

Senate offices to reopen soon

WASHINGTON (AP) — Officials cleaning up a Senate office building contaminated with anthrax now hope the work will be finished in time to reopen early next year.

Employees returned to work Monday at the adjacent Dirksen Senate Office Building, closed while cleanup crews fumigated Senate Majority Leader Thomas Daschle's office suite in the Hart Senate Office Building with chlorine dioxide gas over the weekend.

The Hart building, where potentially lethal anthrax bacteria escaped Oct. 15 from a letter opened by an aide to Daschle, will remain shut while the Environmental Protection Agency finishes work on 11 other senators' suites and areas. The building provides work space for half the 100-member chamber.

"We're back to the regular routine of cleaning up the other suites in the Hart building," said Richard Rupert, the EPA's onsite coordinator. "I want to be home by Christmas."

EPA Administrator Christie Whitman expressed satisfaction that weeks of planning with strict protocols had paid off with no injuries or illness reported in the chlorine dioxide treatment.

"There was no threat to public health from the fumigation," she said.

Faint traces of the gas escaped outside, and they were far below the 25 parts per billion exposure level acceptable to District of Columbia health offi-

cial, EPA said. For the fumigation, Daschle's suite was sealed off using duct tape, plastic sheets and plywood with foam.

Sodium bisulfite was used to break down the chlorine dioxide gas, which typically has been used to decontaminate drinking water systems, fruits and vegetables but had never before been applied by the EPA to fumigating office space and killing anthrax spores.

Afterward, technicians took photographs and videotapes, checked readings and collected gauze wipe samples and 3,000 test strips, one per square foot, from the Daschle suite. Officials hope to get back lab results by the end of this week confirming the spores were killed.

Elsewhere, less severe measures than the gas — liquid and foam decontaminants and vacuuming — were found adequate. Other senators' suites were only "superficially contaminated" in mail-handling areas due to cross-contamination from the Daschle letter, Rupert said.

"What we're finding is that wherever someone threw this letter on the desk, we'll find a little bit of contamination," he said. "It's probably the kind that presented no risk."

Capitol Police spokesman Lt. Dan Nichols said staff should now consider it business as usual in the Dirksen Building, which has hallways connecting with Hart. Things appeared relatively normal Monday in Dirksen and few employees seemed concerned about returning to work.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Commissioners to hold a public hearing
The Brazos County Commissioners Court will consider canceling its scheduled meetings on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, 2002 for holidays at its general meeting today.

The commissioners court also plans to cancel its Dec. 18 meeting and reschedule it for Dec. 21.

A public hearing will be held at 10:30 a.m. concerning implementation of herbicide regulation in certain portions of Brazos County east of the Brazos River and west of the Navasota River. A detailed description of the concerned area is available for public viewing online at www.rtis.com/reg/brazos/gov/.

IMMIGRATION

Continued from Page 6A
more efficient we will return to a normal state."

The panel of experts agreed that the attacks will change immigration policies in the United States. However, they said that problems will not be corrected in the near future. Gordon said Americans have to realize the implications of changing immigration laws. The panel said the government must find a balance between immigration and security, and that will not be easy.

"All people have the right to leave a country as part of international human right laws," Gordon said. "However, this does not give people the right to enter a country. There are tradeoffs in living in a free society that other countries envy. People want to come to America in order to live a better life. America was established by immigrants that came from all over in order to create a better country. America is not better than the rest of the world, America is the rest of the world."

Save 15% When purchasing OPAS tickets before Jan 2*

Top 10

Reasons to give MSC OPAS tickets this Holiday Season

- 10) Absolutely, positively, no gift-wrapping required.
- 9) No long lines or stressed-out clerks to deal with.
- 8) OPAS tickets fit perfectly in stockings.
- 7) You can finish your holiday shopping early or late (offer good through Jan 2).
- 6) One stop shop! There is a performance sure to please everyone on your list.
- 5) Shop from the comfort of your home or office (opas.tamu.edu).
- 4) You can purchase over the phone (845-1234).
- 3) Suffer no bruises from aggressive shoppers' jabbing elbows.
- 2) One size fits all.
- 1) You will save 15% off the regular ticket price!

