

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

Office of the Vice President for Research and Associate Provost for Graduate Studies
College Station, Texas 77843-3121
E-mail: rak@rgs.tamu.edu
(409) 845-8585 FAX (409) 845-1855

Robert A. Kennedy
Vice President and
Associate Provost

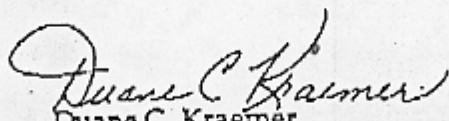
January 31, 1994

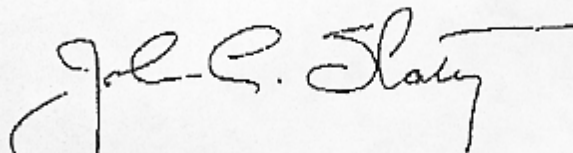
Dear Dr. Kennedy,

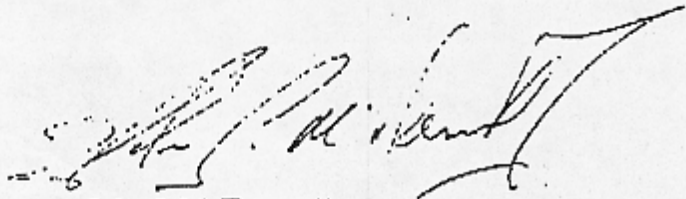
Attached is the report of the Committee of Inquiry into Scientific Misconduct charges brought against Dr. John O'M. Bockris regarding the "Philadelphia Project."

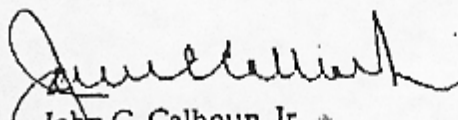
It is the unanimous decision of this committee that a Committee of Investigation is not warranted.

Respectfully Submitted,


Duane C. Kraemer
Associate Dean
College of Veterinary Medicine.


John C. Slattery
Professor
Chemical Engineering


John J. McDermott
Distinguished Professor
Philosophy


John C. Calhoun, Jr.
Distinguished Professor, Emeritus
Petroleum Engineering



January 31, 1994

Report: Committee of Inquiry
Re: Allegation of Scientific Misconduct against J. O'M. Bockris

I. Conclusions and Recommendations:

With regard to the charges against Professor John O'M. Bockris, pertaining to misconduct in science in proposing, conducting, or reporting of research in the "Philadelphia Project", the Committee of Inquiry unanimously finds there to be no evidence to sustain these charges. Consequently, the Committee holds Professor Bockris to be exonerated of these charges and does not recommend an "investigation".

It is recommended that the members of the Texas A&M University community allow the processes of experimentation and peer review of published data to resolve any scientific issues.

II. Charge to the Inquiry Committee:

- 1.) to conduct an inquiry into the allegations of scientific misconduct submitted by Dr. W. Michael Kemp, Associate Dean, College of Science, against Dr. John O'M. Bockris relating to the Philadelphia Project.
- 2.) to ensure that all policies and procedures, as well as the highest research standards, were followed.
- 3.) to guarantee Dr. Bockris's academic freedom and to protect his rights to due process.

III. The Charges against Dr. John O'M. Bockris:

....that Dr. Bockris knowingly and intentionally conspired with Mr. Telander to obscure the true intention of the research related to the Philadelphia Project and later, by the omission of action, allowed his collaborators, Mr. Telander and Mr. Champion, to exaggerate the results of his work on this project. This exaggeration resulted in the reputation of Texas A&M University being used to legitimize and to lend validity to the project as a means of encouraging investment in the Philadelphia Project.

IV. Process of the Inquiry:

The inquiry was conducted by following the guidelines and restrictions of the Texas A&M University Policy and Procedures Manual, Classification Number 2.3.10, entitled Ethics in Research and Scholarship, which is presented in attachment 1.

The Committee of Inquiry members, appointed by Dr. Robert A. Kennedy, Vice president for Research and Associate Provost for Graduate Studies at the request of Interim President E. Dean Gage, are:

Duane C. Kraemer, Associate Dean, Chair
College of Veterinary Medicine

John C. Calhoun, Jr., Distinguished Professor of Petroleum Engineering,
Emeritus

John J. McDermott, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy & Humanities

John C. Slattery, Professor
Department of Chemical Engineering

Secretarial assistance for the Committee was provided by Mrs. Sandra Legg.

The Committee was briefed by Dr. Kennedy and Ms. Stubbs on November 29, 1993 and instructed to present a report within 60 days. A 15 day extension was requested and granted due to difficulties in scheduling of interviews as a result of the holidays, travel schedules and at the request of Dr. Bockris because of a change of attorneys.

A more restrictive definition of Misconduct in Science, than that in the TAMU manual, is contained in a report of a National Academy of Sciences Panel on Scientific Responsibility and the Conduct of Research, (The Ethical Dimensions of the Biological Sciences, Ed. R. E. Bulger, E. Heitman and S. J. Reiser, Cambridge University Press 1993, pp. 106-114) the relevant portions of which are presented in attachment 2.

