

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Coulter
Vice Chairman Fielding
Assemblyman Bedrosian
Assemblyman Polish
Assemblyman Rhoads
Assemblyman Price
Assemblyman Prengaman
Assemblyman Bergevin

GUESTS PRESENT:

See attached guest sheet.

Chairman Coulter brought this meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

SENATE BILL 332 - Assemblyman Price moved for a DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Rhoads. The motion carried unanimously with Mr. Dini and Mr. Bedrosian absent from voting.

SENATE BILL 432 - Assemblyman Price moved for a DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Rhoads. The motion carried unanimously with Mr. Dini absent from voting.

ASSEMBLY BILL 681 - Assemblyman Fielding moved for an INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT, seconded by Mr. Rhoads. The motion carried with Mr. Prengaman voting "no" and Mr. Dini absent.

Chairman Coulter then opened testimony on

AJR 33 :

Assemblyman Bedrosian testified on this bill as its chief sponsor. He explained that this resolution simply asks the U.S. Congress to discontinue the construction of nuclear power plants until they can be proven more safe than they apparently are, referring to the nuclear accident at Three Mile Island, Pennsylvania. The exposure of thousands of Pennsylvanians to nuclear radiation even in minimal doses, he explained, awakened the entire nation to the potential danger of nuclear power plants. He mentioned that this could lead Eastern politicians to look towards less populated areas like Nevada for sites for nuclear power plants. Mr. Bedrosian exhibited a newspaper articles wherein Nevada is supposedly being considered for the largest nuclear power plant in the nation. Said newspaper article is attached hereto as Exhibit "A". Nevada has had a legislative history, he stated, of inviting nuclear activity into the state and it has been good, economically, but recently there has been articles come out relating that Nevadans in the path of this nuclear radiation dust have had a higher incidence of leukemia.

He feels that Nevada, at this point in history, notify Congress that they have a concern about nuclear power plants and nuclear activity of the state. Mr. Bedrosian stated that he is not against nuclear power; he just feels that it is obvious that it is not failsafe and the liabilities involved are irreversible.

Assemblyman Rhoads stated that he approved of most of what Assemblyman Bedrosian stated, however, he question line 16 where it states". . . until they are proven to be safe". He questioned how you could define this. Mr. Bedrosian agreed with that, stating that there probably is never going to be a definitive answer. He said that he would not be opposed to amending the language addressing the this concern.

Assemblyman Bergevin mentioned a newspaper article wherein the author addresses the fact that nobody was killed in the Three Mile Island accident, but, in fact, the last oil plant that blew up, sixty-five people were killed. Many coal miners have been killed, but no nuclear miners have been killed. He stated that he agrees they have to be made practically failsafe, but, he was glad to hear Mr. Bedrosian state that he was not against nuclear power because he feels that it is a thing of the future for our power needs.

Assemblyman Fielding stated that in light of the Three Mile Island incident, he feels that they are doing precisely what this resolution requests right now. Assemblyman Bedrosian answered that to some extent, it probably is, however, the implicit message in AJR 33 is probably as important as the explicit message. Again, questioned by Assemblyman Fielding, they discussed this problem with the wording as to "until they are proven safe".

Assemblyman Prengaman stated that he would like to see as strong a statement made about safety as possible because he feels we had been told for many years that nuclear power was, in fact, safe. He feels that the fact that nobody died is something to be considered, however, he feels that before they agree to construction of anymore, they have to have better definitions of safety.

Assemblyman Bedrosian added that if we put a resolution like this to the U.S. Congress, it will serve notice that Nevada won't become isolated as the only state in the union who seems to want nuclear activity.

Assemblyman Price noted that nuclear power is something that is here to stay. He detailed problems he has seen at oil and coal fired steam plants and the explosions they have had and the lack of safety. He stated he would not be hesitant in indicating that technology should be continued to make a plant safer, but, he feels they are doing this anyway. Assemblyman Price perceives that Nevada is not such a bad location for a nuclear plant in or around the test site or wherever water is available because, he stated, we do have the benefit of being remote.

