

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Agency: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Title: Incident Investigation Team

Docket No. Interview of: JAMES CAJEWSKI And DENISE CLAYTOR

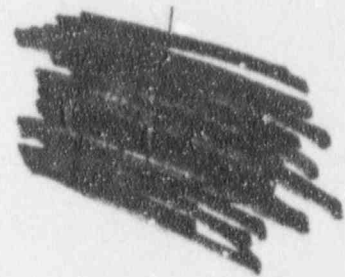
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1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

3
4 OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

5 - - - - -X

6 In the Matter of: :

7 INVESTIGATIVE INTERVIEW :

8 James Gajewski and :

9 Denise Claytor :

10 (CLOSED) :

11 - - - - -X

12
13 Browning-Ferris Industries of
14 Pennsylvania
15 Carnegie, Pennsylvania
16 Monday, December 7, 1992

17
18 The above-entitled matter commenced at 10:54
19 o'clock a.m., when were present:

20 RON LLOYD, Investigator

21 CYNTHIA G. JONES, Section Chief, IMNS

22 Nuclear Regulatory Commission
23
24
25

P R O C E E D I N G S

[10:54 a.m.]

1
2
3
4 MS. JONES: Good morning and thank you for
5 allowing us the opportunity to speak with you this morning.

6 My name is Cynthia Jones and I am the Section
7 Leader in the Programmatic Safety Section in our Division of
8 Industrial Medical Nuclear Safety in our Washington office
9 which is actually located in Rockville, Maryland, and I am
10 with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

11 The purpose of our discussion this morning is that
12 the NRC has put together what we call an Incident
13 Investigation Team. It's the highest level of investigation
14 team that the Commission puts together when an incident like
15 this has happened. It is our intent to establish what
16 happened, to identify any probable causes, to find the facts
17 and put them in the correct sequence of order and interview
18 people who were directly involved with, in this case, the
19 package as it went through the different locations
20 throughout the state and also the state of Ohio.

21 The purpose of transcribing the interviews is to
22 aid us later when we need to have the facts, we'll have it
23 written down and it helps us to minimize any note-taking and
24 it's really just a convenience for us.

25 One thing that you should be aware of is that the

1 transcripts will be available for your review and you can
2 make corrections as needed. Exhibit 3.1, which I am handing
3 both of you, is a copy that you can keep and that explains a
4 little bit more about the transcript and record that you'll
5 have an opportunity to make corrections or if you feel that
6 something was recorded incorrectly or stated incorrectly or
7 if you just made a mistake, you can change it and make
8 corrections.

9 Any corrections or clarifications that you make
10 will be part of the transcript. The transcript will be made
11 publicly available in our Public Documents Room which will
12 be in our Region I office outside of Philadelphia in King of
13 Prussia and also in our Washington office as part of the
14 facts that we have to gather for the team.

15 What I would like you to do is if you could,
16 please, state your name and then spell your last name and
17 then tell us the title of the job that you have at this
18 facility.

19 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Denise Claytor,
20 C-l-a-y-t-o-r. I'm District Safety Manager.

21 MS. JONES: Okay, thank you.

22 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: And James Gajewski [Guy-
23 ef'-ski], G-a-j-e-w-s-k-i, Assistant District Safety
24 Manager.

25 MS. JONES: Okay. Thank you very much.

1 We recently just talked with Mike a couple minutes
2 ago and what I would like you to do is to describe the
3 events that occurred that involved yourselves as clearly as
4 you can.

5 Denise, if you could start on just what happened
6 if someone called you or what happened the day you got
7 involved with this.

8 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I received a phone call on
9 Friday, November 27th, in the evening.

10 MS. JONES: In the evening?

11 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: At home.

12 MS. JONES: Okay.

13 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Informing me that the
14 trailer had been returned here and that it was registering
15 radioactive, that the Warren facility had asked us to come
16 and bring it back.

17 MS. JONES: Do you know who called you?

18 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: The fellow that brought the
19 trailer back, [REDACTED]

20 MS. JONES: Okay. Is that as part of your
21 responsibilities for your job here? Maybe you could
22 describe briefly what your responsibilities are and why he
23 would contact you?

24 [Telephone rings.]

25 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Can we break for one second

1 so I can tell her to quit ringing the phones off the hook?

2 MS. JONES: Yes, great.

3 [Brief recess.]

4 MS. JONES: We're ready. What I was going to ask
5 you is what are your responsibilities as a part of District
6 Manager and the reason why you received the call?

7 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I am responsible for
8 anything that has to do with the safety and welfare of our
9 employees as well as investigating and dealing with any
10 accidents or injuries that have to do with our employees,
11 training for new employees and existing employees.

12 MS. JONES: So you received the call at home?

13 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Correct.

14 MS. JONES: And then what happened?

15 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I contacted the District
16 Manager and he informed me that he was aware of it and that
17 we would deal with it on Monday morning.

18 MS. JONES: Who is the District Manager?

19 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: [REDACTED]

20 MS. JONES: I'm sorry?

21 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: [REDACTED]

22 MS. JONES: [REDACTED] -- and is he at this
23 facility?

24 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Correct.

25 MS. JONES: Okay, so the truck in question stayed

1 here over the weekend?

2 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Correct.

3 MS. JONES: And then what happened?

4 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Monday when we got here Mike
5 had gotten called out onto a route so we waited until he got
6 in. When he came in Jim and I had discussed it. We decided
7 that we felt that the best thing to do was the more people
8 involved in it, the less time anybody had to spend. Since
9 we had no idea what we were really dealing with, we waited
10 until Mike got in. It was a little bit after one o'clock.

11 We went outside. Mike backed one of the straight
12 route trucks up to the trailer. We unloaded -- I was going
13 to guess about 15 boxes. I honestly did not count them,
14 okay?

15 MS. JONES: Did you have any meters with you or
16 anything?

17 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes. Yes, we had one of our
18 route meters.

19 MS. JONES: And what kind of meter is that? Do
20 you know? Or do you know, Jim?

21 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: It's a Ludlam Geiger
22 counter with a zero to 5 scale and three multiple factors
23 and a radiation detector that we had used and it had just
24 been calibrated in September 23rd of '92.

25 MS. JONES: And do you have that on-site that we

1 could take a look at that today?

2 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: It's on a truck right now
3 but it will be back.

4 MS. JONES: Okay. Okay, we'll do that.
5 So we can get that.

6 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: We have a book that is on
7 that here in the office, too.

