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## Scientists studying dangers from diesel engine exhaust

wernment figures that one or two every 10 cars on the road will be wered by fuel-saving diesel ennilies were told the a

That means air pollution will be challenges that He ignificantly different chemically om what we fane today, because esels emit 60 to 80 times more parulate matter — soot — than gasoe engines.

An estimated 50 laboratories cross the nation are trying to deterine if the diesel emissions are zardous and in particular, if they cause cancer

or in South Kor or a congressional Dr. Terence Risby, associate prosor of environmental chemistry at ne Johns Hopkins School of lygiene and Public Health, said no were alive in the I were left behind om those who claim there is no oblem to those who speak as ough serious hazards were oumwas a skinny, que who joined the less Nov. 4, 1950, he we tion northeast did

"In fact," he said, "we are just benning to acquire the knowledge eded for a sound judgment." Risby and two colleagues at Penn

tate are conducting a variety of stu-

ction movie. A green sheet covered

ody with only an eyeball exposed.

Dr. Andrew Lewicky was meticu-

usly removing a cataract from the the eye of an elderly woman. No-

ing unusual. The procedure that wed is also becoming commonce. The fogged lens was replaced

y a plastic implant. Over 100,000 intraocular lenses

ere implanted in the United States

ick glasses which are far from ade-

m be difficult for elderly people to andle. Thad a devil of a time getting the

"On Aug. 6, I could see. The girl ook the bandage off and says, can

chance that a patient will have nor-mal vision in the eye that accepts the traocular lens although some peo-estill need glasses after the opera-

Dr. Osvaldo Lopez says the type implant he uses is determined beand by the patient's age and

ue to be raised about the use of

implants. Beause the effects of implants beyond 20 years are wn, a report from a National

tutes of Health panel of ophtha-

ogists last year recommended

others for an implant operation ophthalmologists say there are people that should not have

operation. These are patients uncontrolled glaucoma, eye in-

lf to it full time ontact off my finger," said Edward lf to it full time og, 58, of Chicago, who had an elent left him arraocular lens implanted in his

rs ago.
my Summary his inability to wear a contact lens.

patriation that a nou see what I'm doing, and I said, dive but in pow yeah, you're holding up fingers.

It's the eighth wonder," laughs Rog.

the Army now Lewicky said there is a 90 percent

o used the spin for near sightedness or far sight

te and to contact lenses which

year. They offer an alternative to

United Press International
CHICAGO — The operating
said as he led Groom at Chicago's Grant Hospital
sick and frail and sould have been a scene from science

from the Environmental Protection

In their experiments, the diesel soot was collected on filters and subjected to various chemical and biological tests. The results so far have been contradictory.

Compounds adhering to the surface of the particles were extracted with an organic solvent, analyzed chemically, then evaluated in a bacterial test for evidence of a capability of causing genetic changes an indication that a substance might

able to cause cancer. Risby said those compounds were, in fact, found to be positive - mean- tion process, not the type of fuel

ing they could be a serious health

But when the raw particulate matter was tested without extraction of surface compounds, no such biological activity was seen.

"This could mean that the active compounds, as they normally occur on the particles, are not readily freed to cause trouble and therefore do not represent a serious public health hazard," Risby said at a recent semi-

nar on environmental health. He said the studies at Hopkins and Penn State have shown the compounds produced by diesel engines are the result of the diesel combus-

Diesel fuel is thought to contain more than 500 compounds, while the exhaust of diesels contains more than

10,000 different compounds. Risby said the problem with diesel emissions is that 95 percent of the particles are small enough to be in-haled and deposited deep within the lungs, where they remain for long

Even if the particles themselves are not hazardous, Risby said they can pick up other compounds in the

environment that might be.

"It's got to be a hazard," he said. "Will it be a significant hazard? We don't know the answer to that.

## United Press International FORT COLLINS, Colo. — The venom of a rattlesnake inflicts damfrom them.

age because it contains zinc which causes blood vessels to rupture, re-searchers have determined.

Dr. Anthony T. Tu, professor of biochemistry at Colorado State University, said his team of researchers have isolated five poisonous com-pounds in rattlesnake venom which

"The major health problems from rattlesnake bites are hemorrhaging and destruction of muscle tissue around the location of a bite," Tu "The poison's ability to trigger capillary cell damage and bleeding was stopped when we removed zinc larger and inject more venom.

Tu said the use of antivenoms in the United States reduced the number of deaths from rattlesnake bites from about 200 to 20 a year. He said his research could improve treatments further and reduce the death rate even more.

The professor, the author of a book on snake venoms, said the venom of western rattlesnakes usually does not kill adults because the snakes are too small to inject enough venom. However, rattlesnakes in Texas, Florida and other southern states are more dangerous because they are

Tu said a snake's potential to kill depends on how poisonous its venom is and how much venom it injects He said large snakes that inject neurotoxic venoms tend to be the

most deadly "Some of the most deadly snakes — cobras and kraits, for example — inject vemon that is neurotoxic," he said. "The venom essentially paralyzes, stopping heartbeat and respir-

Tu said the Arizona Mojave rattesnake has neurotoxic venom and therefore is more dangerous than other western rattlers.



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## rygiene and Public Health, said to present debate on the need for the present debate on the need for the legal emission standards "ranges to the legal emission standards "ranges to the need for the ne

United Press International LONDON — The next great pilgrimage to the Moslem holy city of Mecca that coincides with the hot months comes in 1981. Scientists say heat prostration is likely to fell hundreds of the estimated 2 million wor-

flamation, advanced diabetes, very

nearsighted vision and retinal de-

tion usually lasts about an hour and can be done under local anesthetic.

The day after a normal operation, the

The cataract and implant opera-

tachments.

Anticipating the 1981 Hajj will the School of Tropical Medicine. draw three times as many pilgrims as in 1961 — 1 million of them foreigners — Saudi Arabian authorities have taken early action to deal with the situation, including sponsoring research on the problems and control of heat stroke by two experts at

Professor J. S. Weiner of the Environmental Physiology Unit and Dr. Mustafa Khogali induced a reasonable facsimile of the intense heat liable to be experienced in the Lens implants improve sight

> without risk although only a very small percentage of patients have serious complications from implants such as bacterial infections and uncontrolled hemorrhaging, which can

eye is only slightly red and there is also occur after cataract extraction no indication the person had ARBOR SQUARE

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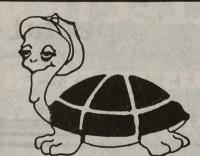


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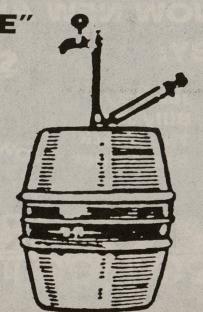
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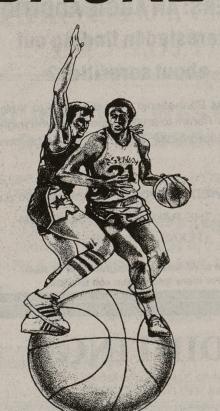


crush around the tomb called the Kaaba, Islam's holiest shrine, by having volunteers in plastic clothing exercise in a hot room until their temperatures reached 103 degrees Fahrenheit. When victims have a such a high temperature — and in heat stroke 107 F. is not uncommon — there must be rapid cooling or the chances of fatal stroke are as high as 80 percent. This drastic cooling was the goal Weiner and Khogali have been eeking since 1978, according to the bulletin of the Medical Research

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