Assemblyman Dini stated that he has a real philosophical feeling that in light of a real energy problem that we have, he feels that atomic energy is an area that we can take care of ourselves and he doesn't like to put the lid on it. He feels that in the future we are going to have to rely on nuclear energy. He stated that Nevada is going to become an exporter of energy and that nuclear is the only way to go in that it is cheaper. Assemblyman Dini noted that in no way through this resolution would he want to reflect that we should perhaps shut down the Test Site in Las Vegas. He mentioned the economic side of the amount of manpower to be put to work at a nuclear plant.

Assemblyman Polish then testified against this resolution. He stated that Ely is one of the least earthquake prone areas in the United States and they did ask for the coal-fired power plant. He stated his greatest concern on this Three Mile Island is what didn't happen. He referred to a newspaper article on this subject which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B".

Assemblyman Prengaman mentioned that because nobody died immediately, there is a tendency to overlook the fact that often-times you don't see the results of radiation for generations and Nevada is an excellent example of that. He said that he doesn't feel we can justify this any longer merely for the sake of jobs.

Ms. Susan Orr, on the Board of Citizen Alert, an organization which was established in 1975 when the nuclear waste storage issue was first brought before Nevada, testified in support of this resolution. They are concerned that Nevada is becoming more and more involved in nuclear activity. She feels we should wait until nuclear energy has been proven safe. Citizen Alert has never stated that they never want nuclear energy; they are saying the potential for using it is always there, but let us not go ahead until we know it is safe. She mentioned that if the same amount of money was put into the development of solar energy of which Nevada has tremendous potential and wind energy and geothermal and energy conservation, we could perhaps see another energy form develop that would not propose a threat to human society. She brought a correlation between this Session's abortion hearings and this nuclear question, stating that she would like to see a similar response to future generations.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

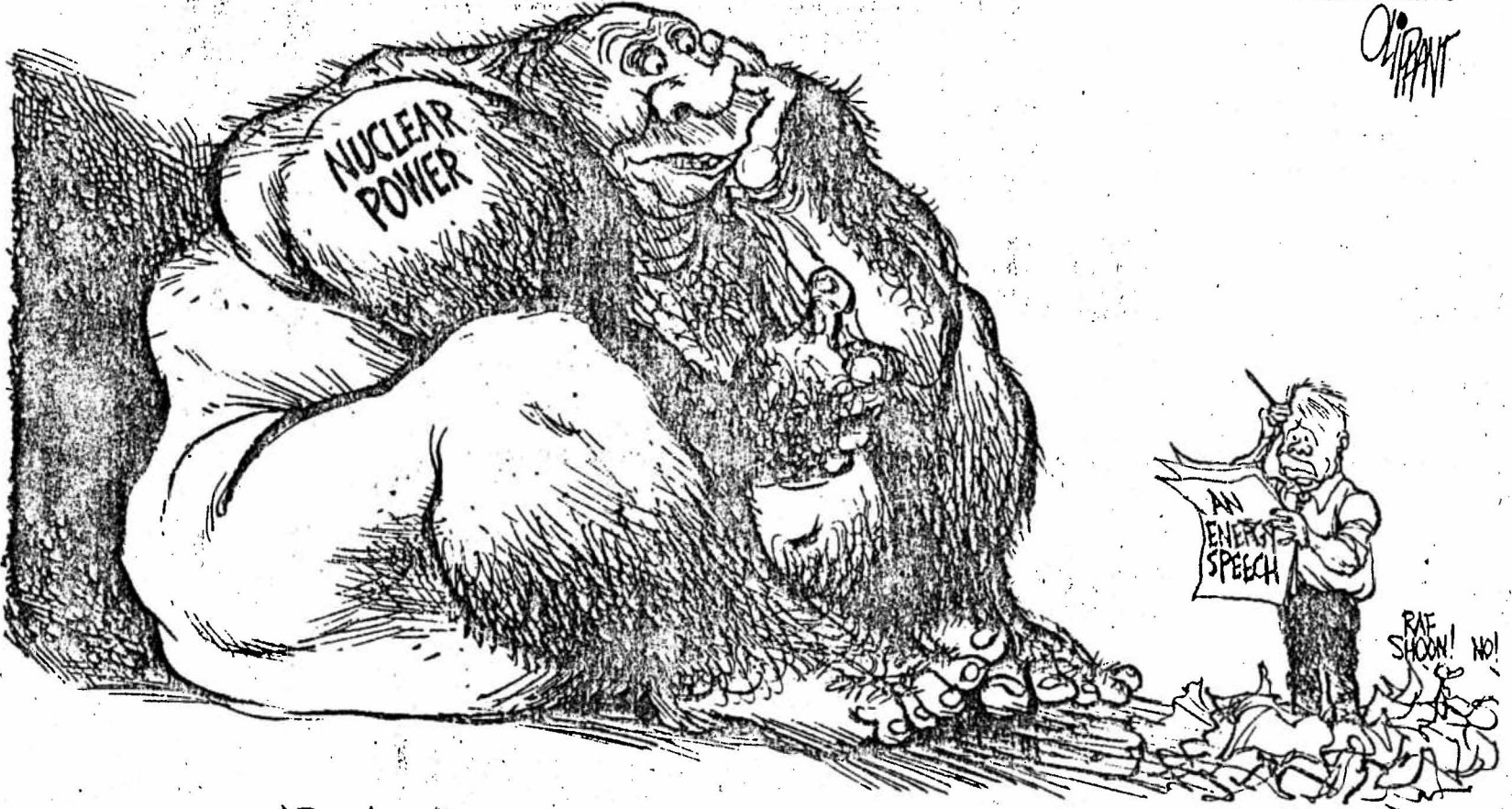
ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 33 - Assemblyman Fielding moved for INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT, seconded by Assemblyman Dini. The motion carried with Mr. Prengaman, Mr. Coulter, Mr. Rhoads and Mr. Bedrosian voting "no".

