

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

1:30 p.m.

1
2
3 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Today's date is
4 August 10th. The year is 2004. My name is Jeffery
5 Teator. It's about 1;30 in the afternoon.

6 This afternoon I'm interviewing Mr. Al
7 Polonczyk. This interview is taking place in the
8 conference room in the NRC Resident Inspector's Office
9 located at Salem Hope Creek Generating Station, in
10 Hancock's Bridge, New Jersey.

11 Mr. Polonczyk, prior to going on the
12 record, did I present you with my credentials?

13 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. You did.

14 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. And did I
15 explain to you this is a voluntary interview?

16 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. You did.

17 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Knowing it's
18 voluntary, do you wish to go forward?

19 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes.

20 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Thank you.

21 Mr. Polonczyk, do you have any objection
22 this afternoon to providing sworn testimony?

23 MR. POLONCZYK: No. I do not.

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

25 Raise your right hand for me please.

1 Mr. Polonczyk, do you swear that the
2 information that you are about to provide to me is the
3 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

4 MR. POLONCZYK: That I do.

5 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Thank you.

6 Mr. Polonczyk, you're being interviewed
7 this afternoon as a witness in an investigation I'm
8 conducting into what occurred on the night of
9 September 21st, 2004. On that night, there was a
10 steam leak in the plant and at some point during the
11 steam leak and during the shift closed a
12 valve which stopped the steam leak.

13 It's my job to determine whether what was
14 done that evening was done in accordance with all
15 station procedures including operations procedures.
16 And I need to find out from you your knowledge of what
17 happened, what you saw, what you heard. You're being
18 interviewed strictly as a witness.

19 Do you understand that?

20 MR. POLONCZYK: I understand that we're
21 talking about the steam leak by the feed pump and the
22 exact date, I'll take your word for it, but I do
23 remember the incident.

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes. I know it was
25 a while, but that is the date. Okay.

1 Before going into a discussion about what
2 went on that night, I'd like to get some background
3 information from you. Okay.

4 Can you state your full name for the
5 record please and spell your last name?

6 MR. POLONCZYK: Alan D, as in David,
7 Polonczyk, P-O-L-O-N-C-Z-Y-K.

8 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: And you have your
9 station I.D. there?

10 MR. POLONCZYK: That I do.

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: And it shows that
12 it's a PSEG I.D. number [REDACTED] 7C

13 MR. POLONCZYK: My employee number is
14 [REDACTED] The badge number is [REDACTED] 7C

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Thank you.
16 And your date and place of birth please?

17 MR. POLONCZYK: I was born in a hospital
18 in [REDACTED]

19 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: That's the same
20 year I was born.

21 Your Social Security Number?

22 MR. POLONCZYK: [REDACTED]

23 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: And your current
24 home address please?

25 MR. POLONCZYK: [REDACTED]

ALL
7C

[REDACTED]

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Zip code. You said area code.

What is your area code and phone number?

MR. POLONCZYK: Area code [REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: And you have a pretty short commute into work then?

MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. I do.

SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Did you ever serve in the United States military?

MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. I did.

SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: What branch.

MR. POLONCZYK: [REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: What years?

MR. POLONCZYK: [REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Honorable discharge?

MR. POLONCZYK: [REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Rank and rating upon discharge?

MR. POLONCZYK: I was an [REDACTED] That's as far as I got. That was just on [REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Nuclear qualified?

MR. POLONCZYK: In the [REDACTED]

ALL
TC

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes.

2 MR. POLONCZYK: No. I was a construction
3 mechanic.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

5 MR. POLONCZYK: In the Seabees.

6 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Did you go
7 overseas?

8 MR. POLONCZYK: No. I did not.

9 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

10 MR. POLONCZYK: Just Florida and
11 California. That's not really overseas.

12 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: California is
13 almost overseas from the East Coast anyway.

14 Have you attended college?

15 MR. POLONCZYK: No. I did not.

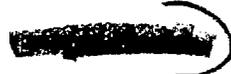
16 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. At some
17 point, were you hired to work here at Salem Hope
18 Creek?

19 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. Salem.

20 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: When was that?

21 MR. POLONCZYK: 1984.

22 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: When you were  *7c*

23 

24 MR. POLONCZYK: August.

25 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: May '84. And what

1 was your first job at Salem?

2 MR. POLONCZYK: I was a UO at that time,
3 which was Utility Operator which has seen been
4 engulfed into the NEOS (phonetic) classification.

5 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

6 MR. POLONCZYK: I pretty much held the
7 same job for the entire 20 some years.

8 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: You've been here
9 almost 20 years and a couple of days. Right.

10 MR. POLONCZYK: Uh-huh.

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: They give you a pin
12 for being here 20 years?

