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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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:
4 In the Matter of:
:
5 INVESTIGATION OF 3 MILE ISLAND : Docket No. 50-320
:
6 -----x

The Deposition of WILLIAM H.

SPANGLER, taken before me, Dolores Crabtree, Notary Public, in and for the County of Wayne, State of Michigan, Room 139 Detroit Airport-Sheraton, Romulus, Michigan, on Wednesday, June 18, 1980.

APPEARANCES:

WILLIAM L. FISHER
Section Chief Fuels and Materials Branch
Region I
Office of Inspection and Enforcement, NRC

DAVID H. GAMBLE
Investigator
Office of Inspector and Auditor, NRC

Appearing on behalf of Nuclear Regulatory Commission

JOHN G. MULLIN
Assistant Counsel, NPGD
Lynchburg, Virginia

Appearing on behalf of Deponent William H. Spangler

300 7TH STREET, S.W., REPORTERS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024 (202) 554-2345

Romulus, Michigan

Wednesday, June 18, 1980

- - -

W I L L I A M H. S P A N G L E R

was thereupon called as a witness herein, and having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

MR. GAMBLE: For the record, my name is David Gamble. I'm an investigator with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Sitting beside me is William Fisher with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Region III Office.

We're conducting an investigation of the matter in interest to and within the jurisdiction of the Commission. The specific purpose of this interview today is to further the progress of this investigation. Specifically, we're attempting to identify and locate any and all records, notes, facsimiles, tape recordings or documentation of any sort, generated by B & W employees of March 28th, 1979, that relate to conversations or communications between B & W employees and 3 Mile Island, General Public Utilities, Metropolitan Edison personnel, or other B & W employees in the vicinity of TMI.

EXAMINATION

BY MR. GAMBLE:

Q Do you understand the purpose of the interview?

A Sure.

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1 Q Would you please give us, for the record, your name and your
2 full title and the organization you work for?

3 A My name is William H. Spangler. I'm Utility SAles Manager
4 for the Detroit district of Babcock and Wilcox.

5 Q Is this the same position you held on March 28th of 1979?

6 A NO.

7 Q What was your title and position?

8 A My position, at that time, was manager of Start Up Services
9 with the Nuclear Generating Division of Babcock and Wilcox.

10 Q Prior to this interview, have you had any discussions with
11 anyone about the extent or type of information you should
12 share with us today?

13 A No.

14 MR. FISHER: Were you present, at any
15 time, in the so-called War Room --

16 MR. MULLIN: Excuse me, off the record
17 for a second.

18 (Discussion off the record.)

19 Q (By Mr. Gamble, continuing) What type of information do you
20 feel is proper to discuss today, and what type of information
21 have you discussed with the attorney, not to get into?

22 A My understanding of the discussion today is that it has to do
23 strictly with the March 28th, per se, the date, and as you
24 mentioned, the type of communications that took place during
25 that day.

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1 Q Your understanding is that the only type of information we
2 would not get into, discuss, is that relating to the litiga-
3 tion in which B & W is involved?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And if we come to any area where you can't give a complete
6 answer to a question because it may be involved in litigation,
7 please specify that your answer is limited; okay?

8 A I presume John would be better able to say, hey, that's
9 sensitive.

10 MR. MULLIN: You probably can make a
11 judgment. If we wander into something, we'll go off the
12 record to clarify it.

13 MR. GAMBLE: Okay.

14 MR. FISHER: Mr. Spangler, were you
15 present, at any time, in the so-called War Room at B & W,
16 Lynchburg on March 28th, 1979?

17 A Yes.

18 MR. FISHER: During what times?

19 A When -- this has to be strictly by memory.

20 MR. FISHER: Certainly.

21 A It's a long time ago, so I'm not saying within an hour or two
22 hours or whatever, that I'm going to be specifically accurate.

23 MR. FISHER: We understand.

24 A I recall the War Room, per se, being made available, if you
25 will, to handle the 3 Mile Island effort sometime in the

1 afternoon, probably late afternoon. From the time that
2 started until the time we vacated the room that night, later,
3 I was in and out of there. I was in part of the time and out
4 part of the time, other places.

5 MR. FISHER: All right. What was your
6 function or role when you were in the War Room?

7 A Well, during that initial number of hours -- I was manager
8 of Plant Start Up Services, and as such, the resident B & W
9 Manager at 3 Mile Island, administratively reported to me, and
10 so my responsibility, really, as I viewed it at the time and
11 still believe it is, was as a communications supervisor.

