

# The Village Courier



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## FERMILAB RETURNS 1300 ACRES TO GRAIN PRODUCTION

Responding to President Ford's policy of maximum food production in the United States, Fermilab recently signed contracts with three area farmers to place 1,383 acres of the Laboratory site into row crop use in the 1975 crop season. Mr. William Muetze of Batavia, Illinois, has a contract to cultivate 630 acres of corn; Wayne Knight of Sandwich, Illinois, 610 acres, and John Frieden, Batavia, 143 acres.

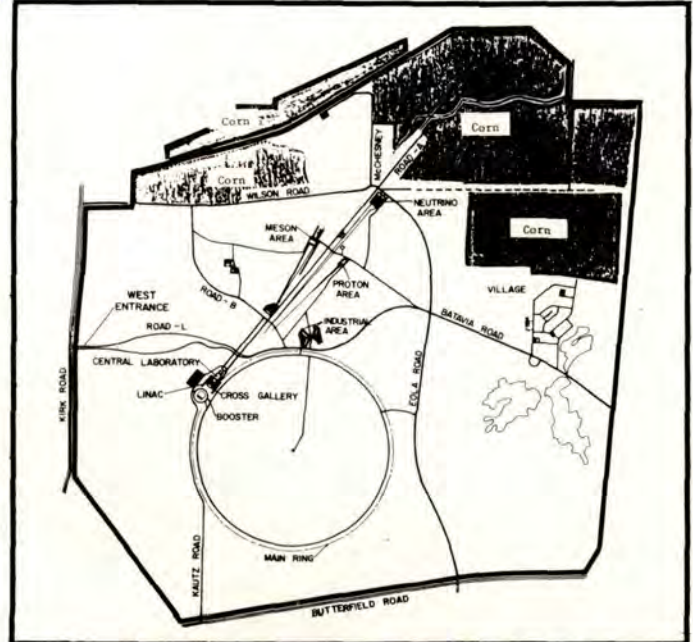
Figuring a modest 100-bushel per acre production return, the contribution to the world food supply may be calculated as supplying over 6,000 yearly diets of 2,000 calories per day.

In terms of the local economy of the Fermilab area, the addition of the sale of the seed and fertilizer to be used, the transportation and handling of the crop, the storage and initial marketing of the 1/6 million bushels of corn may represent over \$400,000 in new money flowing into the local area. The impact on employment and sales in the area is apparent.

The decision to convert these large tracts of Fermilab land into agricultural use is part of a continuing program of good land management. The Fermilab site contains some of the most potentially productive corn/soybean land in the world. Historically, the land has been used as farm land since settlement in the early 1800's. The return of the 1,300 acres to farm use integrates into the present land use of much of the land surrounding the Laboratory. Such use also offers habitat for wild life normal to this area.

The decision to plant corn rather than soybeans came after careful study by the Laboratory administrators. According to Dave Sauer, Manager of Site Services, it was decided that the benefit to soil tilth of corn stalks and the opportunity for weed control afforded by the cultivation of corn were important considerations in the decision. The current world food situation, the demand for grain, and the favorable price of corn on the market also promoted the feasibility of the new program.

Long-range, the Laboratory requires full use of the 6,800 acres of the total Fermilab site for possible future scientific activities. In the immediate future, however, some of this land can be usefully put under cultivation. On the remaining land, the Laboratory seeks to keep site maintenance costs at a minimum while maintaining esthetic appearances and ecological standards. Maintenance of the buffalo herd and the Scottish Highland cattle and support of the prairie restoration inside the Main Ring are facets of this goal.



*...Fermilab acres turned to grain production in 1975...*

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## ALIGNMENT GROUP BEGINS CALIBRATING SERVICE

The Alignment Group of Fermilab Research Services recently put into operation a facility for calibrating optical tooling instruments. Dick Hunckler, who operates this new service, has completed factory training in the use of the optical tooling bench and in precision optical instrument maintenance and calibration. Dick has been doing this type of work, as well as beam line alignment, for six years. The services of this facility are available to all Fermilab departments as well as visiting experimenters. For information, call Bill Testin, Ext. 3654.

