and solicit $40,000 from outside sources for this research. The company will fund the entire project if external help is not available, Facey added.

The proposed epidemiological study would cost $500,000 and take four years to complete. Its purpose would be to increase the "limited" data available on pregnancy outcomes among VDT operators. Ontario Hydro's Phase I report calls for a limit of $100,000 on its total contributions and recommends that the company solicit additional funds starting in April 1984 unless a similar study is underway elsewhere.

The scientists also propose to measure magnetic fields near VDTs in Phase II using techniques similar to those used to characterize electric fields in Phase I.

EM fields from the flyback were in the very low frequency (VLF) range (15.8-18.5 kHz) with average (root mean square) field strengths between 3 and 30 V/m at 30 cm from the front of the terminal. These emissions are pulsed and Ontario Hydro researchers measured peak values as low as 4 V/m and as high as 170 V/m.

Electrostatic fields of up to 7,000 V/m were measured. Fields from the electronic circuitry were less than 1 V/m.

The report cautions that all the EM readings are approximately ten times the real exposure levels as a result of the measurement method used. Dr. Stuart Harvey, who supervised the EM testing, explained that the meter used in the laboratory gives a reading that exceeds actual levels by this amount.

The significance of these radiation readings is unclear. "No experimental data were uncovered which directly demonstrate evidence of biological harm due to fields generated by VDTs; however, conversely, to our knowledge there is no published work which shows the absence of such effects," the study explains.

With regard to ionizing radiation, measurements failed to find emissions above ambient levels in 80 percent of the units tested. The remainder of the units produced readings two to four times that of background apparently due to the presence of potassium-40, a radioactive isotope, in the glass screens. These levels are of "no medical significance" according to the researchers.

Ergonomic guidelines available to VDT users and supervisors are inadequate, according to the report. In most cases guidelines are not compatible or consistent. The study recommends design standards for desks, chairs, keyboards, screen characteristics and lighting.

Project HAVDU was started in 1982 in response to a labor-management agreement, and to concerns among company scientists that VDT work is a "cause of anxiety among women employees." The Phase I report was presented to Ontario Hydro's Board of Directors in mid-November and became publicly available in mid-January. The projected completion date for Phase II is April 1985.

Copies of the full report can be ordered from Mr. Robert Facey, Safety Services, Ontario Hydro, 757 McKay Road, Pickering, Ontario L1W 3C8, Canada. The cost per copy is $13 US, $16 Canadian. A 35-page summary is available from the same address for $4 US, $5 Canadian.

SHORT COURSES

March 5-6: ***Grounding, Bonding & Shielding,*** San Francisco, CA. Fee: $495. Contact: R&B Associates, 20 Clipper Rd., W. Conshohocken, PA 19428, (215) 825-1960. Repeated ***March 8-9:*** Los Angeles, CA.

March 5-7: ***Planning for and Operating an NMR Imaging Facility,*** Washington, DC. Fee: $750. Contact: Continuing Engineering Education, George Washington University (GWU), Washington, DC 20052, (800) 424-9773.

March 12-15: ***Modern Microwave Measurements,*** Washington, DC. Fee: $895. Contact: Continuing Education Institute (CEI), 5410 Leaf Treader Way, Columbia, MD 21044, (301) 596-0111 or (213) 824-9545.

March 12-15: ***Computational Methods in Electromagnetics,*** Galveston Island, TX. Fee: $650. Contact: Ann Beekman, Southeastern Center for Electrical Engineering Education (SCEEE), Central Florida Facility, 11th & Massachusetts Ave., St. Cloud, FL 32769, (305) 892-6146.

March 12-16: ***Radiowave Propagation for Communications Systems Design,*** Orlando, FL. Fee: $875. Contact: GWU, see March 5 above.

March 15-16: ***Lightning Protection,*** Orlando, FL. Fee: $625. Contact: GWU, see March 5 above. Repeated ***June 4-5:*** Washington, DC.

March 19: ***Applying Military Electromagnetic Compatibility Specifications,*** St. Louis, MO. Fee: $295. Contact: Jean Tucker, ECOS Environmental Solutions, 205 W. Harrison St., Oak Park, IL 60304, (312) 383-2505. Repeated ***April 16:*** Chicago, IL.

March 19-23: ***Flat-Panel and CRT Technologies,*** Los Angeles, CA. Fee: $895. Contact: UCLA Extension Short Course Program, PO Box 24901, 6266 Boelter Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90024, (213) 825-1047.

March 20-22: ***Grounding & Shielding,*** Sunnyvale, CA. Fee: $815. Optional fourth day for $235. Contact: Don White Consultants Inc. (DWCI), Star Route 625, PO Box D, Gainesville, VA 22065, (703) 347-0030.

March 22-24: ***NMR: A Primer for Radiologists,*** Hilton Head Island, SC. Fee: $375. Contact: K.V. Pyles, Foundation for Education in Magnetic Resonance, 111 Glade Park East, Kittanning, PA 16201, (412) 545-7085.

April 3: ***EMC: The FCC Means Business,*** Boston, MA. Fee: $595. Contact: Carol Clark, McGraw-Hill Seminar Center, 331 Madison Ave., Suite 603, New York, NY 10017, (212) 687-0243.

April 9-10: ***Grounding, Bonding & Shielding,*** Washington, DC. Fee: $625. Contact: GWU, see March 5 above.

April 30-May 4: ***EMC Design & Measurement for Control of EMI,*** San Diego, CA. Fee: $995. Optional fifth day for $235. Contact: DWCI, see March 20 above.

April 30-May 4: ***NBS Noise Measurement Seminar,*** Boulder, CO. Fee: $775. Contact: Sunchana Perera, Div. 723.05, National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, CO 80303, (303) 497-3546.

April 30-May 4: ***High Frequency Spectrum: New Concepts and Technologies,*** Washington, DC. Fee: $875. Contact: GWU, see March 5 above.

May 7-11: ***Microwave High Power Tubes and Transmitters,*** Washington, DC. Fee: $875. Contact: GWU, see March 5 above.

May 7-11: ***Microwave Circuits Design: Linear Circuits,*** Palo Alto, CA. Fee: $895. Contact: CEI, see March 12 above. Repeated ***June 4-8:*** Boston, MA.

May 7-11: ***Electromagnetic Interference and Control,*** Washington, DC. Fee: $875. Contact: GWU, see March 5 above.
X4

May 8-11: ***Modern Antennas,*** Washington, DC. Fee:$675. Contact: Linda Billard, Technology Service Corp. (TSC) 8555 16th St., Suite 300, Silver Spring, MD 20910, (800) 638-2628.

May 15-17: ***An Introduction to EMI/RFI/EMC,*** Los Angeles, CA. Fee: $815. Contact: DWCI, see March 20 above.

May 21-23: ***Hazardous RF Electromagnetic Radiation,*** Washington, DC. Fee: $695. Contact: GWU, see March 5 above.

FROM THE FIELD

Responses to Dr. Robert Becker's Letter on Use of Electromagnetic Stimulation for Bone Growth

In our November issue, we published a letter sent to the FDA by Dr. Robert O. Becker on the risks associated with the growing use of medical devices that apply direct currents and pulsed electromagnetic fields to stimulate bone growth. Published below are the FDA's response to Becker and a letter to Microwave News *from Dr. C. Andrew L. Bassett.*

Dear Dr. Becker:

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has completed its initial review of your concerns regarding the safety of electromagnetic stimulation of biological tissues as a treatment therapy. The agency believes it is essential to continually evaluate the safety and effectiveness of electromagnetic stimulation as the technology evolves and new data accumulates. We would like, therefore, to thank you for your comments and encourage you to submit any additional comments or relevant data, as you feel appropriate.

We are familiar with most of the information you provided. The bulk of the data you refer to has only recently become available (articles dated 1982 and 1983). As you observed there is little, if any, corroborating evidence for much of the recent research you cited.

As you know, the agency has approved three premarket approval applications for devices involving electromagnetic stimulation for healing of bony defects. These approvals were based on all the information available at the time of approval. These approvals required that four-year follow-up examinations be performed by the sponsor on all patients in the approved trials. These examinations were explicitly requested to substantiate "long-term" safety and effectiveness of the approved devices. This four-year time period has not been reached by all patients; thus, the data which will address many concerns is incomplete.

Furthermore, we are also aware of the need to proceed judiciously in the clinical application of a new therapeutic modality such as electromagnetic stimulation. This agency has determined that all such devices are significant risk devices. As such, any sponsor wishing to clinically investigate these devices must receive FDA approval for an investigational device exemption (IDE) prior to initiating the trial. Therefore, we will continue to evaluate the most up-to-date information available regarding the safety and effectiveness of these devices.

Thank you again for your comments. If you have any questions regarding this matter contact me at (301) 427-7156.

Carl A. Larson, Ph.D.
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Office of Medical Devices
National Center for Devices and Radiological Health
Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD 20910

To the Editor:

Dr. Robert O. Becker has called for a moratorium on clinical application of "bone growth stimulators" because he postulates a possible link between such devices and "malignant transformation." Anyone who has followed his writing and statements will recognize that this position has not changed for the past ten years. In fact, at the 1973 New York Academy of Sciences Conference on "Electrically-Mediated Growth Mechanisms on Living Systems," Dr. Becker sounded his first alarm, "When this field began to open up and clinical use was being postulated, and some patients were actually undergoing treatment, I raised the question of possible induction of malignant cellular changes." [1]

During the intervening ten years, more than 40,000 patients have been treated with various electrical devices to modify bone formation by one mechanism or another, without a single report of malignancy as the result of such use. Extensive laboratory investigations of these devices have taken place *in vitro* and *in vivo* all over the world, again, with no evidence that they *induce* cancer. This point is conceded by Becker, himself, in his FDA letter.

In the United States, where the electrical devices have been regulated by the FDA since 1979, there is a legal requirement for device manufacturers to report all untoward reaction and, to my knowledge, the cancer issue is a "non-issue" at the present time.

I will not attempt to point out or correct each of the inaccuracies which are contained in the letter. Interested readers are referred to the appended bibliography for details, which can place the issues in a more comprehensive light. There are two main inaccuracies, however, which deserve attention by your readers. The first concerns safety testing and is embodied in his sentence, "When the FDA approved these devices there were no studies on the effects of...magnetic fields on embryonic growth and development or malignant growth." The facts are: extensive data from teratologic and toxicologic studies in animals were made available to the FDA for the two pulsed electromagnetic field (PEMF) modes which were approved. These included documentation of a lack of chronic-exposure PEMF effects on multiple soft tissues and organs such as the heart, kidneys, liver, spleen, adrenals, lung and brain, among others. Furthermore, mice mated, delivered and reared through the F5 generation (constantly exposed individually to two types of PEMFs) showed no birth, development or functional abnormalities. In addition, both pulse modes were tested on Meth A sarcomas in Balb/C mice and were demonstrated to have no effect on tumor weight, mitotic indices, tumor microanatomy or behavior. Similarly, both pulses had no effect on normal animal longevity or the spontaneous tumor incidence in Swiss Webster mice. All of these data were submitted to the FDA as part of the pre-market approval and continuing monitoring processes. Under the Freedom of Information Act, I believe, these findings have been available to one and all, if they were concerned. As a matter of record, the safety of these two pulse modes has been investigated, independently, both in academic and commercial settings, and the original assessments confirmed.

The second critical issue which deserves comment is what I call the "lumping syndrome." No one would consider saying to a physician or a scientist, "I treated my patients with drugs" without specifying the agents, their dose, their routes or schedules of administration. Yet, electrical modalities of a wide variety, are now being "lumped" into the "bone growth stimulator" heading with little or no evidence that each fits [2]. Similarly, because one type of time-varying electromagnetic field produces an untoward effect under *highly selected* circumstances, *all* such fields frequently are impugned. Conversely, because PEMFs are effective in a given clinical setting, entrepreneurs who try a "coattail" approach, either are unaware, themselves, of the very selective nature of pulse specifity or are counting on an uninformed user, when "equivalency" is claimed.

With every passing month it is more and more clear that both different and similar pulses can cause different biological effects in different tissues at different times in the cell cycle [3-14]. In fact, the postulated importance of frequency, amplitude and cell cycle "windows" to achieve selected alterations in cell function is now supported by a considerable body of scientific data. Falling prey to the "lumping syndrome" signals a lack of familiarity with those data.

(continued on p.8)

FROM THE FIELD

Finally, a moratorium on FDA-approved clinical applications of *selected* PEMFs, clearly, is not justified by the facts. Deleterious effects have not been reported in the more than 20,000 patients treated with these two pulse modes. The longest follow-up, now, is nine years and the method has been used successfully on a number of occasions to heal ununited fractures in bone with quiescent (treated) primary tumors. In none of these individuals has there been any evidence of "re-lighting" the tumor for intervals exceeding five years post-treatment. Let us not risk "throwing the baby out with the bath water."

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[9] I.A. Cook and C.A.L. Bassett, *Orthopedic Transactions (Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery), 7,* 361, 1983.
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[13] W.R. Adey, *Biosystems, 8,* 163, 1977.
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UPDATES

BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS

Collection of Papers... The IEEE Press has assembled into one large volume a collection of more than 60 papers on the interaction of RF/MW radiation with living systems. The papers, reprinted as they were originally published, are divided into seven groups, each with an introduction and a list of references. *Biological Effects of Electromagnetic Radiation* was edited by Dr. John Osepchuk of Raytheon with the help of Drs. James Frazer, Om Gandhi, Arthur Guy, Don Justesen, Sol Michaelson and John Mitchell. The 593-page collection is available for $47.95 to IEEE members and $79.95 to non-members from IEEE Press, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854, (201) 981-0060.

COMMUNICATIONS

WARC... Delegates from 112 nations have gone to Geneva, Switzerland, for the World Administrative Radio Conference's (WARC) five-week meeting on high frequency (shortwave) communications. For a review of the issues to be addressed, see the January 9 *Broadcasting*....The FCC has amended its rules to comply with the "Final Acts" of the 1979 WARC. The commission states that this action "provides domestic radio spectrum users with protection from harmful interference as provided by international regulations." The FCC's lengthy discussion of the rules and the public comments they generated, and a modified table of frequency allocations, appear in the January 19 *Federal Register.*

COMPATIBILITY & INTERFERENCE

Aircraft RFI... At the first meeting of the Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics (RTCA) Special Committee 156 on "Potential Interference to Aircraft Electronics Equipment from Devices Carried Aboard" on December 1-2, a testing program was initiated to determine if there is an RFI problem caused by the use of computers aboard planes (see *MWN,* October 1983). Representatives from the airlines, the air frame manufacturers and the FAA will gather path loss data by simulating the decay of emissions through windows and the aircraft itself. At the same time, the computer companies will check the emissions from various devices. It was noted that radiation levels allowed under RTCA/DO-160A are more stringent that those allowed under FCC Part 15 and that the stricter limits may be needed to prevent harmful RFI. The next meeting of SC-156 is scheduled for February 28-29. In the meantime, the committee members agreed that interim steps to stop passengers from using computers during flight, including during take offs and landings, were not necessary.

Sonic Cable TV Fine Upheld... The FCC has refused to rescind its $6,000 fine against Sonic Cable TV (serving Grover City, Arroyo Grande and Pismo Beach, CA) for leaking signals which interfered with amateur radio communications (see *MWN,* November 1982). The commission did not find Sonic's procedural and substantive arguments persuasive: "Sonic has chosen to raise a plethora of unmeritorious arguments to mask its rule violations." The FCC responded to Sonic's charge that it was the victim of "selective prosecution" by noting that although the "commission's limited resources may result in violators going unpunished, this does not mean we cannot impose sanctions against those we find violating our rules."

Immunity Task Group...ANSI C63's ad hoc committee on enhancing the immunity of home electronic equipment to RFI is moving ahead. Meetings were held in October and December and another is planned for February 10 at the FCC Labs in Columbia, MD.vAt that time, the committee plans to put the final touches on a questionnaire, which will

be published in the American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) magazine, *QST*. FCC's Dan Yates, a member of the committee, pointed out that the questionnaire is virtually identical to the one used by the commisson's Field Operations Bureau for reporting RFI complaints. Meanwhile, the Electronic Industries Association's Consumer Electronics Group has completed its measurements on the immunity of TVs and VCRs; the results are under review. As work on TVs and VCRs winds up, the committee will soon begin studying cordless phones and home security systems. Don Heirman of AT&T Information Systems Labs, the committee chairman, said that the new and the old efforts will continue simultaneously.

NBS Noise Seminar...NBS is holding a week-long seminar on precision noise measurements, stressing applications in antenna and communication systems, April 30 to May 4 in Boulder, CO. Taught by members of the Noise Metrology Group in NBS' Electromagnetic Fields Division, the seminar costs $775. For more information contact NBS' Sunchana Perera, (303) 497-3546.

Resources... The Soviet "Woodpecker" transmitter is causing interference problems again, according to an item in the December *QST*. The magazine quotes a Norwegian official as saying that the Woodpecker, located in Kiev, is interfering with almost a tenth of the radio traffic over the shortwave band in Norway....An article in the November 3 *New Scientist* cites the dangers of trying to use signals from high power CB radios to confuse the electronics of gas station pumps. There is no way of knowing whether the radiation will make the gas meter run faster or slower. And there is the risk that it can trigger an explosion. In fact, author Barry Fox notes, this effect has been exploited in the Northern Ireland conflict....A.J. Mauriello of Radiation Sciences, Inc., in Lansdale, PA, and J.M. Clarke of the Air Force's Electronics Systems Division at Hanscom AFB have published "Measurement and Analysis of Radiated Electromagnetic Emissions from Rail-Transit Vehicles" in the November *IEEE Transactions on Electromagnetic Compatibility*....The Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) cites EMI as one barrier to magnetic levitation systems for high-speed intercity passenger service. See OTA's *US Passenger Rail Technologies*, available for $4.75 from the Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Order No. 052-003-00938-2....EMI problems in the automobile industry were featured in a December 20 *New York Times* article by John Holusha....Papers are being solicited for the *6th Symposium and Technical Exhibition on Electromagnetic Compatibility* to be held at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, March 5-7, 1985. The theme of the conference is "protection of the electromagnetic environment." Professor Ralph Showers of the University of Pennsylvania is again serving as the chairman of the Technical Program Committee. Abstracts are due before March 15, 1984. For more information, contact: Dr. T. Dvorak, ETH Zentrum-IKT, 8092 Zurich, Switzerland, 256-2790....NASA has issued a RfP (No.5-79683/235) to "determine critical areas of EMI/EMC interaction between the spacecraft and electronics payload and identify areas where potential EMI problems exist." The space agency anticipates awarding one contract in March.

GOVERNMENT

IEEE Spectrum... Watch for the March issue of *IEEE Spectrum*, which will feature a major article on the current regulatory climate in Washington, DC, as it affects the use of non-ionizing electromagnetic radiation.

INTERNATIONAL

Hungarian Standards... In 1982, Hungary proposed new safety standards for workers and the general population. The proposal is comparable to other Eastern European RF/MW health standards and is more stringent that the new ANSI guidelines and other Western standards. For 300 MHz-300 GHz, the draft exposure limit for the general population is 10 uW/cm^2, while for workers it is 1 mW/cm^2. For 30 kHz-30 MHz, the limits are 20 V/m and 50 V/m for public and occupational exposures respectively; for 30-300 MHz, they are 10 V/m and 20 V/m respectively. Higher exposure levels are permitted for short periods of time, but the absolute maximum levels for *all* individuals are (1) 30 kHz-30 MHz: 1000 V/m; (2) 30-300 MHz: 500 V/m; and (3) 300 MHz-300 GHz: 10 mW/cm^2. The proposed limits do not differentiate between CW and pulsed radiation. The Hungarian paper was translated by Information Ventures, Inc., and is excerpted in its most recent edition of *Biological Effects of Non-Ionizing Electromagnetic Radiation* (Vol. VIII, No. 1, October 1983). A limited number of copies are available from the Office of Naval Research, Code 441, 800 North Quincy St., Arlington, VA 22217 (include a self-addressed mailing label).

MEDICAL APPLICATIONS

BSD's Hyperthermia Units Approved... On November 28, the FDA approved BSD Medical Corporation's BSD-1000 hyperthermia system as "safe and effective" for marketing to hospitals and clinics (see FDA's notice in the January 25 *Federal Register*). The BSD unit, which is designed to treat tumors within two inches of the skin surface with electromagnetic energy, can operate at frequencies between 50-1000 MHz. It is the first hyperthermia device to win FDA approval. Two months later, on January 27, BSD followed up its first success by winning clearance for its new mobile unit, the BSD-300, which generates heat with radiation in a narrower frequency band. The portable unit uses the same technology and applicators as the BSD-1000. The devices are now available for sale by prescription, to be used under the supervision of a licensed physician.

Resources...A multinational group of researchers has devised an innovative method of removing tumor cells from bone marrow. The tumor cells are rendered magnetic by targeting them with monoclonal antibodies which are bound to polystyrene microspheres containing magnetite. The bone marrow can then be "cleaned" with a magnet. Up to

99.9 percent of the tumor cells can be removed with this technique, which is described in the January 14 *Lancet*....The December issue of the *IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Magazine* features five papers on "Therapeutic Uses of Electrical Stimulation." Topics include pain control, growth stimulation of bones, nerves and limbs, electroacupuncture, and soft tissue healing.... General Electric has published a pamphlet, *Parameters Determining the Appearance of NMR Images*. A copy is available at no charge from GE's Medical Systems Operations, PO Box 414, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

MILITARY SYSTEMS

Fourth PAVE PAWS Radar... The Air Force's Electronic Systems Division has awarded Raytheon's Equipment Division a $61.2 million contract to build, install and test a fourth phased array, PAVE PAWS, radar near Goodfellow AFB in Texas. Last November, the AF announced plans for the third PAVE PAWS radar at Robins AFB in Georgia at a cost of $76.9 million (see *MWN*, December 1983). Two other PAVE PAWS radars are already operational at Otis Air Guard Base in Massachusetts and at Beale AFB in California. The radars, which are more than ten stories tall, have two walls, each with 5,354 individual antennas. They can detect sea-launched ballistic missiles 3,000 miles away.

POWER LINES

Progress Report on NY Studies... The Scientific Advisory Panel of the New York State Power Lines Project will meet March 25-26 to review progress on its 16 ongoing studies. Plans for two epidemiological studies just getting under way at the University of Colorado in Denver and the Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratory in Richland, WA, will be included in the discussions (see *MWN*, September and November 1983). The public is invited to the second day of the meeting, which will be held at the Health Department Labs in Albany. Project Administrator Michael Rampolla said that a written semiannual progress report will be released at the end of this month. For details, contact Rampolla at the NY Power Lines Project, New York State Department of Health, Center for Laboratories and Research, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12201, (518) 474-7888.

Resources...A team from Hydro-Quebec's research institute, IREQ, has studied the corona, electric field and ion-current performance of a ± 900 kV bipolar HVDC transmission line. The results on radio interference, audible noise, corona loss, electric field and ozone generation are presented in the January 1984 issue of *IEEE Transactions on Power Apparatus and Systems*....A session on "Transmission Line Electric Field Effects" is scheduled for February 2 at the IEEE Power Engineering Society's winter meeting in Dallas, TX. Three presentations are planned: one on measurements of E-fields from transmission lines in residential environments by a team from Electric Research & Management; and two on methods of evaluating human exposures to 60 Hz E-fields by Dr. D. Deno of GE and M. Silva of Enertech, and by a group of Japanese researchers....The Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (MEQB) has issued two reports on the state's ± 400 kV DC power line. *A Health and Safety Evaluation of the ± 400 kV DC Power Line*, prepared by a seven-member advisory panel, concludes that "based on currently available scientific literature, there is no indication that the Cooperative Power Association/United Power Association ± 400 kV DC power line represents a risk of effects, symptoms or damage to the health of the general public as a result of short term exposures." One of the experts filed a dissenting report. *A Statistical/Epidemiological Study of Bovine Performance Associated with the CPA/UPA DC Power Line in Minnesota* found no significant changes in milk production or quality among herds near the line. Each report is $13.00, including handling charges, from the MEQB, 100 Capitol Square, St. Paul, MN 55101. An executive summary of each report is available free....There are now 13 gigawatts of HVDC capacity in the world, with 20 GW under construction and a projected annual growth rate of 15 percent a year through 1990, according to an article in the January issue of *IEEE Spectrum*, p.72. The report features a list of the major HVDC projects completed, built or planned around the world with a detailed map of the lines in the US....The General Accounting Office has prepared a report for the Secretary of DOE on *Expanding the Pacific Northwest/Southwest Intertie — Benefits and Impediments*. Report No. GAO/RCED-84-38, November 4, 1983 is available from GAO, Document Handling and Information Services Facility, PO Box 6015, Gaithersburg, MD 20760, (202) 275-6241.

STANDARDS

ANSI Conference... The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is sponsoring a one-day conference on *Standards and the Law* on March 27 at the Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel in Arlington, VA. Topics to be covered include the legality of standards, their anti-trust implications and their use in product liability cases. The registration fee is $150. On March 28, ANSI will hold a *Seminar on Administering Domestic Standards Activities*, which has a fee of $50. Those who register for both will receive a $25 discount. For more information, contact Ms. Dolly McKelvey, ANSI, 1430 Broadway, New York, NY 10018, (212) 354-3300.

Oven Leakage...FDA's National Center for Devices and Radiological Health has issued a final rule on its amended procedures for measuring leaks from microwave ovens. In 1980, the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers had objected to the FDA proposal but both sides reached an agreement in November 1981 (see *MWN*, May 1981 and January/February 1982). Now the FDA has promulgated the rule (46 *Federal Register* 57481, December 30, 1983); and it will take effect on July 2, 1984. For more information contact FDA's Melvyn Altman, (301) 443-3426.

Resources...ANSI's C63 Committee on Radio-Electrical Coordination is proposing to change its name to Committee on Electromagnetic Compatibility and to widen its scope to include setting guidelines on immunity. Meanwhile, its new

C63.12 standard *Recommended Practice on Procedures for Control of System Electromagnetic Compatibility* won official ANSI approval on December 2....The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) has published its Emergency Standard Test Methods (ES 7-83) for *Electromagnetic Shielding Effectiveness of Planar Materials* (see *MWN*, October 1983). A copy is available from ASTM, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19103, (215) 299-5400....The IEEE Standard (145-1983), *Definitions of Terms for Antennas* has been published as Part II of the November 1983 issue of the *IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Propagation*....ANSI/IEEE 539-1979, *Definition of Terms Relating to Overhead Power Line Corona and Radio Noise*, has been published and is available for $5.00 from ANSI's Sales Dept., 1430 Broadway, New York, NY 10018, (212) 354-3300.

