

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1987-1988 8672

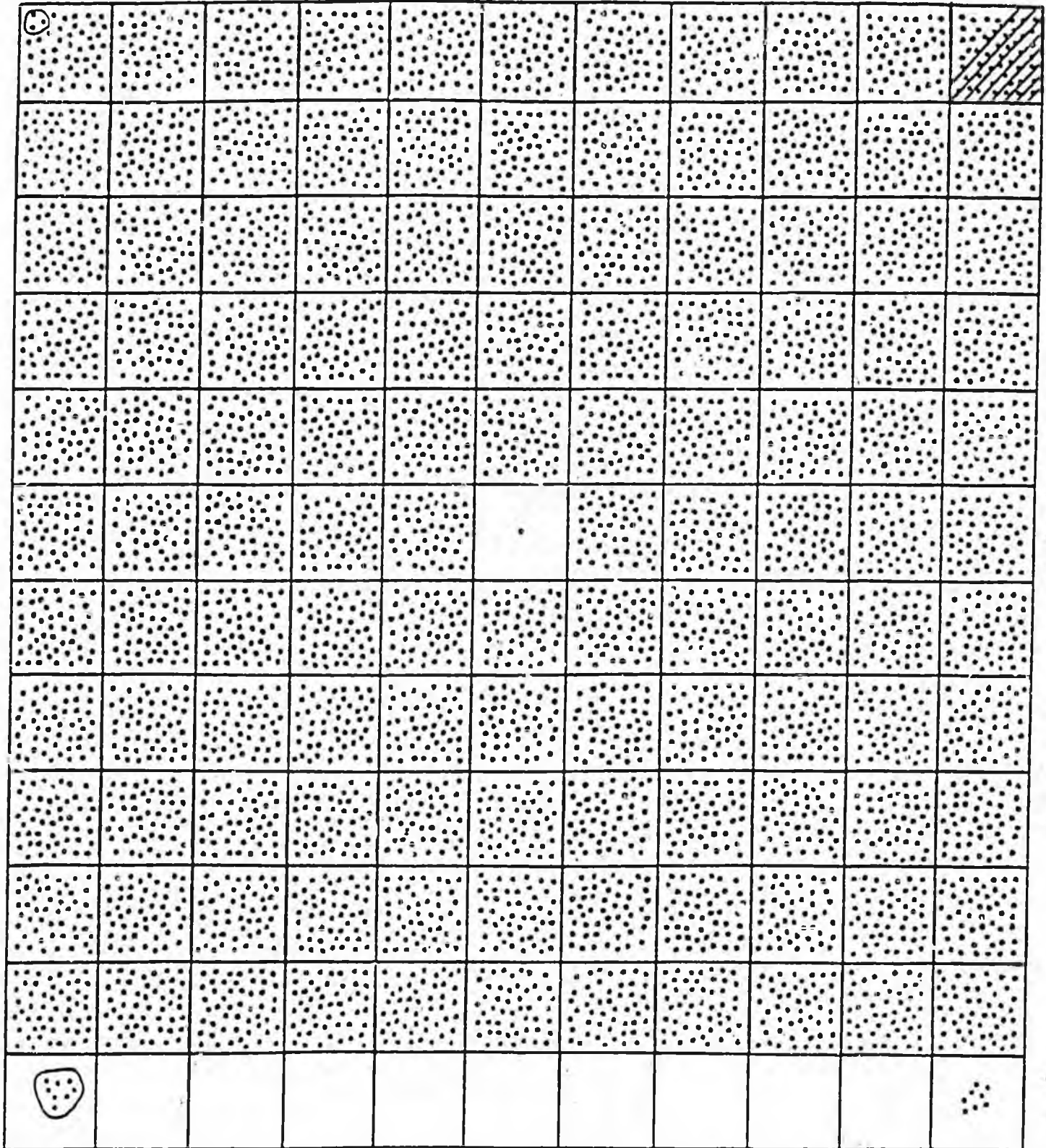
5281 SHEES SJR 21 - SR 10

85

SJR

21

# NUCLEAR WEAPONS CHART



The dot in the center represents all the firepower of World War II—three megatons. The other dots represent the world's present nuclear weaponry, which equals 6,000 World War II's (18,000 megatons). The U.S. and the Soviets share this firepower with approximately equal destructive capability.

The top left-hand circle, enclosing nine megatons, represents the weapons on one Poseidon submarine—equal to three World War II's, enough to destroy more than 200 of the largest Soviet cities. The circle in the lower left-hand square (24 megatons, eight World War II's) represents one new Trident sub with the power to destroy every major city in the northern hemisphere.

Just two squares (300 megatons) represent enough firepower to destroy all the large- and medium-sized cities in the world.

The amount in the shaded area—100 megatons, or less than 1% of the U.S. or Soviet arsenal—represents the amount necessary to bring on the "nuclear winter." The dust lofted into the air by the explosion of this small amount would block out sunlight and make temperatures drop so dramatically that our planet would be uninhabitable for plants, animals and humans.

This chart, which has been reviewed for accuracy by U.S. Senate staff members, appears in *The Tritium Factor: How Business Executives Can Help Solve the Nuclear Weapons Crisis* by Harold Wilens.

All excerpts from Department of State Bulletin: The Official Monthly Record of United States Foreign Policy, (emphasis added throughout)

Excerpts from "Prospects for World Peace" by President Reagan, an address before the 41st session of the UN General Assembly in New York City on Sept. 22, 1986, appearing in Dept. of State Bulletin, November 1986:

"It is for this reason that I wrote last summer to Mr. Gorbachev with the new arms control proposals. Before discussing the proposals, let us be clear about which weapons are the most dangerous and threatening to peace. The threat does not come from defensive systems, which are a shield against attack, but from offensive weapons -- ballistic missiles that hurtle through space and can wreak mass destruction on the surface of the earth, especially the Soviet Union's heavy, accurate intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), with multiple warheads, which have no counterparts in size or number in any other country.

"That is why the United States has long urged radical, equitable, verifiable reductions in these offensive systems. Note that I said reduction; for this is the real purpose of arms control; not just to codify the levels of today's arsenals, not just to channel their further expansion, but to reduce them in ways that will reduce the danger of war. Indeed, the United States believes the prospect of a future without such weapons of mass destruction must be the ultimate goal of arms control.

"I am pleased to say that the Soviet Union has now embraced our idea of radical reductions in offensive systems. At the Geneva summit last November, we agreed to intensify work in this area. Since then, the Soviets have made detailed proposals which, while not acceptable to us, appear to represent a serious effort. So, we continue to seek a 50% reduction of American and Soviet arsenals -- with the central focus on the reduction of ballistic missile warheads. If the Soviet Union wants only a lesser reduction, however, we are prepared to consider it but as an interim measure. In other provisions, as well, we have sought to take account of Soviet concerns. So, there has been movement.

"Similarly, in the area of intermediate-range nuclear forces, the United States seeks the total elimination of such missiles on a global basis. Again, if the Soviet Union insists on pursuing such a goal in stages, we are prepared to conclude an interim agreement without delay."

"As the United States has repeatedly made clear, we are moving toward a future of greater reliance upon strategic defence. The United States remains prepared to talk about how -- under what ground rules and process -- we and the Soviet Union can do this cooperatively. Such strategic defenses, coupled with radical reductions in offensive forces, would represent a safer balance and would give future statesmen the opportunity to move beyond it to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons from the face of the earth."

Nuclear and Space Arms Negotiations  
White House Statement excerpt  
Aug. 31, 1986  
Department of State Bulletin, November 1986

The United States and the Soviet Union will begin a new round of discussions on arms control in Geneva on September 18. An interagency arms control group has been meeting during the past several weeks to prepare for this round of talks. The United States considers this new round to be important in the process of reaching an agreement for meaningful arms control leading to total elimination of nuclear weapons. The September discussions come at a critical juncture in the process.

The recent exchanges between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev have served to underscore the seriousness of the discussions. We are pleased that the Soviet Union has moved from a position of limiting the expansion of the arms race to a discussion of reducing the nuclear arsenals on both sides.

U.S. Policy on Arms Control: Purpose, Prospects, and Process  
by Allen Holmes (Ambassador Holmes, Assistant Secretary for Politico-Military Affairs) Excerpt from address delivered before the Council on Foreign Relations in New York City on June 2, 1986, appearing in Dept. of State Bulletin, Sept. 1986:

"The objective of this Administration is to enhance security and reduce the risk of war, to ensure strategic stability at the lowest feasible level, and ultimately -- some day -- to do away with nuclear weapons."

Excerpt from letter from President Reagan to the Congress, August 5, 1986, accompanying unclassified version of classified report on U.S. Interim Restraint Policy, appearing in Dept. of State Bulletin, Sept. 1986:

"I want again to emphasize that no policy of interim restraint is a substitute for an agreement on deep and equitable reductions in offensive nuclear arms, provided that we can be confident of Soviet compliance with it. Achieving such reductions continues to receive my highest priority. This is the most direct path to achieving greater stability and a safer world."

Excerpts from Unclassified Report to the Congress on U. S. Interim Restraint Policy and Representative Soviet and U.S. Dimantlement and Strategic Force Projections With and Without SALT I and II, appearing in Dept. of State Bulletin, Oct. 1986

From I. Introduction: U.S. Interim Restraint Policy and U. S. Responses to Soviet Noncompliance

"In his May 27 statement, the President emphasized that no policy of interim restraint is a substitute for an agreement on deep and equitable reductions in offensive nuclear arms, provided that we can be confident of Soviet compliance with it. Achieving such reductions has received, and will continue to receive, his highest priority. We hope the Soviet Union will act to give substance to the agreement reached by the President and General Secretary Gorbachev at the summit meeting last November to achieve early progress in the Geneva negotiations. It was agreed to focus, in particular, on areas where there is common ground, including the principle of 50% reductions, appropriately applied, in the strategic nuclear arms of both countries, as well as an interim agreement on intermediate-range nuclear forces. If the Soviet Union carries out this agreement, we can move now to achieve greater stability and a safer world."

From IV. Soviet Political and Negotiating Responses

"No policy of interim restraint is a substitute for an agreement on deep and equitable reductions in offensive nuclear arms, provided that we can be confident of Soviet compliance with it. We hope the Soviet Union will act to give substance to the agreement reached by the President and General Secretary Gorbachev at the summit meeting last November to achieve early progress in the Geneva negotiations.

"Our objectives in Geneva remain the same as stated at the summit: to seek common ground in negotiating deep, equitable and verifiable reductions in strategic and intermediate-range offensive nuclear arsenals and to discuss with the Soviet Union how we could enhance deterrence and stability by moving toward a world in which we would no longer rely exclusively on the threat of nuclear retaliation to preserve the peace. We hope the Soviets will negotiate seriously with us toward these important goals."

Excerpts from remarks delivered by President Reagan in Glassboro, New Jersey, June 19, 1986, appearing in Dept. of State Bulletin, September 1986:

"When I met Mr. Gorbachev last November in Geneva, he and I agreed to intensify our effort to reduce strategic arms...And we both spoke of the ultimate goal of eliminating all nuclear weapons."

"In this essay on peace, then, we can assert that the time has come to move forward. Let us leave behind efforts to seek only limits to the increase of nuclear arms and seek instead actual arms reductions -- the deep and verifiable reductions that Mr. Gorbachev and I have agreed to negotiate. The goal here is not complicated. I am suggesting that we agree not on how many new, bigger, and more accurate missiles can be built, but on how to reduce and ultimately eliminate all nuclear missiles.

"Let us leave behind, too, the defense policy of mutual assured destruction, or MAD, as it's called, and seek to put in its place a defense that truly defends. You know -- let me interrupt right here and say that possibly you haven't considered much about this system. This MAD policy, as it's called -- and incidentally, MAD stands for mutual assured destruction, but MAD is also a description of what the policy is. It means that if we each keep enough weapons that we can destroy each other, then maybe we'll both have enough sense not to shoot those weapons off. That's not exactly the way for the world to go on, with these massed terribly destructive weapons aimed at each other and the possibility that some day a madman somewhere may push a button and the next day the world starts to explode."

2/24/87

TUESDAY

No. 5

A D D R E S S

By

THE HONORABLE TED STEVENS  
UNITED STATES SENATOR  
STATE OF ALASKA

Before a Joint Session  
of the  
First Session  
Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature

February 24, 1987  
Juneau, Alaska

2/24/87

REMARKS BY SENATOR TED STEVENS  
TO THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 15TH ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

JUNEAU, ALASKA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1987

A FOUR-YEAR CELEBRATION OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF OUR NATION'S CONSTITUTION COMMENCES THIS SEPTEMBER. AS ALASKANS, WE HAVE PLENTY OF REASONS TO JOIN IN THE NATIONAL CELEBRATION.

THE CONSTITUTION NOT ONLY PROTECTS THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS. IT ALSO PROTECTS THE RIGHTS OF STATES WITH SMALL POPULATIONS IN OUR FEDERAL SYSTEM. AND, IT WAS THIS CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM THAT MADE STATEHOOD POSSIBLE, REQUIRED A JUST SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIMS OF OUR NATIVE PEOPLE AGAINST THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND NOW PROTECTS OUR RIGHTS, LIBERTIES, AND FREEDOMS FROM AITU TO TOK AND BARROW TO KETCHIKAN TO THE SAME EXTENT AS ALL OTHER AMERICANS.

I HOPE THAT WE WILL LINK THE CELEBRATION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALASKA STATEHOOD WITH THE THIRD YEAR OF THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION. THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES IS THE WORLD'S OLDEST CONSTITUTION IN FORCE, AND IT IS AS RELEVANT TO OUR LIVES TODAY AS IT WAS TO THE LIVES OF OUR FOUNDING FATHERS 200 YEARS AGO.

2/24/87

BUT I CAN TELL YOU THAT EVERYTHING WE ARE DOING TO ASSURE OUR DEFENSE CAPABILITY HERE IN ALASKA IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE CONCEPT OF STATING ALASKANS OPPOSE ANY NUCLEAR PRESENCE -- EITHER AS PROPULSION MECHANISMS OF NUCLEAR-POWERED VEHICLES OR IN NUCLEAR WEAPONS -- HARMLESS UNTIL ARMED -- THAT ARE OUR CAPABILITY TO RETALIATE AND THEREFORE DETER AGRESSION AGAINST US OR OUR ALLIES. THAT DETERRANCE HAS WORKED AND CONTINUES TO WORK.

I BELIEVE WE WILL MAINTAIN OUR FREEDOMS IF WE MAINTAIN OUR CAPABILITY TO DEFEND OURSELVES. AMERIKA WAS A TELEVISION PROGRAM, NOT A PREDICTION OF THINGS TO COME. BUT, IF ALL STATES AND ALL ALLIES WERE TO PASS A RESOLUTION LIKE THE ONE BEFORE YOU, WHERE WOULD WE DEPLOY OUR DETERRENT FORCE? I HOPE YOU SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE MESSAGE SECRETARY SHULTZ SENT TO YOUR LEGISLATURE.

2/24/87

I'M PROUD TO HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH YOU AND PAST MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE ON FEDERAL ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO ALASKA. ANSWER IS GOING TO BE A TOUGH BATTLE, TOUGHER THAN MOST EXPECT, BUT WE CAN WIN IF WE ARE UNITED.

I NOTED THE QUESTION PRESENTED TO SENATOR MURKOWSKI ABOUT THE NUCLEAR FREEZE ALASKA RESOLUTION. LET ME CLOSE BY COMMENTING ON THAT. FOR OVER FORTY YEARS, WE HAVE HELD A NUCLEAR UMBRELLA OVER THE FREE WORLD. I HAVE DEDICATED A GREAT PORTION OF MY LIFE THESE LAST FEW YEARS TO HELPING TO BRING ABOUT MAJOR REDUCTIONS IN NUCLEAR WEAPONS -- NOT LIMITATIONS ON FUTURE GROWTH BUT ACTUAL VERIFIABLE REDUCTIONS. AND, I HAVE SUPPORTED THE STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE BECAUSE IT HOLDS THE HOPE OF A NON-NUCLEAR DEFENSE AGAINST NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

THE FACT REMAINS THAT WE AMERICANS STILL PROTECT THE FREEDOM OF THOSE WHO DO NOT LIVE UNDER COMMUNISM, AND ALASKANS HOLD A STRATEGIC POSITION, GEOGRAPHICALLY AND POLITICALLY, IN THE DEFENSE OF OUR NATION AND OUR ALLIES.

I AM FIGHTING TO ENSURE WE HAVE A CAPABILITY TO DEFEND ALASKA -- AND I BELIEVE WE ARE SUCCEEDING IN THAT BATTLE. OFTEN, I AM ASKED WHETHER THERE ARE NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN ALASKA. THE SIMPLE ANSWER IS THAT THE LOCATION OF OUR NUCLEAR DEFENSES IS CLASSIFIED. EVEN IF I KNEW THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION, I COULD NOT REPLY CONSISTENT WITH MY ROLE IN SHAPING DEFENSE POLICY IN THE CONGRESS.

2/24/87

LAST YEAR, I REPORTED TO YOU THAT RESPECTED OIL ECONOMISTS PREDICTED WORLD CRUDE OIL PRICES WOULD COLLAPSE IN 1986. THAT PREDICTION BECAME FACT WITH ASTONISHING SWIFTNES. THE DECLINE IN STATE OIL-RELATED REVENUES HAS CREATED A GREAT FISCAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS FOR ALL OF US.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR, THOSE SAME ECONOMISTS PREDICTED WORLD OIL PRICES WOULD STABILIZE SOMEWHERE AROUND \$18 DOLLARS A BARREL. -- BUT REPORTS THIS PAST TEN DAYS INDICATE THAT NO ONE REALLY KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE OIL PATCH.

DOMESTIC OIL PRODUCTION HAS DECLINED FROM 9.1 MILLION BARRELS A DAY AT THE BEGINNING OF LAST YEAR TO 8.3 MILLION BARRELS A DAY IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR, A LOSS OF NEARLY 800,000 BARRELS A DAY. DEMAND IS UP SOMEWHAT, BUT IMPORTS, PARTICULARLY FROM SAUDI ARABIA, ARE UP 25 PERCENT -- MORE THAN 1.2 MILLION BARRELS A DAY FROM THIS TIME LAST YEAR.

OPEC'S DECEMBER AGREEMENT IS FRAGILE, AND COULD COLLAPSE AS A RESULT OF CHEATING BY OPEC MEMBERS SUCH AS IRAQ AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND OTHER EVENTS. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, OIL PRICES CANNOT RECOVER SOON ENOUGH TO SOLVE ALASKA'S CURRENT CRISIS.

WE ALASKANS ARE AT YET ANOTHER CROSSROADS. THOSE OF US WHO HOLD PUBLIC OFFICE LOOK FOR WAYS NOT ONLY TO DEAL WITH THE IMMEDIATE CRISIS BUT ALSO TO BUILD A STRONGER ECONOMY FOR ALASKA IN THE FUTURE.

SENATOR MURKOWSKI, CONGRESSMAN YOUNG, AND I HAVE BEEN WORKING TO BRING NEW INVESTMENT TO ALASKA TO HELP STABILIZE OUR BELEAGUED ECONOMY AND CREATE JOBS.

2/24/87

\* MORE THAN 100 MILLION DOLLARS WILL BE SPENT THIS YEAR IN ALASKA ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE NEW LIGHT INFANTRY DIVISION. MILLIONS MORE WILL BE SPENT ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER MILITARY ACTIVITIES ELSEWHERE IN ALASKA.

OUR STRATEGIC LOCATION AND THE EXISTENCE OF UNDERUTILIZED MILITARY FACILITIES MAKES ALASKA A NATURAL OPTION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO CONSIDER IN DEPLOYING OUR NATION'S MILITARY FORCES. MY STAFF AND I ARE WORKING TO SEE WHAT NATIONAL DEFENSE NEEDS MATCH UP WITH LOCATIONS IN ALASKA. THIS COULD LEAD TO STATIONING NEW MILITARY UNITS IN ALASKA.

THE LOCAL HIRE LEGISLATION WE SPONSORED SHOULD ENSURE THAT ALASKANS ARE GIVEN FIRST CRACK AT THE SERVICE AND CONSTRUCTION JOBS CREATED BY THIS MILITARY SPENDING.

\* AT MY REQUEST, CONGRESS ADDED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 1987 INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO FUND THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW VISITOR FACILITIES IN DENALI NATIONAL PARK, KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, AND OTHER FEDERAL CONSERVATION UNITS THROUGHOUT ALASKA. FUNDING FOR THE BLM'S LAND CONVEYANCE PROGRAMS WAS ALSO INCREASED BY NEARLY 8 MILLION DOLLARS.

AND NEARLY 25 MILLION DOLLARS WILL BE SPENT ON WATER RESOURCES AND HARBOR PROJECTS IN ALASKA, INCLUDING 10 MILLION DOLLARS ON CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATED WITH THE CRATER LAKE PORTION OF THE SNETTISHAM PROJECT HERE IN SOUTHEAST.

FIRST OF ALL, ALTHOUGH THE STATE CANNOT TAX OIL AND GAS RESOURCES ON FEDERAL LAND WHILE THEY ARE IN THE GROUND, IT CAN, TAX THOSE RESOURCES ONCE THEY ARE SEVERED AND TRANSPORTED BY PRIVATE CORPORATIONS. FROM THE STARTUP OF PIPELINE IN 1977 TO MID-1986, SEVERANCE TAXES ON NORTH SLOPE CRUDE HAVE PRODUCED 8.9 BILLION DOLLARS IN REVENUES, ONLY ABOUT 10 PERCENT LESS THAN THE 9.9 BILLION DOLLARS PRODUCED BY THE STATE'S ROYALTY ARRANGEMENTS.

SECOND, THE STATE IS ALSO FREE TO TAX THE INCOME OF THE CORPORATIONS INVOLVED IN THE EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COASTAL PLAIN. STATE CORPORATE INCOME TAXES LEVIED ON THE NORTH SLOPE GAS PRODUCERS HAVE PRODUCED 3.1 BILLION DOLLARS IN REVENUES.

IN OTHER WORDS, IF THE ANWR COASTAL PLAIN DOES HOLD ANOTHER PRUDHOE BAY-SIZED FIELD, THE STATE OF ALASKA COULD EXPECT TO RECEIVE ROUGHLY 80 PERCENT OF THE REVENUES WE RECEIVED FROM PRUDHOE BAY EVEN IF ROYALTIES WERE SPLIT 50-50 WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

WE CAN'T AFFORD TO SAY WE WANT 90 PERCENT OR WE'LL OPPOSE OPENING ANWR -- NINETY PERCENT OF NO ROYALTY IS NOTHING. I HOPE WE WILL ALL FOCUS ON MAXIMIZING TOTAL INCOME ALASKA WILL RECEIVE FROM ANWR -- REVENUE SHARING, SEVERANCE AND CORPORATE TAXES, AND PRIVATE SECTOR ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.

I HASTEN TO ADD THAT I'M READY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE HERE LAND EXCHANGES AND CHANGES IN THE 90-10 SPLIT. BUT, LET'S AVOID HARSH RHETORIC THAT MAY LEAD OUTSIDERS TO CONCLUDE THAT ALASKA ISN'T UNITED IN SEEKING TO OPEN THE COASTAL PLAIN TO OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION.

2/24/87

IF THE ANWR COASTAL PLAIN COULD BE OPENED BY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, WE WOULD RECEIVE A 90 PERCENT SHARE OF FEDERAL RECEIPTS FROM OIL AND GAS LEASING. FULL-FLEDGED OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION IN ANWR, HOWEVER, IS EXPRESSLY FORBIDDEN BY THE 1980 ALASKA LANDS ACT. ANWR LANDS ARE NO LONGER "PUBLIC LANDS" -- THE REFUGE WAS SPECIFICALLY SET ASIDE BY AN ACT OF CONGRESS.

