

French government continues nuclear tests

A second test has met little opposition by allied countries.

PAPEETE, Tahiti (AP) — Emboldened by lukewarm reaction to its second nuclear test in the South Pacific, France reaffirmed its commitment Monday to press ahead with more underground blasts.

The environmental group Greenpeace called Sunday's test beneath Fangataufa Atoll in French Polynesia "an enormous affront." Australia and New Zealand lodged formal protests with the French government, and New Zealand again called in the French ambassador there.

But the United States and other key allies merely ex-

pressed "regret" at the test, and Britain and Germany reacted with indifference.

"I haven't heard any demands — I've only heard regrets," Foreign Minister Herve de Charette of France said at a meeting of European foreign ministers in Luxembourg.

Premier Alain Juppe said Monday that France will conduct up to six more tests and "be among the first" to sign a global test ban treaty next year.

President Jacques Chirac has promised to sign the treaty after the tests, which he contends are safe and necessary to check France's nuclear arsenal and develop computerized simulation tests.

The test Sunday was more than five times stronger than the first one, the French Defense Ministry said Monday.

The ministry, in a terse statement, said only that the blast was "less than 110 kilotons."

New Zealand seismologists estimated the blast was about 100 kilotons and produced a shock wave equal to a 5.9 magnitude earthquake.

The latest blast was widely believed to be a test of the TN-75 warhead for France's new submarine-launched nuclear missile.

The Foreign Ministry repeated on Monday that France might shorten the series of tests, now planned to end by June, if it gets enough information from the first few blasts.

"It is a wrong call for France politically, and it is irresponsible environmentally."

— Jim Bolger
New Zealand prime minister

The Sept. 5 test on nearby Mururoa Atoll measured less than 20 kilotons, slightly larger than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945. The tests are conducted about a half-mile below ground.

But environmental groups and the nations of the South Pacific have reacted angrily to the tests, which break a three-year moratorium. The world's other nuclear powers, except China, have not tested nuclear arms since 1992.

"It is a wrong call for France politically, and it is irresponsible environmentally," said New Zealand's prime minister, Jim Bolger.

Sunday's blast also provoked swift condemnation from the prime minister of Australia.

U.S. investigates radiation experiments performed on seriously ill patients

The government has released a report which states that 4,000 subjects may have been secretly injected with radioactive material.

WASHINGTON (AP) — There would be little or no benefit in compensating or even notifying most of the people who took part, often unknowingly, in some 4,000 radiation experiments the government sanctioned during the Cold War, a presidential panel says.

Concluding the tests posed little long-term risk, the advisory panel rejected the idea of widespread efforts to contact or provide medical follow-up for survivors among the estimated tens of thousands of subjects.

In nearly two years of investigation and a review of more than 100,000 documents, the advisory group found evidence of many tests in which subjects' consent was lacking or in doubt.

Experiments often were kept under wraps for decades because of fear of bad

publicity, the advisory panel said, and in many cases the identity of test subjects remains unknown.

The nearly 1,000-page report, a draft copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, is to be released by President Clinton on Tuesday at a White House ceremony.

Most of the Cold War-era experiments involved adult patients being given low-dose radioactive tracers that "are unlikely to have caused physical harm" or resulted in long-term health concerns, the advisory panel said.

"The damage is not physical injury, although this, too, did occur in some cases, (but) the pain felt by people who believe that they or their loved ones were treated with disrespect," the report said.

Clinton ordered the review in December 1993 after detailed information became public about a series of 1940s experiments sponsored by the Atomic Energy Commission in which 18 seriously ill civilians were injected deliberately with small doses of plutonium to learn more about the effects of radiation.

The plutonium case is one of three in which the advisory panel recommended monetary compensation for families of the

victims, some of whom lived for many years after the injections. The other two cases the panel said warranted compensation involved a person who was injected with zirconium at about the same time as the plutonium experiments, and an experiment in which individuals were subjected to whole-body radiation, also in the 1940s.

These cases involved "deliberate attempts ... to conceal (the experiments) for the declared purpose of avoiding potential liability and public embarrassment," the presidential panel said. It called them "assaults on privacy and individual rights."

The identity of those subjected to the zirconium and the whole-body radiation are not known, the panel said.

The advisory committee, chaired by Ruth Faden, a bioethicist at Johns Hopkins University, was less certain about how to deal with some of the other more questionable Cold War-era experiments, various details of which have surfaced in recent years.

The committee called many of these experiments a "dark period in our history" and said there was often little, if any, evidence that proper consent was given by patients.

Forum

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"We want to let people know about this and get them to express their opinions to legislators."

Kristy Perez, president for Aggie Democrats, said organization members will distribute literature to educate students about the Democratic Party and its platform.

Perez said group members have researched individual candidates and learned where they stand on specific issues. Handouts about these candidates, as well as elected officials, will be available.

"We will try to give a lot of information on specific issues," she said. "We want people to know what the Democratic Party stands for and what Aggie Democrats stands for. We're hoping we can get people to read and know about the issues that we've researched."

Perez said Aggie Democrats has tried to get involved with Political Awareness Day each year because it allows the group to inform students about their political views.

Fraud to cost U.S. billions

New study performed over the last 10 years predicts numerous white collar crimes.

AUSTIN (AP) — The government and businesses nationwide stand to lose more than \$400 billion in 1995 because of occupational fraud and abuse, according to a comprehensive study on white collar crime released Monday.

The study, which includes information gathered over the past 10 years, was released by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, an Austin-based private organization that certifies roughly 15,000 fraud examiners in 50 countries.

"The estimate of \$400 billion is conservative," said Gilbert Geis, president of the association and a professor emeritus at the University of California at Irvine.

SCHOLARSHIPS: HOUSTON ENDOWMENT CREATED

Continued from Page 1

Corey Casey, a sophomore elementary education major and an endowment recipient, said without the scholarship she would not have been able to attend A&M.

"I've always wanted to

teach, but money for college was a problem," Casey said.

"My brother went to Texas A&M, and I have always liked the campus and environment, but without the financial aid I probably wouldn't be here."

Webb-Johnson said the endowment is beneficial in help-

ing the situation that the Houston area faces.

"It is a community investing in students from their own community," she said. "These students are making a commitment to come back and give back to the Houston school district."

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NINE MONTHS • PG-13
Fri - Sun 1:10 3:10 5:15 7:25 9:40
Mon - Thur 5:15 7:25 9:40

CASPER • PG
Fri - Sun 1:15 3:00 5:00 7:05 9:25
Mon - Thur 5:00 7:05 9:25

BATMAN FOREVER • PG-13
Fri - Sun 1:00 3:50 7:00 9:30
Mon - Thur 5:00 7:20 9:30

CRIMSON TIDE • R
Fri - Sun 1:05 4:00 7:10 9:35
Mon - Thur 5:05 7:15 9:35

WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING • PG
Fri - Sun 1:20 3:05 5:05 7:15 9:45
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* IN DOLBY STEREO

SENIORS

This your chance to have your picture in Texas A&M University's **AGGIELAND** yearbook. Senior pictures will be taken Sept. 5 - Dec. 1 at AR Photography, located at 707 Texas Ave., next to Taco Cabana. Call 693-8183 for more details.

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STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM OFFICE Texas A&M University, 161 Bizzell Hall West (409) 845-0544

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Sophomore pictures are being taken until **Oct. 31** for Texas A&M's Aggieland yearbook.

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THE HILLEL JEWISH STUDENT CENTER

Wishes the Campus Community an Easy Yom Kippur Fast

The schedule of services for Yom Kippur is:

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Yom Kippur Day Oct. 4 10 a.m.
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