8 MS. JONES: We can look at that.
9 So who had the survey meter?

10 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Jim.

11 MS. JONES: You did?

12 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Yes.

13 MS. JONES: So Jim you had the Geiger counter?

14 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Yes.

15 MS. JONES: And how many of you were outside,
16 again?

17 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Three.

18 MS. JONES: And then what happened?

19 I think you are at the point where you said the
20 truck had just been --

21 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Mike backed the truck up to
22 the trailer, we unloaded, like I said, I didn't really count
23 them, but I was guessing about 15 boxes into the straight
24 truck, pulled the straight truck away and determined that it
25 was in the straight truck. We had taken it from the trailer

1 into the straight truck, and then started unloading the
2 boxes one at a time and taking them away. I am a terrible
3 judge of distance, but it may have been about 20-30 feet
4 back until we determined which box. I am just going to
5 guess we went through about five until we discovered which
6 box it was.

7 MS. JONES: Do you remember where this box would
8 have been on the semi-trailer truck?

9 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Approximately, I will give
10 you a guess on the distance, about four to five feet on the
11 driver's side from the rear of the trailer.

12 MS. JONES: So four to five feet up from the bed
13 of the truck?

14 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: I don't remember how high
15 it was, just distance in.

16 MS. JONES: Distance in from the end of the truck?

17 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: From the end of the truck
18 into the loaded unit.

19 MS. JONES: Do you know if this was one of the
20 last loads that was put in the semi?

21 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: According to our records, it
22 was.

23 MS. JONES: It was.

24 So how were you able to tell that this was the box
25 that was in question?

1 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: It pegged the meter.

2 MS. JONES: It pegged the meter?

3 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes.

4 MS. JONES: Do you know what the meter reading was
5 when you went out to the trailer?

6 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: The Geiger counter that we
7 have, the model only registers up to 50 millirems per hour,
8 and it was pegging the meter at approximately 12-foot from
9 that same area on the trailer.

10 When we first had the straight truck backed up,
11 and we started to get some off, at an approximately 20 foot
12 distance, the meter was down, and we could tell that those
13 boxes weren't the hot one, and then when the box did come
14 off, then it pegged that whole area over there, so then we
15 moved the boxes, and changed the distance so that we could
16 get an actual reading and determine if we had -- at that
17 point, we didn't know whether we had more than one box or
18 not.

19 MS. JONES: And how far away were you the whole
20 time from this box that you finally realized was the one
21 that had the source in it?

22 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: It went from within our
23 hands to --

24 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Ten-fifteen feet away. The
25 farthest it would have been would have been approximately

1 about 50 yards away. That is where we actually -- Mike and
2 I -- moved the box individually, because once we knew we had
3 a hot box, we went upwards beyond the trailer approximately
4 50 yards to an area where we took a box one at a time until
5 we registered it, and then once we knew we had the hot box
6 up there we did readings back at the straight truck and the
7 trailer, and they were nominal.

8 MS. JONES: And did you carry the box in your
9 hands?

10 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: We had a two-wheeler. From
11 the trailer to the ground, Mike lifted it down to myself,
12 and then as we were checking each individual boxes, Denise
13 was marking them whether it was picking up anything or not,
14 and she might have had some contact moving that specific
15 box, and when we were pretty sure we had one, Mike put it on
16 a two-wheeler and brought it to that 50 yards up above
17 beyond the trailer where we checked it.

18 MS. JONES: And then once you had it moved up 50
19 yards where we saw this morning, what happened then, did you
20 open the box?

21 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: No, not at that point.
22 When we knew that we had a hot box, we took the Geiger
23 counter back to the other units, and made sure we were
24 comfortable that there wasn't another hot box. Then, at
25 that point, we pulled the straight truck up farther, and we

1 brought the box in-between the two units, and we did open
2 the box at that point trying to find something to help
3 identify the box in the generator.

4 MS. JONES: And where were you when this --

5 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Jim and I were going through
6 the box.

7 MS. JONES: So you and Jim did it, and where was
8 Mike?

9 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: He was standing no more than
10 five feet from us.

11 MS. JONES: Was someone holding the box?
12 Can you describe what each of you did?

13 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: It was sitting on the
14 ground. You saw the size of the box. It was sitting on the
15 ground, and we had gloves on, and we took the bags out.
16 Inside of the box are red plastic bags. There is one liner
17 of the box, and then several smaller bags inside of that.

18 MS. JONES: And how much of the box did you go
19 through?

20 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I would say almost all of
21 it.

22 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: I would say just about all
23 of it

24 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: We were trying to determine,
25 because there was no generator's name on it, where it had

1 come from. We were looking for something that obviously
2 wasn't supposed to be in there, or someone's name to
3 identify where it had come from.

4 MR. LLOYD: Was everything in the box in red
5 plastic bags?

6 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes, it was.

7 MR. LLOYD: There were not loose articles
8 anyplace?

9 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: No, everything was bagged
10 either in the small, like a car litter size bag, or longer.

11 MS. JONES: Did you open up any of those bags?

12 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes.

13 MS. JONES: Any idea of how many you opened up,
14 all of them?

15 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Most of them, I would say
16 almost most of them.

17 MR. LLOYD: You mean 80-90 percent of them?

18 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes, because we were coming
19 up with nothing to determine where it came from.

20 MS. JONES: How long do you think it took you from
21 the time you opened the box up until the time you decided
22 you couldn't find any names?

23 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: The whole procedure took us
24 about an hour, because it was about five or ten after one
25 when we went out there and began, and when I came back here

1 to my desk, I know it was about ten minutes after two. So
2 that was from start to finish, and actually in-between
3 there, I don't recall what timeframes.

4 MS. JONES: Once you had box and you couldn't find
5 the information in it, then what did you do with it?

6 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Well, we did find one slip
7 in one of the boxes that had a person's name on it by the
8 name of [REDACTED], and it was
9 a slip like somebody would check in clothing or articles.
10 So we did have that, but that was the only thing that we
11 were able to find out of the box.

12 Using that, we were just trying to guess that it
13 came from somebody that was staying somewhere, long-term at
14 a hospital or a nursing home, so we had found out that the
15 route driver, who was like one of the last ones that would
16 have put on those last boxes in that last few feet of the
17 trailer, and we grabbed all his paperwork from his routes
18 for that day, and we started contacting everybody on that
19 route that had large boxes, because on the sheets they mark
20 whether they pick up small or large boxes, and everybody
21 that had large boxes that would have somebody stay for any
22 period of time.