During 1974 the Alignment Group aligned and maintained over eight miles of beam and experimental lines, as well as participating in the installation of seventeen new experiments. Alignment personnel also contributed to the some twenty Neutrino train changes.

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## NEED A RIDE?

The number for the taxi service at Fermilab is H-A-C-K (4225). Roger Braun is the dispatcher on the other end of the line.

The Fermilab taxi picks up and delivers Fermilab travelers to the Batavia stop of the Continental Transport bus to O'Hare Airport. From the site, call H-A-C-K for service to the bus stop in Batavia. From Batavia, call the Fermilab operator, 840-3000, and ask for taxi service. From O'Hare, call 251-1910 to the Fermilab operator and give arrival time in Batavia. The taxi service operates Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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## ANY SUGGESTIONS?

Bright yellow suggestion boxes are located at several places in the Atrium of the Central Laboratory. Signed or unsigned suggestions for Fermilab improvements are welcome from anyone who has something constructive to offer. Suggestions are collected regularly by the Director's Office. They are all given careful consideration, good ones are acted upon.

Results of suggestions and what is done about them are posted regularly on the Free Speech board on the west wall bulletin board in the Atrium.

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## INTERNATIONAL FILM SOCIETY SPRING/SUMMER SERIES

Fermilab's International Film Society has announced titles of films in its 1975 Spring/Summer Series. The films will all be shown in the Fermilab Auditorium; they are open to the public. Admission is \$1.00 for adults; 50¢ for children. For further information on the films or activities of the Film Society, call Ext. 3440. The new series, shown on the second Friday of each month, is:

March 14 - *The Gospel According to St. Matthew*  
April 11 - *Shane*  
May 9 - *Children of Paradise (Les Enfants du Paradis)*

June 13 - *Kind Hearts and Coronets*  
July 11 - *Los Olvidados*  
August 8 - *Tom Jones*

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...Dick Hunckler calibrating a Brunson transit...



# FESTIVAL OF NATIONS

DINNER IN THE SOVIET UNION

FERMILAB CAFETERIA - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28  
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

OLGA TAKHTAMYSHEV, HOSTESS



...Saundra Cox, Fermilab Chef Bill Ross and Olga Takhtamyshev sample the Russian dishes...

Diners at the Fermilab cafeteria on Friday will meet aromas of borscht, zharkol, blini, as well as potato and beet salad on the Festival of Nations serving line. The servings will be adaptations of recipes brought from her homeland by Mrs. Olga Takhtamyshev, the wife of Soviet physicist Georgi Takhtamyshev, an experimenter in the Fermilab Internal Target Area.

Recipes for the Soviet dishes will be available in the cafeteria on Friday or from the Guest Office, CL 1W after that. Mrs. Takhtamyshev will also be at the luncheon to answer questions about preparation of the recipes. These are dishes "everyone" makes at home, she says.

Adding to the festival air of the occasion, Polley Cosgrove and Dave Ciampa will perform Russian folk dances during the lunch hour. Polley made her dance debut in the ballet, "Sleeping Beauty," eight years ago. She has performed the vigorous, gay Russian dance style since, as a pleasant variation, she says.



...A new table in the Fermilab cafeteria features a colorful circular design (above), donated by A. Kuznetsov, a Soviet experimenter in the Internal Target Laboratory at Fermilab in 1972-73. The present Soviet experimenters at Fermilab recently joined in christening the table at lunch: (Clockwise from lower center) S. Mukhin, E. L. Goldwasser, G. Takhtamyshev, A. Sandach, Y. Rjabov, V. Efremenko, P. Markov, Y. Akimov, D. Jovanovic, and R. R. Wilson...



## SAFETY HANDBOOK DISTRIBUTED

The first edition of a Fermilab Safety Handbook has been distributed to all employees. According to Doug Pinyan, Senior Safety Officer, the book has safety information for all employees. It is not limited to safety procedures for technical or mechanical areas of the Laboratory. It explains how to report an emergency, for example; it cautions against potential traffic hazards. It lists the safety training programs given at Fermilab.

If you have not received your copy call the Safety Office, Ext. 3580. If you have not read the new book, do so. If you have questions about safety in your work at Fermilab, take them to your supervisor, or to the Safety Office.