13 MR. POLONCZYK: I do have a gift coming to
14 me, I just haven't selected it yet.

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes.

16 MR. POLONCZYK: There's a book.

17 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: The Government they
18 give you a little pin.

19 MR. POLONCZYK: Not like that.

20 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: That's nice. Maybe
21 you'll get something good. All right.

22 And have you remained continuously
23 employed here since August of 1984?

24 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. I have.

25 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay, good. Thank

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 you.

2 And is your current job title Nuclear
3 Equipment Operator?

4 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes.

5 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right. And do
6 you work in a particular group?

7 MR. POLONCZYK: Salem Station Operations.

8 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Salem
9 Station Ops.

10 And who is your supervisor?

11 MR. POLONCZYK: My immediate shift, the
12 supervisor on our shift is Powell. Eric Powell.

13 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: He's be the shift
14 manager?

15 MR. POLONCZYK: He's be the shift manager.

16 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right. How
17 about at the union level. Do you have a senior
18 nuclear equipment operator?

19 MR. POLONCZYK: No. Equipment operator is
20 pretty much all in the same ranking.

21 We have a union that E Board members, I
22 can say the closest one out here would be Rich Dunn.

23 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes. I've heard
24 his name before. Okay.

25 And the night of the steam leak, it was

1 September 21st, 2002. Were you working the night that
2 the steam leak happened?

3 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. I was here. Yes.
4 I was working the 7:00 at night to 7:00 in the morning
5 shift, I believe.

6 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: 7:00 p.m. to 7:00
7 a.m. Do you remember who the shift manager was on
8 that shift?

9 MR. POLONCZYK: [REDACTED] He was the
10 [REDACTED] I know that the CRS's were Bob -- Bob
11 Corby was there. I don't remember who the other CRS
12 was. There's two other CRS's. I remember [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED] and Bob Corby were both there. Those are the
14 two people I remember being there.

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. I think what
16 I'll do is I'll just ask you about or have you explain
17 what happened that night and I'll interject some
18 questions along the way. But if we can go to, you
19 know, the shift is. You're doing your normal stuff.
20 All of a sudden this steam leak begins. Maybe you can
21 begin there and tell me what happened, were you were
22 in the plant?

23 MR. POLONCZYK: I was extra. I don't
24 believe I was assigned to a duty that night. I was
25 extra.

ALL
7C

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: What does that
2 mean, an extra?

3 MR. POLONCZYK: We had guys specifically
4 assigned to duty station, a secondary watch or a
5 primary watch of one to two units.

6 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

7 MR. POLONCZYK: We also have a
8 communicator and possibly an extra person which, you
9 know, can swing to, whichever jobs might be going on
10 at the time.

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

12 MR. POLONCZYK: So, that the duty guys
13 aren't too distracted from their duty spots.

14 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right.

15 MR. POLONCZYK: And I was either
16 communicator or extra, I believe, and the steam leak
17 occurred. And I don't think I immediately got
18 involved in it.

19 Later on as the nigh progressed, obviously
20 everybody heard about it and I swung by to take a look
21 at it myself. And later on I was helping the
22 secondary operator assigned to that duty station
23 perform tasks in preparation for unit shutdown such as
24 -- I think I was actually getting ready to swap the
25 seal and steam support to the other unit.

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Who was the
2 secondary operation you referred to?

3 MR. POLONCZYK: I believe, and again this
4 is a little bit ago, but I think it was Mike Lord I
5 was working with at that time.

6 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Mike Lord?

7 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes.

8 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Does he still work
9 here?

10 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes.

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. All right.

12 So, at any point did you go to the control
13 room to receive a briefing from the CRS or the shift
14 manager as to the direction that management was going
15 to take and how they were going to handle the steam
16 lead?

17 MR. POLONCZYK: No. That was never --

18 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: I'm just asking.

19 MR. POLONCZYK: I was told to swap the
20 seal steam over to the other unit.

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: What does that
22 mean? What does that mean? I don't know.

23 MR. POLONCZYK: The units supply their own
24 steam to the seal on the turbine so -

25 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

1 MR. POLONCZYK: -- you don't lose vacuum.

2 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

3 MR. POLONCZYK: Okay. I was led to
4 believe in preparation for shutting unit 2 down,
5 because of that steam leak, we were going to take the
6 seals over to the other unit so that we can shut the
7 unit down without going -- losing our vacuum in our
8 condenser. But normal -- that's what we do when we're
9 shutting the unit down.

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. So, in
11 preparation to shut down unit 2, you swapped over
12 what?

13 MR. POLONCZYK: Gallant (phonetic) sealant
14 steam, GSS. Gallant sealant steam.

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: GSS. Okay.

