WEATHER DELAYS SHUTTLE LIFTOFF

Flight Is Delayed for at Least 24 Hours After False Alarm Over a Pressure Valve

By WARREN E. LEARY

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla., Aug. 1 --Threatening weather today forced another postponement of the planned 42nd space shuttle flight. The launching of the Atlantis shuttle,

postponed twice before by technical problems, was put off today because of worsening weather around the Kennedy Space Center. The weather at the beginning of the launching period was extremely good, but there was a delay while flight controllers checked out a suspected problem in the shuttle's cabin pressurization system.

"We were looking very good at the beginning of the window, but after the first half hour, it deteriorated rapidly," said Staff Sgt. Salinda Larabee, an Air Force meteorologist. "The problem was the threat of rain showers and, to some extent high winds." some extent, high winds.'

More Computer Problems

The delay was to be for 24 hours, but late this evening as engineers prepared for a launching attempt on Friday, they noticed a problem in an electronic data processing unit. Technicians

became concerned about erratic performance in one of the 23 units that link the shuttle's main computers with major system components. This processing unit converts and formats computer signals and is located in the rear of the crew compartment

Mitch Barnes, a spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, said technicians later isolated the problem in a backup part of the unit. "The board that was causing the problem was a spare not being used on this flight, so we can go on without it," he said. Flight officials continued the countdown.

Testing a Pressure Valve

Before the launching was canceled today, space agency officials had been concerned about showers at the begin-ning of the period and the possibility of thunderstorms and high winds in the afternoon, Sergeant Larabee said.

The initial delay in today's launching attempt came as the five-member



Adamson, Col. John E. Blaha and Dr. Shannon W. Lucid, rear.

Crew members of the space shuttle Atlantis preparing for liftoff yesterday before threatening weather canceled the flight. From left were Comdr. Michael A. Baker, G. David Low, Col. James C.

checks before the mission to launch a communications satellite. Controllers could not verify if one of two pressurecontrol valves in the shuttle's cabin was operating properly and several attempts by the astronauts to open and close the valve were inconclusive.

While engineers conducted pressure tests that eventually indicated that a faulty warning sensor was the problem, the weather changed for the worse and Robert Sieck, the launching direcwas conducting last-minute tor, decided to call off the attempt.

The crew of the Atlantis is to put a fourth Tracking and Data Relay Satellite into orbit 22,300 miles above the Earth. The satellite will complete a \$3 billion communications network designed to funnel data from other satel-lites back to earth. The system allows almost continuous communications between the ground and spacecraft in lower orbits that produce large amounts of data, like the Hubble Space Telescope, space shuttles and military spy satellites.

Baby Deaths Found High in Rural Areas

Infant mortality rates are as high in nonurban areas of America as in the nation as a whole, but the problems there are often ignored, the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation says

in a new report.

The report, "Infant Survival in Rural America," is the first to document the distinct problems contributing to high rates of infant mortality in nonmetropolitan areas, where one in five of all infant deaths in the United States occurs, the foundation said.

According to the report, more than 8,000 babies born in 1988 in nonmetropolitian areas — towns of less than 20,000 people and in rural areas — died before reaching their first birthdays. The infant mortality rate in these ar eas was 9.8 deaths for 1,000 live births, about equal to 10 deaths for 1,000 rate in metropolitan areas, the same as the national rate.

In some nonurban areas, the report said, infant mortality reaches far higher levels than in cities.

For example, the 21 rural counties in Alabama had an infant mortality rate of 14.6 in 1988 as against New York City's rate of 13.2. Alabama's infant mortality rate for small towns was also higher, at 13.6.

High Rate in Harlem

In selected neighborhoods in inner cities, the infant mortality rates can far exceed those in metropolitan areas, which the report identified as cities and their suburbs. In central Harlem, for example, there are about 23 deaths for every 1.000 births.

In issuing the report, to be made public Monday, the March of Dimes joins critics of Healthy Start, a campaign President Bush proposed earlier this year to attack infant mortality in 10 sites with high infant death rates. The sites have not yet been selected.

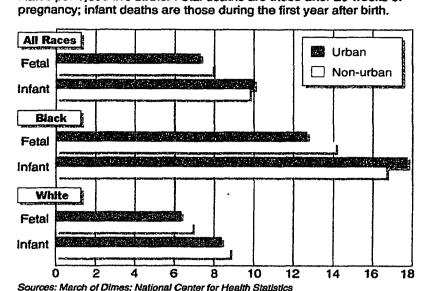
The needs of mothers and babies in rural America are being overlooked,' said Dr. Jennifer L. Howse, president of the March of Dimes. "Rural areas are still very much underserved in health care, especially prenatal care, and they are under-represented in visi-

The March of Dimes report recommended that at least three rural areas be included in Healthy Start. It also urged Congress not to cut any of the \$686 million earmarked for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant program. The money can be used for new renatal health programs.