TECHNOLOGY

Hazeltine Wins MLS Award... The FAA awarded Hazeltine Corp. of Commack, NY, a $90.6 million contract for the production and installation of 172 microwave landing systems (MLS) at airports across the country. As many as 1,250 MLS's are planned over the next 15 years in the US; the world market is projected to be $2-4 billion. In winning the contract, Hazeltine beat out competing systems developed by Bendix Corp. and Wilcox Electric Corp., a subsidiary of Northrop Corp. Hazeltine is expecting to lose about $12 million on the deal; the loss is acceptable, according to Sal Nuzzo, Hazeltine president and CEO, because it will allow the company to diversify into a non-defense market with potential for huge worldwide sales.

VDTs

Legislation...VDT bills are off to a running start in Connecticut, Ohio, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. A special panel of legislators in Connecticut met January 4 to hear the preliminary results of a VDT health and safety study ordered last June. Scientists from the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering (CASE) dismissed VDT radiation risks in their report. Speaking for CASE, Dr. Robert Handschumacher of the Yale University School of Medicine said existing radiation data "do not warrant very much more attention." Dr. Robert Wheeler, also of Yale, told the legislators that electromagnetic emissions are virtually eliminated by metallic shielding inside VDT casings. This shielding is required by FCC RFI regulations. The panel is expected to report its findings to the General Assembly by March 1. The study was ordered in a law passed last June (see *MWN*, June 1983)....In Ohio, VDT legislation sponsor Rep. Barbara Pringle testified before the Health and Retirement Committee on January 25. Pringle, whose proposal includes the right to non-VDT work during pregnancy and regular ophthalmological examinations (see *MWN*, November 1983), told *Microwave News* her legislation "would benefit employers as much as the employees" by making VDT operators more productive. More hearings are expected....Influential legislators in Rhode Island and Massachusetts introduced new bills; hearings are all but certain in both states. Rhode Island Rep. Henry Boeniger, chairman of the House Labor Committee, introduced bill H7012 with the backing of the Providence Newspaper Guild. Boeniger expects to hold a hearing in early March. Opponents of the measure, including many Chambers of Commerce in the state, say they intend to kill the bill. Massachusetts Rep. Timothy Bassett wanted to show the "wide range of policy options available" on VDT health and safety, so he introduced four bills (H3023-H3026). The weakest would establish an advisory committee to the state Department of Labor and Industries; the strongest includes mandatory standards for VDT work and periodic eye exams. Bassett, who chairs his state's Committee on Commerce and Labor, told *Microwave News* he wants to encourage a "dialogue" on VDTs but he does not expect a bill to pass this year. He plans to hold a hearing in late February.

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CONFERENCES

March 8-10: ***NMR Imaging,*** Hyatt Regency, San Francisco, CA. Contact: Contemporary Forums, 219 Canyon Vista, Suite 300, Danville, CA 94526, (415) 820-2800.

March 13-14: ***1984 National Radar Conference: Radar Technology for the 80's,*** Atlanta, GA. Contact: Dr. Edward Reedy, Georgia Institute of Technology, Engineering Experiment Station, Radar & Instrumentation Lab, Atlanta, GA 30332, (404) 424-9621.

April 3-5: ***3rd Annual Test & Measurement World Expo,*** Brooks Hall, San Francisco, CA. Contact: Meg Bowen, 215 Brighton Ave., Boston, MA 02134, (617) 254-1445.

April 4-5: ***20th Annual Meeting of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements,*** Washington, DC. Contact: NCRP, Suite 1016, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 657-2652.

April 14-19: ***19th Annual Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation Meeting and Exhibit,*** Washington Hilton, Washington, DC. Contact: AAMI, 1901 North Fort Myer Dr., Suite 602, Arlington, VA 22209, (703) 525-4890.

April 24-26: ***IEEE 1984 National Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility,*** Hyatt Regency Hotel, San Antonio, TX. Contact: William McGinnis, Southwest Research Institute, PO Drawer 28510, San Antonio, TX 78284, (512) 684-5111, ext. 2721.

April 29-May 2: ***62nd Annual Convention of the National Association of Broadcasters,*** Las Vegas Convention Center, NV. Contact: NAB, 1771 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 293-3570.

April 29-May 4: ***9th Conference & Exposition on Overhead and Underground Transmission and Distribution,*** Bartle Hall, Kansas City, MO. Contact: J.R. Miller, Kansas City Power & Light Co., PO Box 19964, Kansas City, MO 64141.

April 30-May 3: ***5th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Radiation Protection Association,*** Banff, Alberta. Contact: Stuart Hunt, 15 Glacier Place, St. Albert, Alberta, T8N 1R7, Canada.

May 6-12: ***6th International Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA),*** Berlin, West Germany. Contact: Dr. R. Neider, Bundesanstalt fur Materialprurfung, Unter den Eichen 87, D-1000 Berlin 45, West Germany.

May 7-9: ***1984 Microwave Power Tube Conference,*** Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA. Contact: John Skowron, Raytheon Co., Foundry Ave., Waltham, MA 02254, (617) 899-8400, ext. 4311.

May 7-11: ***Nuclear Magnetic Resonance 1984: National Symposium,*** Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress Resort, Orlando, FL. Contact: Ms. Norine Karwel, Educational Symposia, PO Box 17241, Tampa, FL 33682, (813) 879-8765.

May 20-24: ***16th Annual Meeting of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors,*** Des Moines, IA. Contact: CRCPD, 71 Fountain Pl., Frankfort, KY 40601, (502) 227-4543.

May 30-June 1: ***IEEE MTT-S International Microwave Symposium,*** San Francisco, CA. Contact: Dr. Ferdo Ivanek, Harris Corp., Farinon Division, 1691 Bayport Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070, (415) 594-3529. The ***1984 IEEE Microwave and Millimeter Wave Monolithic Circuits Symposium*** will be held in San Francisco May 29-30 in conjunction with the MTT-S meeting.

June 3-8: ***29th Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society,*** Hyatt Regency, New Orleans, LA. Contact: Richard Burk, Jr., HPS, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 506, Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 654-3080.

June 25-28: ***1984 International IEEE/AP-S Symposium and National Radio Science Meeting,*** Westin Hotel, Boston, MA. Contact: Professor Harold Raemer, Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Northeastern University, Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115.

June 26-28: ***7th International Symposium and Exhibition on Electromagnetic Compatibility,*** Wroclaw, Poland. Contact: W. Moron, EMC Symposium, Box 2141, 51-645 Wroclaw 12, Poland.

June 26-28: ***1984 International Conference on Lightning and Static Electricity,*** Orlando, FL. Contact: J.J. Fisher, US Naval Air Systems Command, PO Box 15036, Arlington, VA 22215, (202) 692-7822.

July 2-6: ***1984 Nuclear EMP Meeting,*** Baltimore Hilton Hotel, Baltimore, MD. Contact: Dr. Arthur Sindoris, Harry Diamond Labs, 2800 Powder Mill Rd., Adelphi, MD 20783.

July 2-6: ***4th International Symposium on Hyperthermic Oncology,*** Aarhus, Denmark. Contact: Dr. Jens Overgaard, Institute of Cancer Research, Radiumstationen, DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark.

July 15-19: ***6th Annual Bioelectromagnetics Society Meeting,*** Omni International Hotel, Atlanta, GA. Contact: BEMS, 1 Bank St., Gaithersburg, MD 20878, (301) 948-5530.

July 15-20: ***IEEE Power Engineering Society: 1984 Summer Meeting,*** Washington Plaza, Seattle, WA. Contact: Jack Richardson, Puget Sound Power & Light Co., 10608 NE Fourth St., Bellevue, WA. 98008, (206) 453-6800.

July 22-25: ***21st Annual Conference on Nuclear and Space Radiation Effects,*** Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado Springs, CO; followed by **July 26-27:** ***1984 Hardened Electronics and Radiation Technology (HEART) Conference,*** Fort Carson Army Base, Colorado Springs, CO. Contact for both meetings: B.D. Shafer, Sandia National Labs, Albuquerque, NM 87185, (505) 846-0629.

July 29-August 4: ***8th International Biophysics Congress,*** Bristol, England. Contact: Meon Conferences Services, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 3JN, England.

August 20-24: ***Conference on Precision Electromagnetic Measurements,*** Delft, Netherlands. Contact: Mrs. I.J. Smits, Department of Electrical Engineering, Delft University of Technology, PO Box 5031, 2600 GA Delft, Netherlands, 31-15-781736.

August 27-30: ***Open Symposium on the Interactions of Electromagnetic Waves with Biological Systems,*** Florence, Italy. (The symposium will be held as part of the URSI Assembly, see August 29 below.) Contact: Dr. Elliot Postow, Naval Medical R&D Command, Bldg. 142, National Navy Medical Center, Bethesda, MD 20814, (202) 295-1140.

August 29-September 5: ***21st General Assembly of the International Union of Radio Science (URSI),*** Florence, Italy. Contact: Professor A.M. Scheggi, Istituto Ricerca Onde Elettromagnetiche (IROE), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Via Panciatichi 64, 50127 Florence, Italy, 39-55-4378512.

September 10-13: ***14th European Microwave Conference,*** Liege, Belgium. Contact: Microwave Exhibitions & Publishers, Convex House, 43 Dudley Rd., Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1LE, England.

September 16-21: ***19th Annual Microwave Power Symposium,*** Sheraton-Ritz Hotel, Minneapolis, MN. Contact: IMPI, Suite 520, 301 Maple Ave., Vienna, VA 22180, (703) 281-1515.

September 17-19: ***37th Annual Conference on Engineering in Medicine and Biology,*** Los Angeles Hilton, Los Angeles, CA. Contact: Alliance for Engineering in Medicine and Biology, Suite 402, 4405 East-West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 657-4142.

September 18-20: ***4th International Conference on Electromagnetic Compatibility,*** University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey, England. Contact: Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers, 99 Gower St., London WCIE 6AZ, England, (01) 388-3071.

October 2-4: ***6th Annual Electrical Overstress/Electrostatic Discharge Symposium,*** Marriott Hotel, Philadelphia, PA. Contact: Burt Unger, Bell Labs, 600 Mountain Ave., Murray Hill, NJ 07974, (201) 582-2555.

October 16-18: ***1984 International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility,*** Tokyo, Japan. Contact: Professor T. Takagi, Dept. of Communications, Tohoku University, Sendai, 980, Japan, (0222) 22-1800 ext. 4266.

October 22-24: ***International Symposium on Noise and Clutter Rejection in Radars and Imaging Sensors,*** Sasakawa Hall, Tokyo, Japan. Contact: Professor T. Musha, Dept. of Applied Electronics, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 4259 Nagatsuta, Midori-ku, Yokohama, 277, Japan, (045) 922-1111, ext. 2546.

October 22-26: ***9th International Conference on Infrared and Millimeter Waves,*** Osaka, Japan. Contact: Professor A. Mitsuishi, Dept. of Applied Physics, Osaka University, Yamada-Oka, Suita, Osaka 565, Japan.

MICRO WAVE NEWS

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Microwave News invites contributions to *From the Field*, our occasional column featuring news and opinions from the non-ionizing radiation community. Letters from readers are also welcome.

Hawaii Broadcast Radiation: EPA Finds Hot Spots

The levels of radiofrequency (RF) radiation from broadcast antennas in Honolulu, Hawaii, are the highest ever measured in an urban area. According to a recently released report by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), human exposures in 12 out of 21 locations exceeded the standards adopted by the state of Massachusetts and/or the limits recommended by the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA). There are no U.S. federal standards governing non-ionizing radiation exposures for the general public.

Despite such high levels, EPA officials do not believe that RF radiation in Honolulu poses an "immediate risk," because most public exposures are "transient or intermittent." Nevertheless, Joseph Cannon, EPA assistant administrator for air and radiation, advised Mark Fowler, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), that "it would be prudent for you to investigate how many people have access to areas with the highest fields, and how often and how long they are exposed." (See the full text of Cannon's letter in "From the Field" on p.8.)

Cannon also wrote that the EPA "intends to propose several options for limiting exposure to RF radiation" in 1985 and to issue a federal standard in 1986. (See related story on p.7.)

AM Levels Exceed ANSI Limits

Richard Tell of EPA's Office of Radiation Programs went to Hawaii with FCC's Dr. Robert Cleveland last May to measure radiation levels after years of public concern over possible health risks (see *MWN*, April 1984).

Tell identified the highest radiation levels near AM (550 kHz-1.6 MHz) radio towers. Next to a tower in Kaimuki, with one FM and three AM stations, he found maximum AM magnetic fields of 9 A/m (the plane-wave equivalent of 3,054 mW/cm^2; AM fields cited below are given in terms of power densities) and FM levels of 830 uW/cm^2. Three AM stations at Ala Wai tower produced a field of up to 306 mW/cm^2 next to an access-limiting fence. In a parking lot at 331 Kamani where there are three AM stations and one FM station, levels as high as 3,261 mW/cm^2 were measured at the base of the tower — this area is closed to the public, however. AM levels inside a nearby clothing store were 23.9 mW/cm^2 near a floor fan and a machine that applies labels. The report notes that the machine caused RF burns.

The levels of very high frequency (VHF) (30-300 MHz) radiation associated with the FM and TV stations were generally below 1 mW/cm^2 in public areas. Four readings did exceed 1 mW/cm^2 in locations accessible only to maintenance personnel — the highest VHF reading, 20 mW/cm^2, was on the roof of the Ala Moana Hotel.

Tell also visited outdoor recreation and sun bathing areas on the top of high-rise apartment buildings that are near broadcast antennas. For instance, on the rooftop of the Villa on Eaton Square, opposite the Ala Wai tower, Tell measured AM levels greater than 24 mW/cm^2; and at an

(continued on p.4)

HIGHLIGHTS

Chromosomal Breaks Among Power Substation Workers

A team of Swedish researchers has identified unusually high rates of chromosomal abnormalities among power substation workers exposed to electromagnetic fields. Further laboratory research showed that spark discharge pulses caused chromosomal breaks, but that 50 Hz fields had no genetic effects on human lymphocytes.

Drs. I. Nordenson and S. Nordstrom of the University of Umea, Dr. K. Hansson Mild of the National Board of Occupational Safety and Health and E. Birke of the Swedish State Power Board in Vallingby observed an increased frequency of chromosomal breakage in a group of switchyard workers exposed to an EM field from a 400 kV system. Their *in vitro* study suggests "that exposure to electric fields (50 Hz, 1 mA/cm^2 current density in the blood sample) does not induce chromosomal damage in peripheral lymphocytes. However, when the exposure was in the form of repeated transient current (ten 3 usec-long pulses with 2.5-3.5 kV/cm peak [electric field] in the sample) a significantly increased frequency of chromosomal breaks was found."

Two of the co-authors, Nordstrom and Birke, have previously shown that the children of men who work in high voltage substations had an increased rate of congenital malformations (see *Bioelectromagnetics, 4,* 91, 1983, and *MWN,* March 1983). The new *in vivo* and *in vitro* investigations were designed to follow up that 1983 epidemiological study.

Analysis of the chromosomes of the substation workers' lymphocytes revealed no increase in gaps but highly significant increases in the rates of chromatid and chromosome breaks (p less than 0.0005), with a fivefold increase in chromosome breaks overall, compared to controls.

The frequency of chromosomal breaks in the *in vivo* study was similar to that induced in lymphocytes by ionizing radiation at a dose of 0.75 Gray (Gy), according to the researchers' paper, which appears in *Radiation and Environmental Biophysics, 23,* 191, 1984. (0.75 Gy is equivalent to 75 rads and is considered to be a large, though not a life-threatening, dose.)

A previous study, published in the same journal (*19,* 235, 1981) by a West German team headed by Dr. M. Bauchinger, failed to uncover any chromosomal changes in workers who had been exposed to 50 Hz fields in 380 kV switchyards for more than 20 years.

During a recent visit to the U.S., Dr. K. Hansson Mild told *Microwave News* that the Swedish team had also recently completed a well-controlled, follow-up study of 19 exposed non-smoking switchyard workers and that the results were the same as in the previous study.

"This constitutes a pretty clear case that spark discharges cause chromosomal damage," Mild said. It is not so much the fields, but the discharges that cause problems, he explained.

According to Mild, the discharges can easily be controlled through grounding.

Immunity Task Group: TVs, VCRs and Cordless Phones

An ad hoc working group is nearing completion of a report on its efforts to enhance the immunity of televisions and video cassette recorders (VCRs) to conducted and radiated interference. The group, which works under the aegis of the American National Standards Committee C63 on Electromagnetic Compatibility, formed a new subcommittee to study the immunity of cordless telephones, and plans are underway to broaden the group's inquiry to include security devices.

Don Heirman, chairman of the ad hoc group, said in a telephone interview that an interim status report describing voluntary standards for the immunity of TVs and VCRs will be presented to the IEEE Standards Board at its March meeting.

The public availability of the report will be decided by the board in March, according to Heirman, who is with AT&T Information Systems in Holmdel, NJ. The final report is due by the end of 1985.

The working group is keying its proposed immunity limits to those developed by the Electronic Industries Association (EIA). Three types of electromagnetic interference (EMI) are being addressed: (1) interference received along with the desired signal; (2) direct radiation; and (3) conducted interference by the power cord and other leads.

The first type is addressed in EIA Interim Standard No.10, *Immunity of TV Tuners to Internally Generated Harmonic Interference from Signals in the Band 535 kHz-30 MHz,* which is an expanded version of the 1980 EIA Bulletin No.8A, *Susceptibility of TV Tuners to Harmonically Generated Interference.* The 8A bulletin covered only CB radiation; No.10 includes AM radio up to 30 MHz. Eb Tingley of EIA's Consumer Electronics Group said that the new standard, which has already been published, will likely go into effect on January 1, 1986.

EIA's Proposed Interim Standard No.16, *Immunity of Television Receivers and Video Cassette Recorders to Direct Radiation from Radio Transmission, 0.5-30 MHz,* seeks to limit radiated EMI. Tingley said that this proposal, which is being voted on by the association's members, would require TVs and VCRs to withstand radiated fields of 1 V/m. (Last spring, EIA raised the possibility of using an immunity level of 3 V/m, but this was rejected by manufacturers as being too strict (see *MWN,* June 1984).

Conducted EMI from the power cord and other leads is being studied by the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) under an EIA contract. According to Tingley, the NBS will also evaluate proposed Special Committee on Radio Interference (CISPR) procedures for measuring conducted interference. The NBS report will not be ready until late 1985.

The ad hoc working group was set up to meet the Congressional mandate of reducing EMI to electronic equipment used in the home as defined in the Communications Act Amendments of 1982, P.L. 97-259 (see *MWN,* September and October 1982). The group is overseeing the development of voluntary immunity standards to forestall

mandatory FCC limits (see *MWN*, May 1983). The Federal Communications Commission's Frank Rose and Dan Yates are working with the ad hoc group.

Cordless Phones

The subcommittee on cordless phones is now trying to pick an independent laboratory to test the susceptibility of units to amateur radio signals. The phones operate at 46-49 MHz, and there is an amateur band at 50-54 MHz, which might cause objectionable EMI.

According to subcommittee member Jay Padgett of AT&T Consumer Products Labs in Neptune, NJ, no decision has yet been made on what data should be collected.

Padgett pointed out that the 49 MHz cordless phones have been on the market for some time, with virtually no interference complaints. Had there been a problem, the industry would have heard something by now.

Eric Schimmel of EIA's Information and Telecommunications Technologies Group agreed with Padgett: "We don't anticipate any problems showing up in the lab tests."

Heirman said that his ad hoc working group will begin addressing the immunity of burglar alarms and other security devices later this year.

VDTs and Problem Pregnancies: Research Underway

The possible link between video display terminals (VDTs) and miscarriages and birth defects is being intensively studied in the U.S. and Europe.

NIOSH Study

Researchers at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) have eliminated half of a planned two-part study of VDTs and reproductive risks, and the remaining part of the project is in limbo while agency officials consider whether it can produce useful information.

NIOSH researchers originally designed the epidemiological study to include both prospective and retrospective components. For the prospective portion, which has been dropped, NIOSH had intended to follow the reproductive histories of approximately 4,000 female telephone operators for two years. The study population would have consisted of 2,000 women working with VDTs and a control group of women using single-line, light-emitting diode (LED) displays. In the retrospective part, NIOSH plans to ask the same women to describe their health and reproductive histories for the *last* two-and-a-half years.

NIOSH was forced to abandon the forward-looking component when representatives of the three telephone and telecommunication companies scheduled to participate announced that the LED operators would soon begin using VDTs, invalidating their role as controls. The announcement came at a meeting held at NIOSH offices in Cincinnati, OH, on December 17 to review the study protocol.

Teresa Schnorr, the lead researcher on the project, said in a subsequent telephone interview that it would have been "preferable" to do both parts of the study and that the agency will now decide whether to do the historical component or nothing at all. But Dr. Jane Gordon, who headed the study until she left the agency in June, told *Microwave News* that the retrospective research "will be of very, very limited use" and will not add much to what is already known. Gordon is now a part-time consultant to the Communications Workers of America.

Meanwhile, the protocol for the retrospective part of the study has come under fire from both industry and labor groups. Industry groups are complaining that NIOSH should look at other occupations, not just telephone operators, to ensure that the results can be generalized to other VDT-based jobs. Union officials want more attention placed on stress and equipment design as possible causes of reproductive abnormalities.

NIOSH will not measure radiation levels or try to determine whether radiation emissions might affect pregnancies. Agency officials downplay possible health effects caused by VDT emissions, including very low frequency (VLF) fields.

Agency officials have not yet set a starting date for the study, but Schnorr hopes to begin distributing questionnaires by late summer.

Other Developments

Researchers elsewhere are also focusing on the VDT-problem pregnancy issue.

- Dr. William Butler, an epidemiologist at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, announced at the December 17 NIOSH meeting that he and Dr. Kelley Brix are planning a retrospective epidemiological study of VDTs and reproductive risks. Butler said that they "will cover different ground" than NIOSH. He would not comment on their funding sources or study populations.

- Researchers at Finland's Institute of Occupational Health in Helsinki found no evidence that VDT work can cause birth defects. Using listings in the national birth registry and a limited number of questionnaires, Drs. Kari Kurpa, Peter C. Holmberg, Kaarina Rantala and Tuula Nurminen concluded that working at VDTs produces no increase in the rate of reproductive abnormalities among exposed women. Thus, the authors report in the December 8, 1984 issue of *Lancet* that "our results do not give support to rumors that exposure to VDTs causes birth defects." Responding to this and other VDT research, *Lancet* editorialized on January 12 that continued research "will probably dissipate many of the general fatigue symptoms [reported by operators], and with them will go much of the anxiety about radiation. Much, but never all of the anxiety; where the health of so many is involved, unruffled vigilance is a good prescription."

- A statement has been issued from the first international conference on VDTs and reproductive risks, held November 29-30 in London, England. The meeting, which was closed to the public and the press, brought together re-

searchers from Europe, Canada and the U.S. In a summary statement, conference organizers report that: "...there was general agreement among the panel of expert speakers that the investigations which have been carried out throughout the world — involving both the measurement of emissions from VDTs and the study of groups of operators to see if they have suffered any ill effects — have failed to confirm that the alleged harmful effects are attributable to VDT work. However, there was also general agreement that further surveys and research were justified given the complex and emotive nature of the allegations." A copy of the statement can be obtained from Humane Technology, PO Box 2, Quorn, Nr. Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 8EG, England. Also available is a complete set of the papers presented at the meeting. It costs 15 pounds in Europe and 16.50 pounds elsewhere (prepaid, price includes postage).

• A NIOSH investigation of a problem pregnancy cluster at Southern Bell's offices in Atlanta, GA, confirmed that a cluster existed but did not find its cause (see *MWN*, April and May 1984). In a report released in late January (HETA 83-329-1498), NIOSH explained that maternal age, VDT use and time spent standing were ruled out as possible agents for the 43 percent miscarriage rate (6 of 14 pregnancies) that occurred among workers on the fifth floor of one of the company's buildings. This is one of three ongoing NIOSH investigations of possible problem pregnancy clusters and the first for which a report has been completed.

FCC Action on RF/MW Radiation Expected Soon

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is expected to reach a decision soon on its proposed rules on radiofrequency and microwave (RF/MW) radiation hazards. An FCC staffer said the commission may issue a ruling following its February 14 meeting or soon thereafter.

If the FCC decides to make radiation safety a factor in evaluating environmental risks, it will probably base its guidelines on compliance with either the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards.

Final action on Docket No. 79-144 has been pending since early 1982, when the FCC proposed a requirement that applicants for new facilities complete an environmental assessment, and possibly an environmental impact statement, if workers or the public could be exposed to radiation levels above 10 mW/cm^2. The rules are designed to meet the commission's obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act (see 47 *Federal Register* 8214, February 25, 1982 and *MWN*, March 1982).

The broadcast and communications industry used the proposal as an opportunity to urge the FCC to preempt state and local RF/MW radiation standards. Some commenters advised the commission to adopt the 1982 ANSI limits; others suggested staying with the more lenient 10 mW/cm^2 OSHA standard (see *MWN*, September 1982).

Hawaii Broadcast Radiation

(continued from p.1)

open access area on top of the Coty Tower he measured VHF power densities of up to 663 uW/cm^2.

Readings were generally lower inside buildings than in the open air because, EPA points out, walls and roofs attenuate the radiation. At VHF frequencies, the two highest indoor readings were 27-60 uW/cm^2 in an apartment on the 10th floor of Coty Tower and 40 uW/cm^2 in the restaurant at the Ala Moana Hotel. These power densities do not exceed any current guidelines used in the U.S., though they are higher than the Soviet Union's standard for the general population.

The radiation levels cited in the report are approximate. Tell cautions that they are accurate within a factor of plus or minus 2 decibel: "This corresponds to a possible uncertainity of +58 percent and -37 percent in the stated power densities and a possible uncertainty of +26 percent and -21 percent in the stated electric or magnetic field strengths. For example, a stated power density of 500 uW/cm^2 could in reality be as low as 315 uW/cm^2 or as high as 790 uW/cm^2."

Reactions in Hawaii

The release of the EPA report caught most people in Honolulu by surprise. "I got no warning that they were going to release the report," said City Councilmember Marilyn Bornhorst, who has expressed concern about radiation exposure.

The EPA report, *Radiofrequency Radiation Measurement Survey, Honolulu, Hawaii, May 14-25, 1984*, was handled with great sensitivity within the agency. Although it was completed last June, EPA delayed release until January while staffers wrote an accompanying "Background Information" fact sheet. Agency officials, one from Washington, DC, and one from the regional office in San Francisco, CA, went to Hawaii to hand deliver the report to key state and local officials and to answer questions.

"I wish we had better data on whether the ANSI standard is safe," Bornhorst said, referring to the guidelines set by the American National Standards Institute in 1982. She added that "I would feel a lot safer if we were following the Portland standard." The city of Portland, OR, has the strictest RF standard in the U.S.