16 And do you remember whom you got that
17 direction from?

18 MR. POLONCZYK: No. I don't remember the
19 exact person. No.

20 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Would the control
21 room ultimately have provided that direction to the
22 NEOs out in the field to go do that?

23 MR. POLONCZYK: The control room would
24 have ben part of that. It would have been that unit's
25 CRS.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

2 MR. POLONCZYK: It was pretty hectic that
3 night later on and I can't remember the exact -- where
4 I got that from. Sometimes the -- if the control room
5 is real busy, the directions could come from the work
6 control center --

7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

8 MR. POLONCZYK: -- supervisor.

9 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right. And did
10 you in fact swap over the GSS? Was that done?

11 MR. POLONCZYK: I believe before we even
12 got -- we were draining the line. You have to drain
13 the lines out before you can swap the water hammer and
14 I believe halfway through getting that done, the steam
15 leak stopped.

16 All of a sudden, because you heard that
17 all through the secondary plant and all of a sudden
18 the noise wasn't there, at which time I think me and
19 Mike Lord took a walk back up from 84 -- I'm sorry 88
20 elevation --

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Elevation, okay.

22 MR. POLONCZYK: -- to 100 elevation and
23 the steam leak it was just -- it was gone. It was
24 afterwards and there was no one there.

25 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

1 MR. POLONCZYK: So, as far as --

2 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right. Let me
3 stop you for a minute.

4 MR. POLONCZYK: Okay.

5 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Remember where you
6 were at --

7 MR. POLONCZYK: Okay.

8 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: -- when you
9 stopped.

10 Just talking to myself here for a second.

11 So, then were you and Mr. Lord prepping
12 for shutdown of the unit and what you had done to that
13 point was begin draining out the lines so that could
14 occur?

15 MR. POLONCZYK: Right. That is correct.

16 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right.

17 So, in your opinion, was the plant moving
18 towards the beginning of the process of shutting down
19 unit 2?

20 MR. POLONCZYK: That is correct.

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Okay.

22 Now, go back to where you were. You and
23 Mike Lord -- you heard the steam leak stop. You heard
24 it throughout the plant you said?

25 MR. POLONCZYK: It was a pretty loud --

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 yes. It was probably the largest steam leak I've ever
2 actually seen here. I thought it was pretty scary
3 myself.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. And then
5 you and he walked up to the elevation, saw it, the
6 steam leak?

7 MR. POLONCZYK: Well, part of the process
8 of swapping gallant sealant steam is on 100 elevation
9 where the steam leak occurred.

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

11 MR. POLONCZYK: On the east side of the
12 east pumps (phonetic) so you can hear it. You can
13 actually see the steam all the way on the east side of
14 the turbine, it was shooting over that far.

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

16 MR. POLONCZYK: So, the steam leak, it was
17 in progress.

18 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

19 MR. POLONCZYK: The next process was to go
20 down and open up some drain valves down the basement
21 elevation --

22 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

23 MR. POLONCZYK: -- 88.

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: And did you, in
25 fact, do that?

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. We actually started
2 the drain down --

3 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

4 MR. POLONCZYK: -- and you heard the noise
5 change. Obviously, you got running secondary plant,
6 so you got a lot of secondary noises out there.

7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

8 MR. POLONCZYK: We heard a definite noise
9 change in the second plant. Got to a situation where
10 we walked upstairs and the steam leak had stopped.
11 And I believe at that point we -- he contact the
12 control room.

13 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Who? Mike Lord?

14 MR. POLONCZYK: Mike Lord to see if we
15 still needed to -- I believe he did. I didn't. He
16 might have. And I don't believe we actually swapped
17 seals over at that point. It was determined that the
18 steam leak had stopped and the unit wasn't going to
19 shut down.

20 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right. But you
21 had already opened the drain lines?

22 MR. POLONCZYK: I believe we were at that
23 step. Yes.

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. At the step
25 of starting to do that or had begun doing that?

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. POLONCZYK: It's awhile ago.

2 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

3 MR. POLONCZYK: I know we went down there
4 to open them valves and I know the noise changed.
5 Whether or not we actually opened the valves or not --

6 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

7 MR. POLONCZYK: -- I believe after the
8 steam leak stopped, we weren't going to swap seals
9 anyway.

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

11 MR. POLONCZYK: So, I think we backed out
12 of that procedure.

13 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Would there
14 be documentation to show how far you guys were into
15 that procedure?

16 MR. POLONCZYK: There's no requirements in
17 that procedure for retention because there's no
18 secondary verification. There's no component from the
19 secondary plant.

20 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. I'm just
21 trying to see if I can go back and get something
22 that's going to prove that actions were being taken
23 out in the plant to prep the unit for shutdown.

