

REPORT ON BADGES AND DOSIMETERS USED THRUOUT
VISIT OF VICE PRESIDENT NIXON TO RUSSIA AND
POLAND, July 23, 1959 to August 5, 1959.

*BADGES

- # 0684565 -- In the Vice President's Briefcase which remained in proximity to him, including his bedroom and office.
- # 0684576 -- On person of Major James D. Hughes thruout trip.
- # 0684555 -- On person of John T. Sherwood thruout the trip.
- # 9104 -- In Major James D. Hughes' briefcase which remained with him, in bedroom and office, thruout the trip.
- # 9105 -- On person of Wade J. Rodham thruout the trip.

* These badges were placed in brief cases and with persons named above on July 23, 1959, aboard the Vice President's plane just before arriving Moscow. Badge was given to Rodham about 5:00 PM on 23rd, a few hours after arrival Moscow. They were present at Moscow on 23, 24, 25, 26 and early 27, as well as late on 31st, and August 1st and 2nd. They were present at Leningrad on 27 and 28th; Novosibirsk on 28th and 29th; Sverdlovsk on 29th, 30th, and 31st; and at Warsaw, Poland late on August 2nd, the 3rd, 4th, and early 5th. Please note that same relates to the Dosimeters described below:

DOSIMETERS

- # x14980 -- Didn't use after it became evident it was too sensitive or was not in good working order.
- # 3100 -- At about 7 PM on evening of July 23, 1959, this instrument (Maj. Hughes) began to rise rapidly and in a matter of about 1 hour had risen some 35 roentgens. The same reaction was observed with instruments # 1288 and # 1241. This fast climbing reaction was first noted while ~~xxx~~ we were in Spaso, Embassy Residence, at Moscow. Instrument # 3100, however, climbed much more rapidly after being reset frequently, than did #s 1288 and # 1241. In fact, you could actually observe the climb on instrument # 3100 with the naked eye. I thought for sure this instrument must have broken or gone haywire mechanically. I checked these three instruments frequently that night until after midnight; arose at 4:00 AM on July 24th and continued to check them, resetting them about every hour. Instrument # 3100 continued to rise more rapidly ~~xxx~~ than the other two dosimeters and I again thought it must certainly be out-of-wack. In resetting # 3100 time-after-time, I must have cause some mechanical difficulty because the measuring hair-line finally would not remain on the roentgen scale, and, during afternoon of 24th I finally decided not to attempt to use it. I tried resetting this instrument occasionally on succeeding

days as we proceed thru Russia and at Warsaw, Poland, but, the measuring hairline, on the few occasions I was able to settle it along the roentgen scale, would soon disappear from view.

1288 --- Carried by James O. Golden from ^{23rd} 24th thru 5th. This instrument, also observed to become very active in R climb as described under # 3100, above, did not climb rapidly enough for eye to observe the climb. However, on night of 23rd and until about mid-afternoon of 24th, this instrument, like # 1241, would climb 5 to 15 Roentgens every hour or two, after which I would reset them to zero, or as near to zero as I could find a stable reading point, usually around 3 to 8. About mid to late afternoon of 24th, this dosimeter as well as # 1241 carried by John T. Sherwood, settled down. at which time I set it at zero reading. From mid to late afternoon of 24th, this instrument gained a total of 6 1/2 Roentgens thruout the remainder of the trip until August 5th. It gained approximately 2 Rs in Moscow from late afternoon of 24th until 27th. It gained two more Rs in vicinity of Novosibirsk, Russia, from 28th to afternoon of 29th; it gained between 1 and 2 Rs at Sverdlovsk and vicinity from 29th to 31st; and gained 1 to 2 Rs at Moscow from late 31st to August 2nd (late afternoon).

1241 -- Carried by John T. Sherwood -- same history as described ~~for~~ 23rd and 24th, under # 1288 above. After finally resetting this instrument to the 8 Roentgen position on mid to late afternoon of 24th, the history of its climb is as follows:

24th (late afternoon) to morning of 27th -- at Moscow -- advanced 2 Rs to 10 position.

~~28th~~
28th (late afternoon) to mid afternoon of 29th -- at Novosibirsk -- advanced 1/2 R.

29th (late afternoon) to 31st (late afternoon) -- advanced 1 R. This 1 R advance was noted between 9:00 AM ~~XX~~ and 12:15 PM (or morning of 31st) when we made a motor trip from Sverdlovsk to Beloyarsk (25 miles distance South) where we observed an Atomic Power Plant under early stages of construction. This plant will be similar to our Atomic Power Plant at Shippingport, Penna. when completed.

31st (late afternoon) until Aug. 2nd (late afternoon) -- climb of about 1/2 R .. we were back at Moscow during this period of time.

NOTE: I discussed the reactions of the dosimeters on occasion with Admiral Hyman Rickover, an official member of our entourage. He discussed it with Ambassador Lwellyn Thompson. They agree not to make this information known to the Vice President and did not do so either. Admiral Rickover said these dosimeters reactions indicate the possibility of some sort of an atomic (over)

explosion, possibly an accident, and that he would look further into the matter. He further indicated that some consideration will likely be given to placing more elaborate, exact measuring equipment at the Embassy in Moscow as a follow-up. Admiral Rickover suggested that I not discuss this general matter with others of the entourage; that he will follow-up on it upon return to the United States; and that he might want to talk with me later on.

I believe I have included in this informal memo substantially all the information I have which is pertinent to this matter.

Undoubtedly, the badges should be checked-out quickly.

John T. Sherwood