There being no further business at hand, Chairman Coulter adjourned this meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Anne M. Peirce

(Committee Minutes)



'DO YOU THINK MR. RAFSHOON COULD HELP ME WITH MY IMAGE...?'

Vegas 'best' for giant nuke plant

By STEVE PAPINCHAK

A site 35 miles north of Las Vegas is the best spot in the West for a massive nuclear power plant, a federally funded study recently brought to light concludes.

However, no plans are afoot to build the futuristic "nuclear park" power-generating facility that would be the nation's largest nuclear complex.

The selection was made two years ago in a \$77,000 feasibility study that did not become an issue until the Three Mile Island nuclear crisis.

In a related development, Assemblyman Tod Bedrosian, D-Washoe, announced he will seek a legislative resolution asking Congress not to approve any more nuclear power plants until they are proven safe.

The Northwest Reno assemblyman said he is concerned that in the wake of the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear plant there may be a move to

build nuclear plants in less populated states like Nevada.

Nevada should discourage this until nuclear power plants are proven safer than they are now, Bedrosian said.

During a state legislative hearing on energy held earlier this session, Sierra Pacific Power Co. President Joe Gremban said he was not optimistic about the potential of nuclear power in Nevada.

Gremban said it would take up to nine years just to plan and set the permit for a nuclear plant, then another six years to build the facility.

A Nevada Power Co. official at the same time said his company was considering participation in a nuclear power plant. But he said continuing opposition to such plants makes future nuclear options questionable.

The feasibility study earmarked Las Vegas as (See LAS VEGAS, page 5, col. 5)

EXHIBIT

Nevada State Journal

Wednesday, April 4, 1979-5

Las Vegas site for nuclear plant

(Continued from Page 1)

being compatible with a plant more than 10 times the size of the Pennsylvania facility that began seeping radiation after experiencing mechanical failures, coupled with human error.

That finding was included in a study issued in 1977 by Dames and Moore, a Los Angeles firm contracted by the Western Interstate Nuclear Board.

Noel Clark, director of the Nevada State Department of Energy, currently is chairman of the nuclear board, a collection of public and private energy organizations in 18 Western states.

"It was a cursory study of the Western United States to determine possible sites for consideration in the event that a private enterprise or anyone else wanted to pursue it," Clark said.

He added that no one in Nevada is actively pursuing the possibility of building the Las Vegas plant cited in the study.

Underscoring that point, Clark said he didn't even have a copy of the Dames and Moore study in his office.

