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SEARCH SERVICE

Nov. 19, 1951

Dear Mr. Gulinsky & Fellow
Commissioners,

It will soon be 3 years
since the near mett down to
Three Mile Island and there
has been very little done in
the way of cleaning it up.

We, the people of this area
have been living in fear and
terror ever since the accident.

We live in fear of losing
our lives and our homes. Every-
thing we've worked for is
our lives!!!

I am enclosing copies of
articles from our local
newspapers which were
published November 15, 1951.

They express our fears
and concerns perfectly.

I hope you will please
take the time to read them
because they explain the

terror that we face each day.

We feel no one really cares what happens to us and we really would appreciate anything you can do to help us.

If or when there is another accident or melt down at Three Mile Island, I would like to go on record as saying, I tried to stop it.

Thank you, gentlemen, and God Bless you.

Gloria Stepp
Crestview Manor, RD 3
Hummelstown, Pa
17036

The Case Of The Unidentified Helicopter

NOV. 18, 1951

-By Mary Jane Hornung

Why would a helicopter land on local farmer's field without his knowledge, scoop up a sample of soil, and fly off...all within a period of less than five minutes?

No one seems to know, and what makes this story all the more strange is the fact that the field is located on the Western shore of the Susquehanna, less than three miles from Three Mile Island!

To add to the mystery...in the wee hours of the morning (3:00 a.m.), the night before the helicopter incident, the sirens were heard going full blast on Three Mile Island.

The story began with local residents hearing the sirens wailing at 3:00 a.m.

on the morning of October 9th. Then, that afternoon, at 3:15 p.m., five witnesses observed a blue and white helicopter landing on a neighbor's freshly plowed field. A man jumped out, scooped up a sample of soil, jumped back into the helicopter and took off immediately.

Curious to what was going on, the residents made various calls.

Everybody Denies Knowing About The Helicopter

Met-Ed denied having any helicopters in the air.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission could provide no information. The Federal Aviation Authority at the Middletown Airport said they showed no helicopters entered in

their log for that time period.

The Department of Environmental Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency denied any knowledge of any testing being done by helicopters.

Since it was a blue and white helicopter, the State Police were contacted and they assured us they had no helicopters doing any testing. Bruce Smith, the local representative was contacted, but he couldn't find any information either.

The FAA told the Paxton Herald they felt it couldn't have been a University or a Government Agency, since they always ask permission to land prior to the mission. Actu-

ally, this representative of the FAA felt that this landing was trespassing, and as such was an illegal act. The State requires any field that is used for aircraft landings, except in emergencies, to be licensed.

Residents Getting Jittery

Residents around TMI are getting jittery. There have been at least eight sightings of black smoke or large steam emissions billowing from Three Mile Island since June. And now, after a period of approximately a year without any problems with the farm animals, (-and after the re-entry release) the same problems that the Paxton Herald reported in the February 27th, 1980 issue are returning.

Animal Problems Begin Again--Since Re-Entry Releases

Mrs. Fisher's cows are beginning to again have birthing problems. One cow last month delivered a 150 pound calf unable to walk and just barely brea-

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thing. The mother was in no condition to take care of her weak offspring. After a stepped-up treatment of shots of vitamin and selenium, the calf is now able to walk.

Two days later, a heifer went into labor. A pelvic examination confirmed a possible breach birth and the veterinarian was called. Dr. Weber tried unsuccessfully for over an hour to turn the calf. After it was determined that there no longer was a pulse in the calf, and the delivery was no further along, it was decided to dissect the calf in order to save the valuable mother.

After terrible efforts, the calf had to be sacrificed and removed. The cow appeared to be suffering from a constricted birth channel, which some veterinarian physicians feel is one of the complications of low level radiation. (It is felt that this could be one of the reasons for so many caesarian births in the last few years in the TMI area. Six days later the mother cow died.

Two days later another heifer went into labor six weeks prematurely. The calf was unable to walk and had respiratory problems. The calf is now sur-

viving after treatment of vitamins, selenium and antibiotics, but the left rear leg appears to be deformed.

The next day another calf was born, full term, but was unable to walk, its head was twisted, and it seemed to be suffering from severe nerve damage. The calf's condition gradually deteriorated until it died last week.