23 We called everybody through the sheets, and I
24 can't verify but I believe we called Scenery Hill, but they
25 didn't have a record of that person. At that point, we had

1 called everybody that was on the sheet for that name, and
2 nobody had a resident by that name, so we weren't able to ID
3 where that box had come from at that point.

4 MS. JONES: So you mentioned earlier that it was
5 taped shut. What happened to the box?

6 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: We closed it back up, taped
7 it, and put it in the straight truck, and left it there
8 while Jim was trying to determine -- that he had gone over
9 and gotten the paperwork, and was trying to come up with who
10 it belonged to. I think it got to be around 4:00-4:30, I
11 know it was dark, and it was determined we could come up
12 with nothing, hit a dead-end. I asked the container shop to
13 move the two yard container to an isolated place where there
14 isn't a lot of traffic, and what-not, and then Jim drove the
15 truck, I went with him, up, and we carried the box over and
16 put it inside the container and locked it.

17 MS. JONES: Do you know if any of the other people
18 that were working in the area knew about the package, or
19 knew that there was a radioactive source in the package?

20 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Rumors. Why else would we
21 be out there digging around. We didn't make it a point to
22 publicize it because, simply, we weren't sure what we were
23 dealing with.

24 MR. LLOYD: For the record, the box that had the
25 source in it, after you isolated that box and put it in the

1 two yard container that you are speaking of, is this the
2 green container that we have a photograph of?

3 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: That's correct.

4 MS. JONES: In your estimate, how many people are
5 here on the weekends that would have been near or around
6 that container?

7 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: The container that --

8 MS. JONES: Where you locked it.

9 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: That was just on Monday
10 evening, overnight, and very few. The recycling facility up
11 there closes around 8:00-8:30. The container shop is done
12 at four o'clock. The maintenance facility is still open,
13 but they basically stay down here at this building.

14 MS. JONES: Okay.

15 If you could, please, on the aerial photograph of
16 the facility, if you could point out to us what facilities
17 are the maintenance shop, the recycling shop, and so forth,
18 and we will just keep that record of which shops are where.

19 So what time were done on Monday evening, you said
20 it was dark, so it was maybe --

21 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I would guess it was about
22 4:30 when we --

23 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: 4:30-5:00.

24 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes, when we did that, when
25 we isolated it.

1 MS. JONES: So what happened the next day then, on
2 Tuesday, that would be December 1st?

3 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: When I had gotten in, Mike
4 brought up to me that he had gone out -- in the process of
5 locating this particular box with the source in it, we had
6 also located another box with similar markings on the top of
7 it, it had the same start and finish date, and type and
8 initials, so Mike went out and looked through that box
9 trying to find something to identify it. When I had gotten
10 here on Tuesday, he had identified whose box it was.

11 MS. JONES: He did that Tuesday morning?

12 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: To the best of my knowledge,
13 yes.

14 MS. JONES: Once he was able to find a name, do
15 you know what happened then?

16 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Mike informed me that he had
17 called them, but they had told him that the person that was
18 in charge there, and he needed to speak with wouldn't be
19 available until 10:00 a.m.

20 MS. JONES: And did they call back, or did you
21 call them back?

22 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: In the meantime, I did a
23 little bit of investigating on my own, because we figured,
24 if they refused to pick it up, we needed to have another
25 source, and I was also told that the best thing to do was to

1 inform them of approximately how much it would cost us to
2 have it removed, if they didn't take care of it.

3 By the time I had obtained all that information,
4 [REDACTED] -- no, it was [REDACTED], had called Mike, and Mike
5 brought the information up to me. He said that they were
6 coming to get it.

7 MS. JONES: Who did you contact to get an estimate
8 of how much it would cost?

9 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I never got that far. I
10 just got the names of a couple of companies in the area that
11 pick-up low level radiation.

12 MS. JONES: Okay.

13 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I never got a chance. [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED] had contacted us before I -- by the time I obtained
15 those names, he had contacted and agreed to come and get it.
16 So we would proceed with that.

17 MS. JONES: Did [REDACTED] then come here?

18 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: He showed up here, I guess,
19 it was around 4:00, yes, give or take 15 minutes. It was
20 approximately four o'clock.

21 MS. JONES: Do you remember when Mike would have
22 gotten the phone call from him?

23 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I don't know that.

24 MS. JONES: Was it morning or afternoon?

25 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I think it was morning. I

1 don't really honestly know the timeframes.

2 MS. JONES: And then he came here. Did he come
3 alone or with someone else?

4 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: He had [REDACTED] with him,
5 they were in separate vehicles. They came into the front
6 reception area, and I was called, and I went down and met
7 with them. I got the manifest, the paperwork that follows
8 that box, because I wasn't sure, at that time, whether they
9 were taking the whole box, or what, and we needed to note
10 down there what, if they were taking the whole box, or what
11 was going on, and following through with the paperwork, so I
12 obtained that from the medical waste secretary, and I also
13 got our radiation detector. They had their own with them.

14 I walked up. They drove up to where the two yard
15 container was. They both parked in that little -- sort of
16 like the between area. They parked their vehicles there. I
17 showed them where it was. We unlocked it. They were taking
18 readings. They had their own detector. It was a digital,
19 and it was reading 1.-whatever that was. I don't know what
20 the -- I think theirs reads microrems. I am not sure, but I
21 know it was different than ours, and he used his meter.

22 MS. JONES: Did he talk about the reading that he
23 was getting?

24 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: The only thing that he did
25 say was it detected.

1 MS. JONES: And how far away was he when --

2 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: We were within five feet,
3 and they took readings of the container, and then we opened
4 it.

5 MS. JONES: And where were you?

6 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Right there standing next to
7 the container. I held the meter then, and [REDACTED]
8 [REDACTED] put gloves on. They opened the box, took out a bag, the
9 first bag on top, and carried it over to where -- did you
10 see the railroad tracks, carried it over there, took a
11 reading of that bag. Did not get what they were looking
12 for, went back and got another bag, carried it over, and it
13 did read.

14 MS. JONES: So it was the second bag.

15 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes, and it was a larger
16 bag. Then they started opening the small bedside type bags
17 that were inside of there, and they told me, and this is
18 just what [REDACTED] said, it took us 70 seconds from the time
19 we arrived up there and he took his first reading until they
20 had it inside of a container. He had a small container that
21 was black, and said "Radioactive Material" on it, and he
22 said it was a lead lined container, and they had located the
23 source, and put it down inside that container, sealed it up,
24 and immediately all their readings went down, and they were
25 reading negative numbers on his meter.