The foundation also called for an additional \$70 million to improve prenatal programs at the approximately 600 federally financed community and Yet this is often the sad reality o

Infant Mortality

Rates per 1,000 live births. Fetal deaths are those after 20 weeks of



The New York Times

Complaints that rural America is being overlooked.

migrant health centers and a \$40 million increase for the National Health Service Corps. The corps provides incentives to doctors and other health providers to work in remote areas where health services are scarce.

Problems Are the Same

Dr. Howse said that many of the problems that contribute to infant mortality are the same in rural and urban areas: poverty, illiteracy and inade-quate housing. But some of the prob-lems, such as a lack of transportation and the shortage of health care provid ers, is particularly acute in rural areas In addition, access to specialized serv ices such as genetic screening, counseling and treatment to prevent birth defects is even more limited.

"Pregnant women should not have to travel 50 miles or more to get prenatal Dr. Howse said. "A mother care. should not have to travel more than an hour to bring her sick baby to a doctor

health care in rural America today and as a result, babies die.

Kay Johnson, a senior health policy adviser at the foundation and the author of the report, said rural areas are often overlooked because smaller pop-ulations mean fewer babies are born and thus, fewer babies die. But while the actual numbers are small in comparison to cities, the ratio of births to deaths is just as high.

The report's findings are based on figures compiled in 1988 by the National Center for Health Statistics. They are the most recent reliable figures available to assess rural areas in de-

Ms. Johnson said she first studied nonmetropolitan areas and then looked at the truly rural areas. She found that more than three-quarters of the deaths in nonmetropolitan areas occurred in the most sparsely settled rural communities. In cities the highest mortality rates are often found in the most densely populated neighborhoods.

In 22 states, rural areas had infant mortality rates at or above the national average, the study found. In Missouri, for example, the 68 rural counties had a combined infant mortality rate of 16.7 deaths for 1,000 births as against 10.1 for the state as a whole and 10.7 for all nonmetropolitan counties in the state.

The study found that birth defects and accidents caused slightly more deaths in nonmetropolitan areas, while low birth weight and premature birth were more prevalent in metropolitan

There were a number of other find-

9About two-thirds of all nonmetropolitan counties have no prenatal care. ¶Rural families are more likely than those in urban areas to be uninsured.

¶Infants born in rural areas appear

to have a slight survival advantage in the first month of life over infants born in metropolitan areas.

9Stillbirth or miscarriage is more

common among people in nonurban areas, particulary blacks.

And from one month to one year of age, infants in rural areas have a higher death rate than babies living in cities, 4 against 3.5.

Midair Collision Kills Pilots

SILICA, Kan., Aug. 1 (AP) - Two small cargo planes under contract to United Parcel Service collided near this town Wednesday, killing the two pilots. The planes, which carried no passengers, had taken off from Wichita Mid-Continent Airport shortly before the crash, said Jerome Walburn, assistant air traffic manager at the Wich-

Pulled From Extinction, Condors to Be Freed

Continued From Page Al

- the California and the Andean, of which several thousand still exist in South America. But the story of the California condor, formally Gymnogyps californianus, has been an especially dispiriting chronicle of the human species' cruel dominion over the man species' cruel dominion over the animal world. Fossil evidence shows a year, but scientists found that breedthat by the end of the Pleistocene ep- ing could be accelerated by removing California condors ranged over much laid, inducing the mother to lay anof North America, as far to the east as other. Florida and upstate New York. When Mr. Mexico.

But by the turn of the 20th century,

remained. They were not given legal the two released chicks die. protection under California law until 1953, when there were fewer than 100 left. In 1967, they appeared on the Federal Government's first list of endan-

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

FRIDAY IN NEW YORK

5:30 AM-10 AM BRIGHT&

EARLY with Gregg Whiteside & Ed Stanton: Timely information from The New York Times and

timeless music including Suk's Towards a New Life

10 AM-6 PM Music by Vivaldi, Strauss, Berlioz, M. Haydn,

Shostakovich, Beethoven, Delius and Berlioz. Highlight: Shostakovich: The Gadfly:

Gallop and Dance, 2-3 PM; Hosts: Bob Jones (10AM-3PM); Lloyd Moss (3-6 PM)

features from New York Times correspondents and columnists,

including book reviewer Michiko

NEW YORK AT SIX: News and

7 PM CHASE MANHATTAN PRESENTS OPERA FROM THE WORLD TRADE CENTER

8 PM GTE PRESENTS

Symphony No. 4

featuring members of The New York City Opera: highlights

SYMPHONY HALL: Brahms:

9 PM Eigar: Cello Concerto;

Mozart: Quintet in E-flat for

Piano and Winds (K. 452); Tchaikovsky: Francesca da

Kakutani

poisoning or hunters' bullets.

