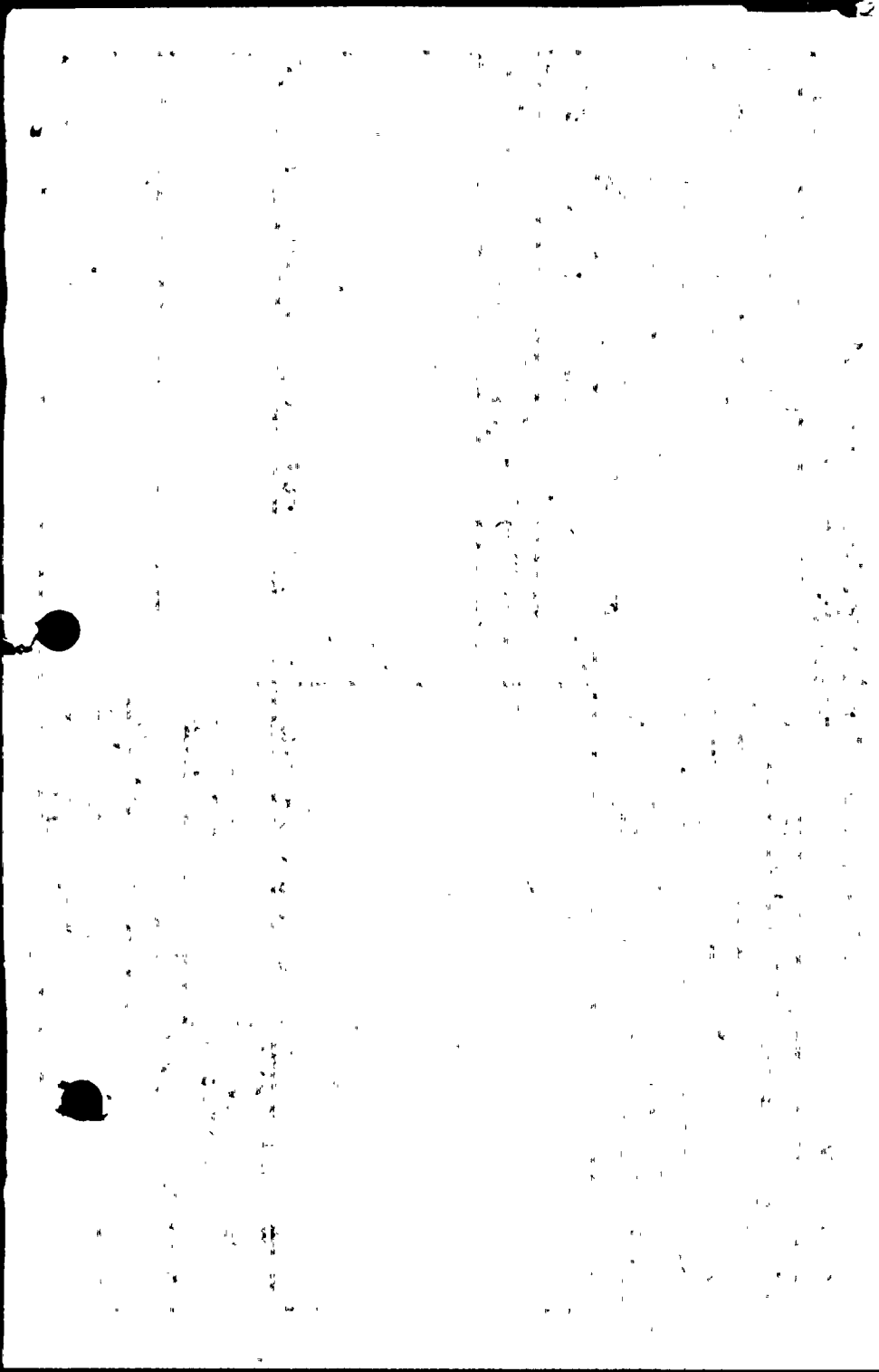


FROM: Mike McCormack, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy Research, Development & Construction, U.S. House of Representatives		ACTION CONTROL	DATES	CONTROL NO.
TO: Cesar Stradiotto, EDO (referred to EDO 6/29/76)		COMPL DEADLINE	5/12/76	00272
DESCRIPTION <input type="checkbox"/> LETTER <input type="checkbox"/> MEMO <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER Let for Rep. William Robinson (D-IL) to Mike McCormack dated 3/22/76 re leaks in the fuel pits at the Turkey Point plant Encl: clipping		ACKNOWLEDGMENT	6/29/76	DATE OF DOCUMENT
		INTERIM REPLY		Recd 6/26/76
		FINAL REPLY		PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF:
		FILE LOCATION		<input type="checkbox"/> CHAIRMAN <input type="checkbox"/> EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OTHER: _____
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS		LETTER Return newspaper article Copy sent PDF		
CLASSIFIED DATA				
DOCUMENT/COPY NO.		CLASSIFICATION		
NUMBER OF PAGES		CATEGORY		
