

Phone-in system saves juror's time and state's money

United Press International

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — At 5:30 p.m., a Larchmont housewife picks up the telephone, dials a number in White Plains, and then begins making plans for the next day.

An IBM executive in Dutchess County is conducting business as usual, even though he may get a call from that same White Plains phone number any time later in the day.

Both persons are participating in the "Juror Phone-In System" put into full use earlier this year in New York State's 9th Judicial District. Officials say the system has saved thousands of dollars for the state, as well as countless hours normally wasted by people assigned to jury duty.

"It's been a tremendous success and adds a new dimension and vitality to the administration of justice," says Joseph Gagliardi, administrative judge of the 9th judicial district, which is made up of five suburban and rural counties north of New York City.

The system, which is beginning to be used in other areas of the country, is simple.

All people assigned to jury duty report on the first day of their two-week term and are given a number between 1 and 999. That night they call a special telephone number and a voice rattles off a series of numbers of veniremen who will be required to report the following day.

The following jurors will report to the central grand jury room at 9 a.m.: 16, 22, 64, 112, 114, 120.

The process is then repeated daily, with jurors chosen at random from a rotating barrel inside the office of the Commissioner of Jurors.

A variation on the basic system is the One-Hour Notification Plan, under which prospective jurors must provide a phone number where they can be reached if more than the expected number of cases go to trial.

"The reaction to the system has been overwhelming," Gagliardi said. "We find we're not wasting the jurors' time as we did before. Those who show up are assigned for voir dire — pre-trial jury screening — and we're saving money because we don't have to pay jurors their daily \$5 fee or the 15 cents for mileage if they don't report."

In July, 31 juries were picked in Westchester County at a cost of \$40,361. One year earlier, only 16 juries were selected, but the cost to the state was \$46,387.

"As you can see from the July figures, in that month we got nearly twice as many juries picked and into trials for \$6,000 less," says Nicholas Federici, Gagliardi's administrative assistant and one of those credited with spearheading the system.

Before the district switched to the system, Federici says the process of calling an adequate number of jurors was a "hit and miss" proposition.

The Commissioner of Jurors must send jury-duty notification letters out 28 days in advance. It's very hard to predict that far ahead how many jurors you're going to need. Some cases get settled and others are postponed.

"The result was you had a lot of people sitting around for hours or days doing nothing and really resenting jury duty. We had a 65 percent utilization rate before the phone-in system.

"Now we're up over 90 percent and we're getting letters from jurors complimenting the system and thanking us for letting them be a part of the judicial system."

Westchester needs between 250-400 jurors on a given week, but they are not each needed on a given day. "For example, very few trials start on a Friday. Some do, so we may need some people, but most we can tell by the phone-in system not to bother to show up," Federici says.

About 20 percent of jurors in Westchester choose to go on one-hour alert. "These are mostly housewives or business executives who live or work somewhat near White Plains," Federici says. "It's harder with people who work in the city (New York) or Connecticut.



Barracks bite the dust

Scavengers search through the rubble from the latest barracks demolition in the old married student housing area. Many of the

barracks are being torn down. Some of the barracks date back to before WWII.

Battalion photo by John Ballentine

Jupiter will help send spacecraft to sun's polar areas

United Press International

PASADENA, Calif. — The United States and European agencies will use the planet Jupiter as a slingshot to hurl instrument-laden spacecraft around the polar regions of the sun in mid 1980s.

It will be the most comprehensive investigation ever made of the sun, the source of life on Earth.

The expedition, called Solar Polar, will be launched cooperatively by the National Aeronautics and Space Agency and the European Space Agency (ESA), a consortium of 10 nations.

Solar Polar will be directed by Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif.

The joint NASA-ESA program will send the two unmanned spacecraft to Jupiter to use that giant planet's tremendous gravity to hurl the spacecraft back toward the polar regions of the sun — an area of the star never before seen or investigated.

Preceding Solar Polar, in October of this year, another Sun investigation is to be launched into Earth orbit. The Solar Maximum Mission, or "Solar Max," will study solar flares from 1979 to 1981 in seven separate experiments.

The planets of the solar system revolve around the sun on a plane from its equator, called the ecliptic plane.

No spacecraft has yet gone more than a few degrees north or south of that plane.