A reporter for KLAS-TV in Las Vegas, however, did obtain a copy of the study and on Monday issued a report of the findings, which were then summarized in press accounts.

The Dames and Moore study examined eight possible nuclear sites in the West. Nuclear plants in three categories — 6, 12 and 18 gigawatts — were studied for possible locations.

A gigawatt is 1,000 megawatts. The Las Vegas and Reno-Sparks areas combined use a peak load of 1,700 megawatts or 1.7 gigawatts. The majority of the power generated by the still-theoretical mammoth Las Vegas plant would go to California.

Of the eight Western sites studied, only the Las Vegas site was considered as appropriate for an 18 gigawatt nuclear plant. This was primarily because of the site's proximity to the Southern California energy market.

Named in the report is a Nevada site covering thousands of acres in an area called Galt, located in Clark County, some 35 miles north of Las Vegas.

The giant plant is referred to as a "nuclear park" because it would combine a collection of some 15 units, each producing 1.2 gigawatts.

Clark said he cannot envision the creation of such a large plant. "That is such an astonishing figure (18 gigawatts) that in my mind I can't foresee that many units on one site," he commented.

Cost for the Las Vegas "nuclear park" was set at \$18 billion, Clark said.

Included in the Dames and Moore study was a review of two other nuclear plant sites in Nevada, both in the northern part of the state. Those sites, located in the Black Rock Desert and on the Owyhee Indian Reservation, were discounted as being not feasible for nuclear plant development of the type studied in the report.

Nevada power companies have not discounted the possibility of someday building smaller, more

Schlesinger on shortages

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Energy Secretary James Schlesinger said Tuesday America's energy future is bright even though the nation should expect shortages in gasoline and heating oil this year.

Speaking at an American Gas Association luncheon, Schlesinger said, "we look for cooperation between the industry and the government."

Schlesinger said "the future is bright" for U.S. energy prospects because the "interpretation of long term supplies is better."

But he added that, by next year, the oil bill for the United States "should be about \$60 billion, adding dramatically to the load on the balance of trade."

214

EXHIBIT

SCF
H PLSH675J- 43#79 03707 1 15
MR JOHN POLISH
675 MURRY ST
ELY NV 89301

in Events
THE NATIONAL CONSERVATIVE WEEKLY

© 1979 by Human Events, Inc.

VOL XXXIX No. 15

APRIL 14, 1979

What do you know about

What Didn't Happen At Three Mile Island

Just what our Nader-^{Journalist} - Fonda^{Novel} media expect to gain by scare tactics

Those apocalyptic predictions about the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant near Harrisburg, never did materialize, much to the annoyance of the soothsayers who seem to lust for a cataclysmic disaster to prove their horrendous forecasts were right all along.

Since the March 28 incident in which toil and trouble disturbed the plant, the media have had a field day scaring the wits out of the world. We were treated to headlines and stories that suggested a nuclear catastrophe was imminent, that the containment walls holding lethal doses of radiation were about to give way, that the food and water supply would be poisoned for years to come.

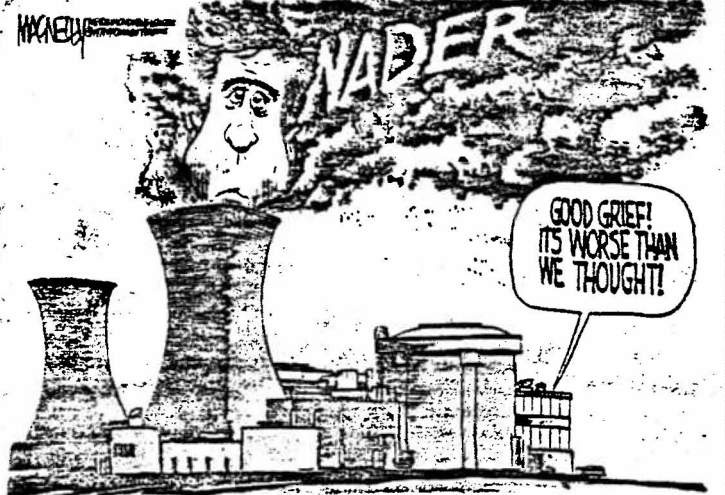
The Sunday edition of the Washington Star carried this six-column headline: "Evacuation of N-Plant Area Likely." Close to a quarter of a million people might be moved, the Star noted (and later news put the figure at over half a million), with the "decision to order a large-scale evacuation... almost inevitable." Few noted that Sunday was April Fool's day.