Not only have the animals been affected, but residents say they have been suffering from extreme fatigue, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

Is it possible that all these incidents could be related?

And if no helicopters are entered in the FAA long book, where did this helicopter come from.

And what was its reason for performing an illegal act of trespass to get a soil sample?

And what is causing the return of the animal's birthing problems?

These are questions that residents would like answered, but, they say that, because of the run around over the real problem of Nuclear Power, they have little hopes left of ever receiving a plausible explanation.

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BOOKETED
MNBC

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SECRETARY
& SERVICE
BRANCH

ou Live Near Danger...BUT...

YOU CAN'T BUY Nuclear Accident Insurance... At Any Price!

NOV. 15, 1981

Americans buy Insurance for virtually all risks including fire, flood, accidents, earthquakes, riots ATC. Each year thousands upon thousands of people are victims of all kinds of accidents and disasters: they lose their cars, their homes, their businesses, and their personal belongings. Insurance covers most of these things. There is even Insurance



or illness and loss of work time. But did you know...that you can not buy Insurance for losses that you might sustain as a result of Nuclear Reaction, Nuclear Contamination, or losses suffered by any type of a Nuclear Disaster. The simple fact is that

you can not buy Insurance to protect yourself from losses incurred as a result of Nuclear problems. If Met-Ed makes mistake, you can not buy Insurance to protect yourself, your family, your home, your business, or any of yo

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No Nuclear Insurance!

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other property from the loss that you will surely suffer.

Nuclear Reactor Which Has Leaked Radiation...But Why Can't You Be Protected??
Central Pennsylvania Residents live near Three Mile Island, and therefore we are the guinea pigs and we are the people that will take the loss if Met-Ed makes another mistake. No other business in the world would be allowed such latitude to control the destiny of so many people...to control the lives of so many human beings...with such a free hand!

The Price Anderson Act of 1957 limited the financial responsibility of the Nuclear Industry in the event of a Nuclear accident. The Price Anderson Act "holds harmless" any individual or company responsible for a Nuclear accident from any liability exceeding 560 Million Dollars, which constitutes a "pool. The government itself estimates potential losses from a Nuclear accident to range from 7 Billion to 280 Billion dollars in property damages alone. This does not even take into account the human misery or the genetic in physical damages.

The Price Anderson Act states that no one will be compensated for illness or birth defects discovered more than 20 years after an accident. This limit was originally set at 10 years, but in 1975 was increased to 20 years. Because of late developing Cancer and other radiation related illnesses, even 20 years is seemed to be as inappropriate and unrealistic cutoff time.

Who would pay for the damages in the event that Met-Ed makes another major mistake?

In event of a major Nuclear Accident, Congress could not possibly pay the damages that would be incurred by Central Pennsylvania Residents. In the case of Three Mile Island, the melt down was admittedly only 30 to 60 minutes away from happening. The Federal Insurance Administration esti

estimated that the average family in the Harrisburg Area would have incurred \$67,500 in evacuation expenses, property and business losses. For this \$67,500 loss they would receive only \$2,247 from the Federal Price Anderson Control Pool. No medical or personal injury expenses were included in this \$67,500 estimate.

Met-Ed would not be responsible for your losses
In case that Met-Ed makes another mistake they would not be responsible for your losses or the losses of your family or your neighbors. The limit of losses under the

Law...written into Insurance Policies... is limited to the amount being designated in The Price Anderson Act.

The Price Anderson Act requires that the Utilities such as Met-Ed with Nuclear Power Plants, purchase the maximum amount of accident liability insurance available from private Insurance Companies. This maximum is currently \$116 Million.

Perhaps the most telling quote that we have come across is the following "our position is that there is not much risk, then insurance should not cost much and individuals should have the right to buy it. But it is expensive, because the risk is high, policy holders in the public and general should know what the hidden cost of the American Public...It is Public Policy question."

Robert A. Hunter
Former Federal Insurance Administrator

A former Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner is quoted as saying "it may be that nobody but God could write the Insurance Policy when you have Nuclear Power Plants."

