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ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
E.O. 11652, Section 1

By BAC NLE, Date 7-1-76

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP MEETING

June 1, 1955

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

Salk Vaccine - Dr. Schiele outlined some vaccine testing techniques and phenomena, including the recently discovered knowledge that there are bows in the graphs of reductions of virus instead of the heretofore believed "straight line" reduction. Consequently, the testing procedure now requires a finding of two consecutive "negatives" separated by at least three days. Also, the quantity of vaccine required to be used in the tests has now been increased to a pint instead of one cc. A third requirement is that a batch of faulty vaccine must now be thrown out completely instead of being "recooked." Finally, the Public Health Service has now added another procedure in the testing -- a random sampling of the packaged product.

Dr. Schiele commented that viruses are strange beasts -- that as far as man's ingenuity can determine, all the viruses are killed -- then unexplainably they reappear. The only way to be absolutely certain would be to test every cc -- which would mean using it all up in tests, leaving no vaccine.

The monkey test, he said, is far from infallible, but scientists are working to improve it. The trouble is that large quantities of the vaccine just can't be injected into the monkey's brain, but again, scientists are trying to develop a process using vaccine concentrates. A much more sensitive test can be had through tissue culture.

Regarding the Cutter material, Dr. Schiele said it had now been withdrawn and the scientists were trying to determine what had caused its troubles.

The whole program will be slowed down for thirty days, he said, as a result of this "retooling" program. After that, the program will go ahead without any delay occasioned by new procedures.

Water Resources - The President commented strongly on the need for conserving water wherever it is. Despite the opposition of nature lovers to the proposed Echo Park Dam, the President thought that was a fine natural reservoir for storing this precious commodity. The desperate water need was in the East, the President noted, but it ought to be saved wherever it is.

The President was anxious to go ahead with the projects proposed, with or without Echo Park.

When Sen. Millikin urged that the Administration hold out for a bill including Echo Park, Rep. Martin informed him that Mr. Rayburn had said there would be no bill at all before there would be one with Echo Park, and was this what Sen. Millikin wanted? "Don't put those

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By BAC NLE, Date 10-12-76

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philosophical questions to me," answered Sen. Millikin, "just give me a bill with Echo Park in it."

Foreign Affairs - China - The President told Sen. Knowland that he had had a lengthy letter from Nehru on the matter of Americans held prisoner by the Chinese Communists. There was an indication that the four who were released were the first of a number to be released. So it would be in order to keep up a quiet, cagey, ear-to-the-ground approach.

The President said that perhaps Mr. Hammerskjold had had as much to do in effecting this first release as had Nehru. Also, he said he had written Nehru with a view toward continuing action to get our people out.



LAM
L. A. Minnich, Jr.

Copy to:

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