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National Desk: 1 **BRIEFING: ON OSHA OPENING**

By James F. Clarity and Warren Weaver Jr. 167 words 28 September 1985 The New York Times **NYTF** Late City Final Edition

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Much to his apparent chagrin, Labor Secretary Bill Brock is having a hard time filling one of the most important positions in the department: head of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Officials say at least three people have turned down the job.

Three more names are now being circulated at the agency and the White House: William Miller of Akron, an executive with the Goodyear Company who is said to be the current front-runner; Bruce Swanson, regional administrator of OSHA in California, and John Prendergrass, an official with the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company.

A key obstacle for several candidates considering the position, agency officials say, has been concern that the Office of Management and Budget will interfere with agency decisions. Some OSHA officials say that the budget office, in an effort to help American businesses hold down their costs, has sometimes overruled safety steps ordered by the agency.

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