

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Monday, July 21, 1986

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. Many of you may remember the alarm spread by the fabled character known as Chicken Little. "The sky is falling, the sky is falling," Chicken Little cried. Nothing so dramatic, or drastic, is happening, but there is concern among some scientists that the ozone layer in the Earth's atmosphere may be shrinking. The ozone layer serves as a shield to protect all life on Earth from overexposure to ultraviolet rays from the Sun.

Is the ozone disappearing? Today we'll be talking with two scientists who are headed south to take some tests that may help us learn more about the situation. The scientists are Robert deZafra, a physicist, and Philip Solomon, an astronomer, both on the faculty at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. They will soon be near the South Pole, in Antarctica, as part of a larger scientific expedition. How soon will you be leaving, Dr. deZafra?

Dr. Solomon, how bad is the ozone depletion?

INTERVIEW DRS. DE ZAFRA AND SOLOMON:

- Outline nature of the problem
- Outline history of the problem
- Worst-case scenario
- Balance of nature and how humans change the balance
- Methods of measuring ozone and changes
- Detail entire 1986 mission: who else etc?
- Improvement seen with instruments in space
- Should public be worried?

We'll take a short break now. When we return, we'll be talking about the preparations the Stony Brook team is making to live in the world's iciest terrain. Please stay tuned.

--- MORE ---

13:00
14:00

in the Air

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi. I'm Al Oickle, and I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with two scientists who soon will be headed off to ~~the~~ Antarctica to study an intriguing problem in our atmosphere. Dr. Robert deZafra is a physicist who will be departing in mid-August. I haven't seen any airline ads for flights to Antarctica, Dr. deZafra, so I don't know how to get there. What's your intended route?

Dr. Solomon, you will be flying to New Zealand and the Antarctic in October. You will be in the South Polar region during the period of long daylight, won't you?

INTERVIEW DRS. DE ZAFRA AND SOLOMON:

- How did Stony Brook become involved in this project?
- Detailed description of SUSB equipment:
 - * what it does
 - * who made it
 - * how it is used normally (Mauna ~~Lea~~ **EW**)
- How the SUSB team functions (who does what?)
- How will research results be analyzed? Shared?
- What lies ahead?

~~27:30~~
29:00

OUTRO

####

**UWyo
NOA
JAL**