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www.coldwarpatriots.org
1.877.335.0779
News from the Advisory Boards

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health held a two-day virtual meeting April 27-28, 2022. Below is a summary of the meeting topics:

★ Greg Lewis from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) introduced Kevin Dressman as the new Director of U.S. DOE’s Health and Safety. Mr. Dressman has 15 years of health and safety experience and replaced Dr. Patricia Worthington who retired a few months ago.

★ The Board accepted the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommendation that they can reconstruct dose for the Huntington Pilot Plant in West Virginia.

★ The Board tabled the decision on the Sandia-Albuquerque site for the years 1997-2011 since one board member did not receive the supporting documents in advance to decide.

★ Confirmed next teleconference meeting on June 15th. In-person meeting will be held August 17-18 in Idaho Falls, ID and December 7-8 in Pinellas, FL.

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced that in-person joint Town Hall meetings resume in June in Aiken, SC. Other planned meetings are:

★ June 28: Farmington, NM, discuss RECA developments.

★ August 30-31: Oak Ridge, TN Authorized Representative Workshop.

★ June 29: Shiprock, NM and Kayenta, AZ discuss RECA program and legislation.

★ September 1: Oak Ridge, TN Town Hall.

Congress Extends Radiation Exposure Compensation Act for Two Years

The Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) was scheduled to expire this year in July. The current program compensates certain individuals living downwind from the nuclear testing as well as individuals who worked in the uranium mining industry prior to 1971.

The Senate passed the legislation with unanimous support on April 28, 2022. The House followed by passing it on May 11, 2011. The legislation now goes to President Biden for his signature. This extension will allow Congress more time to debate expanding the RECA program. The expansion program would extend to cover uranium workers employed after 1971 and the areas affected by nuclear fallout from atomic testing.

Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), a strong supporter of the RECA claimants, in a joint press release with Teresa Leger Fernandez (D-NM), said,

“This two-year extension of RECA is a victory for radiation exposure victims in New Mexico and it gives Congress the necessary time to act on a long-term extension and expansion of benefits and eligibility,” said Luján.

For more information on the extension of the program or to learn more about the proposed legislation to expand the program, please call our Help Center at 888-903-8989 or email us at info@coldwarpatriots.org.
MARY HATFIELD, TENNESSEE
I moved to Eastern Tennessee after spending my childhood years in West Virginia. I quickly grew fond of the area and I am fortunate to have made lasting connections that has kept me rooted. Once I joined the PCM team 6 years ago, I knew I found my true home. I love the rich history of this region and enjoy hearing the stories our clients tell. I feel blessed to lead a team of excellent healthcare workers, whose compassion to serve is unmatched.

MARCELLE MURRAY, IOWA
I moved to Iowa 16 years ago and obtained my degree in nursing. It was the best decision of my life. I started my career with PCM as a staff nurse, then became a Case Manager, and I am now a Regional Director. My Grandmother worked at the Iowa Army Ammunitions Plant in the 1940s, and I never understood what she did until I came to work at PCM. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve my community. I have met so many people who have touched my life and heart.

JUDY TERRY, KENTUCKY
I have been a nurse for 30 years, most of those in the home health field. I have been with PCM for just over two years. As a born and raised Western Kentuckian, being able to lead a team of dedicated professionals in my home region is an honor for me. I feel blessed to be a part of a company of PCM’s caliber, foresight, and compassion. It is a pleasure to partner with our remarkable staff to serve the nuclear weapons and uranium workers who have given so much.

AUDREY WIEDERHOLT, COLORADO & UTAH
I have been a member of the team at PCM since 2017. I am honored to be serving former nuclear weapons workers and uranium miners in the Utah and Colorado regions who sacrificed their health and lives for the protection of the United States. I am inspired by the incredible stories of former workers and I am passionate about creating a personalized home plan of care to meet the unique health needs of both our clients and families we serve.
“Talk to Terrie” is an ongoing blog series by Terrie Barrie, which can be found at coldwarpatriots.org/blog. Terrie has published over 50 “Talk to Terrie” blog posts where she covers topics from nuclear weapons and uranium history, U.S. DOE plant facts, tips for filing claims, white card benefits, and much more.

Readers of this blog know that I usually write about things related to the Cold War, nuclear weapons, and the facilities that built them. I thought I would change things up for this time and write about another secret weapon that helped win World War II.

I have a personal connection to this story. My father was part of this classified project. He regularly shared his experience near the Panama Canal zone during WWII with my family – and anyone else who was interested. This equipment has been declassified and can be seen every day on TV.

What was this secret weapon? Radar!

Radar is an acronym for radio detection and ranging. Now, radar has been around for many years before WWII began. Research into this began as early as the late 1800s. All major powers were involved in the research – the United States, Britain, Germany, Japan, and others.

