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EURATOM SYMPOSIUM ON NUCLEAR PROTECTION PROBLEMS

WASHINGTON, D.C., September 2 -- The international symposium organized by the Euratom Commission on "The Legal and Administrative Problems of Protection in the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy" will start in Brussels on Monday, September 5, and will continue through September 8. Two hundred and fifty specialists from 15 countries, including the six Euratom countries, the United Kingdom, and the United States, will attend. Among the participants will be lawyers, administrators, technicians, and doctors concerned with the need to bring legislation and administrative procedures up to date to cover the new problems posed by nuclear developments.

The addresses and subsequent discussions will deal with four broad subjects, each of which will be treated for one day of the conference: radiation protection, insurance, licensing of installations, and international controls on radioactive contamination.

The first day will be devoted to basic legislation on radiation protection. The conference will open with speeches by representatives of the Six illustrating the problems of applying standards for protecting atomic workers and the general public against the dangers of ionizing radiation. Basic standards were published by Euratom in 1959. Member countries are in the process of incorporating these standards into their national legislation.

The second day will be devoted to the question of insurance and compensation for radiation injuries for workers; the third day to the procedures in force and the experience acquired regarding licensing of nuclear materials and equipment; and the last day to the international repercussions of radioactive contamination of air, water, and soil, in particular

those of nuclear-powered ships, the transport of radioactive materials, and the disposal at sea of radioactive waste.

More than forty addresses will be given during the symposium. A partial list of speakers follows:

September 5 - Basic Legislation on Radiation Protection. Mr. Edwin Ferguson of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, Mr. Herbert Parker of the Hanford Laboratory of the General Electric Company (U.S.A.), Mr. G. Smith of the Office of the Minister for Science (U.K.), and Dr. A. S. McLean of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.

September 6 - Workmen's Compensation and Radiation Injuries. Dr. Charles Williams of the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company (U.S.A.), Dr. Thomas Ely of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, Prof. Samuel Estep of the University of Michigan Law School (U.S.A.), and Mr. A. G. M. Batten of the Alliance Insurance Company (U.K.).

September 7 - The Licensing of Nuclear Installations and Materials. Mr. Harold Price of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, Mr. Donald Allen of the New England Power Service Company (U.S.A.), Dr. Leslie Silverman of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (U.S.A.), and Mr. D. H. Crofton of the Ministry of Fuel and Power (U.K.).

September 8 - International Control of Radioactive Contamination. Dr. William Berman of the University of Michigan (U.S.A.), Mr. D. C. Haselgrove of the Ministry of Transport (U.K.), Prof. R. Scott-Russell and Mr. G. M. Milbourn, both from the Agricultural Research Council (U.K.).