

OCT 12 2001

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22 MS. DETRAZ: Right here.

23 MODERATOR BROWN: Good; to be followed by

24 Louis Benezet and then Russell Hoffman and Sharon

25 Hoffman.

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1 MS. DETRAZ: My name is Marjorie Detraz and I

2 live in Caliente, Nevada, in Lincoln County. And

3 remember that. I'm going to just speak off the top of

4 my head because I've been outside working with my

5 T-shirts and signs out there.

6 But you know, I think that it's time for the

7 state of Nevada to go on the offensive. We're not the

8 screwballs; they are. And in Lincoln County, we're not

9 the crooks; they are. And the reason you have Yucca

10 Mountain -- have you ever wondered -- here's a little

11 cartoon came out of the Review Journal. And there is

12 this big nuclear waste truck and it says, "Nuclear

13 waste, 500 feet, stand back." And here's the cask on

14 it. And here's our -- it says news item -- "Nevada's

15 Governor, Congressional delegation join hands to

16 prevent the shipment of nuclear waste to the state."

17 And here it is, running right over the top of them.

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18 Have you ever wondered how come? Up here, I put, Joint

19 City/County Impact Alleviation Committee and DOE.

20 Now I don't suppose -- will you raise your

21 hand if you've ever heard of the JCCIAC in Lincoln

22 County? There's two. Not many of you have, have you?

23 In 1995, we had Mayor Kevin Phillips and then we had at

24 that time we only had three commissioners. One was Ed

25 Wright and one by the name of Allen Chamberlain.

0102

1 Well, over the objections of the people of

2 Lincoln County, and they knew that the people didn't

3 want it because we conducted a survey and in not one

4 community in Lincoln County did the people want it and

5 it was overwhelmingly opposed to it. But they run

6 roughshod over the citizens and I'm telling you, I am

7 sick and tired of politicians running over the

8 citizens. It's time we stood up and told them just

9 what they are -- they're crooks. That's absolutely the

10 truth.

11 And, boy, Louie Benezet and I have worked for

12 6 1/2 years in Lincoln County to stop this. You know,

13 folks, we'd go to this JCCIAC meeting and they'd give

14 us a bad time and we'd give them one back. For about

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15 three years, we kept doing that. One day I said,
16 Louis, we're crazy. We know that they're the crooks
17 and yet they're in control.

18 So our Mayor tells us, right now, folks,
19 we're not allowed to say one thing in the meeting. If
20 there is any attorneys here, you help me see if our
21 right to speak isn't being violated. So they will not
22 let us speak, say one word until it comes to public
23 comment.

24 But guess what? We have these high-paid
25 consultants, Mike Baughman. We have Robison & Seidler.

0103

1 I wish I had brought that thing in. And they worked
2 for the DOE for years and now they're consultants. And
3 when they go back to Washington, D.C., they don't go to
4 see the Nevada delegation. No, they go see Spencer
5 Abraham and Frank Murkowski and Larry Craig and Trent
6 Lott. And in The Sun, they had an article that said
7 that Larry Craig and Frank Murkowski in separate
8 interviews with the Las Vegas Sun admitted that between
9 the two of them, they had taken \$140,000 from the
10 nuclear industry for their campaigns.

11 Now, tell me, folks. You and I would be in

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12 jail if we did that. Why aren't they in prison? And
13 see, now, Governor Guinn and all these people think
14 that if they raise millions of dollars, have they been
15 able to stop it? No. Has the Governor been able to
16 stop it? No. Has the Nevada delegation been able to
17 stop it? No. And you know what why? Because they've
18 never attended a JCCIAC meeting.

19 By golly, Louis and I started taping them.
20 Well, we went to a couple of our Nevada delegation and
21 one of them said, You don't have enough evidence,
22 Marge. I said, Don't you remember when I sent you this
23 paper that said read on, read on? There's three things
24 they cannot use at nuclear waste funds for and they
25 violated all three them. But I have not been able to
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1 get any of our delegation to do what I've asked them
2 to, to cut off the funds of the JCCIAC immediately and
3 then call for a Federal Grand Jury of the JCCIAC.