The Safety Office and the Directorate at Fermilab are serious and sincere in efforts to keep people safe at Fermilab. The Safety Handbook is another step in the direction of informing employees, visitors, and subcontractors on how safety can be accomplished at the Laboratory.

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## PROTONS WIN 97-80 IN TOURNAMENT PLAY

Having ended the regular season with a 7-2 record (second best in their division), Fermilab's Protons basketball team went out fired up for action. With a strong offensive performance by Gary Smith and Roy Justice and superb defense by all, the outcome was never in doubt. The next game will be March 4 at 9:00 p.m. against the winner of the Hustler vs. Micks Standard game, which will be played Thursday, February 27 at 9:00 p.m.

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## LOST AND FOUND AT FERMILAB

A Lost and Found department is maintained in the Fermilab Travel Office, Atrium Floor West, Ext. 3397. Items found on site should be brought to the Travel Office. If you have lost something, check at the Travel Office; it may have been turned in.

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*CONGRATULATIONS...to Glen (Instrument Facility) and Diana Vlies on the birth of their son, Kevin Glen....and to Mary Ann (Personnel) and Phillip Fazio on the birth of their daughter, Jacqueline Renee...*

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## CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE - 3 bedroom Brick Ranch w/bar & 2 fireplaces, in Hinckley. Low forties. Cal Mrs. Cuomo, 815-286-7484.

FOR SALE - Camping lot, wooded 40 x 120', near lake, elec., water, refuse pickup, paved roads, comfort stations w/showers, 24 hr. security, 4 seasons planned recreation, approx 85 mi. from Chicago. Shown by appointment. Also, 1973 Kawasaki 90, 100+ MPG, new battery, excellent cond., best offer over \$350. Call H. Clover, Ext. 3089.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVE - for Stuart McGuire and Mason--shoes and fashion clothes for women and men--is Homer D. Clover, Ext. 3089, 554-1375.

FOR RENT - Share 6 rm. house in Warrenville w/Lab employee. Kitchen and garage included, utilities paid. Reasonable. R. John Houkal, Ext. 3420 or 393-1077.

LOVABLE FEMALE PUPPY - Born Dec. 25, Color black and brown. Mother part Labrador, Father, (not sure) Interested call Loretta, Ext. 3470.