24 This sounds like a step draining the
25 lines.

1 MR. POLONCZYK: Right. Well, that's part
2 of the -- there is actually gallant sealant steam
3 procedure for swapping.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. And you
5 always swap when you've going to shut down the other
6 units? Is that the only reason to swap?

7 MR. POLONCZYK: It's the only normal
8 reason to swap. Obviously, if you have a steam leak
9 on the gallant steam sealant system, you might want
10 shut off the unit.

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. All right.
12 Okay. All right.

13 So, then the steam leak stops. You
14 believe Mike Lord contacted the control room. And I
15 use the term "believe".

16 MR. POLONCZYK: Believe, yes. It's been
17 a while ago, but at that point I don't remember
18 actually being a part of swapping the gallant steam
19 over again. And the whole (indiscernible) calmed down
20 after that.

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. At any
22 point that night, did you go into the control room?

23 MR. POLONCZYK: More than likely. I don't
24 remember. I'm in the control room all the time so,
25 it's hard to distinguish.

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

2 MR. POLONCZYK: But it's pretty far --
3 long time ago.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Well, let me ask
5 you this question.

6 Do you recall being a part of any
7 conversation that night, okay, where you learned
8 whether in fact [REDACTED] had communicated to the
9 control room what he was going to do?

10 MR. POLONCZYK: No.

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: He's the guy that
12 closed the valve.

13 MR. POLONCZYK: I can only give you
14 hearsay and what I've heard, rumor.

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Answer my first
16 question first.

17 MR. POLONCZYK: What was that again?

18 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes.

19 MR. POLONCZYK: Did I hear anything that
20 night that [REDACTED] was going to close the valve?

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: That [REDACTED]
22 had communicated to the control room that he was going
23 to close the valve?

24 MR. POLONCZYK: What I heard and again
25 this is just rumors, I heard that he did not tell them

ALL
7C

1 he was going to close it off. He was going to go out
2 there to scope the situation out.

3 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

4 MR. POLONCZYK: But that's -- I wasn't
5 there and he didn't specifically talk to me.

6 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Do you
7 recall who you heard that from?

8 MR. POLONCZYK: No. There was a lot of
9 talk the whole rest of the night on what happened.

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. Go ahead
11 and tell me what the talk was and characterize it as
12 such, that's it's whatever. Hearsay.

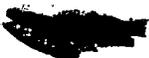
13 MR. POLONCZYK: It's backroom talk.

14 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: And backroom.
15 Whatever. Go ahead and tell me what was being
16 discussed that night.

17 MR. POLONCZYK: Obviously there was a
18 steam leak. A rather large steam leak. Right?
19 Right?

20 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right.

21 MR. POLONCZYK: I was never actually
22 specifically told to go down and shut the valve.

23 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: The valve, okay.
24 That  eventually shut?

25 MR. POLONCZYK: The valve that he 

1 eventually shut. I think I was told to go down there
2 and try to see where the steam leak was coming from.
3 We ascertained that it was coming from -- it was a
4 flange leak.

5 And I heard people say that no one was
6 really specifically asked to shut the valve. It was
7 a large safety issue. We roped off the area.

8 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: You did.

9 MR. POLONCZYK: It was determined to be a
10 non-safe area --

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

12 MR. POLONCZYK:

13 MR. POLONCZYK: -- around that leak.

14 And I heard that the unit was going to
15 shut down because of that leak.

16 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

17 MR. POLONCZYK: Okay. And then it got to
18 the point there was so much leakage, steam condensing
19 everywhere, it was going onto the busses and they
20 started seeing indications of shorts and such --
21 electrical, due to the busses to have the RC wrapped
22 cold pumps are on them busses. A lot of stuff is on
23 those busses.

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Were they seeing
25 those indications in the control room?

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. I was told they were
2 seen as indications from the control room to the point
3 where they thought at this point it was safer to take
4 the action to shut the valve because now we no longer
5 had the time to do a safe shut down because of
6 trusting that equipment in that area.

7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes. You got to
8 explain that one what you just said please.

9 MR. POLONCZYK: The leak was causing
10 problems in for KB busses, group busses. RCPs and
11 such are fed from those busses.

12 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

13 MR. POLONCZYK: In order to do a safe
14 shutdown, it would take time, more time than they
15 thought they had given that situation now. The leak
16 had gone on for hours --

17 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

18 MR. POLONCZYK: -- while they had
19 maintenance come out and check it out. They had all
20 these different people check it out. It was the
21 opinion of the equipment operators that we should have
22 just from the git-go, that leak was bad enough that we
23 should have just started shutting down. Taking the
24 action, started actually lowering power, whatever.