OUR STATE WON'T RECEIVE A DIME OF REVENUE UNLESS CONGRESS OPENS THIS AREA TO OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT. AND, REGARDLESS OF OUR WISHES, SOME OF OUR MAJOR SUPPORTERS ON ANWR IN CONGRESS ARE ALREADY ADVOCATING AN ADJUSTMENT IN THE 90-10 SPLIT AS PART OF THE PRICE OF OPENING ANWR.

MANY IN CONGRESS REMEMBER THAT REDUCTION OF ALASKA'S SHARE TO 50 PERCENT WAS PART OF THE PRICE OF OPENING THE 23 MILLION ACRE NATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVE--ALASKA. THAT CHANGE WAS NOT SUGGESTED BY THE ALASKA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION. IT WAS A TAKE IT OR LEAVE PROPOSITION. WE TOOK IT. AND, WE DID NOT HEAR ONE OBJECTION FROM THE LEGISLATURE, THE GOVERNOR, OR ANY OTHER ALASKAN. UNFORTUNATELY, DESPITE THE FACT THAT NPRA WAS SET ASIDE FOR FIFTY YEARS AS A PETROLEUM RESERVE, NO PRODUCTION HAS OCCURRED.

THE DEBATE OVER THE LAND EXCHANGES AND THE 90-10 SPLIT LEADS SOME ALASKANS TO ASSUME THAT THE ONLY BENEFIT TO ALASKA FROM OPENING ANWR WOULD BE DIRECT FEDERAL REVENUE SHARING PAYMENTS TO THE STATE TREASURY. YOU KNOW THAT ISN'T THE CASE.

2/24/87

\* CONGRESS INCLUDED IN THE 1986 TAX REFORM ACT MY AMENDMENT TO ALLOW ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATIONS TO SELL THEIR NET OPERATING LOSSES TO PROFITABLE CORPORATIONS. THAT PROVISION WILL BOOST LOCAL ECONOMIES AND GIVE MANY FINANCIALLY-TROUBLED NATIVE CORPORATIONS A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE REST OF THE ALASKA ECONOMY. THOSE CORPORATIONS WILL BE ABLE TO PAY THEIR LOCAL DEBTS, REPAY LOCAL BANKS, AND CONTINUE TO BE MAJOR EMPLOYEES IN ALASKA.

\* THIS YEAR, TENS OF MILLIONS OF FEDERAL DOLLARS WILL BE SPENT ON SALMON ENHANCEMENT, FISHERIES RESEARCH, FISHERIES MARKET DEVELOPMENT, AND SALMON TREATY IMPLEMENTATION. MOST OF THAT FUNDING WILL DIRECTLY BENEFIT OUR FISHING INDUSTRY.

CONGRESS ALSO APPROVED MY PROPOSAL TO CREATE A NATIONAL SEAFOOD PROMOTIONAL COUNCIL TO ENCOURAGE AMERICANS TO CONSUME MORE SEAFOOD. EXPANSION OF THE DOMESTIC MARKET FOR FISH AND SHELLFISH IS CRUCIAL TO THE FUTURE OF THE ALASKA FISHING INDUSTRY.

\* ONE PROJECT THAT COULD GET STARTED IN THE NEAR TERM IS THE ALASKA GAS PIPELINE. MY POLICY IS TO WORK WITH BOTH COMPANIES SEEKING TO TRANSPORT NORTH SLOPE GAS TO MARKET. CURRENT FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES, LOW INTEREST RATES, AND INCREASED PACIFIC RIM DEMAND HAS INJECTED REAL COMPETITION INTO THIS AREA -- AND, I HOPE YOU'LL AGREE WITH ME THAT WHICHEVER COMPANY CAN GET THE GASLINE GOING FIRST DESERVES OUR TOTAL SUPPORT.

2/24/87

AT MY REQUEST, CONGRESS INCLUDED A PROVISION IN LAST YEAR'S TAX REFORM ACT TO PRESERVE IMPORTANT TAX BENEFITS FOR THE ALASKA NATURAL GAS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM. I'M NOW WORKING WITH YUKON-PACIFIC TO CLEAR AWAY REGULATORY OBSTACLES THAT CONCERN POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS AND INVESTORS IN THE FAR EAST.

AS I AM SURE YOU ARE, I AM DEDICATED TO SECURING CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY-SOUND OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND PRODUCTION ON THE COASTAL PLAIN OF THE ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE. ANWR IS VITAL TO THE LONG-TERM ECONOMIC HEALTH OF ALASKA AND THE LONG-TERM SECURITY OF OUR NATION.

THE TRANS-ALASKA PIPELINE NOW TRANSPORTS 1.8 TO 1.9 MILLION BARRELS A DAY TO VALDEZ. BUT, UNDER CURRENT SCENARIOS, THE PIPELINE WILL MOVE ONLY 500,000 BARRELS A DAY BY THE YEAR 2000. IF THE COASTAL PLAIN WERE OPENED AND EXPLORATION EFFORTS WERE SUCCESSFUL, PRODUCTION FROM THE PLAIN WOULD COME ON LINE AT A CRUCIAL POINT IN THE HISTORY OF ALASKA AND THE NATION.

EARLY ON IN OUR FOUR-YEAR EFFORT TO PREPARE FOR THE ANWR DEBATE, I CAME TO THE REALIZATION THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO CHARACTERIZE ANWR AS AN ALASKA ISSUE. UNLESS THE NATION IS PERSUADED THAT EXPLORING THE ANWR COASTAL PLAIN IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN OUR ENERGY SECURITY, ANY EFFORT TO OPEN ANWR IS DOOMED.

ALASKANS ALONE CANNOT CONVINCE THE NATION AND CONGRESS OF ANWR'S IMPORTANCE TO NATIONAL SECURITY. WE MUST WORK WITH ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE COUNTRY TO GET THAT MESSAGE ACROSS.

UNFORTUNATELY, DEBATE WITHIN ALASKA OVER THE MERITS OF LAND EXCHANGES AND POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS OF THE 90-10 REVENUE SHARING FORMULA MAY INTERFERE WITH OUR EFFORTS TO ORGANIZE A NATIONAL ANWR MOVEMENT.

IF THE TIDE TURNS AGAINST US IN CONGRESS ON ANWR, A WELL-PLANNED SERIES OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAND EXCHANGES MAY ULTIMATELY PROVE TO BE THE ONLY OPTION WE HAVE TO FORCE A THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF THE COASTAL PLAIN'S OIL AND GAS RESOURCES.

I HAVE INDICATED BEFORE THAT IN THE INTERESTS OF GETTING THE COASTAL PLAIN OPENED, ALASKA MIGHT HAVE TO ACCEPT A MODIFICATION OF THE 90-10 REVENUE-SHARING FORMULA. ONE PROPOSAL ALREADY BEING DISCUSSED WOULD DEVOTE A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF THE REVENUE FROM ANWR TO FINANCE A NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AND NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT FUND, A MOVE THAT WOULD BROADEN SUPPORT FOR OPENING ANWR IN CONGRESS.

HAVING WORKED TO PUT THE 90-10 DISTRIBUTION INTO THE STATEHOOD ACT, I AM AS CONCERNED ABOUT PROTECTING THE STATE'S FISCAL INTEREST AS ANYONE.

UNDER THAT FORMULA, ALASKA RECEIVES 90 PERCENT OF ALL FEDERAL REVENUES FROM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT ON PUBLIC LANDS IN ALASKA INSTEAD OF THE 50 PERCENT SHARE THAT OTHER STATES RECEIVE. THE JUSTIFICATION FOR THAT SPECIAL TREATMENT WAS THAT ALASKA AGREED NOT TO SHARE IN THE FEDERAL RECLAMATION FUND WHICH RECEIVES 40 PERCENT OF FEDERAL MINERAL REVENUES FROM PUBLIC LANDS IN THE LOWER 48 STATES AND HAWAII.

No. 225

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE

Bill Version : SJR 21  
Publish Date : 4-10-87

REQUEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Requesting the President of  
the U.S. international freeze  
Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
BRU: \_\_\_\_\_  
Components: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

[Empty box for analysis]

Prepared by : \_\_\_\_\_ Phone : \_\_\_\_\_  
Division : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved by CHAIRMAN Senator Kelly Hood Date : 4/8/87  
Agency : Senate State Affairs

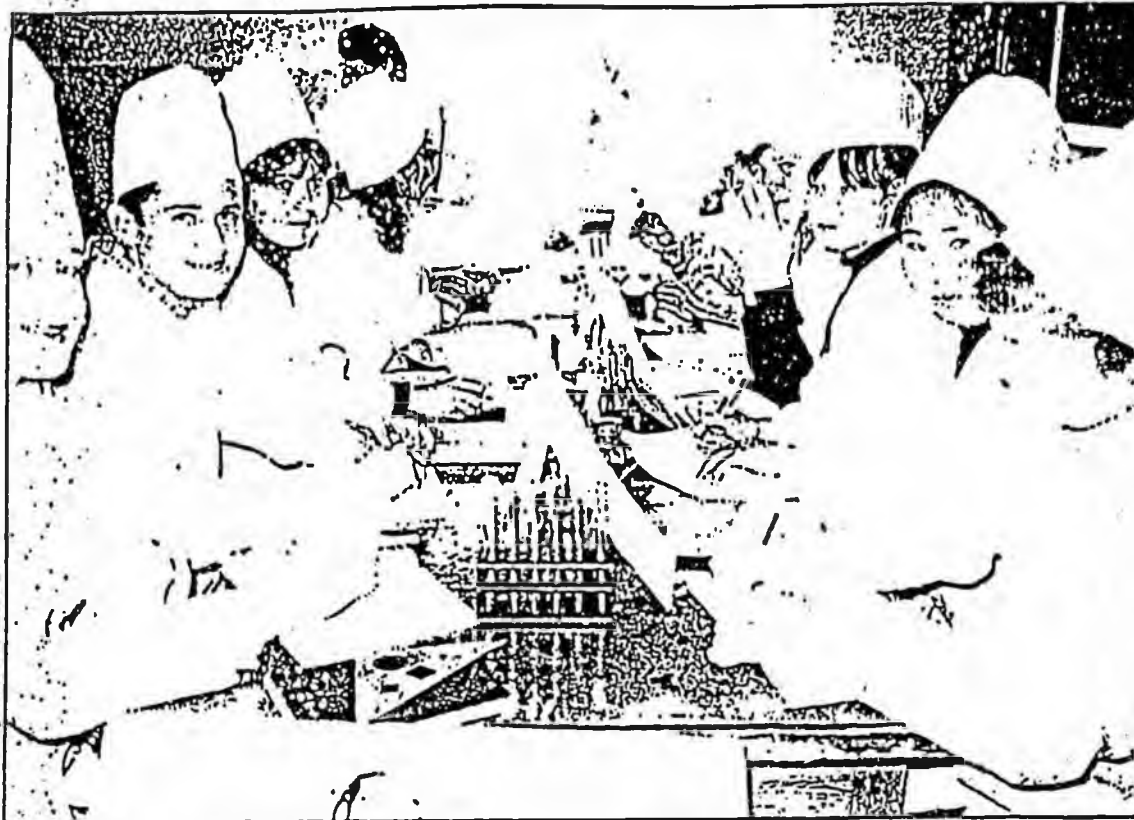
- Distribution (by preparer) :
- Legislative Finance
  - Legislative Sponsor
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  - Office of Management and Budget
  - Impacted Agency(ies)
  - Senate Secretary

SJR

26



SUBMITTED BY SENATE FINANCE



Siberian medical students participate in a biochemistry lab experiment. Ted Mala, MD, U.S. coordinator of the Soviet medical exchange, says: "I'm looking at this as a rebuilding of the Siberia-Alaska land bridge. Through health, a greater understanding into peace will hopefully follow."

## Plucky MD pulls together Soviet medical exchange

Ted Mala, MD, Alaskan public health physician, is not sitting around waiting for mid-April, when a delegation of Soviet dignitaries will meet with U.S. officials in Washington, D.C., to discuss and act on cultural and medical exchange programs.

The April meeting is significant for the two nations because President Carter in 1978, severed such exchanges with the Soviets to protest their human rights policies. But it means much more than history to the 40-year-old Alaskan native. It means his U.S.-Siberian medical exchange project, a first for the two nations, will become a reality.

Dr. Mala, born to Eskimo and Russian parents, is already laying the foundation for the first medical exchange between Siberian and Alaskan and other U.S. health officials in the areas of:

- Psychological aspects of adaptation to the north.
- Nutrition and human health in the north.
- Effects of chronic stress in natives and newcomers to northern regions.
- Mechanisms of adaptive reactions of the immune system in northern conditions, and specific features of the immune deficiency and autoimmune diseases development.
- Biochemical and genetic peculiarities of the effects of alcohol on metabolic

## Dr. Mala recruits participants for exchange project

To carry out the intent and design of the five-year exchange agreement between the U. of Alaska and Soviet Academy of Sciences, Siberia Branch, lots of help — in a variety of areas — is needed, said Ted Mala, MD, coordinator of the privately funded project.

This month, Dr. Mala, associate professor of health sciences at the U. of Alaska at Anchorage, will leave his teaching duties to traverse Canada and the lower 48 states to find "signers-up."

"This project is so new that no formula on how to arrange it has been developed," Dr. Mala said. "First I need to identify qualified scientists in one of the six defined research areas to name section chairpersons to help coordinate the work."

THOSE AREAS are in physiological adaptation to the north, nutrition, chronic stress, immune system functions in northern climates, biochemical and genetic as-

pects to alcohol metabolism in natives, and training natives to provide health care. Studies will involve natives, long-time settlers, new settlers, and transient workers.

He is seeking institutional or individual help on various projects that will require either on-site work, or research to be conducted at universities across the country.

"We'll need people to put up the Siberians in their homes when they come to Anchorage, and we'll also need Americans with expertise in laboratory technology, or standardizing data, or even translating," said Dr. Mala, who spearheaded the historic agreement. "We'll even take people willing to bake chocolate chip cookies for us," he joked.

Already several Canadian universities, including the U. of Alberta at Edmonton, have expressed interest in the medical research project, as have the U. of Minnesota and Harvard U.

Since the private agreement means raising funds, Dr. Mala said he was looking for people to approach foundations for grant money as well.

"I'm providing a base for this project. I have no specific numbers of people or institutions in mind at this time. Eventually, I would like to form a national advisory board with top experts to help guide us in international relations with representatives from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Arctic Commission, the National Academy of Sciences, and the Institute of Medicine."

FOR NOW, however, Dr. Mala is asking that interested people, or institutions, write to him describing their interest and background, and what phase of the program they would like to work on.

His address is U. of Alaska, 3211 Providence Drive, ADM 289, Anchorage, Alaska, 99508, (907) 786-4746.

processes in Alaskan and Siberian populations.

- Training and preparation of natives

and medical specialists for the north.

To prepare for the ambitious five-year, non-government-funded project, Dr.

Mala will travel extensively throughout Canada and the "Lower 48" to speak  
*Continued on next page*



Ted Mala, MD (in gray coat), with the medical directors' staff (left) of Kharbarovsk Specialty Hospital in the U.S.S.R. In the photo above, Dr. Mala works out details of the exchange agreement with two Soviet medical officials.

# Soviet medical exchange...

Continued from preceding page about the project and solicit assistance and funding from individuals, institutions, and foundations...

DR. MALA'S medical exchange project is one of a few private medical research projects that will be on the discussion table during the meeting of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Health Committee, said Jack Schmidt, PhD, acting director of the John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences, part of the National Institutes of Health. "At least three other private medical research projects — involving the Neurological Institute of New York at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, the Henry Winston Foundation of New York and the Burdenko Neurosurgical Institute in Moscow; the U. of Alabama at Birmingham and the Institute of Pharmacology in Moscow; and Baylor U. and the Institute of Rheumatology in Moscow — will be considered," Dr. Schmidt said.

WHEN THE Joint Health Committee meets on April 13-18, a list of "broad biomedical" programs will be discussed, including research in cardiovascular diseases, biomedical communications, cancer, infectious diseases, arthritis, and environmental health, in an official governmental exchange program, Dr. Schmidt added. "New areas also will be discussed, such as primatology for biomedical research, sports medicine, and eye diseases," he said.

The reinvigoration of the joint health committee meetings is a result of President Reagan's and Soviet General Secretary Gorbachev's Geneva summit meeting in November, 1985, at which the two superpower leaders agreed to embark once again on new cultural and medical exchange programs.

In preparation for the April meeting, delegations of U.S. health officials have visited Moscow, and Soviet health officials have visited Washington, D.C., for preliminary talks.

Formal government approval by the United States for all projects, including private ones, is necessary to meet Soviet requirements, Dr. Mala said.

"There is a private-sector counterpart in the Soviet Union," he said.

WHILE THESE high-level preparations are under way, Dr. Mala explained the origin of his ground-breaking agreement, which happened rather serendipitously.

On a 1982 trip to Leningrad, his mother's birthplace, he was able to tour an alcoholism treatment center and to meet with members of the Soviet Medical Workers Union, a group 8 million strong, that works with the Soviet government to set health policy. Dr. Mala's affiliation with the American Public Health Assn., his work as secretary-general of the International Union for Circumpolar Health, which includes the Soviets, and his Russian heritage helped open some Soviet doors for him, he said.

"I share their heritage," Dr. Mala said. "Alaskans are very, very interested in Siberia, and have been for years. We are closer to Siberia than Seattle."

For example, Kotzebue, where Dr. Mala grew up, is situated above the Arctic Circle only three miles across the Bering Strait from Siberia.

FOLLOWING HIS initial visit, Dr. Mala was able to arrange further visits for himself and other Alaskan officials to Siberia, which is virtually closed to foreigners.

The Soviets acknowledged and acted on a letter from Dr. Mala to Gorbachev after the '85 summit, he said.

"I was the first Westerner allowed to visit Siberian medical facilities since the creation of the Iron Curtain," he said of his recent six-week sweep of Siberian medical facilities.

"Actually, American and other Western

medical communities stand to learn a lot from the Siberian research, since they use Western research standards and World Health Organization standards.

"The payoff [of the agreement] for the Soviets is that they have literally been cut off from the rest of the world, and this exposure will give them an opportunity to connect with colleagues and to have their work duplicated and verified for the credit that they deserve," Dr. Mala said.

Although Dr. Mala locally has received a tremendous amount of credit and attention for the program, he shyly accepts the limelight.

"I'm looking at this as a rebuilding of the Siberia-Alaska land bridge. Through health, a greater understanding into peace will hopefully follow," he said.

—Linda Bosy



"The payoff [of the agreement] for the Soviets is that they have literally been cut off from the rest of the world, and this exposure will give them an opportunity to connect with colleagues and to have their work duplicated and verified for the credit that they deserve," Dr. Mala says.

## In this issue:



- Soviet medical students
- MD pulls together Soviet medical exchange.—page 49
- Med student sets human-powered flight record.—page 3

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# INFORMATION

From The UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA-ANCHORAGE

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November 18, 1986

Announcement was made today of the history-making proposed medical exchange agreement between the University of Alaska, Anchorage (UAA) and the Siberian Branch of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR (SBAMS). It is the first of its kind between medical research institutions in Siberia and any institution or country outside of the Soviet Bloc countries. This agreement is one of two in medicine that was approved by the President's Office on U.S.-Soviet Exchanges as a result of the Reagan-Gorbachev Summit Meetings in Geneva earlier this year.

Dr. Ted Mala, Associate Professor of Health Sciences and Coordinator for the agreement, returned this month from working six weeks in Siberia, visiting and photographing the major medical research institutes there as part of a U.S.-USSR Health Scientist Exchange Program Award under the U.S. Public Health Service.

The five-year agreement signed between UAA and the SBAMS includes initially six areas of involvement; 1) Physiological Aspects of Adaptation to the North; 2) Nutrition and Human Health in the North; 3) Effects of Chronic Stress in Natives and Newcomers to Northern Regions, Utilizing Laboratory Conditions; 4) Mechanisms of Adaptive Reactions of the Immune System in Northern Conditions and Specific Features of Immune Deficiency and the Development of Autoimmune Diseases; 5) Biochemical and Genetic Peculiarities of the Effects of Alcohol on the Metabolic Processes in both Alaskan and Siberian Populations; and 6) Medical Training for Natives and Specialists Working in the North.

The agreement will be reviewed and approved in April 1987, when the U.S.-Soviet Joint Commission on Health meets in Washington, D.C. In the interim, Dr. Mala is currently lecturing at various institutions in the U.S. and Canada on opportunities for involvement in this project as well as explaining the Siberian interests in developing joint research projects with the West. He can be reached at (907) 786-4746 for further information.

*President's United States - Soviet  
Exchange Initiative*



Office of the Coordinator

September 26, 1986

Dear Dr. Mala:

On behalf of the President's U.S.-Soviet Exchange Initiative, I would like to thank you and the University of Alaska, Anchorage (UAA), for your participation in the meetings held here in Washington, D.C. with Mr. Ivan Nikitin of the Ministry of Health.

I am pleased that a successful agreement was reached between the UAA and the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Siberia Branch, for a joint health agreement. Your agreement represents the first time that the United States and the Soviet Union will study health problems of the polar region. Hopefully, your program will contribute creative approaches to the health problems the two countries share in common.

Thank you for your efforts to increase contact between the people of the United States and the Soviet Union in the spirit of the President's U.S.-Soviet Exchange Initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen H. Rhinesmith".

Stephen H. Rhinesmith  
Coordinator

Dr. Theodore Mala  
University of Alaska  
3211 Providence Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508



СИБИРСКОЕ ОТДЕЛЕНИЕ  
АКАДЕМИИ МЕДИЦИНСКИХ НАУК СССР

630099, Новосибирск,  
ул. Советская, 18

SIBERIAN BRANCH  
OF THE USSR  
ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

18, SOWETSKAJA STREET,  
630099 Novosibirsk, USSR

### ПАМЯТНАЯ ЗАПИСКА

С 8 октября по 7 ноября 1986 года в Сибирском отделении АМН СССР был принят американский специалист профессор Теодор А. Мала. Цель его визита - обсудить перспективы научного сотрудничества по фундаментальным проблемам адаптации к Северу между Университетом Аляски (Анкоридж) и Сибирским отделением АМН СССР.

Обе стороны отметили, что сотрудничество между Университетом Аляски (Анкоридж) и Сибирским отделением АМН СССР представляет большой интерес для ученых обеих стран и направлено на укрепление дружбы и взаимопонимания между нашими народами.

В случае одобрения данного проекта совместной комиссией по советско-американскому сотрудничеству в рамках соглашения между Правительством СССР и Правительством США о сотрудничестве в области медицинской науки и здравоохранения от 23 мая 1972 года, стороны предлагают следующие темы для сотрудничества:

1. Изучить некоторые физиологические аспекты адаптации к условиям Севера в эксперименте.

Координаторы:

от СССР

Институт физиологии СО АМН СССР

от США

Университет Аляски, Анкоридж

2. Питание и здоровье человека на Севере.

Координаторы:

от СССР

Институт терапии СО АМН СССР

от США

Университет Аляски,

Анкоридж

3. Изучить особенности хронического стресса у коренных и пришлых жителей северных регионов и в эксперименте.

Координаторы:

от СССР

Институт клинической и экспериментальной медицины  
СО АМН СССР

от США

Университет Аляски, Анкоридж

4. Изучить механизмы адаптивных реакций иммунной системы в условиях севера и особенности развития иммуно-дефицитных и аутоиммунных заболеваний.

Координаторы:

от СССР

Институт клинической иммунологии СО АМН СССР

от США

Университет Аляски, Анкоридж

5. Некоторые биохимические и генетические особенности влияния алкоголя на обменные процессы в эксперименте и у жителей Аляски и Сибири.

Координаторы:

от СССР

Институт терапии СО АМН СССР

от США

Университет Аляски, Анкоридж

6. Подготовка врачебных кадров из коренных народностей севера.

