



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

REPLY TO
 ATTENTION OF

June 12, 1986

Safety Office

30-10362

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Document Control Desk
 Washington, DC 20555

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to a telephone conversation between Mr. Joseph Furia, this command and Ms. Josie Piccone, your organization on 29 May 1986, subject: Loss of Radioactive Material. This conversation was initiated immediately by this command upon receipt of letter, HHC232, 21 May 1986, subject: Report of Missing Test Sample (Encl) in compliance with Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.402, and to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Byproduct Material License Number 29-01022-11 authorizing the possession and use of the MX-7338/PDR-27() Radioactive Test Sample by the Department of the Army.

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

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 MX7338/PDR-27() incorporated into an AN/PDR-27J Radiac Set was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company 232d Supply and Services Battalion, Illinois Army National Guard (HHC, 232d S&S Bn, ILARNG). On 13 May 1986, while conducting a comprehensive inventory of radioactive commodities, it was discovered that the MX7338/PDR-27(), SN: 6348 was not in the AN/PDR-27J carrying case. A physical search of the supply room, storage areas, maintenance areas and administrative areas failed to find the source. On 14 May 1986, the search area was widened to include all of Camp Lincoln, Springfield, IL, again with negative results. It is theorized that the source was lost during the physical transfer of the AN/PDR-27J between the HHC, 232d S&S Bn and the Illinois Military Academy, Illinois Army National Guard.

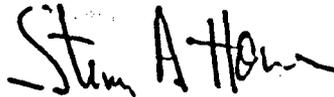
~~8606190168 860612
 NMSS LIC30
 29-01022-11~~

S/11 IX30
 1/1

c. Actions taken to prevent recurrence: Procedures for the check out of AN/PDR-27() Radiac Sets has been changed, adding the physical inventory of its contents to the sign out process.

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,



Steven A. Horne
Acting Chief, Safety Office

Enclosure

CF:

Dr. John Kinneman, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I,
631 Park Avenue, King of Prussia, PA 19406
Commander, AMC, ATTN: AMCSF-P, 5001 Eisenhower Avenue,
Alexandria, VA 22333-0001

HQ232 (MNIL-SAF/6 May 86) 1st End
SUBJECT: Report of Missing Test Sample

LTC Gebhardt/rjh/785-3644

Headquarters, 232d Supply & Service Battalion, 1301 N. MacArthur Boulevard,
Springfield, Illinois 62702-2399 21 May 1986

TO: IL ARNG Safety Office, 1301 N. MacArthur Boulevard, Springfield, Illinois
62702-2399

1. I have reviewed the circumstances regarding the missing sample and concur with all actions taken by the Unit Commander.

2. Unit personnel have been instructed to request a new test sample and prepare an adjustment document for removal of the missing sample from unit records.



PAUL G. GEBHARDT
LTC, QM, IL ARNG
Commanding

CF: Det 1 STARC

MNIL-SAF (21MAY86) 2nd End
SUBJECT: Report of Missing Test Sample

Military and Naval Department, Camp Lincoln, 1301 N MacArthur Blvd,
Springfield, IL 62702-2399

TO: Commander, U.S. Army Electronics Command ATTN: Mr. Joseph Furia,
AMSEL-SF-H, Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703

Attention invited to preceding endorsement.

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

R. J. Williams CW4
PHILIP M. BECKER *FMH*
COL, AV, IL ARNG
State Aviation and Safety Officer



Illinois Army National Guard
HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
232nd Supply and Service Battalion
1301 North MacArthur Boulevard
Springfield, Illinois 62702-2317



HHC232

SUBJECT: Report of Missing Test Sample

21 May 1986

Commander
232nd Supply and Service Battalion
1301 N. MacArthur Boulevard
Springfield, Illinois 62702-2390

1. During the regular quarterly spot check inventory on supplies and equipment conducted by this unit on 12 May 1986, the AN/PDR27 Radioactive Test Sample MX-7338C/PDR27J, SN: 6348 issued to HHC 232nd S & S Bn was found to be missing.
2. Special emphasis was placed on the inventory of the test sample due to receipt of Correction of Radioactive Items Inventory from the IL ARNG State Safety Office on 6 May 1986.
3. Upon discovery of the missing test sample an extensive area search of all unit vault, supply rooms, storage areas, maintenance areas and administrative areas was conducted on 13 May 1986.
4. With negative results in locating the missing test sample the battalion headquarters was notified late during the afternoon on 13 May 1986.
5. The next day 14 May 1986 the search was continued to all other units and activities at Camp Lincoln and to the field locations used for training exercises. Again the search was completed with negative results.
6. All personnel remotely connected to the NBC team, training personnel, supply personnel and the unit at large have been questioned as to the possible whereabouts of the missing item.
7. It was discovered during the search and investigation of the missing item that a minor flaw existed in the inventory procedures used to account for this item.
8. NBC personnel while taking an inventory of their equipment always checked the serial number of the AN/PDR27 Radioactive set itself but due to the lack of a published checklist for this set and without referring back to the published Technical Manual or the unit property book, were unaware of a serial number component to this set.

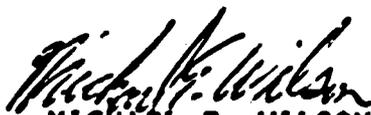
9. The set has been hand receipted to the Illinois Military Academy for NBC schools on a number of occasions during the past training year. It is believed the set was returned without the sample after one of these schools. As pointed out above the individual checking the set in, always checked the serial number of the set itself, unaware of another serial numbered component and therefore accepted the set back on one of these occasions missing the test sample.

10. The Illinois Military Academy has been contacted and their areas also searched without finding the test sample. No personnel within the military academy could provide any additional information as to the whereabouts of the sample.

11. While corrective action is being taken within this unit to ensure all serial numbers components are also inventoried along with the serial numbered end item, it should be pointed out that this unit has had an outstanding record in accounting for property with no property being reported as lost during the past several years.

12. This property while very sensitive is listed on the Army Master Data File as having a monetary value of \$27.13 and it is felt that it's being lost was not due to any person or persons neglect or willful disregard of the strict supply accounting procedures maintained by this unit.

13. Based on information contained above request this unit remove the missing sample from the unit property records.


MICHAEL E. WILSON
CPT, QM, IL ARNG
Commanding