25 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Shutting down the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 plant?

2 MR. POLONCZYK: Right.

3 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

4 MR. POLONCZYK: And a lot of other stuff
5 happened around the same time, you know.

6 But at the point after [REDACTED] shut the
7 valve, it was explained that he had to do that because
8 indications showed that there was degradation in that
9 area, in the electrical equipment.

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Maybe there was
11 degradation.

12 MR. POLONCZYK: Oh, I believe there was.

13 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. There's
14 indicators in the control room showing there's
15 problems with the busses, but the issue is, before
16 [REDACTED] went and closed the valve, did he let the control
17 room know and get their approval to go do that?

18 MR. POLONCZYK: I do not know that at all.

19 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

20 MR. POLONCZYK: I wouldn't know that.

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: You testified
22 though that through hearsay, and tell me if I'm
23 wrong --

24 MR. POLONCZYK: It is hearsay. I believe
25 I heard, it's awhile ago now, that he was going to go

1 down there to look at the situation, because they
2 started to get shorts in the busses, he was going to
3 go down there and scope things out and decide what
4 he's going to do next. And at that time, he decided
5 that the safest thing to do was to he himself shut
6 that valve.

7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: That's through
8 hearsay that you heard this?

9 MR. POLONCZYK: Right.

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. All right.

11 MR. POLONCZYK: But we know he shut the
12 valve.

13 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes.

14 MR. POLONCZYK: Right. That part of it is
15 right. I guess -- I guess the part of --

16 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Well, what the
17 commission is interested in is, it's a fact there was
18 a steam leak. It's a fact that he did close the
19 valve.

20 MR. POLONCZYK: Right.

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: What we need to
22 find out is if he communicated that to the control
23 room that this is what I'm going to do, because you
24 can't have anyone out in the plant just going around
25 and closing valves, slipping switches. The control

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 room is supposed to be directing that stuff. Isn't
2 that correct?

3 MR. POLONCZYK: That's correct.

4 And, actually the hindsight to look at
5 this, [REDACTED] would never walk in there and say I'm going
6 down there to shut that valve. 7c

7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Why did he say
8 that?

9 MR. POLONCZYK: It's a union plant. He
10 would say, I'm going to have an equipment operator
11 shut that valve.

12 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

13 MR. POLONCZYK: Or a maintenance
14 technician shut that valve. In a union control room,
15 he would never say, I'm going to down there and do
16 anything like that. They would say, -- they would 5-0
17 him. You can't do that.

18 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: What do you mean?

19 MR. POLONCZYK: That's not your job.

20 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: What's 5-0 mean?

21 MR. POLONCZYK: 5-0, I think it's a union
22 agreement -- part of the union agreement says
23 management is not supposed to do union work.

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: So, in your
25 opinion, if [REDACTED] -- if he announced in the 7c

1 control room that he was going to go close the valve,
2 that the unionized people would have objected to that?

3 MR. POLONCZYK: Oh, yes. They would have
4 said that is the equipment operator's job to shut that
5 valve.

6 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. Okay.
7 That's a point. All right.

8 MR. POLONCZYK: But we had already decided
9 earlier in that shift that it was an unsafe area to be
10 in --

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

12 MR. POLONCZYK: -- because of that steam
13 leak.

14 When [REDACTED] got down there -- I wasn't down
15 there right before he shut the valve. I was told and
16 this is hearsay again, that it was his opinion that
17 the safest thing to do at that time for the plant was
18 for he himself to shut the valve.

19 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. Did you
20 have or have you had any discussion with the reactor
21 operators, the NCOs that who in the control room that
22 night, about what they saw, what they heard, as far as
23 did [REDACTED] communicate what he was going to do to --

24 MR. POLONCZYK: Again, I believe I heard
25 from them that he was to go down there -- he was going

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 down there to ascertain the situation, to develop his
2 plan on what to do next.

3 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. Do you know
4 who Van Ford is?

5 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. Oh, he was there
6 that night too. I'm sorry.

7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

8 MR. POLONCZYK: I believe Van was there
9 that night.

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Do you remember
11 what his position was that night? His assignment?
12 His work position?

13 MR. POLONCZYK: Now, that you say, Van
14 Ford was actually the manager. [REDACTED] was the
15 [REDACTED] on that night.

16 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: [REDACTED]

17 MR. POLONCZYK: [REDACTED]

18 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: [REDACTED] Right?

19 MR. POLONCZYK: [REDACTED] yes.

20 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. [REDACTED] Okay.

21 All right.

22 Who were some of the other -- I got Mike
23 Lord from you. Who were some of the other guys
24 working that night, can you remember?