12 Maybe the best way to put it, I was the
13 input from the site to Lynchburg.

14 MR. FISHER: Okay. During the time that
15 you were in the War Room, did you make any calls, any telephone
16 calls that is, to TMI, GPU, Met Ed or to B & W employees in
17 the vicinity of 3 Mile Island?

18 A Okay, we're limiting this to March 28th, midnight?

19 MR. FISHER: Right.

20 A I made a lot of attempts at phone calls that day to try and
21 reach people at the site. Most all were unsuccessful. Most
22 all attempts were made from my office, not from the room. I
23 don't recall specifically making any specific calls from that
24 room. I recall more specifically awaiting calls in that room
25 from the site, and specifically, awaiting calls from my

1 manager who was Lee Rogers at the site.

2 My recollection is not making any
3 specific communications on that day with the site, and tele-
4 phone calls that I made, but receiving calls in there,
5 specifically, from people at the site, specifically from Lee
6 Rogers.

7 MR. FISHER: All right.

8 A I don't want to lead you to believe that I didn't make any
9 phone calls in there, because I just don't remember making
10 any specific phone calls out of there other than that one
11 particular discussion.

12 Q (By Mr. Gamble, continuing) What particular discussion?

13 A First of all, we had to establish communications with Lee
14 Rogers.

15 Q And you're not sure which --

16 A My point is, I don't remember making any specific calls out
17 or reaching anybody out of that room.

18 Q Okay. Rogers called you at your office phone number rather
19 than the War Room?

20 A No, no.

21 Q Okay. Where did he reach you?

22 A Rogers finally called us, as I mentioned earlier, we tried --
23 I tried personally many times, from my office, to establish
24 communications with Lee. I was not able to establish that
25 communication with Lee. We finally established communications

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1 with Lee in the War Room that evening. I wouldn't even want
2 to say what time. I'm thinking of 5:00 or 6:00 o'clock.

3 MR. FISHER: Did you place that call?

4 A No, that was incoming to us.

5 MR. FISHER: That was incoming to you?

6 A Yes.

7 MR. FISHER: So, back to the original
8 question. You don't recall placing any calls to 3 Mile, GPU,
9 Met Ed or B & W people in the vicinity of 3 Mile, that day,
10 successfully?

11 A From the War Room?

12 MR. FISHER: From the War Room.

13 A Right.

14 MR. FISHER: Now you said you had tried
15 unsuccessfully from your office to reach Lee Rogers?

16 A Um-humm.

17 MR. FISHER: Did you try successfully or
18 unsuccessfully from your office or from any place else, to
19 reach other people, 3 Mile Island, GPU, Met Ed?

20 A Oh, yes. We had a number of conversations with -- gosh, I
21 can't say his name now, Lee's assistant who was at his house
22 in Harrisburg near the site. I can't say his name, but we had
23 a number of conversations with him during the course of the day.

24 Q (By Mr. Gamble, continuing) He was a B & W employee?

25 A He was a B & W employee. He was what I would call the right

1 hand man.

2 MR. FISHER: Let me ask some questions
3 about your discussions with both Lee and his assistant, whose
4 name we can't recall.

5 Did you make any tape recordings of any of
6 those conversations?

7 A No, there was no tape recording made of any of my conversa-
8 tions with the site assistant from my office, and I would say
9 there was no tape recordings made out of my office, not
10 recorded.

11 As far as the conversations we had with
12 Lee Rogers that evening, I don't know if it was recorded or
13 not. I think it's possible because there was recording done,
14 but I don't know what point in time it started, that some of
15 the recording was done. I couldn't say personally whether
16 that particular conversation was recorded or not.

17 MR. FISHER: If recordings were made, do
18 you know where they would be?

19 A No, not physically.

20 MR. FISHER: Did you make any notes
21 regarding the conversations with Lee Rogers or his assistant?

22 A None.

23 Q (By Mr. Gamble, continuing) Is there any one person who was
24 supervising the recording?

25 A Oh, yes.

1 Q Who was that?

2 A There was, you know, I had a fellow that worked with me in
3 Lynchburg. He was basically my assistant, Ken Wandling. I
4 specifically instructed Wandling to take notes of conversations
5 that took place with 3 Mile Island that day. As far as I
6 know, Ken was present in whatever conversations I had, and
7 Ken did take notes.