POSTAL REGISTRY NO.		<input type="checkbox"/> NSI <input type="checkbox"/> RD <input type="checkbox"/> FRD		
ASSIGNED TO:	DATE	INFORMATION ROUTING	LEGAL REVIEW	<input type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input type="checkbox"/> COPY
re:genas	4/21/76	ischo ✓ Bechtel Files 57-250 222 20-251	ASSIGNED TO:	DATE
JCAE NOTIFICATION RECOMMENDED:			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	





UNITED STATES
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

APR 26 1976

Mr. Carlton Kammerer, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, NW.
Washington, D.C. 20555

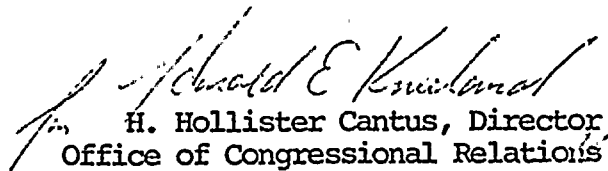
Dear Mr. Kammerer:

Enclosed is correspondence from Dr. Thomas J. Ratchford regarding an inquiry from Congressman William Lehman to Congressman Mike McCormack.

Since the nature of this inquiry relates to the activities of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission rather than the Energy Research and Development Administration, it is requested that proper action be taken by your office.

We are advising Dr. Ratchford of this referral by copy of this letter.

