

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE COMMISSION

In the Matter of

THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF CALIFORNIA

(UCLA Research Reactor)

Docket No. 50-142
(Proposed Renewal of
Facility License No. R-71)

March 2, 1982

AFFIDAVIT OF ANDREW DANIEL BASIAGO

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ss.

I, ANDREW DANIEL BASIAGO, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. On Tuesday, January 26, 1982, I proceeded in my role as an investigative reporter for the UCLA Daily Bruin to the Boelter Hall office of School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Dean Russell O'Neill. I had been informed the previous afternoon that a tour of the Argonaut nuclear reactor facility was scheduled between UCLA legal representatives, NRC officials, and the Committee to Bridge the Gap. I entered O'Neill's office at 9:15 a.m.

2. I encountered UCLA attorney William Cormier, whom I had met previously, in the outer office of the engineering dean. Cormier angrily informed me that the campus press would not be invited on the tour and "that this is not a media event." He seemed consternated by my very presence, and anxiously made two phone calls in my presence within a minute or two of encountering me.

3. At 9:20 a.m., two men and a woman arrived and met with Cormier. Cormier's demeanor was that of an affable host and I remember thinking his attitude reminded me of that of an auto dealer.

4. Cormier introduced the trio to the dean at the door to his private office and the group met behind closed doors until at least 9:45 a.m., when I left with Bruin photographer Andy Schlei and CEG member Steve Aftergood, who had arrived a few minutes earlier, to proceed to the reactor to see what pictures and comment we could obtain even if we would be excluded from the tour. Schlei left our company in transit to the reactor. Prior to

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leaving the dean's office, Tom Tugend, university public information officer, emerged from the room where the meeting was being conducted and said that Dean O'Neill did not want any press on the tour.

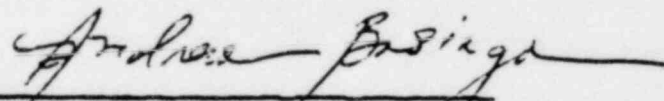
5. At the entrance to the Argonaut Reactor/Tokomak Fusion Lab facility, I met CBG president Daniel Hirsch and KNXT Correspondent Kim Murriner and told them of the meeting I had witnessed. The group gathering at the reactor entrance expressed concern as to the whereabouts of Mr. Cormier and the NRC Staff. Dorothy Thompson informed me that such a meeting was a possible violation of ex parte procedure.

6. Preceding the tour, the female present during the earlier meeting was identified as Jessica Laverty. Mr. Cormier and the woman I had seen upstairs in the Dean's office came out of the reactor room and talked with Daniel Hirsch and Dorothy Thompson. The woman was then identified as Jessica Laverty. NRC Commissioner Thomas Roberts was not visually revealed to the press, and the third man has never been identified.

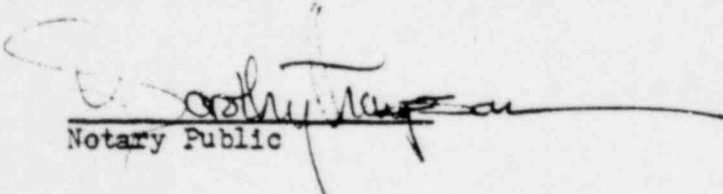
7. Following the tour, I confronted Mr. Cormier with the facts of what I had seen earlier in the morning. I asked Mr. Cormier, "Do you deny I saw you meet with the NRC team this morning in Dean O'Neill's office?" Cormier responded, "No. But it was only a greeting, not a meeting." Later, Mr. Hirsch told me Cormier said the greeting lasted between 9:50 and 10:00 a.m. This conflicts with reality as I recorded it, for I am certain I witnessed a longer discussion from at least 9:20 a.m. to 10 a.m.

8. Later I spoke with Dean O'Neill in person. Dean O'Neill confirmed that the meeting had occurred, and indicated that among the subjects discussed was enrollment in Engineering classes and the crisis in financing.

Executed this 2nd day of March 1982 at Los Angeles, California.


Andrew Daniel Basigo

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 2nd day of March 1982.


Notary Public