Robert Hall of the Hawaii Institute for Biosocial Research in Honolulu said that he was "shocked" by the disparity between EPA's press release and the numbers in the actual report. He echoed Bornhorst's opinion of the ANSI standard: "We are not going to listen to ANSI." Hall had been pressing EPA to come to Hawaii to assess radiation risks since 1977.

(In its press release, EPA officials said that they do "not

believe that the levels of RF radiation measured at the Honolulu sites pose an immediate risk to the public because it is likely that most exposures are brief or intermittent and few, if any, people are likely to be exposed continuously to the highest levels." Similarly, an FCC press release said: "It was pleased to announce that the results of the study have shown that radio and TV signals in Honolulu do not pose an immediate danger to the public.")

(In its background paper, EPA concludes that heating is the primary health effect of RF radiation. With respect to low-level effects, the agency wrote: "The scientific literature also contains evidence intimating non-thermal effects from RF radiation, but this is unproven." And: "A recent study said to show a non-specific increase in tumors and adrenal effects in laboratory animals chronically exposed at 0.4 W/Kg of RF radiation needs to be analyzed in depth" (see *MWN*, July/August 1984).)

Congressman's AM Station

The family of Democratic Congressman Cecil Heftel owns KSSK-AM, which broadcasts from a tower that produces one of the hot spots reported by the FCC. The radio station is located at Ala Wai Tower, where EPA measured levels of 306 mW/cm^2 near the tower's access-limiting fence.

Ted Bornstein, the congressman's administrative assistant, refused to comment on Heftel's personal business affairs. According to the 1983 *Broadcasting Yearbook*, KSSK is owned by Heftel Broadcasting Corp., of which Cecil Heftel is president. The congressman's district includes Honolulu.

Earl McDaniel, KSSK's general manager, said that he had read the EPA report and that he was pleased to find out that no one is in danger. With respect to remedial actions, he said that the station would look to the FCC.

Councilmember Bornhorst said that her staff is looking into the possibility of proposing an exposure standard for Honolulu. In the meantime, she is urging EPA to set national limits. In addition, Hall said that he and his associates are preparing their own report on radiation exposures in Honolulu.

Both Bornhorst and Hall cited past government deception over pesticide contamination in the state and raised the possibility that EPA was repeating the same errors, thereby risking its credibility on the radiation safety question.

Current Standards

EPA had been planning to propose RF radiation limits of 100 uW/cm^2 for the VHF band and 10 mW/cm^2 for AM frequencies before internal agency disputes stalled the proposal in June of 1984 (see *MWN*, June and July/August 1984). These levels are ten times stricter than the 1982 ANSI limits for both occupational and public exposures — 1 mW/cm^2 and 100 mW/cm^2 at VHF and AM frequencies respectively (see *MWN*, September 1982).

In 1983, IRPA approved limits for the general public of 200 uW/cm^2 (VHF) and 2 mW/cm^2 (AM) (see *MWN*, March 1984). And in 1984, the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory set occupational standards of 100 uW/cm^2 for VHF and 10 mW/cm^2 for AM frequencies (see *MWN*, December 1984).

The state of Massachusetts has its own standard: 200 uW/cm^2 for VHF and 20 mW/cm^2 for AM — designed to be five times stricter than the ANSI limits (see *MWN*, September 1983). In 1980, Portland, OR, set its own — and the strictest — standard: 100 uW/cm^2 for VHF and 500 uW/cm^2 for AM.

At the 21 Honolulu sites where measurements were made, 5 locations (3 AM, 2 VHF) were in excess of the ANSI standard, 11 would violate the Massachusetts standard (6 AM, 7 VHF), and 12 would exceed the IRPA limits (7 AM, 7 VHF). In some locations, both VHF and AM standards were exceeded. Most of the sites are publicly accessible, though only two of the AM readings that were above the ANSI limits were in public spaces. EPA points out that all the locations are near antennas and were picked because they were believed to have the strongest RF fields. EPA also notes that the fields fall off quickly with distance.

Based on previous field studies, EPA has estimated that less than one percent of the U.S. population is exposed to more than 1 uW/cm^2.

Remedial Work Underway

Steps have already been taken to limit exposures near the two publicly accessible AM towers where fields exceed the ANSI standard. William Hassinger, engineering advisor to the chief of the FCC's mass media bureau, told *Microwave News* that the commission is in contact with representatives of the owners of the radio stations and that remedial action is underway.

In one case, Hassinger said, the station owns the affected land and a fence probably will be erected to bar public access. In the second case, a solution may take

Other Radiation Hot Spots

While local zoning laws that force broadcasters to put their antennas in populated areas make downtown Honolulu a special case, there are many other locations in the United States where the public may also be exposed to radiation levels in excess of the ANSI standard.

EPA's Richard Tell said that there are "localized hot spots" throughout the United States. In a telephone interview from his office in Las Vegas, NV, Tell said that he had a computer printout listing about 200 FM stations which can, according to calculations, produce general public exposures greater than the ANSI standard.

Tell recommended that fences be built to block public access to some of these hot spots. "We should go out and identify the worst case exposure locations and tell people where the unacceptable levels are," Tell said.

longer because the property is leased. Hassinger described the owners as "eager to help and resolve the problem."

An FCC press release stated that "any plans or proposals developed by the FCC likely will be highly individualized and will require a great deal of cooperation by all parties concerned."

The FCC has no formal rules governing occupational and public exposure to non-ionizing radiation. Hassinger said that the commission was gauging health risks on the basis of the ANSI limits.

The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) also said that the stations involved were cooperating to resolve the problem. NAB President Edward Fritts called the Hawaii situation an "isolated and unique" case because broadcast towers are rarely located in inhabited areas.

In a press release, Fritts said that the NAB favored the ANSI standard and asked the federal government to adopt it to "assuage unwarranted public concern and eliminate unnecessary confusion at the state and local level." He noted that, "For more than 50 years, broadcasters have provided communications services...with absolutely no evidence of harm."

The Electromagnetic Energy Policy Alliance (EEPA) also urged the federal government to adopt the ANSI standard. In a press release, the trade group stated that, "The EPA survey results confirm that the Honolulu general public is in no danger from exposure to RF fields generated by radio and television broadcasting."

Beyond ANSI

While the two AM towers should be able to meet the ANSI limits without incurring large costs, Honolulu broadcasters would have more difficulty conforming to tougher limits, like the EPA's stalled 100 uW/cm^2 proposal.

Although EPA could set a standard as early as next year (it may not be 100 uW/cm^2; indeed, EPA may decide a standard is not needed), very little planning is underway to meet limits which are stricter than ANSI's.

FCC's Hassinger believes that a long-term solution will probably be needed. "Wholesale relocation" of the antennas would be good, if feasible, he said, with the goal of "putting some distance between transmitters and people."

At the NAB, Tom Keller, vice-president for science and technology, said that he could not predict whether stricter standards than ANSI's would be adopted or how broadcasters would react to such measures. He said that it is in the broadcasters' best interests to make the antennas more efficient, which would be the case if the towers were placed on the hills overlooking Honolulu.

At present, local laws prevent broadcasters from siting antennas on the adjacent hills, forcing the towers to be built in the middle of the city.

Shock and Burn Hazards

In the course of taking survey measurements, Tell responded to an FCC request to investigate accounts of window washers at high-rise buildings receiving RF burns from the long, metal cables that support their platforms. In one experiment, Tell measured almost one half ampere of current in a cable (extending from the roof of the Villa at Eaton Square), even though the ground level electric field strengths were only 1-2 V/m. According to the EPA report, "it was not possible to measure the open-circuit voltage on the cable, but the voltage was sufficient in strength to produce electrical arcs from the cable to grounded objects."

The report goes on: "Under these particular conditions, (the presence of conductors such as metal cables in low frequency fields), the RF burn phenomena is difficult to control...and shocks and burns present a real hazard for window washers using metal cables. Depending on whether metal cables are hung in close proximity to flammable materials (cloth awnings, grass, brush) or close to street level, fire hazards and/or shocks or burns to passersby inadvertently touching cables might be possible."

EPA has referred the matter to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). In a telephone interview, Bob Curtis of OSHA's Health Response Team in Salt Lake City, UT, acknowledged that metal cables create a shock risk, but explained that non-conducting cables cannot be used because of other OSHA rules.

(As noted earlier, in his report Tell cites a case of a label machine causing RF burns inside a store near a broadcast tower.)

There have also been reports of longshoremen receiving RF burns while working near cranes on docks half a mile from an AM radio tower. And Councilmember Bornhorst said that she knew of a report of sparks causing a fire in garbage at the bottom of an elevator shaft. Hall also said that he knew of a spontaneous fire near a broadcast tower.

Anecdotal stories of neurological disorders and other health complaints among residents of apartment buildings near broadcast towers are also circulating. These could not be confirmed and no health studies have been done.

OSHA's Curtis said that he had also been to Hawaii to take measurements last year but that he had not investigated commercial broadcast sources. He took readings near the Navy's Omega antenna and its communications station at Lualualei (see *MWN*, July/August 1982). Curtis said that his report would be completed in about six weeks.

For a copy of the Hawaii report, contact: Office of Radiation Programs, EPA, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460. ●

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EPA Plans To Issue RF/MW Standard in 1986

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) now plans to issue federal limits in 1986 for public exposure to radiofrequency and microwave (RF/MW) radiation. The agency's schedule is cited in a letter from Joseph Cannon, EPA Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, to Mark Fowler, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, which accompanied the release of an EPA report on radiation levels in Honolulu, Hawaii (see story on p.1 and the complete text of the letter on p.8).

In his January 22 letter, Cannon wrote that in 1985 EPA will "propose several options for limiting exposure to RF radiation." Among the listed possibilities are a 100, 200 or 1,000 uW/cm^2 standard. The agency may also decide that public exposure can be controlled without a standard.

Cannon also said that he anticipated reaching a decision on a national RF/MW radiation standard in 1986.

David Janes, of EPA's Office of Radiation Programs (ORP) in Washington, DC, confirmed this schedule in a telephone interview with *Microwave News*.

EPA plans to propose limits last summer were stalled by dissent within the agency, principally from the Office of Policy Planning and Evaluation (see *MWN*, June and July/August 1984). In the fall, ORP Director Sheldon Meyers said that EPA would go to the *Federal Register* to obtain more information in an effort to decide on a preferred course of action (see *MWN*, October 1984).

EPA has now combined two steps: the agency will ask for outside opinions and propose a standard at the same time. Janes explained that the agency could save a year using this approach.

Informed sources note, however, that there is little chance a standard could emerge without a strong commitment from the new EPA administrator, Lee Thomas, because of longstanding opposition from the agency's policy office.

Cannon also told Fowler that later this year EPA would issue an economic analysis of the costs to broadcast sources of complying with RF/MW standards. The analysis is being prepared by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (see *MWN*, January/February 1984).

CONFERENCES

March 5-7: **6th Symposium & Technical Exhibition on Electromagnetic Compatibility,** Zurich, Switzerland. Contact: EMC Symposium & Exhibition, ETH Zentrum-IKT, 8092 Zurich, Switzerland, 256-27-90.

March 20: **Symposium on Vision in the High Tech Society,** Sheraton Washington Hotel, Washington, DC. Contact: American Optometric Association, 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63141, (314) 991-4100.

March 21-22: **IMTC/85: Instrumentation/Measurement Technology Conference,** Hyatt Regency, Tampa, FL. Contact: Dr. Robert Ashley, Sperry Corp., PO Box 4648, Clearwater, FL 33518, (813) 577-1900, ext. 2228.

March 22-26: **3rd Annual Meeting of the Society for Magnetic Resonance Imaging,** Town & Country Hotel, San Diego, CA. Contact: SMRI, 1340 Old Chain Bridge Rd., Suite 300, McLean, VA 22101, (703) 790-1745.

April 3-4: **21st Annual Meeting of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements,** Washington, DC. Contact: NCRP, Suite 1016, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 657-2652.

April 14-17: **63rd Annual Convention of the National Association of Broadcasters,** Las Vegas, NV. Contact: NAB, 1771 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 293-3570.

April 16-17: **8th International Colloquium on the Prevention of Occupational Risks due to Electricity,** London, UK. Contact: International Fire Security & Safety Exhibitions & Conferences Ltd., Cavendish House, 128/134 Cleveland St., London W1P 5DN, UK, (01) 387-5050.

April 16-19: **4th International Conference on Antennas and Propagation (ICAP 85),** Coventry, UK. Contact: Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE), Savoy Place, London WC2R 0BL, UK, (01) 240-1871, ext. 222.

April 17-19: **3rd International Conference on Developments in Power System Protection,** London, UK. Contact: IEE, see April 16 above.

SHORT COURSES

March 18: **Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) Control,** Dallas, TX. Fee: $295. Contact: R&B Enterprises, 20 Clipper Rd., West Conshohocken, PA 19428, (215) 825-1960.

March 18-20: **Dielectric Resonators,** Oxford, MS. Fee: $550. Contact: Division of Continuing Education, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677.

March 18-21: **Elements of Phased Array Radar System Design,** Atlanta, GA. Fee: $750. Contact: Dept. of Continuing Education, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA 30332, (404) 894-2400.

March 18-22: **TEMPEST-Design, Control & Testing,** Washington, DC. Fee: $1175. (Secret Security Clearance Required.) Contact: DWCI, Star Route 625, PO Box D, Gainesville, VA 22065, (703) 347-0030.

March 20-21: **Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) Design and Test,** Dallas, TX. Fee: $595. Contact: R&B, see March 18 above.

March 25-26: **Lightning Protection,** Orlando, FL. Fee: $650. Contact: Continuing Engineering Education, George Washington University (GWU), Washington, DC 20052, (800) 424-9773 or (202) 676-6106 in DC. **Repeated** August 12-13: Washington, DC.

April 1-4: **Computational Methods in Electromagnetics,** Monterey, CA. Fee: $750. Contact: Ann Beekman, SCEEE, 11th & Massachusetts Ave., St. Cloud, FL 32769, (305) 892-6146.

April 15-18: **Modern Microwave Measurements,** Palo Alto, CA. Fee: $895. Contact: Continuing Education Institute (CEI), 10889 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90024, (213) 824-9545 or (301) 596-0111. **Repeated** May 13-16: Alexandria, VA.

April 15-19: **Laser Microwave Hazards Course,** Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Fee: NA. Contact: Mrs. Donley, US Army Environmental Hygiene Agency, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010, (301) 671-4158.

May 6-10: **Radiation Safety,** Evanston, IL. Fee: $895. Contact: Continuing Engineering Studies, 2804 Technological Institute, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60201, (312) 492-3365.

EPA Letter to FCC on Hawaii Broadcast Radiation

Reprinted below is the complete text of the January 22 letter from Joseph A. Cannon, assistant administrator for air and radiation at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to Mark S. Fowler, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), accompanying the EPA report on the levels of broadcast radiation in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dear Mr. Fowler:

At your request, a joint EPA and FCC study was conducted in May 1984 to measure the intensity of radiofrequency (RF) radiation fields in the vicinity of broadcast stations in Honolulu, Hawaii. I am happy to provide you with the enclosed report that summarizes the results of these field measurements.

In the study, measurements were made only in areas near antennas, and almost all of the broadcast towers in Honolulu were included. The survey locations are representative of places in Honolulu where public exposures to RF radiation fields are believed to be highest. The results show that public exposures in 12 out of the 21 survey locations exceed limits currently proposed, recommended, and/or adopted by several scientific and technical advisory organizations or regulatory bodies. Because of the combination of exposure levels and public accessibility, at least two of the locations may warrant further evaluation. The measurements and various exposure guidelines are discussed in the report.

RF radiation can produce various biological effects. Most studies use experimental animals exposed for relatively short periods of time, rather than long-term continuous exposures, and few health studies of people have been done. At relatively high levels, health effects are due to heating of cells and tissues, and increases in temperature are dependent on duration of exposure. At lower levels of exposure, the public health significance of experimentally observed effects is not well understood.

Although there are many uncertainties in our current understanding of how exposure to RF radiation affects human health, it is possible to interpret the meaning of the observed biological effects in terms of the potential for adverse health effects in exposed people and to identify subgroups in the population who may be particularly sensitive. Such an interpretation is presented in the enclosed fact sheet. The fact sheet also gives other background information on the survey, and it will be distributed to the public and members of the press who may request the report from us.

We do not believe that the levels of RF radiation measured at the Honolulu sites pose an immediate risk for the following reasons. Field intensities tend to drop off rapidly as distance from the source increases. In general, beyond about 100-150 feet from the base of antenna towers, people are exposed to low levels, typically below 100 microwatts per square centimeter or about 0.04 watts per kilogram of body mass....The highest levels measured in this survey were outdoors in close proximity to the towers, on rooftops, or in areas with access normally limited to maintenance personnel or other workers. Indoor fields are generally low because of shielding by the walls and roofs of buildings. Consequently, it is likely that most exposures are transient or intermittent, and few people are likely to be exposed continuously to the highest fields. However, it would be prudent for you to investigate how many people have access to areas with the highest fields, and how often and how long they are exposed.

I understand that the Commission, in cooperation with local authorities, will decide if and what corrective actions may be needed in Honolulu. I recognize that the results of this study are difficult to interpret in the absence of the Federal Guidance you have requested from EPA. In 1985, EPA intends to propose several options for limiting exposure to RF radiation. The options encompass the range of limits recommended or adopted by various advisory groups such as the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and include:

1. Controlling public exposure by limiting whole-body average specific absorption rates (SAR) to 0.04 watts per kilogram (W/Kg) for frequencies above 3 Megahertz (MHz) and to 87 volts per meter (V/m) or 0.23 Amperes per meter (A/m) at frequencies below 3 MHz.
2. Controlling public exposure by limiting whole-body average SARs to 0.08 W/Kg for frequencies above 3 MHz and to 275 V/m or 0.73 A/m for frequencies below 3 MHz.
3. Controlling public exposure by limiting whole-body average SARs to 0.4 W/Kg for frequencies above 3 MHz and to 614 V/m or 1.63 A/m for frequencies below 3 MHz.
4. Other possible options, including not establishing Federal Guidance for RF radiation.

I anticipate that we will reach a decision on establishing Guidance in 1986. But, in the absence of formal EPA Guidance, you should at least consider evaluating the two publicly accessible locations in Honolulu where the measured exposure levels exceed the third option level listed above. In addition, we will be glad to help you with additional analyses you may undertake such as calculating exposures at various distances from the towers or identifying techniques (fencing, posting, and/or shielding, etc.) that can be used to limit public access to the higher fields near antenna towers.

We have just published a review of the biological effects of radiofrequency radiation, and various other background documents will also be made available to the public in 1985:

- Radiofrequency radiation in the environment — sources and levels of exposure (Office of Radiation Programs, EPA).
- An estimate of the potential costs of guidelines limiting public exposure to RF radiation from broadcast sources (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory).
- Assessing the potential impact of Federal radiation safety regulations on AM, FM, and TV broadcast sources (Office of Radiation Programs, EPA).

If you have any questions about the report, please feel free to call me at 382-7400.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Cannon

VDT Radiation Measurements at SRI International

The following communication was sent to Microwave News *by Jane Clemmensen, a research engineer at SRI International. Clemmensen's letter is dated October 11.*

We would like to provide additional data relative to the article on VDT flyback radiation (*MWN*, September 1984). Our comments will be restricted to Dr. Guy's data since the EPA measurements were peak rather than rms average fields. We did not measure rise and fall times of the horizontal sweep oscillator. We measured the vertical component of the electric field (Ez) and one or more components of the magnetic field (Bx, By, Bz). Unless

otherwise noted B-field values given are for the total B vector.

Our data on VDTs are consistent with Guy's range of rms magnetic fields (25-175 nT [nanotesla] or 0.02-0.14 A/m) which he measured 25-30 cm from the screen. We measured fields 30 cm in front of the screen of an old Heathkit terminal and found the magnetic field at the flyback frequency, 15.5 kHz, to be 63 nT (0.05 A/m). The B-field 40 cm away from the rear of the VDT was 13 nT (0.01 A/m). Our electric field data are not in agreement with Guy's generalization that E-fields measured 25-30 cm from the screen are typically 5 V/m for new VDTs and 50 V/m for older VDTs. We measured a 1.5 V/m electric field at 15.5 kHz at a distance 30 cm from the front of the screen of an old Heathkit terminal. More measurements on a number of different VDTs are clearly indicated before generalizations can be made.

Any discussion of fields from VDTs should also include television sets because they display similar spectral features and produce VLF emissions. The horizontal sweep frequency is standardized in TV sets at 15.7 kHz. In VDTs the flyback frequency varies with make and manufacturer. The electric and magnetic fields originating from the flyback transformers of VDTs and TV sets are also accompanied by strong electric and magnetic fields at harmonics of the 60 Hz power line frequency. The magnitude of harmonic fields is approximately equal to the fields from the flyback transformer. 60 Hz harmonic fields therefore must be measured in addition to VLF radiation.

Our measurements of TV sets were made 1 m in front of the set at the height of a sitting child's head, 0.7 m above the floor. Electric fields at 1 m ranged from 1 V/m for a Sony TV to 3 V/m for an RCA. The single-axis magnetic field 1 m in front of the Sony was 1 nT ($8x10^{-4}$ A/m) for the By orientation. The magnetic field from the RCA TV was 0.5 nT ($4x10^{-4}$ A/m) for the By orientation and 1.5 nT ($1.2x10^{-3}$ A/m) for the Bx orientation.

Jane M. Clemmensen, Research Engineer
Radio Physics Laboratory, SRI International
333 Ravenswood Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025

UPDATES

BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS

ELF Research at Tulane...A group at the Electroscience and Biophysics Research Lab at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, has been studying the effects of chronic exposure to high intensity electric fields for EPRI. The experiments were completed in 1982; shortly thereafter, the principal investigator, Dr. Y.J. Seto, died. The other members of the research team are Drs. William Dunlap, S.T. Hsieh, John Lymangrover, Deborah Majeau-Chargois and Cedric Walker. They have published a number of papers describing the results of their multi-generation study. In general, they did not identify any gross effects, though they did find a number of subtle interactions. Exposing rats to 80 kV/m unperturbed 60 Hz electric fields for 42-240 days (a mean of 125 days) resulted in enhanced growth in the long bones, causing both increased length and mass (*Journal of Bioelectricity, 1,* 339, 1982). Exposure for 120 days from conception caused no changes in food and water intake, but there was a statistically significant effect on the pattern of growth, "suggestive of a slight initial developmental delay" (*Journal of Bioelectricity, 2,* 197, 1983). The same 120-day exposure period caused no changes in body chemistry metabolism, as measured by 17 serum chemistry assays (*Journal of Environmental Science and Health, A19,* 865, 1984). Exposing four generations of rats to 80 kV/m did not affect the incidence of gross malformations or resorptions, nor did it change fetal orientations or the offsprings' sex ratios (*IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering, 31,* 693, 1984; this paper also describes the exposure facility.) Still to come are the results on hematology. Some of these findings were presented at the 1982 BEMS meeting in Los Angeles, CA. In that paper, Majeau-Chargois reported a very significant decrease in white blood cells, as well as significant changes in spleen, kidney, adrenal and testes weights (see *MWN,* July/August 1982). According to Hsieh, the hematology results will appear in *Environmental Research, 37,* in August 1985. One of the most interesting findings from the EPRI project was the demonstration of intensity windows at 60 Hz. The team discovered that exposure for five-and-a-half hours to a 10 kV/m 60 Hz field caused a highly significant, threefold elevation in the production of steroids by the rat's adrenal cortical tissue after in vitro administration of adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH), but that 5, 100 and 1000 kV/m fields had no effect (*Life Sciences, 32,* 691, 1983). Hsieh said that additional papers are planned.

COMPATIBILITY & INTERFERENCE

ISM EMI to Aircraft... In 1982, the FAA signed a $40,000 contract with the Avionics Engineering Center at Ohio University to determine, through calculations and measurements, the risks of EMI to aircraft avionics, especially with respect to instrument landing systems (ILS) and automatic direction finding (ADF) receivers (see *MWN,* September 1983). A final manuscript was sent to the FAA in the spring of 1984 and has been under review ever since. Last May, after the work had been completed, the center's James Nickum told *Microwave News* that he had turned up some interesting findings. For instance, he said that the ground-to-air propagation of ISM radiation is "significantly different" from ground-to-ground propagation. "There is certainly a need to address the issue of radiation interference to aeronautical services," Nickum said. While he did not advocate setting new standards, he did indicate that thought should be given to the advisability of siting ISM equipment near airports. (Last September, Nickum left Ohio to join the Collins Division of Rockwell International in Cedar Rapids, IA.) The FAA now estimates that the Ohio University report will be issued in May.

GOVERNMENT

FCC Steps Up Enforcement... The FCC seized electronic equipment valued at $500,000 late last year, ending a

two-year investigation into the import of "non-type accepted" devices. In a raid on Granada Electronics of Brooklyn, NY, the commission confiscated more than 2,700 items illegally imported from the Far East, including CB radios, walkie-talkies and FM receivers, all of which are potential sources of RF interference. The CB radios, for example, are capable of operating at unauthorized frequencies and at power levels exceeding commission limits. Lawrence Wallach of L.W. Sales in Lynbrook, NY, was arrested for the unlawful sale of illegal CB transceivers. If convicted, the 27-year-old Wallach faces a maximum of 5 years in prison and $5,000 in fines....In a separate action, in January the commission fined three distributors $2,000 each for the repeated sale of cordless telephones that failed to meet the FCC's radiated power limitation. Those fined were TAD Avanti, distributor of the Record-a-Call CAT-100 and CAT-300; Dynascan, distributor of the Cobra CP915B; and Uniden, distributor of the Uniden EX-3100. The 46/49 MHz units were tested as part of the commission's upgraded sampling program.

LITIGATION

VDT Cataract Ruling... The New York State Workers' Compensation Board has ruled in favor of a secretary in what is believed to be the first successful claim of VDT-induced cataracts. Because the board ruled that the woman's cataracts "constitute an occupational disease arising out of and in the course of her employment," the January 2 decision may set a precedent for future claims. In its ruling (Case 0810 8929), the board found that "there is a recognizable link between the claimant's occupation and her disability." The decision was made on appeal after a workers' compensation law judge rejected the secretary's initial claim on August 26, 1983. No financial award was made, but Richard Spillane, the secretary's attorney, told *Microwave News* that the woman plans to file for compensation for lost work time and reduced earnings due to her condition. The secretary, Eileen Maguire of Staten Island, NY, was first diagnosed as having cataracts in August 1980, just seven months after she began working at a VDT. Four months after the diagnosis, she submitted a doctor's note to her employer, Shroder Bank and Trust Co. of New York City, stating that she could no longer work at a terminal. As a result, the company fired her in 1981.

