

INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS
MT SAN ANTONIO, CA

RELEASE: PUBLIC NEWS RELEASE NO. 5
DATE: September 15, 2026
SUBJECT: Mount Baldy Tunnel Collapse and Institute Reorganization

PUBLIC NEWS RELEASE NO. 5
MOUNT BALDY TUNNEL COLLAPSE

TEN INSTITUTE PERSONNEL CONFIRMED DEAD; ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE REVISED

The Institute for Environmental Systems Analysis confirms that a tunnel collapse occurred in the main underground section of the Mount Baldy Complex. Ten Institute personnel were killed. The affected portion of the complex has been removed from normal use while structural review and recovery work continue.

The deceased are Aileen Monsanto; Xiaopeng Wang; Erika Andersson, Ph.D.; Cameron Shermer; Joey McRee; Maria Lopez Obredor; Dillon Stipkus; Valerie Hoffelstadt; Alison Wonderbacher; and Mallory Dentenkopf. McRee, normally assigned to Midwest concrete and aggregate operations, was visiting Mount Baldy at the time of the incident.

Director Howard Stonecipher and Michael Mueller, Department Chief for Intelligence and Counterintelligence, sustained minor injuries. Dr. Bogdan B. Bogdanoff, Psy.D., D.D.S., DVM, PharmD, M.S., Esq., Operations Officer, was involved in the collapse but was not injured.

The Institute is not assigning a cause at this time. Review of the failed tunnel section, surrounding rock and structural systems, construction records, and access history is ongoing. No speculative explanation will be released in advance of that work.

The personnel losses required immediate organizational changes. Several positions formerly occupied by the deceased have been abolished rather than filled directly. Other functions have been consolidated, and a limited number of new appointments have been made to restore essential research, security, engineering, and operational continuity.

CURRENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

Magnus Morel, Ph.D., has been appointed Department Chief, Research. Research now includes the Institute's general research and field personnel. A parallel Fission Programs branch is led by Conrad Vale, Ph.D., Chief, Fission Programs.

Michael Mueller remains Department Chief, Intelligence and Counterintelligence. Eleanor V. Marsh serves as Chief, Intelligence, and Graham T. Kessler serves as Chief, Counterintelligence.

Michael Bledsoe has been appointed Department Chief, Program Security and reports directly to the Director.

Dr. Bogdan B. Bogdanoff remains Operations Officer. Institute Security Forces Command, Aviation, Offshore/Maritime, the Institute Engineering Corps, and Mallory Totenkopf in his additional duty as Master at Arms report through Bogdanoff.

Steven P. Hoosier commands Institute Security Forces Command. Daniel "Peanutbutter" Sullenberger remains Department Chief, Aviation. John "Ruger" Smith commands the Institute Engineering Corps.

Operations now reports directly to the Director and is administered by Judith V. Morrow, Secretary, Operations. Administrative, facilities, concrete, athletic-site, reservoir, and miscellaneous support functions are consolidated there. Rebeka Bind, DDS, has been reassigned to Print and Media Records within Operations.

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CURRENT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

Howard Stonecipher - Director

- +-- Dr. Bogdan B. Bogdanoff, Psy.D., D.D.S., DVM,
PharmD, M.S., Esq. - Operations Officer
 - +-- Mallory Totenkopf
 - Journeyman Coffinmaker / Master at Arms
 - +-- Institute Security Forces Command
 - +-- Steven P. Hoosier - Commander
 - +-- Aviation
 - +-- Daniel "Peanutbutter" Sullenberger
 - Department Chief, Aviation
 - +-- Offshore / Maritime
 - +-- Commander Mallory Duke
 - Commanding Officer, SS Stone
 - +-- Capt. Mara Venn - Master, Steele
 - +-- Institute Engineering Corps
 - +-- John "Ruger" Smith - Commander
- +-- Intelligence and Counterintelligence
 - +-- Michael Mueller - Department Chief
 - +-- Intelligence
 - +-- Eleanor V. Marsh - Chief, Intelligence
 - +-- Peter Caldwell
 - +-- Ian Rutledge
 - +-- Counterintelligence
 - +-- Graham T. Kessler - Chief, Counterintelligence
 - +-- Rebecca Sloan
 - +-- Martin Dyer
 - +-- Noah P. Ellison
 - Summer Intern, Enhanced Interrogation Programs
- +-- Program Security
 - +-- Michael Bledsoe - Department Chief
 - +-- Viktor Rourke
- +-- Research
 - +-- Magnus Morel, Ph.D. - Department Chief, Research
 - +-- Helena Voss, Ph.D. - Associate Researcher
 - +-- Martin S. Kettering, Ph.D. - Associate Researcher
 - +-- Naomi Wren, Ph.D. - Researcher
 - +-- Rand Ounce - Field Researcher
 - +-- Clara V. Halden, M.S. - Field Researcher, Geology
 - +-- Elias Mercer, M.S. - Field Researcher, Geology
 - +-- Adrian Pike, Ph.D. - Field Researcher, Engineering
 - +-- Rev. Thomas Brennan, S.J. (Ret.) - Researcher
 - +-- Deacon Mark Hollis - Researcher
- +-- Fission Programs
 - +-- Conrad Vale, Ph.D. - Chief, Fission Programs
 - +-- Robert Mercer - Engineer
 - +-- Thomas Whitaker - Scientist
 - +-- William Harlan - Engineer
 - +-- Charles Bennett - Scientist
 - +-- Edward Callahan - Engineer
 - +-- Frank Donnelly - Scientist
 - +-- Richard Prescott - Engineer
 - +-- George Maddox - Scientist
 - +-- James Hollister - Engineer
 - +-- Walter Keene - Scientist
- +-- Operations
 - +-- Judith V. Morrow - Secretary, Operations
 - +-- Richard Oxbow - Administrative Assistant
 - +-- Melissa Rubble - Administrative Staff
 - +-- Rebeka Bind, DDS - Print and Media Records
- +-- Personnel Health / Medical Assessment
 - +-- Douglas Gneiss, M.D., Ph.D., MPH, CPA

The Institute will continue operating from Mount Baldy while access to the affected underground section remains controlled. Further public information concerning the structural investigation will be released when findings are sufficiently established.

The Institute extends its condolences to the families, colleagues, and associates of the personnel lost in the collapse.

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Institute for Environmental Systems Analysis
Office of the Director