R. G. Page (1)
LR
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E. G. Case (3)
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Attached is a copy of a teletype report from our field inspector concerning a control rod drive malfunction at the General Electric Test reactor. You will be informed of further developments.

P. A. Morris
CO
C-064

3791 2/6/63

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OFFICE ▶	CO					
SURNAME ▶	PAMorris:bln					
DATE ▶	2/6 /63					

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U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMM.
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TO USAEC GERMANTOWN MD

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BT

UNCLAS FOR P A MORRIS FROM R H ENGELKEN. GENERAL ELECTRIC NOTIFIED R T DODDS REGION V DIV OF COMPLIANCE ON FEBRUARY 4 1963 OF A CONTROL ROD DRIVE MALFUNCTION AT THE GETR. AT 1644 HOURS ON FEB 3 1963 THE NO 2 CONTROL ROD DROPPED. THIS WAS INDICATED BY A REDUCTION IN REACTOR POWER AND A ROD SEATED LIGHT. HOWEVER THE ROD ENGAGE LIGHT DID NOT INDICATE THAT THERE HAD BEEN A ROD SEPARATION. THE OPERATOR PROMPTLY SCRAMMED THE OTHER CONTROL RODS. THE REACTOR WAS SHUT DOWN AND THE CAUSE OF THE ROD MALFUNCTION INVESTIGATED. PARA. THE NO 2 CONTROL ROD DRIVE WAS DISASSEMBLED. THE STAINLESS STEEL PIN THAT EXTENDS THROUGH THE MAGNET ARMATURE AND SCRAM ROD

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ops sent Regional Offices 2/6/63 [illegible]

TUBE THAT ACTUATES THE BALL COUPLING HAD SHEARED OFF AND ALLOWED THE SCRAM TUBE TO DROP JUST FAR ENOUGH TO DISENGAGE THE CONTROL ROD AND ALLOW IT TO SCRAM. APPARENTLY A SET SCREW BETWEEN THE MAGNET ARMATURE AND THE SCRAM TUBE PREVENTED THE TUBE FROM DROPPING FAR ENOUGH TO ACTUATE THE SCRAM TUBE ENGAGE SWITCH WHICH NORMALLY WOULD HAVE SCRAMMED ALL CONTROL RODS. PARA THE STAINLESS STEEL PIN WAS REPLACED THE CONTROL ROD DRIVE REASSEMBLED AND NORMAL REACTOR OPERATIONS RESUMED. GENERAL ELECTRIC IS MAKING A DETERMINATION OF THE LOAD ON THE STAINLESS STEEL PIN TO SEE IF IT IS CORRECTLY SIZED. WE WILL INFORM YOU OF ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. DODDS IS AT VALLECITOS TODAY AND HAS DISCUSSED THIS INCIDENT WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC. REF CO-V-RHE-868

BT

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