4 Jason Pitts, he types up the Minutes of their
5 meeting. Well, you know, a couple of months ago, he
6 charged them 28 hours at \$45 an hour to type up the
7 minutes of the JCCIAC meeting. He did it on a laptop
8 computer. We paid him \$1,096.70 to type up a two-hour

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9 meeting. And the County Commissioner signed for it.

10 Gave it to him. And, you know, we keep going up to

11 County Commissioner saying, folks, you better monitor

12 these guys.

13 MODERATOR BROWN: You have about a minute

14 left yourself. And you're free to come back after

15 everybody else is finished up.

16 MS. DETRAZ: Should I just wind up now?

17 MODERATOR BROWN: That will be fine.

18 MS. DETRAZ: All right, folks. If you want

19 to know a little bit more about it, Louis and I have

20 signs and everything else outside. We're real good

21 friends with Citizen Alert.

22 And so, anyway, I will be back to talk to you

23 later. But it is time for the people in the state of

24 Nevada to tell them, hell no, we're not going to take

25 it. Thank you.

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3 MS. DETRAZ: I'm going to speak a little
4 calmer this time. But I still mean what I say. I got
5 a copy of this, the minutes from the JCCIAC meeting on
6 May 25th, 1999, and I see down here their third report
7 is on radiological emergency operation training at NTS.
8 Fire Chief Steve Rowe of Caliente and Larry Stever of
9 Pioche reported they had attended training at NTS
10 during the week of April 11th. Mr. Steve Rowe
11 indicated that he was very impressed with training, and
12 any previous apprehensions he'd had about radiation
13 contamination and handling were alleviated by the scope
14 of the training. The group worked and trained as if
15 they were an actual radiological response team. People
16 from four different states participated in the
17 training. There were five members on the team,
18 including Mr. Larry Stever, Mr. Kevin Phillips, our
19 wonderful mayor, Mr. Steve Rowe from Lincoln County,
20 one health physicist from California, and one Highway
21 Patrolman from Salt Lake. Mr. Rowe informed the
22 committee members that Union Pacific employees -- now
23 get this, folks -- have recently given hazardous
24 material training in Lincoln County. At that time,

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25 they noted six parked railcars -- get this --

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1 containing 10,000 gallons each of a highly toxic
2 substance. On a calm night, one ounce of this hydro
3 cyanic acid could kill everyone in town. That's where
4 I live, folks. Mr. Rowe stated that after attending
5 the training, learning about radiation contamination,
6 it was his feeling that radiation contamination was
7 nothing compared to what was currently being shipped
8 through Caliente by rail, and it also goes to, that
9 same railroad goes through Las Vegas, folks. Mr. Larry
10 Stever noted that the training was very informative and
11 the ability to handle nuclear waste materials seems to
12 be better and safer than ability to handle other
13 hazardous materials. I'm just about through here with
14 this.

15 Mr. Brian Elkins asked to what extent chief
16 Rowe and Stever would be able to transfer their
17 knowledge to the emergency management people in Lincoln
18 County? Mr. Rowe stated that it would be simple to
19 evaluate a situation and then call in the response
20 team. He does not feel that Lincoln County would ever
21 have the ability to respond to an accident. That

22 response would come from the Nevada test site.

23 Then why are we spending all these monies

24 training these people? And that was his, his

25 conclusion, that Lincoln County would never have the

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1 ability to respond to an accident. Then I -- there are

2 lots of ways, folks, I have this handout. And it says,

3 at the top, I put, "Attention all Lincoln County and

4 Nevada citizens. This news article is the answer to

5 our prayers and will solve the nuclear waste storage

6 problem. Please read on and be vocal in supporting it.