Координаторы:

от СССР

Медицинский институт, Кабаровск

от США

Университет Аляски, Анкоридж

Указанный выше перечень тем не исключает возможность его дальнейшего изменения и исправления.

По указанным выше проблемам предполагается:

- а). Производить регулярно обмен научной информацией, для чего Университет Аляски, Анкоридж и Сибирское отделение АМН СССР выделяют место для хранения материалов и назначают ответственное лицо.
- б). Составить конкретный план исследований по каждой теме.
- в). Периодически (не реже одного раза в год) проводить рабочие совещания, коллоквиумы, научные конференции, семинары с целью согласования программ и методов планируемых исследований, а также для обсуждения их результатов.

- г). Производить ежегодный обмен специалистами в объеме 100 человеко-дней на эквивалентной безвалютной основе.
- д). Для обсуждения конкретных планов работы с непосредственными исполнителями предусмотреть поездку представителей Сибирского отделения АМН СССР в Университет Аляски, Анкоридж в первом полугодии 1987 года ( 3 человека на 15 дней).

Памятная записка подписана в двух экземплярах на русском и английском языках, оба текста идентичны и имеют одинаковую силу.

Данная договоренность вступит в силу после заседания совместной комиссии по советско-американскому сотрудничеству в области медицинской науки и здравоохранения в 1987 году в случае одобрения ею данного проекта сотрудничества между Сибирским отделением АМН СССР и Университетом Аляски, Анкоридж.

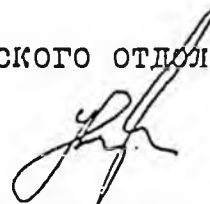
От Университета Аляски, Анкоридж:



профессор Теодор А.Мала

дата: *Ноябрь 6, 1986*

От Сибирского отделения АМН СССР:



академик АМН СССР Ю.П.Никитин

дата: *04. 11. 86*



СИБИРСКОЕ ОТДЕЛЕНИЕ  
АКАДЕМИИ МЕДИЦИНСКИХ НАУК СССР

630099, Новосибирск,  
ул. Советская, 18

SIBERIAN BRANCH  
OF THE USSR  
ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

18, SOWETSKAJA STREET,  
630099 Novosibirsk, USSR

### MEMORANDUM

The Siberian Branch of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR (Novosibirsk) received the american specialist, Associate Professor of Health Sciences, Theodore A. Mala from October 8, 1986 to November 7, 1986.

The purpose of his visit was to discuss the perspectives for scientific co-operation on the fundamental problems of adaptation to the North between the University of Alaska (Anchorage) and the Siberian Branch of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR (Novosibirsk).

Both sides have agreed that the cooperation between the University of Alaska (Anchorage) and the Siberian Branch of the Medical Academy of the USSR is of great interest for scientists of both countries and should be aimed to strengthening friendship and mutual understanding between soviet and american peoples.

In case if this Memorandum being approved by the joint US - Soviet commission within the framework of the agreement between the governments of the USSR and the USA on the cooperation in medical sciences and public health of May 23, 1972, both sides propose the following general themes for co-operation:

1. To study some physiological aspects of adaptation to the North in experiment.

Co-ordinators:

from the USSR

Institute of Physiology,  
Siberian Branch of the USSR  
Academy of Medical Sciences

from the USA

University of Alaska, Anchorage

2. Nutrition and human health in the North.

Co-ordinators:

from the USSR

Institute of Internal  
Medicine, Siberian Branch  
of the USSR Academy of  
Medical Sciences

from the USA

University of Alaska,  
Anchorage

3. To study the effects of chronic stress in Natives and newcomers to northern regions utilizing laboratory conditions.

Co-ordinators:

from the USSR

Institute of Clinical and  
Experimental Medicine,  
Siberian Branch of the  
USSR Academy of Medical  
Sciences

from the USA

University of Alaska,  
Anchorage

4. To study mechanisms of adaptive reactions of the immune system in northern conditions and specific features of the immune deficiency and autoimmune diseases development.

Co-ordinators:

from the USSR

Institute of Clinical  
Immunology, Siberian Branch  
of the USSR Academy of Medical  
Sciences

from the USA

University of Alaska,  
Anchorage

5. To examine experimentally the biochemical and genetic peculiarities of the effects of alcohol on metabolic processes in Alaskan and Siberian populations.

Co-ordinators:

from the USSR

Institute of Internal  
Medicine, Siberian Branch  
of the USSR Academy of  
Medical Sciences

from the USA

University of Alaska,  
Anchorage

6. Training and preparation of Natives and medical specialists for the North. (To be considered by the Ministry of Health of the USSR)

from the USSR

from the USSR

from the USA            University of Alaska,  
                                 Anchorage.

The above mentioned list of themes does not excludes the possibility of its further changing and correcting.

It is proposed in the framework of the above mentioned problems:

- a). To exchange scientific materials on a regular basis.  
Both University of Alaska, Anchorage and Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences will designate a specific location for those materials and appoint a responsible member of the staff.
- b). To draw up a detailed plan of investigations on each theme.
- c). Periodically ( not less than once a year) to conduct working meetings, colloquia, scientific conferences, seminars with the purpose to co-ordinate programmes and methods of the planned investigations and to discuss the results of the work.
- d). Annually to exchange specialists in the form of scientific visits sponsored both by the University of Alaska, Anchorage and Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences ( 100 person/days).
- e). To discuss the concrete working plans with the direct performers to forsee the visit of siberian scientists to the University of Alaska during the first half-year of 1987 ( 3 persons for 15 days).

This Memorandum is signed in duplicate in Russian and English languages, both texts being equally authentic. This agreement will come into force after its approval at the meeting of the joint US - Soviet commission on the co-operation in medical sciences and public health in 1987.

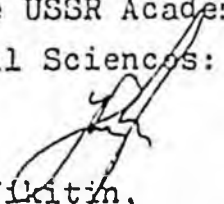
For the University of Alaska,  
Anchorage:



T.A. Mala, MD, Associate Professor  
of Health Sciences

Date: *November 6, 1986*

For the Siberian Branch  
of the USSR Academy of  
Medical Sciences:



Yu.P. Nikitin,  
Deputy Chairman, Member  
of the USSR AMIS

Date: *04.11.86*

## Siberia-Alaska— a model of cooperation

Theodore A. MALA, Professor of University of Alaska, Secretary-General of the International Union of Circumpolar Health, is of the opinion that the USSR and the USA have many problems in common, and thinks that the fact that the two countries are not dealing with them jointly defies elementary logics.

He spent one and a half months visiting all of the research institutions of the Siberian Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences in Novosibirsk and Khabarovsk in order to get acquainted with the R and D work done by local scientists involved in the research into problems of human adaptation in conditions of the North. This was the third time the US physician has visited our country. He says:

"There are special conditions of the North that bring Alaska and Siberia together and really demand that we work together. Physically Alaska is closer to Siberia than to the rest of the USA. You can see the Soviet Union from our territory. We have much history together and we have many people who are directly related by blood to people in Chukotka.

"People of the North always had a special love for each other. But today people in Alaska have no idea of what people of Siberia are like, there are no contacts between us. So we physicians of Siberia and Alaska decided that we would try to rebuild the bridge over the Bering Strait, using medical science as the means to do it. Illnesses have no political boundaries, and so we physicians

have a unique opportunity to bring people together.

"I've been offered the remarkable opportunity to come to the USSR and outline prospects for joint research together with the physicians of Siberia."

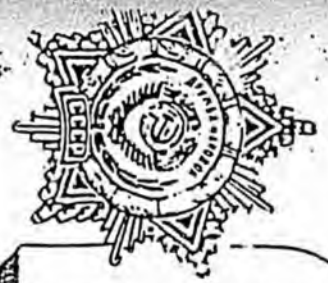
It is planned to sign such an agreement, which is a result of the Geneva summit, next April at the session of the Soviet-US Intergovernmental Commission on Health Protection. If it is signed, then, beginning with 1987, the University of Alaska and the Siberian Department of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences will conduct joint research and conferences on fundamental problems of human adaptation to the conditions of the North.

"The USSR is the leader, of course, in North medical studies," says Dr. Mala. "There are many things to learn from our Soviet colleagues.

"Both our countries need more areas where we can work together. And we, physicians of Alaska and Siberia, hope that we can be a model for cooperation between the USSR and the USA in other fields."

Recorded by  
Sergei YAKUSHIN

Novosibirsk



# MOSCOW NEWS

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## U.S. and Soviet Plan Exchanges In Many Fields

### Students in High Schools Are to Change Places

By IRVIN MOLOTSKY  
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5—The United States and the Soviet Union announced agreement today on 13 educational, scientific and cultural exchanges.

The accords were the latest to result from the meeting last November in Geneva between President Reagan and Mikhail S. Gorbachev. The accords bring cultural exchanges to a higher level than in late 1979, when President Carter cut them off to protest the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Previous exchanges this year saw the Kirov Ballet of Leningrad and French Impressionist paintings from Moscow and Leningrad come to the United States, while painting collections from Washington and Los Angeles were sent to the Soviet Union.

#### Announcement at U.S.I.A.

The latest agreements were announced at the United States Information Agency, with Ambassador Yuri V. Dubinin of the Soviet Union and American officials participating.

Negotiations are continuing, and future exchanges, according to officials, may include the Metropolitan Opera and the Bolshoi Opera.

One of the accords signed today provides for the first exchange of high school students, in which 10 students from the Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass., are to change places next year with 10 Soviet youngsters from a special mathematics and physics school for gifted students in Novosibirsk.

In another program, American teachers of Russian and Soviet teachers of English will switch places for up to 10 months. The American participants are to be selected by the American Council of Teachers of Russian.

Another program calls for lecturers in history, economics and culture to exchange places. The American coordinating agency is the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars.

In medicine, the University of Alaska at Anchorage and the Soviet Ministry of Health will study the health problems of adaptation to northern Alaska and Siberia, while the Neurological Institute of New York at the Columbia

Continued on Page 2

## U.S. and Soviet Plan New Culture Exchanges

Continued From Page 1

Presbyterian Medical Center, and the Burdenko Institute of Neurosurgery in Moscow will also collaborate.

It is in cultural exchange, however, that ordinary people are likely to see most immediately the results of the summit agreement last November.

The Soviet Union has now agreed to send 63 Russian prerevolutionary paintings from the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow and the Russian Museum in Leningrad. They are to be shown at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution here, at the Smart Gallery of the University of Chicago, and at Fogg Art Museum of Harvard University.

The exhibition will include work by Nikolai Ge, Sergei Ivanov, Ivan Kramskoi, Vladimir Makovsky, Vasily Perov, Valentin Serov, Ilya Repin, Vasily Surikov, Ivan Shishkin and Vasily Vereshchagin.

Repin and Vereshchagin were among the most celebrated Russian historical painters; Serov was an outstanding portraitist, and Shishkin is noted for his almost photographic rendition of forests and trees.

Many of the Russian artists belonged to the Wanderers' school, so called for the traveling exhibitions of their works, which stressed themes of social consciousness. Perov is known for his "Village Procession," a depiction of drunken priests and peasants settling out to celebrate Easter; Ivanov concentrated on the squalor and misery of peasant life, and Makovsky focused on the tribulations of the urban poor and the mores of the upper classes.

In return, the United States will send 63 American paintings from the Smithsonian and other collections, to be ex-

hibited at the Hermitage in Leningrad and the Pushkin Museum in Moscow.

The American artists include Mary Cassatt, who spent most of her life in France; Frederick Church, Thomas Eakins, Childs Hassam, Winslow Homer, George Inness, William Sidney Mount and John Singer Sargent.

Vladimir Grenkov, the Soviet Culture Ministry's chief of foreign relations, who attended today's announcement, sounded hopeful when asked about the likelihood of a Met-Bolshoi opera company exchange. He said he met Monday with Jane Herman, director of presentations at the Met.

"Such an exchange is of great interest," Mr. Grenkov said, "but you understand there are 500 people involved. This requires financial efforts on both sides. I am sure we will be able to resolve this on our side. Whether Miss Herman can resolve this remains to be seen."

Miss Herman later said by telephone that she favored an exchange.

"The two great opera houses would love to find avenues of cooperation," she said. "It was nice to see that someone in the Soviet Government would make such a gesture."

Regarding the financing problem, she said, "Financially, we have not even considered the mode of operation and how much it might cost."

In Andover, Joseph C. Mestas, secretary of the Phillips Academy, said the students to be sent to the Soviet Union had not been selected, but were expected to be chosen from the school's Russian studies program.

"Russian language has been part of our curriculum since 1955," he said.

Other Soviet-American projects announced today were:

• The development of joint textbooks for the study of English and Russian as foreign languages.

• An exchange of delegations to examine computer applications to elementary and secondary education, an area that the Soviet Union is only now beginning to enter.

• The restoration of an exchange of six teachers in high schools and colleges, with the number increasing to 10 annually starting next year.

• An increase from 15 to 25 in an annual exchange of teachers for ad-

vanced language training.

• The assignment of a Soviet specialist to the United States to advise on the teaching of Russian.

• Increased consultations in health care and medical science.

Some projects were expressed in general terms. Part of today's announcement was also concerned with goals instead of agreements, such as the Soviet Union's proposing an exchange of 50 athletic delegations in 1985 and 1988, compared with 23 in 1983 and 45 scheduled for this year.

## UAA-Siberian medical exchange

# Mala to discuss 6-week Soviet tour

Dr. Theodore Mala, an associate professor in health science at the University of Alaska-Anchorage, will present a report to the community on the new UAA-Siberian Medical Exchange Program from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in the UAA Arts Building, Room 150.

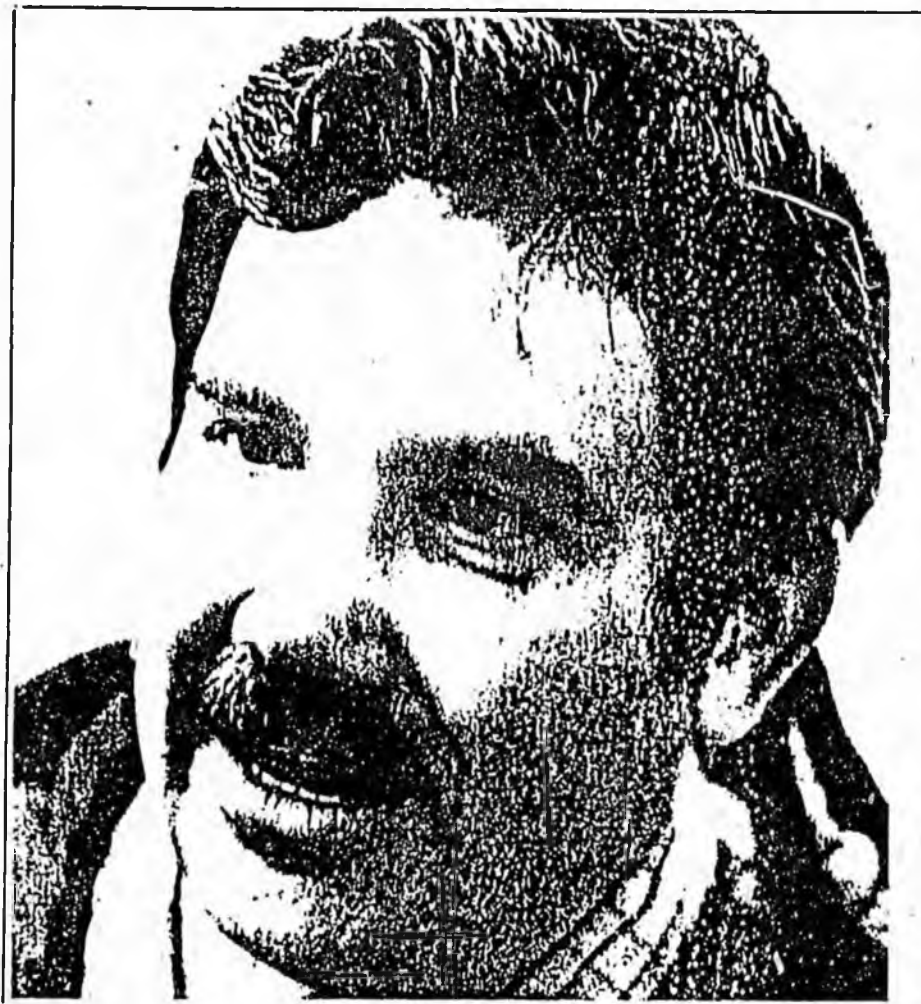
In November, Mala traveled to Siberia for a six-week tour of Soviet research institutes. As a result of U.S.-USSR agreements made at the Geneva Summit last fall and as a result of Mala's research into the medical concerns of the world's Arctic regions, Mala's Siberian trip helped to open an exchange program in the area of Soviet cold-weather medical research.

Mala said he hopes other Western scientists involved in Arctic research will participate in the five-year exchange agreement between UAA and the Siberian Branch of the Soviet Academy of Medical Sciences. The agreement calls for regular exchange of scientific papers, joint research projects and scientific meetings at least once a year.

The university community and the public are invited to attend Mala's slide presentation and lecture on Saturday and to become involved in the Alaska-Siberian exchange program.

Sign-up sheets for those wishing to become involved in the project are available. Those who want more information may call Mala at 786-4746.

The collaborative research agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States will be devoted to specific problems of the far North, with the researchers studying four groups of people: the Native popula-



tion, long-term settlers, new settlers and transients on short-term contracts for oil and gas projects or maintenance work on the second tri-Siberian railway.

Mala's father was Eskimo and his mother was Russian. He has tried for the past five years to get Alaska and Siberia to cooperate.

"Alaska and Siberia are very close to each other, separated by only two miles across the Bering Strait, and we

are 1,000 miles away from Seattle, the closest American city," he said. "Furthermore, Alaska used to belong to Russia."

Mala said that the breakthrough for the project came after he wrote to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov. The Russians selected the project for inclusion in a large Soviet-American exchange program involving health, culture, higher education and sport.

## PCE to continue for residents

by Pamela Cravez  
for the Tundra Times

Residential consumers will be the last to feel budget cuts to the Power Cost Equalization Program for the Bush, according to Susan White, special assistant to the director of the Alaska Power Authority, which administers the program.

"They're (legislators) not going to turn off the lights and let people freeze in the dark," White said after talking with members of the House Finance Committee recently.

White appeared before the committee to explain the Power Cost Equalization Program, which subsidizes the cost of electricity for the Bush.

She said legislators have a tough task this year in cutting the state's budget.

Gov. Steve Cowper submitted a budget figure for the power program that is nearly \$6 million less than last year's budget figure of \$17 million. It will be up to the Legislature to decide on the final amount.

White said legislators asked her to prepare information for them on the actual residential need in the Bush.

"I feel that they really want to take a fair look at PCE," she said after meeting with legislators. "They didn't tear into the program."

White said the governor is proposing a task force to assess the Bush energy needs.

## UAA prof wants to match Soviet work in far north

### Public health cooperation set, but Siberian research far ahead of ours

By RICHARD MAUER  
Daily News reporter

With the hard work of establishing U.S.-Soviet public health cooperation in the far north behind him, Ted Mala is finding that the really hard work is yet to come: organizing the projects, talent and money to match the ambitious research program long under way in Siberia.

Since the surprise announcement last summer that the University of Alaska-Anchorage and Columbia University in New York would be the only two American universities participating in joint medical research with Soviet institutions, Mala has dedicated his life to the success of the agreement.

On Saturday, Mala, an associate professor of health sciences at UAA, delivered a special lecture on campus on the unprecedented agreement, his recent visits to Siberia and Russia and what he hopes for the future. He also issued a call for volunteers to help in everything from typing and cookie baking to actual research.

Mala, who is also a physician, had spent four years getting nowhere in his attempt to establish some kind of cooperative relationship with public health experts in Siberia. Then came the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Geneva in 1986, an East-West thaw, and talk of scientific and cultural exchanges.

Mala's groundwork, including trips he had taken to Moscow and Leningrad at his own expense, paid off. The Russians put two joint medical programs on the agenda: one, dealing with neurosurgery, involved Columbia and an institute in Moscow. The other



Daily News file photo of Dr. Ted Mala

Dr. Ted Mala: Much work to do.

dealt with a range of public health issues to be coordinated through Mala's office at the University of Alaska and the Siberian branch of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences.

"The State Department and the President's office on governmental affairs were shocked that the Soviets put Alaska on the table," Mala said. "You'd expect San Francisco, or New York. But Alaska? That's the funny part. The problem, now, or the goal, is

See Page B-3, NORTHERN

# NORTHERN HEALTH: Work with Soviets

Continued from Page B-1

to prove we can handle something like that, the challenge of major research."

Mala spent six weeks in the Soviet Union last year. He came away sobered by the size of his task. By comparison with the billions of rubles in cold climate research poured into Siberia since World War II, Alaska is an intellectual backwater. The U.S. government's main arctic research center, a naval facility in Barrow, was closed some years ago.

"When I first started out, I was looking for some mechanism to work with the Soviet people on medical research. It turned out to be not a very simple agreement," he said. "The Soviets are really specialists in the North, with thousands and thousands of scientists, when we have only a handful of non-coordinated projects. The fact is, there is not that much hard research being done in Alaska."

Some 35 million to 40 million people live in Siberia, compared to a half million in Alaska. The Siberian capital, Novosibirsk, on the edge of the West Siberian Lowland at the latitude of Ketchikan, is a major industrial city of 1½ million, compared to some

225,000 in Anchorage. Its 20-year-old physiology institute alone could contain a large portion of the UAA campus.

And until the doors opened last year, Siberian medical research had been off-limits to westerners, Mala said.

"The United States has ignored the North, because only a little part of the U.S. is in the North. All the Soviet Union is in the North, all of Canada is in the North. How are we going to understand the Soviet Union if we don't understand the North?"

For starters, Mala and his American and Soviet colleagues have targeted six areas for research:

- Physiological adaptation to the North. Scientists wish to learn what happens to the human body when people from southern climates move north. Why do some people lose their ability to resist illnesses, while others thrive? Will scientists in Alaska confirm Soviet research that it takes an average of seven years to fully adapt, and will our findings duplicate Siberian studies that show newly arrived women suffered high rates of complications during pregnancy? And what are the human effects of the aurora borealis and the electro-magnetic storms that play out

overhead? Mala said the Siberians have found that on certain days, accidents rates soar in their region, and he wants to compare statistics for Anchorage to see if the dates coincide.

- Nutrition and human health. How does diet effect life in the North, and how should food intake be changed to improve the health of the newly arrived? And what is happening to Natives as their diet is westernized? Can anything be learned about the link of diet to cancer?

- Effects of chronic stress. How do newcomers and Natives cope with chronic stress, cabin fever, and the changing cultural fabric of the North? Can some of these conditions be tested in laboratory animals?

- Immunology and autoimmune diseases, like arthritis and rheumatism. How does the body's immune system change with adaption to a cold climate?

- Genetics and alcoholism. Is there a genetic reason for the susceptibility of Alaska Natives to alcoholism? Scientists are fascinated by the discovery that some people of Asian origin, presumably including Eskimos and Indians, lack an enzyme that is be-

lieved to metabolize alcohol.

- Northern medical training. How can physicians and other medical specialists encouraged to reside for long periods of time in rural areas of the North? How can Natives be educated in health specialties, and will they turn to their villages where they are?

To set up these joint research programs, Mala said plans to reject advice that only Alaskans be invited to participate.

"We're going to have talk about how to attract names in research up here," he said. The millions of dollars he expects the National Institutes of Health to invest in studies through the joint research program will require participation by major American universities, he said.

"We've got to get rid of the idea that we don't care how they do it Outside," he said. While there are many Alaskans conducting original research, many are not involved in what will become national priorities. "And we don't have all the genetic specialists we need."

The result, however, could be the creation of a much stronger scientific base in Alaska, he said.