1 MR. LLOYD: Did that container that they put it in
2 say "For Radioactive Materials" on it?

3 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes, it did.

4 MR. LLOYD: Did it have a cap of some sort?

5 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes, it did.

6 MR. LLOYD: Thank you.

7 MS. JONES: Would you agree that it took them 70
8 seconds from the time that you actually unlocked the
9 container, or from the time they started taking a bag out?
10 Were they running with the bags to the railroad
11 tracks?

12 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: They-were working very
13 quickly, yes. It was a situation, and I don't know if it
14 was 70 seconds, or if it was three minutes. I really wasn't
15 paying that close attention to the time.

16 MS. JONES: Did [REDACTED] ask you to help him out,
17 or stand there next to the box, did he ask you to move away?

18 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I volunteered. No. I
19 said -- he had his hands full, and I said, "Do you want me
20 to hold the meter?"

21 MS. JONES: Did he ask if you were a health
22 physicist or knew and understood radiation?

23 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: No, he did not.

24 MS. JONES: After he found the source and put it
25 in the lead case, what happened after that?

1 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Cleaned up. I took the
2 box -- actually, [REDACTED] lifted the box then out of the two
3 yard container, and set it on the railroad tracks for me.
4 They came back down -- Mr. Hay left directly, and he had the
5 source with him. Dr. Bauer came down here and asked if he
6 could use the telephone. He did. One of the medical waste
7 route drivers had just pulled into the fuel pumps, and I
8 walked over and asked him if he would drive back around
9 there and load that box on his truck and put it back on the
10 trailer, and I gave him the paperwork, and I explained to
11 him that there had been a problem with it, but it was fine
12 now, so that he had nothing to worry about, and he did that.

13 MS. JONES: Did [REDACTED] say anything to you
14 about radiation, or about --

15 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I had questioned them out of
16 my own curiosity as to what we are dealing with. It was
17 fairly vague. They said that they would report to us
18 exactly what we were exposed to.

19 MS. JONES: Have they done that?

20 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes.

21 MS. JONES: And what did they say? Did they show
22 you anything? Do you need a record?

23 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes. The following day I
24 received this fax from [REDACTED]

25 MS. JONES: Okay.

1 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: He requested that we have,
2 he had requested a list of all the people involved in direct
3 handling of the box, approximately the time, the distance,
4 and what their activity was and he also requested that the
5 people that had direct contact would go down and have the
6 blood test done.

7 I then typed that up for him and faxed it back and
8 asked for his input as far as the two tractor-trailer
9 drivers were concerned because I wasn't sure if he wanted
10 those people to go as well.

11 MS. JONES: Okay. We'll ask you for a copy of both
12 the fax that you received from [REDACTED] and then the letter
13 that you sent back to [REDACTED] on December 3rd and just for
14 the record it has all the employees' names, the six
15 employees that you have indicated before, what activity they
16 were doing, the amount of time that they were next to the
17 box in question and the distance in number of feet or direct
18 contact, which I assume by "direct contact" you mean hands
19 on the box or in the box?

20 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: [Nods yes.]

21 MS. JONES: Okay.

22 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I then also received this
23 back from [REDACTED] and he had taken my sheet and marked on
24 there the exposures and also he faxed back this.

25 MS. JONES: Okay. I can't read this last one.

1 Does that say 1.5?

2 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: That would be my guess, it's
3 1.5. Ask --

4 MS. JONES: Yes, we can ask [REDACTED] for this.

5 As I read [REDACTED] notes on your memo that you sent to

6 him December 3rd, it says estimated dose for [REDACTED]

7 1.5 rad; [REDACTED] 1 rad; [REDACTED] 1.5 rad -

8 -I think -- the number "1" is cut off.

9 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I would say because [REDACTED] and
10 I approximately --

11 MS. JONES: You were both the same?

12 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes. I mean the time and
13 distance that I put down there for us is the same so I would
14 assume that that exposure would be the same.

15 MS. JONES: Okay, and then .8 rad [REDACTED]
16 who was a pickup driver; .015 rad [REDACTED] -- he was
17 the driver to Warren; and [REDACTED] driver from
18 Warren, Ohio had .021 rad.

19 We'll ask you for a copy of this, too.

20 Are you familiar with the units of radioactivity
21 in the terms as rad?

22 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: No, I am not.

23 MS. JONES: I'm sorry?

24 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: No, I'm not.

25 MS. JONES: Okay. Did the doctor explain what

1 "rad" means?

2 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: No. I have not spoken with
3 [REDACTED] since he left here that day.

4 MS. JONES: Okay.

5 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: There have just been fax
6 transmissions.

7 MS. JONES: For the record, the U.S. Nuclear
8 Regulatory Commission limits the amount of exposure that you
9 can get as a member of the public and that currently is .5
10 rem or 500 millirem. Your units read on your survey
11 instrument you mentioned was millirad or millirem?

12 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Millirems.

13 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Millirems.

14 MS. JONES: And the limit for the member of the
15 public is 500 millirem per year.

16 If you are an occupational worker and working with
17 radiation it's 5000 millirem per year, so you are within,
18 according to his estimates, and that's what I'll be doing as
19 well, is verifying that that is a correct estimate.

20 You are over the public exposure limit but you are
21 within the occupational limit if you were an occupational
22 worker.

23 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: How does a rad compare to a
24 millirem?

25 MS. JONES: For this purposes one rad and one rem

1 are the same. You can just use those units interchangeably
2 but one rad or one rem equals 1000 millirem, so the units
3 that he's given you mean that you received 1500 millirem, so
4 approximately three times what we allow a member of the
5 public to get but still within the occupational limits,
6 which are 5000 millirem.

7 We have had people who have been within the
8 occupational limits for many, many years and have shown no
9 signs of adverse effects, and that's why we have chosen that
10 limit for occupational exposure on the basis of that, so
11 that's for your information.

12 MR. LLOYD: There are some limits that are
13 slightly different from pregnant women. Do you know if any
14 pregnant women may have come across --

15 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: [Nods no.]

16 MS. JONES: And I know I asked you, Denise, on the
17 phone and you said --

18 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: No, I am not pregnant.

