

RALPH REGULA
18TH DISTRICT, OHIO

RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3878

DISTRICT OFFICE

4150 BELDEN VILLAGE STREET NW
CANTON, OH 44718
(216) 489-4414

TOLL-FREE DISTRICT NUMBER
1-800-826-9015



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

October 14, 1992

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING
SUBCOMMITTEE
HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Congressional Affairs Office
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Dear Sir/Madam:

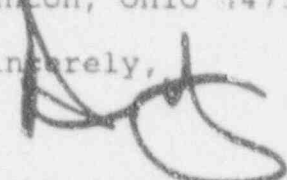
I have enclosed a letter from a constituent, Mr. Otis Vestfals. He is concerned that Latvia is not able to properly operate high technological equipment that was left behind by the former Soviet Union. Mr. Vestfals is especially interested in a scientific instrument... that he believes could be a nuclear reactor.

He wanted to know whether there is any government agency that is investigating the possibilities of utilizing technological equipment in the former Soviet Union. I would appreciate any information that might answer Mr. Vestfals' question.

It seems that many of the former Soviet Republics would be willing to cooperate with the United States in utilizing this machinery. Many times countries like Latvia do not have the resources or information to operate this equipment and this might be solved by greater American involvement in the problem. This type of relationship may could prove to be beneficial to both parties involved.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Please forward any information to my district office at 4150 Belden Village St. NW, Canton, Ohio 44718.

Sincerely,


Ralph Regula, M.C.

RR:rm
encls.

7 October, 1992

R. Regula, U. S. Representative
4150 Belden Village
Canton, OH 44708

Sir:

This is my second letter to you on this subject. Please respond with at least an acknowledgement.


I am writing to you in the hope that you can supply me with some information. I have received a request from a Latvian citizen asking that I look into the possibility of the Latvians getting some use out of scientific instrument left in that country by the Russians. It appears to be some type of a nuclear reactor. From the very sketchy explanation and enclosed attachment, it appears to be a research reactor used in low-temperature plasma research. That is just a guess on my part since I am an electrical engineer by degree and have no knowledge in the field of nuclear research.

From what was stated in the letter, the country of Latvia is in dire need of money and would be interested in finding a use for this instrument. They are searching for a contact to discuss possible uses, perhaps sharing it for research, or even selling it.

Is there someone within the government that I may contact? Perhaps one of the government nuclear research labs may be interested, or the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or NASA. If so, whom might I contact?

I would be extremely grateful for any help that you may be able to provide.

Respectfully,



Otis Vestfals
10978 Santa Fe Tr. N.E.
Hartville, OH 44632
(216) 877-1392 (home)
(216) 796-8379 (office)

Radiation Loop

A new type of gamma radiation source

Radiation Loop facility of the Institute of Physics of the Latvian Academy of Sciences is a powerful semi-industrial gamma radiation source equivalent to 100000 g Ra. It has been used for the research in physics, chemistry, radiation biology as well as for sterilization of medical equipment and preparations. Liquid metal In-Ga-Sn alloy serves here as gamma-carrier.