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE**

**REQUEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Version: SJR 26

Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Affected: University of Alaska

Title: Relating to Siberian  
medical research

BRU: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: Senate Finance Committee

Components: \_\_\_\_\_

Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

<b>CAPITAL</b>						
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<b>REVENUE</b>						
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**FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)**

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>						

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS :** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 465-4985

Division: Senator John Binkley, Co-chairman

Date: March 10, 1987

Senate Finance Committee

Approved by Commissioner: 

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution (by preparer):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)
- Senate Secretary

SJR

31



# Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR JIM DUNCAN

P. O. BOX V JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

(907) 465-4766

COMMITTEES:  
FINANCE  
RESOURCES  
BUDGET AND AUDIT

MEMORANDUM

APR 10 1987

April 8, 1987

TO: Senator Paul Fischer, Chairman  
Senate Health Education & Social Services Committee

FROM: Senator ~~Jim~~ Duncan

SUBJECT: Hearing SJR 31

Senate Joint Resolution 31, relating to Federal Funds for Job Training and Vocational Education has been assigned to your committee as it's first committee of referral. I would like to request that you schedule this legislation for a hearing before your committee at the earliest convenience.

I have attached some backup material for your review.

**A New Direction:**

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**Preparing Alaskans  
to  
Revitalize  
Alaska's  
Economy**



Governor's Council on Vocational and Career Education  
March, 1987

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This report was prepared under the direction of the Governor's Council on Vocational and Career Education by Rosie Peterson, Executive Director. Additional copies of the report may be requested from:

**Governor's Council on  
Vocational and Career Education**  
205 North Franklin, Suite Two  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 586-1736

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tutions have strong representation from the private sector. Or putting it more simply, public education would benefit by having employers—representatives from business, labor and industry—on its educational governing boards.

NOTE: If a separate system of community colleges and vocational/technical centers is created, it is imperative the Governor appoint to the governing board of the new system representatives of business, industry and labor who are knowledgeable about the integral role vocational education plays in economic development.

**That the Governor encourage and the Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature support development and implementation of programs addressing the vocational needs of the incarcerated.**

**Rationale:** While the State of Alaska currently spends a considerable amount of money each fiscal year to house and care for the incarcerated, not much has been done to date to equip inmates with the vocational skills to seek gainful employment upon release. The Governor's Council holds a belief that undeveloped human resources, including those of Alaska's inmates, generally lead to a greater burden on a state's social services network through expensive treatment programs, welfare assistance, aide to dependent children, medical assistance and various support programs. To decrease recidivism and dependency on Alaska's social services network the Governor's Council believes it would be in the best interest of the state to develop and implement programs to address the vocational needs of the incarcerated.

This opportunity for inmates need not be expensive or burdensome to the state.

Currently the state pays \$82.50/day to house an inmate in a correctional facility. Yet it only costs \$45.00 for one day's furlough keep. If the Department of Corrections would fully utilize its furlough capabilities, soon-to-be-released inmates could take advantage of already existing vocational programs and facilities to gain vocational skills allowing them to become employed upon release. Obvious advantages for the state include: decreased corrections expenditures; a good-faith effort to decrease recidivism; fewer inmates in Alaska's overcrowded correctional facilities; and elimination of unnecessary capital expenditures to build and equip vocational facilities in each correctional center.

**That the Governor and the Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature encourage Alaska's Congressional Delegation to support federal funding for vocational education and job training.**

**Rationale:** Under acceptance by the state of the Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act, Alaska receives federal funds to "expand, im-

prove, modernize and develop quality vocational education programs that will improve productivity and promote economic growth." Among other requirements, the Act specifically requires the state to serve underserved populations (the handicapped, disadvantaged, men or women entering non-traditional occupations, single parents or homemakers, limited English speakers and criminal offenders) and assure their access to vocational education programs.

In the current fiscal year Alaska is receiving \$1.7 million in vocational education dollars from the federal government. In action last session Congress allotted \$2.4 million to Alaska for Fiscal Year 1988.

Just recently President Reagan and Secretary of Education Bennett transmitted to Congress a budget calling for a fifty percent rescission of FY 1988 vocational education dollars, and total elimination of federal vocational education funding for Fiscal Year 1989.

Federal vocational education dollars have been a catalyst for program development and planning in Alaska since 1968. In fact, the only source of revenue for program improvement and innovation of vocational education programs comes from those provided under the Carl Perkins Act.

With this background, the Governor's Council recommends the Governor and Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature encourage Alaska's Congressional Delegation to oppose the Administration's proposed rescission of vocational education funds and join in strongly supporting federal funding for vocational education and job training.

**That the Governor designate and the Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature support the JTPA / Education Coordinating Committee as the State Apprenticeship/Vocational Education Steering Committee.**

**Rationale:** Under mandate of the Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act the U.S. Secretaries of Labor and Education, in an attempt to plan for greater coordination between vocational education and apprenticeship training programs, developed and appointed the National Apprenticeship/Vocational Education Coordinating Steering Committee.

In turn, the Secretaries have called upon the Nation's Governors to establish similar committees to be responsible for promoting linkages between the vocational education and apprenticeship training in each state.

The JTPA/Education Coordinating Committee, which is approved by the Alaska State Board of Education and funded through federal

*Federal vocational education dollars have been a catalyst for program development and planning in Alaska since 1968.*

*Not much has been done to date to equip inmates with the vocational skills to seek gainful employment upon release.*

SJR

33

# Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR PAUL FISCHER, Chairman  
SENATOR JOE JOSEPHSON, Vice Chairman  
SENATOR LLOYD JONES  
SENATOR JAY KERTULLA  
SENATOR RICK HALFORD



P. O. BOX V  
ROOM 508  
STATE CAPITOL  
(907) 465-3762

## Senate Committee on Health, Education and Social Services

SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Week of May 11 - 15, 1987

-----  
Mon, Wed and Fri - 3:30-5:30pm      Butrovich Room (Capitol 205)

REVISED MAY 13

Wednesday:  
May 13

<del>SR 25</del>	University of Alaska Community College System
HB 126	State Aid to Education; Foundation Program
2 SJR 33	Irradiated Foods
3 HB 275	Continuing Correctional Industries Program
4 HB 57	Children's Trust Corporation; Permanent Fund Check-off
HJR 20	Interim Commission on Health Care
SB 299	Group Disability Insurance
Friday: May 15	
HJR 24	Encouraging Federal Funding for Vocational Education and Job Training

POSITION PAPER

SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 33

Sponsor Substitute for Senate Joint Resolution No. 33, relating to the labeling of irradiated food, requests the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to adopt regulations requiring food whose components have been irradiated to be labeled as "irradiated". The Resolution further requests the FDA to cancel the expiration date of the current labeling regulations. The Resolution's stated rationale for seeking these FDA actions includes statements about the lack of labeling requirements for foods containing irradiated ingredients, the pending expiration of current labeling requirements, and the precedent of existing labeling requirements for chemical additives and other ingredients in food.

The following comments are addressed to specific statements in Sponsor Substitute for SJR 33:

Page 1  
Lines 21-23

"Whereas the labeling requirements... are due to expire in 1988 before irradiated foods arrive in large quantities on grocery store shelves;"

Comment:

The expiration date for the existing labeling requirement applies only to the wording requirements. It does not apply to the mandatory use of the international symbol for irradiated food. Labeling in the form of the irradiated food symbol is required indefinitely. The symbol is shown below.



Page 2  
Lines 3-5

"Whereas the long history of stringent labeling requirements for the chemical additives and ingredients in food provides ample precedent for the labeling of irradiated foods as irradiated;"

Comment:

Without very careful reading, one could interpret this statement to mean that irradiation of food is similar to a chemical additive or ingredient, which it is not. Irradiation is a method of processing food in the same manner as cooking and canning, and we are concerned, from a public education perspective, that these concepts not be confused.

Page 2  
Lines 6-8

"Be it resolved that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the United States Food and Drug Administration to adopt regulations requiring food whose components have been irradiated to be labeled as irradiated..."

Comment: It is the Department's position that the labeling of otherwise unprocessed irradiated foods is a reasonable requirement, but that no useful purpose would be served by requiring the labeling of processed foods containing irradiated ingredients.

It is important to recognize that the purpose of labeling irradiated food is to satisfy misbranding concerns. It is not related to food safety or health risk considerations.

Since foods which are irradiated and offered for sale in their "natural" state do not appear to the consumer to be processed, the federal government established the labeling requirement. However, the irradiation of one ingredient or one component in a multiple-ingredient food is a different situation, because such a food has obviously been processed. For this reason, for example, canned or frozen foods need not be labeled as canned or frozen since it is visibly obvious to the consumer that the food has undergone some manner of processing.

In addition, since spices are routinely irradiated and have been for years, this provision would require foods which contain minute quantities of irradiated spices to be labeled as irradiated. This would dilute the meaning of the label developed by the international community that was intended to inform the consumer that a specific food item had been irradiated when no other method of processing was visible.

With clarification of the reference to chemical additives and deletion of the request that the FDA adopt regulations requiring labeling of food containing components which have been irradiated, the department is neutral on the passage of the Sponsor Substitute for Senate Joint Resolution No. 33.

Recommended by:

*Elizabeth Ward*

Elizabeth Ward

Director

Division of Public Health

Date:

*April 22, 1987*

Approved by:

*Myra M. Munson*

Myra M. Munson

Commissioner

Department of Health and  
Social Services

Date:

*April 22, 1987*

IRRADIATION COMPOUNDS VITAMIN LOSSES FROM COOKING, ARS REPORTS

Scientists with the Agriculture Department's Agricultural Research Service recently reported "a highly significant interaction" between irradiation and cooking in experiments with irradiated bacon.

In its recent semi-annual report of research progress submitted to USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service, ARS reported that thiamine content of bacon in raw, cooked, or freeze-dried form degraded at a significantly higher rate during cooking if the bacon had been irradiated.

"The two processes, irradiation and cooking, produced degradation, but when the product was cooked after it had been irradiated the overall effect was greater than the sum of the processes applied individually," the report said.

ARS is still analyzing data from similar studies conducted using refrigerated pork and poultry, irradiated at doses up to 700 Krad.

Scientists at ARS' Eastern Regional Research Center recommended caution in reducing the salt content of irradiated processed meats, based on a study of turkey frankfurters which showed that gamma radiation "cannot totally compensate" for salt reductions in terms of botulinal toxin inhibition.

The cooperative study with the University of Wisconsin examined turkey frankfurters irradiated with 500 and 1,000 Krad, and three levels of salt, ranging from 1.5% to 3.25%.

While a radiation dose of 500 Krad was sufficient to inhibit botulinal toxin production in frankfurters containing 2.5% or more salt, neither 500 nor 1,000 Krad "was adequate to inhibit toxin production in products containing 1.5% salt with or without tripolyphosphate," the report said.

"The results are interpreted as indicating that salt should be reduced in processed meats with care; gamma radiation treatments cannot totally compensate for the salt reduction," it concluded.

Experiments to determine irradiation D-values for 21 strains of group D streptococci showed most strains with D-values between 30 and 100 Krad, but with two having D-values of 210 Krad and 470 Krad.

# FOOD IRRADIATION

APRIL 1987 UPDATE



APR 13 1987

## TWO FOOD IRRADIATORS PLANNED FOR EASTERN WASHINGTON

The Port of Pasco has submitted a bid to sponsor a demonstration food irradiator which will be mostly financed from the U.S. Dept. of Energy ( DOE ) Byproducts Utilization budget. Congress appropriated \$5 million in 1986 and \$ 5 million in 1987 to support 6 pilot irradiators. Commodities considered for the Washington facility will be apples, cherries, asparagus and possibly potatoes and onions. Cesium-137, as an irradiation source, would be supplied by the nearby Hanford Nuclear Reservation. Hanford would be responsible for the radioactive material if the plant ever had to be closed.

Northwest uses of irradiation could include control of the codling moth in apples, fruit flies in cherries and aphids in asparagus. The Port of Pasco, according to Mack Funk, Industrial Development Manager, sees the plant as strengthening the local economy.

The Port of Chelan County, Wenatchee, WA, is also considering an electron beam irradiator to irradiate Chelan apples, mainly for export. The irradiator would be purchased from Niel Nielson, Emergent Technologies Inc. The plant would cost \$ 10 - 12 million and would be financed by private investment or by industrial revenue bonds. There is some local enthusiasm if export markets could be guaranteed. Niel Nielson and Rep. Sid Morrison are trying to develop markets in China and Hong Kong, where consumer groups are either non-existent or at least, not vocally opposing food irradiation. Since an electron beam accelerator ( think of it as a high-powered X-ray ) does not use radioactive sources, the irradiator would be more acceptable to the local population than one using cobalt-60 or cesium-137.

Eastern Washington, because it hosts Hanford, has become the leader in promoting food irradiation. We must double our efforts to pass the Bosco/Mitchell bill on food irradiation and urge our Congressmen not to give the DOE any more of our tax dollars to spend on food irradiators. Industry, not the taxpayer, should provide its own venture capital to promote this dangerous technology.

## THE BOSCO/MITCHELL BILL ON FOOD IRRADIATION ( HR 956 / S 461 )

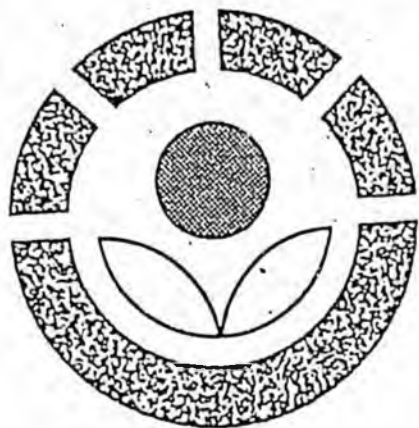
### The Food Irradiation Safety and Labeling Act of 1987

Rep. Doug Bosco of California has resubmitted his food irradiation bill which calls for more research before food irradiation is allowed. The bill, submitted last spring as HR 4762, has been renumbered HR 956. The Bosco bill extends the labeling requirements to irradiated ingredients used in processed foods and irradiated foods served at restaurants. It mandates a two-year study on food irradiation by the National Academy of Sciences, including the long term health effects and the environmental issues associated with the transportation and use of radioactive materials at irradiation facilities.

Without the passage of the Bosco bill, consumers will not be able to avoid irradiated foods. Already 1% of the spices are irradiated and used in processed foods without any notation on the label. It's impossible to tell which frozen pizzas, for example, use irradiated spices.

In Japan, some potatoes are irradiated to prevent sprouting, but they are not labeled or sold directly to the public. The irradiated potatoes are used in processed or restaurant foods. Japan does not allow the import of irradiated foods because of consumer opposition. Food irradiation is still banned in England and West Germany.

(continue to next page)



# THE BLAST SUPPER

**I**t's the winter of 1985 and your first day on the job with Agriculture Canada. You and eighty other people have an important task to perform: you must determine if irradiated food is fit for the palates of Canadian consumers. Whether it is fit, period, is another matter, but you are not concerned. Your employer says it's safe. The World Health Organization says it's safe. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization says it's safe. Long before anyone else, the International Atomic Energy Agency declared it safe; but, of course, you never took their self-interested word seriously, did you?

But then the Consumers' Association of Canada declared it fit and desirable, and, well, even if Nader's Raiders south of the border declared food irradiation a health hazard, who are you to doubt Canadian content?

Seriously, you think, would national and international government regulators be cozying up to food irradiation so quickly if the risks weren't acceptably outstripped by the benefits?

So you sit in Ag Can's Building 55 safe from Ottawa's winter brittleness, comfortable, wrapped in a softly backlit booth. Three pieces of chicken breast, cubed and tender, rest on a tray before you. You spear each cube and savour its taste and texture.

"Surprise," you exclaim, "they taste equally of palatable chicken!"

"Food irradiation tastes OK, eh!"

And now you find your opinion cited and your words broadcast, while behind your all-in-a-day's-work the atomic regulators, safety speculators, public health negotiators and consumer raters spin

their soft web of seductive technology.

Zap! No more salmonella in chicken.

Zing! Onions and potatoes give up the bad habit of life and stop sprouting.

Whish! No more germs in the spices.

Whoosh! A longer unrefrigerated shelf life for veggies, fruits and grains that might otherwise rot amidst the rest of the world's 300 million tonnes of market-surplus food.

Presto! An end to world hunger.

Better yet, "This technique may prove as revolutionary as the discovery of canning nearly 175 years ago." (Frank Fraser, vice-president of Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd.'s food irradiation division.) Best of all, within ten years "it could grow into a billion-dollar-a-year industry in Canada."

But the small voices niggle away. Like Energy Probe's David Poch, in his recent book *Radiation Alert*: "There is very little understanding of the subtle long-term effects on human health due to food irradiation, and we may all become experimental guinea pigs."

Heard it before, haven't you? But you rationalize it off; heck, life itself's nothing more than an extended crap shoot, especially in the technological fast-lane. I mean, there've been over 400 studies and scientists who work for government (well, at least for those governments that haven't banned irradiation) and scientists who work for industry say the balance of the findings are no cause for concern.

There'll always be some scientists bringing up the mouse cancer stuff. But those were mice, right? Sure, there were those kids in India whose irradiated diet gave them chromosome damage, but we're taking safer doses here, aren't we? Besides, the industry says that study was no good.

As for vitamin loss in the food itself, the same thing happens when you wok it, steam it, broil it or br use it.

Yeah. You thought about the irradiators themselves, beaming that glow-in-the-dark cobalt 60 (the Canadian stuff) or cesium 137 (the U.S. leftovers). You remember, too, the story a couple years back of the Canadian cobalt from a U.S. hospital irradiator that started off in a Mexican scrap-metal yard before click-clicking its way across North America as recycled furniture steel. All the way north to a restaurant in Winnipeg - and you laugh a little nervously.

That was a close call!

But you read the newspapers. We're getting tougher on acid rain. The U.S. has almost agreed to dig up its Niagara waste-dumps. The dangerously leaded soil will be raised from Toronto's South Riverdale neighbourhood. Besides, the cancer-disaster of Elliott Lake's uranium movers has gotten really sympathetic media and legislative reports of late.

So you're confident that *this* time, we'll do it right.

You savour the three cubes of chicken, honestly unable to tell the irradiated flesh from the other two. You claim that unique radiolytic products, URPs, the left-overs of irradiation, have no taste.

And you declare irradiated food fit for

# FOOD IRRADIATION AND THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

by Nick Fillmore  
and Anne Wordsworth

Canadian consumers, grist for the regulators and the industry lobbyists poised to fast-track Canada into the safe(r) new era of the peaceful atom.

But now, for a few moments, shift your point of view. You no longer taste-test for Ag Can. Instead, you are one of Canada's discriminating magazine readers. And you are about to find out how and why the regulators once again have shafted safety in the name of industrial *status quo*.

**L**et us start by saying that the Ag Can taste test really took place. The fact that no one who took the test could tell which piece of chicken had been irradiated has given the government one small piece of evidence to justify its decision to plan for substantial increases in the use of food irradiation in Canada. Canada already permits the use of irradiation on potatoes, onions, grains and spices, although no one is currently using the process. Irradiation of chicken to destroy salmonella is expected to be approved in the spring; fruit and vegetables would be next.

This planned greater use of food irradiation is the result of an aggressive no-holds-barred campaign by the nuclear industry world-wide to try to demonstrate the benefits of nuclear technology. The industry fears its existence is threatened because of the collapse of nuclear energy programs in most countries since Three Mile Island and Chernobyl. The industry wants to prove itself – and justify its survival – by showing the world the benefits of food irradiation.

An investigation by *This Magazine*

suggests that the food irradiation industry cannot survive on its own, but some governments – particularly the U. S. – may prop it up through heavy subsidies because their political objective (an increased nuclear arsenal) matches the economic objectives of the nuclear industry. Public-interest groups and the peace movement in the U.S. are enraged that the government is planning to use nuclear bomb waste material as fuel for food irradiation.

The Canadian nuclear industry needs a success story. It's facing a crisis because it hasn't sold a Candu reactor since 1982. Nor are there good prospects for future sales, although the industry still maintains a large infrastructure with the government underwriting most of the bill.

Not surprisingly, then, the push for food irradiation in Canada is being led by Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. (AECL), a government-owned Crown corporation. AECL is the world's largest manufacturer of medical and food irradiators. It has designed and built seventy-one of the world's 132 irradiators, provides ninety per cent of the cobalt 60 and, together with the Armand Frappier Institute and the engineering firm Lavalin, is launching the country's first commercial food irradiator in Laval, Quebec. A six-million-dollar joint venture, the new company, Biopreserv Inc., intends to make a profit. In Richmond, B.C., the plans of QIX Facilities Corp. to build a private food irradiator now appear to be stalled because of financial problems. Other private companies, already involved in the irradiation of medical equipment, are gearing up in antici-

pation of wider use of food irradiation.

The AECL is also aggressively promoting the sale of its food irradiators around the world, especially to developing countries. It has already sold food irradiators to China and South Korea; sales to Jamaica and Thailand are believed to be nearing completion and the company is involved in feasibility studies in Chile, Mexico, Brazil and Egypt.

**W**hile capitalizing on food irradiation as much as it can, AECL is not the real force behind irradiation-for-all-the-nations. That task falls to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), a nuclear industry lobby whose specific mandate is to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. For the past twenty years, the IAEA has been laying the groundwork to win wide approval for food irradiation. It has successfully manipulated how the safety of irradiation was decided in the international community, paving the way for countries like Canada to introduce their own legislation.

In recent years the IAEA has devoted a large part of its budget to the difficult task of trying to prove food irradiation beneficial. "By the early seventies, the scientific basis for the testing of food irradiation was in a total mess," noted Tony Webb of the London Food Commission, a British public-interest group that has published two reports critical of food irradiation. "That's when you find the IAEA stepping in to try and clean up the act."

Originally the nuclear industry had cast its lot with the U.S. Army. It start-

possible "pre-cancerous" developments. Though not consistently, many studies on test animals fed an irradiated diet have shown a variety of adverse effects, including premature death, chromosomal damage, kidney disease, testicular damage, reduced fertility and a decrease in offspring.

Recent studies in particular have failed to support the nuclear industry's food irradiation boosterism. A few years ago Raltech, the research arm of Ralston-Purina fed irradiated chicken to test animals, confident the results would condone the industry position. They did not. One study showed testicular tumours in mice. Another found that feeding irradiated chicken to fruit flies increased the rate of death of their offspring. And in another of the Raltech studies, researchers discovered that mice fed irradiated chicken had a greater incidence of kidney disease than their fellow mice eating non-irradiated chicken. Though the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA, the agency empowered to regulate food irradiation in the U.S.) reviewed these studies and quibbled over the tumor count in one of them, the Ralston-Purina researchers tactfully concluded that "while no single finding from the study is highly illuminating, a collective assessment of study results argues against a definitive conclusion that the gamma-irradiated test material was free of toxic properties."

The most damaging research ever done was a study in India in the seventies. The Indian Department of Atomic Energy had applied to its government to use irradiation to preserve wheat. The Indian government believed irradiation was safe and was considering allowing its use. In an extreme departure from normal research practice, irradiated food was fed to malnourished children, instead of test animals. The sick children, all between the ages of two and five, were admitted to the hospital and put on a supervised diet of wheat and skim milk.

The researchers divided the children into three groups. One group was fed freshly irradiated wheat, another stored irradiated wheat and the third, unirradiated wheat. The group fed freshly irradiated wheat showed signs of chromosome

damage and developed a condition called polyploidy, an abnormal number of chromosomes. The second group, fed stored irradiated wheat, showed some signs of polyploidy, although not as severe as the first group. The children fed unirradiated wheat showed no signs of polyploidy at all. (As soon as the Indian researchers noticed these abnormalities, they stopped the experiment for ethical reasons.)