19 MS. JONES: You are not pregnant. We did ask
20 other women who were also involved with it, for your
21 information.

22 Okay, so you received that back. Can you tell us
23 if you have any training for radiation safety or as part of
24 your job as a safety analyst or person here?

25 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Very basic, just in

1 determining what we are allowed -- as far as I am concerned
2 -- what we are allowed to pick up and, you know, how much
3 according to our detectors.

4 MS. JONES: And you mentioned earlier, Jim, is
5 there a procedure that BFI has for radiation emergencies or
6 if there is a radiation source what to do?

7 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: The drivers are not
8 supposed to pick up anything over .75 millirems per box.

9 MS. JONES: Per box. Okay, so that would be
10 millirem per hour?

11 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Yes, on our scales.

12 MS. JONES: And do they have a survey instrument
13 with them?

14 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Yes.

15 MS. JONES: Is that at all times?

16 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Each truck has its own
17 unit.

18 MS. JONES: And are the drivers instructed on how
19 to use the instrument?

20 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Yes.

21 MS. JONES: The driver that picked up the load
22 from the nursing home, did he have one, do you know?

23 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes, he did.

24 MS. JONES: Okay, and when are they supposed to
25 use it? Is there a procedure for that?

1 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: They are to check every box
2 before they actually accept the boxes.

3 MR. LLOYD: Do they measure that, do they put the
4 detector directly on the box? Or is this from a certain
5 distance? You mentioned the .75 millirem per hour -- what
6 distance might that be?

7 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Really, it's just the
8 closest distance they can to easily scan the boxes.

9 I'd say for example on a large pickup, they may do
10 it inside the customer's location, and if there's breaks
11 they try and drop it. They have a long extension to them.
12 They can drop them down in behind and around boxes or one
13 thing that we've said is a lot easier to do is they weigh
14 every medical waste box and if they have the Geiger counter
15 right next to the small portable scale that they use, then
16 it's within inches of each box that passes through.

17 MS. JONES: Okay. Is there a written procedure
18 for what the drivers are supposed to do with the survey
19 instrument?

20 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: There is a medical waste
21 handbook and a part of a pamphlet with radiation detection
22 usage that we just go through and then a sign-off about the
23 training -- just an acknowledgement of receipt and the
24 training.

25 MS. JONES: And do all the drivers get this

1 training?

2 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Yes.

3 MS. JONES: Do you know if the drivers that did
4 the truck driving have this training?

5 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: I don't believe all of them
6 had.

7 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: You're talking about the
8 tractor-trailer?

9 MS. JONES: Right.

10 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: It was one of the -- the
11 fellow that brought it back was one of the supervisors here
12 who that is not his regular job so, no, he did not.

13 MS. JONES: Okay, so the driver that drove it to
14 Warren, Ohio, and also the driver that picked it up from the
15 nursing home had had this training?

16 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Yes.

17 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: That's correct.

18 MS. JONES: Do you know if the driver that picked
19 it up from the nursing home used his survey instrument?

20 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: I don't know directly but I
21 believe that he said that he did use it.

22 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: He told me over the
23 telephone last week that he did.

24 MS. JONES: Okay. Do you know if his survey
25 instrument is working or have you checked it?

1 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: That's the meter that they
2 used on Saturday to check the trailer and it was --

3 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: It was the same. It was
4 operating, yes.

5 MS. JONES: Okay, that's fine.

6 MR. LLOYD: One additional question here before
7 you --

8 MS. JONES: Yes, go ahead.

9 MR. LLOYD: -- you maybe change a little bit.

10 Once you have a source of radiation contamination
11 of some sort here on your site, do you have any instructions
12 that tells you to cordon this off or notify the state or
13 notify anybody else that you have this contamination?

14 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: An emergency response
15 procedure type of thing? We have never encountered this in
16 the past and, no, we don't have a written procedure.

17 MR. LLOYD: Do you know if any other BFI locations
18 have such a procedure --

19 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I would think that the
20 Warren facility probably does but -- and some others may.
21 It's something we've never encountered before and probably
22 something we should think about doing.

23 MS. JONES: Is there a reason why this facility
24 doesn't have a Geiger detector that's fixed like the Warren
25 facility?

1 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Basically, the guys are
2 supposed to check the boxes before they pick them up and it
3 should never get this far.

4 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Okay. [REDACTED] in his fax
5 to you mentioned that everyone should get a CBC platelet
6 differential white blood cell count and so forth.

7 Do you know if the people involved have all had
8 those tests done?

9 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: No, they haven't. I went
10 this morning. I've asked Jim and Mike to make sure they go
11 before they leave today. We have got the tractor-trailer
12 driver that took the trailer to Warren here right now.
13 We'll send him down before he goes home.

14 I did speak with somebody, [REDACTED], the route
15 driver, will be in around 2:00 o'clock and he'll be here
16 until about 4:30 today, so he will go as soon as he is
17 finished with his -- down and get this taken care of.

18 The other person, [REDACTED] is on a route
19 and I haven't had time to determine what his schedule is for
20 today, if he'll be back in time or not.

21 MS. JONES: Do you know who the doctor is at the
22 facility where you got blood testing?

23 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: [REDACTED] it's Gateway
24 Medical.

25 MS. JONES: And has he been in contact with [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED]?

2 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: When I spoke with you, you
3 had asked me for the phone number,

4 MS. JONES: Yes.

5 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Did someone call down there,
6 that you know of?

7 MS. JONES: No. No.

8 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Okay, then I can't answer
9 that, honestly -- as far as I know, no. I mean they have
10 been in contact with me. I went down this morning and
11 explained that they needed to call tomorrow with the results
12 as well as, you know, explain how to bill it and that.

13 MS. JONES: Did [REDACTED] get a copy of the
14 fax so he knew what kind of blood work to do?

15 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I read that off to her, to
16 the nurse.

17 MS. JONES: And he understood what that was?
18 Okay.

19 Is [REDACTED] going to contact you directly
20 then with the results?

21 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes -- well, or one of the
22 nurses.

23 MS. JONES: Right.

24 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: She told me that they have a
25 telefax type deal and that the results will come back

1 tomorrow.

2 MS. JONES: Okay.

3 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: And I asked her to call me
4 and I would pick them up.

5 MS. JONES: Yes. We would like to know as well.

6 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I figured everyone would
7 want that.