25 MR. POLONCZYK: No. I'm here a lot and

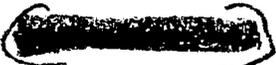
ALL
7C

1 it's hard -- I couldn't tell you who I was working
2 with last week, because I worked with everybody.

3 I mean, at that time, I worked -- I'm an
4 overtime whore.

5 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: I hear you. I
6 understand.

7 MR. POLONCZYK: Pretty much and I work
8 with everybody.

9 That particular night, I remember Bob
10 Corgi (phonetic) was here. Now, I remember, Van Ford.
11  Mike Lord. Sounds like it was just my
12 normal shift, Bravo Shift is what it sounds like.

13 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. Who were
14 some of the guys you work with on Bravo Shift back
15 then?

16 MR. POLONCZYK: Would be John Cook, Jamie
17 Delisle (phonetic), George Seas (phonetic).

18 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Are all of those
19 guys still currently working here?

20 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes.

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right.

22 MR. POLONCZYK: Ken Bayshore (phonetic),
23 he was the supervisor. I think he was on the shift
24 back then. The other CRS. And probably White, Bill
25 White. That's the control room supervisor staff.

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. Okay.

2 MR. POLONCZYK: That's easy enough to find
3 out for yourself down there.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes. I can go to
5 -- I can have the residents pull a shift log to see
6 who signed on that night.

7 MR. POLONCZYK: Right.

8 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: They should list in
9 there who's working.

10 MR. POLONCZYK: Right.

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

12 MR. POLONCZYK: And I understand you
13 talked to Rick Pfeffer this morning. He was -- he's
14 on that shift. My shift too.

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: We don't usually
16 tell people who we're going to talk to.

17 MR. POLONCZYK: I'm sorry, but it's on the
18 (indiscernible) sheet though.

19 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: If they want to
20 tell the other people that's up to them.

21 MR. POLONCZYK: Everybody knows I'm here
22 because they put it on an open log right there in the
23 control room.

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

25 MR. POLONCZYK: That I'm supposed to be

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 out here at this time.

2 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. Okay.

3 I'm just saying I don't run to anyone's
4 management and say I'm going to talk to so and so
5 today. That's why you and I had a little dialogue
6 about that. If you want -- if you need to tell your
7 management, you go ahead and do that. That's fine.
8 I don't have a problem with it, but I'm not going to
9 do that because sometimes employees don't want their
10 management knowing they're being interviewed by the
11 NRC.

12 It's just the way that is, but I just
13 wanted to explain that a little.

14 Okay. Do you know who Tom lake is?

15 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. He is.

16 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Do you recall --

17 MR. POLONCZYK: I'm sorry. Yes. I do.

18 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: -- being
19 interviewed -- yes. Okay.

20 MR. POLONCZYK: He is Tom Lake.

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: What time did you
22 come in today 7:00?

23 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes.

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: You work from 7:00
25 to 7:00?

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. I usually come in
2 about 6:00 though. I'm an early guy.

3 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. So, do you
4 know who Tom Lake is?

5 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes. I do.

6 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Did he speak
7 to you regarding this [REDACTED] issue? 7c

8 MR. POLONCZYK: I have spoken to him about
9 it. Yes.

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Did he get
11 into the level of detail that I'm getting into now
12 about whether the control room knew?

13 MR. POLONCZYK: It has come up. I
14 mean --

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: That [REDACTED] was 7c
16 going to do what he was going to do? Meaning close
17 the valve?

18 MR. POLONCZYK: The discussion has come up
19 whether or not he acted -- I'm trying to remember how
20 this has been discussed before, but I believe it's
21 been whether or not he acted within the knowledge of
22 the control room what he was going to do. It has come
23 up before.

24 I know I spoke to Tom Lake about it. I
25 believe there was a [REDACTED] woman here once worked for the 7c

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 company that was supposed to resolve issues as well.

2 We had a meeting at the training center.

3 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: (Kim Harden)

4 (phonetic)?

5 MR. POLONCZYK: (Kim Harden) That's who it
6 was.

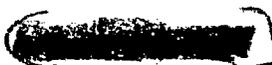
7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. All right.

8 MR. POLONCZYK: I was going to say the
9 (love doctor.) Everybody calls (her) the (love doctor.) I
10 don't know why. I think (she) was trying to make
11 everybody (love) each other and --

12 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

13 MR. POLONCZYK: -- be a happy workplace.

14 And we had -- our whole shift talked about
15 it at the training center once. We had a meeting with
16 (her) and our management.

17 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Was 

18 there?

19 MR. POLONCZYK: I don't believe he was
20 there for that one.

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

22 MR. POLONCZYK: Because he's not actually
23 assigned to Bravo Shift. He was --

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. He was --

25 MR. POLONCZYK: He's next --

7C
All

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: He's management
2 oversight that night for some reason.