Overviews... Microwave and VDT litigation were the subjects of two long articles in *The National Law Journal.* In the December 10 issue, John Parry advises law firms to do everything possible to integrate terminals properly into their office or risk the legal consequences. On the subject of radiation, he writes: "With regard to allegations of radiation injuries, the need for proximate causation makes recovery highly unlikely, except, perhaps, where a faulty VDT terminal is emitting radiation that exceeds federal limits. Even if scientific opinion in this country were to change and links were established, for example, between VDTs and cancer or birth defects, other elements of proof and employer defenses would substantially limit a firm's liability." Parry is the staff director of the American Bar Association's Commission on the Mentally Disabled and the editor of the *Mental and Physical Disability Law Reporter.* The *Law Journal* article is an abridged version of a 19-page article published in the July-August 1984 issue of the *Reporter:* "Are VDTs Hazardous to Your Legal Health?" Reprints are available for $5.00 (prepaid) from the *Reporter* at 1800 M Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20036, (202) 331-2240. In the January 28 *National Law Journal,* Kirk Victor describes the current state of microwave-related litigation: "Microwaves Stir New Generation of Battles." He writes: "Plaintiffs' lawyers have had their hopes set back by scientific studies that have not uncovered hard evidence of harm....But that lack of hard evidence has not stopped the speculation about the danger of microwaves or the continuing quest by plaintiffs' attorneys to probe the issue through a variety of pending suits — many of which are ultimately resolved by secret settlements."

MEDICAL APPLICATIONS

Kidney Stone Buster... The FDA has approved a shock wave device for the treatment of kidney stones. The "lithotripter" machine focuses shock waves, produced by an underwater high voltage condenser spark discharge, that shatter the brittle stones. Unlike ultrasound, the shock waves are single, sharply peaked impulses in the nanosecond range. The pulverized stones are then easily passed through the urine. A typical treatment involves up to 1,500 shock waves, given in a single session lasting about an hour. FDA estimates that this non-invasive technique could save $2,000 per patient, compared to the $6,700 cost of surgical removal. The treatment could be effective in 80 to 90 percent of the 100,000 cases now treated surgically in the U.S. each year. The $1.7 million lithotripter was developed by Dornier System of West Germany.

MEETINGS

Tokyo EMC Meeting... The *1984 International Symposium on EMC,* held in Tokyo, Japan, October 16-18, attracted more than 500 participants from 23 countries. Nearly 70 percent of the attendees were from Japan, with 15 percent from the U.S. The two-volume conference proceedings of close to 200 papers include the keynote address of Fumio Minozuma of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications: an historical review of radio noise activities in Japan. The 956-page proceedings will be available in the U.S. from the IEEE. They have not yet arrived from Japan and their U.S. price has not yet been set. (In Japan, the price is 10,000 yen, approximately $40.00.) For more information, contact the IEEE conference office, 345 East 47th St., New York, NY 10017, (212) 705-7895.

MIT Goes to Scotland... Each year, Professor P. Lele of MIT's Department of Mechanical Engineering has been offering a summer course on the applications and hazards associated with microwaves, UV, ultrasound, lasers and

magnetic fields. This year, MIT is taking its summer school to the University of Stirling outside Edinburgh, Scotland, and Lele is going along. The course will be given from June 10-14; the cost for the week is $1400, which includes tuition, food and lodging (golf may be extra). The deadline for applications is April 15. For those who want to take the course but would prefer not to travel so far, Lele will also offer it at MIT, August 5-9, for $1050. Contact: Director of the Summer Session, MIT, Room E19-356, Cambridge, MA 02139, (617) 253-2101.

POWER LINES

Florida Tumor Cluster... Five girls living near 69 kV power lines developed an extremely rare type of ovarian cancer, endodermal sinus tumors, between 1974 and 1978. Four of the five, who were 1.5 to 18 years old and lived in Jacksonville, FL, died. Writing in *Oncology, 41,* 233, 1984, Drs. T.E. Aldrich, A. Glorieux and S. Castro note that these malignancies are "so rare that virtually no information has been compiled concerning their etiology" and that the cluster "is too remarkable to go unreported." The researchers argue that magnetic fields from the power line may have had a "mutagenic or promoter effect," complementing initiation by lead or polycyclic hydrocarbons from a nearby lead smelter plant and highway. They also raise the possibility that genetics, or some combination of genetic and environmental factors, played a role. (The five girls were black.) They conclude that "the power line hypothesis is only one interpretation and further research is obviously needed."

STANDARDS

IEC on Industrial Equipment EMC... The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) has issued two new standards on *Electromagnetic Compatibility for Industrial-Process Measurement and Control Equipment.* Publication 801-1, *Part 1: General Introduction,* which is a very brief overview of the problem, notes that the dominant source of industrial EMI is the walkie-talkie. Publication 801-2, *Part 2: Electrostatic Discharge Requirements,* applies to ESD generated by operators touching industrial equipment and ESD occurring between charged objects near the susceptible equipment — in both industrial and power generating plants. Part 2 establishes a reference test procedure and recommends severity levels. The documents are available from the International Sales Office of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 1430 Broadway, New York, NY 10018, (212) 354-3300. Part 1 costs $10.00 and Part 2 costs $29.00, plus postage.

Resources...NBS has released *Standards Activities of Organizations in the United States,* (SP-681). The directory summarizes the work of more than 750 organizations in the U.S., including federal and state agencies and more than 400 private groups. It is available, prepaid, for $13.00 ($16.25 foreign) from the Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Order No. 003-003-02602-6....The January 1985 issue of the *IEEE Communications Magazine* features a number of articles on the standards work of the CCITT, IEC, IEEE, ISO and CEPT, with special reference to the structure and operation of these international groups.

VDTs

Legislation... Massachusetts State Senator Gerard D'Amico has introduced the first VDT bill of the new year in the U.S. The measure, which has not yet been assigned a number, requires periodic rest breaks, adjustable furniture and equipment, glare and noise control and semi-annual inspections of computer equipment. Under the bill, an employer would be required to provide, upon request, non-VDT work for a pregnant operator. If alternative work is not available, however, an employer can lay off the worker, who then becomes eligible for unemployment insurance. For more information, contact Barry Berman, Senator D'Amico's office, Room 413A, State House, Boston, MA 02133, (617) 969-7177....In Oregon, Senate Bill 57 would instruct the director of the state Workers' Compensation Department to develop voluntary purchasing and usage rules for VDTs as well as an educational program for VDT workers. The legislation was introduced by the standing Committee on Labor, chaired by Senator Margie Hendriksen, who sponsored Oregon's first VDT bill in 1983. The committee was acting on the recommendation of an interim labor committee, which held a series of meetings in 1984 and issued a report late last year (see *MWN,* November 1984). For copies of the bill and the report, contact Ms. Cheyenne Chapman, Committee on Labor, 331 State Capitol, Salem, OR 97310, (503) 378-5720....A Rhode Island study commission established last fall held a series of public hearings in January. The commission, which includes labor, industry and state representatives, as well as legislators, is planning to report its recommendations to the state assembly in February.

ETC

In the News... The January 14 issue of *The New Yorker* has a short piece on the New York Academy of Sciences' *Conference on Medical and Biological Effects of Light* (see *MWN,* December 1984). The anonymous author focuses on the pineal gland....The February *Omni* features a long article by science writer Kathleen McAuliffe on "The Mind Fields." McAuliffe begins by describing her tour of Dr. Jose Delgado's lab in Madrid, Spain, and goes on to delve into the scientific, medical and political controversies surrounding electromagnetic radiation from power lines, radar, VDTs, etc....Eric Lerner reviews the potential use of pulsed electromagnetic fields (PEMFs) for the treatment of osteonecrosis, osteoporosis and other bone ailments in the January *Esquire.* In the same issue, the magazine's editors present one of *Esquire's* Dubious Achievement Awards for 1984 to Professor Leonard Taylor of the University of Maryland for developing a way of shucking oysters with microwaves.

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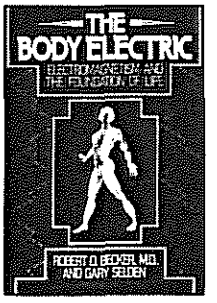
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PEMFs: Project To Verify Delgado-Leal Effect Underway

An international project is underway to determine the extent to which extremely weak pulsed electromagnetic fields (PEMFs) are biologically active. Researchers in Europe and the U.S. are trying to replicate the results obtained by Dr. Jocelyne Leal, who, working in Dr. Jose Delgado's laboratory in Madrid, Spain, showed that magnetic fields many times weaker than the Earth's can profoundly upset the development of chick embryos.

The Delgado-Leal results, first published in 1982, have prompted widespread speculation that low-level magnetic fields may present greater risks to human health than previously suspected. Their experiments are, for instance, often cited by those concerned about the effects of working at video display terminals (VDTs), which emit weak PEMFs from their flyback transformers.

Project coordinator Dr. Thomas Rozzell of the Office of Naval Research (ONR) explained in a telephone interview that the participating labs are not trying to repeat the original experiment exactly because the exposure system will be somewhat different. "We are attempting to *verify* whether the phenomenon Leal originally found is real," he said.

Rozzell and Dr. Michael Marron, also of ONR, have been planning the experiments for the last two years. Rozzell returned last summer from a two-year stint in Europe, where he was in close contact with Leal and with Dr. Kjell Hansson-Mild, of the Swedish National Board of Occupational Safety and Health in Umea, who has been doing research based on the Madrid experiments (see *MWN*, June 1984).

(continued on p.14)

OMB Okays EPA Options for RF/MW Limits

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will soon issue a request for comments on four options to protect the general public from radiofrequency and microwave (RF/MW) radiation. The move follows a six-month review of the options by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). EPA staffers were cautious about specifying when the options paper would be published in the *Federal Register*, because it must still be approved by senior EPA officials.

Informed sources told *Microwave News* that the agency will ask for advice on four courses of action. Three of these call for public exposure standards based on specific absorption rates (SARs) of 0.04, 0.08 and 0.4 W/Kg. The fourth option is to take no regulatory action.

At the most stringently regulated frequencies, 30-300 MHz, these SARs would result in power density limits of 100, 200 and 1,000 uW/cm^2, respectively. The 1982 American National Standards Institute (ANSI) guidelines are based on a SAR of 0.4 W/Kg.

(continued on p.16)

RF Hot Spots on Cougar Mountain

Three localized hot spots, exceeding the 1 mW/cm² safety limit set by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), have been identified in publicly accessible areas near an antenna farm on Cougar Mountain outside Seattle, WA. The maximum "spatially averaged" reading in a public space was 700 uW/cm². Radiofrequency (RF) radiation levels on broadcasters' property were generally much higher, often exceeding 1 mW/cm².

The measurements were made by a team from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) last May in response to public concerns over the health effects of RF radiation.

The FCC has asked eight of the ten FM broadcasters using the antenna farm to put up fences and/or post warning signs in order to correct the problem. The commission, which has adopted the ANSI limits as an exposure standard, also warned all ten FM broadcasters that their workers may face radiation health risks.

Some local residents are disturbed by the EPA-FCC findings and believe that the ANSI limits do not provide enough protection. "The FCC's use of the ANSI standard is forcing us to reside with radiation levels that exceed those selected as an occupational limit by the Johns Hopkins Lab, an organization that is free from the pressures of the communications industry," Monty Lennox, who lives near the antenna farm, told *Microwave News*. The Johns Hopkins standard is ten times stricter than ANSI's (see *MWN*, December 1984).

Survey Results

According to EPA's report, spatially averaged power densities exceeded 200 uW/cm² in about 5 percent and 100 uW/cm² in 11 percent of all locations surveyed in publicly accessible areas. Virtually all the measurements exceeded 1 uW/cm², a level which EPA has found is the upper range of exposure for most Americans.

A power level of 700 uW/cm² was measured within 25 feet of an FM radio tower. EPA notes that, although this is below the ANSI limit, it is well above the 200 uW/cm² safety limit adopted or recommended by the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA), the state of Massachusetts and Multnomah County, OR.

The highest localized level measured was greater than 2.35 mW/cm², near a metal "chinning bar" in a private playground. Readings over 2 mW/cm² and just under 1.7 mW/cm² were taken in an unfenced area near a tower which supports 3 FM transmitters.

The highest spatially averaged and maximum localized fields *inside* homes were 23 and 305 uW/cm², respectively. The 305 uW/cm² reading was for an "unperturbed" field. Near a curtain rod in one bedroom the "perturbed" RF field was 352 uW/cm².

RF fields inside the broadcasters' properties were higher. In one lot with 3 towers supporting 4 FM stations, most of the readings were above 1 mW/cm² and a few exceeded 2 mW/cm². Under normal operating conditions, no one works at the antenna farm full-time, though technicians come to maintain the antennas.

The EPA report notes that, "Although no measurements were taken at elevated locations on the towers, there is no question that a worker who ascends any of the FM towers ...will encounter fields that exceed the ANSI radiation protection guide."

Whole-Body v Partial-Body Exposures

The spatially averaged RF levels are approximations of whole-body exposures, EPA's Richard Tell said in a telephone interview. Tell, who led the measurement team, added that "it is a real issue how to interpret the hot spots."

As Tell's report points out, the localized, perturbed fields "are real and can result in relatively high partial-body exposures." None of the existing standards specify limits for partial-body exposures.

The FCC has raised the problem of occupational exposures with the broadcasters, but has not specified any corrective plan, according to William Hassinger of the commission's Mass Media Bureau. Among the options available are reductions in power, using alternative antennas and shutdowns. "Some of the stations may face tough choices," Hassinger told *Microwave News*.

Other findings of the survey:

- The measured RF levels were far lower than those predicted by EPA models.
- Vegetation, coniferous trees in particular, appears to be a good RF shield.
- FM stations are the only significant source of RF radiation on Cougar Mountain. In addition to the 10 FM antennas, there are several microwave point-to-point dishes and other low-power communication antennas on the 22 towers built on the mountain.
- All the measurements cited in the report were taken within ten feet of the ground, and "it is likely that the power densities increase as one moves to greater heights."

Cougar Mountain residents, who are opposing a Seattle TV station's proposal to construct a new transmitter (see *MWN*, May 1985), have also reported RF interference (RFI). According to the EPA report, "RF levels on virtually the entire mountaintop exceed the blanketing value" set by FCC regulations to protect against RFI. Hassinger said in a telephone interview that the commission does not plan to require stations to reduce the potential for RFI in nearby homes.

The EPA report, *An Investigation of Radiofrequency Radiation Exposure Levels on Cougar Mountain, Issaquah, WA, May 6-10, 1985*, is available from the FCC's duplicating contractor, International Transcription Services, 2100 M St., NW, Washington, DC 20037, (202) 857-3800.

Portland Is Next

The EPA-FCC team is scheduled to go to Portland, OR,

in May for the next series of broadcast radiation measurements. There has been much debate about the health risks of RF radiation in Portland, and the city's Planning Commission recently proposed a 200 uW/cm^2 safety standard for public exposures (see *MWN*, July/August and November/December 1985).

The FCC had hoped to measure radiation levels at two or three sites in 1986, but those plans are now uncertain in light of budget cuts forced by the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction act. Travel funds have been slashed and one FCC staffer said that even the trip to Portland may no longer be possible.

NIOSH VDT Pregnancy Study Plan Rejected by OMB

The federal study of reproductive risks among video display terminal (VDT) users suffered a major setback in December when the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) rejected the research protocol submitted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). The OMB ruled that the protocol was poorly designed and that its results would not stand up to scientific scrutiny, according to an agency spokesman.

Dr. Teresa Schnorr, who is leading the NIOSH study, is confident that the OMB decision will be overturned. She said that she has already corrected several of the problems cited by the OMB and plans to appeal the December ruling using statements of support from the study's peer review panel. "OMB needs to see the other side of the coin, which will be the point of the appeal," she told *Microwave News*.

The OMB, which is responsible for fiscal oversight of the executive branch of the federal government, broadly criticized the NIOSH protocol on the following counts: (1) inadequate study population size; (2) incorrect definition of the "sampling frame," the statistical method by which the study population was selected; (3) poor definitions of major variables, and (4) inclusion of unnecessary questions in the survey questionnaire. "These deficiencies might lead to spurious correlations that might be incorrectly interpreted," the OMB concluded, noting, nevertheless, that NIOSH had "made a credible case for the conduct of a study." The OMB indicated that it would reconsider the proposal if NIOSH corrects the problems.

Bell South Critique

Bell South, one of two companies set to participate in the study, submitted a harsh critique of the protocol to both the OMB and NIOSH in late November. Prepared for the company by outside consultants, the assessment identified five basic flaws in the plan; three of the five are repeated in the OMB's evaluation, and the OMB's Edwin Dale acknowledged that Bell South's report influenced the agency's decision.

The critique was written by Dr. Brian MacMahon, chairman of the Department of Epidemiology at Harvard University's School of Public Health in Cambridge, MA, and Dr. Sally Zierler of Brown University in Providence, RI. Their analysis bluntly asserts that:

> The likelihood that the study as described will achieve its stated objectives or satisfy the need [to address public concern]...is virtually nil. It is in our view inconceivable that the study would yield results that are definitive, unequivocal or credible and, even with the modifications that we will propose, such results cannot be assured with this study design.

MacMahon and Zierler cited five "critical flaws" in the NIOSH study design: inadequate definitions of pregnancy outcomes; excessive data collection; lack of concern for recall bias and other types of biases; incomplete medical records on pregnancy outcomes, and insufficient population size. They recommended ways to correct many of these flaws and suggested adding a question to the survey on the use of ultrasound during pregnancy. In addition, they urged that other study designs be considered.

Study History

NIOSH first announced its intention to study pregnancy risks among VDT operators in late 1982 and several times has been forced to scale back its research plans, in part

Battelle ELF-Swine Study Out

As we go to press, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) has released the Battelle study on the effects of 60 Hz fields on three generations of miniature swine. The report has been due for some time —the actual experimental research was completed four years ago.

Although most of the results indicated no ill effects, the study did find an increase in malformations and lower body weights among the third generation fetuses, compared to controls.

Microwave News will publish an in-depth report on the Battelle findings — including the controversy over the planned follow-up study — in our next issue.

The seven-volume report covers behavior (No.2), exposure system and dosimetry (No.3), growth, reproduction and development (No.4), hematology and serum chemistry (No.5), immunology (No.6), and neurology (No.7), and includes a summary volume (No.1). The principal investigators were Drs. Richard Phillips and Larry Anderson at Battelle Pacific Northwest Labs in Richland, WA. Phillips is now with the Environmental Protection Agency.

All seven volumes of the report, *Biological Studies of Swine Exposed to 60 Hz Electric Fields* (EA-4318), are available for $197.50. Volumes 1, 5 and 7 cost $32.50 each; the others are $25.00 each. Order from Research Reports Center, Box 50490, Palo Alto, CA 94303, (415) 965-4081.

because of strong objections by Bell South and AT&T, the second company that has agreed to participate (see *MWN*, November 1982, July/August 1983, January/February 1985). The study proposed to OMB would be primarily a retrospective survey of approximately 3,000 women, half of whom used VDTs regularly.

The study's repeated setbacks may now come under congressional scrutiny, adding to NIOSH's difficulties. *Microwave News* has learned that several influential congressmen are concerned about the agency's handling of the study and are conducting preliminary evaluations that could lead to full-scale investigations.

NIOSH documents submitted to the OMB indicate that the budget for the proposed study is considerably larger than previously reported. The annual cost for the two-year project would be approximately $363,000, nearly quadruple the $100,000 budget agency officials have estimated in the past.

TV/VCR Immunity: Progress Report

Manufacturers are designing greater immunity into their televisions and video cassette recorders (TV/VCR) but more progress still must be made, according to a report by an ad hoc committee set up in 1983 to develop voluntary immunity standards for home electronic equipment.

Among the findings of the committee of industry, government and amateur radio representatives are:

- Most television interference (TVI) complaints continue to come from the first and other harmonics of citizens band (CB) radio transmissions at 27 MHz. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) statistics nonetheless show that this type of TVI has been slowly decreasing over the last three years.
- Studies sponsored by the Electronic Industries Association (EIA) indicate that TV/VCR immunity varies considerably with frequency and among manufacturers. The most susceptible frequency is, as expected, the intermediate frequency (IF) at about 43 MHz. (The IF is the frequency to which RF signals are converted by the receiver during amplification.)
- Immunity is being designed into newer TV/VCR models, achieving protection at a lower cost. Shielded antennas are being used more and more.

Into the Antenna & the Chassis

The ad hoc committee addressed two types of TVI: (1) coupled into the antenna and (2) coupled directly into the chassis. In response to the committee's concerns, the EIA developed voluntary standards to guard against both types of interference (see *MWN*, January/February 1985), but the EIA limits have failed to win the support of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

With respect to TVI coupled into the antenna, the EIA guidelines are designed to protect against four-watt CB transmissions. The ARRL prefers guidelines 20 dB stronger to protect against amateur radio and higher power (illegal) CB radio signals. Manufacturers counter that the EIA immunity levels are the highest now achievable.

All TV/VCR manufacturers will be expected to meet the EIA standard, and the trade group will survey compliance during 1986. According to the committee report, if the immunity limit is met but the number of consumer complaints does not decrease, a more stringent standard "should be considered."

Manufacturers favor a 1 V/m immunity level against direct radiation in the AM, amateur and CB radio bands, and a 0.3 V/m level at other frequencies. The ad hoc committee believes that these guidelines should be adequate for CB but may not be strong enough for amateur radio signals and suggests that "additional protection may be necessary."

Protection Distances

The committee estimated the distance between a given source of radiation and a TV/VCR beyond which no significant TVI occurs. For a four-watt CB radio, the "protection distance" for TVI coupled into the antenna is about 100 feet. CB harmonics can cause co-channel TVI within a mile. The separation distance for an amateur radio transmitter operating at 1,500 watts is approximately 2,000 feet, but this shrinks to about 700 feet if the power output is lowered to 150 watts.

For TVI coupled into the chassis, the protection distances can be quite large: up to 3.8 miles from 500-watt (40-46 MHz) pagers and 1.5 miles from an AM radio transmitter.

The models are still rough and the committee notes that they must be verified. In a telephone interview, committee Chairman Donald Heirman said that testing the models will be one of the committee's next major efforts.

Recommendations

The ad hoc committee recommends that:

- Not all TV/VCR manufacturers are participating in using the EIA voluntary standards. It is suggested that CEG/EIA [EIA's Consumer Electronics Group] take the necessary steps to ensure that all TV/VCR manufacturers marketing in the United States assess their immunity profile and strive to introduce greater immunity into their products as warranted.
- One of the measures for monitoring TV/VCR complaints is the FCC Field Operation Bureau unconfirmed complaint data. The committee feels that additional work is needed to further identify the nature of the complaints to properly assess whether *confirmed* complaints are increasing or decreasing.
- Since this report provides a significant description of the activity of the voluntary standards work in alleviating the need for regulations, the widest appropriate distribution is suggested.
- The ad hoc committee should be converted to a permanent standing committee of ANS C63 so that continual monitoring of the progress of TV/VCR immunity can be assured.

The ad hoc committee was set up by the American National Standards Committee C63 on Electromagnetic Compatibility following the enactment of the Communications Act Amendments of 1982, which ordered that home electronic equipment be better protected against electromagnetic interference (see *MWN*, September and October 1982). The committee is seeking to develop voluntary standards to forestall mandatory FCC limits.

According to Heirman, this initial report will be followed by others, and the group will continue to meet on an approximately bimonthly schedule.

The members of the ad hoc committee are: Donald Heirman, AT&T Information Systems (chairman); Fred Huber, Jr., IEEE (secretary); Hector Davis, FCC; Harold Gauper, Jr., retired from GE; Frank Rose, FCC; Dr. Ralph Showers, University of Pennsylvania; Eb Tingley, EIA; Hugh Turnbull, ARRL; and Dan Yates, formerly with the FCC.

Those interested in obtaining a copy of *Initial Report: Immunity of Home Entertainment Devices (TV/VCR), December 1985* should contact Fred Huber, Jr., IEEE Standards Office, 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017, (212) 705-7960.

Air Force Recommends 50 V/m Safety Level for VLF from GWEN

The U.S. Air Force has set a 50 V/m guideline for general population exposures to very low frequency (VLF) radiation. The limit is cited in a generic environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Air Force's Ground Wave Emergency Network (GWEN) communication system, which will operate at 150-175 kHz.

The 50 V/m standard was recommended by John Mitchell, chief of the Radiation Physics Branch at the School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks Air Force Base in Texas. In a telephone interview with *Microwave News*, Mitchell said that the 50 V/m level is "very conservative," but that since GWEN is a very low power system there will be no problem meeting it.

Mitchell said that the 50 V/m exposure level is only intended to apply to GWEN transmitter sites and that exposure standards for other Air Force systems will have to be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

The Air Force standard for VLF occupational exposures is 100 mW/cm^2, the far field equivalent of 614 V/m. In a September 25, 1984 letter to the Air Force's Electronic Systems Division, Mitchell states that he recommended a 50 V/m guideline based on "new research data currently being generated under Air Force contracts," referring to results from the Universities of Utah and Washington that show increased risks of shocks and burns from VLF radiation (see *MWN*, July/August 1985).

The 50 V/m limit is stricter than all other Western standards: the American National Standards Institute's (ANSI) limits are also based on 100 mW/cm^2, though they apply to both workers and the general public (they only cover frequencies down to 300 kHz). The International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA) has recommended a standard of 194 V/m for occupational exposures and 87 V/m for the general public for frequencies from 100 kHz to 1 MHz. On the other hand, the Soviet standard for 30-300 kHz is 25 V/m.

When it is completed in 1989, the $700 million GWEN communication system will consist of up to 125 VLF relay nodes across the continental U.S. and a total of 400 receive and transmit stations. The network is intended to provide reliable communications after a nuclear attack and is designed to survive the effects of electromagnetic pulse (EMP) radiation. In addition, it operates at a frequency low enough to be unaffected by ionospheric disturbances.

According to computer modeling studies run by the Air Force, the 50 V/m limit would be met at between 105 and 151 feet from the antenna. Each GWEN antenna will sit on about 12 acres of cleared, level land.

Environmentalists and disarmament groups oppose the GWEN system. Peter Shelley, an attorney with the Boston, MA, Conservation Law Foundation (CLF), said in a telephone interview that the group may file suits to block construction at several GWEN sites once they are selected.

The Air Force has decided that the GWEN system will cause too little disruption to warrant preparing a full environmental impact statement (see the Air Force's September 6 *Federal Register* notice, 50 *FR* 36464).

A copy of the *Generic Environmental Assessment for the Ground Wave Emergency Network (GWEN)*, April 1985, is available from the Office of Public Affairs, Electronic Systems Division, Hanscom Air Force Base, MA 01731.

