

From the Office of the  
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy

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FALLOUT HEARING SCHEDULE RELEASED BY  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY

An outline, including the tentatively scheduled list of witnesses for hearings on radioactive fallout from nuclear weapons tests was announced today by Senator John O. Pastore, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and Representative Melvin Price, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Research, Development and Radiation. These hearings are scheduled for June 3-5. Plans for these hearings were announced in a Joint Committee release dated May 18, 1963.

As indicated in the May 18 release, the hearings will cover the fallout which was released in 1961 and 1962 as a result of U.S. and Soviet nuclear weapon test series, and estimates of how much fallout has been added to our food supply. The hearings will also cover the types of protective measures being developed and criteria for their application.

In releasing the tentative schedule, Senator Pastore and Representative Price jointly stated:

"Large amounts of radioactive debris were injected into man's environment by the 1961 and 1962 nuclear weapon tests of the Soviet Union and the United States. Our objective in these hearings is to bring forth all of the available facts on fallout and to obtain information on what the executive agencies of the government are doing or planning in regard to the possible use of protective measures against fallout radiation in an emergency.

"In addition to testimony from the government agencies responsible for surveying the amounts of fallout and determining what the effects of fallout are on man, we have asked the Chairman of the Federal Radiation Council, the Honorable Anthony J. Celebrezze (Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare), to testify on the activities of the Federal Radiation Council."

Senator Pastore and Representative Price further stated:

"In light of the wide interest in possible effects of fallout radiation, we want to do everything possible to assure that all data which can be released is made available to the public. In line with our past practices we intend to obtain a compilation of all the latest information on fallout which has been developed since our hearings of June 1962.

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FILE NAME: #77-CAL-JCAE Hearings (1960-Jun 1963)  
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"In order to assess the fallout problem, it is essential that we know the magnitude of nuclear weapons tests since our last hearings. We have therefore asked the Atomic Energy Commission to determine whether this information can be made available to the public prior to these hearings. We hope that available information on fallout from the nuclear weapon tests of both the United States and the Soviet Union, including a breakdown reflecting the portion from fission and the portion due to fusion, can be released as they were for past public hearings of the Joint Committee.

"We have also expressed our great interest in obtaining a report, currently under preparation by the Federal Radiation Council, summarizing fallout data. We have asked the Federal Radiation Council to make this report available prior to the hearings."

The hearings are scheduled to start at 10:00 a.m., Monday, June 3, and continue through Wednesday, June 5, 1963. The hearings will be held in the Joint Committee Public Hearing Room on the 4th floor of the Capitol Building.

A copy of the hearing outline and a list of witnesses is attached.

**Attachment**

Copy of subject outline  
and schedule

IV. Estimated Exposures from nuclear weapons testing.

Dr. Gordon Dunning, AEC (30 min.)

1. Whole body and reproductive cells
2. Bone
3. Bone marrow

V. Panel discussion of protective measures and criteria for their application. (1 hr. 15 min.)

Panel Members:

Chairman, Dr. Paul C. Tompkins	
Dr. Donald Chadwick	{ PHS }
Dr. Edwin Laug	{ FDA }
Dr. Forrest Western	{ AEC }
Dr. M. R. Clarkson	{ USDA }
(Representative to be designated)	{ DOD }

June 5, 2:00 p.m., \*Wednesday

VI. Summary of present activities and future plans of the Federal Radiation Council.

FRC Chairman Anthony J. Celebrezze (Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare)

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\*The morning of June 5 is being left open. In the event the first 2 days of hearings are not sufficient to complete testimony of the scheduled witnesses, the witnesses will be carried over to the morning of June 5 if necessary.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR HEARINGS  
ON FALLOUT RADIATION

June 3, 4 and 5, 1963

June 3, 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday

I. Introduction - Dr. Paul C. Tompkins, Executive Director, FRC (20 min.)

1. Brief history of fallout, with emphasis on developments since the Spring, 1962, JCAE hearings on fallout.
2. Summary of FRC report of May 1963.
3. Statement of the fallout problem.

II. Atmospheric Distribution

1. Department of Defense, Capt. Adrian Polk, USAF, MC (10 min.)  
Sampling program (Stardust)
2. U.S. Weather Bureau, Dr. Lester Machta (30 min.)
  - a. Worldwide inventory (ground and atmospheric) of fallout.
  - b. Influence of source on worldwide distribution.
  - c. Estimate of future fallout based on current distribution of inventory.

III. Distribution of Fallout in the Food Chain

1. U.S. Public Health Service, Mr. James Terrill (30 min.)
  - a. Review of radionuclides in food chain.
  - b. Observations and surveillance network for sampling milk, grain and other foods.

June 4, 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Tuesday

2. Health and Safety Laboratory (AEC)  
John H. Harley, Director (20 min.)
  - a. Mechanisms of transport through food chain.
  - b. Projected predictions of future levels in food supply and people based on current fallout distribution and inventory.