The study was published in the peer-reviewed *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* in 1975. Dr. George Tritsch, a prominent cancer researcher at Roswell Memorial Park Institute in Buffalo, said in an interview with *This Magazine* that the implications were clear, "The Indian study, which the industry would like to discredit, showed eighty per cent of the children fed irradiated wheat had chromosome damage. When you stopped feeding them irradiated wheat, the chromosomes went back to normal. That indicates the wheat was very mutagenic. You could not design a better study to illustrate the mutagenicity of irradiated wheat." It is accepted in scientific research that most mutagenic materials also cause cancer.

Because the study was so damning of the nuclear industry's propaganda, the industry has struggled hard to discredit it. First off the mark was the Indian nuclear industry, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. The government-appointed nuclear scientists reviewed the study and submitted a critical, but confidential, report to the Indian government. The National Institute for Nutrition, where the original study was done, then submitted a rebuttal of the criticisms made by the two investigators.

Although the review of the Indian study was confidential, copies nevertheless found their way to the IAEA in Vienna and to the U.S. FDA. The latter in particular exploited the review.

When the FDA issued its regulations on food irradiation in April 1986, it specifically rejected any concern raised by the Indian study on the basis that its findings had been dismissed by the Indian government review. Other proponents of food irradiation spread rumours that the study was fraudulent and that the institute had itself refuted it. In fact, the institute has stood by its study, and has done further animal experiments confirming the original results.

In its latest attempt to discredit the Indian study, the nuclear industry cites a study done in China where irradiated food was fed to humans, which claims there was no evidence of polyploidy. But it seems that this study hasn't been subject to review by scientific peers. "We cannot take completely seriously any study purported to demonstrate safety until it is published in a scientific journal," said Linda Pim, in a Pollution Probe presentation to the House of Commons committee that has been looking into food irradiation. "Much of the criticism of studies showing adverse health effects of irradiated food is unpublished, confidential and otherwise not fully accredited."

**B**ack at home, the Canadian nuclear industry has embraced the IAEA's and FDA's food irradiation rhetoric and used it to maximum advantage. It has spent heavily in recent years

**"Which Irradiator is Best for My Needs?"**

The question is easy to ask, but the answer requires thorough consultation with AECL. The decision involves source size and other features. We will recommend based on information you provide about your product, source volume, future growth and facilities. The result is that each of our customers will have a recommendation on specific models of irradiators only after thorough analysis of their processing requirements and the economics of their situation.

**PROCESSING PARAMETERS**  
You make the decision based on all factors recommended by our consultants. Our recommendations take into account your:

**CUSTOM-MADE IRRADIATORS**

Your current processing facility will be analyzed to meet your specific requirements. Whether you require an installation with our standard design or one of our automated high volume designs, our engineering staff will work with you to identify the optimal approach of design.

**THE DECISION**

Let us help you decide. Custom processing equipment and source size sources for commercial applications have been our business since 1957. We are proud of our technical achievements, our professional team, and the growth of the industry and the satisfaction of our customers.



"Which irradiator is best for my needs?" asks an AECL brochure that promotes the use of gamma processing for medical and food uses. The brochure says AECL is the world's leading supplier of the technology, with over 65 commercial irradiators, over 600 research and clinical irradiators, and over 80 million curies of cobalt 60 in use in more than 50 countries.

The logo that is proposed for irradiated food is very similar to the logo already used by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Canada who is also on the committee, "we're talking about selling a whole export industry of a food-processing nature, whereby people or companies with complementary goods and services can be gathered together in consortia around AECL and AECL's technology. This will open up a whole export industry for Canadian firms."

The health question is not on the agenda because, according to Dr. Sol Gunner, a committee member and head of the Health and Welfare division responsible for national food safety, the department accepts the safety verdict of the Joint Expert Committee. As a result of IAEA's lobbying, the government is expected to make changes to legislation this spring that will allow for the full development of this technology by removing food irradiation from the "additive" category and making it a "process."

This is an important distinction. U.S. legislation in 1958, quickly copied by Canada, made it mandatory that all food additives undergo safety testing and classified irradiation as an additive. This legislation was intended to protect the public from the quick introduction of new, perhaps unsafe food additives. The food irradiation industry in both countries has made it clear that these requirements are blocking the way to more widespread use of the technology.

By redesignating food irradiation a process, Health and Welfare Canada appears to agree with the IAEA's contention that irradiation has been proven safe with no new toxicological tests necessary, even though the department has conducted none of its own research on food irradiation. Under the proposed regulations, the only information required by Health and Welfare would be the amount of radiation and the conditions under which it would be used. That this so closely resembles the industry demand could reflect the presence of Dr. Norman Tape on the Inter-Department Committee. Besides representing Agriculture Canada, Dr. Tape is also chairperson of IAEA's world-wide Consultation Committee on Food Irradiation.

**T**he United States is moving even more quickly than Canada to introduce food irradiation. Because Canada



brings in so much food from the U.S., the first irradiated foods that Canadians are likely to eat will be American imports. The U.S. is also bound to put pressure on Canada to conform to U.S. standards.

President Ronald Reagan clearly had a goal in mind when he named Margaret Heckler as Secretary of Health and Human Services in 1980. Responsible for the Food and Drug Administration, Heckler had been a member of Congress representing a district that included the U.S. Army Natick Research Laboratory outside Boston, where much of the research on food irradiation was done. She was a long-time supporter of food irradiation and critics say she pledged she would sign the authorization for the technology before her term in office was up.

Under Heckler, the FDA disregarded the traditional safety testing procedures when it decided to expand the uses of food irradiation. Although it has not yet changed irradiation from an additive to a process, it has eliminated the requirement for animal testing under its new rules on food irradiation. Industries who want to use food irradiation no longer have to support their application with studies proving the safety of the irradiated food.

The FDA also ignored all the studies that showed adverse health effects in its evaluation of food irradiation. Although it rejected most of the over 400 studies on the process as flawed, of the sixty-nine that were good enough for review, almost half showed adverse health effects. All these negative studies were thrown out by the FDA and deemed to be deficient in the final regulations. It used only five studies showing no adverse effects to support its position that food irradiation was safe. Heckler kept her promise by signing the authori-

zation for increased use of food irradiation on her last day in office. Ralph Nader's Public Citizen's Health Research Group called the FDA's actions "reckless and illegal."

Robert Alvarez of the Environmental Policy Institute, a public-interest group in Washington, says that food irradiation was pushed through because the Reagan administration was concerned about the declining popularity of the nuclear industry and feared that the same feelings might be held about the nuclear weapons program. Food irradiation would be the industry's much-needed success story replacing the still dubiously effective radiotherapy of cancer tumors as the peaceful atom's good news.

Moreover, Alvarez says the latest push to commercialize food irradiation is directly linked to U.S. plans to embark on a huge build-up of nuclear weapons, a troublesome waste product of which is cesium 137. (Cesium 137 has a very long half-life of thirty years which means it would take approximately three hundred years before it becomes harmless.) Alvarez claims the government will give the food irradiation industry huge subsidies to create an artificial demand so the military can get rid of the cesium 137:

The U.S. military, through the Department of Energy (DOE) is pumping ten million dollars into food irradiation with the goal of having products appear on store shelves within two years. Under DOE's Byproducts Utilization Program, cesium 137 from the Hanford nuclear waste storage facility will be used to fuel five regional test-market food irradiators - in Washington state, Hawaii, Oklahoma, Florida and California. In a program that will be heavily subsidized by DOE, the government is cost-sharing with local sponsors in each

clear industry has yet to prove that food irradiation is either needed or economical. Indeed, according to Ron Krystynak, an economist in the Food Regulation Analysis Section of Agriculture Canada, food irradiation in Canada may never be economical. "The problem in Canada is the economies of scale," Krystynak said in an interview. "There is a wide distribution of agriculture across the country and small quantities. The production is not large enough to justify the cost of irradiation." As for ridding chicken and fish of unwanted bacteria, "there are only a couple of poultry processors who are large enough to have their own irradiators. The other processors are so small they couldn't afford it." Chicken irradiation would also add to the cost of a modestly priced product, and most consumers would be unwilling to pay more for the process.

Krystynak's study, believed to be the only one of its kind in Canada, agrees with another conducted in California in the early seventies that food irradiation would be uneconomical for fresh fruit, like strawberries. Production is seasonal and regional and, according to Krystynak, there are new technologies being developed to preserve foods that would be cheaper and free of the problems associated with food irradiation.

There are also doubts that AECL can make substantial profits from its overseas sales. A recent Science Council of Canada study estimates that the world food irradiation market is worth only \$250 million to 1990 - not a lot when spread among several competing countries. AECL can expect very tough competition from the U.S., which is prepared to sell its cesium 137 irradiators at bargain-basement prices in order to end Canada's near-monopoly in the irradiation business.

It's also likely that the Canadian government will spend more money on subsidies than AECL will make selling food irradiators to developing countries. AECL's export program is already being heavily subsidized by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the government agency with the task of disbursing official foreign aid. CIDA has spent more than \$2.3 million to date paying for irradiation research and feasibility studies in several countries. If irradiators are sold to Jamaica and Thailand, as planned, CIDA will likely heavily subsidize their purchase.

Developing countries became interested in irradiators when Canada and the

U.S. banned the use of the fumigant ethylene dibromide (EDB) two years ago because it was found to cause cancer. These countries, desperately looking for a substitute to kill insects in the grains and spices they export, have been receptive to the prospect of using food irradiators. The irony for Canadians who do not want irradiated food in their country is that the irradiators in developing countries are likely to be used on food that will be sent back to Canada.

Food irradiation critics thus take exception to nuclear industry claims that food irradiators will help solve the problems of world poverty and starvation. "It's pure fantasy to argue that irradiation will supply food for the poor and starving," says Denis Mosgofian, director of the National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation, based in San Francisco. "The first foods to be irradiated will be pork, chicken, frogs legs, shrimp, papayas, mangoes and strawberries. Is the public to believe that these products are available in areas where there is drought and hunger? It is the chronically impoverished who perish from hunger, and such impoverishment doesn't occur overnight. Poverty is the product of long-term economic and political denial. It is not simply the result of a lack of food."

**T**he federal government is gauging public reaction to food irradiation by keeping a close watch on the deliberations of the all-party House of Commons committee that has been holding sessions in Ottawa. It's using its majority on the committee to control its activities. Instead of discussing the real issues of food irradiation - safety and economics - the committee is looking primarily at how irradiated foods should be labelled. The government clearly wants to have wide use of food irradiation technology in Canada but it also wants to avoid any public backlash that might be brewing. Though Ottawa was ready to introduce changes last year to allow for much wider use of food irradiation, for instance, it changed its mind because of the Chernobyl accident and because MPs were receiving dozens of letters from people expressing their opposition to food irradiation.

But since then, the anti-food irradiation movement has grown. Now, several organizations - including the Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation in Vancouver, the Nuclear Awareness Project in Toronto, Consumers United to Stop

Food Irradiation in London, Ontario and the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility - are planning to fight the passing of government legislation.

The nuclear lobby and the government don't want the word "irradiated," or anything like it, to appear on irradiated foods. Instead the government is proposing that packaging carry a green symbol that resembles a flower, a symbol that is very close to the logo of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. It would be accompanied by the word "Radura," derived from the statement "durability enhanced by radiation." The government has said more descriptive wording will be added, but the final version has not yet been decided.

Marilyn Young, chairperson of the CAC's Food Policy Committee, supports the industry proposal and strongly believes that the term irradiated should not be used. "Let's not confuse it with a name that associates this process with the much disliked and distrusted nuclear industry," she told a conference on food irradiation in Vienna, saying what is needed is a symbol that "is not to alert or alarm but rather as a piece of information." (The Consumers' Association of Canada, whose views correspond with government policy, have been the only consumer group consulted by the government in its deliberations over labelling.)

"If the government allows AECL and the rest of the industry to get away with euphemistic phrases and meaningless symbols to satisfy labelling requirements," said David Poch, a lawyer for Energy Probe in Toronto, "they are doing a disservice to the public who should be allowed to choose what to eat as we do with food additives. The fact that they are coining new expressions to conceal irradiation is an admission by the government and industry that the public are not going to want to eat irradiated food."

The U.S. has already adopted the Radura flower symbol with "treated by irradiation" written across it, though the words will be dropped from the symbol in April 1988 - coinciding with the expected first appearance of irradiated food on the U.S. market!

The proponents of irradiated food have good reason to oppose any appearance of the word irradiated on food products. Market research shows there is strong public resistance to buying irradiated foods. A 1984 Kidder Peabody survey in the U.S. reported that only twenty-eight per cent of the people surveyed would

**S**ver since the United States government embarked on an "atoms for peace" program after World War II, it has encouraged the use of irradiation as a way of preserving food. Bombarding food with radioactivity prolongs shelf life by killing the organisms that damage food: insects, mold, bacteria. It also brings up unsettling images for consumers, which is one reason the food industry has been reluctant to try it. What the irradiation hopefuls have needed is a workable crop, an agreeable industry, and a receptive community to house an irradiator. They may have found all three in Hawaii, where a vigorous campaign to push food irradiation has centered on a peculiar yolk-colored fruit that tastes somewhere between a cantaloupe and a peach. If all goes according to the government's plan, the papaya could become the first irradiated whole food to appear in American supermarkets.

Why the papaya? Why not something a little more ordinary, like potatoes, or maybe wheat? Twenty years ago, potatoes and wheat were in fact the first foods sanctioned by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for irradiation. On April 18, 1986, the agency went a giant step further and extended its approval of



# Trouble in Paradise

By Kirk Johnson  
Photo by Meg Landsman



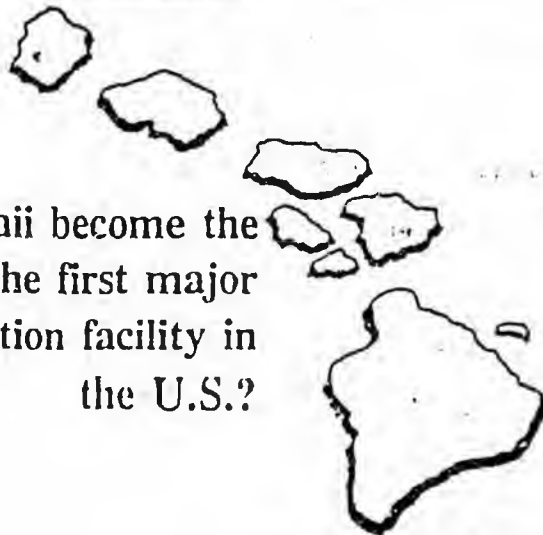
irradiation to all fruits and vegetables. You can't find these irradiated commodities in any store today because they aren't being marketed. At least not yet. The reason? "Economics," says one industry veteran. "Irradiation is a very expensive process, and as long as we have other ways to ensure a reasonable shelf life, we'll use them."

Economics is one reason attention has turned to the papaya. Its tropical growing season generates a year-round supply of fruit, and the more food you move through an irradiator, the lower the cost per pound of treatment.

There is also the issue of pest control. Hawaii is the home of three species of fruit fly with an affinity for ripe papaya. For years, the papaya industry relied on the fungicide ethylene dibromide (EDB) to disinfect the fruit. But when EDB was banned in 1983 after it was found to cause cancer, the industry faced the prospect of having its papayas denied entry to the U.S. mainland and other countries that do not have these fruit flies—and don't want them. Low-dose irradiation emerged as one alternative to EDB. The dose isn't strong enough to kill the insects, but it sterilizes them so they cannot reproduce once they leave the islands.

The U.S. Department of Energy

Will Hawaii become the  
site of the first major  
food irradiation facility in  
the U.S.?



(DOE) likes irradiation because it would help get rid of radioactive wastes. Cesium-137, the radioactive heart of an irradiation facility, is a byproduct of nuclear weapons production. The government has been searching for ways to manage these wastes, and as much as some states have recoiled at the thought of burying the stuff on their turf, there has been considerable support within DOE for considering nuclear waste as a valuable national resource.

Why? Food irradiation puts weapons waste to what DOE considers a constructive use, and that means more than just food preservation. DOE is dangling before Hawaii the inducement of a six-year supply of free cesium-137—nearly \$3 million worth—after which the material would be leased from the federal government. If the state accepts the offer, a byproduct of nuclear weapons production would create revenue for the U.S. Treasury. Moreover, since cesium-137 accounts for a hefty 55 percent of the radioactivity in the nation's nuclear weapons waste bin, food irradiation would cut DOE's waste management tasks by half. Finally, the process of extracting cesium-137 from nuclear waste generates bomb-grade plutonium, which is needed to arm the roughly 17,000 nuclear warheads that the Reagan Administration has requested for the next six to seven years. All of these factors help explain why, for the past two decades, DOE has been pulling cesium-137 from its growing mound of nuclear weapons waste and saving it for food irradiation.

The state of Hawaii is thumbs-up on irradiation. In fact, former Governor George Ariyoshi liked the idea so much that he asked the state legislature for \$2.5 million to build a facility on the island of Hawaii, where the papaya industry is based. The more cautious legislature voted instead to spend \$200,000 for a study to investigate the technical and economic feasibility of such a facility. The state circulated a request for proposals to conduct a feasibility study, and from the seven respondents selected an internationally known engineering and consulting firm by the name of CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill.

When news of the state's plans began to circulate around the island, the environmental community was the most alarmed. The front page of the environmentalist newspaper *Save Hawaii* was blanketed by a long story on the dangers of irradiation. The concerns


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ranged from the possibility of environmental contamination in the event of a leak of radioactive material to the health hazards of eating irradiated food. Kathy Dorn was one of many Hawaiians who first learned about irradiation from the *Save Hawaii* piece. Dorn, a gardener, musician, and mother, had always been proud that Hawaii was the first region in the United States to declare itself a nuclear-free zone, despite a last-minute exemption for agricultural uses. She was upset that the state seemed unconcerned about the potential for danger, and, she says, when she realized how closely food irradiation was tied to nuclear weapons production, "I was angry for a fight." Dorn went on to help organize a group called the East Hawaii Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation.

The papaya industry has an obvious stake in the issue, and the recommendations of its trade association carry substantial weight with state decision-makers. When the Hawaii Papaya Industry Association held its 22nd annual meeting last September, it was a logical place for all the interested parties to converge.

I happened to be vacationing in Hawaii at the time, lured by the promise of black sand beaches and 6,153 miles of separation from my office phone. But after several days and nights of steady rain, I was grateful for the distraction of a story to cover. I spent four days crisscrossing the little city of Hilo on Hawaii's eastern coast, sitting in on meetings, questioning officials, listening to people's reaction to a plan that seemed quietly out of step with Hawaii's history as an earth-loving land. I drove away from the city feeling that what is transpiring there is significant not only because it is the closest we have come to irradiated food-stuffs. I had also watched a preview of a drama that will play itself out in every community that wrestles with the uncertain risks and equally unclear benefits of food irradiation.

#### Thursday morning, September 25



Hilo was drying after yet another night of showers, and a Japanese groundskeeper was raking the parking lot leaf by leaf when I drove up to the Naniloa Hotel. It was an unlikely spot for a press conference. With one side of this resort hotel protected by stately banyan trees, the other open to gently rolling surf, the scenery beckoned me from thoughts of nuclear disaster.

In one corner of the lobby, a trio was facing a ring of reporters. Denis Mosgofian, a lithographer by trade, told the gathering that he had come to the irradiation issue through his job as a health and safety officer to his industry. He had learned about mishaps at several government and commercial facilities used to irradiate (and thus sterilize) disposable medical instruments—miscues that had left several workers hospitalized with acute radiation sickness. The more he investigated food irradiation, the more concerned he became and the more he felt compelled to inspire others to stop a bad idea dead in its tracks. Mosgofian now heads the National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation, a San Francisco-based collection of fifty-five national, state, and local organizations coast to coast.

In Santa Cruz, California, the campaign to stop irradiation is headed by Food Irradiation Response, an organization that successfully lobbied to establish Santa Cruz as the first county in the nation to adopt irradiation labeling laws more stringent than FDA's. The director of the group, a veteran consumer activist by the name of Brian Sprinsock, had flown in to appear with Mosgofian. Together, the two men explained their objections to irradiation in the smooth, sure cadence of speakers who have laid out their arguments many times before. They had four major concerns:

- The impact on the environment. Bringing in fresh cesium-137 from the mainland and returning the spent isotope would involve transporting radioactive material over Hawaii's roadways. If an accident along the way caused a leak, this toxic material might easily contaminate the groundwater, since the soil on Hawaii is porous lava, cesium-137 is water soluble, and the eastern half of the island where the irradiation facility would be built, has one of the highest annual rainfall rates in the world.

Mosgofian suggested that the track record of existing irradiation facilities offers little assurance that sophisticated containment systems will not fail or be deliberately overridden. After leaks at two such facilities (International Nutronics Inc. of Dover, N.J., and Isomedix Co. of Parsippany, N.J.), workers were instructed by plant managers to pour radioactive water down bathroom drains and toilets, where it was released into public sewer systems. In another incident, the Radiation Technology plant in Rockaway, N.J., was shut down by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) because the firm had repeatedly dismantled a safe

ty interlock device that prevents employee access to the radioactive isotope. The closure order said that the NRC "no longer has reasonable assurance... that the public health and safety, including the safety of the licensee's employees, will be protected." The Department of Energy is now paying the former head of Radiation Technology, Dr. Martin Welt, for technical advice on Hawaii's papaya irradiation facility.

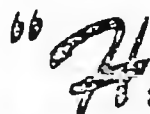
•The impact on the food itself. Showering food with radioactivity doesn't make it radioactive. But these fast-moving gamma rays rearrange the configuration of the food molecules they strike, producing new substances known as radiolytic products. Are these radiolytic products safe to eat? The FDA went about answering that question by examining some 441 studies of irradiated food. According to a 1982 internal FDA memo, by the time the agency had whittled the list to sixty-nine studies for in-depth review, only five studies "appeared to support safety." This was the agency's basis for extending its approval of irradiation to all produce in April, 1986.

Other evidence suggests that radiolytic products may pose a serious health threat, most notably by inducing cancer. In the only human study of irradiated food reported in the scientific literature, children in India who were fed freshly irradiated wheat developed abnormal cells associated with leukemia, a form of cancer. When alarmed researchers halted the study, the cells returned to normal. In 1980, the FDA itself published a study reporting that irradiation produces dramatic increases in aflatoxin, a carcinogenic mold estimated to be one thousand times more potent than EDB. Nuclear physicist and physician John Gofman, whose expertise dates back to his work on the Manhattan Project, wrote to former Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler, "Our ignorance about these foreign compounds [radiolytic products] makes it simply a fraud to tell the public that 'we know' irradiated foods would be safe to eat." Gofman went on to say that because cancer has a long latency period, only a thirty-year study of at least 200,000 people would indicate whether irradiated food is safe for human consumption. That kind of study, he said, "simply has not been done."

In addition to adding new chemicals to food, irradiation destroys existing ones. "Radiation can't discriminate between the reproductive cells of a fruit fly and a molecule of vitamin C," Mosgofian told the reporters, citing studies showing how

irradiated fruits had lower vitamin levels. When the FDA decided to allow broad-scale fruit and vegetable irradiation, it announced, "Destruction of nutrients is not a concern in this rulemaking."

•The impact on the food industry. Will consumers buy irradiated food? In a word, Sprinsock promised, no. A 1984 study prepared by the Department of Energy found that 84 percent of the respondents in a national telephone survey expressed major or minor concern about the idea of food irradiation, or were undecided. The pollsters suspected that such reservations stemmed from a lack of information, so they recited some of



Hawaii is caught between a rock and a hard place—between DOE, which is pushing for irradiation, and consumers, who are almost certain to reject it," said Sprinsock.

the benefits of food irradiation and asked them again for their views. This time, 79 percent voiced major or minor concerns or indecision. Sprinsock said that this and other surveys suggest that most Americans are unwilling to accept the irradiation concept, and that their feelings cannot be changed through education. "Hawaii is being caught between a rock and a hard place—between DOE, which is pushing for irradiation, and consumers, who are almost certain to reject it," he said.