Mass. Adopts Sweeping RF/MW Worker Rules; NJ Proposal Due

The Massachusetts Department of Labor and Industries has adopted the most comprehensive regulations in the U.S. to protect workers from radiofrequency and microwave (RF/MW) radiation. The state exposure limits are based on those developed by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Under the rules, which became effective on December 23, all employers installing new sources of RF/MW radiation must notify the state before turning them on. Owners of existing sources have a year to submit data to the Department of Labor and Industries. Among the sources covered are radio, television and radar stations with an input power of greater than 100 watts, RF sealers and heaters, industrial microwave ovens, and diathermy and hyperthermia equipment.

The other key elements of the state standard are:

- The prohibition of RF shocks and burns even in cases where the exposure standards are not exceeded;
- The designation of an "RF Safety Officer" by each employer using radiation equipment;
- The extension of the standard down to 10 kHz even

though the ANSI guidelines cut off at 300 kHz;

• Annual surveys by all employers to check that radiation levels do not exceed the exposure limits — new equipment must be surveyed when it is installed; records must be kept for at least thirty years.

All facilities maintained by the federal government are exempt from the rules, as are amateur radio stations that are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission and hand-held portable and mobile radios with an input power of fewer than seven watts.

Variances are allowed under certain conditions, but worker exposures must never exceed ten times the ANSI values in such cases.

Broadcasters Win Delay

Radio and television broadcasters have asked for and have been granted a waiver from the rules until April 1. According to Frank Archibald of the department's Division of Occupational Hygiene, the broadcasters sought the delay in order to train safety officers, to buy the necessary radiation measuring equipment and to set up record-keeping procedures.

In 1983, Massachusetts became the first state to set an exposure standard for the general public: a level five times more stringent than ANSI's (see *MWN*, September 1983).

For more information, contact Frank Archibald, Division of Occupational Hygiene, Massachusetts Department of Labor and Industries, 1001 Watertown St., West Newton, MA 02165, (617) 727-3982.

New Jersey Proposal Planned

The New Jersey Bureau of Radiation Protection will soon propose adopting the ANSI guidelines as the state's occupational standard. The state has already adopted the ANSI limits for exposures of the general public (see *MWN*, April 1984), and the forthcoming proposal will simply expand those covered to include workers. The New Jersey rule does not contain any of the reporting and surveying requirements specified by the Massachusetts regulations.

A public hearing on the new rules will be scheduled soon, according to Debbie Wenke, the supervisor of non-ionizing radiation programs at the bureau.

The proposal was developed by the Committee on Non-Ionizing Radiation of the New Jersey Commission on Radiation Protection. The committee is chaired by Dr. Fred Sterzer of RCA. In a telephone interview, Sterzer said that he and other members of the committee would prefer national RF/MW radiation standards for occupational and public exposures and only agreed to a state standard when the federal government failed to act.

For more information, contact Debbie Wenke, NJ Bureau of Radiation Protection, 380 Scotch Rd., Trenton, NJ 08628, (609) 292-5891.

Joe Towne Dies

Joe Towne, founder and president of the Radar Victims Network, died on April 8, 1985 in Sacramento, CA, at the age of 66. Towne had been ill for many years — he suffered his last stroke in January 1985 and was in a coma until his death.

From 1957 until retiring in 1966, Towne was an Air Force radar technician aboard an EC-121 Constellation, flying out of McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento. Towne developed cataracts, heart ailments and a host of other ills. After much legal wrangling, the VA awarded him a 100 percent disability.

In 1969, Towne sued a number of the electronics companies — GE, Litton, Lockheed, Raytheon and RCA — that designed and built the EC-121s. Some offered to settle out of court on the condition that he not divulge the details of the case. Towne refused. Eventually he accepted a $55,000 settlement, but he never shied away from an opportunity to tell people about the money he had received.

There were many other EC-121 radar technicians living near McClellan and, after an informal survey, Towne found that an unusually high percentage had cataracts at an early age. His discovery fueled his concern, and he began warning people about the dangers of microwaves and helping those who had been overexposed.

In 1976, a small group of men, all of whom had serious medical problems, met in Framingham, MA, and formed the Radar Victims Network; Towne was named president. They agreed that they would direct their energies "toward the goal of securing an epidemiological study of microwave injury" and "to try and interest the medical profession in the diagnosis and treatment of microwave injury."

Although these goals were never really attained, the network grew until, at its height, it had more than 150 members. For the rest of his life, Towne served as a clearinghouse for others who thought that they had suffered ill effects from microwave radiation, helping them prepare their VA claims and providing them with moral support.

With Towne gone, the network is largely inactive. A number of the original organizers have died and many others are too sick to do the work. In fact, it took months for word to filter from one member to another that Joe had died.

NCRP Takes On Non-Ionizing Radiation

The National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP), long known for its studies on ionizing radiation, is increasing its activities on non-ionizing radiation. According to NCRP Executive Director Roger Ney, the move follows a decision by the council's board of directors that non-ionizing radiation has become a timely subject in need of greater attention.

Professor Herman Schwan of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia has been invited to present the Taylor Lecture at the NCRP's annual meeting at 5 p.m. on April 2 at the National Academy of Sciences auditorium in Washington, DC. The title of his talk is "Non-Ionizing Radiation Bioeffects: Cellular Properties and Interactions."

Invited papers on extremely low frequency (ELF), radiofrequency and microwave (RF/MW) radiation and ultrasound, as well as briefings on ongoing NCRP studies, will be featured at the April 2-3 meeting. Among the presentations, Dr. Ross Adey will address "Electromagnetic Fields, Cell Membrane Amplification and Cancer Promotion."

Ongoing Studies

Four NCRP scientific committees (SC) are preparing reports on the bioeffects and measurement of electromagnetic radiation:

• **SC53: Biological Effects and Exposure Criteria for Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Radiation.** This committee, chaired by Professor Bill Guy of the University of Washington in Seattle, has been at work since 1977. According to Dr. Constantine Maletskos, the staff officer for the committee, the report is now at the printer and an index is in preparation. Maletskos is hopeful that the long-awaited report will be ready for distribution at the April meeting.

The report includes a review of the RF/MW bioeffects literature and recommends exposure standards. In the years in which the report has undergone extensive reviews, word has circulated that the committee has recommended an exposure limit of 200 uW/cm^2 for the general population at the most strictly regulated frequencies. Some sources have reported that the Guy group wavered between a 100 and a 200 uW/cm^2 standard before deciding on the higher limit to reduce the economic impact on the broadcasting industry. Maletskos declined to discuss the conclusions of the report prior to its publication.

In addition to Guy, the other members of the committee are: Drs. Ross Adey, Edward Alpen, Stephen Cleary, Don Justesen, Mary Ellen O'Connor and Richard Phillips. The advisors to the committee are: Drs. Eleanor Adair, Ed Hunt, Sol Michaelson, Harvey Ragan and Charlotte Silverman. The consultants to the committee are: Drs. C.K. Chou, Justus Lehmann, Richard Lovely, Jan Stolwijk and W.A.G. Voss.

• **SC67: Biological Effects of Magnetic Fields.** This committee has been at work for more than five years under the chairmanship of Dr. Dennis Mahlum of the Battelle Pacific Northwest Labs in Richland, WA. No date has been set for completing its report. The members of the committee are: Drs. John Baum, John deLorge, Karl Illinger, Charlotte Silverman and Tom Tenforde. Dr. Tom Budinger is an advisor to the committee on issues related to nuclear magnetic resonance imaging. Dr. Tom Koval is the NCRP staffer working with SC67.

• **SC78: Practical Guidance on the Evaluation of Human Exposures to Radiofrequency Radiation.** SC78 was set up in 1983 under the chairmanship of Richard Tell of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop simple guidelines for measuring electromagnetic fields in the 10 kHz to 100 GHz frequency range (see *MWN*, April 1984). According to Tell, a 237-page draft report has been prepared and is now being revised. He plans to submit a final draft for NCRP review this spring. The other members of the committee are: Howard Bassen, Jules Cohen, Dr. David Conover, Dr. Carl Durney and Ron Petersen. Dr. Tom Koval is the NCRP staffer assigned to the project.

• **SC79: Extremely Low Frequency Electric and Magnetic Fields.** SC79 was set up under a $150,000 contract from the EPA in 1983 (see *MWN*, December 1983). According to committee Chairman Dr. Adey of the VA Hospital in Loma Linda, CA, a draft report should be forwarded to the NCRP by the end of 1986. The other members of the committee are: Drs. Carl Blackman, David Carpenter, Charles Ehret, William Feero, Richard Lovely, Genevieve Matanoski, Martin Misakian and Richard Phillips. Maletskos is the NCRP staff officer for the study.

VDTs

In the latter half of 1985, the NCRP set up an ad hoc group to look into the question of video display terminals (VDTs), under the chairmanship of Dr. George Wilkening of AT&T Bell Labs. The other members of the VDT group are Drs. Ed Alpen and Bill Guy. According to NCRP's Koval, the ad hoc group has no plans to issue a report, but may issue a statement if it deems one necessary. Wilkening will discuss the group's work at the meeting.

Completed Studies

Two NCRP studies on non-ionizing radiation have already been published:

• **Report No.67: Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields: Properties, Quantities and Units, Biophysical Interaction and Measurements** was issued in 1981. It was prepared by a committee chaired by Bell Labs' Wilkening (see *MWN*, October 1981). Price: $13.00.

• **Report No.74: Biological Effects of Ultrasound: Mechanisms and Clinical Implications** was issued in 1983. It was prepared by a committee chaired by Dr. Wesley Nyborg of the University of Vermont in Burlington. Price: $16.00.

These reports can be ordered from NCRP Publications, Suite 1016, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 657-2652. The prices include postage and handling.

RF Exposures: FCC's Advisory Guidance to Broadcasters

Reprinted below are excerpts from the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Further Guidance for Broadcasters Regarding Radiofrequency [RF] Radiation and the Environment, *which was released on January 28. The commission previously had issued a technical bulletin,* Evaluating Compliance with FCC-Specified Guidelines for Human Exposure to RF Radiation *(Office of Science and Technology (OST) Bulletin No.65). This* Further Guidance *gives broadcasters general instructions for compliance with the commission's rules on human exposures to RF radiation under the National Environmental Policy Act (see* MWN, *April and September/October 1985).*

...As of January 1, 1986, all applications for new facilities, modifications to existing facilities and renewals must contain *either* a specific indication that the RF radiation of the particular facility or operation will not have a significant environmental impact *or* an environmental assessment which will serve as the basis for further Commission action....

Most broadcasting facilities produce high RF radiation levels at one or more locations near their antennas. That, in itself, does not mean that the facilities significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Each situation must be examined separately to decide whether humans are or could be exposed to high RF radiation. Paragraph 37 of the *Report and Order* [50 *FR* 11151, March 20, 1985] points out that accessibility is a key factor in making such a determination. As a general principle, if areas of high RF radiation levels are publicly marked and if access to such areas is impeded or highly improbable (remoteness and natural barriers may be pertinent) then it may be presumed that the facilities producing the RF radiation do *not* significantly affect the quality of the human environment and do not require the filing of an environmental assessment.

Because we wish to avoid burdening applicants with unnecessary work, expenses and administrative filings, we offer the following guidance as to how we will view typical situations. The term "high RF level" means an intensity of RF radiation, whether from single or multiple sources, which exceeds the ANSI guidelines.

Situations

(A) High RF levels are produced at one or more locations above ground level on an applicant's tower:

If the tower is marked by appropriate warning signs, the applicant may assume that there is no significant effect on the human environment with regard to exposure of the general public.

(B) High RF levels are produced at ground level in a remote area not likely to be visited by the public:

If the area of concern is marked by appropriate warning signs, an applicant may assume that there is no significant effect on the human environment with regard to exposure of the general public. It is recommended that fences also be used where feasible.

(C) High RF levels are produced at ground level in an area which could reasonably be expected to be used by the public (including trespassers):

If the area of concern is fenced *and* marked by appropriate warning signs, an applicant can assume that there is no significant effect on the human environment with regard to exposure of the general public.

(D) High RF levels are produced at ground level in an area which is used or is likely to be used by people and to which the applicant cannot or does not restrict access:

The applicant must submit an environmental assessment. This situation may require a modification of the facilities to reduce exposure or could lead to a denial of the application.

(E) High RF levels are produced in occupied structures, on balconies or on rooftops used for recreational or commercial purposes:

The applicant must submit an environmental assessment. The circumstances may require a modification of the broadcasting facility to reduce exposure or could lead to a denial of the application.

(F) High RF levels are produced in offices, studios, workshops, parking lots or other areas used regularly by station employees:

The applicant must submit an environmental assessment. The circumstances may require a modification of the facilities to reduce exposure or the application may be denied. This situation is essentially the same as (E). We have included it to emphasize the point that station employees as well as the general public must be protected from high RF levels. Legal releases signed by employees willing to accept high exposure levels are not acceptable and may not be used in lieu of corrective measures.

(G) High RF levels are produced in areas where intermittent maintenance and repair work must be performed by station employees or others:

ANSI guidelines also apply to workers engaged in maintenance and repair. As long as these workers will be protected from exposure to levels exceeding ANSI guidelines, no environmental assessment is needed. Unless requested by the Commission, information about the manner in which such activities are protected need not be filed. If protection is not to be provided, the applicant must submit an environmental assessment. The circumstances may require corrective action to reduce exposure or the application may be denied. Legal releases signed by workers willing to accept high exposure levels are not acceptable and may not be used in lieu of corrective measures.

The foregoing also applies to high RF levels created in whole or in part by reradiation.

A convenient rule to apply to all situations involving RF radiation is the following:

(1) Do not create high RF levels where people are or could reasonably be expected to be present *and*

(2) Prevent people from entering areas in which high RF levels are necessarily present.

Fencing and warning signs may be sufficient in many cases to protect the general public. Unusual circumstances, the presence of multiple sources of radiation and operational needs will require more elaborate measures.

Intermittent reductions in power, increased antenna heights, modified antenna radiation patterns, site changes or some combination of these may be necessary, depending on the particular situation.

For further discussion see Office of Science and Technology Bulletin No.65, *Evaluating Compliance with FCC-Specified Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Radiation,*

October 1985. Copies of this bulletin may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, [Springfield, VA 22161], (800) 336-4700, Order No.PB 86-127081 [$11.95].

For further information regarding this *Notice* applicants should contact the AM Branch, FM Branch, TV Branch or LPTV/ Translator Branch, as appropriate.

ANS C95 on ELF Exposure Standards

At a meeting held in July 1984, the American National Standards (ANS) Committee C95 on Non-Ionizing Radiation Hazards asked Dr. Richard Phillips of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Research Triangle Park, NC, to set up an ad hoc committee to consider the merits of an exposure standard for extremely low frequency (ELF) radiation (see MWN, *October 1984). Reprinted below is Phillips's report, sent to Professor Saul Rosenthal, chairman of C95, on June 14, 1985. Standing Subcommittee C95.IV addresses "Safety Levels and/or Tolerances with Respect to Personnel."*

Dear Professor Rosenthal:

At the ANS C95.IV meeting held at the Omni Hotel in Atlanta, GA, on July 15, 1984, you requested I form and head up an Ad Hoc Committee to investigate the feasibility of expanding the frequency range of ANS C95.IV to include ELF electromagnetic radiation: of particular interest was 60 Hz electric and magnetic fields from power generation and distribution systems. It is my understanding that this Ad Hoc Committee was formed in response to a request by Dr. Charles. L. Wagner, President of the IEEE Power Engineering Society (PES).

In response to your charge, I formed a committee consisting of four scientists with extensive knowledge in the subject area: Dr. William Wisecup, Aerospace Corporation, quality assurance monitor of DOE, New York and EPRI projects dealing with the biological effects of 60 Hz electric and magnetic fields; Dr. H.B. Graves, Pennsylvania State University, a scientist who has been active in investigating the biological effects of 60 Hz electric fields since the early 1970s; Dr. William Feero, private consultant, a member of the IEEE/PES and founder of the DOE research program on the biological effects of 60 Hz electric and magnetic fields; and Dr. Jack Lee, Bonneville Power Administration, who heads up the BPA research program on the environmental impact of power transmission lines.

Primary sources of biological information for our assessment came from peer-reviewed published papers in the literature, technical reports and four recent critical reviews in the literature:

1.*Environmental Health Criteria 35: Extremely Low Frequency (ELF) Fields,* World Health Organization, 1984.

2.*The Health and Safety Effects of High Voltage Transmission Lines,* Report of a Joint Subcommittee, Senate Document No.11, Commonwealth of Virginia, Richmond, VA, 1985.

3.*Biological and Human Health Effects of Extremely Low Frequency Electromagnetic Fields: Post-1977 Literature Review.* American Institute of Biological Sciences, Arlington, VA, March 1985.

4.*Biological Effects of 60 Hz Power Transmission Lines.* A Report of the Florida Electric and Magnetic Field Science Advisory Commission, Florida Electric Power Coordination Group, Tampa, FL, March 1985.

The information contained in these four critical reviews represents the views of the majority of scientists who are active in this area of research, and decision makers who are concerned with the impact of ELF electromagnetic fields on the environment and life forms, particularly human beings....

In general, the conclusion of these reviews is that there is no reliable and documented evidence that exposure to ELF electric and magnetic fields of the range encountered in the vicinity of ELF radiation sources (i.e., 50/60 Hz transmission lines, ELF communication systems) causes significant or adverse biological reactions in human beings. However, a number of caveats are stated with these conclusions:

1. Exposure to electric and/or magnetic fields in the ELF can cause a variety of effects at any of several levels of biological organization in animals and in vitro systems, but interpretation of these data and extrapolation to human beings is not possible at this time.

2. Results from clinical, mortality and epidemiological studies are inconsistent and inconclusive, but call attention to the need for well conducted studies on the cancer incidence and exposure to low-level magnetic fields.

3. Additional research is needed before data derived from laboratory studies on animals can be extrapolated to potential effects on human beings.

Major issues of concern are the reported correlations between ELF radiation and cancer (mortality and epidemiological studies), alterations in fetal development, disruption of normal circadian rhythmicity, alteration in neural function, and cellular/membrane effects with low-level exposures at windows in frequency and amplitude.

The question as to whether or not sufficient information exists to require and establish a safe exposure guideline is debatable. Debates on this issue to date have been occurring among scientists, and within legal proceedings dealing with rights-of-ways for high voltage transmission lines. No vehicle has been established to date for a gathering of interested and impacted individuals and groups to discuss, debate and hopefully resolve the issue concerning the safety aspects of ELF radiation. It is our opinion that ANS C95.IV might be the appropriate vehicle. There is a need for scientists, regulators, producers, users and the general public to discuss the issue in an open forum such as ANS C95.IV. Major issues that need to be discussed are:

1. What is our current state of knowledge?
2. Is there a risk associated with exposure to ELF radiation? If so, at what level and duration of exposure?
3. Are safe exposure guidelines needed?
4. Is there sufficient information to establish safe exposure guidelines?
5. What will be the impact of an exposure guideline on energy production, distribution and costs?
6. If a risk exists, is it greater than the benefits?
7. Can a consensus be reached among concerned parties?

Whether or not ANS C95.IV should take on the responsibility and lead role on this issue needs to be discussed at the ANSI meeting in June in San Francisco. It should be noted that action is being taken by regulators in several states, and NCRP has formed a committee to address this issue. To date EPA has not been authorized to produce an exposure guideline for ELF radiation, but has initiated research on biological effects of ELF radiation.

Sincerely yours,
Richard D. Phillips

UPDATES

BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS

PEMFs Stimulate Tumor Cells... Pulsed electromagnetic fields (PEMFs) can promote the growth of embryonal carcinoma (EC) cells and inhibit their differentiation, according to a report from Kagoshima University in Japan. Dr. Takuya Akamine and coworkers exposed the EC cells for 84 hours to rectangular-shaped pulses with a width of 130 microseconds and a frequency of 100 Hz. The field was either 1 gauss and 5 V/m or 10 gauss and 53 V/m; both levels caused significant changes. The researchers do not know the mechanism by which the PEMFs inhibit cell differentiation — whether it is the magnetic field itself or the induced current. They note that their results suggest that the PEMFs may be interfering with the later stages of cell differentiation and that the inhibitory effect is consistent with the Delgado-Leal papers on the action of PEMFs on chick embryos. The authors warn that the "application of PEMF[s] in the treatment of malignant tumors should be performed with the greatest caution." Their paper appears in the August issue of the *Journal of Cellular Physiology*, pp.247-254.

UV-A and DNA... Near-ultraviolet (UV), or UV-A, radiation (320-420 nm), long believed to be benign, may affect DNA in ways that "could have far-reaching, harmful effects on cells," according to Drs. Meyrick Peak and Jennifer Peak of the Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) in Argonne, IL. The Peaks have found that UV-A can cause single-strand breaks (breaking the backbone of the DNA molecule) and DNA-to-protein crosslinks (creating a strong covalent bond between them). In a discussion of their findings in the autumn 1985 *Logos*, an in-house ANL publication, they hypothesize that UV-A "starts chains of chemical reactions that somehow trap and pass on energy in a form that allows a portion of it, through random diffusion and decay, to damage DNA." One possible pathway is through "sensitizing" molecules like porphyrins (which are parts of hemoglobin and chlorophyll) that absorb the radiation and transfer it to molecular oxygen, exciting it to electronically reactive forms which migrate through the cell before decaying. If the excited species come near DNA when they decay, the energy released can cause breaks and crosslinks. The Peaks suspect that, because living cells have been exposed to UV-A for millions of years, mechanisms have evolved to offset its effects. *Logos* is available from the Office of Public Affairs, ANL, 9700 S. Cass Ave., Argonne, IL 60439.

Club Med Dermatitis... First there were supermarket workers who developed rashes after touching fruits and vegetables, and then school children who used limes in art class developed a similar condition (see *MWN*, March and September/October 1985). Now comes the latest example of photodermatitis: "Club Med Dermatitis." Writing in the January 30 *New England Journal of Medicine*, Dr. Wain White of the New York University Medical Center in New York City tells of a tender rash on both thighs of a patient who had just returned from a Caribbean vacation. White attributed the rash to a Club Med "drinking game, during which participants would balance and roll limes up and down their laps and closed thighs." The limes probably secreted furocoumarins, which were then activated by sunlight.

COMPATIBILITY & INTERFERENCE

Power Transients Software... The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) has published the *Electromagnetic Transients Program (EMTP) Primer*, a manual for users of the EMTP software program, developed by the Bonneville Power Administration and several other utility and academic groups over the last 15 years to help utilities run inexpensive in-house analyses of high-speed power system transients. The software is complex and difficult to learn — hence the need for a tutorial. The EPRI primer, prepared by S.F. Mauser and T.E. McDermott of Westinghouse's Advanced Systems Technology Division in Pittsburgh, PA, is written for electrical engineers and assumes a working knowledge of both transients and computer simulation. It includes eleven detailed cases as teaching examples. The primer is only one of a number of EPRI initiatives now underway to improve the EMTP. These include a revised version of the program itself, a workbook for new users and a users group hotline. The primer, Report No. EL-4202, is available for $40.00 from the Research Reports Center, PO Box 50490, Palo Alto, CA 94303, (415) 965-4081.

Electroexplosives... The Applied Physics Lab at the Franklin Research Center in Philadelphia is a focal point for the study of explosive devices and their associated electrostatic and electromagnetic hazards. The center offers training courses, publishes a newsletter and organizes a symposium every two-and-a-half years. The *Electroexplosives Devices Training Course: "Hands On" Applications* will be offered May 13-15 and October 14-16 and costs $475. A week-long course, the *Joseph McLain Memorial Seminar on Explosives and Pyrotechnics*, which is very similar to the shorter course but offers more emphasis on chemistry, will be given August 18-22 and costs $650. Both courses will be held in Philadelphia. The four-page newsletter, *explosives and pyrotechnics*, is published monthly and is available by subscription for $40 a year. The *13th Symposium on Explosives and Pyrotechnics* will be held at the Hyatt on Hilton Head Island, SC, December 2-4. For more information, contact Ramie Thompson, Applied Physics Lab, Franklin Research Center, Philadelphia, PA 19103, (215) 448-1555.

COMPUTERS

PC Aides... Computer programs are now available for analyzing radar patterns, designing antennas and planning point-to-point microwave transmission lines on IBM and IBM-compatible personal computers (PCs). Technology Service Corp. (TSC) has developed a "Radar Workstation" so that engineers can calculate and analyze radar patterns at their desks without using large mainframes or time-sharing computers. The software can simulate vari-

ables that affect radar accuracy and range, using color graphics. The price is $4,900.00; the package includes five diskettes, two volumes of documentation and a reference text. For more information, contact TSC's Jan Berkow, Suite 600, 962 Wayne Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910, (800) 638-2628, or (301) 565-2970 in MD....Dr. David Pozar has written 19 programs for designing and analyzing antenna patterns. The programs, which can be run on either an IBM PC or a DEC PRO/35, cover wire, array and aperture antennas. *Antenna Design Using Personal Computers* gives the full programs in BASIC, as well as an explanation of the theoretical bases for the calculations. A final chapter is devoted to six design case studies. The volume is available for $40.00 from Artech House, Inc., 610 Washington St., Dedham, MA 02026, (617) 326-8220. You can also get all the programs for either computer on a diskette for $44.00....H2A Communications is marketing a *Microwave Transmission Planner,* a software package "designed to speed and improve the design of point-to-point and point-to-multipoint microwave transmission systems through its path analysis, route design and equipment configuration sections." The program can be used on an IBM PC as well as on Hewlett-Packard Series 80 computers. It is available for $695.00 from H2A Communications, SW 310 Skyline Dr., PO Box 146, Pullman, WA 99163, (509) 334-5165.

EMP

Medical Devices... The U.S. Army Medical R&D Command has awarded two contracts for studies on the "Protection of Medical Equipment Against Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP)": $77,600 to John Klebers of IRT Corp. in Vienna, VA, and $36,400 to Ralph Wheeler of Jaycor Corp. of San Diego, CA. Both research projects, sponsored under Phase I of the DoD's Small Business Innovation Research program, are scheduled to be completed by this spring. If the findings are promising, further support may be forthcoming in FY87 under Phase II of the program.