Sincerely,

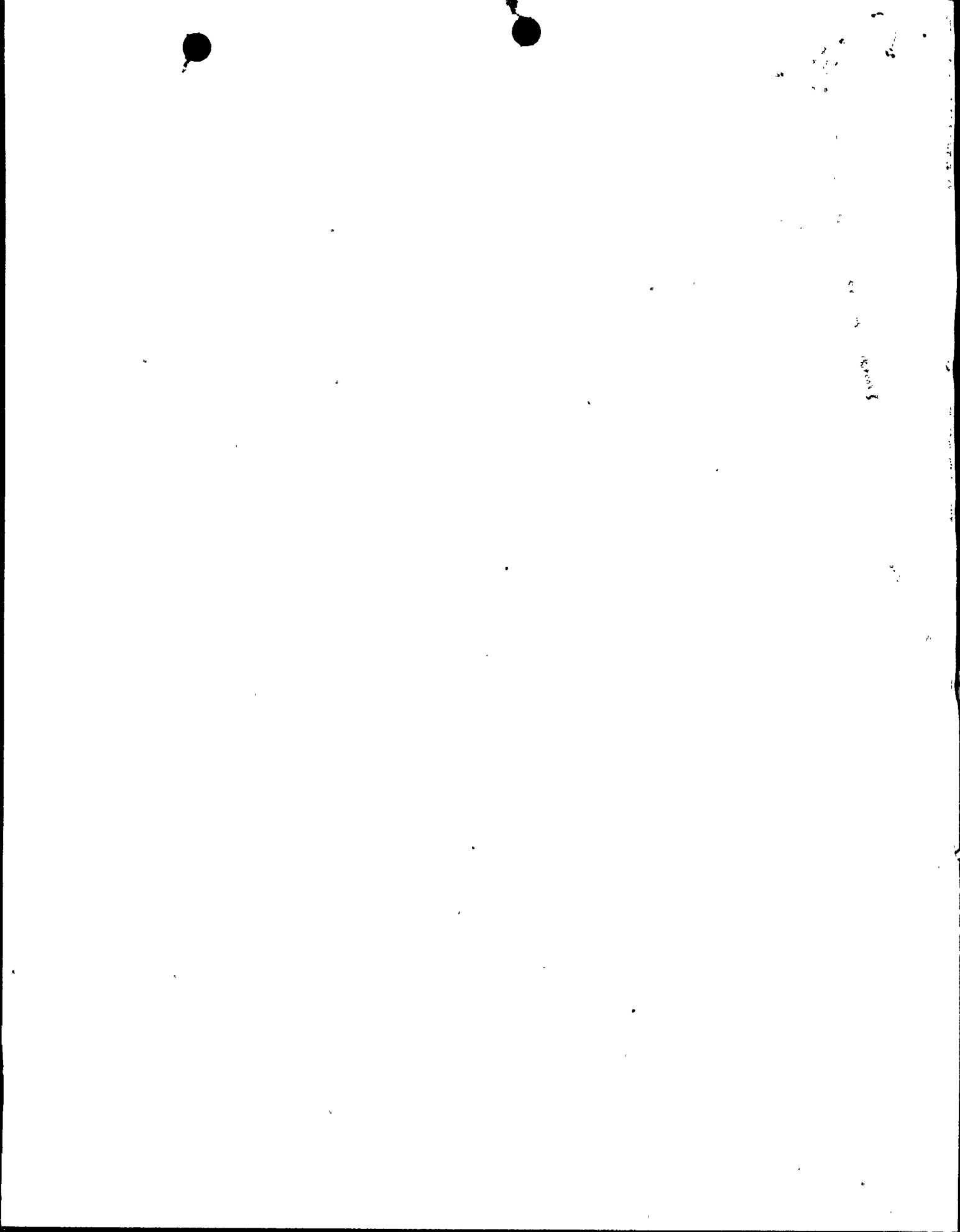

H. Hollister Cantus, Director,
Office of Congressional Relations

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Dr. Thomas J. Ratchford

REC'D
Date 4/26/76
8:15





OLIN E. TEAGUE
CHAIRMAN

JOHN L. SWIGERT, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

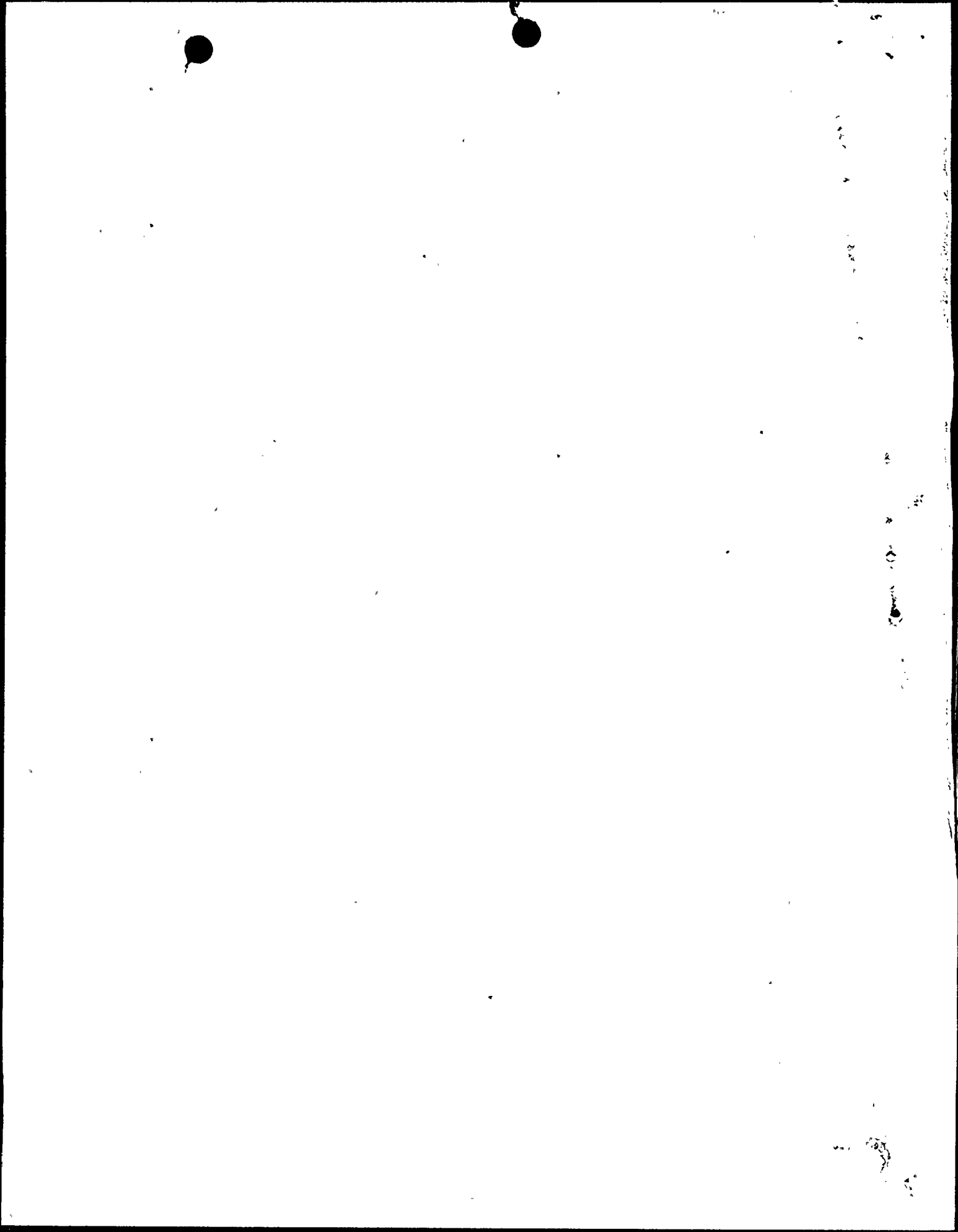
To: Oscar Stradinger
From: Tom Ratchford
Re: Attached correspondence

I will appreciate your assistance in preparing a response to the attached letter from Cong. Lehman for Chairman McCormack at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

NOTE: PLEASE RETURN PASTED-UP NEWS ARTICLE
FOR OUR FILES.

NPI 76-1918



WILLIAM LEHMAN
12TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEES:
EDUCATION AND LABOR
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE
424 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4211

DISTRICT OFFICE
2020 N.E. 1630 STREET
SUITE 108
NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33156
(305) 945-7518

March 22, 1976

Honorable Mike McCormack
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy Research,
Development and Demonstration
B374 Rayburn HOB

Dear Mike:

I am enclosing an article from the Miami Herald which was recently brought to my attention. It concerns leaks discovered in the fuel pits of the Florida Power and Light Company's Turkey Point power plant.

I would appreciate your directing your staff to take a look at this article and provide me with some information which could assist me in dealing with the fears and concerns my constituents have expressed.