One of the first experiments in the United States that resulted in documenting the effects of radio transmission was performed in 1922. Albert H. Taylor and Leo Young with the U.S. Navy Aircraft Radio Laboratory set up a radio transmitter on one bank of the Potomac. On the other side was the radio receiver. They noticed that a ship produced interference with the radar beam when it sailed between the transmitter and receiver.

If all the major powers were working on using radar before WWII, why was it designated as a secret weapon? Basically, it was because each country’s research investigated the use of different radio wavelengths.
The other reason radar was considered top secret was the joint development by the United States and Britain of the magnetron. The development of this vacuum tube allowed the radar technology to be small enough to fit on airplanes and ships.

My father was not happy about being posted to the jungles of Panama for the duration of the war. He was in his prime and wanted to fight for his country. This was important to him as a first-generation American. However, he still managed to save American lives despite not serving in an active war zone. He was at his post in the radar room when he made an unexpected observation. On the radar screen he saw that a squadron of U.S. planes was flying directly into a severe storm. He radioed either the pilots directly or the control tower (I don’t remember which) and warned them to turn around.

They did and no lives or equipment were lost.

I would like to think that my father was the first to use radar to forecast the weather. The truth is that many other radar technicians and pilots took advantage of this discovery during WWII.

If you’d like to learn more about the use of radar during WWII, check out the documentary, Boca Raton: The Secret Weapon That Won WWII, from the South Florida television station WLRN.
In 2021, Cold War Patriots highlighted 14 “Everyday Patriots”, all who are nuclear weapons or uranium workers who have given back to their community in so many ways. Each of these Everyday Patriots have their own unique stories, below is Larry’s story.

Born and raised in Tennessee, Larry began working in Oak Ridge in 1969 at Y-12 as a machinist, then at K-25 as an operator. In 1987, Larry became a representative for the International Machinists Union. Larry later moved to Washington, D.C., to become the National Organizing Director of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Union, retiring in 2008. Working as a union organizer, Larry became connected with many other DOE employees and enjoyed being able to assist his fellow workers. He now helps organize union retiree meetings.

Larry has volunteered for a variety of organizations including the United Way, Leadership Oak Ridge, and the Oak Ridge Housing Authority. Larry also assists the Cold War Patriots organization on a regular basis, extending invitations to speak with members at their retiree meetings and by encouraging members to attend CWP events.

Larry is held in high esteem by his former colleagues and those he works with closely in his volunteer work. He was nominated by five different people to be an “Everyday Patriot” and is honored to be included in the calendar. He considers himself to be a “people person” and told us his favorite memory of working at Y-12 was being able to form bonds and work closely with many dedicated and hard-working people through the years.

Did you enjoy this story and want to learn more about other Everyday Patriots and their contributions to their communities and Cold War Patriots? Visit our website and click on the ‘Help and Resources’ tab to explore all of our Everyday Patriot’s stories.
In 2019, Cold War Patriots published a calendar filled with 12 delicious recipes from members of Cold War Patriots. We hope you enjoy this recipe from Judy G., who worked at Fernald in Ohio for 11 years. Judy shared with us that she received this recipe from a sweet lady named Bert who would make this cheesecake for family gatherings and neighborhood events. Today, Judy continues to carry on Bert’s legacy by making her famous cheesecake and topping every chance she gets!

**Bert’s Cheesecake and Topping**

**Ingredients**

**CHEESECAKE:**
- 2-8 oz. cream cheese (softened)
- 3 eggs (beaten) and ¾ cup sugar
- ½ tsp. almond extract and a pinch of salt
- Premade graham cracker crust (optional)

**TOPPING:**
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract, a pinch of salt and 5 tbsp. sugar
- 2 cups sour cream (can cut to 1 cup if desired)
- Fresh fruit or berries (optional)

**Directions**

**CHEESECAKE:**
Mix all ingredients with a whisk. Lightly grease a 9” glass pie plate and pour in batter or put batter into premade crust. Bake at 350 degrees for approximately 30 min. Add topping, if desired. If not, cool for 30 min. at room temperature and then refrigerate.

**TOPPING:**
Mix all ingredients together and pour on top of cheesecake to the rim of the plate. Put back in the oven and bake for 10 more minutes or until the edges start to crinkle. Cool for 30 min. at room temperature and then refrigerate. Garnish with fresh fruit or berries if desired.

**Cold War Patriots Events**

We will be continuing to host events in the safest way possible throughout the Summer and Fall. We hope to see you all soon at one of our upcoming in-person Benefits Review and Drive By Events, as well as our ongoing Virtual Events, including the 14th Official Cold War Patriots National Day of Remembrance™.

**FOR DATE, TIME, AND EVENT LOCATIONS:**
Visit www.coldwarpatriots.org/CWPevents, call 1.877.335.0779, check your emails, or check your mailbox for official invitations throughout the year.
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When you have your appointment with one of our three Impairment doctors, you will be put at ease by their extensive knowledge of former worker issues and illnesses. They truly care about the ways your covered illness is impacting your life and your ability to perform activities of daily living. You will receive the most accurate, comprehensive evaluation possible.

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