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news release

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For Immediate Release

### COMPUTER ACCESSED AT LOS ALAMOS

Los Alamos, N. M., August 11, 1983 -- Late in June, 1983, an unauthorized person<sup>small</sup> gained access to an<sup>VAX</sup> unclassified computer at Los Alamos National Laboratory that was connected to TELENET, a commercial computer communications network. The entry was detected by the Laboratory's security system and the incident was reported to the Department of Energy. ~~Los Alamos National Laboratory is operated by the University of California for DOE.~~ The incident is under investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Los Alamos TELENET-connected computer processes only <sup>general</sup> routine unclassified, nonsensitive data. The Laboratory's computer network is partitioned into three compartments -- ~~unclassified~~ routine correspondence, reports, etc.; a compartment for sensitive information, such as payroll records and personnel records; and a classified section.

It is not possible for anyone to gain ~~unauthorized~~ <sup>through the telephone system</sup> access to the ~~two~~ segments of the Los Alamos network that handle classified information and sensitive personnel data. ~~The electronic connections to do so do not exist.~~

The unauthorized access to the Laboratory's open, TELENET system was

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VERIFIED UNCLASSIFIED  
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Department of Energy, required before public release

Name/Org: Los Alamos National Laboratory Date: 8/12/83

Guidance: NA (Write NA if none)

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detected by elements of the Laboratory's security system that watches for such activity. The entry was ~~immediately~~ identified and confirmed as unauthorized. This was possible through the use of attentive system managers and audit trails -- key elements in the detection of the unauthorized access. Information developed through the Laboratory's Security Division was given to the DOE, TELENET officials, and the FBI.

*data, and no sensitive*  
There was no damage to Los Alamos computers or ~~information in the~~  
*information was compromised*  
~~commercial network that was accessed. Laboratory security officials say~~ The intruder created a new account in the system, which facilitated entry, and changed privilege on other accounts. These accounts were immediately restored to their proper state and a new program created by the intruder, was deleted immediately after it was executed.

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