dating back to the start of the atomic age.

The Justice Department still is working on four cases to resolve radiation-exposure claims, including a New England study that involved retarded children fed cereal with traces of radioisotopes.

In all, the government continues to look for the identity of 52 more individuals believed involved in experiments that also may have breached ethical rules.

"Today's actions are designed to increase public trust, to ensure public accountability, and demonstrate this administration's continuing commitment to openness in government," said Energy Secretary Federico Peña.

Assistant Energy Secretary Tara O'Toole said that of thousands of radiation experiments, the great majority were both appropriate and ethical, but some definitely crossed the line.

Starting in the 1940s and as recently as the early 1970s, she said, some scientists and doctors working on classified radiation research failed to tell patients that they were being treated with unconventional methods or that they were part of a research project.

In seeking to forestall a repeat of such abuses, Clinton's directive acknowledges it may again become necessary to conduct classified research with humans in the interest of national security, but it lays down the following requirements:

- Researchers may not ask participants to waive informed consent.

- The sponsoring agency must be clearly identified to prospective subjects.

- Participants must understand that the experiment is classified.

- Permanent records must be kept of all secret experiments.

- Agencies must make public each year the number of classified experiments and the number of subjects.

- Internal review boards will get additional clout with inclusion of at least one outside member, plus authority for any dissenting board member to appeal directly to the head of the agency and, if not satisfied, to the president's science adviser.

Congress passed a law in 1990 to compensate several groups: those who lived downwind from the Nevada nuclear test site when above-ground explosions were

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conducted; civilian and military personnel who worked on such tests; and uranium-mine workers in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

As part of its overall review, the administration also offered a monitoring partnership to authorities on the Marshall Islands in the South Pacific to ensure adequate medical care for native populations exposed to H-bomb tests.

In addition, the White House will ask Congress to make veterans' health-care benefits available to airmen and sailors who received radioactive nasal treatments a half-century ago to prevent broken eardrums in flight or in submarines.

To shed light on past experiments, more than 1 million pages of documents were turned over to the National Archives. The administration also made 300,000 pages available on the Internet and will add an additional 200,000 shortly. Clinton signed an executive order directing federal agencies to declassify thousands of documents, including many on radiation experiments.

WASHINGTON Digest**Uranium miners' compensation sought**

The Clinton administration will ask Congress for \$50 million and changes in the law to compensate hundreds of uranium miners exposed to cancer-causing radiation in the government's nuclear weapons program.

The request to broaden the current compensation program for uranium miners was part of a series of responses the White House announced yesterday to a report issued more than a year ago by a presidential commission that investigated human radiation experiments during the Cold War.

The Energy Department, which manages the nuclear weapons program, said the miners' exposure was "a tragedy created by the government's failure to use available resources" to ventilate the mine shafts adequately and reduce the risks of lung cancer.

The actions, responding to the 18 recommendations made by the presidential advisory panel, are "designed to increase public trust ... and make our government accountable to the American people," said Energy Secretary Federico Pena.

**Federico Pena****Judge says officials ignored lynx warnings**

A federal judge has ordered the Fish and Wildlife Service to reconsider its refusal to declare the lynx endangered, saying it ignored its own biologists' warnings that the cat is nearing extinction.

"This is a huge victory for the lynx, its ecosystem and the integrity of the Endangered Species Act," Rodger Schlickeisen, president of Defenders of Wildlife, said yesterday. His group is one of 13 environmental organizations that sued in January 1996 to try to force a listing.

The federal agency decided against listing the lynx under the Endangered Species Act in 1994 despite warnings from its own field offices that only a few hundred of the secretive cats remain in a few states.

"The Fish and Wildlife Service has consistently ignored the analysis of its expert biologists," U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler said in ordering the agency to review its decision.

Clinton unveils new rules for human testing

■ Radiation experiment
abuses prompted order

JOBY WARRICK WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration, unveiling what it hopes will be the lasting legacy of Cold War-era human radiation experiments, Friday announced new measures aimed at preventing Americans from ever again becoming unwitting guinea pigs for government medical research.

Energy Secretary Federico Pena also disclosed new cash settlements in cases involving some of the worst abuses, and he announced plans to expand eligibility for compensation to hundreds of uranium miners who were exposed to radiation in mines that supplied raw material for making atomic weapons.

Clinton signed an order Friday directing all federal agencies to post new rules for research that protect the rights of test subjects, Pena said. The order also puts in place a new system of checks and safeguards to guard against future abuses.

In addition, he said, the government will be required to give an annual accounting of any classified research projects that involve human subjects — regardless of whether radiation is used. At the moment, no such experiments are believed to be under way, Pena said.

The initiatives were part of the administration's formal response to a 1995 report on human radiation experiments by government-funded scientists in the early years of the atomic era. A presidential commission recommended apologies and cash compensation for the families of 18 people who were injected with plutonium without their knowledge.

Pena announced Friday that government attorneys had settled 17 of the 19 cases for a sum of \$6.5 million. Most of the settlements were announced in the fall.

Of the two remaining cases, one test subject was never found, and the family of the other refused compensation. All but one of the 19 subjects are now dead.

Both Clinton and former Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary issued formal apologies to the 19 families to close what Clinton called a "dark chapter in our nation's history." The experiments, intended to help scientists understand the effects of radiation on humans, "failed both the test of our national values and the test of humanity," the president said.

There is no evidence that any of the subjects suffered physical harm.

Clinton to seek compensation for radiation-exposed miners

By H. JOSEF HEBERT

AP Associated Press

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The Energy Department, which manages the nuclear weapons program, said the miners' exposure was "a tragedy created by the government's failure to use available resources" to adequately ventilate the mine shafts and reduce the risks of exposure to lung cancer.

The miners worked in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming between 1947 and 1991 and many of them are believed to be dead, officials acknowledged. Compensation would go to their families if Congress agrees.

A 1990 law already provides compensation for some miners, but the administration wants the criteria eased to cover about 600 additional miners.

The White House also said it had reached a cash settlement with four additional families of individuals who, unknown to them, had been injected with plutonium in the 1940s as part of secret research.

The department previously had announced a settlement with 12 of the families and the family of another person injected with uranium. The cost of the settlement for the 17 families was put at \$6.5 million.

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ments are still outstanding — one person has yet to be found and another of the families has told the government it wanted no compensation, officials said. The victims have not been identified.

The announcement brought criticism from a group representing some survivors and families of victims of radiation exposures.

The Task Force on Radiation and Human Rights, a coalition of families who are seeking compensation for what they maintain were past radiation exposures, accused the Energy Department of not doing enough to identify research subjects.

E. Cooper Brown, a spokesman for the group, maintained that there were thousands of victims whose families deserve to be notified and compensated. The presidential advisory group acknowledged thousands of experiments, but said, that except for a few cases, it could not find evidence of medical harm, nor reason for compensation.

Among the exceptions were the plutonium cases.

They prompted Hazel O'Leary, the former energy secretary, to order a detailed investigation into human radiation experiments. It also led to the president's appointment of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, which issued its report in October 1995.

The committee urged that the plutonium victims be compensated along with 52 other individuals who were subjects of various unethical experiments in the 1940s and 1950s. Little is known about the 52 research subjects and officials said Friday their identities remained unknown.

The actions, responding to the 18 recommendations made by the presidential advisory panel, are designed to increase public trust and make our government accountable to the American people," said Energy Secretary Federico Peña.

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SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER

MAR 29 1997
DATE: _____

Rules to bar secret tests on humans

pp4 By MATTHEW L. WALD
THE NEW YORK TIMES

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Officials of the Justice and Energy departments also said yesterday that they had made progress in settling some cases involving such experiments. In those cases, dating from the 1940s and 1950s, government researchers injected civilians with plutonium or uranium without their informed consent.

Nearly all the subjects of the experiments, who were adults when the doses were given 40 years ago, are long dead, and the settlements have taken the form of payments to their families, generally in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Scores of other victims or their families are still trying to collect damages, however.

Sixteen cases have been settled, one is in the late stages of settlement, one family declined to participate, and one subject could not be found, government officials said. That means, Energy Secretary Federico Pena said, that the government is nearly finished with what he called the most egregious cases.

BOSTON GLOBE MAR 29 1997

Clinton seeks aid for miners exposed to radiation

AP ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - The Clinton administration will ask Congress for \$50 million and changes in the law to compensate hundreds of uranium miners exposed to cancer-causing radiation in the government's nuclear weapons program.

The request to broaden the current compensation program for uranium miners was part of a series of responses the White House announced yesterday to a report issued more than a year ago by a presidential commission that investigated human radiation experiments during the Cold War years.

The Energy Department, which manages the nuclear weapons program, said the miners' exposure was "a tragedy created by the government's failure to use available resources" to adequately ventilate the mine shafts and reduce the risks of exposure to lung cancer.

The miners worked in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming between 1947 and 1991

and many of them are believed to be dead, officials acknowledged. Compensation would go to their families if Congress agrees.

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The Task Force on Radiation and Human Rights, a coalition of families who are seeking compensation for what they maintain were past radiation exposures, accused the Energy Department of not doing enough to identify research subjects.

"The administration continues to hide behind passive outreach and notification programs ... under the pretense that few if any were harmed by the experiments," said E. Cooper Brown, a spokesman for the group. "No one should be fooled for a moment."

He maintained that there were thousands of victims whose families deserve to be notified and compensated. The presidential advisory group acknowledged thousands of experiments but said, that except for a few cases, it could not find evidence of medical harm, nor reason for compensation.

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along with 52 other individuals who were subjects of various unethical experiments in the 1940s and 1950s. Little is known about the 52 research subjects and officials said yesterday their identities remained unknown.

The actions, responding to the 18 recommendations made by the presidential advisory panel, are "designed to increase public trust ... and make our government accountable to the American people," said Energy Secretary Federico Pena, who succeeded O'Leary.

Pena said an interagency task force has found no evidence of any secret human research projects underway at this time. But he said neither the advisory panel nor the administration would rule out such projects in the future as long as they are conducted ethically.

He said President Clinton has taken steps to protect participants in future radiation, biological or other research involving humans to assure they are fully informed about the projects and risks.

The Times Picayune

MAR 29 1997

White House: Expand aid for uranium miners

By H. JOSEF HEBERT
Associated Press writer

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E. Cooper Brown, a spokesman for the group, said there were thousands of victims whose families deserve to be notified and compensated.

\$50 million fund sought for miners

Feds admit danger to uranium workers

By H. Josef Hebert
ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Under a new presidential directive, agencies must develop new rules that clearly require scientists to obtain informed consent from all potential subjects of secret experiments. Currently, such consent may be waived under some circumstances.

ATLANTA JOURNAL &
CONSTITUTION

MAR 29 1997

Clinton seeks more funds for miners

**Workers who dealt
with uranium are the
focus of renewed
compensation efforts.**

By H. Josef Hebert
ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Compensation sought for miners

\$50 million would go to families of those exposed to radiation

The Associated Press

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He said that thousands of affected families deserved to be notified and compensated. The presidential advisory group acknowledged thousands of experiments but said that except for in a few cases, it could not find evidence of medical harm or reason for compensation.

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Feds to assist miners exposed to radiation

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Compensation would go to their families if Congress agrees.

More than 4,000 mines on the Colorado Plateau flooded the Cold War and nuclear power industry with uranium. The need was so great that for four decades uranium mining was the region's chief industry.

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CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

MAR 29 1997

U.S. will probe complaints of air bag accidents

The government's highway safety agency is investigating complaints from owners of Chevrolet Camaros and Mazda 626s that their air bags accidentally deployed while they were driving. There have been six complaints of accidental air bag deployments on the driver side of 1991 and 1992 Camaros and nine complaints about air bags deploying in the 1995-1996 Mazdas, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said in a monthly report released Friday. The agency also is investigating previous complaints about accidental air bag deployments on several other General Motors cars and some Subarus.

Funding for miners

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Nation BRIEFS PB

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Judge sides with lynx

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Pinsky named laureate

Robert Pinsky, 56, whose poetry goes on the Internet as well as into slim purple volumes, was named U.S. poet laureate Friday. The post lasts two years. It will begin with a reading from his own work in the fall at the Library of Congress, where he will serve as consultant in poetry. Pinsky teaches creative writing at Boston University. He has written five books of verse and edits poetry for the weekly Internet magazine called Slate. He also has done a highly regarded translation of the "Inferno" by medieval Italian poet Dante Alighieri. As poet laureate

Pinsky succeeds Robert Hass of Berkeley, Calif., whose final lecture will be May 1.

Uranium miners to get more compensation

Radiation protection was inadequate during the Cold War years

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The announcement brought criticism from a group representing some survivors and families of victims of human radiation exposures.

The Task Force on Radiation and Human Rights, a coalition of families who are seeking compensation for what they maintain were past radiation exposures, accused the Energy Department of not doing enough to identify research subjects.

"The administration continues to hide behind passive outreach and notification programs ... under the pretense that few if any were harmed by the experiments," said E. Cooper Brown, a spokesman for the group. "No one should be fooled for a moment."

He maintained that there were thousands of victims whose families deserve to be notified and compensated.

The presidential advisory group acknowledged thousands of experiments but said, that except for a few cases, it could not find evidence of medical harm or reason for compensation. Among the exceptions were the plutonium cases.

NEWARK STAR LEDGER SATURDAY MARCH 29, 1997

Uranium miners to get federal compensation

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration will ask Congress for \$50 million and changes in the law to compensate hundreds of uranium miners exposed to cancer-causing radiation in the government's nuclear weapons program.

The request to broaden the current compensation program for uranium miners was part of a series of responses the White House announced yesterday to a report issued more than a year ago by a presidential commission that investigated human radiation experiments during the Cold War years.

The Energy Department, which manages the nuclear weapons program, said the miners' exposure was "a tragedy created by the government's failure to use available resources" to adequately ventilate the mine shafts and reduce the risks of exposure to lung cancer.

White House to seek millions for miners

☐ The plan would expand the compensation program for the families of uranium miners who were exposed to radiation.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The miners worked in several western states between 1947 and 1991. Many are believed to be dead, officials acknowledged. Compensation would go to their families if Congress agrees.

A 1990 law already provides compensation for some miners, but the administration wants the criteria eased to cover about 600 additional miners.

The White House also said it had reached a cash settlement with four additional families of individuals who, unknown to them, had been injected with plutonium in the 1940s as part of secret research.

The department previously had an-

nounced a settlement with 12 of the families and the family of another person injected with uranium. The cost of the settlement for the 17 families was put at \$6.5 million.

