



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
631 PARK AVENUE
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

Docket Nos. 30-2618
30-384
70-1331
70-1409

30 JUN 1981

Veterans Administration Hospital
ATTN: Mr. J. Paris
Director
3495 Bailey Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14215



Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection 81-01

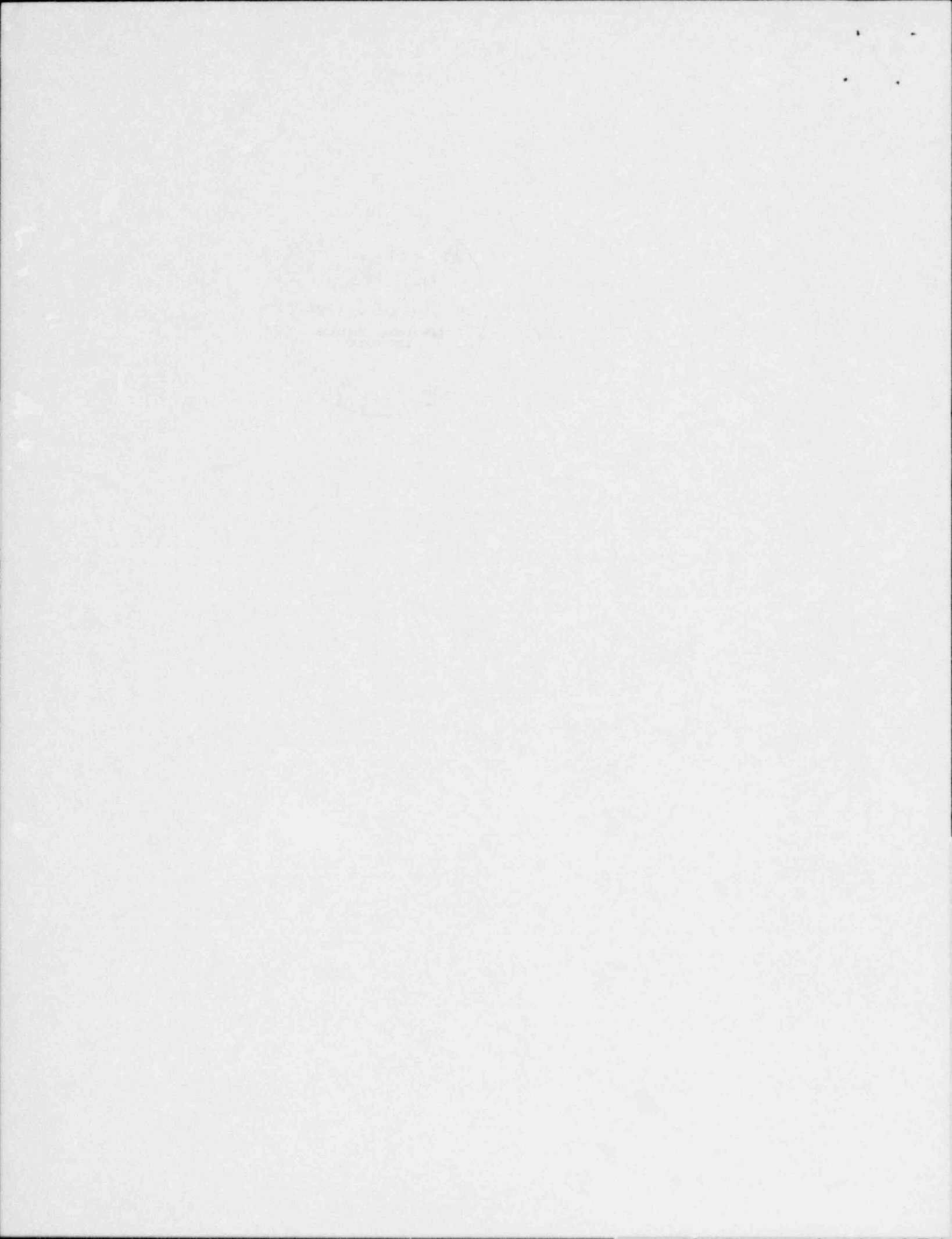
This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Miss J. McGinness of this office on April 6-7, 1981 of activities authorized by NRC License Nos. 31-786-02, 31-786-03, SNM-1305, and SNM-1376 and to the discussions of our findings held by Miss McGinness with yourself and members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your licenses as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and the conditions of your licenses. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, measurements made by the inspector, and observations by the inspector.

Our inspector also verified the steps you have taken to correct the items of noncompliance brought to your attention in the enclosure to our letter dated July 7, 1980. We have no further questions regarding your action at this time.

In addition, the inspector made independent measurements of the radiation output of your teletherapy unit using ionization chambers. These measurements were made as part of our on going program of evaluating the performance of teletherapy units as documented in Bulletin 76-08 which was sent to you in August, 1976. Our measurements agree within -0.3% of the value used for treatment purposes. Our value is consistent with your measurement and is within acceptable limits.

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30 JUN 1981

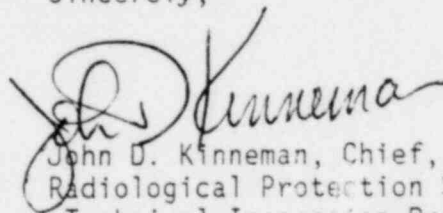
Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that certain of your activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements, as set forth in the Notice of Violation, enclosed herewith as Appendix A. These items of noncompliance have been categorized into the levels described in the Federal Register Notice (45 FR 66754) dated October 7, 1980. You are required to respond to this letter and in preparing your response, you should follow the instructions in Appendix A.

During the discussions of our findings at the conclusion of the inspection, Miss McGinness expressed our concern regarding your failure to resolve the discrepancy you identified between a chamber calibration correction factor supplied by the Victoreen Regional Calibration Center which differed by - 2.2% from that obtained by intercomparison with the Mideast Center for Radiological Physics (MCRP), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It is our understanding that you will resolve the discrepancy between these chamber calibration factors. Please confirm this understanding in your response to this letter.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and your reply will be placed in the Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



John D. Kinneman, Chief, Materials
Radiological Protection Section,
Technical Inspection Branch

Enclosure: Appendix A, Notice of Violation

cc: w/encl
Dr. James J. Smith