The elaborate recovery plan has cost more than \$10 million, but the captive breeding at the two zoos has far exceeded expectations. In all, 25 chicks have been hatched since 1988, only one of which has died, last week. ch, about 100,000 to 200,000 years ago, the egg from the nest just after it was

Mr. Kiff said a central concern was the first European explorers reached preserving a full genetic pool to prethe West Coast, the birds were comvent inbreeding. Therefore, the two mon from Canada to Baja California in chicks selected for release have at least five siblings each from the same parents, and the siblings will be kept in no more than a few hundred condors the zoo as a genetic hedge in the event

In a few weeks, the chicks will be taken to the Sespe Condor Sanctuary, a 35,000-acre tract owned by the United gered species. Concern turned to crisis States Forest Service in the rugged, in 1985, when six of the wild birds, dusty mountains of central Ventura which by that time were closely moni-

 ${\tt CLASSICALRADIO}$

HIGHLIGHTS:

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

9 AM Bach: Brandenburg Concerto

No. 2; Chopin: Ballade No. 1;

10 AM Berlioz: Les Troyens: Royal

Concerto No. 2 (K. 417); Rodrigo:

11 AM Haydn: Symphony No. 27; Rachmaninoff: The Rock; Dvorak:

NOON Elgar: Froissart Overture;

Handel: Organ Concerto No. 4, Op. 4; Falla: Three Cornered Hat: Three

Dances; Debussy: Prelude to the

1:30 PM SATURDAY AFTERNOON

AT THE OPERA: Boito's "Mefistofele" with Samuel Ramey, Placido Domingo, Eva Marton;

Giuseppe Patane conducting. Sponsored by The New York City

PRESENTS THE MUSIC MOUNTAIN CHAMBER SERIES: Mozart: Quarter

No. 19 (K. 465); Respighi: Il Tramonto (The Sunset); Dvorak: Quartet No. 12; Franciscan String

10 PM THE LISTENING ROOM with

Robert Sherman: Liszt: Piano

Concerto No. 1; Mendelssohn:

Four Pieces for Violin and Piano;

Wolf-Ferrari: Idillio-Concertino: Ibert: Paris; Poulenc: Concerto for

Variaciones Concertantes; Respighi:

5 PM PRUDENTIAL SECURITIES

Quartet; RoseMarie Freni,

Two Pianos and Orchestra

mezzo-soprano

MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS AT 7:35 A.M. LISTEN TO "THE CULTURE PAGE"
SPONSORED BY ITT

woxr 963 EX

Ravel: Overture de feerie

Musique para un jardin

Romance in F minor

Afternoon of a Faun

Hunt & Storm: Mozart: Hor

tored, suddenly disappeared. Others natural fledgling process, in which the were found dead of lead or cyanide young condor normally stays in the nest for the first three months, then jumps out and stays nearby for another three or four months before flying off. The process has been used successfully with the closely related Andean condors in Colombia.

So when the two chicks reach three months, they will be placed on "hack" towers, large platforms mounted on telephone polls. A protective net will months. Uncontaminated food, in the form of stillborn calves, will be provided by biologists. The birds seem to grow up better in groups, so a few Andean condor chicks will be put into

the wild at the same time.

The netting will be removed next December or January. "We're using the Montessori approach — we'll let them go when they want," said Mr.

Kiff who is curator of ornithology at Kiff, who is curator of ornithology at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History and director of the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zo-

Critics Now Excited

Skeptics have asked what will preent the birds from suffering the same ate as previous wild ones, considering that the habitat is similar or ever worse because of new suburban devel opment and "ranchettes" in the mountains north of Los Angeles.

To protect them after release, scientists will closely monitor the two birds with special radio tracking devices and return them to Sespe should they wander too far. Shooting a condor is a Federal felony that can bring a fine of up to \$20,000 and two years in jail. But the bigger fear is that they might consume carrion tainted with pesticides or lead pellets from hunters.

David Klinger, spokesman for Mar-vin Plenert, Pacific regional director of the fish and wildlife service in Portland, Ore., said that efforts were being made to have hunters in the area remove wounded animals so that the birds do not consume lead fragments from bullets. He said the agency was also asking ammunition manufacturers to produce copper bullets.

The roundup of birds in 1987 stirred

an angry protest from the National Audubon Society, which withdrew from participating in the condor recovery program. But today Glenn E. Olson. western regional vice president of the society in Sacramento, Calif., said that the roundup was a "wise" We are very excited about the idea of restoring the birds to the wild and that it has gone so quickly," he said.