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More aid for uranium miners sought

The White House wants to compensate 600 others exposed to radiation in the nuclear arms program.

By H. Josef Hebert
ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Among the exceptions were the plutonium cases.

They prompted Hazel O'Leary, the former energy secretary, to order a detailed investigation into human radiation experiments. It also led to the President's appointment of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, which issued its report in October 1995.

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95,000 Sunday

Augusta, Georgia

Monday - march 31, 1997

Page 7B

Page 1 of 1

Savannah River Site *Citizens Advisory Board*

**Environmental Remediation &
Waste Management
Subcommittee Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 2 at 6 p.m.
Ramada Plaza (formerly the Landmark)
640 Broad Street
Augusta, Ga.**

1-800-249-8155 • Internet - dawn.haygood@srs.gov

*Discussion will focus on the
SRS Site Treatment Plan for
mixed waste.*

*Participants will also hear
several updates on topics
such as Environmental
Management Integration,
and closure of a
high-level waste tank.*

*Your participation and
comments are welcome.
Please join us.*

Circulation 17,500 Daily
18,000 Sunday

AIKEN STANDARD

Aiken, South Carolina

Sunday - March 30, 1997

Page 1A

Page 1 of 3

Local economic future bright, officials say

By MICHAEL W. GIBBONS

While massive layoffs at the Savannah River Site may seem like harbingers of doom for the Aiken area, economic experts say the future can still be bright for the area.

Ed Burgess, director of the Aiken Regional Office of the South Carolina Department of Commerce, said the past reliance on the SRS for economic support will hurt in the near term, but the county can continue to bring industry money into the area.

"We can combat it, and we can keep it coming with an aggressive program. The S.C. Department of Commerce has placed considerable amount of interest on the Aiken region because of what has happened at the Savannah River Site. Obviously, if they reduce employment at the

Savannah River Site very significantly and very suddenly, that makes it more difficult to combat," he said.

To date, Aiken has kept capital investments at a level comparable to when SRS operated at full strength. Since 1985, Aiken County has ranked at least second in the state in capital investments every year except 1995, in which it was ranked sixth with \$295,135,000 in capital investments. Last year, Aiken climbed back to the number two spot with \$629,726,000 in capital investments. Only Spartanburg garnered more, with a total of \$844,837,000 in capital investments rolling in.

Fred Humes, director of the Economic Development Partnership of Aiken and Edgefield Counties, said that while it may be difficult to maintain a number one or two ranking in the years to come, the 1996 statistics

do show some positives. For the first time in history, private sector capital investments exceeded those from the site, and they exceeded them at a ratio of nearly 4-to-1.

"I think it's more that it is a culmination and a continuation of the efforts of this community to diversify its economic base and strengthen its private base. A community should not rely on a single economic drive or economic engine. We need to continue our efforts in the private sector," he said.

However, Humes said the SRS is still a vital link in the area's economic chain, and newer, more aggressive strategies for bringing missions to SRS must be implemented.

"From a community stand-

(Please see LOCAL, page 9A)

CONTINUED

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AIKEN STANDARD

Aiken, South Carolina

Sunday - March 30, 1997

Page 9A

Page 2 of **CONTINUED**

LOCAL from 1A

point, we have not been as aggressive, in my opinion, in seeking new missions as have some of the other DOE sites," he said.

Burgess agreed that the county must still rely partially on SRS, and must shift some of the dependence to other, private companies. Both agreed that Sage Mill Industrial Park can play a huge role in the maintenance of high capital investments.

"I think (Sage Mill) is going to make a difference. It's one of the largest and nicest industrial parks that you will find anywhere in the state, and I think it offers a great deal. It's strategically situated," he said.

Burgess said that the residents of Aiken County should focus on the positive implications of the SRS layoffs, and focus on the potential of the future.

"It's fortunate in the sense that we don't need the Savannah River Site like we used to. It's unfortunate that we'll lose some of those very high-paying jobs. In the long run, we'll transition the economy and it will be just as healthy if not healthier than now," he said.

Helen Munnerlyn, public information director for the South Carolina Department of Commerce, said the state as a whole is doing better in terms of capital investments, thanks in large part to the state's legislators.

One of the key pieces of legislation was the Rural Development

Act, which classified Aiken as under-developed, allowing for extensive tax benefits to qualifying companies.

"It's based on tiering counties, based on being moderately-developed, least-developed, under-developed and developed. The RDA has the ability to increase the per employee job tax credit that can be earned for qualifying companies, and that was a big help for the Aiken area in terms of recruiting industries," she said.

Ms. Munnerlyn agreed that residents can survive, if not prosper, despite the layoffs and create a better economy, personally and community-wide.

"We see that when big companies like SRS downsize and you lose jobs, it's terrible for the people who lose jobs and are laid off, but also it's a new opportunity to perhaps diversify and expand their economic base. After they get over the initial shock, then they realize what they need to do. We see that as a new day, a new opportunity, a period for growth," she said.

Burgess said now is an important time for Aiken, a time to realize what needs to be done to maintain economic prosperity in the years to come.

"I don't think it's time to panic. I think it is time to pay attention," he said.

CONTINUED

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AIKEN STANDARD

Aiken, South Carolina

Sunday - March 30, 1997

Page 1A

Page 3 of 3

CONTINUED

Capital investment in Aiken County (in millions of dollars)

1996 — \$629,726

1995 — \$295,135

annual average, 1990-94 — \$412,345

Employment from capital investment

1996 — 713

1995 — 130

annual average, 1990-94 — 596

Source: S.C. Department of Commerce

Saturday - March 29, 1997

Page 4A

Page 1 of 2

Needed: Good SRS lobbyist

Ever wonder what happened to former U.S. Rep. Butler Derrick, D-S.C., who retired in 1995 after 20 years in the House? The Savannah River Site was a part of his 3rd District and he was indefatigable in promoting and protecting his constituents' interests there.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1989, Derrick anticipated the plant's downsizing and played a critical role in establishing the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative to find new peacetime missions for the site. When he announced he wouldn't run for an 11th term, Derrick said he would come back home to Edgefield "to do some good." Area economic developers hoped that meant he would carry on his SRS work by heading up the SRRDI he formed.



Barnard

Not quite. Derrick, criticized over the years for saying one thing at home and doing another in Washington, is again betraying friends and neighbors.

It's hard to believe, but the ex-congressman who did so much for SRS is now lobbying in Washington on behalf of the Hanford, Wash., nuclear site, SRS' chief competitor for new tritium missions. As he says, he has "to make a living" — but it still hurts!

Imagine the impact this is having in Congress, the White House, the Department of Energy — wherever important mission decisions are made. Small wonder the DOE put Hanford back in the running last year for tritium missions, after first excluding it.

The Derrick factor is just one reason U.S. Rep. Charlie Norwood, R-Ga., urges South Carolina and Georgia to consolidate their efforts to help SRS

CONTINUED

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Saturday - March 29, 1997

Page 4A

Page 2 of 2

CONTINUED

compete for new DOE missions — and to start by hiring a lobbyist of their own. Norwood even said the person should be a Democrat who has clout with Georgia Gov. Zell Miller.

Norwood's only part right. The lobbyist should be a Democrat — not to so much influence Miller but to lobby new DOE Secretary Federico Pena. Pena comes with no fixed agenda, save his loyalty to the Clinton administration.

Who better to educate the new Energy chief and counter Derrick's clout than Doug Barnard, Georgia's own former eight-term Democratic U.S. House member? There's a lot at stake in which nuclear facility will be chosen for a new tritium mission, a decision Pena is scheduled to make by mid-1998.

He'll have to pick one of two technologies — a multipurpose reactor or a linear accelerator. Either will require 4,000 workers at least 10 years to build and will employ 1,500 people after that.

SRS has the infrastructure and brainpower for the job, but if layoffs continue at their current pace SRS could lose its core of scientists and engineers before Pena makes his decision.

Barnard could help prevent that. The Augutan could also lobby to bring the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor to SRS. That mission would even be bigger than tritium.

ITER, a huge global project of which the U.S. is only one financial contributor, seeks to develop fusion energy through research. It would bring together thousands of the best nuclear minds from the U.S., Europe, Japan, Russia and other countries.

Although there have been noteworthy local efforts to promote SRS in Washington, it will take a lobbyist who's known and respected to really grab decision-makers' attention. We nominate Doug Barnard for the job.

Saturday - March 29, 1997
Page 5A
Page 1 of 1

Praises SRS privatization plans

Editor, *The Chronicle*:

Recent news from the Savannah River Site has not been good — over 850 jobs were eliminated in January and 1,500 more positions will be lost by late spring.

Although this news is disheartening, it is encouraging to see Department of Energy and Westinghouse management aggressively push the privatization of environmental monitoring services currently being performed by Westinghouse.

This privatization was initiated by entrepreneurial Westinghouse employees and involves the formation of a new company which will provide services to SRS. It has the exciting potential to expand business opportunities beyond this area.

Once privatized, this environ-

mental services company will hold forth the promise of developing a commercial clientele, thus reducing the dependence of the new company and the local economy of federal dollars.

The environmental monitoring services privatization, and others currently under consideration, represent the best hope for blunting the impact of SRS downsizing by keeping high-paying, professional jobs in the area.

If followed through, these privatization initiatives will underscore the deep commitment of Westinghouse and the Department of Energy to the economic and social well-being of area communities that have tirelessly supported SRS for over 40 years.

James S. Bollinger
Aiken

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Aiken, South Carolina

Saturday - March 29, 1997
Page 5A
Page 1 of 1

SRRDI progressing says Rotary speaker

By BILL BENGTON

The unclear future of the Savannah River Site sparked the creation of the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative, and the corporation is reportedly making progress.

Jocquelyn Stumpff, representing SRRDI, spoke at Thursday's meeting of the South Aiken Rotary Club, and talked about how the non-profit organization is working to create a more solid economy for Aiken, Richmond, Columbia, Allendale and Barnwell counties.

Creating jobs, and minimizing the damage done by cutbacks at SRS, is SRRDI's top goal, she said. Much of the funding (\$6 million) for that effort comes from the Department of Energy, which has allocated \$100 million for "worker training and adjustment."

Since its formation in 1993, SRRDI has focused on creating "high-value jobs," Ms. Stumpff said. Leading that mission now is Lewis Attardo, the organization's

executive director.

Supporting the mission is SRRDI's board of directors, which has asked for \$100 million in DOE funding to be provided over the next four years, to be matched by equal amounts of non-DOE funding, all to support the diversification initiative's drive to boost the CSRA's economy.

Among the clear results so far have been 56 jobs, with about half of those going to former SRS employees.

Emphasis has been on growth-oriented businesses and industries, business expansion, and attracting new ventures to the region, to draw on the technology and talent pool associated with SRS.

SRRDI's current home is at Aiken Technical College, near the library.

The club, with the Rev. Mike Bruce as president and Ray Jackson as president-elect, meets at 12:30 p.m. each Thursday at the Willcox Inn.

Thursday - March 27, 1997

Page 1A and 3A

Page 1 of 1

Tax funds tied to cutbacks

BY CARL LANGLEY

A sudden drop in collection of automobile taxes may be an indicator of the scope and impact of personnel cutbacks at the Savannah River Site, a county official said.

County Administrator William Shepherd said Wednesday finance department and auditor's office officials are tracking the revenues from vehicles.

"What we think we are seeing is people departing because of SRS downsizing," said the county administrator about the decline in automobile registrations.

◆ Aiken County

Shepherd produced figures for the first seven months of the current fiscal year that show a drop of nearly \$70,000 in automobile taxes over the similar period in the past fiscal year.

"There is a trend there and we're going to start tracking it right away," said the administrator. He pointed out that last year's projected revenues fell short by about \$75,000.

Shepherd said the county's budget estimates for Fiscal 1996 had been projected at \$2,987,000

because of a surplus of \$500,000 in the budget estimates for Fiscal 1995.

Shepherd said it is believed that the 1995 increase in revenues was generated by purchases of vehicles by SRS personnel leaving the plant through separations and early retirements.

"We think that is the reason it (the 1995 revenues) jumped up," said Shepherd. "Some were buying what they expected would be the last car for some time."

The county administrator said a large number of the persons

(Please see TAX, page 3A)

TAX from 1A

leaving the plant two years ago used money from the severance packages to purchase vehicles prior to leaving their jobs.

"We are going to track the vehicle purchases to see if new employees hired by SKF, Kimberly-Clark and other new and expanding industries will have an impact," Shepherd said. He said the county also is benefiting from an increase in retirees moving to the area.

The administrator said the vehicle tax revenues will be given some extra attention in this year's budget writing process.

Car taxes

Month	1995 FY	1996 FY	1997 FY
July	229,396	247,471	251,909
August	196,640	255,861	256,854
September	222,768	220,479	212,100
October	188,996	284,893	228,108
November	212,527	218,651	209,341
December	193,694	254,519	209,341
January	198,496	205,702	206,388
February	179,761	190,699	NA
March	355,289	318,861	NA
April	290,989	254,286	NA
May	230,132	242,628	NA
June	264,009	221,136	NA
TOTAL	2,742,887	2,913,186	*1,615,275
BUDGET	2,293,191	2,987,401	2,815,000

* Through seven months

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Aiken, South Carolina

Thursday - March 27, 1997
Page 1B and 3B
Page 1 of 1

Maintaining city's quality is priority

By TIMOTHY COX

NORTH AUGUSTA — Lark Jones has fond memories of North Augusta — as it was 30 years ago.

As the man expected to take over the mayoral reins next month, he doesn't foresee any immediate major changes in the city.

A 1967 graduate of North Augusta High School, Jones said he likes what the city has developed into since his school days. In addition, he has nothing but good words for outgoing mayor Tom Greene, who will retire from the city's top administrative post next month.

"I'm very satisfied with what

we've done," said Jones, a long-time North Augusta City Council member. "My goal is to maintain the type of government we (already) have — by maintaining the quality."

Jones addressed the North Augusta Rotary Club during its weekly meeting Tuesday. As the unopposed Republican mayoral nominee, Jones will likely become North Augusta's next mayor during the April 29 general election.

Among other issues, Jones acknowledged North Augusta's economic reliance on the Savannah River Site.

"SRS was our economic life preserver. This is the first time we're not doing as well (economically)



Lark Jones is expected to be elected new mayor.

compared to cities like Greenville or Atlanta."

Jones said unlike other nearby metropolitan areas, North Augus-

(See MAINTAINING, page 3B)

MAINTAINING from 1B

ta's economic boon has slowed and the employment rate has suffered due to recent layoffs at the site.