So what is interesting to know is what did not happen:

• Not a single person was killed or seriously injured or hospitalized because of the failure of the nuclear plant to operate correctly. Not only was the public insulated from harm, but none of those who actually worked to repair the plant was hurt or incapacitated. Yet by all accounts, from those both pro and anti the development of commercial nuclear energy, this was probably the most serious accident that ever befell an atomic plant. How many other industries dealing with the conversion of energy can say that no casualties resulted from their most serious accidents?

• There was no "meltdown." The "greatest risk of all," reported *Newsweek*, was a catastrophic "meltdown" of the sort fictionalized in Jane Fonda's best-selling new film, "The China Syndrome." In theory, said *Newsweek*, the core could melt its way through the thick steel walls of the reactor vessel, penetrate the floor of the containment structure, "contaminate the soil or hit a water pocket and send up gushers of radioactive steam and contaminants. If that happened, there might be thousands of deaths later on."

The "meltdown," of course, did not occur. But even more interesting, it is



quite possible that if it had occurred, it would not have resulted in catastrophe. On Thursday, April 5, the Baltimore Sun printed a front-page story, headlined: "Worst-case meltdown held non-lethal." Written by the Sun's Tom Horton, the article revealed that federal officials, after running a "worst-case" meltdown scenario through computers, came to the conclusion "that such a development would cause no direct loss of life to residents or long-term environmental effects."

The information was known to President Carter when he appeared in Middletown on Sunday to assure citizens there was no imminent crisis.

Though the media were glutted with stories about the possibilities of the horrendous consequences of a meltdown, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of Research made calculations showing that even with the presence of that potentially explosive hydrogen bubble in the reactor, there was no likelihood of a blast that could rip open the massive, concrete containment walls. Instruments showed that the reactor's power had dropped dramatically, and that such an event would have to be ruled out.

"We went through an analysis of the total energy available in the [reactor] system and calculated the maximum stress it could exert, and

it just wasn't enough to do that [torpedo the containment walls]," contended Roger Blood of the NRC's Probabilistic Analysis section.

Thus the worst kind of "meltdown" envisioned would have involved a dissolving of the reactor core, but without the explosive force, so that the radioactive vapors released would be only minimal and non-lethal. In other words, even if there had been a meltdown—which did not occur—the consequences would have been minimal to the health and safety of the populace.

• The radiation released because of the accident posed no known dangers to the people near the reactor. Testifying April 4 before the Health and Scientific Research Subcommittee, chaired by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph Califano asserted the radiation that escaped from the plant would cause no additional cancer deaths. Indeed, his testimony placed the hyped-up news stories on the radiation levels in intelligent perspective. Based on the NRC's data, he stressed, "the largest dose anyone residing in the area of the plant is likely to have received during the first five days following the accident is a total dose of 80 millirems." And that dosage would be received only if an

(Continued in page 6)

Inside Washington

Prof. Co

tion into the drug smuggling
Jenrette learned of the FBI's
ed to take a lie detector test,
ot taken him up on the offer
to comment on whether there
of criminal involvement on

ette's office several times, but



JENRETTE
used to return any of our

ment Administration has
atives Wolff and English
travels with the House Select
Committee on Drug Abuse of which
Jenrette made two overseas
trips and he was the only con-
gressman member of the committee

English, who would not com-
ment if he had been asked concern-
ing the matter. English did say that he had
been asked because he wanted to be

We contacted the Select
Committee Secretary Diane Striar told
us that on two trips, there had been no
contact with Jenrette and the committee.
The congressman on the trip who
was particularly ironic because Rita
Jenrette's official functions with the

his wife were traveling with
him, a journalist who was
killed as they disappeared with-
in a matter of days. Rita Jenrette
said her husband missed all of
the S. Embassy had arranged
for a congressman who accom-
panied a legislator to Stuttgart,
Jenrette was "smashed out
of Jenrette's press secretary,
this and he replied, "Well,
I did."