Limits of Price Anderson Insurance Limits Do Not Promote Safety

When a company is faced with a possibility of having to ask the Insurance Co. to pay for the negligence, it encourages the company to be more careful, and to encourage their employees to be more cautious...otherwise the Insurance Policy could be cancelled and coverage suspended. Fortunately for Met-Ed...unfortunately for the public...there is no such no incentive for safe operations in the Nuclear Industry. Since Insurance Coverage is impossible to get, and the amount that Met-Ed would be responsible for is limited and set at very low level, the incentive that would be normally be there to help insure safe operation, not present in the Nuclear Industry. It is certainly not present at Three Mile Island. Congressman Ted Weiss calls the limits of Nuclear Insurance "an invitation of irresponsibility."

The Public Can Help With Nuclear Insurance

The public can do something to affect the change in Nuclear Insurance laws and limits. People who have homes and businesses... families and property near a Nuclear Plant should have the option of purchasing Nuclear Insurance.

It's not fun to be a sitting duck. People of Central Penna. deserve better!

To learn what people can do... read The PAXTON HERALD next week!!

COLLECTED USNRC

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SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
MAILING & SERVICE
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Minnich scores

NRC 'attitude'

NOV. 18, 1981

Urgency about TMI 'not publicized'

EVENING NEWS

By MARY O. BRADLEY

Staff Writer

The chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Panel on the Decontamination of Three Mile Island says the chief stumbling block in getting federal funds for the cleanup has been the NRC's failure to stress the continuing hazardous situation at TMI.

"I've been appalled at the lack of understanding" in Congress "of the reality of what we have here" at TMI, said Dauphin County Commissioner John E. Minnich. Congressmen "treat it as a local issue only, with no importance to the rest of the country."

"I feel very strongly it's partly due to the failure of the NRC to impart to Congress clearly and articulately the real danger we face if Unit 2 is not cleaned up safely," Minnich told The Evening News.

Minnich has been chairman of the 12-member NRC advisory panel since its formation in October 1980. The group has made recommendations to the NRC on the technical aspects of several facets of the cleanup. In recent weeks, it has been wrestling with drafting a position on how the \$1 billion effort should be funded.

Minnich said the panel plans several more public meetings to obtain additional input before it makes a recommendation.

He said the advisory body has "authorized me" to write to the NRC to encourage the commissioners to "take action, whatever action is necessary to stress to Congress what the problems are at TMI. In my opinion, the NRC has not done that with TMI. Hence, some of the reluctance" regarding federal funding, he said.

The government's role in the funding is somewhat clouded. The Reagan administration pledged in October to seek \$123 million in cleanup funds, but congressional opponents contend that that money is included in two research and development programs already undertaken at TMI by the U.S. Department of Energy.

The advisory panel also voted to sever the restart of the undamaged Unit 1 reactor from any cost-sharing plan to pay for the cleanup of Unit 2. "We will not consider the restart of Unit 1 in conjunction with any funding plan," Minnich said.

In the cost-sharing blueprint proposed by Gov. Dick Thornburgh in July, the restart of Unit 1 was seen as a method of helping General Public Utilities Corp., TMI's owner, to raise \$245 million in cleanup funds. But the panel, Minnich said, believes restart should be considered solely on the health, safety and technical issues.

By adopting this position, "we affirmed the fact that TMI 1 is not our jurisdiction. Our job is the decontamina-

tion of TMI 2, period," Minnich said.

Meanwhile, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board hearings on the Unit 1 restart continue at the Harrisburg 2 Building. Gary P. Miller, director of Unit 1 startup and test, was cross-examined Tuesday about an incident involving a Unit 2 employee who submitted answers prepared by a colleague on a make-up test.

Miller was station manager at TMI when the cheating incident was uncovered in July 1979. He said the Unit 2 employee turned in the other man's hand-written answers to complete make-up tests on exam questions he had failed in August 1977 and February 1978.

Miller said the employee's explanation was that he "was pressed for time" because he was going on vacation and that the employee believed that if he understood the material, he fulfilled the requirements of the training program. "I didn't consider the handwriting as significant," Miller commented.

The employee in question was demoted to non-licensed duties at TMI after the incident was uncovered. Miller said his colleague who prepared the answers contended he did not know they were going to be used for a make-up test. Miller said no disciplinary action was taken against him, Miller said.