In upbeat fashion, he referred to the oft-mentioned riverfront development project planned on the Savannah River.

"I call it economic development," he said. Jones said a hotel complex built in close proximity with a proposed golf course could result in attracting clientele enthused with golf and quality

hotel accommodations.

He said residents and city staffers alike must unite to ensure economic development is a reality.

"This would help keep our city strong and vibrant," the city councilman said. But Jones said he doesn't want new riverfront development to result in tax increases.

The North Augusta Rotary Club will meet next Tuesday at 7 a.m. at the North Augusta Country Club.

TRI-CITY HERALD
Tri-Cities, WA

MARCH 31 1997

Hanford to 'cocoon' C Reactor

Contaminated complex to be sealed for 75 years

By JOHN STANG

Herald staff writer

Hanford's C Reactor is where the reservation's nuclear engineers once tested nuclear innovations before installing them in the other reactors along the Columbia River.

New fuel mixtures. New fuel casings. New instruments — C Reactor was where they were first checked out.

So, it's fitting that C Reactor is the prototype for the master plan to dispose of eight of Hanford's nine defunct reactors.

Right now, about 90 Bechtel Hanford workers are converting the C Reactor from a sprawling, leaky and contaminated hulk into a massive, but simple leakproof concrete box.

Official government jargon calls this "Interim Safe Storage."

The common Hanford slang for it is "cocooning."

The idea is the "cocoon" will seal off the contaminated reactor from the outside world for at least 75 years while Hanford officials decide on a permanent solution.

For now, the plan is to move the eight reactors inland after 75 years. But even if officials eventually decide to go ahead, they need more time to figure out how to get the huge, highly radioactive cores to a permanent disposal site in central Hanford.

Bechtel plans to finish the 21-month cocooning project at C Reactor by July 1998 for a cost of \$18.2 million.

At that point, Bechtel will begin cocooning another site — possibly F Reactor or D Reactor.

C Reactor operated from 1952 to 1969. After 1969, the 65,000-square-foot complex sat and rotted.

Its innards are a spooky labyrinth of gray concrete hallways and chambers spread across several stories and wings sticking out here and there.

The rotten roof leaks. Rainwater drips into puddles several floors below. The complex is packed with electrical panels and loose wires, making any standing water potentially dangerous.

Power was cut to the complex, and now outside generators and portable lamps give the interior a slightly eerie-looking mix of light and shadows.

This winter, 6-foot snow drifts piled up in the rooms and corridors. Each snow pile had to be checked for radioactivity, although none turned up hot.

Asbestos was used extensively in the reactor, creating another hazard. Small critters and birds easily work their way in. And Greg Eldam, Bechtel's project manager for C Reactor, worries about whether the complex's doors are enough to keep curious people out.

The only major work done since 1969 was the removal of 50 tons of contaminated sludge from a fuel storage basin in 1985.

It costs about \$200,000 a year for Hanford to watch and maintain the complex.

In the early 1990s, the Department of Energy and former contractor Westinghouse Hanford Co. studied possible solutions for the string of defunct reactors.

The cocooning concept evolved from that effort.

Meanwhile, DOE's headquarters in Washington, D.C., was looking for a big project to test a series of new technologies.

Those tests were married with the C Reactor project. Dechtel began the field work in October.

A first step was kicking out seven radon snakes.

Another task was to spread a net over the huge main reactor chamber to catch falling chunks of rotting ceiling.

Workers at C Reactor are busy removing radioactive materials that have spread in varying levels throughout the complex.

This work is done by scraping, scrubbing, clipping, lasering, blasting, burning or otherwise zapping a thin layer off the surfaces of contaminated walls and floors.

Spray-painted red and green crosses are gradually spreading through the complex — showing where decontamination is complete.

The slightly radioactive ashes, dust or rubble are then shipped to Hanford's Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility — a super sized dump in central Hanford that holds contaminated dirt.

The more hazardous and the non-contaminated debris will go to other Hanford waste disposal sites.

Later, crews will demolish the complex. The roughly 65,000-square-foot complex — which includes auxiliary buildings, the main building — will be reduced to about a fifth that size. A single huge chamber containing just the reactor will remain, covering about 12,000 square feet.

Finally, Bechtel plans to seal the remaining "pillbox" for 75 years.

The 4-foot-thick concrete walls of the main reactor chamber will become the outer walls. A slanted metal roof will be added. One remaining door would be welded shut, opened only once every five years for the interior to be inspected. Sensors and a television camera would guard the interior the rest of the time.

Each cocooned reactor is expected to cost \$20,000 a year to watch and maintain. Instead of the \$200,000 it now costs each year.

Meanwhile, Eldam's staff will test about 20 new technologies for DOE. These include new types of protective clothes and air packs, several radiation measuring and detection devices and some new methods to remove radioactive surfaces, such as microwaves and pulses of light.

Anything that speeds up work or cuts costs will be kept for the next cocooning, Eldam said.

Eldam's goal is to use the experience gained at C Reactor to cut its \$18.2 million cost by \$5 million for the next cocooning.

No timetable is set yet to cocoon all eight of Hanford's nine plutonium-production reactors destined for demolition. DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington Department of Ecology will have to negotiate that schedule.

The ninth reactor is R Reactor, which is being cycled as a museum. It was the world's first production-scale nuclear reactor. Plutonium from R Reactor was used in the bomb dropped on Nagasaki at the end of World War II.

After 75 years, the cocoons will probably be torn apart and big girders placed underneath the reactor blocks, which weigh between 12,000 tons to 16,000 tons.

Then monstrous frameworks with gigantic treads would hook to the girders to slowly roll the reactors several miles inland for burial.

Special roads would be built. Travel speeds would be measured in feet per hour, not miles per hour. The moving costs are expected to be at least \$60 million.

Bechtel believes that during the 75-year wait, new ways and equipment will be invented to help out.

And Hanford officials would have plenty of time to decide if the reactors should be moved at all.

TRI-CITY HERALD
Tri-Cities, WA

MARCH 30 1997

1 of 5 Pages

Fluor cuts deal on health costs

2 Tri-City hospitals agree to reductions

By WANDA BRIGGS

Herald Staff Writer

Fluor Daniel Hanford and its major subcontractors at Hanford have negotiated deals with two Tri-City hospitals to slash health care costs and are negotiating a contract with the third.

Administrators at Our Lady of Lourdes Health Center in Pasco and Kennewick General Hospital won't say by how much they agreed to cut their charges. But the Herald learned the Fluor team asked for reductions ranging from 16 to 18 percent for treating the Hanford work force.

Officials say the agreements could drive down medical costs for all Tri-Citians and could make the area more attractive to new businesses by letting them offer more affordable health coverage.

There is little such competitive edge currently, according to studies that indicate Tri-City health care costs are about 30 percent higher than national averages.

Ironically, the push to drive down health care costs is coming from the very agency some blame for the current situation — the Department of Energy. Critics say that by offering excessively generous taxpayer-funded benefits to Hanford workers, DOE for decades has sanctioned

high Tri-City health care costs.

But DOE officials say generous health insurance packages now must be trimmed as the agency fights for increasingly scarce federal dollars by trying to act more like private industry.

To do that, DOE ordered Fluor and other Hanford contractors to trim health care costs.

Battelle-Northwest, which operates DOE's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, responded by passing on more health care costs to its 3,500, mostly nonunion, employees.

But the Fluor team took a different tack, spurred partly by Hanford union leaders who drew the line at passing on unreasonable costs to workers. Instead, the unions told Fluor, go to the source of the problem: health care providers.

Fluor's answer is to overhaul the three health benefit plans currently offered to Hanford workers and retirees. The new plans are expected to be available soon.

The biggest change is Fluor has contracted with Seattle-based First Choice Health Network — which in turn has revamped the CIGNA Comprehensive Medical Plan currently offered at Hanford. That plan has been replaced by the new CIGNA Preferred Provider Organization (PPO), which provides employees incentives to use health care providers who have contracted with the PPO.

Fluor also will continue to offer the Group Health and "Options" plans, both of which are provided by Group Health Northwest. However, only minor changes are expected in those plans to make them more competitive, according to a letter Fluor President Hank Hatch sent March 7 to members of the Tri-City medical community.

"We have worked hard to design our employee benefit program so that it can encourage and support quality health care while at the same time addressing the critical issue of the cost of doing business in this region," Hatch wrote.

That cost — about \$135 million for Hanford's contract workers last year — is 28 percent to 37 percent higher than at other Department of Energy sites surveyed late in 1995 by a Baltimore consulting firm.

The Alexander and Alexander study concluded higher price is driven partly by higher than expected prices for medical services.

Supporting the DOE study are geographic comparisons done by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce that show medical, dental and vision costs in the Tri-Cities are about 30 percent higher than national averages.

But medical officials such as Lourdes Administrator Tom Corley say Hanford's hefty health care bill has not been caused by above-average medical costs. Instead, he blames DOE for offering decades of benefits far more generous than those given by private industry, and for feeble attempts to curb spending.

Corley says he's pleased Fluor is trying to reduce its health care costs and is comfortable with the deal Lourdes and Fluor reached.

He confirmed Fluor asked for a discount "in excess of 15 percent" of the hospital's currently billed charges, but declined to give the exact figure agreed upon.

"There were a lot of negotiations but in the end, I think the resolution was fair," Corley said.

EGW Administrator Mike Tuohy — while declining to discuss the negotiations and settlement with Fluor — said it's not unusual for a hospital to discount its charges to large companies that pay the bills. "We probably get a proposal a week from someone who wants discounts, sometimes at absurd terms," he said.

"Fluor's effort to negotiate lower costs means only that as a Hanford contractor it is catching up with what a number of other large private employers and insurance companies have done for years," Tuohy said.

Tuohy also made it clear he agrees Hanford's years of providing overly generous benefits are at least partly to blame for the cost of Tri-City health care — and he said Hanford also must change.

"The issue for those of us in the medical community is this: We don't want Fluor to try and wring all of its savings out of the hides of providers," he said.

Kadlec Medical Center Administrator Marcel Loh said he expects Kadlec to soon settle its negotiations with First Choice Health Network.

Though he declined to comment on specifics of the talks, Loh noted Kadlec has a different perspective because it has contracted with First Choice for years.

However, he said, in the past the program had few enrollees and was not a major business for Kadlec. "Now, however, since it has broadened under CIGNA, it isn't realistic to believe that we could retain their exclusive contract."

Loh also noted Kadlec has frozen its prices for the last two years in part as a response to criticism Tri-City health costs are too high.

"We know that as hospitals we are part of the problem, and we know also that we, along with the rest of the community, must be part of the solution," he said.

2 of 5 Pages

Cost of care in Tri-Cities higher than most cities

By WANDA BRIGGS

Herald staff writer

Group Health Northwest paid the three Tri-City hospitals \$13 million last year to care for the health maintenance organization's members and their dependents.

Those same services for the same number of people would have cost only about \$8.5 million in Spokane and just slightly more than that in Yakima or Walla Walla, said Bob Burden, director of

Group Health's Tri-City district.

"No wonder we're concerned about the cost of medical care," he said. "It's high. And as a community we've got to work together to bring it down."

Group Health based its cost estimates in part on data that shows the average cost of a day in a Tri-City hospital — including room, tests and treatment, is \$1,600.

That same hospital cost is \$1,000 a day in Walla Walla and Yakima, and slightly less than that in Spokane, Burden said.

Tri-City hospitals, especially Kennecott General Hospital, "have begun to address the problem," Burden said. "But we have a long way to go."

Group Health has 180,000 members in Central and Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho, including 30,000 in Benton, Franklin and western Walla Walla counties — with 2,000 of them working at Hanford.

The organization grew 37 percent in the last eight years and expects 30 percent growth in the next five years — much of it likely to come from Hanford's work force as contractors there promote HMOs to drive down health care costs.

To woo new customers, Group Health has expanded services and added capacity for treating another 20,000 people in the Tri-Cities by contracting with new doctors.

About half of that new capacity is in the Richland-Meadow Springs area of the Tri-Cities, which Burden said is significant because the shortage of primary care doctors has mostly been in Richland.

Burden, who also serves as chairman of the Tri-Cities Health Care Task Force — a coalition working to improve area health care — explained why he thinks a collective effort to force down health care costs is vital.

"These higher-than-average costs we have around here affect the economy of this entire community, because that's one of the variables companies look at as they decide whether to do business here."

"We have to make this community more cost-competitive — and it's not up to a single faction to make that happen. It's not just the doctors or the hospitals ... This has to be a community effort that will lead to change."

3 of 5 pages

Price being paid now for past Hanford generosity

By WANDA BRIGGS

Health Editor

Decades of generous health benefits at Hanford, where the government allowed substantial fees to be passed on to taxpayers, may be one reason for high Tri-City medical costs.

And with the next-biggest town about 2 1/2 hours away, Tri-City doctors and hospitals have a geographical monopoly that some officials say contributes to disparity.

The fact the community's three hospitals sometimes duplicate costly services — such as maternity programs or diagnostic equipment — is another likely contributor.

Whatever the cause, the high cost of Tri-City medicine has drawn together community leaders, doctors, hospitals, federal contractors and union representatives to make health care more affordable.

"Over the course of time, going back to the days of the Cold War, we have had a rich set of benefits on this site compared to private industry," said Dom Sansotta, DOE's manager for contractor work force programs.

In the late 1980s, when private industry began to take steps to control spiraling medical care costs, Hanford lagged behind, Sansotta said. "We were a posh site with solid budgets — and not so much in danger of survival like some in private business."

For a private company, the cost of providing worker health care coverage comes out of the bottom line. But for Hanford workers, the majority of the cost of employee medical costs is shouldered by taxpayers, who paid \$90 million of the \$125 million total paid for Hanford contractor employees last year.

But with federal budget deficits and the advent of contract reform, DOE has told its new management contractor, Fluor Daniel Hanford Co., to cut the health care bill at Hanford.

"It's our responsibility as a government agency here to give a reasonable cost to taxpayers for services rendered," Sansotta said. "We have to be representative of industrial norms."

Fluor has a strong incentive for Hanford to be part of the solution.

The company pledged to DOE it would cut the cost of providing medical, dental and vision care for Hanford's current work force by 15 percent, and to reduce those same costs by 6 percent for Hanford retirees — all by Sept. 30.

If Fluor fails, it will lose part of its \$20.5 million incentive fee from DOE this year. It's the first time a Hanford contractor has been offered a meaningful carrot to cut health care costs.

