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AAHP Special Session

Radiological Accidents and Incidents—Lessons Learned?



2008 Health Physics Society Annual Meeting

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Tuesday, 15 July 2008

The Academy’s Special Session at the 2008 Health Physics Society (HPS) Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh will be on the topic of the lessons learned over the past 40 years from radiological accidents and incidents. The session will be cochaired by Ed Maher (American Academy of Health Physics Past President) and Lieutenant Colonel Steve Rademacher.

The speakers were selected because of their unique and firsthand knowledge of notable radiological accidents and incidents that have influenced the practice of health physics over the past 40 years. The types of accidents and incidents that will be discussed are varied and will

include Department of Defense, Department of Energy, medical, utility, and university settings. Many of these accidents and incidents are very well known and others are not, but the lessons learned are all remarkably similar and worth recalling from time to time and passing down to new generations of health physicists.

The afternoon session will conclude with a half-hour roundtable discussion, after which audience members will be encouraged to share their experiences and ask questions of the speakers.

A preliminary program for the session is provided on the next page.

ABHP Examination No. 1 – June 1960

An additional 10-point questions from the first ABHP exam is listed below. Candidates were required to answer 15 out of 20 10-point questions, plus a 50-point essay in an exam time limit of three hours.

11. Give the purpose and practical significance of the following devices as applied to personnel monitoring.
 - a. Metallic shields in film badges
 - b. Indium foil attached to film badges
 - c. Sulphur discs
 - d. Open window portion of film badges
 - e. Self-reading pocket chambers



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Morning Session (8:30 – Noon)

Introductory Remarks

Nuclear Weapon Accidents: Lessons Learned (Part I)

Ed Maher

Steve E. Rademacher

Ken L. Groves

John C. Taschner

Nuclear Weapon Accidents: Lessons Learned (Part II)

Ken L. Groves

Steve E. Rademacher

John C. Taschner

Lessons Learned from Radiological Events at
Los Alamos National Laboratory

John L. Bliss

Medical Radiation Accidents: Lessons Learned

William J. Walker

– **Break for AAHP Awards Luncheon** –

Afternoon Session (2:30 – 5:15)

Communicating Radiological Risks (Three-Mile Island)

Harold R. Denton

Psychosocial and Communications Issues: Lessons Learned

Steven M. Becker

An Internal Contamination Experience
and the Effects on Academic Research

Joseph P. Ring

Panel Discussion and Question/Answer:
“Common Lessons and Common Sense”

All

– **Adjourn to AAHP Business Meeting** –