

Nuclear plant accident cause undetermined

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — An accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant apparently damaged the reactor core and sent radioactive material beaming into the atmosphere, the government said Wednesday.

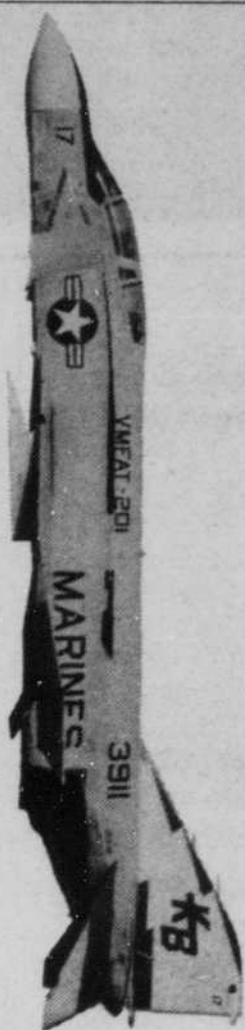
Officials said their readings indicated there was no immediate danger to the public.

Edson Case, a spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, said radiation levels inside the plant's reactor building registered at 1,000 times normal.

The cause of the accident — or the precise sequence of events that led to the radiation's release — could not be immediately determined.

But a nuclear engineer for the state Department of Environmental Resources, William Dornis, said the core had become overheated during the early morning incident.

"The core was covered. The core was flooded. Something caused the core to overheat," Dornis said.



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Cattle, birds vie for refuge space

By JACK CONDLIFFE
Of the Emerald

Harney County cattlemen and the manager of the Malheur National Bird Refuge Field Station are fighting an old-fashioned range war over whether cattle grazing is detrimental to bird habitat on the refuge.

Denzel Ferguson, director of the station, first came under attack from the Oregon Cattlemen's Association in 1976 after he managed a successful letter-writing campaign to reduce cattle grazing on the refuge.

Ferguson says the campaign started because grazing was adversely affecting the ground cover and, therefore, the birds' habitat.

In the early 1970's, 2,000 mallard ducks visited the refuge, compared to 50,000 20 years ago. Overgrazing has also kept the refuge's 236 pairs of sandhill cranes from producing more than two young in the past two years, Ferguson says.

"There wasn't a place for an animal to place a nest," he says. "Wildlife was obviously suffering from overgrazing."

Ferguson rekindled the controversy last summer when he published an article in a Portland newspaper castigating soaring beef prices, cancer-causing substances in hamburgers and the artificially low fees he said cattlemen are charged for grazing cattle on public lands.

The article prompted the state beef industry to ask the consortium of universities that operates the station to withhold funds from the



Migrating whistling swans and other waterfowl nest in the Malheur National Bird Refuge every spring. They're among the refuge's

wildlife which, some claim, is being damaged by cattlemen who overgraze their cattle on the land there.

refuge until the situation was "rectified."

A resolution the Cattlemen's Association passed last November said Ferguson "presents a totally biased view with respect to natural resources and their utilization in southeastern Oregon."

"The Malheur Field Station operates in the field of education where dissemination of a biased philosophy to impressionable students can be most damaging to them."

The cattlemen have now taken their campaign to the Legislature, where Sen. Bob Smith, R-Burns, who is a rancher, has requested a hearing on the state system's

share of the field station's budget.

The hearing, before the education subcommittee of the Joint Ways and Means Committee, will be held later this month.

Smith aide Al Jennings says the senator is studying "the governance, the management and the financial maintenance of the field station." Jennings says the grazing question is not a factor in Smith's decision to look over the field station's operations.

However, Smith charged in an article published last month in the Bend Bulletin that Ferguson's philosophies are harmful to the Harney County cattle industry, that

state-owned vehicles are used to transport beer and that students skinny-dip in public view.

Ferguson responded to Smith's statements in the same article. "Sure the kids skinny-dip and we drink lots of beer here. They want us to have Harney County standards. That would mean we would have students chugging out of whiskey bottles, knocking out each other's teeth and carrying guns."

Ferguson says the charges about student misconduct are actually a smokescreen to obscure the real issue — that public lands are overgrazed and that cattlemen pay too low a fee for their use.

Shield law bill passed by subcommittee enforces media's rights against searches

SALEM — A bill that would amend the Oregon press shield law to prohibit unauthorized searches of newspaper and broadcast media offices has been approved by a legislative subcommittee.

The bill, HB 2418, was introduced by Rep. David Frohnmayer, R-Eugene, and 11 co-sponsors at the request of the Oregon Newspaper Publisher's Association.

A House Judiciary subcom-

mittee approved the measure 5-0 Tuesday and sent it on to the full committee.

Frohnmayer says current law already prohibits such searches, but adds that his simple amendment will make the original legislative intent clearer.

Currently, the law allows no governmental body the power to "compel testimony of production of evidence." As

approved, the amendment defines production as the result of subpoenas, search warrants or other means.

Richard Nokes, editor of the Portland Oregonian, was the only witness that testified during a public hearing that preceded a work session on the bill. Nokes supported the amendment, pointing to Watergate information leaked to The Washington Post by the

anonymous tipster, "Deep Throat."

"Every newspaper, at one time or another, has a 'Deep Throat,'" Nokes said. We have persons coming to us for one reason or another who are afraid to take their stories to law enforcement agencies. We have persons confiding in us who fear for their personal safety if their identities become known."

ask the sexpert

Why is it that women often fail to achieve orgasm in coitus but always do so via masturbation?

It is often easier for a woman to achieve an orgasm by masturbating than through sexual intercourse for a few reasons. Generally, in sexual intercourse, communication and effort is needed for both partners to become satisfied. At times a woman's clitoris, the small

mound of tissue located outside and above the vagina, is not stimulated sufficiently. By masturbating, a woman can achieve orgasm by direct stimulation of the clitoris. Present evidence by Masters and Johnson, famous sex researchers, suggests that nearly all women's orgasms involve some kind of stimulation of the clitoris. Through good communication, both partners should be aware

of each other's sexual desires. Is it possible for a female to rape a male?

It is possible for a woman to force a male to submit to intercourse without his consent. But whether this would constitute rape is debatable since rape is a legal definition that varies from state to state.

Your questions regarding birth control, sexuality, abortion, pregnancy, etc. are wel-

come. Either write your question and leave it with the Emerald c/o Sexpert or write us directly — Planned Parenthood Education, 134 East 13th Ave., Eugene. We are interested in providing readers straight information about these subjects and solicit your feedback regarding this weekly column. Patti Van Metre and Anna-Lisa Robbert, Planned Parenthood.

Thursday, March 29, 1979