3 MR. POLONCZYK: Right.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Well, what
5 happened at that meeting where the whole shift was
6 there?

7 MR. POLONCZYK: We brought up the fact
8 that safety, that it was the opinion of myself as well
9 as others that they tend to hang on a lot longer.
10 That we thought they should have been shutting down
11 already.

12 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Hang on a lot
13 longer, meaning what?

14 MR. POLONCZYK: They're going to take
15 every option they could possibly take before they're
16 going to shut the unit down.

17 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

18 MR. POLONCZYK: Whether or not, I mean,
19 obviously I'm not an engineering or something like
20 that. I know they had maintenance down there taking
21 a look at it. They had a lot of people -- there was
22 always something going on, but it's where do you get
23 to the point where --

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes.

25 MR. POLONCZYK: I mean, obviously we got

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 to the point where it was too late to do a safe
2 shutdown, because of the problems we were having with
3 the electrical equipment out there.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

5 MR. POLONCZYK: That we wouldn't have had
6 if we had shut down earlier, if we had started when
7 the leak started.

8 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

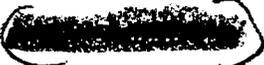
9 MR. POLONCZYK: Hindsight being 20/20,
10 everything went all right. The valve was shut. It
11 was able to be shut.

12 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Nobody got hurt.

13 MR. POLONCZYK: The steam leaks out. No
14 one got hurt.

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

16 MR. POLONCZYK: The unit didn't have to
17 shut down.

18 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Was there
19 discussion at that meeting which you're talking about,
20 was there a discussion about what had or had not been
21 communicated to the control room by  7C

22 MR. POLONCZYK: No. I don't believe that
23 was --

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right. Okay.

25 MR. POLONCZYK: Usually when I'm talking

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 it's usually with the NEOs, non-licensed operators,
2 field operators.

3 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

4 MR. POLONCZYK: And that would have only
5 been the control room would have direct knowledge of
6 what you're asking.

7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: But weren't the
8 CRS's at this meeting that you're talking about or was
9 it just the unionized people?

10 MR. POLONCZYK: The unionized people were
11 the only ones talking pretty much.

12 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right.

13 MR. POLONCZYK: I think you'll find that
14 -- I find that management doesn't usually join in with
15 the -- that kind of conversation.

16 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. All right.
17 So, you know who Tom Lake is. Right?

18 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes.

19 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: And you recall --
20 I'm going to use the word "interview." Do you recall
21 being interviewed by him?

22 MR. POLONCZYK: I remember having a few
23 conversations with Tom Lake.

24 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: A few?

25 MR. POLONCZYK: Yes.

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. About this
2 very issue?

3 MR. POLONCZYK: I've talked to him about
4 this very issue. Yes.

5 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. Would you
6 have -- Tom Lake -- Tom Lake did his interviews of the
7 people he talked to regarding this issue on or about
8 October 10th. October 10th and October 15th of --
9 okay?

10 MR. POLONCZYK: I'll take your word for
11 it.

12 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes. So, that's
13 when it happened.

14 MR. POLONCZYK: Right. Right?

15 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right.

16 And would you have told Tom that -- a
17 statement to the effect that [REDACTED] made the
18 call to close the valve along with the other
19 supervisors?

20 MR. POLONCZYK: I may have said that. My
21 exact words, I can't attest to my exact words.

22 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

23 MR. POLONCZYK: But I know that they have
24 again, through hearsay and rumor, that [REDACTED]
25 was down there and there was no union personnel with

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 him. He had some other management personnel with him
2 when he shut the valve.

3 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

4 MR. POLONCZYK: So, I may have said it
5 that way. I cannot say whether or not there was an
6 actual management discussion to shut that valve.

7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

8 MR. POLONCZYK: I know he was with other
9 management when he shut it.

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. Do you have
11 any first-hand knowledge as to whether or not [REDACTED] 7c
12 [REDACTED] informed Van Ford that he was in fact going to
13 shut that valve before he did it? Do you have any
14 first-hand knowledge --

15 MR. POLONCZYK: Before he did it? No. I
16 do not have any first-hand knowledge of that.

17 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

18 MR. POLONCZYK: As far as I know, he went
19 down there to assess the situation. Van Ford -- I
20 know Corgi was down there. Probably Van Ford with him
21 and at that time, he decided to shut the valve.

22 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. That's your
23 understanding of what happened?

24 MR. POLONCZYK: That's my understanding of
25 what happened.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

2 MR. POLONCZYK: And I haven't heard
3 anything to dispute that.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: All right. Okay.
5 All right. That's a fair point.