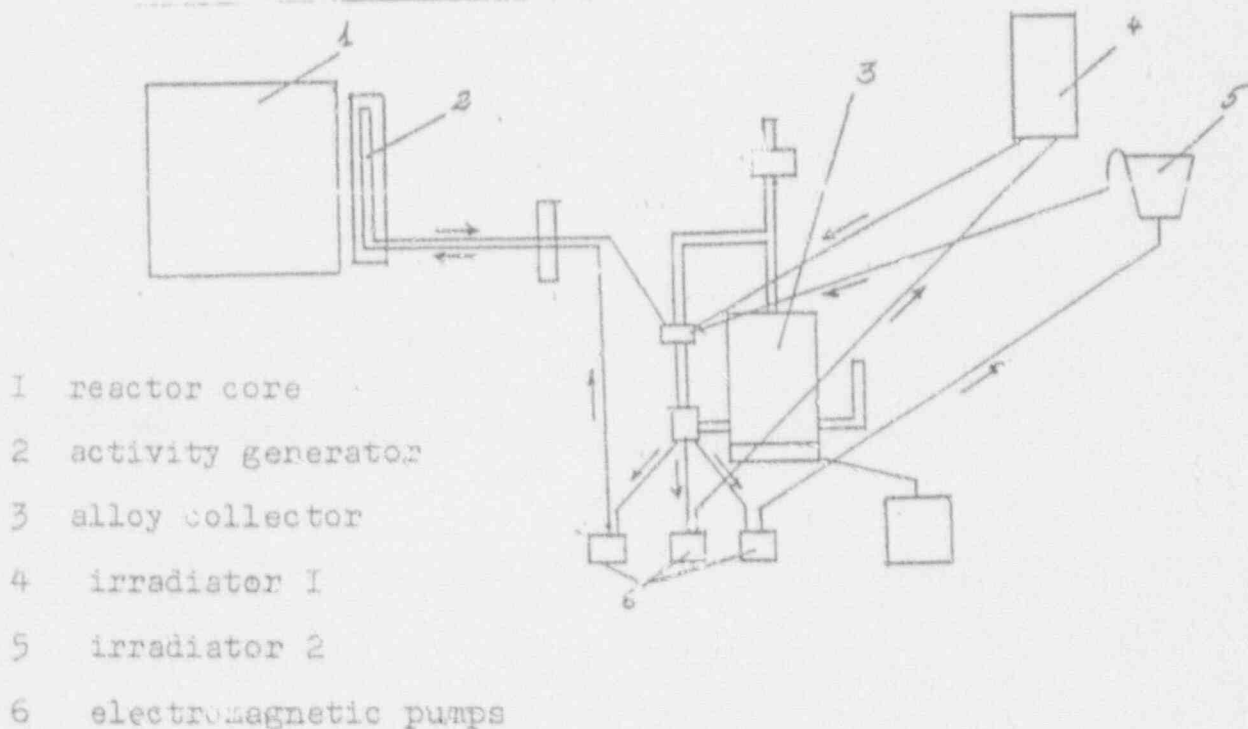


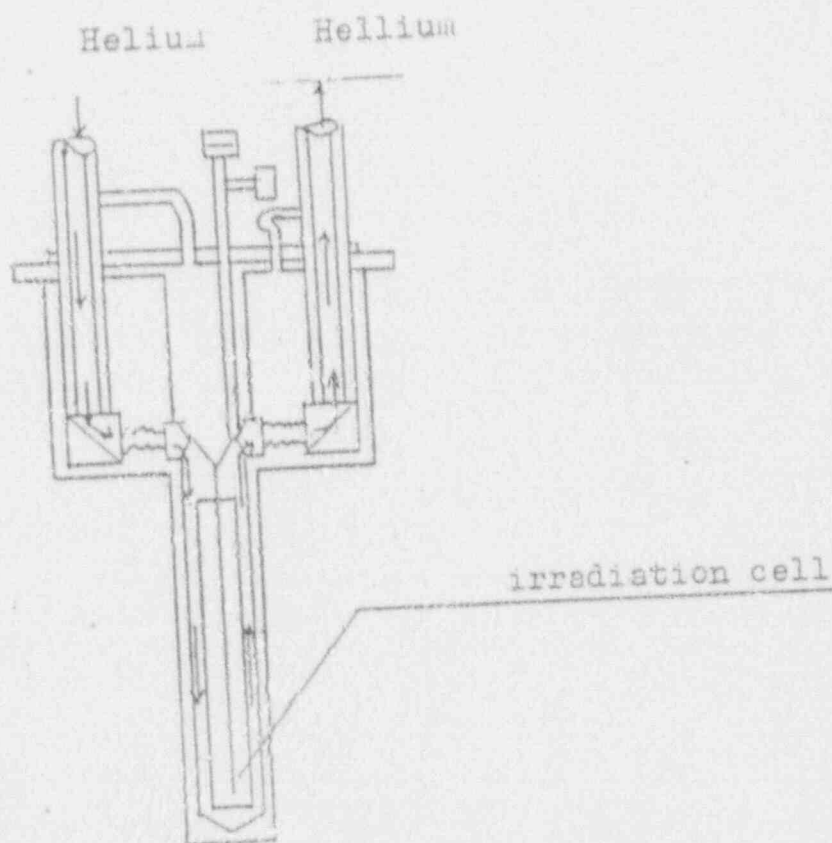
Diagram of gamma-carrier
circulation in Radiation
Loop

The dosage rates range from 1 Rt/s up to 1000 Rt/s and the size of samples may vary from that of a safety pin head to those of $450 \times 450 \times 450 \text{ mm}^3$ with a weight of up to 50 kg.

The Radiation Loop facility has been patented in the GDR (N 103752), FRG (N 2311525), Sweden (N 7302722), France (7308865), the UK (N 1380529), Hungary (N 172806), the USA (N 3860825) and Japan (N 1195466).

A setup for conducting gamma irradiation at cryogenic temperatures has been shown in the left-hand side.

200 mm high irradiation cell with a diameter of 60 mm is located in the central channel of the irradiator 1. To conduct investigations, irradiation at temperatures of 10 K up to 700 K and at dosage rate of 1000 Rt/s are available. During a 4 week period sample irradiation can reach up to $2 \cdot 10^9$ Rt/



CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SYSTEM
DOCUMENT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

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1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT(S) Rep. Ralph Regula
2. TYPE OF DOCUMENT ☒ Correspondence ☐ Hearinger (Qs/As)
3. DOCUMENT CONTROL ☐ Sensitive (NRC Only) ☐ Non-sensitive
4. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE and SUBCOMMITTEES (if applicable)

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5. SUBJECT CODES

- (a) _____
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6. SOURCE OF DOCUMENTS

- (a) _____ 5520 (document name _____)
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8. COMMENTS

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