

Date: February 3, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-81- 17

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
(LN 37-611-09)
Phoenixville, Pennsylvania

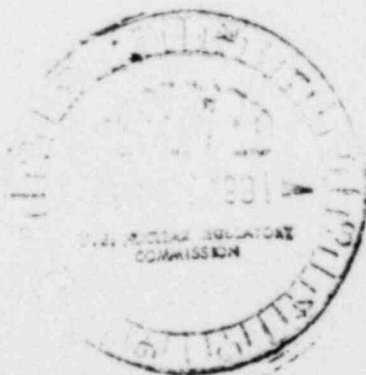
Subject: REPORTED POSSIBLE RADIATION INJURY

On February 2, 1981, the licensee notified Region I that preliminary evaluation by the licensee's medical consultant indicates that two employees may have received radiation injuries to their thumbs. The two employees will be examined at the hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and have been removed from all radiation work. The injury appears to be to the nail area of the thumb. The licensee believes that the injuries, if radiation-induced, were due to a narrow beam of radiation. The licensee fabricates and loads sources into radiographic devices for commercial distribution.

The regional office will conduct an investigation on February 3, 1981 and will make arrangements for an NRC medical consultant to review the case with the attending physician.

There has been no media interest. No press release is planned by the licensee or the NRC at this time. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been notified. Region I received notification of this occurrence by telephone call from the licensee at 4:35 p.m. on February 2, 1981.

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