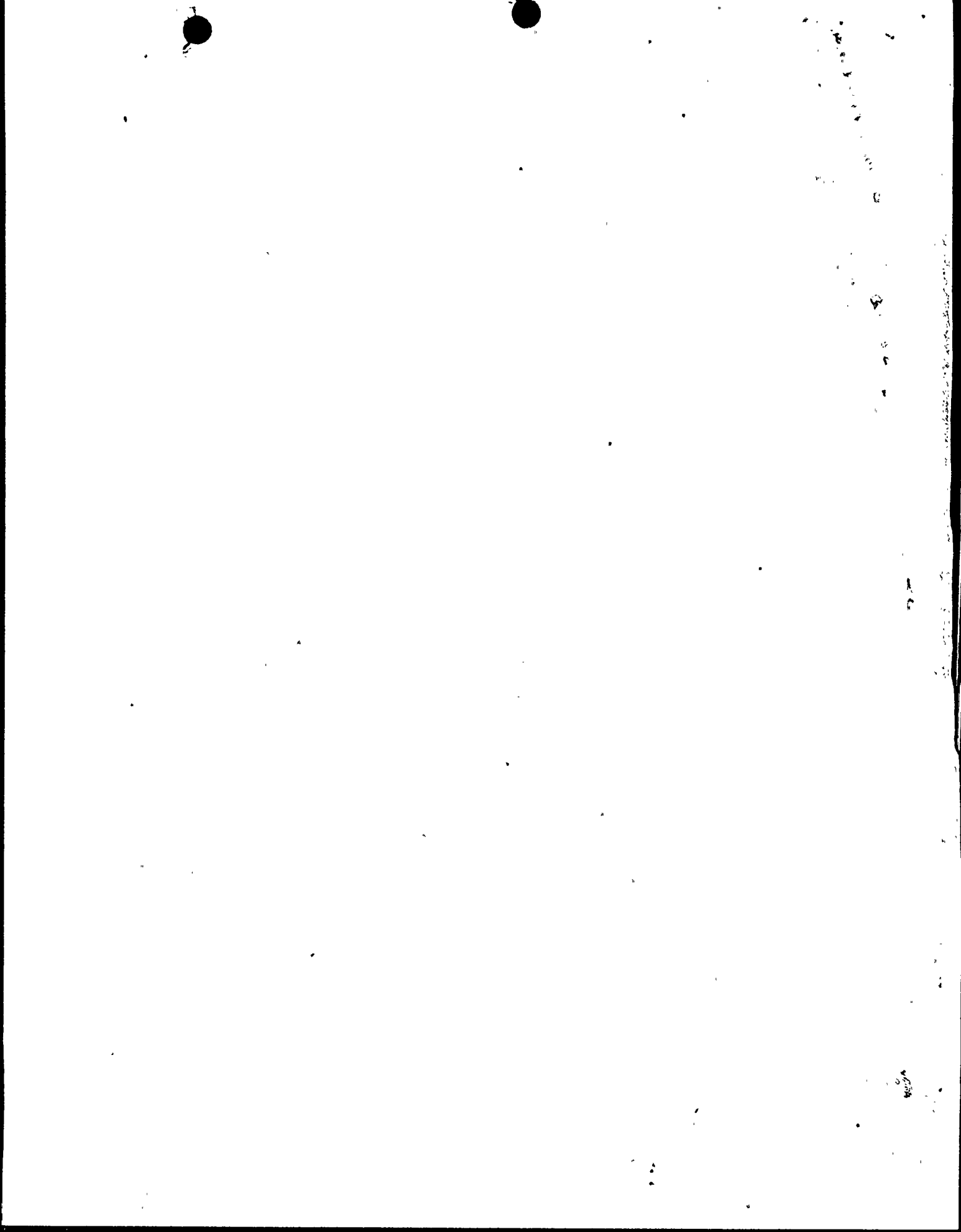
Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

WILLIAM LEHMAN
Member of Congress

WL/mar.
Enclosure



Minor Leaks Discovered In FPL Nuclear Fuel Pits

By MIKE TONER
Herald Environment Writer

Highly radioactive spent nuclear fuel has been stored in leaking pits at the Turkey Point power plant near Miami for more than two years — with the full knowledge of both Florida Power and Light Co. and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Some radioactivity already has escaped from the plant as a result of the leak. FPL officials say that the releases of radiation have been small and pose no threat to the public or to plant workers.