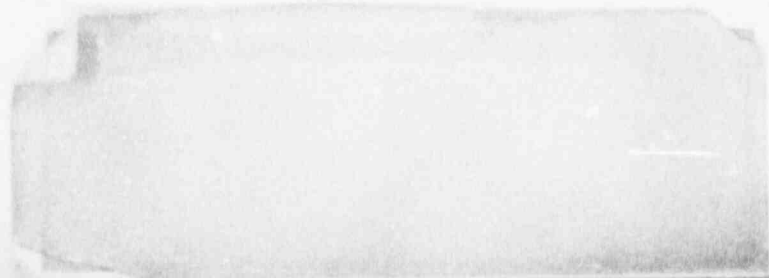
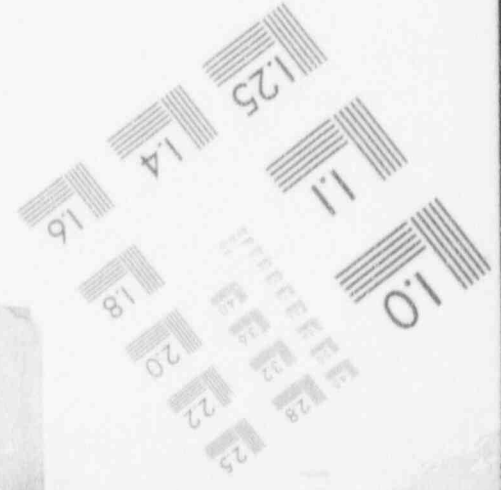
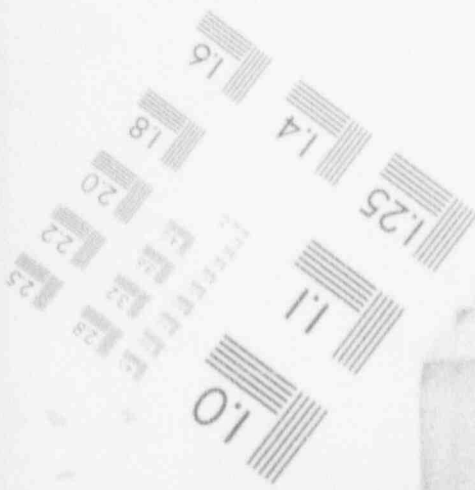
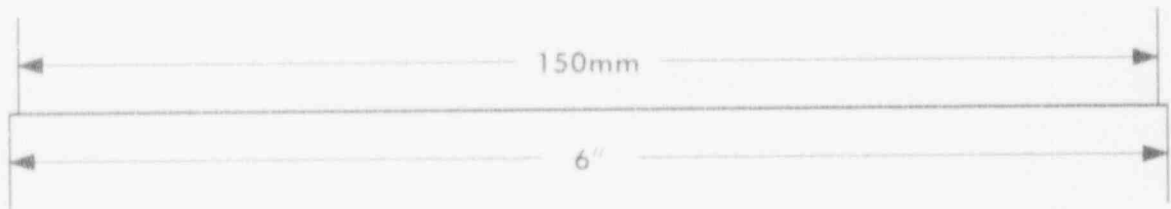
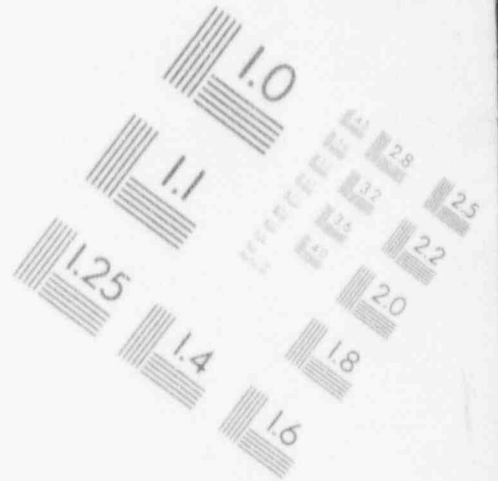
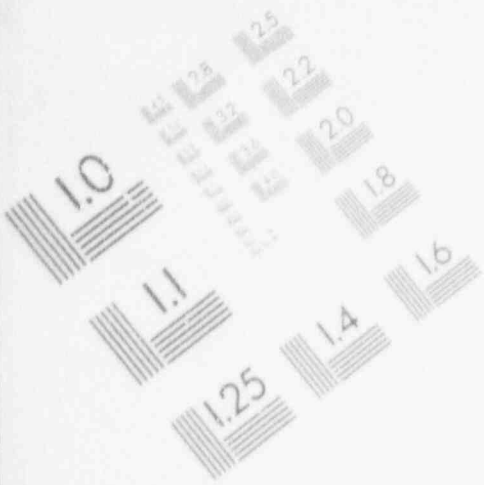
8 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: I would like to know what
9 the concern is, with the testing, and what we're supposed to
10 have been exposed to, if there's any concern.

11 MS. JONES: The reason for the testing, and we had
12 a medical consultant, Dr. Flynn, that is also on the team
13 that now has gone back but is still available and we have
14 asked that anyone who has come close to or had contact with
15 the source in question or the box in this case be tested to
16 see if there was any -- it's our precaution as to just see
17 if there was any abnormal changes in the blood.

18 We can tell you that all of the people that have
19 been tested so far, 39 including people at the nursing home,
20 all their test results came back and they were all normal,
21 and the source was at the nursing home for an extended
22 period of time -- several days -- I could check back in my
23 notes, from the 16th of November to the 25th, when it was
24 picked up, so if anyone would have had an abnormal one, it
25 could have been there because they had been exposed to the