6 It's almost 2:00. We're going to take a
7 short break.

8 MR. POLONCZYK: Okay.

9 (Whereupon, off the record from 2:00 p.m.
10 to 2:20 p.m.)

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. It's about
12 2:20 in the afternoon and Mr. Polonczyk was nice
13 enough to take me out to show me where the steam leak
14 was. He took me into which building was that, the
15 turbine building?

16 MR. POLONCZYK: The turbine building.

17 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay. And he took
18 me to the scene of the crime, I'll call it, and we had
19 some discussion about the steam and how far it was
20 pluming out. And Mr. Polonczyk showed me where he was
21 working and pointed to the area down below, the
22 elevation we were on where they were draining out the
23 lines on the GSS.

24 MR. POLONCZYK: We were preparing to swap
25 gallant steam. That's correct.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: So, he took me into
2 the turbine building and showed me all this and now
3 we're back in the Resident's Office and we're going to
4 close out the interview in a couple of minutes.

5 But, Mr. Polonczyk, I can't think of
6 anything else to ask you today that I haven't cover.
7 But is there something you want to add? If there is,
8 please go ahead.

9 MR. POLONCZYK: As I was saying while we
10 were walking around, this whole incident while I may
11 or may not feel we did the safe thing, I mean, I'm not
12 management. I'm not the one making decisions. It was
13 easy for me to sit back and take an opinionated vote
14 based on all the talk that was going on. But it
15 seemed that there was a lot of animosity toward (b) (7) 7c
16 even before that from some union personnel and I think
17 some people, even myself sometime, might have made it
18 look worse than it was. Again, I'm not -- I wasn't
19 there when (b) (7) shut the valve. I don't know what he
20 saw.

21 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

22 MR. POLONCZYK: I didn't have all the
23 information he had. I know that it was a large steam
24 leak.

25 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. POLONCZYK: Had I been asked to shut
2 it, like I told you while I was out there, I probably
3 would have declined it.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

5 MR. POLONCZYK: Not knowing the situation
6 of the valve, not knowing everything that, I guess,
7 [REDACTED] knew at the time.

8 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

9 MR. POLONCZYK: But --

10 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Let me ask you this
11 question.

12 Other people who were working that night,
13 other union members, others, did they -- did any of
14 them make any statement to the effect that they were
15 going to -- they would now be able to get back at [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED] that they were going to make this more of an
17 issue as an attempt to get back at him from some other
18 union issues that the union had with [REDACTED] Did
19 anybody make that statement?

20 MR. POLONCZYK: I don't think anybody made
21 a statement like that. I don't think anybody actually
22 felt that way.

23 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

24 MR. POLONCZYK: What it is, an incident
25 like this happens. Okay. And some people have valid

1 points, whether or not it was the safe thing to do.
2 Whether or not we -- management stalled in their
3 actions to shut the unit down.

4 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

5 MR. POLONCZYK: But if you have a dislike
6 for certain people, you start a lot loudly about them.

7 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

8 MR. POLONCZYK: That's all. I don't think
9 anybody said that they were going to use this to get
10 back at [REDACTED]

11 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

12 MR. POLONCZYK: I don't think anybody
13 feels -- well, I can't say that. There might be
14 someone feels that [REDACTED] specifically did something
15 wrong by shutting that valve.

16 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right.

17 MR. POLONCZYK: But --

18 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Okay.

19 MR. POLONCZYK: -- it was a big deal when
20 it happened. I don't feel it was handled right. But
21 that doesn't mean that I feel that [REDACTED] shouldn't have
22 shut the valve.

23 I personally feel that we should have
24 started a more hasty -- shutting the unit down. We
25 should have made more progress in that area than all

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

ALL
7C

1 the work we put into looking at the valve. I know we
2 had lots of maintenance people go down there. I think
3 we had engineering people go down there and evaluate.
4 And it all ends up, hindsight is 20/20. The valve got
5 shut. Everything's happy and the world goes on.

6 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Right. Okay.

7 I don't have anything else to ask you.
8 You have my business card. If you think of something,
9 please give me a ring.

10 Is there something more you want to add?

11 MR. POLONCZYK: No. Right?

12 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: You have my number.

13 MR. POLONCZYK: Okay.

14 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: If something pops
15 in your head or you hear something about this or
16 anything else that's going on down here, we're just up
17 the road. You can give me a call.

18 MR. POLONCZYK: And we have resident's?

19 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: Yes. You have my
20 card. If you feel a need to call me, please do so.

21 MR. POLONCZYK: Okay.

22 SPECIAL AGENT TEATOR: It's 2:22 and this
23 interview is concluded.

24 Thanks.

25 MR. POLONCZYK: Thank you.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

(Whereupon, the above matter was concluded
at 2:22 p.m.)