

## Cold Fusion (WARD)

(WARD)

Mr. Victor H. Reis  
Assistant Secretary of Energy (Defense Programs)  
Department of Energy  
Forrestal Building, Room 4A-019  
Washington, DC 20550

I would like to call your attention to the need for an enquiry into the possible misrepresentation of his position by Dr. Thomas E. Ward, who is associated with the DOE in a capacity that would not appear consistent with the important sounding title he has graced himself with in the attached letter.

May I first assure you that I have come into possession of this letter in an entirely legal and proper way, i.e., through the Open Records Office of my University. I should perhaps also preface the remarks that follow by stating that I myself am a scientist of considerable stature, as evidenced, for example, by my having been a member of the U. S. National Academy of Sciences since 1967, a member of numerous other scholarly bodies such as the Royal Society of Great Britain and the French Academy of Sciences. I am currently serving on the Presidentially appointed National Science Board.

Chief Scientist Defense Programs  
U.S. Department of Energy

It is my understanding that Dr. Ward has been a non-tenured member of the staff of Brookhaven National Laboratory since 1988, with the title of "Physicist, Department of Nuclear Energy and Advanced Technology." This is a very respectable, but hardly high-level position. He has been on leave from Brookhaven for several years to work with the DOE in Washington in the Office of Reconfiguration, where his immediate supervisor is Mr. Steven M. Sohinki. I further believe he is actually not a true DOE employee, but rather a contract consultant associated with a beltway firm called Tetrattech.

None of the facts concerning Dr. Ward's actual status are consistent with the high-sounding title he has given himself at the bottom of the letter he wrote to Dr. Ray Bowen, the President of this university.

Unless I am very seriously mistaken, he has not only misrepresented himself but attempted to bring the prestige of the DOE into a matter that, if properly understood, could create undesirable publicity and even legal problems for the DOE.

F. A. Cotton  
W. M. Roberts-Welch Foundation  
Distinguished Professor of Chemistry  
and Director, Laboratory for Molecular  
Structure and Bonding



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## **DISCLAIMER**

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Mr. Victor H. Reis  
July 17, 1995  
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I should inform you that the "workshop" to which he says he was "sent" (by whom?) was on the subject of "cold fusion," a so-called research field that is generally regarded as lying well out in the lunatic fringe of science. An informative book (*Bad Science*, by Gary Taubs) describes the whole shameful history of "cold fusion." You could also consult your own scientists, or some of the top people at Brookhaven for more information.

I believe that the use of a false title involving a government agency is a crime of some seriousness. I hope that if, as I believe, such an action has been committed by Dr. Ward, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

Yours sincerely,

*F. A. Cotton*

F. A. Cotton

cc: Dr. Ray Bowen, President  
Texas A&M University  
Dr. Emile Schweikert, Head  
Department of Chemistry  
Texas A&M University  
Dr. Martin Blume, Deputy Director  
Brookhaven National Laboratory  
Mr. Steven M. Sohinki, Director  
Office of Reconfiguration  
Department of Energy

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June 20, 1995

Dr. Ray Bowen  
President  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Dr. Bowen:

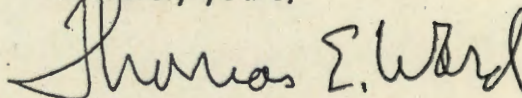
I am writing you to lodge a personal complaint concerning the behavior of one of your Distinguished Chemistry Professors who was publicly insulting to myself and other scientific guests at your university.

My position in the U.S. Department of Energy Defense Program is Chief Scientist and Advisor on matters of tritium production, storage, and utilization. I was sent to Dr. Bockris' workshop to review and assess the scientific progress in this field since one of the products of this research, tritium, is of much interest to the National Security of this country.

Behind my back but clearly directed at myself and the theorist I was having a discussion with in the hallway outside the meeting room, a Distinguished Professor (whose name I can give you if you wish) loudly remarked twice (in the presence of three of his entourage) "scientific kooks." It is a demeaning, derogatory and insulting term in any one's book. Since there were only two of us from the workshop in the hallway at the time, it was clear the remarks were directed at us. I don't have to tell you how this bad and childish behavior reflects on your faculty. Normally I would not make an issue of such incidents. However, after learning of the official objection lodged by this rude Distinguished professor to your Administration concerning the appropriateness of this workshop, I felt obliged to set the record straight.

The workshop, by the way, went very well and I found several theoretical and experimental talks of much scientific value.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Thomas E. Ward  
Chief Scientist Defense Programs  
U.S. Department of Energy

# TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY  
COLLEGE STATION, TX 77843-3255

July 21, 1995

Mr. Victor H. Reis  
Assistant Secretary of Energy (Defense Programs)  
Department of Energy  
Forrestal Building, Room 4A-019  
Washington, DC 20550

Dear Mr. Secretary,

One of us had occasion to write you on July 17, 1995 concerning what appeared to be inappropriate and possibly illegal behavior by one of your contractual employees, *Dr. Thomas E. Ward*.

