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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JUN 7 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: File

FROM: Saul Levine, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: PRINCIPAL CONTACT MADE WITH EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS
DURING TMI 2 ACCIDENT

1. I spoke with Robert Ritzmann of Science Applications concerning H₂ and O₂ generation rates in TMI 2 vessel in the period March 31 - April 1. He informed me that, although an increase without considerations of a reformation rate of H₂ and O₂ due to bubble back pressure, that the 1 percent rate was probably too high. He also said that he felt the rate was probably no higher than 0.1 percent per day and could be zero, but that he did not have the data to calculate an explicit rate.
2. I spoke with James Proctor of the Naval Surface Weapons Center about the effects of a Hydrogen explosion on vessel integrity. He said the cylindrical position of the vessel would be subjected to about 6 percent strain, which should not break it, and that it would also be subjected to a lifting force of about 1.5 X 10⁸ lbs. He could not calculate whether the main loop piping could hold the vessel down when subjected to this force, since he did not have detailed information on plant layout.

Saul Levine, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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