"There has been an emphasis to contain health care costs at Hanford for a long time, but this latest effort by Fluor is the most serious," Sansotta said.

He said DOE has given Fluor a "free license" to make changes. Fluor hopes for a minimum \$10 million to \$12 million in annual savings.

Sansotta said he doesn't think Hanford can be blamed for the high cost of health care in the area, but he said "the government does have to bear responsibility for providing excessively generous benefit programs throughout the DOE complex."

"But if we are blamed, then we must also be credited now with turning the tide," he said. "We are accepting the responsibility to try and lower health care costs."

Although no specific amount of Fluor's fee is tied to reducing health care costs, this includes two of the 34 goals Fluor must accomplish to win the entire \$20.5 million pot. Performing 76 or fewer of those 34 goals means Fluor gets none of this fee.

That special \$20.5 million pot — called the "mega fee" in Hanford jargon — is part of the overall \$34 million Fluor can earn this fiscal year in performance fee if it does nearly everything right.

"DOE has told us to bring commercial practices to this site in a lot of ways, such as how we do procurements and how we provide benefits," said Michael Yates, Fluor's executive vice president and chief operating officer.

What Fluor manages to save in indirect health care costs can be spent directly on environmental cleanup, Yates explained.

Yates said Fluor expects soon to offer cafeteria-style benefits to employees, which means workers can pick and choose their benefits.

He said people who use the system most will pay more, in the form of co-payments. Those who use the benefits less can opt for less coverage — and less cost to themselves.

If Fluor's actions drive down the area's health care costs, Tri-Citians will benefit, Yates said.

"We can have a ripple effect here," he said. "When businesses are looking to relocate here, they look at labor and benefit costs. If we can help bring those costs more in line with commercial standards, it will make this area more attractive for economic diversification."

While Hanford may have contributed over the years to higher-cost health care by passing along the bulk of its costs to taxpayers, it's not the only factor.

Jim Watts, president of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers and Hanford's biggest union, says costly duplication of medical services also is a culprit.

In 1977, a state health agency urged the Tri-Cities to build a single new hospital, preferably at Vista Field in Kennewick. It should have happened then and should happen now, Watts said.

"I'd like to see the medical community here get real," Watts said. "I know there are some advances being made — But there must be more."

"The dialogue in the Tri-Cities about cutting health care costs — driven in part by the union's message to Fluor that health care overcharges would not be borne by employees — is a step in the right direction."

Watts and other delegates of the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council, the umbrella agency representing 15 unions at Hanford, are negotiating with Fluor Daniel about a variety of key labor issues — including medical benefits.

They applaud Fluor's efforts to drive health care costs down at Hanford, Watts said, they just don't want it to be on the backs of workers.

"This isn't just a Fluor issue, a union issue or a Hanford issue," Watts said. "This is a communitywide problem and it will take all of us to solve it."

Battelle already cut health costs

40+5 Bges

By WANDA BRIGGS
Herald staff writer

Battelle-Northwest already has done what Fluor Daniel is trying to do at Hanford.

Sort of.

The Richland research company has taken steps to cut by 10 percent the cost of providing medical dental and vision care for its nonunion workers and retirees.

But Battelle didn't do this by addressing the core problem of above-average medical costs in the Tri-Cities. It simply jacked up the out-of-pocket costs to its employees at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, which Battelle operates for the Department of Energy.

"We wanted our benefits package to be such that we could attract highly qualified staff, but at the same time it had to be cost competitive. ... It wasn't," explained Paula Bippin, Battelle's deputy director of human resources.

Compared with other research and development firms and other national labs, Battelle was paying too much, she said.

To remedy that, Battelle applied some of the recommendations in a study done in late 1995 by Alexander & Alexander Consulting Group of Baltimore.

DOE hired the firm to study health and welfare benefits for several of the agency's largest contractors — including Battelle's \$24.8 million program — and to identify ways to cut costs and improve efficiency.

The study found health benefits costs at Battelle were 19 percent higher than for other national labs.

Bippin said the consultant's report also recommended Battelle cut pensions to help control costs. "But we felt the pension and savings and loan programs were critical, so we left them alone and opted to look at health

care costs only," she said.

Battelle's new medical benefits programs didn't increase premiums, but did increase deductibles and maximum out-of-pocket costs, Bippin said.

"And yes, the bottom line in many cases is employees will pay more to get the same," she added.

Formerly, Battelle workers paid about 21 percent of the total costs of their health care. Under the new plan, workers will pay about 31 percent of the total — still less than the national average of 40 percent, Bippin said.

The biggest changes were that individual medical care deductibles for Battelle were doubled, from \$100 to \$200 for individuals and from \$300 to \$600 for families.

The benefit changes caused some heartache for some Battelle employees, Bippin said, "especially those with large families. But we've got a responsibility here to be financially responsible. We believe that's what we have done.

"We have tried to make this a plan to fit all. We know that the staff views change as a take-away, but Battelle must remain cost competitive," she said. "Health care is no longer an entitlement."

Bechtel plans 15-percent cut

Bechtel Hanford Co. is looking at ways to cut its medical benefit costs by 15 percent this year.

Any change in Bechtel's current benefit package is not expected until about mid-summer, according to Rick Dale, spokesman for DOE's first-ever environmental restoration contractor.

"How we achieve this savings is currently being analyzed," he said. "What needs to be made clear, however, is that reducing costs does not necessarily mean reducing the level of benefits."

"Through discussions with the medical community and our insurers, we are working to provide an affordable and comprehensive benefits package that is at least equal, if not superior, to typical benefits in the commercial sector."

Doctor says blame often misdirected

By WANDA BRIGGS

Health care writer

Doctors shoulder too much blame for the rising price of health care.

So argues Dr. Valiant Chou, newly elected president of the Benton-Franklin Medical Society.

"We have little control over the majority of health care costs," said Chou, a Pasco gynecologist and obstetrician.

"If you look at the total cost of medical service, you will see the physician's fee is not the significant portion."

For example, he said, doctors have no control over what manufacturers charge for the latest diagnostic tools. Nor do they have control over the pharmaceutical industry, where costs have skyrocketed, or over hospitals, which don't need permission from doctors to set rates.

Doctors are no different than patients, he

said. Both want quality care at affordable prices.

"Doctors are human," Chou said. "We, too, become ill and we, too, are often a receiver of health care services. We want to help contain costs. But the bottom line is that all people when they are sick demand state-of-the-art technology, and such technology comes at a high price."

Chou, a native of Hong Kong, moved to the Tri-Cities 15 years ago after he finished a stint in the Navy.

Chou said he has looked at U.S. Chamber of Commerce studies—which show health care costs in the Tri-Cities to be about 30 percent higher than national averages—but doesn't think they properly accounted for regional differences.

"Everyone everywhere talks about health care costs," Chou said. "But whether it's here or in Alabama, health care costs are not the same. They must be adjusted for the cost of living. Regardless of what studies may say,

I'm convinced costs here are in the ballpark for being reasonable."

What persuades him is the fact fewer Tri-Citians leave the Tri-Cities for treatment these days. He said he looks on that "as a report card from people saying, 'Yes, we have confidence in the quality of care being offered here, and, yes, we believe costs are fair.'"

Chou also points to efforts by insurance companies to control how much they pay out—typically by denying payment for some services. That means doctors have to write off those bills, he said.

"As doctors, what we look at is this: Insurance premiums are going up, but that doesn't equate to quality health care. The question we have is, 'If insurance firms say they want to reduce health care costs, do they reduce their costs, too? It seems those administrative layers between the patient and the provider are a source of great revenue.'"

Tri-City group pushes for change

By WANDA BRIGGS

Health care writer

It began as three separate groups of physicians concerned "outsiders" would come to town and dictate what kind of health care Tri-Citians would receive.

But over the past two years, it has evolved into one broad-based community group that says its goal is to drive down costs while maintaining local control.

The group, the Tri-City Community Hospital Physician Organization, or CHPO, is attempting to establish a network of doctors and hospitals to negotiate costs and services with businesses and insurance companies.

CHPO's 19-member board now includes doctors, hospital directors and various business interests.

"CHPO's purpose is to improve the quality of health care in Tri-Cities, drive costs down and maintain local con-

trol," said Tom Corley, administrator of Our Lady of Lourdes Health Center in Pasco.

The group also would like to prevent such huge health maintenance organizations as Kaiser Permanente from getting a foothold in the Tri-Cities, though Corley admits that's unlikely.

"What CHPO offers is an opportunity to build a system of health care in the Tri-Cities, with local community supervision and interest," said Sandra Matheson, president of the group.

Matheson, who also is president of the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation, said CHPO intends by year's end to have contracts signed with employers and insurance firms.

As health maintenance organizations have stormed the country, managed care programs have tossed the health care market into free fall, Matheson said. "The uniqueness to what CHPO brings is the component of community interest, of community involvement in making sure the quality of health care

remains high and decisions are kept locally."

Dr. Victor Brooks, a longtime physician at La Clinica in Pasco, which serves the poor of the Columbia, agrees.

"This group has ambitious desires," said Brooks, who serves on the CHPO board. "We could contract with insurance companies who don't have penetration in this market. We could contract with employers who buy our network, and with the self-insured market."

"This is all about providing quality care at fewer dollars," he said.

Corley said CHPO's task is complex. "We are trying to improve the overall health care being delivered to this community and to do it in such a fashion that what we do will have a definite favorable impact on costs," he said.

"The bottom line here is improved health care at a cheaper price. And to accomplish that it will take discipline and flexibility by physicians."

TRI-CITY HERALD **B7**
Tri-Cities, WA
MARCH 29 1997

Radioactive solvents successfully removed from Hanford B Plant

By JOHN STANG
Herald staff writer

The toughest hurdle has been jumped in getting Hanford's B Plant cleaned up four years ahead of schedule.

Babcock & Wilcox Hanford Co. recently finished decontaminating and removing about 10,000 gallons of radioactive solvents in the plant.

Those solvents were the biggest obstacles in B&W meeting a revamped timetable to get major cleanup work done at B Plant by September 1998, said Dawey Robbins, B&W's coordinator for its B Plant canyon deactivation team.

Originally, the major cleanup work at B Plant was to be done by 2002. But speeding up the deadline to 1998 is estimated to save about \$100 million in surveillance and maintenance costs over four years — with most focusing on taking care of the 10,000 gallons of solvents.

The Tri-Party Agreement — the master timetable governing Hanford's cleanup — was revived to reflect the 1998 deadline. That revision called for the solvents to be removed by July. Consequently, the removal was completed four months early.

R Plant went on line in 1945 as one of Hanford's super huge chemical separations plants involved in extracting plutonium from uranium irradiated in the site's reactors.

In the 1960s, B Plant was converted to remove radioactive cesium and strontium from tank wastes to be stored in capsules at the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility. The WESF was built next door R Plant, and is attached to it.

The 10,000 gallons of solvent were used in taking radionuclides out of the strontium and cesium in the wastes.

The hot, combustible, radioactive solvent was stored in two tanks in a six-tank system inside B Plant. If a fire broke out, danger existed that radioactive releases would escape from B Plant.

The heavy maintenance costs stemmed from operating and maintaining several systems to prevent and cope with fires and other potential dangers.

B&W's cleanup work reduced the highly radioactive solvent to 2,900 gallons that produces less than 5 millirem per hour. Millirems are a measure of radiation damage to human tissue. A chest x-ray produces 50 millirems.

The solvents are now in a tank outside of the plant.

Hanford will look at sending the solvent to an incinerator in Tennessee, or putting it in cement-like blocks, or storing it until better disposal technologies are invented, Robbins said.

Meanwhile, B&W still has some shutdown and cleaning-out work left before it can turn the plant over to Bechtel Hanford Inc.

Bechtel will tackle the slight contamination left in the building and the eventual disposal of the 120 foot tall, 69,000-square-foot structure.

Although B Plant will shut down, the attached 15,000-square foot WESF still will function as an indefinite storage site for 1,930 capsules containing radioactive cesium and strontium.

Hanford is studying what to do with those 4-foot-tall capsules. That study is to be done by September.

TRI-CITY HERALD

Tri-Cities, WA

A7
MARCH 29 1997

Radiation testing settlement proposed

By The Associated Press
and Herald Staff

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration will ask Congress for \$50 million and changes in the law to compensate hundreds of uranium miners exposed to cancer-causing radiation in the government's nuclear weapons program.

The request to broaden the current compensation program for uranium miners was part of a series of responses to the White House announced Friday to a report issued about a year ago by a presidential commission that investigated human radiation experiments during the Cold War years.

The Energy Department, which manages the nuclear weapons program, said the miners' exposure was "a tragedy created by the government's failure to use available resources" to adequately ventilate the mine shafts and reduce the risks of exposure to lung cancer.

The miners worked in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming between 1947 and 1991 and many of them are believed to be dead, officials acknowledged. Compensation would go to their families if Congress agrees.

A 1990 law already provides compensation for some miners, but the administration wants the criteria broadened to cover about 800 additional miners.

The White House also said it had reached a cash settlement with four additional families of individuals who, unknown to them, had been injected with plutonium in the 1940s as part of secret research.

The department previously had announced a settlement with 12 of the families and the family of another person injected with uranium. The cost of the settlement for the 17 families was put at \$6.5 million.

The cases of two additional victims from the plutonium experiments still are outstanding — one person has yet to be found and another of the families has told the government it wanted no compensation, officials said. The victims have not been identified.

The Clinton administration's action does not address a few dozen inmates at the state penitentiary at Walla Walla.

Some are plaintiffs in a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Seattle. Their testicles were irradiated by X-rays in the 1950s as part of an experiment. That experiment was partly prompted by a 1962 Hanford radiation flash.

The defendants include University of Washington researchers; General Electric Co., which ran Hanford until 1965; and Battelle-Northwest, which inherited in 1965 the job of helping calibrate the X-ray equipment.

TRI-CITY HERALD
Tri-Cities, WA

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MARCH 29 1997

Royal City farm drops Reach appeal

By the Herald staff

A Royal City farm has dropped its challenge of an order that it must do an environmental study before it can farm a Hanford Reach island.

Brown & Guis Farms on Friday dropped its appeal of the environmental study of its plan, but its application to farm on half of Island No. 12 still is pending.

The farm's action means a Benton

County commissioners hearing Monday on the appeal has been canceled, said Terry Marden, county planning director.

However, Brown & Guis representatives still are to meet with the commissioners at 1 p.m. Monday in Prosser to generally discuss the issue.

Marden said action on the farm application will be delayed until the environmental impact study is done, which could take months.