GOVERNMENT

EPA Lab Holds On... The outlook for the EPA's bioeffects research group in North Carolina has improved — a little. The details change from one moment to the next, but at press time the situation is as follows... As we reported in our September/October issue, Congress blocked the agency from closing down its non-ionizing research program in EPA's Experimental Biology Division until the end of December; that decision was a compromise between Senator Albert Gore, Jr. (D-TN), who wanted the work to continue, and Senator Jake Garn (R-UT), who tried to cut it out of the budget to reduce the deficit. In mid-December, a meeting was organized by a senior aide at the Senate Appropriations Committee who was confused that, while the EPA was acquiescing to Administration moves to disband the research group, industry lobbyists, from the National Association of Broadcasters, among others, were writing letters to have it reinstated. As a result of this and other deliberations, congressional staffers told EPA to keep the research program at FY85 levels through FY86, but then failed to provide the necessary manpower and $1.5 million funding. After more compromises, the research program on ELF, RF and MW radiation was allotted $650,000 and the equivalent of about seven man-years. "That is the money I need to close out the program," Dr. Richard Phillips said in a telephone interview. In January, the EPA began reorganizing its Health Effects Research Lab: most of the Experimental Biology Division has been absorbed into the new Cellular and Reproductive Toxicology Division. Phillips, the director of the defunct division, is now the head of the new, larger one. Most of those working on non-ionizing radiation are now members of the new division's Cell Biology Branch, which is headed by Dr. Joe Elder. On the brighter side, Phillips said that the agency has approved the continuation of Dr. Carl Blackman's work on the effect of low-level fields on calcium and a long-planned study on the impact of lifetime, low-level exposure. There have been some losses, however: Drs. Christopher Gordon and James Kinn have been completely moved out of radiation research, and everybody in the division will now be devoting some of their time to chemical toxicology. Soon the FY87 budget cycle will begin, and once again, sources say, there will be no money for non-ionizing radiation research. A sense of hopelessness is setting in. After years of fighting program cuts, the EPA team is discouraged and may finally do what the Administration wants — fade away.

CDRH Committee Nominations... The FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH) is inviting nominations for a number of its advisory committees, including the Medical Radiation Advisory Committee (MRAC), the Radiologic Devices Panel (RDP) and the Technical Electronic Product Radiation Safety Standards Committee (TEPRSSC). The MRAC studies general policy questions concerning the use of diagnostic radiation. It is primarily involved with devices that use ionizing radiation. Dr. Donald Hamilton, executive secretary of the MRAC, told *Microwave News* that the committee has no plans at present to look into devices that use non-ionizing radiation. The RDP reviews and evaluates data on the safety and efficacy of medical devices now in use. The panel reviews and approves applications for a host of devices, including NMR imagers and hyperthermia units. The TEPRSSC advises on the feasibility and desirability of performance standards to control radiation emissions from electronic products such as microwave ovens, color televisions, diagnostic X-ray equipment and lasers. The committee has been inactive for a long time, but CDRH's Kay Levin said in a telephone interview that there is a strong possibility that the TEPRSSC will meet again in the fall. It has 15 vacancies — five from federal and state government agencies, five from affected industries and five from the public, at least one of whom must be from organized labor — and Levin encouraged those interested to submit their applications as soon as possible. For more information on the

types of experts the FDA is seeking and on when the committee vacancies are expected, see the December 13 *Federal Register* (50 *FR* 50960); or contact the executive secretaries of the groups: Dr. Donald Hamilton, MRAC, (301) 443-2436; Dr. Robert Phillips, RDP, (301) 427-7544; and Arlene Underdonk, TEPRSSC, (301) 443-3426.

MEDICAL APPLICATIONS

Fonar Setback...A federal jury's finding that Technicare Corp., a Johnson & Johnson subsidiary, had infringed on a Fonar patent in making nuclear magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) systems has been set aside by the judge. U.S. District Court Judge Robert Keeton in Boston, MA, held that the Fonar patent was valid, but rejected the contention that Technicare had violated it. Roger Hampton, director of communications for Fonar, told *Microwave News* that the ruling was only a "minor setback" and that the company fully expects the judge's ruling to be reversed. Fonar is planning to take its case to the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, DC. Even with this setback, Fonar anticipates a profit on revenues of $40 million for the year ending in June 1986. The company anticipates shipping one imager per week this year, each priced at $1.5 million.

MEETINGS

IEEE "Supermarket"... The IEEE is experimenting with a plan to bundle conferences together, enabling researchers to attend several meetings simultaneously. The first such event, *MONTECH'86,* will be held September 29-October 3, 1986 in Montreal, Canada, and will include conferences on electrothermal processes, antennas and communications, HVDC power transmission and AC power systems. Len Ruggins, president of IEEE Conferences Montreal, Inc., explained that the bundling is designed to aid attendees who must come long distances — admission to one conference entitles you to go to them all. "We wanted to create a supermarket of conferences," he said. The clustering also enables the IEEE to try out new conference ideas without taking large financial risks, since the cost of adding additional meetings is marginal. The early response to MONTECH'86 is encouraging, Ruggins noted, with a surprising number of people from Europe and South America expressing interest. For more information, see the Conference Calendar.

Antennas in Japan... The proceedings of the *1985 International Symposium on Antennas and Propagation* held in Kyoto, Japan, last August are now available. The proceedings cover more than 280 papers in 1,200 pages — printed in three volumes. Copies are available for $165.00, including surface postage, from Myu Research, 2-32-3-303 Sendagi, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113, Japan.

MILITARY SYSTEMS

Alaskan OTH-B... The U.S. Air Force is preparing an environmental impact statement for a new over-the-horizon backscatter (OTH-B) radar in Alaska. The proposed locations for the transmitter and receiver sites are in the southern, interior part of the state, with the operations center to be at Elmendorf Air Force Base. The antenna for the radar will be between four and nine thousand feet long. Public meetings were scheduled to be held in Anchorage and Fairbanks in January 1986. For more information, contact Colonel James Lee, OTH-B Program Office, Electronic Systems Division, Hanscom AFB, MA 01731.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Stress Among Locomotive Engineers... The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE) is trying to explain why Amtrak engineers operating electrified trains, as well as those regularly working out of New York City and Washington, DC, are experiencing greater stress than other train engineers. The union attributes the finding of increased stress to studies by Drs. Brian Blake and Erika Wick of Decision Dynamics, based in Solon, OH, but Amtrak disputes the contention of differential stress. (At least part of the argument between Amtrak and the BLE centers on the union's desire to have two engineers on each locomotive, while Amtrak only wants one.) In a report prepared by the BLE's Director of Research Thomas Pontolillo, the union suggests that some of the stress is caused by exposure to electromagnetic fields and calls for further physiological and epidemiological research. According to the report, these fields come from overhead power lines, some of which run the train and some of which have been placed along the railroad right-of-way by electric utilities, and from generators and transformers in the locomotives themselves. Pontolillo notes that engineers operating out of New York and Washington, DC, have average stress scores that are 16 and 7 percent above the overall average, respectively, and that engineers operating only electric trains have stress levels that average 9 percent above the average, while engineers operating only diesel engines average 27 percent below the average. The report, *Locomotive Engineer Stress and the Effects of Electromagnetic Radiation,* is available from Pontolillo, BLE, Suite 501, The Craddock Bldg., 146 Rt. 130, Bordentown, NJ 08505, (609) 298-3006.

OVENS

CU Reviews... Compacts and subcompacts are hailed as "The New Wave in Microwave Ovens" by *Consumer Reports* (November 1985). Of the 18 models tested for capacity, cooking speed and ease of use, the GE "Spacemaker II" oven line was recommended, with suggested prices from $235 to $295. Consumers Union (CU) favored the "Micro-Go-Round," a $40 removable, windup turntable, over built-in turntables. Also featured in the article is an item about radiation leakage. CU tests showed that none of the models emitted more than 0.5 mW/cm^2 — below the federal emission standard of 1 mW/cm^2 for new ovens and 5 mW/cm^2 for used ones. In tests run in 1981, CU found that at four feet from the oven, radiation levels averaged 10 uW/cm^2. Nevertheless, citing "Murphy's Law," CU recommends that door seals should always be kept clean and that pregnant women should not linger near ovens while they're turned on.

POWER LINES

Virginia Report... The Virginia Department of Health has found that none of the research published between August 1984 and September 1985 has influenced its assessment that high voltage transmission lines are not hazardous. In its first annual report to the state General Assembly, the department finds that "it is unlikely that electric and magnetic fields associated with [the power] lines give rise to significant health consequences," though noting that there are "some ambiguities" in the literature that preclude a categorical conclusion that "no public health problem will ever arise." The 12-page report, *Monitoring of Ongoing Research on the Health Effects of High Voltage Transmission Lines,* finds that research suggesting that electric fields can alter "certain cellular, physiological and behavioral events" cannot be extrapolated to humans at the present time. With respect to recent papers suggesting a link between electromagnetic exposure and cancer, the report states that the "studies are only suggestive, highly controversial and the results reported are contradictory and do not confirm a causal relationship." The report was required by Senate Joint Resolution No.126, which was approved by the legislature in 1985 (see *MWN,* May 1985). It was prepared by Dr. Khizar Wasti of the Virginia Department of Health's Bureau of Toxic Substances Information in Richmond and released last fall. For more information, contact Ms. Terry Mapp Barrett, Division of Legislative Services, General Assembly Bldg., 910 Capitol St., PO Box 3-AG, Richmond, VA 23208, (804) 786-3591.

AC Line Effects... The IEEE Power Engineering Society (PES), in a recently published report for non-specialists, concludes that there is no evidence of long-term health hazards from AC transmission lines but cautions nonetheless that effects may have thus far "escaped detection" because "meaningful scientific studies have only recently begun." The 62-page report, *Corona and Field Effects of AC Overhead Transmission Lines: Information for Decision Makers,* was prepared in response to increasing public debate over biological effects, EMI and other environmental impacts. It advises that limits set to control radio and TV interference are likely to be of "restricted" use "because limit setting has to recognize the statistical nature of both signals and interference along with many local factors." Developed by the corona and field effects subcommittee of the PES's Transmission and Distribution Committee, the document is a complement to a 1983 brochure, *Electrical Effects of AC Power Transmission Lines.* To obtain a free copy of the PES report, contact Nancy Heitmann, IEEE, 345 East 47th St., New York, NY 10017, (212) 705-7893.

STANDARDS

CISPR & IEC... The International Electrotechnical Commission's (IEC) Special Committee on Radio Interference (CISPR) has published two new standards for conducted and radiated EMI: (1) *Limits and Methods of Measurement of Radio Interference Characteristics of Information Technology Equipment,* CISPR Publication 22, first edition, 1985, prepared by Subcommittee B: Interference from ISM RF Apparatus, ($22.00); and (2) *Limits and Methods of Measurement of Radio Interference Characteristics of Household Electrical Appliances, Portable Tools and Similar Electrical Apparatus,* CISPR Publication 14, second edition, 1985, prepared by CISPR Subcommittee F: Interference from Motors, Household Appliances, Lighting Apparatus and the Like, ($73.00) — it is a revision of a 1975 standard and its 1980 amendment....The IEC has compiled all of its basic safety standards into the 526-page *IEC Safety Handbook* ($52.00). All three documents are available from ANSI's International Sales Dept., 1430 Broadway, New York, NY 10018; add seven percent to the total cost for postage and handling.

Surge Arresters... The ANS Committee C62 has published two new standards: *ANSI/IEEE C62.1-1984: Surge Arresters for AC Power Circuits* ($7.50) and *ANSI/IEEE C62.31-1984: IEEE Standard Test Specifications for Gas Tube Protective Devices* ($6.50). They are available from ANSI's Sales Office, 1430 Broadway, New York, NY 10018.

VDTs

WHO Statement... The World Health Organization's (WHO) working group on video display terminal (VDT) health and safety has concluded that VDT radiation emissions are not hazardous. In a brief provisional statement issued following a meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, December 2-6, the eight-member panel also downplayed reproductive risks but recommended further research on rashes and other skin disorders reported by VDT users. "The cause(s) of these skin disorders is not clear," the panel said. Chaired by Dr. Steven Sauter of NIOSH, the panel plans to meet again to discuss additional topics, but no date has been set.

CORRECTIONS

Clear GAO Report... In our November/December 1985 issue, we cited an incorrect title for the review draft of the General Accounting Office's (GAO) report on the 1983 Alaskan radar accident. The July 1985 draft was titled *Further Actions Needed Following Exposure of Employees to Radiofrequency Radiation at Clear Air Force Station, Alaska....***NAS-NRC Advisory Committee...** In the same issue, we listed the membership of a National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council (NAS-NRC) advisory committee on non-ionizing radiation bioeffects. Dr. Sean McGlynn of Louisiana State University resigned just before the October 29 meeting and was replaced by Dr. Michael Kasha, the director of the Institute of Molecular Biophysics at Florida State University in Tallahassee. Dr. Stephen Brown, the staff director of the NAS-NRC Board on Radiation Effects Research, reports that Dr. Marvin Schneiderman, an epidemiologist with the Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD, was also added to the committee.

Delgado-Leal Verification

(continued from p.1)

The attention being placed on the project reflects the need to put bioelectromagnetics research on firmer ground. The field has largely failed to attract supporters in the mainstream of the scientific community, and much of its funding either has been cut or is in jeopardy.

"There are a lot of effects that come and go and right now there is a credibility problem," Marron told *Microwave News*. "We must carefully document effects and establish their credibility among scientific colleagues in other disciplines."

The Study Plan

This spring, if all goes as planned, researchers in five labs (see box) will start their experiments using identical equipment and following the same, carefully detailed protocol. The exposure systems, which are being designed and built by Richard Tell of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Las Vegas, NV, under a contract from ONR, will use Helmholtz coils to generate PEMFs because they can provide clean and well-defined fields. The systems will also be able to record temperature, humidity and mechanical vibrations continuously.

According to Lars-Erik Paulsson of the National Institute of Radiation Protection in Stockholm, Sweden, three of the four magnetic field pulses used by Leal were noisy. (They were generated using a Grass simulator.) Paulsson visited the Madrid lab and measured 12 kHz modulation patterns on the pulses. He reported this finding at a workshop held at the Bioelectromagnetics Society (BEMS) meeting last summer in San Francisco, CA.

Leal herself will use one of Tell's exposure systems. If she fails to observe an effect, she will attempt to uncover the difference between her original setup and Tell's new one. In addition, Tell will keep one exposure system in Las Vegas and may try the experiment at the EPA lab.

"We are making a great effort to make sure that everybody is working with precisely the same setup," Rozzell said. "All they have to do is unpack the equipment, add fresh eggs and test the equipment."

The sources and types of eggs have presented some thorny problems, however. "The eggs are the weakest link," Rozzell said. One of the questions posed by the Delgado-Leal experiments is whether the high rate of spontaneous abnormalities among their control eggs was due to the source of the eggs or to some unexplained factor in the lab. All the researchers will use white leghorn chicken eggs; a supplier of fresh eggs has been identified near each of the labs.

Each run of the "basic" experiment will only take a week, and the project members should soon know whether they are getting consistent results, though they will need many runs to be sure of their findings.

Controlling the Variables

"The objective of the project is to control the things you can and describe those you can't," Marron explained at the BEMS workshop.

Study Participants

Dr. William Koch, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. Collaborating with Dr. Ezra Berman of the Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC, and William Joines of the Department of Electrical Engineering, Duke University, Durham, NC.

Dr. Jocelyne Leal, Departamento de Investigacion, Centro Ramon y Cajal, Madrid, Spain. Collaborating with Dr. Alejandro Ubeda also of Centro Ramon y Cajal.

Dr. Alexander Martin, Department of Anatomy, University of Western Ontario, London, Ont., Canada.

Dr. Kjell Hansson-Mild, National Board of Occupational Safety and Health (NBOSH), Umea, Sweden. Collaborating with NBOSH's Monica Sandstrom.

Drs. Jack Monahan and Arnold Fowler, Molecular Biology Branch, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, Rockville, MD.

Dr. Stephen Smith, Department of Anatomy, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY (consultant).

Richard Tell, Office of Radiation Programs, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Las Vegas, NV.

Tell will visit each of the labs to characterize and measure the background fields in order to answer questions raised by some observers who believe that Leal's lab may have contained spurious radiation which harmed the development of the eggs.

Unpublished experiments by Leal indicate that the orientation of the chick embryo relative to the Earth's magnetic field and the applied field is a key variable: the teratological effect only appears in certain precise orientations. This finding confirms other results, such as those of EPA's Dr. Carl Blackman on the efflux of calcium from brain tissue (see *MWN*, September 1984). The project will attempt to investigate the role of the Earth's field, according to Rozzell.

Because ambient temperature can affect embryo development, the study protocol asks the researchers to run their experiments only between April and early June and between September and October. "We are limiting the experiments to a narrow time window to make sure the eggs are neither too hot nor too cold," explained Rozzell.

The researchers are also watching for any differences caused by the fact that the European electrical distribution system operates at 50 Hz, in contrast to the 60 Hz U.S. system.

Corporate Interest

Researchers from AT&T Bell Labs, GE and IBM attended the BEMS workshop and expressed interest in the project.

Rumors circulated at the meeting that IBM was gearing up to attempt a replication of the Delgado-Leal experiment on its own. At the time, IBM's Dr. Daniel Weinberg re-

fused to comment on the company's plans, saying only that he was at the meeting to educate himself.

In response to a request for comment from *Microwave News*, IBM spokesman Thomas Mattia said that the company has "strong reservations concerning the reliability of the Delgado findings," noting that egg studies have little or no relevance to mammalian reproductive systems and that there are "major and significant differences between the frequencies and wave shapes used by Delgado's apparatus and those generated by VDTs."

Mattia added that IBM plans to follow the ONR project and is "continuing to assess research opportunities in areas where we believe we can make meaningful scientific contributions related to our products."

Delgado Has Retired

In the summer of 1985, Delgado retired as the director of research at the bioelectromagnetic lab at Centro Ramon y Cajal. He has been replaced by Dr. F. Rubia.

CONFERENCES

1986 Conference Calendar: Addenda

The following items are additions to the 1986 conference calendar we published in our last issue:

May 5-7: **7th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Radiation Protection Association,** Quebec City, Canada. Contact: Roch Desrochers, Commission de la Sante et de la Securite du Travail, 1199, rue De Bleury, 9eme Etage, Montreal, Quebec, H3B 3J1, Canada.

May 13-15: **2nd Annual Meeting of the Electromagnetic Energy Policy Alliance (EEPA),** Ramada Renaissance Hotel, Washington, DC. Contact: Richard Ekfelt, EEPA, 1255 23rd St., NW, Washington, DC 20037, (202) 452-1070.

July 20-25: **Summer Meeting of the IEEE Power Engineering Society (PES),** Mexico City, Mexico. Contact: IEEE Society Special Services, IEEE, 345 East 47th St., New York, NY 10017, (212) 705-7893.

September 8-11: **16th European Microwave Conference,** National Concert Hall, Dublin, Ireland. Contact: Microwave Exhibitions & Publishers, Convex House, 43 Dudley Rd., Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1LE, UK.

September 15-19: **23rd Congress Ampere on Magnetic Resonance,** University of Rome, Italy. Contact: Dr. F. De Luca, Secretary, 23rd Congress Ampere, Dept. of Physics, Universita di Roma "La Sapienza," Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Roma, Italy, (6) 4976472.

September 23-25: **8th Annual Electrical Overstress/Electrostatic Discharge Symposium,** Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, NV. Contact: Michael Martin, 3M/Static Control Systems Div., 2111 W. Braker Lane, Bldg.501, PO Box 2963, Austin, TX 78769, (512) 834-3117.

September 29-October 3: **Montech'86: IEEE Week in Montreal,** Convention Center, Montreal, Canada. Includes: Sept. 29-Oct. 2: **Conference on Antennas and Communications,** chaired by Dr. A. Kumar, (514) 457-2150; Sept. 29-Oct. 2: **Conference on HVDC Power Transmission,** chaired by Dr. P.C.S. Krishnayya, (514) 652-8342; Oct. 1-3: **Conference on AC Power Systems,** chaired by Gilles Baril, (514) 652-8212; Oct. 1-3: **Conference on Electrothermal Processes,** chaired by Edward Goodman, (514) 652-8546. General conference address: PO Box 37, Station "A", Montreal, Quebec, H3C 1C5, Canada.

October 6-12: **1st International School: Electromagnetic Fields and Biomembranes,** Pleven, Bulgaria. Contact: Professor Marko Markov, Department of Biophysics and Radiobiology, Sofia University, 8 Dragan Tzankov Blvd., Sofia 1000, Bulgaria.

November 17-21: **31st Annual Conference on Magnetism and Magnetic Materials,** Hyatt Regency Hotel, Baltimore, MD. Contact: Dr. John Scott, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th St., New York, NY 10017.

Upcoming Meetings

March 5-7: **Workshop on Measurement of Electrical Quantities in Pulse Power Systems II,** National Bureau of Standards (NBS), Gaithersburg, MD. Contact: Ron McKnight, B344 Metrology Bldg., NBS, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, (301) 921-3121.

March 12-13: **IEEE 1986 National Radar Conference,** Los Angeles, CA. Contact: Radar Systems Group, Hughes Aircraft Co., R-1, D-428, PO Box 92426, Los Angeles, CA 90009.

March 12-15: **Joint Meeting of the European Workshop on Nuclear Magnetic Resonance and the World Health Organization,** Monte Carlo, Monaco. Contact: Dr. Robert Muller, University of Mons, Faculty of Medicine, B7000 Mons, Belgium.

March 25-27: **IEEE IMTC/86: Instrumentation/Measurement Technology Conference,** University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. Contact: Robert Myers, IMTC/86 Coordinator, 1700 Westwood Blvd., Suite 101, Los Angeles, CA 90024, (213) 475-4571.

April 2-3: **22nd Annual Meeting of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP),** Washington, DC. Contact: NCRP, Suite 1016, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 657-2652.

April 2-4: **International Workshop on Physics and Engineering in Computerized Multidimensional Imaging and Processing,** University of California, Irvine, CA. Contact: Dr. O. Nalcioglu, Dept. of Radiological Sciences, University of California, Irvine, CA 92717, (714) 856-5904.

April 8-10: **1986 Test & Measurement World Expo,** Convention Center, San Jose, CA. Contact: Meg Bowen, 215 Brighton Ave., Boston, MA 02134, (617) 254-1445.

April 12-16: **21st Annual Meeting & Exhibit Program of the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI),** Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL. Contact: AAMI, Suite 602, 1901 N. Fort Myer Dr., Arlington, VA 22209, (703) 525-4890.

April 12-16: **64th Annual Convention of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB),** Convention Center, Dallas, TX. Contact: NAB, 1771 N St., NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 429-5350.

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EPA RF/MW Options

(continued from p.1)

The four options are the same as those cited in a January 22, 1985 letter from then EPA Assistant Administrator Joseph Cannon to Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Mark Fowler (see *MWN*, January/February 1985).

EPA Blocked Since 1984

The EPA was set to propose an exposure limit of 100 uW/cm^2 in June 1984 but was barred from doing so when opposition surfaced at the agency's Office of Policy Planning and Evaluation. At the time, observers said the agency was responding to industry complaints that the proposal was too strict (see *MWN*, July/August 1984).

A sharp debate followed as industry urged the adoption of the ANSI standard. But EPA staffers were uncomfortable with the ANSI limits, as made clear in a memorandum prepared by the agency's Office of Radiation Programs (see *MWN*, September/October 1985):

> [Adopting the ANSI standard] would be unusual and precedent-setting in that the general population exposure limit would exceed the probable recommended occupational exposure limits (NIOSH's draft standards are one-half the ANSI values). This would create controversy and be inconsistent with traditional radiation protection practices.

In addition, the ANSI limits are in the process of being revised as a result of new experimental data on the hazards of low frequency fields (see *MWN*, July/August 1985). EPA's compromise was to ask for public comment on the four courses of action, rather than propose a single limit.

The EPA options were sent to the OMB for review last July. In the months that followed, their release was the subject of lengthy negotiations. Now, the OMB has agreed to withdraw its opposition if a number of minor changes are made. In addition to winning the approval of senior EPA managers, the revised options will probably have to clear OMB again, a step that could delay publication.

Under EPA's enabling authority, its RF/MW exposure limit, called a "guidance," will apply only to federal agencies. Once adopted, however, it would become a de facto national standard.

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1987 Conference Calendar (Part II)

New Support for Cancer Risk from RF/MW Exposure

Preliminary results from an ongoing prospective epidemiological study support earlier findings of a link between cancer and exposure to radiofrequency and microwave (RF/MW) radiation, according to Dr. Stanislaw Szmigielski and coworkers at the Center for Radiobiology and Radioprotection in Warsaw, Poland. Szmigielski is directing a five-year project to assess the cancer risk among military personnel.

In a letter to *Microwave News*, Szmigielski reports that, "Preliminary results available after [a] 1.5-year period support our earlier findings from retrospective studies, indicating higher morbidity of all malignancies, especially of certain forms of leukemias and lymphatic neoplasms with relation to duration and intensity of RF/MW exposure." He cautions, however, that too little data are yet available to assess their statistical significance.

The new results are also consistent with the data on rats from the study at the University of Washington in Seattle indicating that RF/MW radiation may act as a cancer promoter (see *MWN*, July/August 1984 and March 1985).

The prospective study, started in 1985 and expected to run through 1989, will cover new cases of malignancies among Polish military career personnel. Szmigielski explains in his letter that the study will involve detailed analysis of past service history, including the duration and intensity of RF/MW exposures; he does not indicate the size of the study population. He is internationally known for his work on the effects of RF/MW radiation on the immune system.

(continued on p.13)

MWs as Co-Teratogens

In addition to his epidemiological studies, Dr. Stanislaw Szmigielski has also shown that microwaves can significantly enhance the teratogenicity of cytosine arabinoside (ara-C) in pregnant mice.

"The relatively weak embryotoxic effects of MWs may be significantly enhanced after combination with other teratogens," according to Szmigielski and colleagues from the Center for Radiobiology and Radioprotection and the National Institute of Mother and Child. They report their results in a paper in *Biology of the Neonate, 50*, pp. 75-82, 1986 (see also *MWN*, April 1984). Both the center and the institute are in Warsaw, Poland.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Will EMPRESS II Close Down Baltimore Harbor?

The Navy's revised assessment of the effects of a powerful electromagnetic pulse (EMP) simulator on Chesapeake Bay has met with strong criticism. At a public hearing on January 29, Maryland state officials protested that the operation of the simulator would force the closing of the Port of Baltimore for as many as 20 days per year, severely damaging the local and state economies. The hearing was held to review the *Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS)*, a bulky two-volume document issued by the Navy in December.

State officials also repeated their concerns that the simulator might interfere with the operation of a nuclear power plant located on the bay, as well as with ships' and recreational boats' navigational equipment (see box on opposite page), and that it might cause long-term biological harm to the bay's aquatic life. Maryland officials first grew concerned over the Navy project in September 1984, following the release of the first *Draft Environmental Impact Statement* for the proposed simulator (see *MWN*, October and November 1984).

The Second Electromagnetic Pulse Radiation Environment Simulator for Ships – EMPRESS II – would produce a maximum pulse of 7 megavolts (MV), allowing the Navy to test the susceptibility of shipboard electronic equipment to repeated EMPs similar to those produced by nuclear weapons. EMPRESS II would produce pulsed electric fields of 50 kV/m at 100 yards at 30-minute intervals.