Scientists hope to learn more about the changes in solar conditions that cause the variations in the Earth's climate, and to broaden understanding of the physics of a star.

The two spacecraft will be launched in tandem in outer space in February, 1983, from a single Space Shuttle. They will take slightly different flight paths to Jupiter and will arrive in the planet's radiation field a few days apart after journeys of 470 and 475 days.

The spacecraft, each weighing between 730 and 990 pounds, will be powered by radioisotope thermoelectric generators, similar to those used on the Apollo moon landings.

The craft also will have telemetry systems that can transmit back to Earth up to 3,000 bits of information per second at a maximum range of more than 550 million miles.

The science payloads — 15 separate investigations — will require about 35 watts of power per spacecraft.

Cost of U.S. participation in the shot is estimated at \$236.7 million, not including costs of launch, tracking or acquisition of data. European participation is put at \$120 million, not including cost of instruments.

Scientists agree much more knowledge is needed about the sun's outer atmosphere, sun spots and their effect on Earth and its atmosphere. At annual Atmospheric Heating caused by solar activity was the cause of Skylab's premature demise.

Sunspots reach a maximum about every 10.7 years but many scientists say the cycle is an unreliable one.

In addition to sunspots, solar gusts — gusts of intense radiation emanating from solar flares which shoot hundreds of thousands of miles into space — can affect Earth communications drastically.

The two spacecraft, which will be alike but not exactly twins, will head for Jupiter and double back toward the sun with one going north and the other south over the solar poles.

At the sun in 1986, one spacecraft will fly over the north pole, an air about 186 million miles at its closest — or twice the distance from Earth. At the same time, the other will fly beneath the south pole.

Their trajectories will carry them around the sun at about 78 million mph so that about nine months later the southern spacecraft will swing over the north pole and the northern spacecraft under the south pole.

That point, in September of 1987, marks the conclusion of the primary mission, but if science instruments aboard the spacecraft still returning useful data, mission monitoring will continue.

During their journey to and around Jupiter, the spacecraft also will add to previous investigations of that planet's magnetic field and its interrelationship with the sun's influence.

Center offers rehabilitation counseling for ex-cultists

By RICHARD M. HARNETT

United Press International

BERKELEY, Calif. — The Human Freedom Center, founded to cope with the Peoples Temple bloodshed in Guyana brought Jim Jones' cult notoriety, now helps young people break away from other cults.

"There is a parallel with what happened in the Peoples Temple," Holly Morton, spokeswoman for the center, told UPI. "One of the first signs of a problem in the Peoples Temple was the breakdown in family communications. A lot of parents had just the same problems getting their kids out."

The Human Freedom Center occupies a big yellow house near the University of California campus. It has four fulltime staff members, and the house is occupied at any given time by three or four young people attempting to adjust back into the mainstream of society after spending a few months or years with a cult.

Director Dr. Lowell Streiker said the center is not in the business of trying to get people to give up their beliefs, but he said 80 percent of

those who receive counselling there do not go back to the cult they came from.

"We are operating the only halfway house in the United States for rehabilitation of ex-cultists," Streiker said.

"I never use the word 'deprogramming' with my work. It's a very accurate word. We deal with so many people who have been programmed, who have been victims of mind control techniques which have robbed them of the ability to make their own decisions.

"The problem of getting them to take responsibility for those decisions themselves, thinking for themselves, certainly can be called deprogramming. Unfortunately deprogramming has a connotation of coercion, force, kidnapping, sensationalized stuff, and because of the activities of a couple of people who call themselves deprogrammers, whose methods we don't approve of."

The average cult defector spends about two weeks at the center, undergoing group and individual counselling.

"We provide a positive, supportive, family-like atmosphere," Streiker. "We encourage people to start developing career goals on the future they want for themselves."

The program of the center geared to getting the ex-cultist here to life in the mainstream. Streiker. Each person receives eight hours of group and individual counselling a day, "and even takes part in the routine of the meal preparation, housekeeping, those sorts of chores."

But the center does not impose a rigid structure like that of Streiker says is used by the cult. "We don't post schedules that everybody prays from 10 to 11 p.m."

"Our fundamental rule is that we are not the anti-cult cult," he said. "People are here for the purpose of becoming independent, even if it means leaving."

Streiker receives a half dozen more calls each day. "They come from simple requests for information, to serious cries for help from persons caught in personal

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