The study will address pulling in a dock on the island in an ecologically sensitive area of the Columbia River.

Brown & Guis Farms owns half of two Hanford Reach islands, one in Benton County and one in Franklin County. The farm tried to drill wells on the islands last summer without obtaining the proper county, state and federal permits.

County officials stopped the drilling.

Brown & Guis recently pleaded guilty in Benton County District Court to carving out a road near the riverbed on Island No. 12 without a state permit. It paid a \$1,000 fine and was ordered to fix the environmental damage.

Brown & Guis wants to put cherry orchards on both islands. The farm's application for the appropriate Franklin County permits is pending and has not progressed to a hearing stage yet.

Albuquerque Journal

Date: 3-31-97

Page: 4

Team Puts Seals to Test

A team of researchers at Los Alamos National Laboratory has been getting a lot of attention from the media lately.

And as leader of the Advanced Chemical Diagnostics and Instrumentation Group's research to foil tamper-proof seals and other packaging devices, Roger Johnston has been fielding some off-the-point questions.

Like the interviewer of the weekend news show on National Public Radio.

"He was mostly interested in how to get his potato-chip bags open. It's an annoying problem, but I'm not sure it was directly relevant," Johnston says.

The group, which includes Johnston, Kevin Grace, Anthony Garcia and Ron Martinez, intentionally tested a wide range of tamper-indicating devices — like inexpensive adhesive tape and expensive optical or electronic devices — to find out if someone could get into the products without being detected.

Recent results of the team show that consumers may not be as safe as they think. The team successfully completed 132 entries on 94 different seals and were able to replace the seals or counterfeit them without any noticeable difference.

Johnston wouldn't talk about

the seals the team has tested but did say most of the seals are in widespread use.

"We tried to concentrate on the ones that are the most widely used by government and business. Some of them are involved in millions of sales annually," he says.

The seals are used for a variety of applications, including access and inventory control, records and shipping integrity, hazardous-material accountability, theft prevention, tests for illegal drug use and protecting consumer products.

Tamper-indicating seals are not intended to stop unauthorized access, but leave obvious evidence of entry or tampering for the consumer to detect, Johnston says.

"We're increasingly seeing needs for more security with concerns over terrorism. Unfortunately, the needs for security is becoming an everyday fact of life," he says.

The group, which is in the Chemical Science and Technology Division, recently won a laboratory award for distinguished performance and has been asked to consult with the Department of Defense, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Department of Energy.

The laboratory is operated by the University of California for the DOE.

A bi q ierque Journal

Date: 3-29-96Page: 1 and 6

Lab Layoff Suit Goes to Jury Monday

Journal Staff Report

ALBUQUERQUE — Los Alamos National Laboratory and a handful of its former workers each asked a judge Friday to hand them a win-verdict in a suit over the lab's largest post-Cold War layoffs.

Judge James A. Hall shot down both requests and said he plans to turn the case over to a Bernalillo County jury on Monday afternoon.

Jurors will find out then that they as many as 60 questions in the — up to 12 for each of five for workers. They include a radiation instrument calibrator, a theoretical physicist, a training coordinator, a design engineer and an internal auditor.

The jury must decide whether managers at the nuclear weapons laboratory improperly chose those workers for the September 1995 layoffs, then covered it up by destroying paperwork, as the workers allege.

Actually, the jury must decide one or the other.

Only if the workers prove the lab broke promises to make the layoff selections in a fair, unbiased manner will jurors deal with the question of whether the laboratory destroyed papers which would have proven the improper selections.

Jurors also will mull an issue important to the lab's defense: Even if the selections were improper, would the former workers have laid off anyway?

The question could be significant: If the workers could have been legitimately chosen for the layoffs, then they will not be eligible for awards of lost past and future wages, benefits or — in the case of document shredding — damages for mental suffering.

from PAGE 1

That means the jury could find lab managers let prejudices or favoritism mar the layoffs, but that it didn't actually cause harm to the workers because they should have been paid off anyway.

Indirectly, jurors also will have to referee a battle of numbers. Each side has presented its own statistics and statistical experts.

The issue before jurors is twofold. First, they must decide whether, if the lab had statistics showing the layoffs might be discriminatory against Hispanic and older workers, it should have stopped the layoffs. And, second, whether lab managers actually did target Hispanics and older workers.

The lab's experts and managers contend that LANL's internal computer analysis showed no adverse impact on minorities when the layoffs were analyzed by groupings of workers with similar job skills — that is, overwhelming numbers of Hispanics were laid off in some areas of the lab, but those areas were heavily Hispanic.

The workers point to labwide statistics, developed by the lab itself and an expert witness for the workers, showing adverse impact on Hispanics and older workers.

Neighbors of Fernald await radiation exposure estimates

By JOHN NOLAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Seven years after workers stopped processing uranium at the Fernald plant, neighbors still worry about what toll radioactive contamination from the plant might have taken.

Scientists are haggling over how to calculate just how much radiation, residents of the rural Cincinnati 18 miles northwest of Cincinnati might have received during nearly 40 years of uranium processing and emissions of radioactive dust and water.

The Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta hopes to decide later this year, after consulting with residents, whether to go ahead with a study of disease patterns.

But still at issue is the question of whether science is capable of answering residents' questions about whether a uranium-tainted environment might have increased incidents of cancer, lung diseases and other ailments.

"How do we tie all this together? I don't think anybody really knows," said Lisa Crawford, president of Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health and a longtime Fernald neighbor.

That is unsettling to residents, who get conflicting information about whether cancer incidence rates were higher there than in the general population, Crawford said.

"Six months ago, it was, 'Well, you have a higher rate of cancer. Now it's, 'you don't have a higher rate of cancer,'" she said.

The Energy Department, owner of Fernald and other processing sites around the country, asked the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 1990 to handle radiation-exposure studies. The department formerly did that work itself, but was regarded with suspicion because, since it operated the sites, it had an interest in how the studies turned out.

Department spokesman Ken Morgan said it was a challenge for science to try to determine whether a relatively common disease such as cancer can be conclusively attributed to nearby uranium-handling operations.

"People who believe that they have been exposed, deeply believe that, and want science to vindicate it," Morgan said. "That may be beyond the powers of science."

Edwa Yocum, who raised three children since moving to a house

who lived down the road also has a pituitary tumor.

Fernald processed uranium for the government's nuclear weapons from 1951 until production stopped in 1989. Since then, the government has concentrated on cleaning up radioactive wastes at the 1,050-acre site.

Neighbors alleging radioactive pollution and potential health hazards sued and reached a \$78 million settlement with the Energy Department in 1989 that provides for federally paid, lifetime medical monitoring for eligible residents.

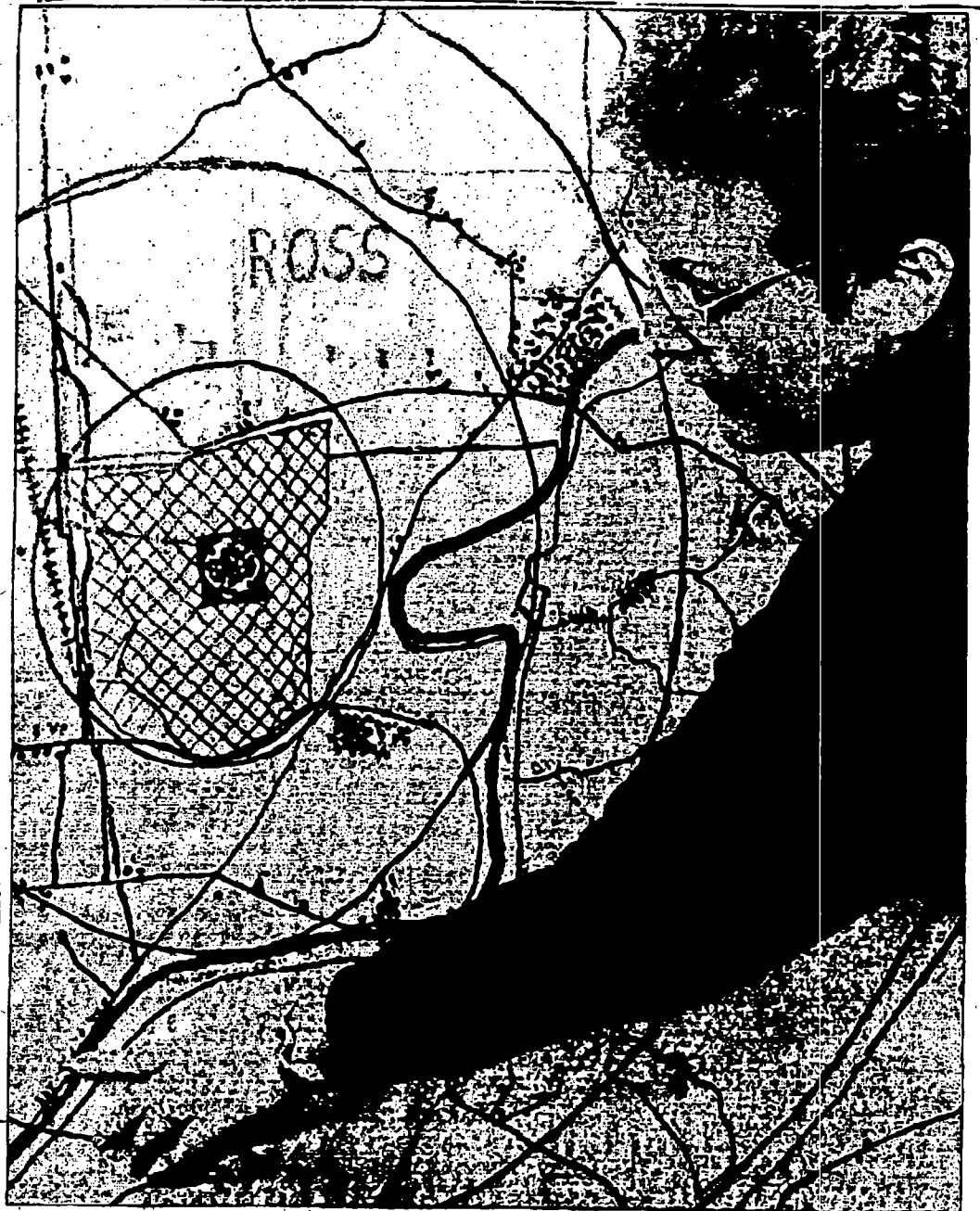
The residents who participate in the voluntary program can be examined every three years and are referred to a doctor if problems are detected. More than 9,450 residents have been examined so far.

University of Cincinnati doctors, who conduct the monitoring, have begun analyzing the diagnoses to calculate disease rates. The work could be completed later this year.

But Dr. Robert Wones, the UC internal medicine professor who heads the monitoring program, said the results would not be representative of the overall area population.

Those in the monitoring pro-

CONTINUED



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Edwa Yocum and her husband have compiled information on the incidence of cancers, leukemia and other diseases within a five-mile radius of the Fernald plant.

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER

March 28, 1997
Cincinnati Enquirer
Editorial Page, A18
"1,050 Acre Money Pit"
Tony Lang

1,050 ACRE MONEY PIT:

The radioactively contaminated Fernald plant 18 miles northwest of Cincinnati is looking more than ever like a bottomless federal money pit. A March 18 General Accounting Office report found contractor Fluor Daniel Fernald is more than \$55 million over budget and 19 months behind schedule on its most critical project — a vitrification test plant to encase radioactive waste in glass pellets.

The GAO confirmed Fluor wasted millions of dollars and grossly overbilled, as an *Enquirer* series since February 1996 has exposed. The GAO also found the Department of Energy's oversight severely lacking. Two days after the GAO report, DOE announced it was stripping Fluor Daniel Fernald from the pilot plant project. At last. It's not yet clear if a new contractor can salvage any of Fluor's flawed design.

Fluor's total cleanup contract, budgeted at about \$2 billion, is up for review in November. Last spring, a speeded-up, 10-year plan was approved locally (but not in Washington) amid great hoopla about saving taxpayer dollars. Now quick cleanup is dead in the water, and officials are talking 13 to 15 years at a cost of billions extra.

Fernald is Fluor's second attempt at a vitrification solution. Its other try was halted at Hanford, America's most contaminated nuclear plant site. Yet last August, DOE handed Fluor a \$5 billion contract to team up on that cleanup in Washington state. Fluor's political action committee spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on campaign donations last year, and was the top construction-firm giver of soft money to the parties.

DOE should find a new contractor with proven vitrification expertise such as used in France, and it may need to reconsider encasing waste in cement as a cheaper, quicker fall-back solution.

— Tony Lang

Amarillo Globe Times Thursday March 27, 1987

pg 1C

Mediators restarting strike talks

Pantex guards outline concerns

By M. GRADY JACKSON
Globe-News Staff Writer

Federal mediators will renew their efforts today to restart negotiations between striking Pantex security guards and Mason & Hanger Corp., the subcontractor that runs Pantex for the Department of Energy.

Two federal mediators will come to Amarillo to try to break the logjam, said Mike Stumbo, president of the International Guards Union of America Local 38, which represents about 300 officers of the regular Pantex security force.

A spokeswoman for Mason & Hanger confirmed the planned meeting.

One of the mediators already has worked with the two negotiating committees, while the other will be new to the situation, Stumbo said.

Contract negotiations deadlocked between the two groups and led to a strike beginning at midnight March 17 when Mason & Hanger and the IGUA failed to find compromise on several issues.

The main points of contention included proposed changes in the guards' sick-leave benefits; changes in the way health insurance premiums would be paid by the guards; the corporation's rejection of a clause that would prevent security operations from being subcontracted; and the rejection of a clause that would bind Mason & Hanger to abide by all federal, Department of Energy, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations.

Mason & Hanger has said it must follow safety regulations even in the absence of a specific clause in the contract.

The contract proposed by Mason & Hanger and rejected by the IGUA included a 16 percent raise over a five-year period and increased contributions to the guards' 401K accounts, a company spokeswoman said.

"Our actual salaries are not the problem. The raises (offered in the proposal) are not a problem," Stumbo said.

He said the IGUA's main concerns

were that sick-leave benefits were being scaled back without the security of a medical retirement plan, and that Mason & Hanger refused to rule out the threat of out-sourcing Pantex security operations.

"When they (Mason & Hanger) attacked sick-leave, it was really too much. Our membership couldn't accept that," Stumbo said. "Because of our mission, there is absolutely no place for an unarmed (injured) guard. If they had medical retirement, we could entertain changes in sick-leave."