8 Q He would have taken notes during your conversation with
9 Rogers and his assistant?

10 A Yes, yes.

11 Q Listening on an extension phone?

12 A No, no. We had a speaker. In all cases, we had a speaker,
13 and I have one in my office.

14 Q Do you know what he did with the notes; does he have them
15 still?

16 A He's got them, and just about everybody else in Lynchburg and
17 Washington has them.

18 MR. GAMBLE: Off the record.

19 (Discussion off the record.)

20 MR. FISHER: Did you participate in any
21 other telephone conversations on that date, with 3 Mile Island,
22 GPU, Met Ed, or other B & W employees near 3 Mile Island?

23 A I would hate to say no to that question, because I may well
24 have, but I don't remember. The earliest conversation I
25 remember having with the site or near the site, I was in the

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1 specific conversation with Lee in the early evening hours, and
 2 other than the number of conversations we had with Lee's
 3 assist it during the day, the only conversation I specifically
 4 remember, took place, I believe, well after midnight on the
 5 20th with the people in the control room at 3 Mile Island
 6 because, you know, one of the reasons obviously was that it
 7 was awfully hard to establish any kind of telephone communi-
 8 cations that day.

9 Any time we tried to call, it was always
 10 a busy signal. Other than those conversations, the only thing
 11 I specifically remember is from telephone conversations with
 12 the control room in the wee hours of the morning of the 29th.

13 MR. FISHER: While we're interested
 14 primarily in the 28th, can we pursue that just a little bit?

15 A Yes.

16 MR. FISHER: You said that you were in
 17 and out of the War Room --

18 A Um-humm.

19 MR. FISHER: -- until you left it, shut it
 20 down or whatever, that evening?

21 A Um-humm.

22 MR. FISHER: So would this conversation
 23 with the control room have been from your office?

24 A No, we left that evening, okay, and I went home. As far as I
 25 know, most everybody associated went home, because things were

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1 stabilized, but late that night, I don't know what time, I got
2 a call at home, and as a result of that call, went back to
3 the office somewhere around midnight. It was then, during
4 those early hours of the morning that the telephone lines
5 became less loaded, and we did have conversations with the
6 control room.

7 MR. FISHER: Were those conversations
8 recorded?

9 A No, not to my knowledge.

10 MR. FISHER: Was anybody taking notes?

11 A I would not want to say positively yes or no, because I don't
12 even remember who was in the room. There were quite a few of
13 us, and I can't say for sure even who they were.

14 MR. FISHER: All right. Did you overhear
15 anybody else making or participating in calls such as we've
16 been talking about, to GPU, Met Ed, 3 Mile Island or B & W
17 employees in the vicinity of 3 Mile Island?

18 A Again, I wouldn't want to say no, but I can't remember of any
19 specific phone calls that I listened to, overheard, or partici-
20 pated in that day, other than the ones I remember.

21 Q (By Mr. Gamble, continuing) Do you remember if anybody else
22 who might have been having phone calls, have you heard that
23 those were recorded?

24 A I wouldn't want to begin to say which phone calls were and
25 which phone calls were not recorded. I know that in the War

1 Room after, once the activity got picked up and once things
2 were kind of formalized, the organization somewhat, there was
3 considerable recording of telephone calls, but it mostly gets
4 into the 29th.

5 Q Most of the 28th activity, if there was documentation, it
6 would have been notes, if that?

7 A I'm sure there were notes taken that day. Whether there was
8 a note taken of everything said, I couldn't say. We specifi-
9 cally assigned people to take notes, and I know there were
10 notes taken. I just don't know, firsthand, whether there was
11 any recordings made on that day.

12 MR. FISHER: So far we're been talking
13 mainly about telephone calls and whether those were recorded
14 or notes were taken. Let me ask you a question that's a
15 little broader.

16 Did you tape record or make notes of any
17 conversations with other people, not necessarily telephone
18 calls, but conversations within the War Room with other people
19 and B & W that day?

20 A No, except, you know, I mentioned that the recording was done,
21 that I know of was done simply by setting up a tape recorder
22 with a speaker. It was open to the War Room, so I think it's
23 pretty obvious that if anyone was standing close, carrying on
24 a conversation at the same time that thing was open and running,
25 it would have been picked up. I certainly don't know of no

1 attempt to record in-house conversations. Again, I didn't
2 know everything that was going on in that building that day.
3 I did not.

4 MR. FISHER: Were you keeping notes of
5 your own thoughts and activities regarding the 3 Mile accident
6 that day?

7 A No.

8 MR. FISHER: Do you know whether other
9 people were taking notes of what was going on?

10 A No, I only knew of my own man, Mr. Wandling, assigned to take
11 notes, and I know he took notes quite a few notes.

12 Q (By Mr. Gamble, continuing) Presumably, other people took
13 notes?

14 A Well, other people, for example, as far as in a 24 hour day
15 of business, and even the official note taker assignee, of
16 course, was rotated from shift to shift in relief of Mr.
17 Wandling.

