

OCT 12 2001

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17 MR. BALL: Yeah.

18 MODERATOR BROWN: Good.

19 MR. BALL: Good afternoon. My name's Art

20 Ball. I am speaking as a private citizen today. But

21 I'd like to let you know a little bit about my

22 background.

23 Essentially I've worked with radiation and

24 radioactive materials all of my adult life. This

25 includes work with nuclear weapons, work at power and

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1 research reactors, operation of environmental radiation

2 surveillance program, and radiochemistry laboratory,

3 electronic product radiation, cleanup of radiologically

4 contaminated waste sites. I've also written curriculum

5 for and taught hazardous materials emergency response

6 courses and radiation response courses. I was one of a

7 small group that was selected to instruct National

8 Guard personnel regarding response to terrorist

9 activities, weapons of mass destruction. I saw several

10 of my students on television last week responding in

11 New York. I'm sure some of you also saw them.

12 More recently, I have been an evaluator for

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13 the Federal Emergency Management Agency on their  
14 radiological preparedness program. I am also a  
15 instructor for FEMA on their radiological emergency  
16 response and advanced radiological incidence courses.  
17 The second one is an anti-terrorist course.

18 Let me tell you folks, I'm scared. I'm  
19 scared, because we have spent nuclear fuel at 100-some  
20 sites around the country. I'm afraid that Mr. Bin  
21 Laden or his buddies are going to get it out of there,  
22 and make a disbursal or exposure weapon. People talk  
23 about disposal -- disbursal weapons, but nobody's  
24 talked about exposure weapons. They can be real bad.

25 They've already proven they don't mind taking

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1 a lethal dose to get the stuff out, so don't kid  
2 yourself. Believe me, the spent nuclear fuel is  
3 exactly where they want it right now. Let's put it  
4 someplace where it will be less accessible and more  
5 hazardous to anyone who wants to retrieve it. Right  
6 now, that appears to be Yucca Mountain. Combining this  
7 problem with the desperate need that Nye County has for  
8 PET monies and jobs, I say let's put this stuff away  
9 and let's put it away now. Yes, we do have to work on

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10 the transportation program. Transcom's already in  
11 effect, but it can be shored up to be made capable of  
12 transporting this waste. Leaving the stuff where it is  
13 now is inviting disaster, I think we found that out a  
14 month ago. Thank you.