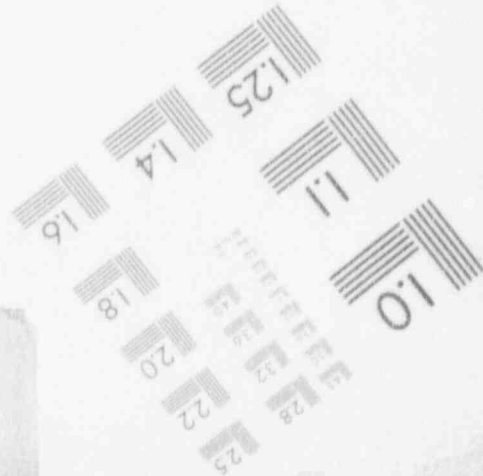
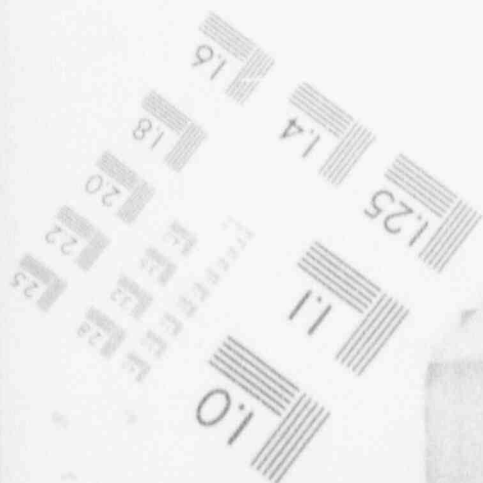
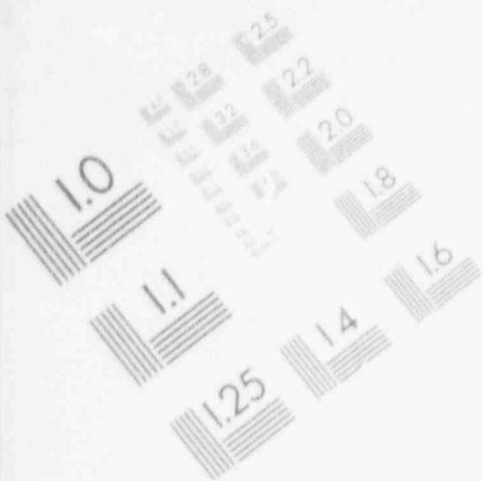
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IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)



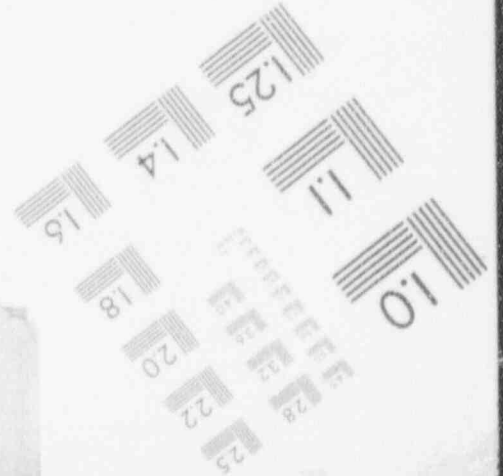
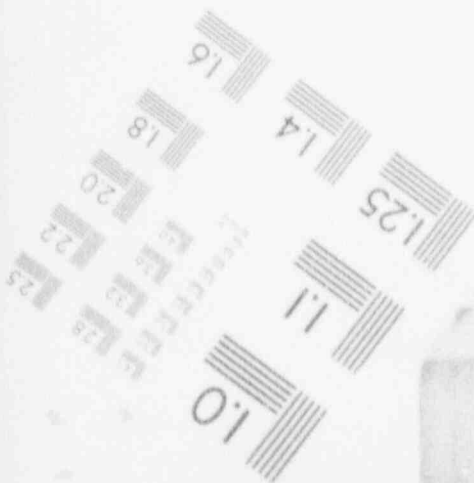
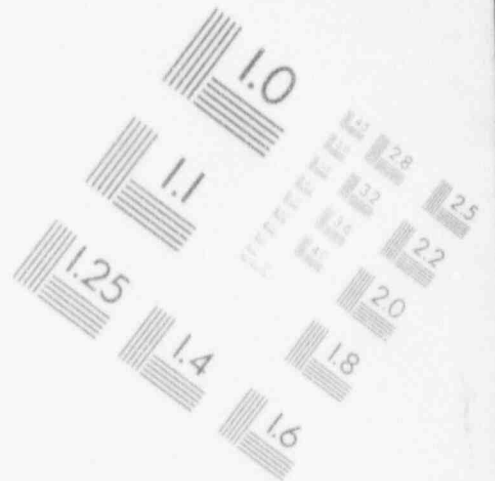
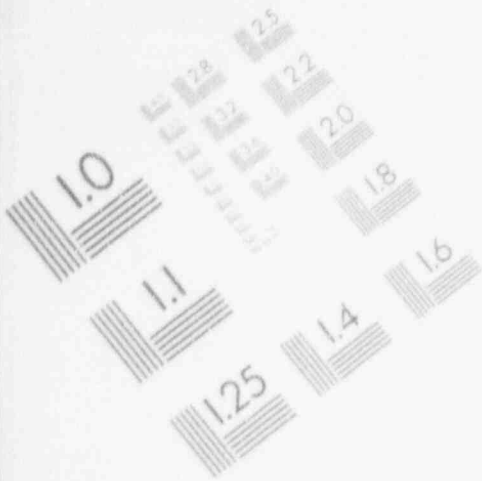
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IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)