18 Q Was Mr. Wandling there taking notes up through the end of the
19 28th?

20 A I'm going to say, yes, to that because I believe he was, but
21 again, you know, from hour to hour and whether he stayed
22 there until the bitter end that day, I can't say for sure,
23 but I think he did.

24 MR. FISHER: Do you know who the other
25 note takers were, assigned to relieve him?

1 A Well, I believe one of them was Dave Culberson, and again, I
2 say I believe.

3 MR. FISHER: All right. We have attempted
4 to compiled a list of all persons who made contact with TMI,
5 Met Ed, GPU, and B & W employees in the vicinity of TMI, on
6 March 28th, 1979, or who were present in the War Room on that
7 date. Here's a list of those people.

8 Can you think of anybody who belongs on
9 this list whose name is omitted?

10 A Some of these people were at the site.

11 MR. FISHER: All right.

12 A And I came up with the man I was trying to think of,
13 Schaedel.

14 MR. FISHER: How do you spell that?

15 A S-c-h-a-e-d-e-l.

16 MR. FISHER: And that was Lee Rogers'
17 assistant?

18 A Yes. On this list, I see Rogers, Flint, Schaedel. They were
19 at the site from the beginning.

20 MR. FISHER: We're most interested in
21 knowing whether we left somebody off.

22 A I don't see anybody. That looks like you've got all of them
23 here. If there's anybody missing, I just wouldn't be able
24 to -- at this time, I can't see anything that comes right out
25 in front of me.

1 Q (By Mr. Gamble, continuing) Since that date, since March 28th,
2 have you recorded, dictated, written down, any of your
3 recollections of the activities that took place on that day?

4 A No.

5 Q Okay. Where would be the best place to try and locate, I
6 guess in one place, the notes different people took, such as
7 those Mr. Wandling took?

8 You indicated a lot of places.

9 A The notes that Wandling have, are readily available. I don't
10 have them with me. They're in Lynchburg, but you can get
11 them from just about anybody in Lynchburg, I guess. John here
12 can get them, can't you, John?

13 (No response.)

14 Q (By Mr. Gamble, continuing) We've explained the purpose of
15 the interview is to try and identify documents and recordings
16 or anything that has additional information.

17 Can you think of anything else that would
18 be important to help us in identifying these records?

19 A No -- can you run back over what you just said?

20 Q We're trying to identify the various documents, recordings,
21 any kind of documentation of what took place on that day.
22 We're trying to identify what there is and where it is, and
23 if you can think of anything else we haven't really mentioned
24 but is a good source --

25 A I can't think of anything because, again, all of the

1 documentation that was recorded that day was either by
2 personal notes or that I know of, by the possibility of some
3 conversations being recorded on tape.

4 Q Do you know of anyone who took personal notes that you know
5 pretty much for a fact that they haven't submitted them to
6 your Central Files?

7 A No.

8 Q As far as you know, anybody that you know of that took notes
9 has submitted them?

10 A As far as I know, anybody that took notes or was asked to
11 submit them, submitted them. I don't know -- some people take
12 notes and some people don't. I'm not a note taker. I prefer
13 to give it to somebody else. I couldn't identify who those
14 people are, those note takers are.

15 Q The calls to Mr. Rogers' assistant -- I forget his name.

16 A Schaedel.

17 Q Schaedel. You indicated there were several of them during
18 that day?

19 A There were several, yes, several discussions with Schaedel
20 during the course of the day, that's correct.

21 Q Each one was a separate phone call?

22 A Each one was a separate phone call.

23 Q Approximately three or ten or --

24 A They were all recorded in Wandling's notes. I'm guessing three
25 or so.

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MR. GAMBLE: I don't have any other questions.

MR. FISHER: No further questions.

That ends the interview.

(Whereupon, deposition was concluded at 2:17 p.m.)

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the
Section Chief, William L. Fisher and Investigator David Gamble

in the matter of:

Date of Proceeding: Wednesday, June 18, 1980

Docket Number: _____

Place of Proceeding: Detroit Airport-Sheraton
Room 139, Romulus, Michigan

were held as herein appears, and that this is the original transcript thereof for the file of the Commission.

Dolores Crabtree

Official Reporter (Typed)

Dolores Crabtree

Official Reporter (Signature)