



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS US ARMY COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS COMMAND
AND FORT MONMOUTH
FORT MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY 07703

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

July 22, 1983

Safety Office

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to a telephone conversation between Mr. Barry J. Silber, this command, and Dr. John Glenn, your organization, on 20 July 1983, subject: Possible Loss of Radioactive Material. This conversation was immediately initiated by this command upon receipt of letter, AFZB-CML, undated, subject: Loss of Radioactive Source Stick (Encl 1) in compliance to paragraph 20.402 of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20, and to US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Byproduct Material License Number 29-01022-11 authorizing the possession and use of the MX-7338/PDR-27R Radioactive Test Sample by the Department of the Army.

As was indicated in referenced conversation, the following information is provided for your information:

a. The radioactive material missing was one (1) each MX-7338/PDR-27R Radioactive Test Sample containing five millicuries of ⁸⁵Krypton. The MX-7338/PDR-27R is a five inch wand-shaped check source used to check the functional operation of the AN/PDR-27() standard Army beta-gamma radiation detection instrument (radiac set). The AN/PDR-27() Radiac Set includes a metal carrying case incorporating the radiation detection instrument, the MX-7338/PDR-27R, spare Geiger-Mueller tubes and other ancillary components.

b. The MX-7338/PDR-27R and AN/PDR-27() Radiac Set were assigned to Company C, 506th Infantry Battalion, a component of the 101st Airborne Division located at Fort Campbell, KY. On or about 7 February 1983, the MX-7338/PDR-27R was determined to be missing from the Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) unit assigned the AN/PDR-27() Radiac Set. The exact circumstances of this occurrence is unknown. The possibility exists that this source was lost, misplaced or never received by the NBC unit. The MX-7338/PDR-27R was a replacement for the 7 microcurie ²²⁶Radium MX-1083/PDR-27 Radioactive Test Sample declared obsolete by The Office of the Surgeon General, Headquarters, Department of the Army. At this time, all Army activities were requested to dispose of the ²²⁶Radium test sample and to requisition the MX-7338/PDR-27R. The possibility does exist that this specific NBC unit may never have requisitioned the MX-7338/PDR-27R. This, however, cannot be verified.

C/27

c. The NBC unit performed a complete search of the NBC room where the AN/PDR-27() Radiac Set was stored as well as a detailed review of their recordkeeping system. Apparently the test sample was not available at the time of the change in hand receipt holder (responsible person) during 1980. A replacement item was then requisitioned in May 1980.

d. Actions taken to prevent recurrence:

(1) A notice was placed in the Fort Campbell newspaper reminding all post units to secure the test samples to the AN/PDR-27() Radiac Set case.

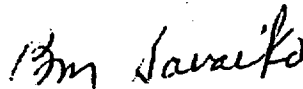
(2) A check of all AN/PDR-27's was performed and it was determined that all test samples are properly secured.

(3) The Division Maintenance Evaluation Team is currently checking the security of these test samples as part of their routine maintenance inspections.

(4) Intermediate headquarters also routinely checks for security of these test samples.

Please contact us directly if you have any questions, or if we may be of further assistance to you regarding this matter. We may be reached by telephone on (201)544-4427.

Sincerely,



Bernard M. Savaiko
Chief, Safety Office

Enclosure

CF:
Cdr, DARCOM, ATTN: DRCSF-P



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIR ASSAULT) AND FORT CAMPBELL
FORT CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY 42223

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFZB-CML

SUBJECT: Loss of Radioactive Source Stick

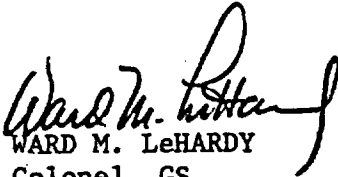
THRU: Commander
US Army Forces Command
ATTN: AFLG-MAC
Ft McPherson, GA 30330

14 Jul 83

TO: Commander
US Army Communication and Electronics Command
ATTN: AMSEL-SF-H
Ft Monmouth, NJ 07703

1. On or about 7 February 1983 the MX-7338 Radioactive Test Sample for AN/PDR-27(R) Radiac Set #638 was determined to be missing from C Co, 1/506th Infantry Battalion. The unit has performed a complete search of the NBC room and a detailed review of supply records. This has taken several months. The test sample was not present at a change of hand receipt holder in 1980 and the replacement item was ordered in May 1980. Our conclusion is that the item is in fact lost and was lost in early 1980. To our knowledge this loss has not been previously reported.
2. The test sample serial number was not recorded.
3. In order to preclude future losses, a notice was placed in the Screaming Eagle Bulletin reminding all post units to secure the test sample to the AN/PDR-27(*) case, and the unit involved checked all other test samples. All were properly secured. Also, the Division Maintenance Evaluation Team checks security of test samples as part of their routine maintenance inspections. Intermediate headquarters also routinely check for security of the test sample.
4. POC is CPT Savage, AV 635-5606/5204.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


WARD M. LeHARDY
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

REGION I

MATERIALS RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION SECTION
LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

Lic. # 29-01022-11
Docket No. 30-10362

MLER - RI-83-106

I. Action Control Data

Licensee DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Event Description LOSS OF KRYPTON-85 CHECK SOURCE

Event Date 2-7-83

Report Date 7-22-83

II. Reporting Requirement

☒ 10 CFR 20.402(b) theft or (loss)

☐ 10 CFR 35.42 Therapeutic Misadminist

☐ 10 CFR 20.403 (a)(b) overexposure/
release

☐ 10 CFR 35.43 Diagnostic Misadminist

☐ 10 CFR 20.405 - 30 day report

☐ License Condition

☐ Other _____

III. Region I Response

☐ Immediate Site Inspection

Inspector _____ Date _____

☐ Special Inspection

Inspector _____ Date _____

☐ Telephone Inquiry

Inspector _____ Date _____

Licensee Representative and Title _____

☐ PN

☐ Daily Report

☐ Information entered - Region I log and Outstanding Items List.

☒ Review at next routine inspection.

IV. Report Evaluation

☒ Description of Event

☐ Corrective Actions

☒ Levels of R/M involved

☐ Calculation adequate

☒ Cause of Event

☐ Letter to Licensee requesting additic
information

Completed by P. H. Talaru

Date 8-18-83

Reviewed by [Signature]

Date 9/20/83