Activities of the Inquiry Committee

The Committee examined all of the available memoranda, letters and forms related to establishment of the gift account at the Texas A&M Development Foundation, and they are on file in the office of the Vice President for Research. These included some records pertaining to the university audit of the account. Two tapes containing recordings of portions of the interview, from which the charges originated, were listened to, however their quality was very poor. A segment of one of the tapes, which was deemed most critical to the inquiry, was enhanced so that it could be listened to by the Committee. All available letters and memoranda exchanged between Bockris, Hall, Telander, and Champion during conduct of the research and dissemination of the results were examined, as were a least 18 letters addressed to the Committee and 28 news articles related to the subject of the inquiry. The Committee has examined more than 1000 pages of relevant material. Five persons were interviewed by the Committee. They were, in the order of their interviews:

Dr. Michael Kemp, Associate Dean, College of Science
Mr. Ken Durham, Development Foundation (retired)
Mr. Lane Stephenson, Deputy Director, Public Information
Dr. Michael Hall, Professor and Head, Department of Chemistry
Dr. John O'M. Bockris, Distinguished Professor, Chemistry

Dr. Bockris was represented during his interview by attorney Mr. Gaines West and the Committee of Inquiry was represented by TAMU System Associate General Counsel Genevieve G. Stubbs. One person, Dr. Dawn Wakefield, declined an invitation to be interviewed by the Committee.

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V. Findings:

A. Element One of Charges

Based on both the written record of events and conversations with those interviewed, the Committee finds that Dr. Bockris was open about the topic of research. The Committee found evidence that, prior to the acceptance of the gift, the head of the department and others in the administration had received information about the nature of the research, which in part cited the production of "precious metals".

The topic for the proposed research accepted by Mr. Durham by his letter of April 28, 1992, to Mr. Telander was "solid state reactions". This title for the project was given in a memorandum dated April 15, 1992, from Dr. Bockris to the Department Head, Dr. Hall, the purpose of the memorandum having been to summarize the "substance of our conversation" about the conditions under which the gift could be accepted.

A letter of April 8, 1992, from Mr. Telander was addressed to Mr. Champion at the Chemistry Department of Texas A&M University, and a copy of the letter was stamped into the Office of the Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs on April 20, 1992, with an attached slip indicating that it came from the Interim Dean, College of Sciences. A header on the copy indicates that it was in the Office of the Chemistry Department Head on April 16, 1992. The letter refers to the potential production of "precious metals".

B. Element Two of the Charges

The information indicates that Dr. Bockris was more conservative than the sponsors in his interpretation of research results and that he cautioned them about overstating research results and/or their own relationships with Texas A&M University. These cautions covered a period of time from the beginning of the project to the present. Signed summaries of meetings of the project group in May, 1992, contain statements, such as "Joe Champion may be reporting to Mr. Telander 'successful' phenomena which, in our opinion, would not be taken to indicate transmutation by a visiting Committee."

Later, in September, 1992, a Bockris letter to a Telander representative said, in part "The results of these researches are radically different from those expected from traditional theory. They are known in detail to most of my colleagues. It would be incorrect to state 'the weight of the University is behind them'." Dr. Bockris sent letters of clarification and correction to people whom he thought might have been misled by statements of Telander and others. In January, 1993, a successful effort was made by Dr. Bockris to prevent a planned announcement by Mr. Telander that might have been premature or misleading. Dr. Bockris also provided a list of corrections to the editors of a book by Mr. Champion and asked that the list be placed into an addendum or be changed in any future editions.

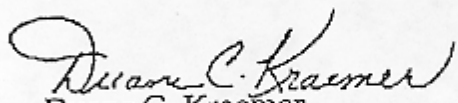
C. Element Three of Charges:

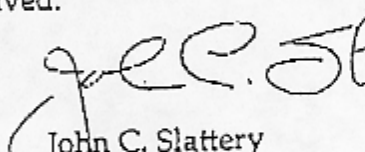
With respect to the adherence to policies and procedures by Dr. Bockris regarding the Philadelphia Project, no allegation is provided to the Committee, nor does any information available to the Committee suggest non-adherence to the broad aspects of applicable University policies and procedures.

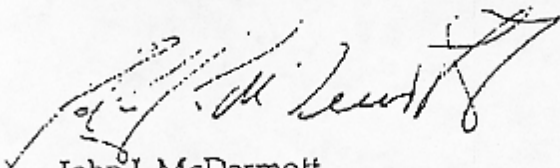
D. Protection of Academic Freedom and Due Process

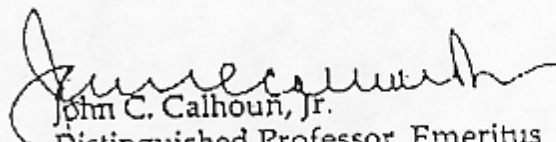
The Committee conducted its activities informally and recorded none of its interviews. The Committee granted Dr. Bockris the privilege of presenting general explanatory material about his research and received copies of those documents he perceived to be relevant. The Committee addressed only the specific charges and addressed no other issues.

In deliberating the specifics of the allegations against Dr. Bockris, the Committee has taken care to remain un-influenced by the inferences of press reports dealing with "alchemy" or the published opinions of faculty who have reacted to such reports. The Committee placed primary emphasis upon the record of events that occurred in 1992, when the Philadelphia Project was being approved by the University and its results were being discussed by the principals involved.


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