But the company admits that ra-

dioactive water has been leaking at irregular rates from both of the plant's spent fuel pits — heavily shielded structures of concrete and stainless steel designed for the temporary storage of "hot" used fuel after it is removed from the plant's two reactors.

ALTHOUGH THE water now is being collected and filtered to remove radioactive contamination, attempts to plug the leaks have been unsuccessful so far.

Repair efforts have been hampered by the intense radioactivity inside the pits, which makes it im-

possible for people to work inside them.

The pits are multi story, bunker-like structures adjoining the main reactor buildings at the power plant, located on the shores of Biscayne Bay 25 miles south of Miami.

Each year, a portion of the plant's fuel — no longer useful for producing electricity, but still at lethal radioactive levels — is unloaded from the reactors.

THE SPENT fuel, pellets of uranium and other radioactive materials encased in bundles of long, slender rods, then is placed inside the pits and flooded with water to help control the release of heat and radioactivity.

But the water itself also becomes radioactive — and it is that water which is now leaking from the fuel pits.

A company spokesman says that the pits are "unbelievably secure" and constructed to the same standards as the main reactor buildings.

But leaks first were detected in the steel liners of one of the pits in 1972 — before the nuclear plant went into service and before any radioactive fuel was stored in the pits.

The company didn't repair the leaks then because it considered them to be "minor."

TODAY, THE rate of leakage is 90 gallons an hour — approximately 45 times what it was when it was first detected.

Leaks in the other pit were first discovered in late 1975. The rate of leakage there has been slower — at times only a seep — but radioactive water there has breached not only the pit's steel liner, but a four-foot concrete wall.

Permanent repairs now may have

Turn to Page 14A Col. 1

Sunday Sampler

The Noncandidacy of Hubert Humphrey

For a man who isn't running for anything, Hubert Humphrey is showing up prominently in a lot of places. Page 17A.

Mosquitos in March? The Bite Goes On

In backyards, golf courses, high-rise apartments and even cocktail lounges, the itchy question keeps popping up, Why mosquitos in March? Dade officials say that for a few days at least, the bite is on. Page 1D.

Hubert Green's 65 Grabs Doral Lead

Hubert Green is in position to run away from the field in today's final round of the \$200,000 Doral-Eastern Open golf tournament. Green shot a 65 for a 201 total, 15 under par. Page 1C.

Jackson High Loses Basketball Final

Jackson High School's state basketball championship dreams were crushed Saturday night when the Miami team fell to Orlando Edgewater, 65-65, at Jacksonville. Page 1C.

Dogfish—Last Resort and Only Choice?

It's seafood you like? Have a nice plate of dogfish. It's nutritious. It might even taste good. Get used to it: The seafood you're used to eating is becoming increasingly scarce as ocean resources are steadily depleted. Page 1E, Financial.

Payoffs Abroad Could Hurt U.S. Workers

The storm blown up by the growing scandals of business payoffs abroad could cost American industry several billions of dollars worth of export sales yearly — and wipe out thousands of domestic jobs. Page 1F, Viewpoint.

WHERE TO FIND IT

legation
we will
sonal b
ty."
The
jolted r
days be
in the r
campai
where
Ronald
mary.
The
controv
ately.
White
swift
step as
would
Ford —
as an
Preside
ated wi

CAL
deputy
Spencer
cal ope
much o
success
The

T
—
Po
M

No
Satur
rates:
One d
ami b
The
the M
durin
losing
Postr
Th
a 23-
Ot

CATTLE

Man and a Steer

INDIANTOWN, Fla. — Just in case he needs them, Cecil Pollack carries his teeth around in his shirt pocket.

"Do they hurt?" someone asked. "Only if they bite me," he said.

Pollack, orphaned at seven, grew up in the cow camps and prairies around Lake Okechobee about the