•Labeling. If an irradiator were built on Hawaii and irradiated papayas sent to market, the fruit would be labeled to distinguish it from untreated papayas. But there's a catch—several catches, actually. For fruits, vegetables, grains, and other so-called whole foods like the papaya, FDA regulations require labeling with a flower-like symbol known as the "radura," along with the words "treated with radiation." Sprinsock thinks the flower symbol is a misleading euphemism that glosses over the potential danger of irradiation. What's more, the wording requirement is due to expire on April 18, 1988, leaving consumers no clue but the symbol that a food has been irradiated. Finally, as the law now stands, processed foods that contain irradiated ingredients do not have to be labeled. Critics see FDA's labeling laws as an attempt to circumvent almost certain consumer rejection, and as a denial of everyone's right to know about a processing technique that, unlike canning or freez-

ing, leaves no visible clues.

While Mosgofian and Sprinsock were impressive, it was Kathy Dorn who revealed the most startling news of the day. Dorn released government documents detailing an accident: an experimental food irradiator on the nearby island of Oahu. The state-run facility had been built in 1967 to test for the effects of irradiation on tropical fruit.

In 1967, officials there received a shipment of cobalt-60, another radioactive source often used in irradiators. The cobalt was housed inside a defective steel capsule that was already leaking by the time it arrived on-site. When officials

decided to return the capsule to the mainland, most of the leaking cobalt was confined to a pool of water that was used to shield workers from the radioactivity. But when a lead shipping cask was lowered through the roof to receive the defective capsule, it too became contaminated with radioactive water. As the cask was raised out of the building, the water dripped onto the roof, where subsequent rains carried it through a drainspout and onto a grassy area outside the building. There the radioactivity remained undetected for twelve years until a consultant toured the area with a geiger counter in 1979. Work crews ripped out fifty tons of radioactive steel, concrete, and earth from the facility for burial at a DOE disposal site in Hanford, Washington, and the plant was permanently shut down.

Dorn said a person standing one meter away from the contaminated lawn would have unknowingly received the equivalent of seven and a half chest x-rays an hour in 1968 and two chest x-rays an hour in 1980, when the strength of the radiation had declined. In her mind, the 1968 spill was just one step from disaster. Had the radioactive fuel been water-soluble cesium-137 instead of the relatively insoluble cobalt-60, the leak would have trickled into the groundwater, inevitably leading to increased risks of cancer, birth defects, and immune system problems. What bothered Dorn was the apparent reluctance of state officials to draw lessons from the 1968 accident. "The earlier facility was built with the same

confident assurances that we're hearing now about the new facility: fail-safe design, a new era in food processing," she said. "That project was an utter and complete failure. There's no need to repeat this scenario with a much more dangerous isotope."

The timing of the press conference was strategic. Held the day before the papaya industry meeting, it would ensure that papaya growers would read about the accident over their morning coffee. The growers were not to be won over so easily—for one thing, they would be hearing quite a different set of facts from the other side—but the press conference gave the activists a brief moment in the sun.

Next on the agenda: the Hawaii Medical Association was holding a dinner meeting that night to talk about food irradiation. The group had invited Moskofian and Sprinsock to present their views along with Dr. Garth Tingey, an engineer under contract to the Department of Energy. By reputation, Tingey was as utterly convinced of the need for food irradiation as the activists were opposed to it. His job was to get three food irradiators across the country onto the drawing board. Hawaii's was the first. It promised to be quite a show.

#### Thursday night, September 25

I had not been invited to the doctors' meeting, which was slated for a Japanese restaurant in the center of town. When my phone calls to the Hawaii Medical Association failed to reach the president of the group, I decided to place my faith in the legendary graciousness of the islands. Sure enough, no one so much as lifted a chopstick as I approached the doorway of the room where two dozen physicians were attending to sushi and spareribs.

After dinner, Moskofian and Sprinsock led off by urging the physicians to consider irradiated papayas in terms of costs and benefits. Apart from sterile fruit flies, they asked, what does Hawaii gain by having an irradiator? And what might it lose, when the safety record of existing irradiation facilities is poor, when there has already been one accident on the islands, when the soil is permeable and cesium-137 is water-soluble?

Tingey's presentation was designed to familiarize lay persons with the design and workings of a food irradiator: what irradiation is, how it works, its effects on food at various doses. He spoke of a half dozen benefits of irradiation, including its ability to kill insects, delay molding

and ripening, and inhibit spoiling.

Then he turned to the "concerns expressed" about the process, including the fear that irradiated food might become radioactive, saying, "I suspect I don't have to spend much time talking with you doctors about this, what with your experience x-raying patients and such." On the question of the safety of the radiolytic products formed when gamma rays meet food molecules, Tingey pointed to the astronauts, who eat irradiated meals while in orbit, as well as certain cancer patients, whose immune systems are so damaged (by radiation therapy, ironically enough) that they can no longer tolerate the germs and bacteria of regular food. If the astronauts were ailing, I doubted that NASA would tell us. But I made a mental note to ask Tingey whether the cancer patients had been followed to check for possible ill effects from the food. A claim of safety made sense if someone had looked for potential health problems and found none; if they hadn't checked, they might miss a problem or attribute it to other causes. Even more important, since the only true test of irradiated food would involve large numbers of people studied over many years, the relevance of these isolated cases was questionable.

As for the potential for accidents, Tingey assured the physicians that "a great deal of work" had been done to insure the integrity of the containment capsules for the nuclear material. The facility itself would have numerous structural safeguards to protect against spills and accidents. If a spill did occur, Tingey assured the group, it would be mopped up safely and at no risk to the workers.

Tingey's comments about accidental spills would have been unremarkable in another setting, but here it was difficult to listen without blinking hard. These promises were being offered to people whose state had suffered an irradiator accident whose full dimensions no one even knew about for twelve years.

A small group remained after the presentations to talk with the speakers. The atmosphere grew heated as one man peppered Tingey with questions:

"If we [the islands] are going to assume the risks of irradiation, will the farmers and the growers get the benefits, too?"

Tingey: "Why are you so concerned about irradiated food when there are studies showing it's safe?"

"I'm not concerned about irradiated food. I'm concerned about food irradiation."

"Any modern situation involves risks. There's no such thing as risk-free life."

"We're talking about reliance on technical mindsets."

"The same applies to automobiles. Except we're dealing with products that hang around for 300 years damaging human cells."

"We've got this cesium very well contained. It's safe."

"Isn't that the same rationale we hear for nuclear power plants?"

Later I asked Tingey for his thoughts on the exchange. His smile was tinged with regret. "It's unfortunate that irradiation carries such a stigma," he said solemnly. "It's a proven technology with no relationship to nuclear power." When you hear people's misgivings, I asked him, about the safety problems, about Oahu's own accident, does it bring questions to your mind about how advisable irradiation might be? "No," he said quickly. "It tells me we have to tighten up on our controls and improve our technology. Just because two airplanes crash I don't stop flying." He concluded, "I haven't had a loss of life from a food radiation facility."

A final question. Those cancer patients—had they been followed? For a moment, Tingey seemed poised to reveal something, but he changed his mind. "I can't comment."

Tingey's remark brought to mind a statement made the previous day by a spokesman about the 1967 irradiator accident. No injuries resulted from the spill, the official told the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*. But a second statement he made was more precise: no injuries were known to have occurred.



Papayas: An irradiation test case



"Tryapapaya!" say growers. But will consumers go for irradiated ones?

resulted from the spill. He went on to explain that at the time of the spill, state and federal officials "didn't think it was that much of a hazard," which raises the issue of whether workers at the irradiation plant were ever surveyed for the health problems they supposedly didn't have.

What was beginning to amaze me about the irradiation debate was that when the confident promises of the irradiation backers were brought into question by new information—the larger reality—presented by the activists, the contradiction often fazed no one, least of all the pro-irradiators. During the doctors' meeting, Mosgofian pointed out how fruits and vegetables in some countries are not labeled to show they have been irradiated. He singled out South Africa by name. Moments later, Tingey spoke of widespread consumer acceptance given irradiated produce worldwide. As evidence, he, too, mentioned South Africa. Few seemed to notice the significance of the moment. Tingey certainly didn't. He repeated the same claim the next day.

Like me, Brion Sprinsock had been trying to understand how the proponents of irradiation handle conflicting information. Many of them seemed unwilling to process facts that clashed with their position. When I would challenge the activists with, say, a study supporting irradiation, they would patiently explain how the study was flawed. When I challenged people like Tingey, they would usually bring up a different study that supported their position, or shift the topic to a new point altogether. Sprinsock suggested that their belief in irradiation might be overwhelming their objectivity. "They can't conceive of the down side of irradiation," he suggested, "because they're not willing to let themselves think of it."

I was anxious to find out which way

the doctors were leaning, so I approached the young president of the association. It had occurred to me that Mosgofian, Sprinsock, and Tingey had all sounded well informed, and I wondered how the physicians would go about arriving at a consensus. Dr. Barry Shitamoto smiled broadly as he shook my hand, a gesture, like his blue jeans, that I took as a sign of openness. I explained my impression that all three speakers struck me as credible.

"You have cases well articulated by reasonable-sounding people," I said. "How do you take a stand?"

His response stunned me. "You *don't* take a stand!" he said.

"No resolutions?" I asked. "No testimony before the state legislature?"

"This is a very, very difficult issue," he explained. "You have to understand that the issue is extremely political, so much so that we're just not going to take a position."

The Hawaii Medical Association's decision would keep it off the hot seat, but it wouldn't do much for the island's residents. It meant that if people wanted medical advice on whether irradiated food was safe to eat, or whether it was safe to live near an irradiation facility, they would have to turn to state health officials, who, as I was to discover later, already seemed pressured to support the governor's position on irradiation. Ironically, this special dinner meeting had been called precisely because doctors were unsure how to respond to an increasing number of questions about food irradiation that they were getting from their patients.

It felt like midnight before the banquet room finally cleared. Someone was nipping good-naturedly at Tingey's heels, trying to push the tight-lipped consultant

into concessions. "Now come on, Garth," I heard him begin. "You and I both know..." I for one needed a break. As I passed by the restaurant lobby, the chef was unwinding in front of a television, stripped down to his undershirt. Together we watched the remainder of a Sumo wrestling tournament that was being beamed from Tokyo. I listened attentively to his occasional translation, grateful to be stepping away from a long day that wasn't entirely making sense.

Friday morning, September 26

The papaya industry meeting was crowded. Perhaps a hundred people had shown up at the basement function room of a nearby hotel for a day-long discussion of the state of the industry. I arrived late for the session on irradiation, but there were still plenty of "Tryapapaya!" promotional pens to go around, along with paper cups of papaya nectar, compliments, said the sign, of one of the growers. These were working people, most of them—whites, Philipinos, Hawaiians—and their work clothes fit well on an island where a necktie is taken as a sign that a person is from the mainland.

Bob Souza, president of the Papaya Industry Association, spoke first. Souza's was an interesting case. He had spoken out against irradiation some two years before, when the process had been proposed in the wake of the EDB ban. Souza had argued for an alternative called double dipping, in which papayas are immersed in two hot-water baths that kill fruit flies and their eggs. At the time, researchers at the Department of Agriculture were still ironing out kinks in the process, such as the tendency of the water baths to harden the fruit and prevent proper ripening. But Souza supported it nevertheless. For some reason, now that the double dip method had been improved enough to be used by all the major papaya packers, Souza had changed his mind and come out in support of irradiation. "The double dip method isn't always feasible," he told the growers at the meeting, "because it has to be used within eighteen hours after harvest. This can be difficult."

Souza hadn't been the only official to flip-flop on irradiation. Four months before the trade association meeting, the state's largest papaya packer had come out against the idea. Amfac Agribusiness president Dennis Teranishi had said, "I don't want to fool with it." Now there were rumors that Amfac was not only supporting irradiation, but actually lobby-

ing to have a facility built on company property. It made sense: the giant packer probably read the writing on the wall and reasoned that if the facility was inevitable, better to have it constructed where the company could best use it. Teranishi was circumspect when I asked him about his apparent change of heart. "We're giving the idea [irradiation] serious thought," he said.

After Bob Souza, Denis Mosgofian held the stage for some twenty minutes. This time his eloquence seemed spent in minutiae. Determined to emphasize the potential losses of irradiated fruit, Mosgofian used precious minutes driving home a point more germane to an audience of consumers than producers. As he took his seat to polite applause, I wondered if he had considered making the likelihood of consumer rejection the cornerstone of his talk. Or for that matter, whether Kathy Dorn had thought to speak. Who better to discuss consumers' misgivings than a mother?

The next man bent to have his speaker's lei draped around his neck. His name was Scott Ahlstrom, and he represented the engineering firm CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill. CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill is already in the irradiation business. A subsidiary, Iotech, sterilizes medical instruments at the largest cesium-137 irradiator in the country, located near

Look, if I have chest pains and I feel I need a bypass operation, who do I go to?"

"A cardiologist."

"Right."

"But what do you do after you see the cardiologist?" Mosgofian countered.

"I don't know."

"You get a second opinion. Otherwise you're relying on the word of a person who has a personal stake in operating on you. You have no way of knowing whether his motivation is his own financial interest or your health."

If the argument made an impact, it was imperceptible. The papaya growers at the meeting didn't seem bothered by the point either. Ahlstrom showed slides of spotless irradiation facilities throughout western Europe, and spoke of the need to deal with irradiation "as a non-emotional issue. Only then can we come to an informed decision." Ahlstrom talked about the safety features built into irradiators, and concluded, as Garth Tingey had the night before. "It is very difficult for us to imagine a credible scenario for the awful things people have predicted."


One of Ahlstrom's slides was a photograph of two crates of papayas, one conventionally processed, the other irradiated, both batches evidently stored for some time. The untreated fruit was dark and

When I asked about the possibility of consumers rejecting irradiated papayas, he cited a CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill figure that 66 percent of consumers surveyed support the idea of irradiation. He did not mention the survey cited by Mosgofian that found just the opposite.

As I talked with more growers, it became clear that in their own individual assessments of the costs and benefits of irradiation, hope sprang eternal. It was a hope borne of years of economic depression. Hawaii's tropical fruit growers had been hard hit by the loss of the pineapple industry, which had moved to the Philippines for cheaper labor, as well as the declining mango crop, which, without EDB, was rapidly losing ground to voracious worms. The papaya industry itself was emerging from a disastrous 1985. Record production levels the year before had driven market prices so low that farmers could not recoup the cost of production. Farmers cut back on new plantings as a result. The new double dip method had been causing headaches, too, as mainland consumers were refusing to buy hard fruit. These and other problems had caused a 30 percent decline in the papaya harvest, and the growers were eager to return to relative prosperity.

An irradiator promised such prosperity in the form of expanded markets. Proponents of food irradiation saw the process as a way to make papayas available to countries like Japan, where irradiated food has already appeared on the market. Opponents doubted the market expansion theory and promised near-certain rejection of irradiated papayas on the health-conscious U.S. mainland, which buys up half of the Hawaiian papaya harvest. Opponents also pointed out that the Japanese have largely rejected irradiated produce because of its indelible association with the atomic bomb.

The growers had no way of confirming either set of facts, but the hope for better times made it easier to accept the version of reality that offered the chance to expand their market. It was a frame of mind that pushed the possibility of disaster to the periphery as the potential benefits took center stage. But the risks had a way of creeping back into the spotlight. It was interesting to hear the growers support the new facility with words that downplayed the negative instead of emphasizing the positive. One grower I spoke with gave a single reason for his support of irradiation: "We're all going to have to die anyway at some point. That's how I see it." When I asked him whether he was concerned about con-

 One papaya grower said that risks are a necessary condition of progress, alluding to the space shuttle disaster as unfortunate but the price we pay for achievement.

Denver, Colorado. CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill is also being paid by DOE to develop commercial uses for nuclear weapons waste. While critics wonder whether a firm with such ties can complete the Hawaii feasibility study with objectivity, the company sees no conflict of interest. One spokesman told the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, "I like to think we were selected on the basis of our qualifications."

That was justification enough for the state of Hawaii. Denis Mosgofian relates a conversation he had with an official of the state Department of Planning and Economic Development, which had awarded CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill the feasibility study contract. "CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill has a vested interest in telling you an irradiation facility is feasible," Mosgofian had argued.

"But they're the experts," the official responded. "Who else can we look to?"

splotchy; the irradiated box was remarkably well preserved. It was one of the more indelible images of the afternoon, and it helped set the tone for Garth Tingey and the final speaker, an agricultural researcher and well respected expert on papaya irradiation who assured the audience that irradiated fruit was perfectly safe to eat. "I've probably eaten more irradiated fruit than anyone in the world, and as you can see," he smiled, "I'm perfectly healthy."

By the time the session broke up, it was clear that the last several speakers represented the calm voice of reason. The papaya growers I spoke with fully supported irradiation. One man talked to me at some length about how risks are a necessary condition of progress, alluding to the space shuttle disaster as unfortunate but the price we pay for achievement.

summer rejection, he thought for a moment, then smiled in the direction of the trade association president, and answered, "Talk to Bob Souza about that."

There was a noticeable fraternity at the meeting between state officials, DOE, and CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill. They sat at the same table and clustered together afterwards. I had noticed the same closeness the night before as Garth Tingey, a contractor to DOE, referred to a state official as his "host." If state officials were concerned about at least the appearance of impartiality, one might have expected them to place some distance between themselves and the irradiation advocates. A local reporter who had been following the irradiation story helped me put some of what I was seeing in perspective. Gesturing that we walk out of earshot, he explained that Hawaii's state government is populated largely by Japanese. And just as the Japanese show great deference to the Emperor, so too are Hawaiian bureaucrats more prone than most to defer to the desires of the governor. It was an atmosphere, he suggested, that leads to the creation of political machines. "You won't hear it being talked about, but believe me, the machine is putting everything it can into a food irradiation facility."

### *Sunday evening, September 28*

**T**he machine theory was certainly consistent with the broad support that irradiation had received from the major actors on the island. Even public health officials, who might have been expected to voice some concern about irradiation, had been strangely quiet. Bob Sumner-Mack, M.D., the island's chief medical officer for the state Department of Health, had gone so far in private as to call irradiation "a gift from the devil." But when he was invited by the *Hawaii Tribune-Herald* to write a guest column on the subject, Sumner-Mack limited his discussion to the health effects of eating irradiated food—effects he judged negligible—instead of considering the broader range of potential health problems a facility might pose. When I caught up with him, Sumner-Mack hinted at the strain of working in an environment where political considerations often collide with professional judgment. "You have to remember that the heads of this agency are political appointees. The other doctors and I here in the department spend a great deal of our time trying to educate these people in ways that don't always work, because they have different priorities."

But what was happening in Hawaii had a less conspiratorial explanation as well—that everyone was simply aiming to satisfy their own individual interests. What Denis Mosgofian said was true: by having a food irradiator, the world gains papayas with sterile fruit flies. But there are other benefits to be had, too. The Department of Energy gains a way of reducing a growing pile of nuclear waste. The Department of Defense gains one less constraint on the production of nuclear weapons. Consulting firms like CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill gain lucrative contracts. The papaya industry gains the hope of new prosperity. Bureaucrats gain favor with their department heads by quietly carrying out the will of their superiors. The state medical society, by ducking the action, gains by not being drawn into a difficult and potentially divisive controversy. Irradiation was rolling ahead not because everyone supported it for the same reason, but because a confluence of interests worked in its favor.

With everyone determined to advance their own cause, who would see to it that consumers' interests were served? Who but consumers themselves? Sunday evening, three days after the press conference that began this unlikely odyssey, I drove out to a small town on the edge of Hawaii's volcano district to sit in on a community meeting about irradiation. Bob Sumner-Mack was there. So were the activists. State Rep. Andrew Levin was there, too. Levin, who represents the city of Hilo, told me he was confused by the mixed messages he was getting from the experts. "Groups like the American Medical Association have gone on record as supporting irradiation. The FDA says it's safe and so does the U.N. But when I ask the Nuclear Regulatory Commission what you do in the event of a problem, I can't get them to respond to any of my letters." Levin was at the meeting not in his official capacity, but to learn more about the issue, just like everyone else.

It was a spirited discussion that lasted well into the night. And while it was evident that not all of the island's residents would resist food irradiation, it was also clear that the more people knew about the interests that lay behind the information they were (or were not) receiving, the more irradiation raised disturbing questions. Together the group pondered how to broach the distance between where they stood and where they wanted to be.

One woman who was now planning to approach her state representative was not certain that her message would get across. "How do we make our represen-

tatives listen to us?" she asked. Brion Sprinsock had a ready answer. "Politicians need the public to articulate the political will of the community," he said. "It's their job to represent you, and you help them do their job when you let them know what's on your mind."

As Sprinsock outlined some principles of effective lobbying, something in the room seemed to lighten. The whole irradiation question had arrived on the island with a palpable fatalism. One didn't have to be familiar with machine politics to sense something was awry. If residents suspected that these men were presenting less than the total picture, it was because they were saying what they had to say to win public approval, and believing what they had to believe to convince themselves of the correctness of their mission. In the process, Hawaii was seeing the politics of expediency rather than real democracy. The public meeting, I realized, was simply making the debate more democratic, opening it to a broader spectrum of participants and making sure government worked more the way it was intended to.

Sprinsock said it best when he explained how the coalition plans to handle the feasibility study once it is released later this spring. If the study addresses the full range of issues, Sprinsock feels it will only help the coalition by pointing out genuine areas of concern. If the study contains important omissions, the coalition will expose them. Either way, he said, the coalition will win. "I see the costs and benefits as a scale," he said, gesturing with his hands. "The benefits are much lighter. The only way the irradiation facility will be built is if someone lays a hand on the scale. What we're going to do," he promised, "is take the hand off the scale." □

### Resources

National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation, P.O. Box 59-0488, San Francisco, CA 94159; (415) 566-2734.

East Hawaii Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation, P.O. Box 1559, Pahoa, HI 96778; (808) 935-0604.

Papaya Administrative Committee, Robert A. Souza, Pres., 1100 Ward Ave., Rm. 860, Honolulu, HI 96814; (808) 533-3841.

Food and Drug Administration, Clyde A. Takeguchi, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFF-334), 200 C St. SW, Washington, D.C. 20204; (202) 472-5690.



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## Food Irradiation: 'Genetic Roulette'?

By Jeanne Sharpe, D.C.

APR 6, 1987

Food irradiation has become a reality. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently announced that it is permitting irradiation of fresh fruits and vegetables. Some foods, however, had already been undergoing this process—pork, wheat, potatoes, and more than 60 spices and seasonings. The FDA's rule legalizing irradiation tripled the dose currently permitted to be used on spices.

The FDA approval follows more than 30 years of scientific research and is based on reviews of 441 toxicity studies. Opponents of the process, however, contend there still are too many unknowns to make it safe for the public.

### How Food Irradiation Works

Irradiation is a process in which foods are exposed to gamma rays, roentgenograms (X-rays), or electron bombardment to kill insects, molds, and/or bacteria that can lead to spoilage or disease. The food itself does not become radioactive.

Foods that are to be irradiated are placed on a conveyor belt, which travels into a chamber protected by thick concrete walls. A radioactive source, such as cobalt-60 or cesium-137, a waste product of the nuclear power industry, emits the radioactive rays.

At this time little definitive documentation concerning the long-term safety of this process on humans is available, and little is known about the chemical changes that occur in irradiated food. It has been observed that irradiation of grains and vegetables stimulates the production of highly toxic and carcinogenic toxins, which are 1,000 times more carcinogenic than EDB, a fumigant banned in 1984 by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Irradiation also produces free radical formation, which, in turn, creates radiolytic products. These new molecules can produce cytotoxic substances. In a paper entitled, "Basic Effects of Radiation on Food Matter," H. Glubrecht, of the Institute of Biophysics, noted that formaldehyde has been observed following the irradiation of carbohydrates where oxygen was present. Peroxide formation can be another problem. Benzene can be formed in irradiated beef. Irradiated meats can also produce hydrocarbons, carbonyls, and sulfur compounds. These volatile products can be traced to either fat or

protein, and they are responsible for the somewhat unpleasant odors caused by irradiation.

