

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-V-80-59

July 18, 1980

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

FACILITY: Veterans Administration Hospital
Fresno, California
NRC License No. 04-01935-03

SUBJECT: DAMAGED SHIPMENT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

The Region V office was notified on July 17, 1980 by an inspector from the State of California that a shipment containing 14 microcuries of iodine-125, which was to be delivered to the V.A. Hospital in Fresno, California had been damaged in shipment and was being held by the freight forwarder in Mountain View, California for disposition.

Two NRC inspectors were dispatched to the freight forwarder's location and the American Airlines freight terminal. A radiological survey of the areas where the damaged package had been handled indicated no contamination levels. Arrangements have been made to have a representative of the shipper (Abbott Labs, North Chicago, Illinois) pick up the damaged package for disposal. The FAA/DOT agency was notified of the incident.

There has been no media interest.

The Region V office was notified by the State of California at 2:45 P.M. on July 17, 1980. The results of the examination of the damaged package and the radiological surveys were reported by the NRC inspectors onsite at 6:45 P.M. on July 17, 1980.

This item is submitted for information only and is closed for reporting purposes.

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