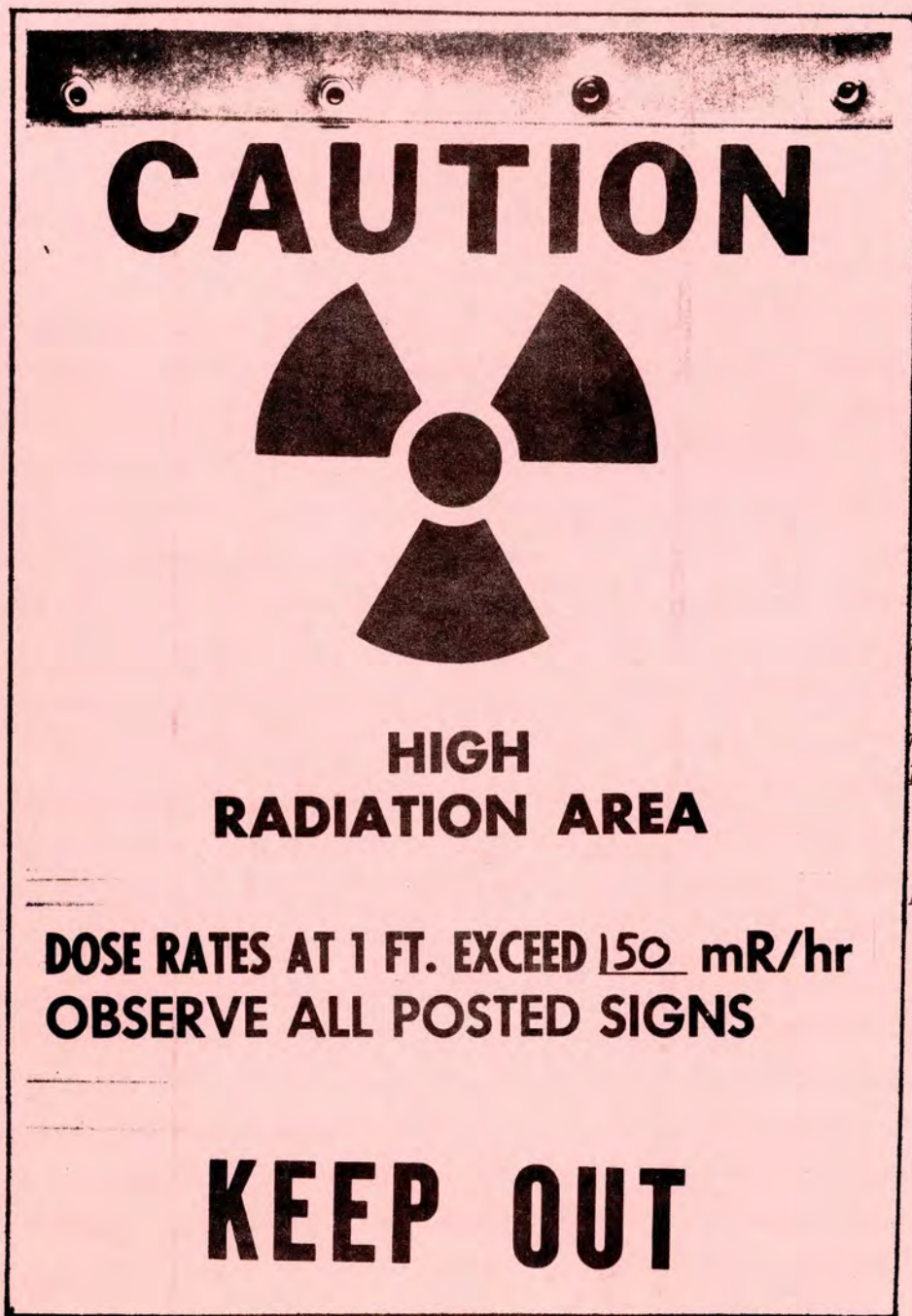
FOR SALE - Used Color T.V., good condition, 23" console \$120. D. Mendenhall, Ext. 3724.







## Radiation Overexposure In Meson Dept.



*Radiation Warning signs provide you with information such as dose rates and occupancy times, and special equipment which may be required for your protection.*

*READ AND OBEY THEM!*



Last May an unusually high radiation exposure was received by a technician in the Meson Department. This incident is being brought to your attention so that you may understand its causes, and thus avoid a similar occurrence.

The exposure occurred in the Meson Target Hall during a period of target train maintenance. Some of the train components were highly radioactive (up to 3000 milli-Roentgens per hour (mR/hr) one foot away) because they had been struck by the main proton beam. However, these "hot spots" were well localized. Just a few feet away the exposure rate was much lower (about 200 mR/hr).

Before work was started the train was surveyed for radioactivity. Exposure rates were posted, and yellow and magenta radiation ribbons were put up around areas where the exposure rates were above 100 mR/hr.

Each person working in the Target Hall was given individual instructions by the Meson Department Radiation Safety Officer (RSO), and was told the maximum radiation exposure that he could receive that day.

Each person wore his film badge, which records the total radiation exposure of the wearer while it is being worn, but which does not offer any protection or warning against radiation. Each person also wore a pocket dosimeter which allowed him to monitor his own exposure as he worked. The instructions were that a person should leave the Hall if his dosimeter read close to full scale or if he had received his allowed radiation exposure for the day.

This technician and a co-worker were doing electrical work on the train near the "hot" spots. This work should not have

required more than a few minutes work in areas with exposure rates above about 200 mR/hr. Because they were not expected to work in the very high radiation levels close to the "hot" spots, continuous radiation safety supervision was not provided. Both men were limited to 200 mR exposure for that day.

Neither the technician nor his co-worker reported anything unusual that day. The dosimeter records for that day do not indicate an especially high exposure. However, the film badge worn by one of the technicians recorded an exposure of 5010 mR. Although this exposure exceeds the AEC's limit of 3000 mR for a three month calendar quarter, it is by no means large enough to have any discernible effect on the worker's health.