### Destroys Vitamin Content

Irradiation destroys vitamins, especially vitamin A and its precursor, carotene; it also is a destroyer of vitamin B fractions, vitamin C, and vitamin E. Radiation does not stop oxidative reactions that lead to rancidity in meat, poultry, and fish nor enzymatic reactions in these foods.

Food safety is in question again with regard to the possibility that food irradiation may spawn irradiation-resistant strains of bacteria and viruses. There is also the risk of improperly monitored and calibrated machines, including radioactivity in foods. Because no long-term studies have been done, the final word on the safety of irradiated food is not in, wrote Mark Robinowitz, assistant director of the Health and Energy Institute, a public-interest group concerned with the health effects of radiation, in *The New York Times*, June 1, 1986 (p. F2). Moreover, because irradiation produces scores of compounds, of unknown identity, the harmfulness of the process cannot be fully appraised at this time.

The implications of food irradiation technologies on public health and the environment could be quite serious. The largest subsidizer of food irradiation is the Department of Energy. The Coalition for Food Irradiation is composed of 30 of the largest food-processing companies which stand to create enormous profits from cornering the market on such an expensive and centralized procedure. The DOE has allocated \$5 million of its 1986 budget to promote food irradiation. Among its other responsibilities, the DOE produces all of the nuclear material for nuclear weapons. Cesium-137 is a by-product of processing plutonium for missiles. Thus, food irradiation seems a convenient way to be rid of nuclear waste material.

Manufacturing more cesium-137 presupposes more plutonium which increases already existing problems of storage, handling, transport, and terrorist threat of attack. The two legislators who first introduced the food irradiation bill are from the State of Washington, home of the largest cesium-137 storage site in the country.

(Continued on page 8)



## Keeping Pace



# Bulemia, the Closet Illness

By Jeanne Sharpe, D.C.

**B**ulemia, the binge-purge syndrome, seems in current society to be a problem experienced for the most part by women. It is a desperate attempt to deal with many forms of anxiety, depression, intimacy, stress, and/or loneliness. Being thin, that is, controlling one's weight, is rewarded today and comes to determine closely one's self-worth.

This syndrome has existed since Roman times when huge food orgies took place, followed by vomiting, then eating again. The cycle of this behavior seemed endless, continuing for days.

### The Nature of the Syndrome

Bulemia follows often discrete patterns of binge eating—rapid consumption of food usually in less than two hours. The food is most often high in calories and eating is terminated by abdominal pain, sleep, social interruption, or self-induced vomiting. Laxatives are frequently used, and it is not unusual to observe frequent weight fluctuations of 10 pounds or more.

The bulimic is aware that the eating pattern is abnormal and fears not being able to stop eating voluntarily. Bulimic individuals are preoccupied with food, and depression and guilt follow the binge episodes.

Bulimics indicate that they have a constant and continuous concern about their body size, and they most often perceive their bodies as being ugly and unattractive. As a group, bulimia patients experience a significant amount of fluctuating mood states, impulsive behavior, low frustration tolerance, and high anxiety. They have difficulty with self-esteem and self-criticism.

Bulemia is not viewed solely as an eating disorder, but rather as an extremely rigid pattern of thinking, feeling, and relating to the world. The bulimic's family members tend to manifest some type of enmeshment, overprotectiveness, rigidity, and lack of conflict resolution. There tends to be involvement of the bulimic in parental need issues.

Commonly, not until bingeing has gone on for five or more years does the bulimic patient seek assistance. It takes that long for self-regulation to break down. This amount of time in bingeing and purging takes its toll, and some common abnormalities can result, including metabolic alkalosis, hypochloremia, hypokalemia, edema, kidney dysfunction, and a

predisposition to cardiac abnormalities. Dental cavities and tooth erosion also occur.

### The Role of Food

Food and its preparation and enjoyment is indeed a social event. For bulimics, in particular, food has become an addiction, a source of stress, something to be feared. Food serves as a substitute for the "missing" pleasures in life. It soothes these missing basic needs. A single binge can obliterate an entire week's worth of problems.

Treatment of bulimia is best accomplished in centers that specialize in eating disorders. Cognitive behavioral techniques, group therapy, and journal-keeping all assist in helping the bulimic realize and deal effectively with the underlying emotional causes of this disorder. Family support and understanding are essential. Societal parameters concerning attractiveness and individual feelings of self-worth need to be reevaluated. ▲

## Food Irradiation: 'Genetic Roulette'?

*(Continued from page 1)*

### International Irradiation Symbol

To mark and identify foods that have been irradiated, an international symbol is to be used—a broken circle with a small ball and two leaves in the center (see first page of this issue)—and the words, "treated by radiation" or "treated by irradiation." The first foods to bear this symbol will likely be papayas, nectarines, peaches, strawberries, and melons.

Use of the symbol, however, is suspect, as the FDA has no empirical test to detect irradiated foods.

Among organizations formed to attack food irradiation, is the National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation, whose address is Box 59-0488, San Francisco, CA 94159. In addition, a bill now before the House of Representatives would block implementation of the recent FDA rule until effects of irradiated food on public health and the environment are better understood. The bill, among other things, would also require irradiated ingredients to be labeled. Persons interested should pressure Congress to block the FDA action until more is known about food irradiation.

Food irradiation can be perceived as the fulcrum of the 1980s, uniting peace activists, environmentalists, and nutritionists. Interfering with food, our main life-force, can only result in irreparable consequences to planetary evolution. ▲

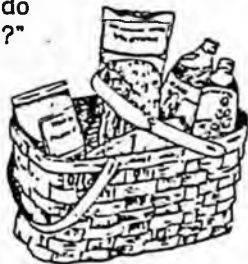
## A GRAIN OF TRUTH

# FOOD POLLUTION

There's a growing perception in this country that much of our food is polluted.

This year even more public pressure will be brought to bear on the 45,000 toxic farm chemicals still in use. "More study is needed" on chemicals like Ethylenebis(dithiocarbamate), a widely used, potentially dangerous fungicide, but most of the people we talk to ask, "What can we do about it today?"

Arrowhead Mills has been doing something about food pollution for more than 20 years. The Golden Rule



applies to our relationship with the land too. Increased yields and profits, brought about by promiscuous use of pesticides, have a price tag we are not willing to pay.

Arrowhead Mills isn't immune from the concerns of residues and unwanted chemicals. That's why we always test what we buy, and why we test our tests too. The quality *Q* on all our products is your assurance that we've done all we can to make sure your food is clean.

Obviously, we recommend one thing you can do about food pollution is buy Arrowhead Mills products. We urge you to purchase from anyone who cares deeply about the purity of the food they sell. Companies like Chico-San, Timber Crest, Heinke, Lundberg and other fine, natural food suppliers, also offer many high quality products.

In our democracy we vote about what's important. The cash register is a powerful ballot box. You cast your vote on food pollution—every time you shop.

Arrowhead Mills, Inc., P.O. Box 2059  
Hereford, Texas 79045 (806) 364-0730

## FDA Approves Irradiation Of Produce

The Food and Drug Administration has approved the use of radiation to treat fresh fruits and vegetables and has tripled the amount of radiation already allowed on herbs and spices.

Irradiating certain foods can extend their shelf life by killing insects and inhibiting spoilage. Under the FDA ruling, fresh fruits and vegetables can be treated with up to 100 kilorads of radiation, and herbs and spices up to 3,000 kilorads. (A dose of 500 rads can be lethal to humans.)

Because it will extend the shelf life of certain foods, the ruling is seen by some as a great service to consumers. Others, however, consider the practice of irradiating foods to be expensive, unsafe and unneeded.

"Irradiation of foods isn't necessary," said Mark Robinowitz of the Washington, D.C.-based Health and Energy Institute. "There's no need to proliferate the production of nuclear waste just to keep strawberries on the shelf an extra three days. It will continue the centralization of the food system and make food more expensive."

Already a bill has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives to block the FDA ruling. Introduced by California Democrat Douglas Bosco, the bill would stop the use of irradiation on fresh fruits, vegetables and pork, return the amount of radiation

permitted on herbs and spices to 1,000 kilorads and require strict labeling of irradiated foods. Under the proposal, labels of processed foods would indicate all irradiated ingredients and restaurants would mark dishes with irradiated foods on their menus.

The labeling of irradiated foods has been a subject of ongoing controversy. Originally, officials favored no labeling at all, then the term "picowaved" was going to be used, and the latest decision is to use the phrases "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation." A further explanation may be added such as "treated with radiation instead of pesticide chemicals to control insect infestation." The labeling will also include a tulip-shaped logo that has become an international symbol indicating that food has been irradiated.

The costs of irradiation have also cast a shadow on its reported consumer benefits. According to a study by the United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association, irradiation will add two to three cents per pound to the cost of produce. It also has been estimated that the cost of building an irradiation facility will be about \$10 million. Robinowitz, however, said this figure is too low.

"That doesn't include the cost of producing isotopes, transporting isotopes to and from processing plants, and the cost of disposing of the isotopes," he said.

## Patients Who List Health Concerns Are Sane

You have a doctor's appointment in a few days and want to clearly communicate your health complaints, so you write a list.

Unfortunately, upon seeing your list, many doctors may think you're emotionally ill. They call it *la maladie du petit papier*, the illness of the little piece of paper.

Believing listers are unfairly stigmatized, Dr. John F. Burnum encourages physicians to let go of their prejudice and open communication channels. "Most notes seem to be written for no devious reasons, because of no lurking Freudian distemper, but because patients and families simply want to get things straight," he wrote in a *New England Journal of Medicine* essay.

In a study at his medical practice, Burnum noted that out of 900 patients during a four-month period, 72 made lists (not including lists of medications). None of these patients, he

said, exhibited emotional disorders.

Many of the listers are habitual list makers. "Many of their lists include shopping items or other self-reminders in addition to medical questions; 'pick up Jane' may follow 'rectal bleeding,'" wrote Burnum, an internist from Tuscaloosa, Ala. The listers tend to be women and in the upper-income bracket. The lists most often contain five or six items and are handwritten.

Some patients told Burnum they organized their thoughts on paper so they would not waste his time.

Burnum believes doctors who dismiss list writers as emotionally unstable may stifle communication and do harm. He concludes, "Patients are free to write lists, to mime or sing their concerns. Medical care turns on communication. Whatever helps patients express themselves and helps physicians understand patients is acceptable."

## IRRADIATED FOOD: A MARKETING HOT POTATO

The FDA has approved use of the process to delay spoilage in fruits and vegetables. But the big food companies are not exactly lining up to irradiate. "A lot of pioneers were shot by the Indians," says a Campbell Soup executive.

By Robert Steyer

**T**he food industry's embrace of radiation to kill pests and microbes and extend product shelf life has all the inner tension of a teenager's first junior-high-school dance. His hormones are in perfect working order, but he doesn't quite know how to ask the girl onto the dance floor.

"When it comes to food irradiation, you've got a lot of companies wanting to be second into the market," says Richard Greenberg, Ph.D., director of scientific public affairs for the Institute of Food Technologists, a professional society of 23,000 food scientists.

"We certainly don't want to be last," says Tony Adams, director of marketing research and planning for the Campbell Soup Company, but adds: "It's important to take a balanced approach to this, because a lot of pioneers were shot by the Indians."

In April, the Food and Drug Administration approved the irradiation of fruits and vegetables, greatly expanding the range of products that may be treated. At the same time, the FDA required conspicuous labels stating that a product has been treated with radiation. The big food producers and processors find radiation's benefits worth pursuing. But they worry about cost, safety, and, most important, consumer acceptance. Food irradiation presents a frustrating, almost frightening, marketing puzzle.

The giant food companies have been prodded by a few Government agencies, the more zealous members of their fraternity, and the few entrepreneurs who earn a living irradiating food and other products. Proponents say low doses of radiation can be used safely, effectively, and—when economies of scale kick in—cheaply.

They trumpet radiation as an alternative to pesticides, herbicides, additives, and preservatives in many foods. They say radiation will delay spoilage, improve U.S. food exports, and help alleviate world hunger by protecting shipments of food for longer periods.

Opponents—primarily consumer groups and some scientists—contend that tests to gauge the long-term effects of eating irradiated foods are inadequate and inconclusive. They say that the proponents' push to irradiate will create nuclear-safety as well as food-safety problems. Implicit in their objections, and sometimes explicit, is the threat of public protests against irradiated products and the companies that make them.

In the midst of the debate are the majority of consumers, who know little about radiation's effects on food or are confused about the conflicting claims. (See box on page 20.) Consumer research tells the companies to forget trying to convert the hard-core opponents—just concentrate education and marketing strategies on that great group of "undecideds."

But first, the companies have to convince themselves. "We have no intention of using irradiation unless it solves a problem that couldn't be solved in any other way," says Val Fischer, director of new technology for General Foods. The United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association, which represents growers, shippers, brokers, and wholesalers, found in a recent poll that 37 percent of its members would not sell irradiated food.

In three decades of mostly Government-sponsored research since President Eisenhower put food preservation in his Atoms for Peace program, food irradiation has remained a minuscule business. In the early 1960s, the FDA approved low-dose radiation treatments for killing insects in wheat and delaying sprouting in white pota-

the fruit, an overdose can cause rind damage, uneven ripening, or faster spoilage.

Doses are measured in rads—an amount of energy absorbed from radiation. A kilorad (1,000 rads) represents about 100,000 times the dose a human would receive from a normal chest X-ray. The FDA permits maximum doses of 100 kilorads for pork, fruits, and vegetables, and up to 3,000 kilorads for spices.

**T**he fact that the FDA is making more foods eligible for irradiation does not push the intense scientific debate off center stage—even though such organizations as the American Medical Association and the World Health Organization endorse low doses for certain foods. When the FDA announced its fruit, vegetable, and labeling regulation in April, it said that only five of the 441 surveys it had reviewed had been properly conducted. The agency threw out some tests claiming that food irradiation was safe. It also rejected studies asserting that radiation caused increased tumors in rats, lower weight in dogs, fewer offspring in fruit flies, and chromosome damage in humans.

The FDA said that the five approved tests "indicate no adverse effects" from irradiated foods fed to animals. Dr. Sanford Miller, director of the FDA's center for food safety and applied nutrition, says the agency relied on chemistry tests more than animal studies. He says that force-feeding animals enormous amounts of any food—irradiated or not—can yield unusual results. "We're not worried about low doses," he says.

The FDA does not have to prove a product's absolute safety; the law says that's impossible. Safety requires competent scientists to establish a "reasonable certainty" that a food additive is "not harmful under intended conditions of use." That does not mollify such public-interest groups as the Environmental Policy Institute and the Health & Energy Institute, which want more long-term animal-feeding tests. They cite discredited tests as a reason for the FDA to go slowly. For example, they note that the agency allowed irradiation of canned bacon in 1963 based on Army research. Five years later the FDA rescinded the approval, saying that the tests had been improperly structured and sloppily conducted. The research was so bad that the FDA even dismissed comments by critics, who used the Army data to claim that irradiated foods caused problems. The FDA decision dis-

couraged a group of private companies from building a pilot meat-irradiation plant.

Even some food executives would feel more comfortable with more tests on specific products. "I want to make sure there are no problems with taste or consistency or toxicology," says the food-science director of a large food company. He says that foods with high protein or fat contents raise the most questions. "Once I get past my concerns, I think the future for irradiated foods is excellent," he says.

The ideal test has never been done, nor is it likely to be done, says Dr. John W. Gofman, professor emeritus of medical physics at the University of California at Berkeley. In a 1984 letter to the FDA, Gofman, who is often quoted by critics, said that a test should control the diets of 200,000 people of various age groups for 30 years and follow their health histories for at least 50 years—preferably for their whole lives. Gofman said in the letter that he had no objection to the sale of irradiated food so long as it was clearly labeled as such.

The scientific combatants, who often interpret the same test data differently, clash over several issues:

□ Critics say that radiation passing through foods causes "unique radiolytic products"—changes in chemicals that could turn into carcinogens. Radiation supporters say that radiation is less troublesome than charcoal broiling. The FDA says it found no evidence that radiation could cause harmful chemical changes at the dosage levels it has approved.

□ Critics say radiation diminishes the nutritional value of food. The FDA responds that its analysis of medical literature shows "no nutritional differences" between untreated foods and products treated at FDA-approved levels.

□ Several studies done in India in the 1970s indicated that radiation spurs the production of aflatoxin, which is produced by spores and mold and is 1,000 times more carcinogenic than the chemical ethylene dibromide (EDB), banned in the United States. Supporters say that the aflatoxin was caused by other sources. The FDA says that the studies "did not replicate normal food handling practice" and that aflatoxin cannot be cited as a radiation problem.

□ Irradiation could produce mutant or radiation-resistant bacteria, say the critics. The FDA says that mutant bacteria produced during food irradiation "are essentially the same as those that occur naturally." It concedes that "specific conditions and indiscriminate irradiation" could

**"We have no intention of using radiation unless it solves a problem that can't be solved in any other way," says Val Fischer of General Foods.**

chicken and pork irradiation are far exceeded by the benefits of preventing deaths, disease, medical costs, and lost wages caused by the bacteria and parasites in these products. The authors say, however, that they did not measure the costs of transportation, radioactive-waste disposal, and promotion, or the "unforeseen health effects of consuming irradiated foods." The report did not compare irradiation with other treatments.

**W**hen the FDA ruled in April that irradiated foods must bear labels reading "Treated with radiation" or "Treated by irradiation," many food companies and radiation firms worried about consumers' reactions. They wanted no label, or a more innocuously worded label, or just the symbol used in some foreign countries—an abstract flower design encased in a circle.

A study by the Department of Energy and the National Pork Producers Council reported that "irradiation" triggered the most concern of seven labels shown consumers. The United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association said its members considered mandatory labeling the biggest problem in selling irradiated food. A study for the Commerce Department's National Marine Fisheries Service warned that a mandatory label "could not only be misleading, it could be dangerous." And the Department of Health and Human Services, to which the FDA reports, wanted a label saying that the food was "picowaved," a term describing one one-trillionth of a meter on the electromagnetic spectrum. Industry members, who liked this term, said it was as easy to understand as "microwave."

The FDA rejected all the euphemisms. It said that "picowave" was not commonly used within the scientific community or industry. Any confusion created by a label, the agency said, "can be corrected by proper [industry-sponsored] consumer education." The labels could even include such explanations as "treated with radiation to kill pests."

Much confusion surrounds the labeling issue. If a spice producer sells an irradiated retail product, he must label it. If the same producer sells an irradiated spice to a food company, which uses it in a frozen pizza, then the pizza producer does not need a label. What about the producer of mixed-fruit preserves who uses irradiated strawberries? What about the maker of frozen chicken dinners who uses irradiated peas? The FDA will make case-by-case determinations.

The discrepancy between "first generation"

(retail items requiring a label) and "second generation" products fuels opponents' criticism. "There could be some emotional backlash if consumers feel that the companies are hiding something from them," says Gidwani.

The regulations allow producers to put labels on point-of-purchase counter signs or bulk containers when it is not feasible to label individual items of unpackaged irradiated foods. Wholesalers must clearly label products so that foods are not zapped twice. That encircled flower logo will accompany all labels; and the FDA will decide in two years whether to drop the words and keep only the symbol.

Some radiation proponents protested the label regulation, and one threatened to petition the FDA to overrule it, but most food companies appear to offer grudging acceptance. "This won't make marketing any easier," says one executive, "but we might as well call a spade a spade."

With consumers confused, costs a major question mark, and scientific debate raging, no wonder the big companies don't want to talk about their goals or test-marketing. Food companies are not even sure whether they want to do their own treatments. They must balance the desire to control the technique against the costs and potentially damaging public relations if they are cited for safety violations.

Charles J. Bauman, senior vice president of Dole Fresh Fruit, says it would cost \$2 million to \$5 million annually to run a radiation facility. "It's very hard right now, given all the problems, like consumer acceptance, to see any cost benefit," he says.

Lee S. Harrow, Ph.D., corporate technical director for the H.J. Heinz Company, says that "tremendous volumes" of food would be needed to justify the company's building its own unit. "We would lower our capital expenses by having the treatment contracted out," he says. "That's the normal practice in Europe." As with companies to which Heinz contracts the packing of its foods, Harrow says, Heinz would insist in any contract with an irradiator on conducting periodic inspections.

"If we leave it to the large companies, it may never happen," says Martin Welt, Ph.D., founder and chairman of Radiation Technology Inc. Welt is an indefatigable promoter of food irradiation and has initiated many successful food petitions to the FDA. Welt says he will sell pork under his own brand name, Picofresh, as soon as he gets the requisite approvals from several Federal agencies. "All we ask is an opportunity to

The gamma rays pass through the food without leaving any residue, much as X-rays pass through the body.

## Can Consumers Be Convinced?

**M**arket research shows that consumers are not necessarily unwilling to try irradiated products; they're simply unsure and uninformed. Researchers agree that companies should stress the benefits of irradiation rather than get tangled in technical explanations of the process. Follow those guidelines, says Bahar Gidwani, an analyst with Kidder Peabody, and food irradiation could become a \$1 billion business by the mid-1990s.

"If it's presented as a choice to irradiate or not irradiate, almost nobody will think it's a great idea," says Tony Adams of Campbell Soup, who likens the radiation debate to the water-fluoridation controversy. "You have to get over the irrational response, and you have to build a foundation of understanding."

Market researchers say informed consumers are less apprehensive and more willing to sample irradiated products. Researchers emphasize the need for finely honed, carefully monitored education programs, especially aimed at women. A 1984 Kidder Peabody survey reported that 42 percent of the men, but only 16 percent of the women, would buy irradiated products. Women were more undecided about buying even when they were told that the food would cost no more than regular food and stay fresh longer.

A private research firm, commissioned by the National Marine Fisheries Service, found that consumers can be divided into rejectors (5 percent to 10 percent), acceptors (25 percent to 30 percent), and undecideds (55 percent to 60 percent). The percentages represent consumers' acceptance, based on a description of the technique and how radiation affects foods. When the pollsters described the benefits of irradiation to another group, without delving into the technology, the acceptor score shot up to 72 percent and the rejector tally stayed at 6 percent. Sell the product, the survey concluded, not the process.

A private study for the Department of Energy and the National Pork Producers Council suggests that education can convert some people but may increase the doubts of others. The survey asked opinions about food

irradiation and classified respondents as those with "major," "minor," or "no" concerns, and undecideds. Then researchers explained the attributes of food irradiation and reexamined the groups' attitudes.

In the major-concern class, 9 percent said their fears were alleviated, 3 percent became undecided, and 25 percent said they had minor concerns; the rest retained their major concern. Of those who at first had expressed minor concerns, 20 percent said they had no problems, 3 percent were undecided, and 24 percent developed major concerns.

Among the undecideds, 13 percent expressed no concern, 38 percent developed major concerns, and 22 percent had minor concerns. Of those who had said they had no concern, nearly 40 percent developed major or minor concerns. Researchers speculated that the interviews were less convincing than a consumer-education program would be.

Several studies suggest that companies market the benefits of irradiated foods as an alternative to foods treated with chemicals—an opinion shared by many food executives. The National Marine Fisheries Service study, however, warns against making a hard-sell comparison implying that chemicals are bad. Consumers' stated preference for irradiated foods over chemically treated products, the study says, reflects an anti-chemical rather than pro-radiation stand.

Surveys found other strong selling points: the absence of radiation in foods, the fact that irradiated foods have been fed to patients with immunological disorders, and the appeal to ease world hunger. Some radiation supporters consider the hunger issue to be weak. "A lot of world hunger benefits are overstated," says Richard Greenberg, a food scientist. "Solving world hunger is more of a distribution question than a supply question. They need roads, trucks, and a distribution system." The surveys did not mention whether well-fed Americans who support irradiation to help world hunger would buy the products themselves.