Kerry Campbell, a spokeswoman for Mason & Hanger, said the company is "willing to do some give and take" to resolve the strike.

But she emphasized that the company had to work within a DOE-allotted budget.

Campbell said she was hopeful the meeting today at 2 p.m. at the Best Western Inn's meeting room would bring a resolution to the impasse.

Barring a breakthrough, the auxiliary force can continue to operate indefinitely, she said. The last strike involving Pantex guards lasted 89 days.

But the strike-replacement force also has drawn criticism.

Frank George, president of the Metal Trades Council, which represents about 1,200 production and maintenance Pantex employees and is separate from the IGUA, alleged that security infractions had taken place at the plant since the auxiliary force took over operations.

"No way things are operating smoothly (at the plant)," George said.

Stumbo said he also had received reports that there had been breaches of security regulations. He said the IGUA is trying to verify those allegations through the DOE's Office of the Inspector-General.

Stumbo said the Local had submitted questions to Ed McCallum, the director of the Office of Safeguards and Security at the DOE, concerning the qualifications of the auxiliary guards. Those questions were passed on to Paul Sowa, a member of the Mason &

Please see GUARDS on Page 4C
CONTINUED

Continued pg 4C 3-27-77 6:50 PM pg 1C
CONTINUED

Guards: Replacements man Pantex posts

From Page 1C

Hanger negotiating team and a division manager for the company, Stumbo said.

Citing information distributed by the DOE that gave Sowa's responses to the guards' questions, Stumbo said the Local's concerns were answered as follows:

- In response to whether the security force was operating at 50 percent of its regular manpower, Sowa wrote that the replacement force was made up of 69 auxiliary police officers and 52 armed Pantex supervisors.

The smaller force was working

two 12-hour shifts, seven days each week, with one day off for every 14 days of work.

- Sowa also replied to IGUA criticism that replacement guards lacked knowledge of the plant. He said that within each auxiliary group, a Mason & Hanger supervisor or combination of Mason & Hanger supervisors was present to direct guards during an emergency response.

Stumbo said he believed those provisions were inadequate to handle all possible security contingencies.

- Finally, the IGUA asked whether there were unarmed personnel working in the capacity of regularly armed guards.

Sowa wrote that some unarmed Mason & Hanger supervisors were working in a security capacity, but only as construction escorts.

Campbell emphasized that the auxiliary force was costing the company no more than the regular security force.

She said that Mason & Hanger was not paying the guards on strike and that there were fewer replacement guards to pay. Additionally, the guards brought from other sites received payment of their benefits from those sites and not Mason & Hanger.

"It is not a great increase in cost by any means," Campbell said.

Herald Daily News

Friday, March 21, 1997
pg. 1C

Pantex security guards meet with mediators

From staff reports

Federal mediators met with representatives for Pantex security guards and Pantex contractor Mason & Hanger Corp. late Thursday in attempts to end an ongoing guard strike at the Pantex Plant.

Mike Stumbo, president of the International Guards Union of America Local 38, which represents about 300 officers of the regular Pantex security force, said mediators met with both sides and briefed them on issues related to the strike, but he said serious negotiations are expected to begin today.

Bob Barton, a Mason & Hanger spokesman, said mediators largely were in charge of talks Thursday and that they asked both sides not to discuss the substance of the strike-related issues at this time.

Contract negotiations deadlocked between the two groups and led to a strike beginning March 17 when Mason & Hanger and the IGUA failed to find compromise on several issues.

The main points of contention included: proposed changes in the guards' sick-leave benefits; changes in the way health insurance premiums would be paid by the guards; the corporation's rejection of a clause that would prevent security operations from being subcontracted; and the rejection of a clause that would bind Mason & Hanger to abide by all federal, Department of Energy, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations.

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Stumbo said earlier that said the IGUA's main concerns were that sick-leave benefits were being scaled back without the security of a medical retirement plan, and that Mason & Hanger refused to rule out the threat of out-sourcing Pantex security operations.

Forgotten Tank Leaked Tritium, Lab Says

Other isotopes found; awaiting final tests

By Liam Pliven and Joe Haberstroh **A8**
STAFF WRITERS

Two weeks after announcing they had discovered high levels of radioactivity in a long-forgotten underground storage tank, Brookhaven National Laboratory officials have said that tritium from the tank apparently has leaked into the ground.

The lab also disclosed that several other radioactive isotopes had escaped from the tank, but officials said yesterday they won't know for sure which ones until more detailed tests are complete next week.

The new leak is distinct from the previously disclosed tritium plume that is spreading from the lab's main nuclear reactor, and the lab said contamination from the tank is within drinking water standards and has not approached public water supplies.

The fact that the tank was not inspected during the period when it was apparently leaking is evidence of "a less-than-ideally rigorous approach" by the lab, said Tara O'Toole, an assistant secretary of the U.S. Energy Department, which owns the lab.

Few details about the contamination were available yesterday as lab officials said they did not know how far the tritium had spread from the tank or how long it had been leaking. The lab is not even certain that the 10-foot-deep concrete tank is the source.

But it is the main suspect because it has long collected radioactive residue from the main nuclear reactor and another nearby reactor that has been closed since 1968, and because water in the tank contained high levels of strontium and other isotopes.

Lab officials suspect that the leak occurred when the water inside rose above its intended level and escaped through an opening between the concrete and a stainless steel duct that is about five feet above the tank bottom.

Officials said they are investigating why the tank's water-level alarm failed. They are also uncertain why the water level rose above the intended mark. But one likely source is rainwater that could have entered the tank after a layer of pavement covering its manhole was removed in 1991, O'Toole said.

Because the lab did not inspect the tank between 1991 and December, 1996, the problem was not detected earlier, which Robert Casey, the head of the environment, health and safety division at the lab, said yesterday might have prevented the leak.

U.S. Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.), who earlier called for a congressional investigation into that delay, said he has formed a task force that will begin studying the issue next week. As for the revelation that the tank is leaking, D'Amato said, "We're not surprised." Though the lab had promised Suffolk in 1987 that it would replace such tanks because they were not double-lined, the lab did not notify the county that it had discovered radioactive material in the tank in 1991, and therefore the county did not urge that it be regularly inspected.

"They had a record that the tank had hot [radioactive] waste, but why they didn't tell us, I don't know," said James Pim, chief of the county health department's Office of Water Resources. "I would say they should have told us, yes."

The tank was rediscovered in December, 1996, as part of the lab's Superfund cleanup process, and the tank was drained earlier this month after the radioactive isotopes were detected.

As for the other isotopes, the preliminary tests were not conclusive, but the lab expects to know by next week whether there are also elevated levels of strontium, cesium, and radium, which — like tritium — are potential carcinogens if ingested in doses far greater than the levels thus far discovered.

Kara Villamil, a lab spokeswoman, said, "We don't know yet what we have leaked from the tank."

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POST REGISTER TRIBUNE MARCH 29, 1997 Page B4

Nevada senators slam Energy Department for planned waste shipments through state

Sandra Chereb
Associated Press

RENO, Nev. — Nevada Sen. Harry Reid and Richard Bryan took the Department of Energy to task for its plans to send 88 shipments of high-level nuclear waste through northern Nevada to Idaho this year.

The Energy Department plans to ship radioactive uranium waste from Taiwan, Korea and Japan to the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory for temporary storage.

The shipments are among 1,188 allowed under Idaho Gov. Phil Batt's unprecedented October 1995 agreement with the Energy Department and Navy. It allows temporary additional storage of high-level radioactive waste at the eastern Idaho site in exchange for a court-enforced commitment to have most waste out of Idaho by 2035.

The waste en route from foreign reactors this year would be shipped by

boat to Concord, Calif., then placed on either trains or trucks for transport across Nevada to Idaho, Reid and Bryan said Wednesday.

"I am deeply concerned with how this decision by the DOE was made and how it is being implemented," Reid said.

"Not only have there been no hearings conducted for residents along the transportation routes, but it appears that many Nevada towns scheduled to have waste come through were left out of recent emergency management training workshops and planning meetings by the Department of Energy."

Bryan said environmental impact hearings were conducted in Concord and Idaho, but not in Nevada.

"If the recent floods have taught us anything, it is that we need to be prepared for the worst," Bryan said. "Once again, DOE has left Nevada in the dark."

Reid said the shipments could go

through downtown Reno and Sparks.

"City officials are having a tough enough time handling increased train traffic from the Union Pacific merger without having to deal with a potentially deadly accident involving uranium," he said.

Reid and Bryan, both Democrats, have been battling a bill in Congress to establish an interim nuclear waste storage facility at Yucca Mountain, 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

"Often, this issue of nuclear waste in Nevada is perceived as a parochial issue," Bryan said. "The point that we seek to make is that tens of millions of Americans would be affected if nuclear waste from across the country were shipped to Nevada."

The senators said they are working with Gov. Bob Miller on options to block the foreign shipments.

At the very least, they said alternative routes should be examined and all towns along the transportation route should receive emergency disaster training.

Tracy Press
Front Page

March 27, 1997

Site 300 slips off list of radioactive dump sites

Andrew F. Hamm

Press staff writer

Site 300 is no longer on the Department of Energy's list of possible low-level radioactive-waste dump sites, an internal DOE document shows.

The document was obtained by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory watchdog group Tri-Valley CARES.

DOE officials Wednesday agreed with CARES' assessment of the document.

"I believe so. I've heard something to that effect. It sounds accurate," said DOE spokesman John Belluardo.

Site 300 was selected as the preferred site for regional waste generated by LLNL, Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, Stanford Linear Accelerator Center in Menlo Park and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for Energy-Related Health Research in Davis.

LLNL spokesman H.F. Heffner said the Lab has not received any official word on

site selection.

"We all believe (Site 300) is a low priority because there are so many other sites that are better suited for it," he said.

California facilities that deal with low-level radioactive waste have been dumping material in Nevada for years.

However, Nevada has been pushing for other states to find their own waste-disposal sites.

The announcement that Site 300 had become a preferred choice brought howls of protests from Tracy city officials, and Rep. Richard Pombo, R-Tracy, has lobbied against the proposal. Site 300 is located about eight miles southwest of Tracy in Corral Hollow Canyon.

Marylia Kelley of Tri-Valley CARES said its protests, as well as strong opposition from Tracy city officials, led to Site 300's being crossed off the list.

"It seems the site that protests less will get it all," she said. "This means we got our protests in early, that's all."

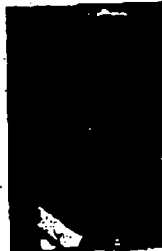
Institute picks new lab chief

**Ex-astronaut chosen
by Midwest Research.**

By MARTIN ROSENBERG
Staff Writer

Midwest Research Institute of Kansas City has selected a former top space official and astronaut to head the government's National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Colorado.

Retired Adm. Richard H. Truly, former National Aeronautics and Space Administration administrator from 1989 to 1992, has become the director of the Golden, Colo., laboratory. He will begin full-time May 1.



Truly

He became an astronaut in 1969 and piloted space shuttle missions in the early 1980s.

Truly replaces Charles F. Gay, who is planning to start a new multinational company that will attempt to stimulate market demand for renewable energy.

Midwest Research Institute operates and manages the Colorado laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy.

John McKelvey, president of Midwest Research Institute, said Truly brings to his new job a strong background in research management and direct experience in the renewable energy field.

Truly headed the investigation of the space shuttle Challenger explosion. And for five years, he directed the Georgia Tech Research Institute and served as vice president of Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

N.J. physics lab faces major cuts

p. 86 By Linda A. Johnson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PLAINSBORO, N.J. — The end is near for the world's most powerful experimental fusion reactor, but scientists at the nation's premier fusion research center hope they're only closing a chapter in their work.

After half a century as unquestioned global leaders in developing the potentially cheap and safe energy source, scientists at Princeton and other U.S. labs are reluctantly becoming followers of Japanese and European fusion researchers with bigger budgets and newer machines.

The sting is perhaps sharpest at the Princeton University Plasma Physics Laboratory. Despite universal acclaim, the lab's record-setting Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor is being shut down on Thursday — many say prematurely — for lack of money.

"There have been tremendous experimental achievements through the last couple decades" at the test reactor, said Andy Seasler, president-elect of the American Physical Society and a distinguished staff scientist at California's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. "We should keep it going and get more results."

That won't happen, given cuts in the Princeton laboratory's funding, which is expected to dwindle to \$52 million in the next fiscal year, down from \$111 million in 1992. In June, the lab faces a major staff cut: Up to 200 of its 500 remaining physicists and engineers are expected to lose their jobs. Just five years ago, the lab employed 1,100.

John P. Holdren, a longtime professor of energy and resources who directs Harvard University's program on science technology and public policy, called the funding cuts unwise. "I think our whole energy research and development policy for the last 15 years has been shortsighted," he said.

Holdren, a strong advocate of increased research on energy sources, chaired a 1995 presidential panel on science and technology that reviewed U.S. fusion research. He, Seasler and the other panel members recommended minimum annual funding of \$320 million, partly to keep the 15-year-old Princeton test reactor running through late 1998.

PA 2A THE OAK RIDGER, OAK RIDGE, TN., FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1997

Firm begins project to stop waste leak

by Bill Dockery
For The Oak Ridger

An Alaska firm will break ground in Oak Ridge over the next few weeks on a project that is intended to freeze radioactive or hazardous materials in their track — before they can leak into ground water.

Arctic Foundations Inc. is bringing the freezing techniques it uses to stabilize buildings erected on frozen Alaskan soils to a capped pond adjacent to the Homogeneous Reactor Experiment on the Department of En-

ergy's Oak Ridge Reservation. The pond is leaking trace levels of water-soluble strontium-90 into White Oak Creek.

The two-year project is a test of the technology, says Elizabeth Phillips, who will manage it for DOE, which has contracted directly with Arctic Foundations for the work.

"This is the first time this technology has been used to contain radioactive contaminants," Phillips says. "It's been used before on sewage and petroleum prod-

under 350 to 500 pounds of pressure per square inch.

When the liquid is warmed by the surrounding soil, it changes to a gaseous state. The carbon dioxide's change from liquid to gas sucks heat energy from nearby materials, causing any water present to freeze. The gas returns to the surface to be cooled to a liquid state again and piped back into the ground to pick up more heat.

The Environmental Protection Agency is joining DOE to support the \$1.5-million project under an initiative to evaluate innovative technology for use at Superfund sites. Phillips says the process may have applications for emergency responses to radioactive and hazardous leaks.