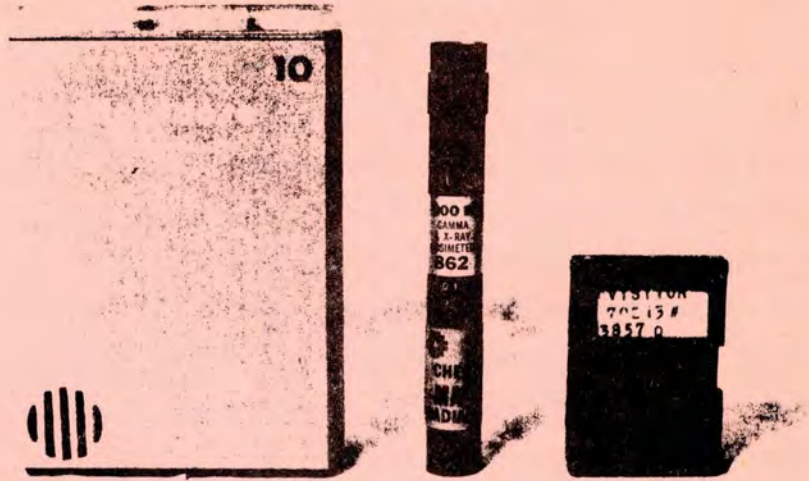
The investigation of this incident disclosed several factors which combined to allow the overexposure to take place. Some of these can be remedied by greater precautions by radiation safety personnel and supervisors; and others require greater care and alertness on the part of the workers themselves - that is, YOU. These contributing factors, and preventive actions are:

1. CONTRIBUTING CAUSE: It appears that the technician did not understand the very localized nature of the radiation fields around the train. The exposure rates increased very rapidly as one approached the few "hot" spots.

*PREVENTION: It is your responsibility to make sure you understand the nature of radiation and other hazards in any area before you enter it. If you have any*



Radiation Dosimetry Equipment: The FILM BADGE (on the right) can only record your exposure. The POCKET DOSIMETER in the center allows you to keep track of your exposure as it is being received. The DIGITAL DOSIMETER (on the left) does even more - it reminds you by buzzing once for each millirem of dose.



*doubts about this, check with your supervisor, Area RSO or Radiation Physics before entering the area.*

*It is a supervisor's responsibility to make sure that those working under or with him have been informed of the various hazards in an area, and in fact have understood the explanation.*

2. CAUSE: The technician should have checked his pocket dosimeter at frequent intervals, and he should have left the area when it approached his limit of 200 mR.

*PREVENTION: You may be given a pocket dosimeter to help you monitor your radiation exposure as it is being received. Dosimeters are required for entry into many areas. However, it will be of no value to you unless you check it frequently when you are in high radiation areas. (And when you check yours, remind your co-workers to check theirs too!) If it approaches its full scale reading, or any daily exposure limit you may be assigned, you should leave the area, record*

*the reading in the dosimeter log, and notify your RSO and supervisor. They will determine if you can reset the dosimeter and resume work. In no case may you continue to work in a radiation area if your dosimeter has passed full scale. You must remain out of all radiation areas until your film badge has been read and your true exposure determined.*

3. CAUSE: If the technician had been prevented from entering the very high radiation fields near the collimator, he would not have received such a large exposure.

*PREVENTION: New procedures, instituted following this incident, require that people working in areas or enclosures which have exposure rates over 1 R/hr must have continuous radiation safety supervision. Only when the areas above 1 R/hr are fenced off with rigid barriers, and not just ropes, so that no one can enter these areas by mistake, may unsupervised work be done - even in another part of such an enclosure.*

Continued . . .



It is the goal of the Laboratory to keep radiation exposures to a minimum, consistent with its operational needs, and in any event, below the limits set by the AEC. To do this certain restrictions and procedures have been set up to protect you, the employees and users. You must do your part by following them, even if they are inconvenient and appear to hinder your assigned work. You have a responsibility to keep your own radiation exposure low by being aware of the nature of each situation, following verbal and posted instructions, and asking questions when you are in doubt.