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FUNDRAISING PARTY FOR DR. RADTKE - APRIL 22, 1983

Taped public statements by retired Head Deputy Forester
Arthur M. Arndt:

I was formerly Klaus' immediate superior. I never got any support like this when I was a forester or I would have stuck my neck out more than I had. This would have probably been the only reason why I would because not too many people really show support when you work hard. I put in 27 years with the County and each day was a battle to keep the forestry program going. I would like to make this comment...two comments in support of what you said (question by audience) maybe emphasise the future...the future of forestry and fire fighting. Klaus, Dr. Radtke, was at the point or we in forestry were at the point where we could predict or Klaus could predict, Dr. Radtke could predict (emphasis added) where the fires are going to be. And this knowledge is extremely important if you know where you can marshall your forces. And he knew how the fire is going to burn, he could determine where and why, he knew where the fire is going to slow up, where he could put them out at night. Its a technical process that he developed. It should not be lost (emphasis added). This is the kind...this is as far as I am concerned that is not as important though as Dr. Radtke is. In my long association with Dr. Radtke I have come to the conclusion that he is the most professional of all the foresters I ever worked with. I have been in forestry over 30 years... he is more professional than I am. I am a bureaucrat. Sorry to say but I had to be to survive. So, the future of forestry and fire fighting rests in the hands of people like Dr. Radtke. I can't say too much and the individual must be saved. I'll be glad to lateron answer any questions you may have and what the process was. I think pretty much...you are getting a lot of accurate information, mine is mostly personal.

There was harassment. There was harassment of me for supporting Dr. Radtke and there was really .. I don't know how to say this but the harassment for Dr. Radtke was...I don't think any one of you would have taken it...It must have been pure dedication on his part to take it the way he did. I hate to say this much but I had to say it (very emotional)."

Mr. Hill (Santa Monica Mountains Residents Association and M.C):
"Thank you very much, we appreciate it Art. ..."

AM Arndt

MAY 7, 1983