

UNITED STATES
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OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

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IE Information Notice No. 80-18

POSSIBLE WEAPONS SMUGGLING POUCH

The NRC recently received information concerning a device used for smuggling that can preclude detection of weapons by security X-ray machines. The device is described as a gray, metalfoil pouch measuring approximately 20" x 12" which can be folded to wallet size when not in use. When in use, X-ray images produce only a mottled picture with no indications of a solid mass such as that of a weapon or similar contraband.

The same material used to construct the pouch has been used to line hollow compartments of hand-carried packages and parcels such as attache and cosmetic cases.

The pouch is reported to look something like a leadlined pouch sold in the U.S. to protect film from harmful X-ray effect, except that the U.S. manufactured pouch distinctly reveals the silhouette of any solid mass content such as that produced by a gun when subjected to X-ray.

This Information Notice is provided as an early notification of a possible significant matter that is still under review by the NRC staff. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facility. No specific action or response is requested at this time. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

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Enclosure

RECENTLY ISSUED
IE INFORMATION NOTICES

| Information Notice No. | Subject | Date Issued | Issued To |
|------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| 80-18 | Possible Weapons Smuggling Pouch | 5/5/80 | All PWRs with an OL, fuel fabrication & processing facilities and Materials Priority I Licensees |
| 80-17 | Potential Hazards Associated With Interchangeable Parts On Radiographic Equipment | 5/5/80 | All radiography Licenses |
| 80-16 | Shaft Seal Packing Causes Binding In Main Steam Swing Check And Isolation Valves | 4/29/80 | All power reactor facilities in your Region with an OL or CP |
| 80-15 | Axial (Longitudinal) Oriented Cracking In Piping | 4/21/80 | All Light Water Reactor Facilities holding power reactor OLs or CPs |
| 80-14 | Safety Suggestions From Employees | 4/2/80 | All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP |
| 80-13 | General Electric Type SBM Control Switches - Defective Cam Followers | 4/2/80 | All light water reactor facilities holding power reactor OLs or CPs |
| 80-12 | Instrument Failure Causes Opening of PORV and Block Valve | 3/31/80 | All holders of power reactor OLs and CPs |
| 80-11 | General Problems with ASCO Valves in Nuclear Application Including Fire Protection Systems | 3/14/80 | All holders of Reactor OL, CP, fuel fabrication and processing facilities |
| 80-10 | Partial Loss of Non-Nuclear Instrument System Power Supply During Operation | 3/7/80 | All power reactor facilities holding OLs and CPs |
| 80-09 | Possible Occupational Health Hazard Associated with Closed Cooling Systems | 3/7/80 | All holders of power reactor OLs and near term CPs |
| 80-08 | The States Company Sliding Link Electrical Terminal Block | 3/7/80 | All power reactor facilities with an OL or a CP |