The actual process is decidedly low-tech. Carbon dioxide is cooled to a liquid state in refrigerating units on the surface, then pumped down probes in the ground

See LEAK, Page 10A

LEAK:

Continued from Page 1A

The drill holes around the pond will go down about 30 feet, a short distance into bedrock. When the freezing is complete, a process which could be finished in less than six months, the barriers will be 12 feet thick.

The frozen ground will be covered with white insulation when the barriers are complete.

"It's an extremely simple heat transfer system," says Ed Yarmak, the Arctic Foundations engineer

who will supervise the project. "Simple means efficient, too."

Yarmak says that his company will subcontract with local firms for part of the work. Highland Drilling, an East Tennessee firm, has already been tapped to put in the holes, and Yarmak will look to a local refrigeration subcontractor for maintenance. The refrigeration hardware will come from a Georgia company, Heatcraft Chandler.

Erv Long, the president of Arctic Foundations, started the firm in 1972, after working for the Army Corps of Engineers for 24 years. The technology his firm developed is

crucial in Alaska, where a permanently frozen layer of soil called permafrost complicates normal building techniques.

"With our probe system, you can actually put buildings directly on the ground" in Alaska, Long says. "You have an insulated pad and probes under the ground to maintain the permafrost. It's more economical than putting buildings on pilings."

Long says his staff has allowed for the warmer ground water in Tennessee and has several options that can be used to ensure the process works. "We've prepared for the worst," he says.

Using a frozen barrier has several advantages for waste containment, Phillips says. The icy walls of the containment will be self-healing. Should water breach the barrier, it will soon freeze again as it comes into contact with the still frozen sections. It will also divert ground water around the burial. And there's nothing to decommission when the barrier is no longer necessary.

"If you decide you don't need it anymore, just thaw it out," Phillips says. "The down side is you have to pay for the electricity to keep it frozen." She estimates that maintaining the frozen walls will cost

roughly half what it takes to get the ground frozen at the start.

The ecological effects of the process would be small, the geologist says: "Microbes in the soil would come back, and there might be some that could adapt."

The frozen-barrier technology can be either a permanent or a temporary solution, depending on the nature of the contaminants.

"If this were a tritium problem, we might be able to keep it up for 15 to 30 years, while the tritium decays and becomes harmless," Phillips says. "For strontium-90, it is not permanent" because of the isotopic

element's extremely long half-life.

DOE calls the project the Cryogenic Barrier Demonstration Project, which is based on the name of an earlier pilot project, but both Long and Yarmak demur at the word "cryogenic," which implies cold temperatures approaching absolute zero.

"It's a little misleading. It implies liquid helium temperatures," Yarmak says.

"We're looking at minus 40 degrees Celsius or centigrade," says Long. "The ground won't be colder than that."

New Mexican**Date:** 3-31-97**Page:** A-11**Trust WIPP? No . . .**

Trust the DOE with deadly substances? The day after that plutonium contaminated shipment snuck down St. Francis Drive, a 13-year-old, driving a car near St. Francis, hit a pole and knocked out power to the entire county! All together now boys and girls: "It is insane to consider shipping/ burying plutonium anywhere!" That really is the typical, bureaucratic non-solution — get it out of sight and it'll go away. One small problem, plutonium doesn't go away for 240,000 years, guys! We need to transmute/decontaminate it on site. It is not safe to move it and it is not safe to plan to keep it even the 10,000 years the DOE in it's arrogance has said it would be safe! We have no clue what is going to happen during the next 10,000 years — just as we have no clue what has happened during the last 10,000 years! "Oh, yes — Now I recall — just 10,000 years ago today I was burying plutonium in Atlantis!" (And they say memory is the first thing to go!) Trust the DOE? Our newspaper editor surely jests!

Eleanor Pence
Santa Fe

BITS

Microsoft delays Windows 95 upgrade

Microsoft Corp. announced recently it was delaying until 1998 the release of a successor to the Windows 95 operating system.

Industry analysts told Reuters the delay of the new system, code-named Memphis, may be due to difficulties Microsoft faces in integrating the system with the company's new World Wide Web browser, Internet Explorer, version 4.0.

Analysts said the delay also could reflect dissatisfaction among corporate users, who are tired of frequent software upgrades. They said many businesses are just now beginning to adopt the 2-year-old Windows 95 platform.

Hackers helping Saddam?

The BBC has reported that Dutch computer hackers obtained military secrets, including troop movement and missile capabilities obtained from U.S. defense computers, and offered them for sale to Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

The incident, which supposedly occurred during the Gulf War, was verified by Eugene Schultz, a former computer security official for the U.S. Department of Energy.

Schultz told the BBC that he remembered U.S. officials watching helplessly as their files were accessed repeatedly by hackers, whose roots have been traced to the Netherlands.

Although the information report-

edly was strong enough to have changed the outcome of the Gulf War, the BBC's sources said Iraqi officials ignored offers from the hackers, believing the information was a hoax.

The BBC said U.S. government officials would neither confirm nor deny the incidents.

Cyber 'walkout' in Austria

Internet service providers across Austria went offline voluntarily for two hours one day last week to protest government attempts to censor content on the Internet.

The action effectively blocked any access to the global network of computer networks for almost anyone who accesses the Internet via Austrian-based companies. Users of CompuServe were unaffected.

The incident was sparked by a police raid on VIPnet, a Vienna-based ISP. Police reportedly impounded computers amid allegations that the equipment was being used to supply the Internet with child pornography.

According to Newsbytes News Network, the raid stemmed from a complaint filed by a German user in March 1995, in which it was alleged that a subscriber used VIPnet to upload child pornography to an Internet site outside the country.

Phoenix firm in 'Hoover's'

Three-Five Systems Inc. of Phoe-

nix is the only Arizona-based high technology company listed in the latest edition of *Hoover's Hot 250: The Stories Behind America's Fastest-Growing Companies*.

To qualify for the book, a public company must trade stock in the United States, and usually has annual sales growth of at least 25 percent over the past five years. Companies also usually have positive net income for the last reported fiscal year before the book is published.

The book is available in major bookstores across the country.

Three-Five Systems designs and manufactures user interface devices, and specializes in liquid crystal display and light emitting diode components.

New CEO at Evergreen

Mark Fife has been named president and chief executive officer at Evergreen Internet in Chandler.

Fife takes the helm from the company's CEO and co-founder, Phillip Broadbent, who will remain as chairman of Evergreen's board.

Evergreen's new CEO comes from Insight Enterprises Inc., a direct marketer of computers, hardware and software, where he was most recently senior vice president of strategic alliances.

Fife takes over management and day-to-day operations at Evergreen immediately.

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS SUNDAY MARCH 30, 1997

Don't be foolish, these sites can make your Day

By KATHLEEN SANDS *LS*
NetGuide Magazine

If you're the gullible sort and you haven't glanced at a calendar lately — be wary because it's time for April Fools' Day antics.

Before you get caught with a "kick me" sign on your backside or forward bogus computer virus E-mail warnings to family, friends, co-workers and complete strangers, get acquainted with the hoaxes and myths making the rounds on the Net.

And if you want to pull some online pranks on your pals, the Web's a great place to find good, clean, foolish fun.

Just watch your back! The Net has a colorful tradition of prankish E-mail and posts to Usenet newsgroups.

Last April 1, for instance, netizens saw a "news" report that Microsoft mogul Bill Gates would run for president to "bring the Information Highway into every American home."

Another of last year's doozies from the April Fools on the Net archive was the "Internet Downtime" advisory — seems every leap year the Internet needs to be shut down for "cleaning." Yeah, right.

Address:

<http://www.2nets.com/april-fools/>

The Net also has its share of more troublesome tricks — dire warnings about computer viruses that sound horrific but don't actually exist. If you haven't come across the "Good Times Virus" yet, you will.

April Fools on the Net



It's a hoax that's been around for years, fooling each generation of Net newcomers and giving the Net a bad rap as a place where your computer can catch something fatal as soon as you open your E-mail.

It's enough to make you paranoid — but don't be. What you should be is informed.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Computer Incident Advisory Capability Web site (<http://ciac.llnl.gov/ciac/>) is one

reliable source for information about Internet hoaxes and real virus threats.

In addition to a history of hoaxes on the Net, you'll learn how to identify a validated virus warning and what to do if you think a warning message might be a hoax.

The Computer Virus Myths page (<http://www.kumite.com/myths/>) is another place you should check regularly for the latest hoaxes and how they proliferate. Bottom line: You can't get a computer virus just by logging on to the Net and opening your E-mail — but that doesn't mean you shouldn't be running the latest virus-protection software.

You know them from chain letters and junk faxes — now, thanks to E-mail, urban legends spread faster than you can say "\$250 Nieman-Marcus chocolate chip cookie recipe."

You know, the one about a woman who bought a department store's cookie recipe for "two-fifty" — and then shared it with the world because she couldn't get the \$250 charge taken off her bill.

You've probably also heard about a seriously ill English boy named Craig Shergold who wants enough get well cards to earn a place in the Guinness Book of Records.

CONTINUED

AprilFools.com

We don't want to fool you.

We want to help YOU fool someone else!

Welcome to AprilFools.com, a celebration of fun, friendship and freedom!

<http://www.kunite.com/myths>

Computer Virus Myths

Learn the truth.

Find out why March is Symantec Awareness Month!



Ignore the hype. The sky is *not* falling.

Computer Virus Myths

Well, while the cookies are good, the tale isn't true. And Craig's now a healthy teenager who doesn't need any more cards, thank you. But the legends live on. You'll find the stories behind them in the alt.folklore.urban newsgroup and the AFU and Urban Legends Archive.

Address:
<http://www.urbanlegends.com/>

Up for a little Net mischief yourself? Visit AprilFools.com for some free fun — like cre-

ating a bogus Web page or putting yourself (or a friend) into an online news story with a celebrity newsmaker.

There are also tricks that'll cost you a little something, like sending fake postcards. The site's also a good place to learn a little more about this holiday you just can't get through unless you have a great sense of humor.

Address://www.aprilfools.com

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BURRELLE'S
 NewsExpress

MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE

DATE: MAR 29 1997

Ethanol blend does cost more

A13

Minnesota's Department of Agriculture is a strong advocate for ethanol. That was clear in a March 22 Counterpoint by Commissioner Gene Hugoson.

As a result, Hugoson and other officials at the department quickly and enthusiastically embraced a recent conclusion by my office that the state's ethanol promotion programs have created positive economic impacts.

They are much less willing, however, to accept a full accounting of the costs of those programs. They are particularly eager to dismiss our conclusion that ethanol-blended gasoline costs consumers more than conventional gasoline.

We based our conclusion on gasoline price survey data collected and published by the U.S. Department of Energy. The data show prices for blended gasoline that are higher by 2 to 14 cents per gallon for the nation as a whole during 1995 and 1996.

The Minnesota Agriculture Department's argument that ethanol-blended gasoline should not cost more rests, in part, on the view that tax credits paid to gasoline distributors will be passed on to final consumers. Weekly market surveys over months and years show this is not happening.

Hugoson's comments also showed that state agriculture officials are reluctant to accept data and studies that question the environmental benefits of ethanol.

For example, they disregard a recent, authoritative review by the National Research Council that said ethanol and other oxygenates used in blended gasoline are not significant factors in reducing carbon monoxide emissions from newer automobiles. Redesign engines are much more important.

While state agricultural officials certainly have a role to play in boosting the ethanol industry and the state programs that helped create it, they should not completely surrender their objectivity.

The programs they administer have brought significant benefits to corn growers and rural communities, and they have good reason to be proud.

But the programs also have significant costs borne by taxpayers and consumers. Those costs ought to be acknowledged forthrightly.

— Jim Nobles, St. Paul Legislative auditor.

NEWARK STAR LEDGER SUNDAY MARCH 30, 1997

Modern, efficient bulbs throw a new light on energy savings

By Bridget Malone
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

It used to take as long as three hours every week just to change the light bulbs at the Church of the Sacred Heart.

Now the South Amboy church doesn't spend any time changing light bulbs, thanks to a re-engineering of its lighting system. Rev. Joseph Romanoski hasn't calculated the labor savings, but he has noticed the steep decline in his energy bill. The church has seen its energy costs cut in half, a savings of some \$8,800 a year.

"Going from what I call ice cube trays to modern lights, brought us into the 90s," said Romanoski. "The real driving force for the project was to bring down costs and the difference has been like night and day."

Changing light bulbs can save money. The Department of Energy reports that 19 percent of all electricity consumed in the United States is for lighting purposes. Of that 19 percent, half is wasted on the continued use of inefficient technologies. The Edison Electric Institute placed the nation's consumption of electricity in 1995 at \$208 billion, which means that nearly \$20 billion was wasted that year.

That wasted electricity has been targeted by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, which is in the midst of its Re-electrification of America campaign. "Part of our foundation is to tell people that any building, whether it's a hospital, school or plant, has a potential savings of one

dollar, per square foot, per year," said Jack Briode, president and chief executive officer of the Advanced Transformer Company in Rosemont, Ill., and head of the industry group.

"Everybody wins in this situation. In the year I've been working on this campaign, I haven't gotten a piece of bad mail yet," said Briode.

Briode believes the "re-electrification food chain" benefits everyone. The electrician gets more hours; the distributor gets more sales; the manufacturer makes more products; the economy gets a boost; and the environment ends up cleaner, and the end user wins gets reduced costs.

The hallmark of energy efficient lighting is that financially it's very attractive for companies to spend money on," said Robert Sauchelli, a program manager with the Environmental Protection Agency. "It's highly desirable to have these programs."

The Church of the Sacred Heart got estimates from several different companies, but Romanoski said Bernard Erickson, the executive vice president of OK Electric in Perth Amboy, was the least expensive and didn't insist on a new heating and air conditioning system, as part of the package. OK Electric focused primarily on lights and lighting fixtures.

"We take an engineering approach, go out and help with the design and work with you for a reasonable price," said Erickson.

OK Electric and its service subsidiary, Energy Solutions, have a 5,000-square-foot training center,

next to company headquarters. The center houses displays about lighting, including the difference between fluorescent, halogen and incandescent illumination. The variance between new and old can be seen in an "exit sign" display.

● Older exit signs use 40-watt light bulbs, which only last a few months.

● Newer exit signs use a 2-watt light bulb, just as bright, lasts 40-60 years.

"It's fluorescent versus incandescent, or 100 watts versus a 13-watt bulb," said Erickson. "The technological changes are getting better, and better. Fluorescent bulbs use 80 percent less energy."

that need financial assistance to pay for the lighting upgrade.

