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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Dudley Thompson, Executive Officer

for Operations Support

Office of Inspection and Enforcement

FROM:

Roger A. Fortuna, Assistant Director

for Investigations

Office of Inspector and Auditor

SUBJECT:

QUESTIONABLE CONDUCT BY NRC EMPLOYEES

In reference to your memorandum dated July 30, 1979, subject as above, the Report of Investigation into this matter is attached. As indicated in the report, one of the allegations raised by your memorandum was substantiated. More importantly, however, a systemic weakness concerning the integrity of the investigative process is indicated. For example, there are no internal NRC procedures which (1) prohibit disclosing that an investigation is in progress or (2) which give guidance on when and how this prohibition should be invoked. Without such procedures, and given the apparent wide distribution of memoranda like the May 2, 1979, memorandum, it is believed that employee misconduct in the future will be more difficult to substantiate, absent the most flagrant employee conduct obviously calculated to help the target of the investigation.

Attachment: As stated.

Distribution

/ OIA 79-72 OIA rdq Smith

Fortuna

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