

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH 875 NORTH RANDOLPH STREET SUITE 1425 ARLINGTON VA 22203-1995

IN REPLY REFER TO:

BDIG 011 28 FEB 07

Dr. "Chip" Rutledge chipr@purdue.edu

Dear Dr. Rutledge:

I am looking forward to discussing with you, tomorrow, the scientific research misconduct allegations involving Office of Naval Research (ONR) grant N00014-05-1-0459, "Using Acoustic Cavitation to Produce Thermonuclear Fusion" awarded to UCLA with a subgrant to Purdue University. Specifically, the complainant alleges that participant Dr. Rusi Taleyarkhan, Purdue University, fabricated results of "bubble fusion" research. The complainant further alleges that Purdue University officials failed to comply with contractual requirements, when they became aware of these allegations, by administratively mishandling their inquiry and/or investigation.

We are aware of numerous news articles concerning this subject. Many mention an inquiry that was conducted at Purdue University. Most recent articles mention the possibility that two inquiries have been conducted. Dr. Peccei recommended and authorized my direct contact with you in an effort to eliminate the "middle man." As result, in pursuit of resolving this matter, I need to ask if Purdue University has already conducted one or more inquiries into allegations of scientific misconduct concerning the "bubble fusion" grant, and if so to please send me a copy of the report(s) and supporting documentation. If not, we request you initiate an inquiry into Dr. Rusi Taleyarkhan's alleged research misconduct and "bubble fusion" fabrications. For your convenience, I am enclosing copies of federal, Department of Defense, ONR, and UCLA guidance for handling scientific research misconduct allegations, a complete list of the complainant's allegations, and copies of "bubble fusion" news articles.

If you have questions, I hope tomorrow's phone conversation will help clarify. I can be reached by calling (703)696-0989 or at email address: adamsh@onr.navy.mil.

Inspector General

Enclosures (3)