Department of State

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

ACTION NOUS-06

INFO OCT-01 AUS-06 \7\021 \7\021

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FM AMBASSADRESS WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9000

ED 12065: N/A

TAGS: MNOC, PAKM, TGEN, NZ

SUBJECT: SIKEP VIII: GNZ RULES OUT EVIDENCE OF SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE NUCLEAR EXPLOSION

REF: WELLINGTON 6275


2. QUOTE -- MEASUREMENT OF RADIOACTIVE Fallout AT GRACEFIELD, LOWER HUTT

NEW MEASUREMENTS MADE AT THE INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR SCIENCES ON THE ORIGINAL RAIN WATER SAMPLE, AND ALSO ON A LARGER 10-LITRE RAIN WATER SAMPLE COLLECTED UP TO THE 8TH NOVEMBER, DO NOT CONFIRM OUR EARLIER RESULTS. WE CAN NOW DEFINITELY SAY THAT WITHIN THE LIMITS OF DETECTION AVAILABLE WITH THE NEW SAMPLE, THERE IS NO BARIUM-140 OR PALADINOUM-140 PRESENT IN THE SAMPLE. THE LIMIT OF DETECTION WITH THE LARGE SAMPLE IS ABOUT ONE-THOUSANDTH OF A PICO-CURIE PER LITRE. THE FINAL CONCLUSION OF EXTENSIVE MEASUREMENTS ON BOTH THESE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
SAMPLES IS THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF FRESH RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT DURING THE PAST THREE MONTHS.

MEASUREMENTS HAVE INDICATED THAT THE ORIGINAL SAMPLES WERE CONTAMINATED WITH OTHER RADIONUCLIDES. THE ORIGINAL LANTHANUM SAMPLE DID NOT DECAY TO ZERO, AND THE ORIGINAL PHASEDOXYMUM SAMPLE DID NOT APPEAR TO DECAY AT ALL, WHICH INDICATES THAT THERE WAS LONGER-LIVED RADIOACTIVITY PRESENT. WE ARE STILL NOT CERTAIN WHAT THIS RADIOACTIVITY IS, BUT WITHIN OUR LIMITS OF DETECTION, IT DOES NOT EMIT ANY GAMMA RAYS. THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME NEUTRAL RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION, BUT WE HAVE NO DEFINITE PROOF OF THIS AT PRESENT. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE THE IDENTITY OF THESE CONTAMINANT RADIONUCLIDES BY BETA-RAY SPECTROSCOPY DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. DETERMINATION OF THE DECAY RATES OF THE CONTAMINANTS WILL ALSO BE MADE, BUT THIS MAY TAKE UP TO A YEAR TO ACCOMPLISH. HOWEVER, THESE FINDINGS WILL NOT ALTER THE ABOVE CONCLUSIONS. END QUOTE.

MARTINOELL

NOTE: UPGRADE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE -- NODIS -- PER S/S-0