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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY

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*From the Minister for Health*

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COMARE REPORT ON SELLAFIELD

The Chairman of the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE) has now approved the final version of their report about the new information on discharges from Sellafield in the 1950s which was not available to the Black Advisory Group. I enclose a copy.

Officials here have been in touch with most of the Departments concerned about publication of the report and circulated an earlier draft. I understand there has been no dissent from the view that the report should be published before the Recess. I therefore propose to announce publication on Tuesday 22 July by way of a written PQ on the lines of the attached draft. I should be grateful for any comments by Friday 18 July.

I am copying this letter to John Biffen, Norman Tebbit, John Wakeham, William Waldegrave, John Selwyn Gummer, Alastair Goodlad, John MacKay, Mark Robinson, Rhodes Boyson, David Trefgarne and David Trippier and also, in view of the sensitivities of Eire and the Isle of Man, to Timothy Renton and Giles Shaw.

BARNEY HAYHOE

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DRAFT INSPIRED QUESTION

To ask the Secretary of State for Social Services when the Committee on the Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE) will complete its report on new information relating to discharges from Sellafield that has become available since publication of Sir Douglas Black's Report.

SUGGESTED ANSWER

COMARE has submitted this report to me and it is being published today. I have arranged for copies to be placed in the library.

The Government is giving urgent consideration to the report and any necessary action will be taken.





ENV. AFFAIRS; Leakage at Sellafield:  
July 1980