

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-89-96

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

Facility:
Lufthansa German Airline
International Cargo Terminal
Logan International Airport
East Boston, Massachusetts 02128
"Non Licensee"

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

Subject: DAMAGED SHIPMENT OF IODINE-125

On December 4, 1989, a representative of Clean Harbors, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts, contacted NRC Headquarters to report that a shipment of radioactive iodine-125, of approximately 5 microcuries (uCi), was received on November 26, 1989, at Logan International Airport in a damaged package. The shipment was enroute to the University of Vermont, via Lufthansa Airline, from Hoechst Ag. of Frankfurt, Germany. A Lufthansa representative stated that the package had been placed on a shelf for storage. On December 4, 1989 NRC Region I requested that a representative from the State of Massachusetts visit the Lufthansa facility and survey the package and the immediate surrounding areas. The survey demonstrated no detectable contamination and the Massachusetts state representative sealed the package in a plastic bag and placed it in a secured vault at the Lufthansa facility to await disposition.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has been notified of the incident.

Region I is maintaining contact with Lufthansa and the U.S. Department of Transportation to assure proper disposition. The Region I PAO is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

CONTACT: Thompson Eckert
337-5303 337-5364

DISTRIBUTION:

OWFN MNBB L-St. NL Mail: ADM:DMB
Chairman Carr AEOD RES DOT:Trans only
Comm. Roberts IRM PDR
Comm. Rogers OIG NRC Ops Ctr _____
Comm. Curtiss

CA EDO Phillips INPO-
OGC NMSS ACRS NSAC-
GPA NRR
PA OE Regional Offices _____ RI Resident Office _____
SLITP

EW
ASLAP Licensee: _____
(Reactor Licensees)

(Handwritten initials)

(Handwritten notes)
3-48
E-34