7 We are not expendable. Protect our families." Then it

8 goes on, this is an article from the "Las Vegas

9 Review-Journal," Wednesday, April 14th, 1999. Says,

10 "Environmentalists reject Yucca dump." An alliance of

11 environmentalists offered a plan Tuesday that would

12 eliminate Nevada as a nuclear waste storage site, and

13 take management of highly radioactive spent fuel away

14 from the Energy Department. I don't think DOE is up to

15 the job of doing this work, said Argen Makhijani,

16 President of the Institute for Energy and Environmental

17 Research. Instead, a federally chartered, nonprofit

18 corporation should be appointed to develop a long-term

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19 strategy for nuclear waste storage, Makhijani and other
20 environmentalists said. Now this is his plan. The
21 government would pay nuclear utilities to continue
22 managing waste until their licenses expire. Then the
23 corporation would assume ownership of the spent fuel.
24 Money for the corporation would come from the Federal
25 Nuclear Waste Fund. That's the one I was talking a
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1 while ago that there's so much corruption. Money would
2 come from the Nuclear Waste Fund, which is financed by
3 payments from nuclear power rate payers.

4 Other features of the plan would include
5 research into the seabed and other geologic
6 repositories and disposal beneath the earth's crust.
7 The proposal is another alternative offered to compete
8 with legislation in Congress, pending bills in the
9 House and Senate would send nuclear waste to the Nevada
10 test site for interim storage until a permanent
11 repository is completed at Yucca Mountain, 100 miles
12 northwest of Las Vegas.

13 Well, that pretty much tells it. But, folks,
14 I'd like to read something to you. It says, "The
15 blessing of freedom is easily taken for granted, until

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16 it is lost. Keep us free. Keep nuclear waste out of
17 Nevada." And this is just a little something to give
18 you, to think about. From a silent battlefield near
19 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Abraham Lincoln spoke to the
20 patriot's dream of freedom begun two generations
21 before. Then it was a new nation. Conceived in
22 liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men
23 are created equal, and all men and women and children
24 should be safe from nuclear waste. Not just Nevadans.
25 But on the fields of Gettysburg, the dream needed a new
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1 birth, if government of the people, by the people and
2 for the people were not to parish from the earth.

3 The blessing of freedom can be lost if it is
4 not reborn with each generation. John Winthrop
5 gathered his fellow pilgrims together on the tiny deck
6 of their ship anchored off the coast of Massachusetts
7 in 1630. He spoke of his dream for the lives they
8 would have in the land they had never seen. As he
9 said, we shall be a city upon a hill. The eyes of all
10 people are upon us. The dream is reborn every time
11 individuals set aside their self interest for the
12 larger interests of country.

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13 For example, a woman leaves her desk twice a
14 week at lunch to teach English to immigrants. A
15 retired couple walks to the local elementary school to
16 help children with math and writing. A neighborhood
17 plants a large communal garden, sharing the work and
18 produce with others in the community. A family
19 specializing in home repairs spends Saturday mornings
20 fixing faucets and patching roofs for the elderly and
21 handicapped. These people, along with countless
22 others, have remembered and renewed the patriot's
23 dreams. And then I have added this. Other public
24 citizens who understand the danger of Yucca Mountain,
25 keep the faith. And we never give up. How many

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1 meetings have we attended? How many meetings have we
2 said this same thing over and over and over again? And
3 why? Because they don't listen to us. They don't
4 intend to do what we're asking them to do. And we'll
5 be -- I guess we won't be attending another meeting,
6 because this is supposed to be the last time we have an
7 opportunity to speak. Now this is the last of it.

8 We are the spiritual posterity of those
9 patriots. Our inheritance is a love of country and a

10 love of people. We sing of them who more than self
11 their country loved and mercy more than life. Folks,
12 As Kalynda's told you, don't sit around quietly. Don't
13 ever stop fighting Yucca Mountain. This plan will
14 cross 43 states for 30 years, folks. 30 years. Is
15 absolutely insane. If you and I came up with a plan
16 like this, they'd put us in the nuthouse. And they
17 should. And that's just exactly what these people that
18 came up with this plan should be. Certainly not in
19 control of our lives and our families and our health.
20 Thank you very much.