(Continued from page 1)

individual continually stayed outside, 24-hours a day, at the hottest recorded spots.

Based on this same NRC data, he continued, "the average dose during the five days following the accident to the population residing within 50 miles of the plant has been estimated to be approximately nine-tenths of a millirem."

Putting these exposure rates in context, Califano said:

"• The average skin exposure from a common chest x-ray is 40 millirems.

"• The average annual dose each of us gets from natural background radiation is 130 millirems. Medical and dental uses of radiation annually add an average of almost 70 millirems, for an average total exposure for each person in the United States, from all sources of radiation, of approximately 200 millirems per year.

"Based on these estimates of the radiation exposure at Three Mile Island, how many additional cancer deaths can we expect in the general population residing in the vicinity of the plant?"

"Let me approach this question in two ways.

"• First, consider the population living within 50 miles of the plant. Based on NRC's data, current estimates are that the two million people living in this area have received an average dose of nine-tenths of a millirem. Assuming this estimate is correct, we would expect to find no additional cancer deaths in this population, as the result of radiation exposure to date.

"• Second, consider the population living close to the plant. If every one of the 25,000 or so individuals living within five miles of the plant received the highest cumulative dose that is currently estimated to have been possible (80 millirems), we would still expect to find no additional cancer deaths above the 4,500 which would normally be expected in this population."

But, while the normal person may receive an average dosage of 200 millirems per year, he can obviously withstand even greater dosages without serious harm. The safe dosage for workers at atomic plants for instance, is 25 times that received by all persons on the average.

No one denies that the accident at Three Mile Island was serious, or that something more serious couldn't have occurred. And nuclear energy proponents are as eager as the Naderites to find what went wrong and correct it. But the nuclear industry—which supplies 13 per cent of U.S. energy needs—still has an enviable safety record. According to the Atomic Industrial Forum, no radiation related death can yet be attributed to a single one of the 72 commercial atomic power plants in the United States, nor can any be traced to the nuclear plants in the rest of the Western world.

Yet more than a quarter of a million fatalities have been caused by motor vehicles in the United States during the 18 years in which nuclear plants have inflicted no serious injuries.

The U.S., as President Carter stressed last week, vitally needs energy if it is to sustain a high standard of living; thus the Naderites, the Jane Fondas, and the Jerry Browns can't be permitted to exploit the accident at Three Mile Island to close out the atomic option.

Los Angeles:—One at four decades ago, a New York judge (Crater—his escapes me) left his chambers day—and was never seen again. Neither his family could shed any light. Hospitals were searched. There was talk of foul play. He had no enemies, nor could a case in which a convict for getting an extra-heard indeed, if anything, Crater

For years there came been seen abroad—but out. It was almost as never existed.

And then there's the case, which parallels the in many respects—except was known to have certain reasons for wishing him o

As a detective story ad washed Agatha Christie h mysteries over to Hercule might have ferreted out now, both Mrs. Christie have gone on, alas, to in deeper mystery than an tackled before.

But I now can report: erie matter that rival peances of Crater and Case of the Vanishing. But first let me give yo ground.

For some 20 years our liberals, few in numbers, decibel power, have arg neighborhood public sc fraud, and that only by b distances from their education be "equalized. murred, pointing out that had bought homes bec proximity to good scho folks wanted their kids cl of an emergency, you w "racist" by the elite.

If that were so, L.A. ingly racist, for every cha had to vote on the m blacks, browns, reds and registered their prefer neighborhood school.

But the self-anointed, crals were obstinate and And in 1966, they were be report of Prof. J. S. Cole tigious educator and socie research indicated that th due to forced busing re cidedly better grades for involved. And without d port, carried in all the mee great influence.

The American Civil Lib was instrumental in gett from a liberal judge that estimated \$100 million year buses, drivers, guards, required to "equalize" edu judge who rendered that ousted from office on the election). A legal brouhaha conservatives arguing th

*Let's also look at fatalities due to
accident - Do the same with cigarettes which
say they are harmful to health & lung cancer
let's look at drugs for similar amount*

EXHIBIT B

303. 216
The highest priority
+ only ask - How e