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-PTTUZYDY RUEHFBA0062 0900630 RUEB-UUUU--RHEGNRC  
-PTTUZYUW RUEHFBA0062 0900630-UUUU--PHEGGIN RHEGNRC  
ZNR UUUUU

P 310525Z MAR 79  
FM DIRECTOR FBI  
TO RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM  
RUEBWJA/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL  
ATTN: EMERGENCY PROGRAMS CENTER  
RUEBWJA/ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CRIMINAL DIVISION  
ATTN: GENERAL CRIMES SECTION  
ATTN: INTERNAL SECURITY SECTION  
RHEGGTN/DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
ATTN: M. DOWD  
RHEGNRC/NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
RUETIAA/NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
RUEHSE/U. S. SECRET SERVICE (PID)

11:35  
UPPER

BT  
UNCLAS  
NUCLEAR ACCIDENT, THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING  
STATION, MIDDLETOWN, PA.

A NUCLEAR ACCIDENT OCCURRED ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1979.

AT APPROXIMATELY 4:00 AM, AT THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR  
POWER PLANT SOUTHEAST OF HARRISBURG, PA. THE ACCIDENT WAS  
CAUSED, ACCORDING TO NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION OFFICIALS,  
BY FOUR SEPARATE FAILURES -- THREE FROM THE MALFUNCTIONING  
OF EQUIPMENT AND ONE FROM APPARENT HUMAN ERROR.

EMERGENCY CONDITION EXISTING AT CAPTIONED FACILITY  
BECAUSE OF BUILDUP OF STEAM WITHIN NUCLEAR II REACTOR.  
RADIOACTIVE GAS ESCAPED 9:30 AM MARCH 30, 1979, WITH ABOVE  
NORMAL LIMITS. ALSO APPROXIMATELY 250,000 GALLONS OF  
RADIOACTIVE WATER BUILDUP AT SITE AND IODINE RADIOACTIVE  
CRYSTAL SEEPING THROUGH FOUR CONCRETE WALLS AS REACTOR II  
CAUSING SLIGHT RADIATION ON GROUNDS OF SITE.

GOVERNOR THORNBURGH WAS CONSIDERING EVACUATION OF FOUR  
COUNTY AREAS SURROUNDING THREE MILE ISLAND, HOWEVER,  
GOVERNOR'S CONSULTATION WITH EMERGENCY AND POWER PLANT  
EXPERTS HAS ADVISED THAT PERSONS WITHIN A TEN MILE RADIUS  
OF THREE MILE ISLAND SHOULD REMAIN INDOORS AS A PRECAUTION;  
HOWEVER, GOVERNMENT AND PERSONNEL OF FACILITY ARE CONTINUOUSLY  
ADVISING THE LOCAL POPULATION THAT THE RADIATION LEVELS ARE  
WITHIN NORMAL LIMITS AND SINCE THE PLANT'S COOLING SYSTEM IS

NOW FUNCTIONING IT HAS GREATLY REDUCED THE NUCLEAR EMERGENCY.  
MOST RECENT INFORMATION RECEIVED RELATES GOVERNOR THORNBURGH  
ORDERED ALL PRESCHOOL CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN IN THE FIVE  
MILE RADIUS OF THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT TO EVACUATE THE AREA.

HARRISBURGH FBI RESIDENT AGENCY IS IN DIRECT  
COMMUNICATION WITH PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE AND GOVERNOR  
THORNBURGH'S OFFICE AND HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT THERE IS  
NO CRITICAL EMERGENCY AT THIS TIME. AS IT STANDS NOW, THE  
SITUATION WILL NOT DEVELOP INTO ANY GREATER EMERGENCY. THE  
BIGGEST PROBLEM NOW IS PUBLIC CONCERN CAUSED BY THE NEWS  
STORIES AND/OR RUMORS AND THE PEOPLE, MANY OF WHOM ARE  
LINED UP AT GAS STATIONS WAITING TO GAS THEIR CARS UP SO THEY  
CAN GET OUT OF THE AREA. A NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED, MANY  
OF THE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN HARRISBURG HAVE CLOSED, AS  
WELL AS NUMEROUS PRIVATE INDUSTRIES, AND OFFICES IN THE  
HARRISBURGH AREA HAVE SENT THEIR PEOPLE HOME.

POOR ORIGINAL

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