The Navy wants to site EMPRESS II on a barge near Bloodsworth Island in Chesapeake Bay and is planning to limit access in a zone with a two-mile radius around the antenna. The new pulser would replace EMPRESS I, a smaller EMP simulator located at the Patuxent Naval Air Test Center on the shores of the bay.

Economic Impact

In written comments submitted following the hearing, Dr. Torrey Brown, Secretary of Maryland's Department of Natural Resources, said that the Navy was wrong in concluding that operation of the simulator would have only a limited impact on shipping: Because the only deep-water channel in and out of the port passes through the proposed EMPRESS II restricted zone, large ships would be blocked when the simulator is in operation. Brown explained, "This has the potential for irreparable harm to the port if these ships cannot have ready access through the Chesapeake Bay." David Wagner, Baltimore Port Administrator, estimated that each ship's daily loss of access would cost $14,700-$21,000.

The Association of Maryland Pilots (AMP) also registered strong opposition to the Chesapeake Bay siting. In a February 2 letter to the Navy, Captain Michael Watson, president of the AMP, wrote that, "The [Navy's] suggestion that large ocean-going vessels navigate 'around' an EMPRESS II test circle, that has a diameter of four nautical miles, indicates a complete lack of understanding of the factors involved in the actual minute-by-minute running of a typical modern, high-speed vessel calling on the Port of Baltimore today."

In its SDEIS, the Navy for the first time proposed an alternative site for the pulser – Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where the Navy maintains a base. But the SDEIS cautions that this secondary site may not be technically feasible. In addition, the Navy concluded that basing EMPRESS II in Cuba would increase costs.

Under the Chesapeake Bay proposal, the Navy would also use EMPRESS II, which is expected to cost $10-20 million, for tests at sea off the coast of North Carolina. This aspect of the plan has generated relatively little controversy.

According to the SDEIS, the Navy plans to spend up to 31 days setting up and testing EMPRESS II in fiscal year (FY) 1988, followed by a maximum of 60 days per year of actual EMP experiments – 20 days in Chesapeake Bay and 40 days at sea – beginning in FY89.

But Congressman Roy Dyson, who represents Maryland residents of the Chesapeake Bay area, has blocked the operation of EMPRESS II and plans to continue to do so. Last year, Dyson, a Democrat, succeeded in getting Congress to amend the Department of Defense Authorization Bill for fiscal year FY87 to prohibit EMPRESS II testing. A Dyson aide told *Microwave News* that the congressman plans to introduce the ban again for FY88.

Biological Effects

Dr. Brown also charged that the Navy's investigation of possible biological effects of EMPRESS II was shortsighted. In his comments to the Navy, Brown argued that, "While there appears to be little evidence of acute impacts of EMP[s] on estuarine biota, the studies presented in the SDEIS fall far short of any conclusive demonstrations to support findings of no significant impact." He added that the Navy presented no data on chronic EMP effects or on EMPRESS II's potential to affect wildlife migratory patterns.

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), an environmental/conservation organization based in Annapolis, MD, also expressed concern about biological effects. According to CBF's Stuart Lehman, research done for the SDEIS indicates possible effects that must be studied more closely before EMPRESS II starts operating.

For example, Dr. Shirley Pomponi of the University of Maryland's Horn Point Laboratories in Cambridge found

EMPRESS II EMI to Nuclear Power Plant and Ship Electronics

Maryland state officials remain concerned that pulsed radiation from EMPRESS II may be strong enough to "induce 'upset' level electrical currents" at the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant, 20 miles from the test site, as well as to disrupt shipboard navigation equipment.

In a September 1985 report included in its *Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS)*, the Navy projects fields of between 17 and 135 V/m at the plant, depending on the attenuation rate of the signal. The Navy concludes that these levels are "very unlikely" to interfere with electronic systems at Calvert Cliffs, but that, "It would be prudent, however, to conduct a careful monitoring program at the power plant during the initial tests of EMPRESS II."

But Dr. Victor Granatstein, a consultant for the state, maintains that the maximum field "would likely be as large as 155 V/m" – a factor of 31 times larger than that produced by EMPRESS I. "One cannot rule out in advance the possibility that order of magnitude increases in pulse power could produce qualitatively different effects at the power plant," Granatstein says.

Maryland officials are urging the Navy to develop a detailed monitoring system for Calvert Cliffs if it proceeds with its plan to site EMPRESS II on Chesapeake Bay.

Concerns about possible hazards at Calvert Cliffs due to EMI from EMPRESS II surfaced in 1984 when the Navy issued its first *Draft Environmental Impact Statement* (see *MWN*, October 1984).

Some experts have warned that an EMP from a nuclear bomb could cause false trips at a nuclear plant, potentially leading to a core meltdown in a worst-case scenario (see *MWN*, April 1983).

State officials, along with the Association of Maryland Pilots (AMP), also warn that EMP-generated EMI could wreak havoc with commercial and recreational boats' navigational equipment. In a written statement, AMP President Captain Michael Watson told the Navy that "Merchant vessels, pleasure craft and commercial fishing boats...are *minimally protected* from EMP damage and will almost certainly suffer some degree of damage." A large ship subjected to an EMP could lose use of its gyrocompass, its magnetic compass, its Automated Radar Plotting Aid and even the computers that run its massive diesel engines, according to Watson. The potential consequences, he said, could be catastrophic.

Tests for the Naval Surface Weapons Center's White Oak Laboratory in Silver Spring, MD, on the susceptibility of navigational equipment to EMI – cited in the SDEIS – found that a LORAN transceiver did not suffer upsets at levels below 3.7 kV/m, but that a digital sailing instrumentation system was damaged at levels as low as 380 V/m.

In the SDEIS, the Navy concludes that "The two-nautical-mile radius exclusion zone is considered adequate for protection of [marine electronics] systems from damage." The Navy plans a similar protection zone for aviation electronics – air traffic would be prohibited below 6,000 feet. No interference with telephone equipment is anticipated by the Navy.

The state charges that the marine equipment tested did not represent the full range of navigational systems on ships that use the bay and calls for additional research.

Opponents of the Navy's plan to site EMPRESS II on Chesapeake Bay also question the Navy's conclusion that the risk of shocks to sailors is slight at the boundary of the two-mile radius safety zone. A potential shock hazard does exist, according to the state, creating a possible fuel-ignition problem for sailboats with masts taller than 20 meters and for large commercial vessels operating near the boundary of the exclusion zone.

"some differences" between control and exposed populations of oysters, crabs, bass and other marine species: "The results were inconsistent, however, and varied both among species as well as within the same species." Pomponi, who studied the effects of EMPRESS I, recommended long-term studies. Her report to the Navy, "EMPRESS I: The Effect of High Energy Electromagnetic Pulses on Aquatic Biota," appears as an appendix to the SDEIS.

Other Concerns

Patricia Axelrod, who is researching unintended electromagnetic ignition of nuclear ordnance and other explosive materials – so-called "HERO" risks – objected to the Navy's exclusion of this potential hazard from the SDEIS. She warned of the "extraordinary risk of weapon accidents" in surrounding bay communities.

Mark Robinowitz, an environmentalist, urged the Navy to abandon EMPRESS II, arguing that it falsely assumes that a nuclear attack is survivable. In the event the Navy proceeds with its plan to site the simulator on Chesapeake Bay, he recommended that the state hold a public referendum on the Bloodsworth Island siting before EMPRESS II is permitted to operate.

Local fishermen and watermen also testified against EMPRESS II.

The two-volume SDEIS includes 31 appendices covering EMI, biological effects and a description of the option for siting EMPRESS II at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Copies of the SDEIS are available from Captain B.L. Powers, Program Manager, Department of the Navy, Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, DC 20362.

47 kV/m Field Near VDT Cited in Skin Rash Case; AT&T Settles

Radiation measurements have identified high electrostatic fields near a type of VDT that was at the center of a dispute over an operator's skin rash. A few days before the case was to be heard by a workers' compensation board, AT&T, the operator's employer, settled out of court. The terms of the agreement are confidential.

Dr. Bill Guy of the University of Washington in Seattle measured a static field of 47 kV/m at 5 cm from the surface of a TAB Model 132/15 VDT at an AT&T office in Washington, DC, in late 1985. The TAB terminal was manufactured by Sykes Datatronics.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) commissioned Guy's radiation survey after an AT&T employee, Miren Alcorta, complained that she developed dermatitis after working on a similar TAB VDT. Alcorta's claim was to be heard by a workers' compensation hearing officer on February 11.

According to the Communications Workers of America's (CWA) Dave LeGrande, AT&T's first offer was rejected. LeGrande told *Microwave News* that he did not know the amount of money Alcorta received, but that, in any case, the settlement stipulates confidentiality. Alcorta was a member of CWA when she worked at AT&T.

Alcorta was represented by Martha Walfoort of the Washington, DC, law firm of Kirschner, Weinberg & Dempsey; William Dale of McChesney, Pyne & Duncan also in Washington, DC, handled the case for AT&T.

Guy's 47 kV/m measurement is in the upper range of static fields associated with VDTs. A comprehensive survey of 147 different models by Sweden's National Institute of Radiation Protection found that static fields ranged from insignificant levels to 50 kV/m, with a median reading of approximately 10 kV/m. The maximum reading was 64 kV/m.

Although there is no firm evidence that the electrostatic fields associated with VDTs cause skin disorders, some researchers believe they are linked (see *MWN* November/December 1985).

Because of changes at AT&T, Guy measured the fields on a different VDT – at a different office – than the one alleged to have caused Alcorta's skin rash.

Guy measured the electrostatic and electromagnetic fields associated with three different models of VDTs – 21 AT&T Model 45s and one AT&T Model 6300 PC, in addition to two TAB units. The 6300 had a static field of approximately 40 kV/m at 1 cm. All the Model 45s had very low static fields, except for one unit which, like the TABs, had a static field of nearly 50 kV/m at 5 cm.

Guy acknowledged to *Microwave News* that the TAB static fields were high. Ron Peterson of AT&T Bell Labs, who accompanied Guy during the survey, told *Microwave News* that he agrees with Guy's assessment.

According to an expert on electrostatic fields, Dr. Jonathan Charry of ERI, Inc., in New York City, large fields are not uncommon in low humidity environments. "Guy's readings don't surprise me if they were taken in a low humidity environment," he said in a telephone interview. The humidity at the AT&T office was not measured at the time of the Guy survey.

Alcorta's attorney, Walfoort, told *Microwave News* that a Sykes Datatronics technician who checked Alcorta's original VDT told her that the office was too dry and advised the installation of a humidifier.

AT&T's Peterson said that the Model 45s had very low readings because the units were shielded to comply with TEMPEST standards. TEMPEST shielding is required by the federal government for contractors using electronic equipment to process classified information. The shielding ensures that signals emitted by the equipment cannot be picked up and decoded by an outside party.

Guy's report, *Measurement and Analysis of Electromagnetic Field Emissions from 24 Video Display Terminals in American Telephone and Telegraph Office, Washington, DC,* was obtained by *Microwave News* from NIOSH under the Freedom of Information Act. The report will become part of a Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE), which was requested by CWA in 1985.

WHO Panel: 1-Meter VDT Rule

A World Health Organization (WHO) panel has endorsed the recommendations of two Canadian health officials that VDT operators not work within one meter of the rear or sides of nearby terminals unless the machines have been tested and found to emit only low levels of non-ionizing radiation. Though the panel concluded that VDT radiation emissions are unlikely to harm operators, it nonetheless recommended that "it is good practice to avoid unnecessary exposure to non-ionizing radiation from the adjacent VDTs."

This is the first time that a public health group of any kind has formally cautioned about inadvertent radiation from neighboring terminals.

The panel's other recommendations included ergonomic suggestions on display, screen and workstation design.

The report, "Health Aspects of Work With Visual Display Terminals," was written by Drs. Ian Marriott and Maria A. Stuchly of Health and Welfare Canada. It appeared in the September 1986 issue of *Journal of Occupational Medicine*, and is being distributed by the WHO Regional Office for Europe. It does not represent official WHO policy.

NBS EMC Course Notes for $8.50

As in past years, staffers from the Electromagnetic Fields Division of the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) will offer a course on electromagnetic compatibility/interference (EMC/EMI) metrology, June 8-11, at a cost of $750. Now you can buy the course notes, written by NBS's Drs. Mark Ma and Moto Kanda, for only $8.50.

In a telephone interview, Ma said that the EMC community tends to take a "fix-it" approach to EMI complaints. In this course, he said, "we seek to teach an in-depth understanding of the theory behind EMI problems. Once the theory is understood, the problem is more easily corrected without creating another one." Ma emphasized that it is always preferable to address EMC/EMI at the design stage, rather than later on.

(A current example of what appears to be bad EMC planning is the Air Force's B-1 bomber, whose radar-jamming and radar monitoring systems are incompatible. According to the January 12 *Aviation Week*, the cost of fixing this and related problems will be nearly $200 million.)

The course material places special emphasis on measurement techniques, including reviews of TEM cells, reverberating and anechoic chambers and open field test sites. Also covered are shielding materials, probe antennas, out-of-band interference and conducted EMI. All that is missing from the notes is the course's half-day lab demonstration and a tour of the NBS installation.

A copy of *Electromagnetic Compatibility and Interference Metrology*, Technical Note 1099, is available for $8.50, prepaid, from the Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Order No. 003-003-02760-0. For a list of other recent NBS publications, see "New from NBS" in Measurement Update on p.11.

ZAP!

Six hundred scientists and engineers with security clearances spent the first week of December at Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico examining the potential of high-power microwaves to zap enemy electronics. This was the *3rd National Conference on High-Power Microwave Technology for Defense Applications*; at the second conference, in 1983, 300 people attended. (By comparison, in 1986, 238 people were at the Bioelectromagnetics Society meeting and nearly 2,000 attended the IEEE Electromagnetic Compatibility Society symposium.)

The proceedings of the meeting are classified, but it is known that more than 70 papers and 100 posters were presented. Many branches of the Department of Defense were represented, including the Air Force, the Army and the Navy, together with DARPA, DIA and DNA. The Lawrence Livermore, Los Alamos and Sandia National Labs were also well represented, as were most of the big defense contractors – General Dynamics, Physics International and TRW each have a high-power microwave testing facility.

In addition to sessions on sources, susceptibility and hardening, there was one on biological effects: Dr. David Erwin and Major Robert Downs represented the Air Force and Howard Bassen and Dr. John D'Andrea described the Army and Navy programs, respectively. Dr. Frank Barnes of the University of Colorado in Boulder presented a poster paper on his and Dr. Howard Wachtel's research on the effects of pulsed microwaves.

Chuck de Caro, a former correspondent for the Cable News Network, considers the possibility that the U.S. is falling behind the U.S.S.R. in microwave weapons in "The Zap Gap," to be published in the March issue of *The Atlantic* (see also *MWN*, November/December 1986.)

MWs as Co-Teratogens (continued from p.1)

In the experiment, the mice were irradiated two hours daily on days 1-18 of gestation with 2450 MHz radiation at power densities of 1, 10 or 40 mW/cm^2. The researchers injected some of the mice with ara-C on the ninth day of pregnancy. The synergistic effect increased along with exposure level and was statistically significant even at 1 mW/cm^2.

The researchers also report that fetuses of mice exposed to "nonthermal" fields (1 and 10 mW/cm^2) had significantly lower body masses than did sham-exposed fetuses, but there was no increase in malformations or resorptions.

The team recommends continued research on microwave teratogenicity, particularly that using other known environmental and/or occupational teratogens.

Previously, Szmigielski reported that 2450 MHz microwave radiation acts as a *co-carcinogen* with 3,4-benzopyrene: exposed mice suffered accelerated development of both spontaneous and chemically-induced skin cancer (see *MWN*, May 1981 and *Bioelectromagnetics, 3*, pp. 179-191, 1982).

The new findings were drawn from a report on the *Developmental and Teratogenic Effects of 2450 MHz Microwaves in Mice*, which was edited by Szmigielski and Dr. Bogdan Chazan of the National Institute of Mother and Child. The report summarizes results from a series of experiments conducted between 1982 and 1985 by the eight-member team at the Warsaw center; they were supported by the U.S. Center for Devices and Radiological Health.

To obtain a reprint of the paper or a copy of the full report, write to Szmigielski at the Center for Radiobiology and Radioprotection, 128 Szaserow, 00-909 Warsaw, Poland.

ELF NEWS

EPRI Steps Up ELF Bioeffects Research Program

The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) has added $1 million to its 1987 budget for studying the bioeffects of power line electromagnetic fields. The increase to $2.7 million comes in response to "a heightened concern in the utility industry," according to Bob Black, manager of EPRI's non-ionizing radiation program. EPRI will soon fund two occupational health projects, including a major epidemiological study – as well as basic research on mechanisms.

"Industry is clamoring for us to do some good research," Black told *Microwave News* in a telephone interview from his office in Palo Alto, CA. "The issue is getting the attention of a number of members of the utilities' senior management." The call for more work on the risks associated with power lines follows the release of a number of studies linking extremely low frequency (ELF) fields to cancer, especially new support for the apparent link between ELF fields and childhood cancer (see *MWN*, November/December 1986).

Black said that one EPRI vice-president characterized the power line health debate as "a jugular issue for the industry."

One indication of the seriousness of the problem was the front page story in the December 3 issue of *The Energy Daily*, headlined "Transmission Link to Cancer Feared by EPRI." The article was based on an interview with Dr. Leonard Sagan, the head of EPRI's radiation program. In the article, he was quoted as saying: "If you had asked two years ago if electromagnetic fields were harmful, I would have said there was no evidence of harm or potential harm....But now, I have to say there are some issues that have arisen that have to be resolved before answering that question." Sagan went on to say that the issue must be studied: "Lawyers know about this stuff. Reporters will know about it soon enough. We don't have a choice."

Late last year, EPRI released a request for proposals (RFP No.799-27) for an "Assessment of Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Exposure by Occupational Job Title." The objective of this effort is to "(1) test the validity of occupational titles as meaningful surrogates of electric and magnetic field exposure measurements, and (2) identify populations for future study of the claimed association of cancer and field exposure." Black said that he has received six proposals for this effort and expects that the award will be announced in mid-March or early April.

In February, EPRI is releasing a second RFP asking for bids for a major epidemiological study of workers exposed to ELF fields. Black said that the study will take four to six years to complete. He anticipated that a full year of planning will be needed before the study can get underway. He added that EPRI will seek the cooperation of a utility to facilitate the study.

EPRI has set up a panel of scientific experts to set research priorities for the institute's senior management. Dr. H.B. Graves, a consultant based in the Washington, DC, area, is the chairman of the panel. Graves was the chairman of two other committees that investigated ELF health risks: one for the American Institute of Biological Sciences (see *MWN*, May 1985) and one for the Florida Electric Power Coordinating Group (see *MWN*, July/August 1985).

At a panel meeting held in San Diego, CA, January 29-30, five groups were formed to evaluate research needs. The chairmen and their areas of specialization are: Dan Bracken, a consultant based in Portland, OR, on exposure assessment; Dr. John Peters of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles on epidemiology; Dr. Tom Tenforde of the Lawrence Berkeley Lab in California on biophysical mechanisms; Jack Lee of the Bonneville Power Administration on DC fields, and Dr. Marvin Goldman of the Energy-Related Health Research Lab at the University of California at Davis on animal carcinogenesis.

Black said that Graves is scheduled to coordinate the recommendations of the five groups and to submit a report to EPRI by the end of February. He added that some of the new $1 million research fund will be used to pursue the panel's recommendations, but that only good proposals will be supported.

EPRI has also issued an RFP for basic research on mechanisms of interaction between ELF fields and biological systems. A notice announcing this RFP (No.799-26) appeared in the December 19 issue of *Science*. Those receiving awards, which will be patterned on those of the National Science Foundation, will be funded for up to three years. The deadline for applications is in early April.

Video on Mechanisms

Dr. Ross Adey has produced a 15-minute animated video showing how cells can "communicate" through weak electrical signals.

The video, *Cell Membranes and Intercellular Communication*, is a graphic description of Adey's emerging theory on the way in which electromagnetic radiation may influence the promotion of cancer. It illustrates how signals can be amplified on the surface of the cell membrane and then transmitted inside it.

The art work is by Frank Armitage, best known for his work on *The Fantastic Voyage*, a 1966 medical/science fiction thriller. The video was made at the Walt Disney studios in Los Angeles, CA, and paid for by the Veterans Administration (VA). Adey is the Associate Chief of Staff for R&D at the VA Hospital in Loma Linda, CA.

The video will be publicly available later this year; we will publish ordering information as soon as it is released.

Swedish Academy of Engineering: ELF Fields May Not Be Risk Free...

A committee of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences is no longer confident that power line fields are safe. In its just-released 1986 report, the committee states that a growing body of work indicates a potential hazard.

While stressing that more research is needed, the committee warns that the possible link between extremely low frequency (ELF) magnetic fields and cancer must be "taken far more seriously than before."

Reprinted below is the English translation of the summary statement of the academy's Committee for Biological Effects of Power Frequency Electric and Magnetic Fields:

The Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA) Committee for Biological Effects of Power-Frequency Electric and Magnetic Fields has compiled a 1986 report, evaluating the recent research in this area.

In the 1983 report (IVA-Rapport 240) it was stated that there is a range of well established effects of power-frequency electric and magnetic fields, but that none of these effects were judged to constitute a health hazard. Since then, international research in the area has been intense and a great number of investigations have been published. We find that the above judgment may still be valid even today. However, there are more studies than before showing effects, such as if they can be confirmed they must be judged as being hazardous to health. Primarily, it is the magnetic field which allegedly can cause these effects.

In the epidemiological studies concerning cancer and residential or occupational exposure to electromagnetic fields, there is some consistency in the different studies concerning an enhanced risk, particularly in certain forms of leukemia and for childhood tumors. However, results presented so far, are too vague for further conclusions to be drawn. The hypothesis about a relation between exposure to magnetic fields and cancer must however be taken far more seriously than before.

Further epidemiological as well as experimental research in this area is necessary for clarifying these important questions.

The committee's full report is only available in Swedish at this time.

...West Coast Transmission Projects Discount ELF Risks

The draft environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS/EIR) on two West Coast power lines dismisses the health risks associated with extremely low frequency (ELF) electric and magnetic fields.

The California-Oregon and Los Banos-Gates Transmission Projects plan to build two 500 kV power lines, approximately 340 and 84 miles long, respectively (see *MWN*, July/August 1985). The EIS/EIR concludes that, "There is abundant evidence that the electric and magnetic fields produced by the [California-Oregon] project are unlikely to pose a threat to the health and welfare of people, animals or crops. None of the major independent scientific literature reviews has concluded that transmission lines of this type are unsafe."

With respect to the potential hazards associated with electric fields, the EIS/EIR finds that, "It appears that, in general, the presence of typical transmission line electric fields would not introduce any new or unique environments beyond the right-of-way edge that are not otherwise experienced in the normal household of working environments."

For magnetic fields, the EIS/EIR notes that, "In using a biophysical approach, biological effects from transmission line magnetic fields would not be expected."

For more information and/or to comment on the EIS/EIR, contact: Environmental Coordinator, California-Oregon Transmission Project, PO Box 660970, Sacramento, CA 95866, (916) 924-3995. The closing date for comments was recently extended until March 2.

ELF Bioeffects Roundup

Outlined below are recent papers on the biological effects of extremely low frequency (ELF) fields.

P. Baroncelli, et al., "A Health Examination of Railway High Voltage Substation Workers Exposed to ELF Electromagnetic Fields," *American Journal of Industrial Medicine, 10*, pp. 45-55, 1986.

Medical exams and lab tests of 627 Italian railroad employees who work near interconnection and conversion substations operating at 220 kV show no evidence of health effects due to ELF exposure. Researchers based in Rome and Florence surveyed workers with mean maximum exposure levels to 50 Hz electric and magnetic fields of 5 kV and 15 uT, respectively, for 1, 10 or 20 hours per week. In addition to a general examination, the workers underwent tests of their cardiovascular, blood and nervous systems. The "results seem to indicate the absence of clear effects," the authors conclude. They note, however, that the limited number of parameters studied "does not allow us to give a definitive answer...." They suggest that their results could be used to determine the lower limits for an occupational ELF exposure standard.

J. Behari, et al., "Biological Effects on Rats of Chronic Exposure to 50 Hz Fields of Moderate Intensity," *Journal of Bioelectricity, 5*, pp. 335-342, 1986.

Researchers based in New Delhi, India, examined the biological effects of exposures to 50 Hz fields by measuring food and water intake, electrocardiograms (ECGs) and mortality rates in developing male rats. The exposed group ate and drank less and had higher amplitudes of R and T waves in their ECGs. The authors conclude that, though the effects are within physiological limits, 50 Hz fields create mild stress in rats.

Carl Blackman, et al., "Effect of Power Line Frequency Electric Fields on a Developing Organism," presented at the *8th Annual Meeting of the Bioelectromagnetics Society (BEMS)*, Madison, WI, June 1986.

Blackman presented experimental evidence that a 10 V/m electric field – commonly found in the home – is biologically active. Blackman and his colleagues at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Research Triangle Park, NC, exposed chick eggs to 50 Hz or 60 Hz electric fields at an average intensity of 10 V/m (rms) for 21 days. After hatching, the chicks were exposed to either 50 Hz or 60 Hz fields, and their brain tissues were examined for calcium efflux. Only those chicks exposed to 60 Hz *in ovo* followed by 50 Hz *post ovo* showed a response. In an interview at the conference, Blackman said that, while the significance of the finding is still unclear, it does indicate that exposure history can affect biological response. See also Blackman's paper on the influence of the local geomagnetic field, "A Role for the Magnetic Field in the Radiation-Induced Efflux of Calcium Ions from Brain Tissue in Vitro," *Bioelectromagnetics, 6,* pp. 327-337, 1985, and *MWN,* September 1984.

IIT Research Institute (IITRI), *Compilation of 1985 Annual Reports of the Navy ELF Communications System Ecological Monitoring Program,* Technical Report No.E06549-26, 3 Volumes, 1,352 pp. Prepared for the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, July 1986. Available from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161.

These ten progress reports describe the ongoing studies on the effects of electromagnetic fields generated by the Navy's ELF Communications System on the surrounding plant and animal life in Wisconsin and Michigan. In all, they examine the possible effects on 16 different organisms, including plants, fish, small mammals, birds, microorganisms and insects in streams, wetlands and forest ecosystems. To date, the research has primarily documented existing conditions at test and control areas and will serve as baseline data for later results. See also J. E. Zapotosky, *Extememly Low Frequency (ELF) Communications System Ecological Monitoring Program: Summary of 1985 Progress,* Report No.E06549-27, IIT Research Institute, Chicago, IL, October 1986.