It is not known for certain how long condors live in the wild, but Mr. Kiff said that some may survive as long as parrots, about 100 years.





Chocuyens, right, a California condor chick, is one of two condors that are to be released into the wild this fall as an experiment.

Health Official Concedes Mishandling of Inquiry

By PHILIP J. HILTS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 — Dr. Bernadine Healy, the new director of the National Institutes of Health, admitted today that she had done a poor job of investigating a misconduct case at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, where she formerly worked.

In an angry confrontation with Representatives John D. Dingell, Democrat of Michigan, and Norman F. Lent, County, who are looking into the way the institutes investigates misconduct, she conceded that the inquiry she conducted at the clinic in 1990 was "sloppy and inadequate.'

Series of Unexpected Actions

Questions about Dr. Healy's handling of the Cleveland case were among the issues that have been raised by members of the House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations after a series of unexpected actions by Dr. Healy involving the agency's Office of Scientific Integrity since she took office about three months ago. Last month, Dr. Healy excused her-

self from making any decisions on questions of misconduct brought before the scientific integrity office. The questions have come up at a

ime when the scientific community is facing questions over misconduct and how well it is policing itself. Assertions of misconduct, or failure to investigate a number of prominent researchers and their institutions, including the

The Office of Scientific Integrity is nearing the end of an investigation of two celebrated cases, that of Dr. Robert Gallo, a co-discoverer of the cause of AIDS, and that involving Dr. Thereza Imanishi-Kari and Dr. David Balti-Immediately after that incident, Dr. Immediately after that incident after the property after that incident after the property after the propert ert Gallo, a co-discoverer of the cause

Congressman's Assertions

Mr. Dingell said he thought Dr. Hea-

misconduct allegations." The office's conversations with the whistleblower principal investigator, Dr. Suzanne Dr. Healy then told the chief of the Hadley, was not only in charge of the investigations into the Imanishi-Kari and Gallo cases but also into the investigation in which Dr. Healy had a part at the Cleveland Clinic.

Dr. Healey staunchly defended her-self today, saying the investigative of-tice needed to be reorganized to give the institutes' investigations more credibility. Scientists had often gotten New York Republican from Nassau the impression that the office's procedures were unfair.

At today's hearing, Representative Dingell gave this account of Dr. Healy's actions in the Imanishi-Kari and Gallo cases

Dr. Healy argued strongly against

The head of the health institutes admits being lax with a colleague.

he investigative office's decision that Dr. Ursula Storb, who was investigating the Imanishi-Kari case, should step down. The investigators made the rec ommendation after they discovered that Dr. Storb had written a letter of misconduct, have been leveled against recommendation for Dr. Imanishi-Kari before the investigation into the faking of data in a 1986 paper co-signed by Dr. manishi-Kari and Dr. Baltimore. On reading the draft of the report of

the investigation of Dr. Gallo, Dr. Healy demanded that Dr. Hadley rewrite saying it "read like a novel." Dr.

Healy sent an N.I.H. lawyer, Robert B. Lanman, to investigate Dr. Hadley, saying that she may have become "too ly had "derailed two critical investiga- friendly" with the researcher who had tions, demoralized and emasculated the O.S.I., and made a mockery of the O.S.I.'s independence in dealing with turn over the notes from her phone would stand.

Dr. Healy then told the chief of the investigative office to "rein in" Dr. Hadley and directed that she make no more decisions on the Gallo or Baltimore cases and that Dr. Hadley's files

be removed from her office.

After these actions, Dr. Hadley resigned, and Dr. Healy said the resignation was of her "own free will."

Attack on Office Suggested

When Mr. Dingell's staff members began to speak to agency officials about these actions, the staff members suggested that there was a possibility that the director's actions constituted an attack the investigative office and in particular Dr. Hadley.

The investigation took place when Dr. Healy was the head of research at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. A researcher there was acccused by a colleague of having made false statements in an application to the Federal Government for money to support his

research. Her review ended in a finding of no misconduct, but she said in her defense today that the poor job she did haunted her and that she had asked a second panel to look into the matter. That panel said a full investigation was warranted and that investigation overturned her original verdict.

A preliminary report of the N.I.H.'s investigation in the case has concluded that the researcher did commit scientific misconduct by making false statements in a grant application. The report also strongly criticized Dr. Hea-ly's first inquiry into the matter.

Dr. Healy said today that her investigation at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation comprised a single meeting of three hours, during which she did not look at all the evidence and did not interview the whistleblower but did talk to the accused.

In today's hearing, she angrily refused to back away from her actions in which she forced Dr. Hadley to resign. She said that she had taken those actions before her recusal and that they

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