"It costs about \$50,000 to retrofit a catholic school. We can get out and finance it with AT&T and in about two or three years, they start saving money," said Erickson. "AT&T provides us with a vehicle to get the job done. The cost of the project is small, but the cost of the savings is great."

Some New Jersey establishments that switched to energy efficient lighting with the help of Energy Solutions include: Anheuser-Busch in Newark with savings of \$125,000 annually; Frigidaire Corporation in Edison has saved \$220,000 in energy bills; Hunters Glen Apartments in Plainsboro is saving \$21,000 a year; St. Joseph's School in Maplewood, saving \$8,758 a year; and the Green Brook Board of Education is saving \$19,400 from a retrofit project.

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PHOTO BY JACK S. KANTHAL

Bernard Erickson, executive vice president of OK Electric, demonstrates how newer exit signs use less energy and last longer than older ones at a display panel at the company's training center in Perth Amboy.

Refrigerator makers unsure which way to jump

■ Energy-saving and environmental rules have industry in quandary

By CINDY SZURZYCKI
The Washington Post

D7

WASHINGTON — Refrigerator manufacturers are in a regulatory deep freeze, waiting for the federal government to issue a new standard to wring more energy efficiency out of their products.

It's been a long wait. In November 1994, after two years of negotiation, a partnership of appliance manufacturers, environmentalists, utilities and state energy offices proposed a consensus agreement to the Department of Energy, calling for two tiers of compliance depending on what kind of insulating agent was used.

Companies that used a less energy-efficient, but more environmentally friendly insulation would have to increase efficiency by only 23 percent for a time, while those that stayed with the old substance had to achieve 30 percent more efficiency by 1998. Everyone would have to eliminate the old insulating material by 2003, when a separate Environmental Protection Agency rule kicked in.

At the time, the agreement was lauded as an accord among strange bedfellows. The parties promised to save families \$300 in electricity over the lifespan of an appliance, cut pollution and allow manufacturers plenty of time to comply.

"We handed (DOE) a rule in a package. It could have been put right into the Federal Register," said Charles Samuels, government relations counsel for the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers, which includes companies such as Amana Refrigeration Inc., Frigidaire Co., Maytag Corp., GE Appliances and Whirlpool Corp.

By 1995, it all fell apart. Four of the five companies pulled out of the agreement, saying DOE had not acted quickly enough on the proposal, depriving them of enough time to meet what they consider a double regulatory whammy: Comply with the energy rule and replace hydrochlorofluorocarbons to meet the terms of the EPA rule.

A different interpretation is that the companies (except Whirlpool) wanted to take advantage of the anti-regulatory sentiments at the time the Republicans took control of Congress. Suddenly DOE was under a one-year moratorium on new rules.

During the moratorium, appliance makers cooked up another plan — do nothing until 2003, when the EPA ban would kick

in. Then, everyone must increase efficiency by 30 percent.

Samuels said the manufacturers were worried about the availability of an energy-efficient insulation substitute much before that time. But Whirlpool, the nation's biggest appliance manufacturer, wanted to stick to the terms of the original agreement because it already had begun preparing for the change.

"People should stick by the agreement. We shouldn't alter the rule in its timing or its essence," said Richard Best, director of environmental and regulatory programs for Whirlpool. "We took people at their word."

Energy users scramble for deals after deregulation

1 of 3.

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Buyers bid for cheaper deals on power

By David Tong
SENIOR WRITER

The rush is on for cheap power.

Major users of energy — government agencies, businesses and office building operators — are quietly searching for deals that will put them on the inside track when the electric power industry is deregulated on Jan. 1, 1998.

SharedPlus of the Hospital Council, which represents 220 hospitals between Bakersfield and the Oregon border, has already landed a deal with Spokane-based Washington Water Power that can slash the cost of electric power 15 percent to 25 percent annually.

In fact, the Pleasanton-based group took another big step recently when it joined forces with its counterpart in Southern California to negotiate energy deals for as many as 550 hospitals throughout the state.

"In a competitive environment, hospitals and health systems have to do everything to minimize costs," said William Piche, president of Share-dPlus.

Welcome to the brave new world of energy deregulation. For decades electric power in Northern California has been virtually synonymous with PG&E.

But the marketplace for the purchase of electric power is on the brink of a major jolt, similar to the one that shocked the telephone industry after the breakup of AT&T.

That's because businesses are joining forces to aggressively shop around for the best electricity rates.

Under the new structure, large users in the pri-

vate and public sectors will be free to choose from among several producers of electricity.

Bargaining for power occurs in two ways. Groups can choose to purchase power through a newly created state-run power exchange — a sort of central clearing that several producers sell power to. Or they can opt to work out their own deals directly with operators of electricity-producing plants throughout the Northern hemisphere.

The second option of dealing directly power-generating companies has been extremely appealing to special interest groups who believe they can cut better deals on their own.

The reason such deals are proving lucrative is because state law now allows users — such as a group of large retailers — to combine their electric power needs so that they can better negotiate with electric power providers. Because the group represents such a large use of power, PG&E and this new breed of competitors are eager to offer discounts or risk losing a major customer.

ABAG, for example, has formed a unit that now includes 130 local governments and special districts in Northern California. The organization is currently evaluating bids from a number of power providers. The stakes are high: last year the group ran up a \$150 million bill for 1.5 billion watts of energy.

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Power: Sponsors say volume competition key to lower costs

Continued from F-1

Patricia Spangler, the unit's power pool manager, said the group could slash the cost of power as much as 25 percent by negotiating its own deal. That, in turn, would lower the total bill for power about 5 to 10 percent, when other costs such as distribution, transmission and maintenance are considered.

Waiting list

Thus far, Spangler said the ABAG group has narrowed the list of potential power providers to five, with four sitting in the wings if things don't work out.

Across the bay, Ken Cleaveland, governmental affairs director for the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) of San Francisco, said his group is preparing to accept proposals from 13 power producers.

BOMA represents 250 office buildings in the region, most of them in downtown San Francisco. "We spend \$120 million a year for 1.2 billion watts of power. We're not sure whether we can achieve savings in the order of 25 percent as they have in New Hampshire. We would be content with savings of even 10 percent," Cleaveland said.

The California Retailers Association is also moving in the same direction. "We're working on a proposed aggregation program where members can

choose whether they want to participate," said Bill Dambrosini, president of the association. "I suspect we'll get 10 to 20 percent of the 9,000 member stores in our organization to sign on in the first year. Our guess is that they will probably be saving in the order of 15 to 20 percent" on their electricity bills.

Size is an important consideration in the strategy to land cheap power. The buying groups want to get as large as possible to set up a load profile that balances peak and off-peak usage periods. The theory behind this move is that the average price of power will drop with the addition of lower prices from off-peak periods.

Economies of scale

As a result, groups of seemingly unrelated business are considering banding together with the hope of creating one large and attractive electricity customer. "We're working on possible alliances with groups representing apartment buildings, multi-family units, hospitals and hotels. The larger we get, the better the chance we have of balancing our load (profile)," said Cleaveland of BOMA.

As groups evaluate bids from various independent power providers, they are looking at more than the price of power. "We are looking at how they have been in business, how many customers have they served, how far away is the power company, what kind of in-

surance they carry and how reliable they have been," said Cleaveland.

Some buying groups feel confident about their chances of doing well in the electric power market because of their past success in the deregulated gas industry.

SharedPlus, for example, has been a sponsor for several years of a program to help hospitals buy gas on a discount. "We've seen savings of up to 20 percent on a year-to-year basis," said Piche, the SharedPlus executive.

Power brokers

The dramatic shift in such a crucial industry has created a new breed of power brokers who act as middlemen in lining up deals.

The California Retailers Association has retained a Los Angeles-based firm called New Energy Ventures, one of the largest and most active middlemen in this market, with offices in Oakland and Boston and satellite operations in San Diego and Las Vegas.

In addition to landing some deals with power providers for the retailers association, it has worked out deals with the Society of Plastics Industry, the Independent Colleges of Southern California and the Association of Woodworking and Furnishing Suppliers.

The firm is lead by officials with considerable experience on the regulatory and utility sides of the energy industry. Its top officers include a former

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RON RIESTERER — Staff

3 of 3
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 Patricia Spangler heads an ABAG program that is trying to find the lowest electric power rates for more than 130 local government units.

president of the PUC, a former regulatory and environmental coordinator for the PUC, a former president of Southern California Edison and a former vice president of Southern California Edison.

The firm's principal task is to secure the lowest cost of energy. "We are the buyer's agents. We organize the clients first of all into buying groups. Then we turn to the supply side and find the power commodities that the user of electricity needs," said Michael Burke, senior vice president of New Energy Ventures.

Burke said the company has an incentive to cut the best deal possible because its profits are based upon the savings it can generate for customers.

One-stop shopping

Burke's company is quickly broadening its focus to include a range of services in its bid to become a one-stop shopping center for energy needs.

For example, it plans to have a 24-hour scheduling coordinator available to sort out the power demands of customers and coordinate the transmission of power in the deregulated market. It also intends to provide metering and billing services.

In brief, all electric power will move over transmission lines that will be under the control of an independent system operator whose duties it will be to sort out competing demands for energy power while making sure the

system operates smoothly.

PG&E will retain the monopoly under this system to distribute the power to residences and businesses.

There are still many issues to be ironed out before the start of electric deregulation. The PUC, for example, still hasn't decided just how many players will be allowed to go ahead with so-called direct transactions that they have negotiated on their own.

Doug Long, manager of electric deregulation, said the options vary from opening up the market in phases or allowing everyone a shot at the same time. "We're working on that now and could have a decision soon," he said.

Deadline coming up

Long said the decision will hinge upon on whether the system is ready by Jan. 1 to handle customer demands and electric transmission and distribution requests in the new market setting.

"We left open the possibility of an open season but that was contingent on the computers and ISO (the independent system operator) being up and ready and our ability to handle direct access transactions."

Another issue that has to be addressed by the PUC is how many services it wants to unbundle for competitive purposes. Billing and metering services that are now handled by PG&E, for example, could be unbundled.

MAR 29 1997

CHICAGO SUN-TIME

NRC warns ComEd

Safety or more shutdowns, chief says

BY CHARLES NICODEMUS
STAFF REPORTER

If federal regulators decide Commonwealth Edison's nuclear plants "can't be run safely, they will be shut down and will stay shut down until they are safe," the head of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said Friday. "We will not accept a promissory note," Chairman Shirley Jackson said.

With three of the utility's six plants on the NRC Watch List of problem nuclear power stations, Jackson said "we want results" on ComEd's promises that the utility's performance will improve.

Jackson—in Illinois to tour the utility's troubled LaSalle plant and visit a bulk distribution facility in Chicago—told reporters its plan to screen and retrain all operating personnel at its problem-plagued Zion plant "is recognition that a problem exists.

"But recognition is only the first real stage. Change has to come."

ComEd is under NRC orders to inform the agency early next week, in writing and under oath, why the commission should believe the nation's biggest nuclear utility can run all six of its plants simultaneously, "efficiently . . . and safely."

Jackson said last spring that "the time may come" when ComEd would have to decide whether it just makes sense to shut down some of its nuclear operations.

When asked Friday whether the time had come for the

NRC—not ComEd—to decide whether some of the utility's reactors should be closed, Jackson said:

"That's what we're looking at now. That's the process we're in."

Jackson stressed that at a public NRC meeting April 25, the commission will hear its own staff's evaluation of ComEd's letter and its staff assessment of the utility's persisting problems.

It also will hear what is expected to be ComEd's arguments that despite continuing difficulties, the utility is pouring new money, new managers and new policies into its nuclear operations and should be given time to demonstrate that the improvement program is working.

The most embarrassing recent difficulty came Feb. 21 at Zion, when a control room operator accidentally shut down Reactor 1, then violated ComEd and NRC rules by attempting to restart the reactor without authorization.

The incident occurred less than a month after Zion and LaSalle had joined Dresden on the Watch List.

"Both Zion and LaSalle are still shut down, and they will stay shut down until problems remaining are addressed," Jackson said.

Meanwhile, she said, the NRC is seeking to toughen its Watch List oversight through bi-weekly conferences with plant executives, inspections by senior managers and the assignment of special investigation teams.



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"Both Zion and LaSalle are still shut down and they will stay shut down until problems remaining are addressed."

**—NRC Chairman
Shirley Jackson**



RICH HEIN/SUN-TIMES

JOHNS HOPKINS

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Ruth R. Faden, Ph.D., M.P.H., Director
Phillip Franklin Wagley Professor of Biomedical Ethics

March 25, 1997

MEMORANDUM

TO: Elizabeth Drye
Domestic Policy Council

FROM: Ruth Faden

RE: Press contacts

For your information here is the list of press contacts.

Phil Hilts - New York Times

Paul Barton - Cinn Enquirer

David Brown - Washington Post

Paul Hooversten - USA Today

Richard Harris - NPR

Ann Lalordo - Baltimore Sun

Joe Palka - NPR

Diana Sugg - Baltimore Sun

Barry Serafin - ABC

Karen MacPherson - Scripps Howard/
Albuquerque Tribune

Joe Hebert - AP

Bill Straub - Cincinnati Post

Keith Epstein - Cleveland Plain Dealer

Lee Davidson - Deseret News

Bill Sloat - Plain Dealer

Vicki Allen - Reuters

John Fried - Phil Enquirer

Margaret Kriz - National Journal

Tim Beardsly - Sci American

Chris Bury - Nightline News - NBC



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Vicki Allen - Reuters

John Fried - Phil Enquirer

Margaret Kriz - National Journal

Tim Beardsly - Sci American

Chris Bury - Nightline News - NBC



The President would make a short statement announcing the his directive and the Administration's response to ACHRE. Press questions would be handled outside the room by Cabinet members.

Attendance would be limited to those who were key to the effort, or will be key to the implementation: the chair of the Advisory Committee; Jack Gibbons; Secretary Pena; Secretary O'Leary; Bruce Reed; other Cabinet Members. We could also invite families of experimental subjects (who were compensated about \$500,000 each); we could try to invite uranium miners (or families) for whom we are proposing expanded compensation. The latter two groups would require that the Administration pay for travel.

Larger Ceremony with Press

The President would make a short opening statement emphasizing the directive. Cabinet members could make statements that focus on openness in government and other steps in the report. The chair of the Advisory committee could also be asked to speak. Press questions would be handled in the room, by Cabinet members.

Attendance would include the list for the photo-op, additional stakeholder representatives (there are Washington-based interest groups), key (bipartisan) Congressional representatives, a few departmental staff who have done the work on the response.