J. Leal, et al., "Magnetic Environment and Embryonic Development: A Role of the Earth's Field," *IRCS Medical Science, 14,* pp. 1145-1146, 1986.

This short paper, the most recent one from Leal's group in Madrid, Spain, explores the influence of the Earth's magnetic field on the biological activity of very weak ELF pulsed magnetic fields on chick embryos: A "strong correlation" was found between the Earth's field and the number of abnormal embryos resulting from exposure to artificial pulsed fields. In addition, Leal and coauthors note that "the Earth's [magnetic field] may influence *per se* the development of the embryos, even in the absence of artificial fields." (Note that *IRCS Medical Science's* name was changed to *Medical Science Research* at the beginning of 1987; the journal is published by Elsevier.)

M.T. Marron, et al., "Effects of Sinusoidal 60 Hz Electric and Magnetic Fields on ATP and Oxygen Levels in the Slime Mold, *Physarum polycephalum,*" *Bioelectromagnetics, 7,* pp. 307-314, 1986.

Cultured slime mold cells, continuously exposed for 120-180 days to 60 Hz 1 V/m and 1.0 G electric and magnetic fields, respectively, singly and in combination, had significantly reduced levels of adenosine triphosphate (ATP), an essential element in cell metabolism. The research group, based at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside in Kenosha (Marron is now at the Office of Naval Research in Arlington, VA), also observed a significant drop in the respiration rate of cells exposed to the combined fields and to the electric field alone but not those exposed to the magnetic field alone. The authors suggest that the significant decreases induced by the electric and by the combined fields indicate that "more than one mechanism of interaction may be involved in inducing an [electromagnetic field] effect." This is a continuation of research that has been ongoing for 10 years. The team is part of the Navy's Project ELF program. Earlier findings demonstrated that exposure of these organisms to electromagnetic fields lengthened their mitotic cycles and lowered their respiration rates.

Y.J. Seto, et al., "Chronic 60 Hz Electric Field Exposure-Induced Subtle Bioeffects on Hematology," *Environmental Research, 39,* pp. 143-152, 1986.

In this, their most recent paper, researchers at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, report that rats exposed to 80 kV/m, 60 Hz electric fields for 120 days had significantly lower total white blood cell counts, as well as depressed lymphocytes and eosinophil counts. The exposure did not affect red blood cells, however. The team concludes that "animals chronically exposed from the time of conception...show a response similar to that observed with chronic exposure to some other mild stressors." The authors emphasize, however, that the effects are "small in absolute magnitude." For a synopsis of the team's earlier papers, see *MWN,* January/February 1985.

Richard G. Stevens, "Electric Power Use and Breast Cancer: A Hypothesis," *American Journal of Epidemiology,* April 1987 (in press).

According to Stevens, ELF fields may be responsible for the increased breast cancer rates in industrial countries. Experiments have shown that (1) both constant light and 60 Hz fields suppress melatonin production by the pineal gland – as little as 0.022 uW/cm² light can have this effect; (2) melatonin can inhibit chemical-induced breast cancer, and the removal of the pineal gland enhances carcinogenesis; and (3) rats exposed to constant light have a greater incidence of chemical-induced breast cancer. In this paper, Stevens proposes to test the hypothesis that ELF fields can also promote breast cancer in rats, taking care to control for the possible confounding action of light.

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UPDATES

BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS

Light and Rhythms...Bright light in the morning can alleviate Seasonal Affective Disorder (S.A.D.), the depression and fatigue associated with winter's short days, but applying the same therapy in the evening does not help, according to a new study by Dr. Alfred Lewy and coworkers at the Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland. Though researchers have known that bright light – but not indoor light – suppresses melatonin, a hormone secreted at night, the way light relieves S.A.D. has been unclear. Now, in a paper in *Science* (January 16, 1987), based on a study of eight S.A.D. patients, the Oregon team puts forward the explanation that the antidepressant effect "is at least in part related to advancing the phase of the melatonin onset and, by implication, other circadian rhythms as well."...Lewy's results are consistent with the work of Dr. Charles Czeisler and colleagues, also published in *Science* (August 8, 1986), which shows that bright light in the evenings sets back the cycle: they conclude that evening light could provide relief for those who experience shift work insomnia or jet lag....*The Lancet* (August 30, 1986), England's leading medical journal, cautions against actually taking melatonin for jet lag. An editorial suggests that the hormone may just disturb, not actually shift, the circadian rhythm....The influence of the circadian cycle on the efficacy of drugs is addressed in a news item in the *New Scientist* (January 16, 1986). It cites a study in which the toxic side effects of cancer chemotherapy depended on the time of day the drugs were administered....For background, see Drs. Carl Hirschie Johnson and J. Woodland Hastings's "The Elusive Mechanism of the Circadian Clock," *American Scientist*, January/February 1986 and *MWN*, September/October 1985....Also see the letter on melatonin cycles among night shift workers by Dr. Franz Waldhauser and colleagues at the University of Vienna, Austria, in the *New England Journal of Medicine* (December 18, 1986).

No Effect with MM Waves...Do millimeter (MM) waves have a non-thermal effect on the growth rates of microorganisms? Experiments designed to answer this question continue to yield conflicting results. The debate started in the late 1960s and early 1970s when both Canadian and Soviet researchers published papers showing that GHz radiation is biologically active. A number of German scientists looked into the problem and, in a series of elegant studies, showed that yeast had an extreme sensitivity to specific frequencies in the 41 GHz radiation band: they found that growth was enhanced and inhibited at frequencies only 8 MHz apart. On the other hand, groups at the Polytechnic University in New York City and at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City were unable to show any activity (see *MWN*, October 1983). The Utah team – Drs. Luciano Furia, Douglas Hill and Om Gandhi – has recently published the results of their attempts with yeast cultures, exposed to 15 different frequencies in three bands between 41.650 and 41.798 GHz; in each case, they found no change in growth rates. Writing in the November 1986 issue of the *IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering*, the Utah group advocates "extreme caution" when interpreting papers – especially those by S.J. Webb – that use the positive results with MM waves as the basis for new applications for cancer diagnosis and therapy. In a telephone interview, Gandhi said that the experiments with MM waves are continuing.

Electrostatic Effects...Male rats exposed to electrostatic fields had offspring with congenital abnormalities, according to a new report from Indonesia (*International Journal of Andrology, 9*, pp. 152-160, 1986). This is the first study to link electrostatic fields with birth defects. Drs. Oentoeng Soeradi and M.K. Tadjudin of the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Indonesia School of Medicine in Jakarta exposed the testes of male rats to electrostatic fields of 1 to 7 kilovolts (kV) and found that fertility was diminished. At exposure levels of 6 to 7 kV, offspring suffered from a host of defects.

A New Look for *Health Physics*...In its 29th year of publication, *Health Physics*, the journal of the Health Physics Society, has been changed to a new 8-1/2-by-11 format. According to Editor Genevieve Roessler, a principal motivation for the new design was to make it easier for advertisers who are geared to this larger page size. Representing the non-ionizing radiation community in the first issue of Volume 52 (January 1987) are Drs. Don McRee and H.G. Davis of NIEHS in Research Triangle Park, NC, with a paper on the "Effects on Energy Absorption of Orientation and Size of Animals Exposed to 2.45 GHz Microwave Radiation."

COMMUNICATIONS

Healy Heights Survey...As we go to press, the FCC has released the results of last summer's EPA-FCC measurement survey of RF/MW radiation levels near the Healy Heights antenna farm in Portland, OR (see *MWN*, September/October 1986). Some of the readings insides houses approached 200 uW/cm^2, although "typical levels" were below 100 uW/cm^2. We will feature more details of the survey in our next issue. For a copy of the report, contact: Dr. Robert Cleveland, Office of Engineering and Technology, FCC, 2025 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20554, (202) 653-8169; or Richard Tell, Office of Radiation Programs, EPA, PO Box 18416, Las Vegas, NV 89114, (702) 798-2440.

COMPATIBILITY & INTERFERENCE

Woodpecker Project...A preliminary report on the interference caused by the Soviet Union's over-the-horizon

(OTH) radar has been completed and will be distributed at the 1987 World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) for High Frequency (HF) Broadcasting, which began in early February in Geneva, Switzerland. The Association of North American Radio Clubs' Woodpecker Project – so named because the OTH produces a pecking sound on communications receivers – coordinated 96 shortwave listeners in 18 countries, who monitored the OTH signal during October 1985 (see *MWN*, July/August 1985). The report includes an analysis of the radar's transmission patterns, as well as the effects on 35 broadcasting stations. It concludes by recommending that the WARC delegates adopt a resolution condemning Woodpecker-type interference with the HF band. The 63-page report, prepared by Robert Horvitz, is available for $7.00 in the U.S. and Canada and $9.50 elsewhere (via air mail), prepaid, from the Woodpecker Project, 1634 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009.

Amador Wins Japanese Accreditation... Amador Corp., an EMC testing company based in Taylors Falls, MN, is the first company *outside* Japan to win approval as a certified measurement facility for testing under the new standards promulgated by the Japanese Voluntary Control Council for Interference (VCCI). According to Amador's Cynthia Weber, VCCI certification will enable U.S. electronic equipment manufacturers to compete more effectively with their Japanese counterparts. For more information, contact Weber at Amador, Wild Mountain Rd., Almelund, MN 55002, (612) 583-3322....On March 1, Amador will open a new testing lab in St. Paul, MN, which was purchased from Medtronic, Inc., best know for its line of cardiac pacemakers. Under the terms of the purchase, Amador will do EMC testing for Medtronic.

EMP

FCC Petition Denied and Appealed... Nickolaus Leggett and Donald Schellhardt are persisting in their efforts to get the FCC to study the possible protection of civilian communications systems from EMP radiation. On December 5, Albert Halprin, chief of the FCC's Common Carrier Bureau, denied Leggett and Schellhardt's petition to open a formal inquiry (see *MWN*, September/October 1986). Halprin granted that the issues raised by the petition are "topical and important," but nevertheless decided that "they do not warrant examination by the commission at this time." He argued that because other DOD studies are ongoing, FCC action would be "premature." On January 5, Leggett and Schellhardt asked the commission to reconsider, contending that the FCC "has underestimated the availability of information on EMP, underestimated the seriousness of the EMP problem and overestimated the effectiveness of ongoing private sector responses." At this point DOD stepped into the fray, urging the FCC to stand firm because DOD is acting to protect civilian telecommunications – 95% of DOD's communications are on commercial systems – and because most of the technical details are classified. (The Defense Nuclear Agency and the Defense Communications Agency are already developing an EMP protection standard, DOD noted.) Leggett and Schellhardt answered back that the whole process should be opened up to public scrutiny. This time the petition will be reviewed by the FCC commissioners themselves.

INTERNATIONAL

WHO Directory... The World Health Organization's (WHO) Regional Office for Europe has issued *Institutions and Legislation Concerned with Non-Ionizing Radiation Health-Related Research and Protection: A Directory – 1986.* It was compiled and edited by Dr. Michael Suess, of the WHO regional office in Copenhagen, Denmark, and Deirdre Benwell, the head of the non-ionizing radiation section at the Canadian Radiation Protection Bureau in Ottawa. The 66-page directory, which covers UV, visible, IR, MW, RF and ultrasound, consists of two tables: the first lists every country's laws and institutions which address these types of radiation; the second lists the names and addresses of individuals working on these issues. Much of the information in the tables was collected in the late 1970s and updated in 1985. Periodic updates are planned, according to Benwell. A limited number of copies of the directory are available. In North America, contact Benwell at the Radiation Protection Bureau, Environmental Health Center, Room 233, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0L2, Canada. In Europe, contact Suess at the WHO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark.

LITIGATION

The Next Asbestos?... Will personal injury suits over the adverse health effects of microwave radiation grow in the same way that litigation over asbestos has? Dr. Allan Frey of Randomline, Inc., argues that this scenario is very likely in the cover story of the January 1987 issue of *The Pennsylvania Lawyer*. He warns that unless more bioeffects research is funded and unless adequate controls are placed on emissions, the microwave industry may be crippled by an angry public unwilling to accept any future sources of radiation.

MEASUREMENT

Monitoring RF Heat Sealers... Narda Microwave Corp. is now marketing a new meter to measure electromagnetic fields in the 10-40 MHz frequency band. The Model 8512 is designed to monitor emissions from RF heaters and sealers, many of which operate at 27 MHz. The

battery-powered meter and probe cost $995.00, less than the more sophisticated units that can measure over a larger frequency range. It may be used with two different scales – up to 5 mW/cm^2 or 50 mW/cm^2 – and will overload at 50 W/cm^2. According to Robert Johnson, Narda's instrument sales manager, the meter may be used by those who have not had specialized training. For more information, contact Johnson at 435 Moreland Rd., Hauppauge, NY 11788, (516) 231-1700.

New From NBS...Dr. Moto Kanda and Lanny Driver, of NBS's Electromagnetic Fields Division, have developed a new broad-band electric field probe, which can measure fields between 1 and 1,600 V/m from 1 MHz to 15 GHz, with a flat response to within ±2 dB. The probe is only one cm in diameter and four cm long. For details, see their paper in the February 1987 issue of the *IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques*....Richard FitzGerrell describes "Standard Linear Antennas, 30 to 1000 MHz," in the December 1986 issue of the *IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Propagation* (see also below)....From the NBS's Technical Note (TN) series: • *Automated Measurement of Frequency Response of Frequency-Modulated Generators Using the Bessel Null Method*, J. R. Major, E.M. Livingston and R. T. Adair (TN 1093). Order No. 003-003-02728-6, $1.75, prepaid, from U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), Washington, DC 20402. • *Design, Evaluation and Use of a Reverberation Chamber for Performing Electromagnetic Susceptibility/Vulnerability Measurements*, M.L. Crawford and G.H. Koepke (TN 1092). Order No. 003-003-02734-1, $7.00, prepaid from GPO. • *Linear Gain – Standard Antennas Below 1000 MHz*, R. G. FitzGerrell (TN 1098). Order No. 003-003-02736-7, $2.25, prepaid, from GPO. • *NBS 50 kHz Phase Angle Calibration Standard*, R.S. Turgel (TN 1220). Order No. 003-003-02726-0, $4.00, prepaid, from GPO. • *A Statistical Characterization of Electroexplosive Devices Relevant to Electromagnetic Compatibility Assessment*, Dennis S. Friday and John W. Adams (TN 1094). Order No. 003-003-02744-8, $2.75, prepaid, from GPO. • *A Study of Techniques for Measuring the Electromagnetic Shielding Effectiveness of Materials*, Perry F. Wilson and Mark T. Ma (TN 1095). Order No. 003-003-02735-9, $3.50, prepaid, from GPO.

MEDICAL APPLICATIONS

Characterizing Magnetic Fields...FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH) has developed a computer-based system to characterize and compare the pulsed magnetic fields associated with non-invasive bone healing devices. According to Dr. Whit Athey, chief of the electrophysics branch at the center's Office of Science and Technology, the system can analyze the amplitudes, waveforms and component frequencies of the pulsed fields. "More attention needs to be placed on dosimetry and this system will help us do that," Athey told *Microwave News* in a telephone interview. He said that center scientists will soon begin looking at the output from transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulators, better known as TENS units. For more information, contact Athey, CDRH, HFZ-133, FDA, Rockville, MD 20857, (301) 443-3840.

MEETINGS

EMF Mechanisms at ACS...Professor Martin Blank of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City is organizing a *Bioelectrochemistry Symposium on Surface Chemistry in Biology, Medicine and Dentistry* as part of the *American Chemical Society's (ACS) Spring Meeting*, to be held at the Marriott Hotel in Denver, CO, April 8-9. The symposium will review the influence of electric and electromagnetic fields on biopolymers, membranes and whole cells. In addition to Blank, the speakers will include: Drs. W.R. Adey, F.S. Barnes, J.O'M. Bockris, J.D. Bond, E. Findl, R. Goodman, I.R. Miller, T.Y. Tsong, H. Wachtel and J.C. Weaver. Blank organized a similar symposium in 1978 – the proceedings were published by ACS in 1980 as part of its "Advances in Chemistry Series" (No.188), *Bioelectrochemistry: Ions, Surfaces, Membranes*. Many of the scheduled speakers are also contributing to a forthcoming volume, *Mechanistic Approaches to the Interaction of Electric and Electromagnetic Fields with Living Systems*, edited by Blank and Findl, to be published by Plenum in late 1987 or early 1988.

Magnetic Fields Proceedings...In May 1985, Professor Jurgen Bernhardt hosted a *Symposium on the Status of Research on the Biological Effects of Static and Extremely Low Frequency Magnetic Fields*, sponsored by WHO, IRPA and the German Federal Health Office (see *MWN*, May 1985). He has now edited these papers and the proceedings have been published. For more information, contact Bernhardt, Institute for Radiation Hygiene, Federal Health Office, Ingolstadter Landstrasse 1, D-8042 Neuherberg, F.R.G.

Power Line Bioeffects Review...In past years, EPRI and DOE have held annual meetings for their contractors to present progress reports on their work. This year's meeting will be open to *all* researchers investigating power line bioeffects. April 1 is the deadline for notification of intent to present papers or posters; abstracts are due September 1. *Review of Research on the Biological Effects of 50/60 Hz Electric and Magnetic Fields, Air Ions and Ion Currents* will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Kansas City, MO, November 2-5. No travel funds are available. For more information, contact W/L Associates, Suite #4, 120 West Church St., Frederick, MD 21701, (301) 663-1915.

UPDATES

NIRO 1987... The *1st Symposium on Biological Effects, Hazards and Protection from Non-Ionizing Radiation in Outdoor Applications (NIRO 1987)* will be held in Stockholm, Sweden, August 12-16. The conference will primarily address lasers but will also consider microwave radiation. A number of invited speakers have already been lined up, including, on microwaves, Drs. Frank Barnes of the U.S., Kjell Hansson-Mild of Sweden, and Bernard Servantie of France. A Soviet scientist is scheduled to address non-thermal microwave effects on the central nervous system. Papers are being invited; abstracts are due by March 31. For information about submitting an abstract, contact Mrs. Margit Andersson, Dept. of Ophthalmology, Karolinska Hospital, S-104 01 Stockholm 60, Sweden, (8) 331710; for registration materials, contact the Kreab Congrex, Box 5619, S-114 86 Stockholm, Sweden, (8) 7234230.

OVENS

Popcorn and Baby Bottle Burns... Opening a bag of microwave popcorn may be hazardous to your health, according to a letter in the *New England Journal of Medicine* (November 20, 1986). Patricia Routhier and Dr. Arnold Matlin, of Geneseo, NY, and Dr. Reginald Ishman of Warsaw, NY, described the case of a 10-year-old boy who severely burned his eyelids while opening a bag of microwaved popcorn at face level. The rush of released steam caused first- and second-degree burns. The package carried a warning, "Handle the bag carefully -- It's hot!" "Obviously, this warning is not sufficient to prevent eye injuries," the authors wrote. This was not the first time a child has been injured by microwave-heated food: Two years ago, pediatricians reported that a baby suffered throat injuries after drinking formula heated in a microwave oven (W.C. Sando et al., *Journal of Pediatrics, 105*, pp. 864-867, 1984). The baby's burns were due in part to the fact that when formula is heated in a microwave oven, the liquid can be scalding hot when the bottle is only warm. The doctors warned that, "The safety of microwave ovens is operator dependent. Heating a bottle of infant formula in the microwave oven is popular and should be simple, but it is potentially treacherous when undertaken by the uninformed." They ended their case report with age-old advice for the microwave generation: pretest the formula before feeeding the baby. Last spring, a researcher from the Shriner's Burns Institute in Cincinnati, OH, warned of a rise in burns from microwave ovens (see *MWN*, July/August 1986).

PEOPLE

Bill Kaune, long known for his work on the measurement and dosimetry of ELF fields at the Battelle Pacific Northwest Labs in Richland, WA, will join the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) in Boulder, CO, in March. At NBS, Kaune will be working with the microwave and millimeter wave noise measurements group.

Walter Stoessel, Jr., the U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union from 1974 to 1976, died of leukemia on December 11. Stoessel was in Moscow when the news broke that the Soviets were beaming microwaves at the U.S. embassy – the irradiation had in fact started 23 years earlier. A State Department spokesman told UPI that Stoessel's and two other post-war ambassadors' cancer deaths had nothing to do with health hazards at the embassy. But syndicated columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak reported on December 13 that many U.S. government officials blame microwaves for Stoessel's death.

Frank Harlen of the U.K.'s National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB) collapsed and died at work on January 16. Harlen was one of the board's experts on radiofrequency, microwave and laser radiation; he was responsible for preparing many of its reports on non-ionizing radiation. He served in a number of working groups set up by the World Health Organization's Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen and was a member of the IEC's committee on lasers.

POWER LINES

International Concerns... The Collingwood Community Health Center (CCHC), a citizens group opposing the construction of a 220 kV power line in Victoria, Australia, has published *Electromagnetic Fields, Electric Power and Public Health: A Community Resource Document Based on the Victorian Experience, 1985-1986* (see *MWN* July/August and September/October 1986). Prepared by Ian Macmillan, the 240-page report was designed to "make the technical aspects of the power line health effects debate more accessible and understandable to the public." Macmillan reviews the latest research and argues that the state utility, the government and their consultant, Dr. H.B. Graves, did not "properly consider a large number of the relevant studies" in approving the line. The report costs $12.00 (Australian) for individuals and community/voluntary organizations and $25.00 for others (add $3.00 for postage) and is available from EMR Project Fund, CCHC, 154 Sackville St., Collingwood, Victoria 3066, Australia, (03) 419-6155....A similar dispute is brewing in the Republic of Ireland, where the Electricity Supply Board is expanding its 400 kV lines to send electricity generated at a coal-fired west coast power plant, eastward to Dublin.

STANDARDS

Draft EMC Limits... American National Standards Committee C63 has issued a draft of its proposed revision of ANSI C63.12–1984, *Recommendations for Electromagnetic Compatibility Limits (BSR C63.12)*. The standard does not specify suggested limits, but presents a rationale for developing them; it does not address limits for ISM equipment. A copy of the BSR C63.12 draft is available for $7.00, prepaid, from Fred Huber, Jr., IEEE, 345 East 47th St., New York, NY 10017.

Szmigielski's project is the first prospective epidemiological study ever attempted. This effort, together with his earlier retrospective study of the Polish military, represents an unprecedented body of data on the possible carcinogenic effects of RF/MW exposures.

In 1985, Szmigielski and his colleagues released the results of their retrospective study, which found a significant increase in cancer among Polish military personnel exposed to RF/MW radiation. The data revealed that exposed personnel were three times as likely as those not exposed to develop cancer – tumors of the blood-forming organs and lymphatic tissue were nearly seven times more common than among unexposed servicemen. In addition, the study showed a strong correlation with exposure time. The paper appeared in Polish and was not widely distributed (see *MWN*, March 1985).

The first English summary of the 1985 findings, written by Szmigielski himself, will be included in a chapter in *Foundations of Modern Bioelectricity*, which will be published this summer by Marcel Dekker in New York City. The volume is edited by Dr. Andrew Marino of the Louisiana State University Medical Center in Shreveport.

In his chapter, Szmigielski presents an extensive summary of the results of the retrospective epidemiological study (see box below). "Immunological and Cancer-Related Aspects of Exposure to Low-Level Microwave and Radiofrequency Fields" is the most complete review ever prepared on the suspected link between cancer and exposure to RF/MW radiation. Szmigielski's coauthors are Marian Bielec, Slawonir Lipski and Grazyna Sokolska, all in the Department of Biological Effects of Non-Ionizing Radiation at the Warsaw center.

The chapter, drawing on close to 30 published papers on RF/MW exposure and cancer, concludes that animal studies have provided only "scanty evidence that exposure to low-level RF/MW radiation may in certain cases influence the complicated process of carcinogenesis, with tumor-promoting (direct or indirect) activity possibly being a general phenomenon." According to their review of the University of Washington rat study, those results "may be considered only as a trend for increased risk of cancer after prolonged MW exposures. The phenomenon needs further confirmation."

Szmigielski and his coworkers conclude that investigations of the cancer incidence among exposed human populations – including their own – "point to an urgent need for further epidemiological studies."

The chapter also covers research on immunological effects of RF/MW exposure. In general, the Polish team finds that there are insufficient data, but that available research suggests the existence of a "biphasic" reaction of the immune system to RF/MW radiation, starting with stimulation of the whole system after initial exposures, "followed by gradual, but transient, suppression of the whole immunity" with increasing exposure periods and/or power densities.

The University of Washington laboratory study that found an increased cancer risk among exposed rats also showed immunological irregularities.

For information on the availability and cost of *Foundations of Modern Bioelectricity*, contact Marcel Dekker, 270 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, or Dr. Andrew Marino, Dept. of Orthopedics, Louisiana State University Medical Center, PO Box 33932, Shreveport, LA 71130.

Summary of Polish Epi Study of Cancer Among Military Personnel

In summary, from a retrospective study that covered a large and well-controlled population with a known population of subjects, and that had a relatively long period of observation (1971-1980) the following conclusions may be drawn:

- The risk of developing clinically detectable neoplastic disease was about 3 times higher for personnel exposed occupationally to RF/MW radiations. The highest risk appeared for malignancies originating from the hemato-lymphatic systems (morbidity about 7 times higher). Other more frequent neoplasms were located in the alimentary tract and in skin (including melanomas).
- The highest risk factor of cancer morbidity related to occupational exposure to RF/MW appeared for subjects at the age of 40-49 who had a 5-15 year period of exposure.
- Morbidity rates of neoplasms in personnel exposed occupationally to RF/MW showed strong correlation with the period of exposure.
- Neoplasms of the same localization and/or type developed earlier (by about 10 years) in personnel exposed occupationally to RF/MW than in those not working in the RF/MW environment.

The above findings are intriguing and disturbing for epidemiologists, medical officers, as well as for society as a whole. It must be emphasized that results of retrospective epidemiologic studies are valid only for the population analyzed and the period of observation covered. Further, despite the correlations found and values of correlation coefficients, they do not provide certain evidence of a causative relationship between the effect and the factor investigated. In our population, we assume that exposure of subjects to other harmful and possibly carcinogenic factors, including smoking and drinking habits, in both the exposed and non-exposed groups were similar and we have no evidence to think differently.

At present we cannot offer a convincing explanation for the observed facts of increased risk of cancer in subjects exposed occupationally to RF/MW, and do not relate this finding directly to interactions of the radiation with the human organism at any level, until the recently started prospective studies of the same population, planned for 1985-1990, is completed. Nevertheless, the available results point to an urgent need for further epidemiological studies, both retrospective and prospective, in well-controlled populations of people exposed occupationally and/or incidentally to a variety of non-ionizing radiation, as well as for elucidation of cancer-related problems in experimental investigations.