—R.S.



to be shut down, they were still irradiating liver meal for dog food, court records also showed.

Nor is International Nutrition's case unique. Radiation Technology, in New Jersey, hasn't been indicted for any wrongdoing, but it has been cited for 32 NRC violations between 1970 and 1984. In an investigation early in '86, the NRC found that the firm endangered workers by willfully circumventing a safety-lock system. Their license was suspended. Last summer, after the firm took several corrective actions, including barring the chairman (who had resigned) from any further involvement, the NRC restored the license. Meanwhile, the Justice Department has launched a criminal investigation. —Janice Horowitz



mum fine that was possible: \$36,000.

"This is not just a slap on the wrist," says appeals chief Samuel Moulthrop of the U.S. Department of Justice. "It is the first time an irradiation executive has been convicted on a criminal charge for violating

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulations."

When water contaminated with cobalt-60 leaked from the plant, court records show, the company didn't notify the NRC, as

required. Instead, to cover up—and fool inspectors—it put lead wool in walls and floors, and covered hot spots with telephone poles. Cleanup workers weren't given safety suits—just mops.

The company was also shown to be irradiating cocoa, a food not approved for the process. (So far, the FDA has sanctioned irradiation of wheat, potatoes, onions, spices and, more recently, a wide array of fresh produce.)

And while they pretended

#### Cover-Up

### Nuclear Greengrocers

*Irradiation may be safe for food—but not for the environment*

The nuclear firms that irradiate foods may not be the kind of people you want handling your potatoes.

The issue isn't just whether irradiated foods are safe to eat, though that debate continues. It's the irradiators themselves.

In December 1986, an executive of the California firm International Nutrition was convicted on a felony charge and put on two years' probation for concealing a 1982 spill in its Dover, NJ, plant. The sentencing judge also imposed on the firm the maxi-

American Health  
Feb 1987

Produce and pork can be treated with radiation before marketing, but consumers are leery

■ Imagine sinking your teeth into a feast of irradiated pork chops, asparagus zapped with gamma rays and, for dessert, strawberries à la cobalt 60.

Yummy or not, it's an American menu of tomorrow—if some federal officials and food processors get their way.

Radiation is being touted by the nuclear industry and food companies as a safe alternative to chemical pesticides and a way to kill parasites like trichina found in some swine herds.

The Food and Drug Administration in April approved its use on fruits, vegetables and fresh pork, and the U.S. Agriculture Department wants the FDA to authorize it for poultry as a way of controlling salmonella, bacteria that kill 2,000 Americans yearly.

Sometime this fall, in a limited-market test of consumer acceptance, a few stores will begin selling radiation-treated pota-

# Irradiated food: Is it safe?

atoes sufficient strength, could cause cancer. But advocates contend that cooking can create as many food toxins.

"The health effects of food irradiation are simply unknown," asserts Dr. John Gofman, professor emeritus of medical physics at the University of California at Berkeley. He says an enormous human experiment lasting 20 years would be needed for a definitive answer.

Public concerns over safety extend to the handling of radioactive cobalt used

exposures in the past 20 years. And because no nuclear core is involved, it is impossible for a meltdown to occur.

The food-treatment process is simple. Foods put on a conveyor belt pass near a concrete-and-lead-shielded chamber housing the radioactive source, typically cobalt. Emitted gamma rays destroy insects and bacteria. Higher doses—generally above those allowed by the FDA—also could extend the shelf life of perishables. The process does not work on all foods: It causes leafy vegetables to lose their green color, grapes to become soft and bananas to develop brown spots.

Americans have been eating some irradiated ingredients for the past three years, including dried spices used in some prepared foods such as frozen pizza and cookies. But authorities say less than 1 percent of the spices consumed in the U.S. are treated this way.

The labeling of irradiated food is nearly as controversial as its safety. Surveys show most shoppers would not buy produce labeled as irradiated. However, the FDA plans in two years to drop its rule that foods display the phrase "treated with radiation." Instead, it will continue to require only an international symbol for irradiation—a broken black circle and geometric design—used in countries such as Japan and Holland, where irradiated food has been sold for several years.

Consumer groups are charging that shoppers are kept in the dark because prepared foods that include irradiated ingredients are not required to be labeled. Mark Rosengarden of the National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation complains: "I don't want my 3½-year-old son eating irradiated food, and there's no way of keeping it out of his mouth."

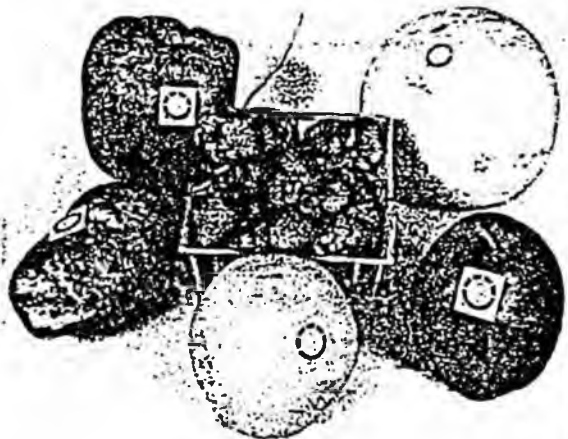
"This industry will develop slowly," says Bahar Gidwani, a stock analyst at Kidder, Peabody & Company. By the year 2000, though, some promoters envision hundreds of irradiation plants sending such perishables as mangoes to Min-

nesota and fresh shrimp to South Dakota, and irradiation rivaling canning as a way to preserve foods. Predicts Gidwani: "Within a decade, we'll see every food processor worth his salt in this industry." ■

by Peter Dvorhin

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

Aug 11 '86



■ These fruits and vegetables are good candidates for gamma-ray treatment to kill insects



□ FDA approval of process draws protest from the National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation

atoes or onions in the Pacific Northwest. The industry will keep locations secret for fear of protesters. And there's the hitch. FDA rule making on irradiation has drawn more mail from worried consumers than any issue in recent times. Resolutions urging a ban on irradiation or stricter labeling have been introduced in at least six states. Faced with rising opposition, the food industry is taking a wait-and-see attitude before pushing treated meats and produce to market.

The process leaves no radiation residue on food, and agencies from the FDA to the World Health Organization say that foods exposed to low doses are safe for human consumption. However, the subject is shrouded in fear and scientific unknowns. The few tests of irradiated food on people have been brief, and critics charge that not enough reliable animal studies have been done. Irradiation does break down chemical bonds in food, potentially creating toxins that, in

the process. In June, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission accused Radiation Technology, Inc.—which had planned to sell irradiated pork, asparagus, avocados and mangoes this summer—of lying to investigators about disconnecting a safety lock on a radiation room door. The firm's license at its Rockaway, N.J., plant was yanked, and the company now faces possible criminal prosecution. Another irradiation firm, International Nutronics, Inc., was indicted on charges of conspiring to cover up a 1982 accident in which radioactive water seeped into soil at its Dover, N.J., plant.

Defenders of the technology contend that the 45 U.S. irradiation plants now used to sterilize medical instruments have a fairly clean safety record. Only two workers have been injured through accidental

Plant safety also is a concern



## Food Fight over Gamma Rays

*Critics bombard irradiation as a preservative*

To Michael Fey, it is the "most important advance in dietary health since the invention of pasteurization." To Denis Moskofian, it is the "massacre of the American food supply." Fey, a food scientist, works for a company called Radiation Technology. Moskofian is director of the National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation. The two men are talking—yelling, really—about one of the most emotional health issues of the 1980s: the use of irradiation as a preservative. The mixing of gamma rays with edibles has set off a nuclear food-chain reaction, releasing high rhetoric, short tempers and mass uncertainty.

The Food and Drug Administration approved the process for harvested wheat and potatoes more than 20 years ago; dried spices and slaughtered pork were added to the list in the 1980s. Last April the agency gave the go-ahead for irradiating fruits and vegetables, and a furor erupted. Despite the FDA's consent, the process until now has been used mainly to preserve herbs and spices. But last week gamma ray-treated fruit made its first U.S. appearance when Lorenzo's Farmer's Market in North Miami Beach began offering irradiated Puerto Rican mangoes. The FDA is now considering whether to extend approval to fish and poultry. Nineteen other countries have also endorsed irradiation for a wide array of foodstuffs.

The method, which like radiology was developed around the turn of the century, is simple: food passes through a lead-shielded concrete chamber where radioactive cobalt 60 or cesium 137 bombards it with gamma rays, killing insects and bacteria and sometimes slowing ripening. The food does not become radioactive. "There's nothing in common at all between a nuclear reactor like Chernobyl and an irradiator," says Karl Abraham, a spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). "It's like comparing bananas to tigers. Treated food can be immediately eaten," says George Giddings, director of food irradiation at Isomedix.

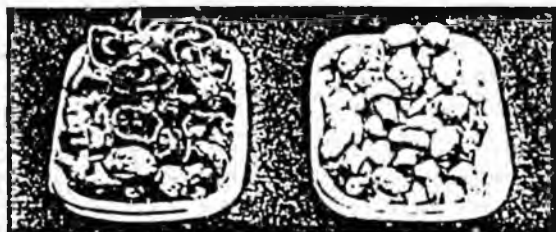
Supporters claim that gamma-ray exposure offers an alternative to controversial pesticides, fumigants and preservatives, and protects human health by killing parasites like

trichina worms in pork and bacteria like salmonella, which causes food poisoning. Irradiation, they note, can extend shelf life. "We see the day when you can go into a supermarket and buy a barbecued chicken that has been cooked, vacuum-packed and irradiated. It can sit on the shelf for eight years, and all you'll have to do is heat it up," predicts Physicist Martin Welt, founder of Radiation Technology.



Giving treated mangoes the once-over at Lorenzo's in North Miami Beach

Critics bombard irradiation with objections. It can be expensive, adding as much as 5¢ a lb. to the price of some fresh produce. Since it can be used only on harvested crops, pesticides will still be needed in the fields. Moreover, say opponents, the low level of radioactivity set by the FDA for produce (100 kilorads) is not strong enough to slow the ripening of most fruits and vegetables. Plant Biologist Noel Sommer of the University of California at Davis has concluded that 200 kilorads is needed to retard the growth of gray mold on picked strawberries, and at that level the berries turn squishy. Other claimed advantages may have drawbacks. Irradiation "can kill the organisms that produce the signals and odors that warn people



Nonirradiated and irradiated test mushrooms  
*As great as pasteurization, or a dietary massacre?*

they are eating spoiled food," cautions Leonard Solon, director of New York City's Bureau for Radiation Control. "But it may not be able to kill the bacteria that cause food poisoning."

Still more debate centers around safety concerns. Adversaries contend that the treatment changes the chemical composition of food and can create carcinogens, such as benzene, formaldehyde and substances called unique radiolytic products (URPs). Those who favor the process respond that the quantities of toxic chemicals are minute, that they occur naturally (like benzene in eggs), and that some cooking methods—frying, for example—also generate small amounts of carcinogens. As for the URPs, they are not new creations at all, says the FDA, but simply existing chemicals that have not been detected before in the human diet. "There's no food that is completely known," points out FDA Biochemist Clyde Takeguchi. "You can't identify everything that's in an apple. The basis for establishing safety is not absolute safety. It's reasonable safety."

Security is at the heart of another charge. Noting that the Department of Energy plans to help build demonstration food-irradiation plants in Oklahoma, Iowa, Hawaii, Florida, California and Washington, opponents complain that the resulting spread of radioactive material will increase the chances of mishaps during transport, use and disposal. Nor has the supervision of existing irradiation plants been reassuring. The NRC acknowledges that it may inspect a facility only once in three years. Radiation Technology's license to operate a New Jersey plant was recently suspended for two months after the NRC found that company officials tried to hide a safety violation. Next month International Nutrition goes on trial for, among other things, flushing radioactive water into the sewage system of Dover, N.J.

The controversy seems headed for a congressional showdown. California Democrat Douglas Bosco is pushing a House bill, with 39 co-sponsors, to void the FDA's approval of irradiation for pork, fruits and vegetables. The industry's supporters, however, are convinced that they will prevail. Says Physicist Welt: "It took 50 years for canned food to be accepted by your grandmother. It took frozen food 20 years to be accepted by your mother. It will take the housewives of today five years to accept irradiated food."

—By Anastasia Toulfox.  
Reported by Janice M. Horowitz/New York  
and Dick Thompson/Washington

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE**

Bill Version : SS SJR 33  
Publish Date : \_\_\_\_\_

REQUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Labeling of irradiated food  
Sponsor: Kerttula  
Requestor: Senate State Affairs

Agency Affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
BRU: \_\_\_\_\_  
Components: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>CAPITAL</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>

**FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)**

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>						

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS :**

Prepared by: Senate State Affairs Phone: 465-4522  
Division: *[Signature]* Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved by Chairman Mitch Abood X Date: 4/22/87  
Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

**Distribution (by preparer):**

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)
- Senate Secretary

SJR

62

STATE OF ALASKA  
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: SJR No. 62  
PUBLISH DATE: 2/10/88

REQUEST: FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date:  
Title: Relating to making state facilities and national parks  
accessible  
Sponsor: Faiks  
Requestor

Agency Affected:  
BRU:

DOT&PF

Components:

Engineering &  
Operations Standards

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTURAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)


GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

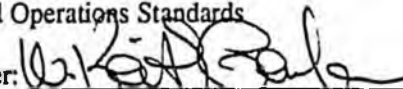
FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The department fully supports and endorses this resolution. See attached analysis sheet for assumptions and further discussions

Prepared by:  Rod Wilson, Design Mngr. II  
Division: Engineering and Operations Standards

Phone: 465-2951  
Date: 3/4/88

Approved by Commissioner:   
Agency: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Date: 3/4/88

Distribution (by preparer):  
Legislative Finance  
Legislative Sponsor  
Requestor  
Office of Management and Budget  
Impacted Agency(ies)

**Fiscal Note Analysis For:**

Resolution No. 62 pertaining to handicapped accessibility to national parks and visitor facilities.

**Prepared by:**

Rod Wilson, Engineering and Operations Stnds., DOT&PF  
3/3/88

**Assumptions concerning construction costs:**

- (1) It is assumed that all, accessibility improvements to national parks in Alaska shall be funded from federal sources.
- (2) Special funding for accessibility improvements to state owned parks and tourist oriented facilities is not anticipated under the scope of this resolution.
- (3) It is assumed that all accessibility improvements to state owned or leased facilities will occur in conjunction with otherwise funded construction or maintenance activities.

**Discussion concerning the examination of ways to improve access:**

With the passage of SB 118 by the Legislature in 1987 the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities was authorized to :

"...determine the extent of, and adopt regulations setting the standards for access to and use of the public building or facility...if the standards...are not provided for in federal law, regulation, or standards."

In response, the department has developed draft regulations, conformance procedures, and design criteria applicable to (among other facilities) boat harbor and docking facilities, public trails, parks and playgrounds, campgrounds and picnic areas, ski facilities, safe water facilities, and documents available to other agencies that design recreation facilities such as the Division of Parks, Department of Natural Resources.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: SJR 62 Relating to making State facilities available to visitors.  
Sponsor: Faiks  
Requestor: Senate HESS

Agency Affected: Natural Resources  
BRU: \_\_\_\_\_  
Components: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING						

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

An examination of state facilities for visitor accesibility may have fiscal impact; however, passage of this resolution will have no fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Lawrence Z. Ostrovsky Phone: 465-2400  
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 3/7/88

Approved by Commissioner: Denise Gorsuch Date: 3/7/88  
Agency: Department of Natural Resources

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance  
Legislative Sponsor  
Requestor  
Office of Management and Budget  
Impacted Agency(ies)

SR

10

*Elden Mulder*  
3822

COMMITTEE BILL FILE WORK-UP ON:

Bill #: SR210 AIDS Prevention Committee  
Sponsor: Killey  
Room #: 1 / Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 Receive Original Bill and Log In.
- ✓ 2 Duplicate Work Copies for Committee File and Senator's File.
- ✓ 3 File Original Bill in Special Locking File.
- ✓ 4 Set-Up Weekly Schedule of Hearings (2 Weeks in Advance if possible).
- ✓ 5 Notify Senate Secretary (5 Day Rule Applies - Allows Time to Get it Printed in Journal). A Copy of the Committee Agenda is Sufficient.
- ✓ 6 Move Work File to "Active" File Drawer.
- ✓ 7 Notify the Following Persons of the Hearing Date:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

*9/20*

✓ Josephson 4781  
✓ Jones 3743  
✓ Kerttula 3771  
✓ Halford 4450

DEPARTMENT LIAISONS:

<u>Administration</u>	<u>Michael McMullin</u>	2200
<u>Commerce &amp; Econ Dev</u>	<u>Becky Bear</u>	2504
<u>Community &amp; Reg Affairs</u>	<u>Doug Griffin</u>	4750
<u>Corrections</u>	<u>Bill Ladwig</u>	3376
<u>Education-Leg</u>	<u>Steve Hole</u>	2800
<u>Education-Budget</u>	<u>Mary Hockela</u>	2800
<u>Environ Conservation</u>	<u>Mark Thorson</u>	2621
<u>Fish &amp; Game</u>	<u>Roland Shanks</u>	4100
<u>Health &amp; Social Services</u>	<u>Randall Burns</u>	3030
<u>Labor</u>	<u>Brian Braley</u>	2700
<u>Law</u>	<u>Dick Pegues</u>	3672
<u>Military Affairs</u>	<u>Dick Rountree</u>	4600
<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>Sharon Barton</u>	2406
<u>Post-Secondary Ed</u>	<u>Kerry Romesbury</u>	2854
<u>Public Safety</u>	<u>Jos Mapranath</u>	4336
<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Royce Weller</u>	2300
<u>Transportation</u>	<u>Susan Fleischhauer</u>	3900
<u>Court System</u>	<u>Bob Fisher</u>	264-0545
<u>Legislative Affairs</u>	<u>Pam Stoops</u>	3852
<u>U of A (FBKS)</u>	<u>Brian Rogers</u>	474-7593
	<u>Bob Evans</u>	3500

BILL SPONSOR(S):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE:

*9/25*

*Robinson*

*3500*

Mike Nizich 3616  
Candy Griffin 3500  
Equal Emp Opp  
Human Rights  
Chris Callahan  
Women's Com 561-4227

- 8 Request Back-Up Information from Bill Sponsor As Soon As Possible.
- 9 Request Witness Roster of Persons the Sponsor Has Notified or Desires to Have Notified.
- ✓ *9/25* 10 If First Committee of Referral, Request Fiscal Note from Pertinent Department Liaison(s) for each bill change (ie. SS, CS etc) - (5 Day Rule Applies).

WITNESS ROSTER WORK SHEET

SR10 - AIDS Prevention Committee

Bill # Title

Date of Hearing

1. Name: Elizabeth Ward, #  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: 3690  
Representing: Dept of Health Title: Dir.
2. Name: Israh Boessen  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: 586-5271  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_
12. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

FIRST COMMITTEE OF REFERRAL

Date of 2/18/87 5-DAY NOTICE  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNIFORM RULE 23

FURTHER:

\*\*FISCAL NOTE(S) ATTACHED 1 \*\*  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 24.08.035  
(see below)  
2/5/87

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE 2/27/87

Mr. President:

HESS

Committee considered SR 10

Establishing a Senate Special Committee on AIDS Prevention.

and recommended:

[ ] replace with CS \_\_\_\_\_ - [ ] same title  
[ ] new title

[ ] attached amendment(s) and

[X] do pass

[ ] do not pass

[ ] no recommendation

~~[ ]~~ individual recommendations

[ ] further referral to \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] letter of intent adopted and attached

\*\* Committee [X] attached or [ ] adopted fiscal note(s)  
zero [ ] fiscal impact

MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Lee Jones*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*J. K. Hall*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Hess PAT 3dp*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*FN Pub 3/2*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*TO RIS*  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Paul d. Fink Do Pass*  
Chairman signature and recommendation

[ ] Committee Backup Attached

# **CORRECTION**

**THIS DOCUMENT  
HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED  
TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY**

*Eden Mulder*  
3822

COMMITTEE BILL FILE WORK-UP ON:

Bill #: SR210 AIDS Prevention Committee  
Sponsor: Kelly  
Room #: 1 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 Receive Original Bill and Log In.
- 2 Duplicate Work Copies for Committee File and Senator's File.
- 3 File Original Bill in Special Locking File.
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- 5 Notify Senate Secretary (5 Day Rule Applies - Allows Time to Get it Printed in Journal). A Copy of the Committee Agenda is Sufficient.
- 6 Move Work File to "Active" File Drawer.
- 7 Notify the Following Persons of the Hearing Date:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

*9/25*

- Josephson 4781
- Jones 3743
- Kerttula 3771
- Halford 445

DEPARTMENT LIAISONS:

- Administration
- Commerce & Econ Dev
- Community & Reg Affairs
- Corrections
- Education-Leg
- Education-Budget
- Environ Conservation
- Fish & Game
- Health & Social Services
- Labor
- Law
- Military Affairs
- Natural Resources
- Post-Secondary Ed
- Public Safety
- Revenue
- Transportation
- Court System
- Legislative Affairs
- U of A (FBKS)

- Michael McMullin 2200
- Becky Bear 2504
- Doug Griffin 4750
- Bill Ladwig 3376
- Steve Hole 2800
- Mary Hockela 2800
- Mark Thorson 2621
- Roland Shanks 4100
- Randall Burns 3030
- Brian Braley 2700
- Dick Pegues 3672
- Dick Rountree 4600
- Sharon Barton 2406
- Kerry Ramesbury 2854
- Jos Mapranath 4336
- Royce Weller 2300
- Susan Fleischhauer 3900
- Bob Fisher 264-0545
- Pam Stoops 3852
- Brian Rogers 474-7593
- Bob Evans 3500

*9/25*  
*Slig used*  
*3090*

BILL SPONSOR(S):

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE:

*9/25*  
*Request Robinson*  
*3500*

- Mike Nizich 3616
- Candy Griffin 3500
- Equal Emp Opp
- Human Rights
- Chris Callahan
- Women's Com 561-4227

- 8 Request Back-Up Information from Bill Sponsor As Soon As Possible.
- 9 Request Witness Roster of Persons the Sponsor Has Notified or Desires to Have Notified.
- 10 If First Committee of Referral, Request Fiscal Note from Pertinent Department Liaison(s) for each bill change (ie. SS, CS etc) - (5 Day Rule Applies).

*9/25*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 11 *If Necessary, Prepare or Request Sectional Analysis from Legal (3867) when pertinent for each change (ie. SS, CS etc). This is Pretty Much a Judgement Call.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12 *Research and Prepare Back-Up Material as Necessary.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13 *Prepare Committee Files (8 Copies: 1 ea for: Committee Members, Committee Aide, Senate Pool Secretary).*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14 *Prepare 10-15 Copies of All Documents to Hand Out to Public During the Hearing (ie. Bill, Short Synopsis, Others at Sponsor's Request).*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15 *Distribute Committee Agenda (Schedule).*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16 *If Requested, Provide Files As Soon As Possible On the Day of the Hearing. Otherwise, Provide the Files at the Beginning of the Hearing in the Committee Room.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17 *When the Bill Passes Out of Committee Complete Green Cover Sheet Including*  
*Date of 5-Day Notice*  
*Date Turned Into the Senate Secretary's Office*  
*Signatures & Recommendations*  
*Attach a Copy of the Fiscal Note(s)*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18 *Copy Green Cover Sheet to File.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19 *Turn in To Senate Secretary's Office.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20 *Maintain Completed Committee's Aide Copy in File to be Filed in Archives at the End of the Session.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21 *Make Sure That Each Senator Has Possession of His/Her Personal File to be Disposed of at the End of the Session.*