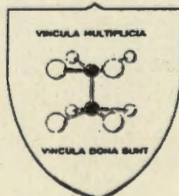
It would appear, in view of information we received today, that there are other, even more bizarre relationships between Dr. Ward and members of what can only be called the pseudo scientific fringe. These relationships should be investigated by the DOE because, as you will see from several recent memoranda, copies of which we enclose, **Dr. Ward's connections and activities are causing the DOE to be represented as a participant and sponsor of some of this pseudo science.**

Please note that Dr. Ward, **and through him the DOE**, are now both connected with: (1) Mr. Joe E. Champion, Jr.; (2) Mr. William Telander and (3) the Philadelphia Project. Let us give you a few facts concerning each of these, after which, we trust, you will give serious thought to the wisdom of continuing to employ Dr. Ward anywhere in the DOE.

1) Mr. (AKA Dr.) Joe E. Champion, Jr., is a notorious con man and swindler, well known to the FBI, CIA, Interpol, etc., and to the criminal justice establishments in Texas and Arizona, in both of which states he had spent considerable time in prison. He has lately professed to have made earth-shaking discoveries in low-temperature nuclear transformations.

2) Mr. William Telander has recently been sentenced in California for investment fraud.

F. Cotton  
W. T. Doherty-Welch Foundation  
Distinguished Professor of Chemistry  
and Director, Laboratory for Molecular  
Structure and Bonding

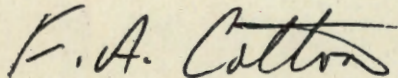


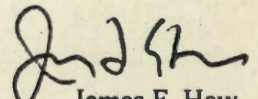
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3) The Philadelphia Project was an arrangement whereby Mr. Telander gave money to Professor John O'M. Bockris, through the intermediary of the Development Foundation of this University, and from which Mr. Champion also benefitted.

Yours sincerely,

  
F. A. Cotton

  
James F. Haw

cc: Dr. Martin Blume, Deputy Director  
Brookhaven National Laboratory  
Mr. Steven M. Sohinki, Director  
Office of Reconfiguration  
Department of Energy

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**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

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*John O'M. Bockris*  
*Distinguished Professor*  
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tel (409) 845-5335  
fax (409) 845-4205

January 6, 1996

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Dr. R. Bowen, President  
Texas A&M University

**FROM:** John O'M. Bockris 10.7.96

**SUBJECT:** State Audit and Ridicule of the Philadelphia Project

I must stress to you (in view of a statement which you may wish to make today) that the work done under this project was entirely serious and novel research. It sprang out of the synthesis of tritium from deuterium first done here in May 1989, published in a refereed journal in 1989 and verified in more than 100 publications.

The aim of the Philadelphia Project work (consecutive to that on tritium) was not particularly to turn mercury into gold but the much broader one of attempting low energy nuclear synthesis of high atomic weight metals, - to do at low energy the transmutations common at high energies since cyclotrons began in the 1950's. Our work was inconclusive.

You will be greatly strengthened in your position that the work done was part of a serious but original and novel program by the following. The Federal Government (Department of Energy) has decided to follow up our work and make a test of some of Champion's ideas. To verify this statement you may wish to call Dr. Tom Ward at DOE (202/586-7255, Fax 202/586-1217).

Five post doctorals are involved: their rights must be protected as well as the University's and mine.

xc: Dr. Charles Lee  
Dr. Robert Kennedy



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11 January, 1995

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Charles Lee  
Dr. Robert Kennedy

FROM: John Bockris

I am sure that we could well go on investigating who said what, and when, in respect to the PHILADELPHIA PROJECT but in my view, one point transcends all.

The point is: Was this a phony piece of work, a Professor "selling out" to a man who, later on, turned out to have acted illegally towards his investors; or was it a genuine piece of frontier research, a part of a program of research begun years earlier and supported by establishment concerns.

I will be brief. Details can always be given.

(1) The most significant piece of work I have done in my career of 700 publications is contained in a 1989 paper in a conventional journal. It reports the conversion of deuterium to tritium WITHIN A METAL LATTICE IN THE COLD.

Now, before 1989, the fusion of deuterium to tritium was thought to be attainable only at  $10^7$  °K in a plasma. For this reason, the publication caused a terrible furore.

IT HAS NOW HAD > 100 REPLICATIONS IN MANY COUNTRIES.

Its significance is clear to any physical scientist. If nuclear changes in lattices do not need  $10^7$  °K, the nuclear future looks greatly different.

(2.) Now, what does one do next? If nuclear reactions involving H, D and T can occur in solid lattices in the cold, then one will want to know if they could occur with heavier atoms ( and indeed this was suggested by the Italian, Borghi, in 1960.)

Thus, when Mr. Champion ( who had proved in earlier work that he could produce tritium) proposed a recipe for high atomic weight nuclear changes in the cold, it seemed wonderful.

I think that you will thus better understand the essence of the genesis of the PHILADELPHIA PROJECT.

When, after a month or two, Mr. Telander began talking nonsense about massive amounts, I was bemused (tritium had been measured in ATOMS PER SEC.) I told him, politely, that his quest was unlikely. - however, he stuck to it - and sticks to it today. He is inspired by the synthetic diamond manufacture at G.E.

In fact, since our work was halted, there have been nine reports of high atomic weight nuclear transformation in the cold, - but in miniscule amounts.

A unit at DOE under Dr. Tom Ward has decided to test out Champion's process for tritium.