

Military looks for radiation at satellite crash site

YELLOWKNIFE, Canada (UPI) — Soldiers with geiger counters swept the ground and American U2 planes sniffed the air across a 30,000-square-mile area of Canada Wednesday testing for possible radioactive fallout from a downed Soviet nuclear spy sputnik satellite.

Initial tests were negative. Government officials ordered a nationwide chain of monitoring stations maintained by the defense and health departments to step up checks for any changes in radiation levels.

American U-2 and KC-135 planes took high altitude air samples and Canadian CF-130 Hercules checked the 2,000-foot level along a 450-mile corridor east of Great Slave Lake where the crippled Cosmos 954 satellite plunged from orbit Tuesday.

"Preliminary reports from the high-altitude monitoring show there has been no abnormal increase in radiation levels," a Defense Department spokesman said in Ottawa. Tests made only hours after the satellite and its 100-pound enriched uranium power pack streaked through the earth's atmosphere showed no danger.

A 22-man Nuclear Accident Support Team also reported negative results from a geiger counter sweep of streets in this Northwest Territorial capital.



Wife of HHH to accept seat

HILLSBORO BEACH, Fla. (UPI) — Muriel Humphrey accepted an interim appointment Wednesday to the U.S. Senate seat of her late husband, Hubert

H. Humphrey, and promised to work diligently to complete "some important business Hubert hoped to finish."

Minnesota Gov. Rudy Perpich appointed the 65-year-old Mrs. Humphrey to serve as the Senate's only woman member until November, when Minnesota will hold a special election to fill the remaining four years of Humphrey's

term. Perpich said she has the "overwhelming support of the people of Minnesota."

Mrs. Humphrey said it was "too early" to decide whether she would campaign for the four year term. Minnesota's November election will be unusual in that it will also involve voting to fill Vice President Walter Mondale's old Senate seat, now held by former Gov. Wendell Anderson.

President Carter hailed Mrs. Humphrey's appointment as "a wonderful thing."

Ousting halted Carter probe

DETROIT (UPI) — In a case similar to the David Marston ouster, an ex-federal prosecutor said Wednesday he was investigating possible 1976 Carter campaign fund raising violations at the time of his dismissal last summer.

Philip Van Dam, a Republican fired by Carter after refusing to resign, said his office also was involved in other investigations potentially embarrassing both to the president and Mayor Coleman A. Young, a top Democratic party official and loyal Carter supporter.

"There were some serious questions about the handling of political funds in connection with the Carter primary in Michigan," Van Dam said in a telephone interview from his law office in Midland, Mich.

Sadat, Carter exchange notes

CAIRO, Egypt (UPI) — President Anwar Sadat Wednesday exchanged secret messages with President Carter and said Egypt was engaged in serious behind-the-scenes negotiations with Israel to break their deadlock on Middle East peace talks.

In his most optimistic statement since the collapse of twin defense and political talks with Israel, Sadat said the results of the secret negotiations would be known "in a few days."

Sadat conferred for the second time in two days with U.S. Ambassador Hermann F. Eilts Wednesday on a U.S. compromise proposal to salvage the collapsed peace talks.

Asked for details on the meeting, Sadat said only that he had received a reply from President Carter to a message conveyed through Eilts.

EPA specifies rules on water

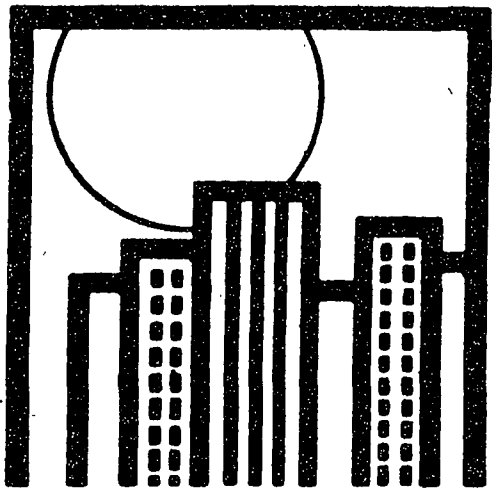
WASHINGTON (UPI) — The first comprehensive rules designed to reduce the amount of suspected cancer agents in the nation's drinking water were announced Wednesday by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The program would: — Set a standard for the amount of chloroform and related chemicals present in tap water from the use of chlorine as a disinfectant and require larger communities to meet that standard within 15 months.

— Require systems serving more than 75,000 people to install within five years carbon filters where ground water or river supplies are contaminated with organic chemicals.

EPA Administrator Douglas Costle said the rules initially will cover 52 percent of the population with community water supplies.

"This marks the start of the first large scale effort in history to deal with organic chemical contaminants in drinking water," Costle said. "It will... give the American public an 'insurance policy'."



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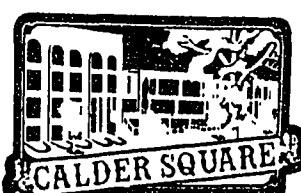
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