Finish your holiday shopping NOW!
Visit the MSC Box Office in Rudder Tower. Order on-line at opas.tamu.edu. Call 845-1234.

it's all the rage!
MSC OPAS
2001-2002 SEASON 20

*When ordering, please mention the "holiday special" to receive the discount • Limit to two tickets per performance • Not valid for tickets already purchased • Offer expires January 2, 2002 • Fifteen percent discount is based on regular single ticket price

2001-2002 Season Media Partners: KTSR 92.1, WTAU 1620, MIXLOS.Z, KBTX-TV 3, 98.3 KORA, KAMU

BACK TO THE BASICS
DOMINICA
THE NATURE ISLAND OF THE CARIBBEAN

Spend your first summer session in the Rainforest while earning TAMU credit! Want to know How?

Come to an Informational Meeting:
Thursday, December 6 - 3:00 pm

Room 358 Bizzell Hall West
For more information contact:
Dr. Tom Lacher tlacher@tamu.edu 845-7467
Dr. Jim Woolley jimwooley@tamu.edu 845-9344

If attending please contact:
Study Abroad Programs Office
Bizzell Hall West 1st Floor 845-0544

Hurry! Program space is limited!

The Following Locations will be Open to Students for Finals Study:

Sterling C. Evans Library & West Campus Library
Open Dec. 6, 2001 and Dec. 9 - 11, 2001
8:00 pm - 2:00 am
Complimentary Coffee
provided by Sterling C. Evans Library and Department of Food Services

Poor Yorick's at Evans Library
Open Dec. 3 - 6, 10 - 11 from 7:30 am - 12:00 midnight
Dec. 7 and 12 from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm
Dec. 9 from 4:00 pm - 12:00 midnight

Other Food Service locations open late Thursday, Dec. 6 and Sunday, Dec. 9 through Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2001.

Commons Dining Center Open 8:00 pm - 2:00 am Complimentary Coffee and beverages will be available	Commons C-Store Open each day during finals 7:15 am - 12:00 midnight for school supply needs
Duncan Dining Center Open 8:00 pm - 12:00 midnight to the Corps of Cadets for study Complimentary Coffee and beverages will be available	Underground C-Store Open each day during finals 7:15 am - 12:00 midnight for school supply needs
Sblsa Dining Center Open 8:00 pm - 2:00 am Complimentary Coffee and beverages will be available	Hullabaloo Open until 8:00 pm Complimentary Coffee will be available 4:00 pm to close
	Rumours Open until 2:00 am Complimentary Coffee will be available 8:00 pm to close
	Stone Willy's Open until 1:00 am for late night pizza

Thank you for dining with us.

17. **Office XP** is now available at almost **70% off**, for only **\$149.***
You buy it because:

- A) It can help students stay ahead in school.....
- B) It comes with full versions of Microsoft® Word, Excel, Outlook®, and PowerPoint®.....
- C) It's a limited offer.....
- D) All of the above.....

Microsoft® Office XP Standard for Students and Teachers is now available at a special low price. With all the tools to help students get more done, faster and easier. It's a no-brainer. Buy it today at one of the retailers below.

microsoft.com/office/forstudents

Microsoft Office XP Standard for Students and Teachers Version 2002

Office DEPOT, COMPUSA, OfficeMax, CITY, Fry's, GameStop, STAPLES, BEST BUY, MICRO CENTER

*Retailer prices may vary. To use this product, you must be a Qualified Educational User (QEU). See product box for details. Good in the United States only, while supplies last. Limit one copy per QEU. Not for business or commercial use. © 2001 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved. Microsoft, Outlook, PowerPoint, and the Office logo are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. The names and logos of actual companies and products mentioned herein may be the trademarks of their respective owners.