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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

POOR ORIGINAL

Date: April 28, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-80-67

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: Automation Industries, Incorporated
Phoenixville, Pennsylvania
License Number 37-00611-09

Subject: RADIOGRAPHY SOURCE FOUND ON PUBLIC HIGHWAY

Region I was notified by the headquarters duty officer at 6:45 p.m. on April 26, 1980 that a package marked "radioactive materials" had been found on U.S. Route 202 in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. The package had been struck by a vehicle in the north bound lane. Region I inspectors arrived at the scene by 7:00 p.m. Radiation surveys of the device showed no damage to the shielding or leakage of radioactive materials. The container had a DOT Yellow-II label indicating 34 curies of iridium-192. Region I inspectors took custody of the iridium-192 container and returned it to the Region I office. The iridium-192 was in route to Automation Industries from the Naval Supply Center, Charleston, South Carolina.

A press release is not planned by Region I or the licensee. Region I has responded to inquiries from the news media.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed of this incident.

Region I has contacted the licensee and will determine the carrier who lost the iridium-192 container. The U.S. Department of Transportation will be informed of the incident and circumstances.

Contact: J. E. Glenn 488-1343 G. H. Smith 488-1200
Prepared by EXT Branch Chief LXT

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Region I Form 83a
(Rev. January 1980)

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