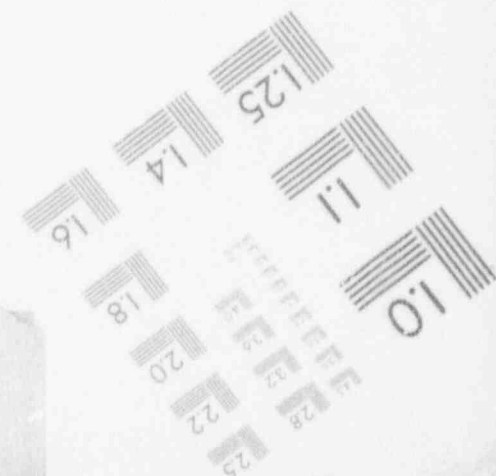
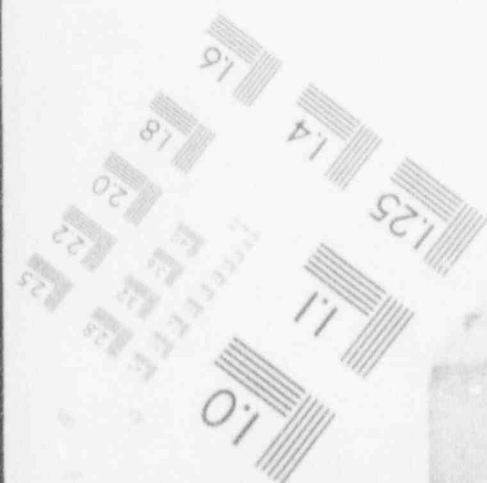
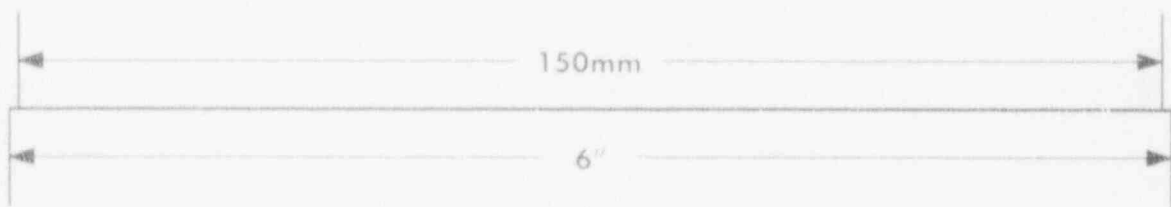
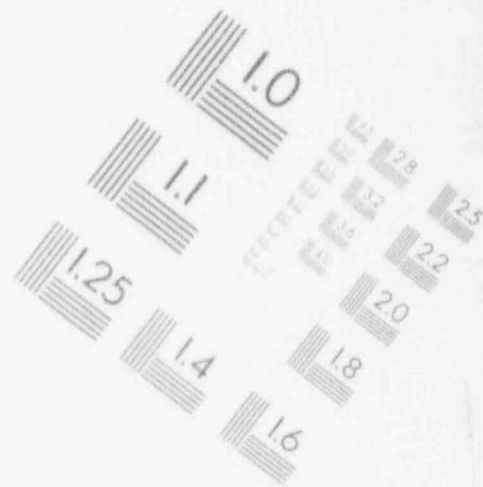
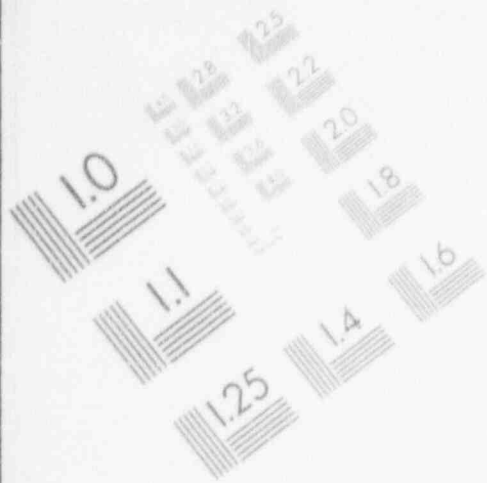
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IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)



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IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)



1 source for a longer period of time.

2 Remember again, for radiation sources it's time,
3 distance and shielding.

4 It's the amount of time that you spend next to the
5 source, so if you have a lot of time, or if you are very
6 close to the source for distance, or if there's any
7 shielding -- in this case when he put it in the lead pig
8 that provided shielding and the radiation rate went down
9 right away, so we've asked that everyone who was involved or
10 in close contact such as you six people to just get tested
11 as a precautionary method.

12 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: With this source,
13 specifically whatever type of source it was, it would go
14 through that and it would be going through a half-life
15 period every 24 hours?

16 MS. JONES: No. This half-life of the source is
17 not every 24 hours.

18 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Okay.

19 MR. LLOYD: It's like 74 days or something like
20 that.

21 MS. JONES: Right, so it means every 74 days it's
22 a half-life.

23 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: I just wondered because we
24 really, you know, we were looking for it to go through a
25 half-life and to come down but it hadn't come down. That's

1 why we went through it: trying to isolate and find the
2 generator of the source.

3 MS. JONES You are correct in assuming that a
4 medical, normal medical source that you'd find in a red bag
5 has a shorter half-life, probably in the range of days or
6 hours, but this was a very unusual circumstance and it had a
7 longer half-life than what you would expect from normal
8 medical waste.

9 Actually, it was a broken source in this case, and
10 the source was Iridium-192.

11 When the medical physicist arrived from the
12 facility with the lead pig [REDACTED] did he, when he was
13 going through the smaller red bag, when he found something,
14 did he know what he was looking for, or when he found
15 something, did he use his hands?

16 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: He had rubber gloves on, and
17 he had forceps.

18 MS. JONES: And how long were they?

19 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Is that what they are
20 called?

21 MS. JONES: Right, forceps.

22 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: He appeared to me -- I mean
23 he did not say it right out, but I got the impression that
24 they knew what they were looking for. I only got a slight
25 glance at the source itself, and it was in a bag, and there

1 were two or three things that looked very similar to me.
2 Like I say, it wasn't a long period of time. I didn't get a
3 chance to really scan it and decide what it was, but [REDACTED]
4 [REDACTED] that picked it up with the forceps brought it over and
5 ran it under the scan. They knew immediately then that was
6 it and sealed it up.

7 MS. JONES: Those things that were very similar
8 looking, do you know if they had to pick up each of those
9 and scan it?

10 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: He maybe picked up one and
11 it wasn't it, and then they picked up the second one. There
12 were three of them that I saw. There were three there that
13 looked very similar.

14 MR. LLOYD: According to other records we have,
15 there were supposedly three of these tubes that were taped
16 together?

17 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: They were separated.

18 MR. LLOYD: These were separated?

19 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: They were not taped. I
20 mean, I didn't see them taped together. When he pulled the
21 bag open, they were laying there. Like I say, I looked to
22 me like a little piece of metal about as big as the tip of
23 your finger, and it had a tube coming off the end, and it
24 reminded me of the same size of tube that inside of an ink
25 pen.

1 MR. LLOYD: And the source was in one that was by
2 itself?

3 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: They were all three in this
4 bag, but they weren't taped together that I saw.

5 MS. JONES: He didn't have to undo tape?

6 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: No. He picked one up and
7 brought it over. I was standing probably five or six feet
8 away from where [REDACTED] was opening the bag, and [REDACTED]
9 picked it up with the forceps, and ran in front of the scan,
10 and then he picked up another one and brought it over, and,
11 if I am not mistaken, that was it.

12 MS. JONES: And you were holding the surveying
13 instrument when he brought it toward you?

14 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes.

15 MS. JONES: I do have one question. Do you know
16 what a dosimeter is, or a film badge, or a personal
17 dosimeter looks like?

18 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Yes.

19 MS. JONES: Do you know, too, Jim?

20 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: Yes.

21 MS. JONES: Do you know if either [REDACTED]
22 [REDACTED] had any of those on their bodies?

23 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I did not see it.

24 MS. JONES: Did you see anything on their hands,
25 like sometimes a radiation dosimeter looks like a bandage,

1 it is kind of wide, maybe a half-inch?

2 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: I didn't notice it, and I am
3 the one that spoke with them. I honestly wasn't looking for
4 it.

5 MS. JONES: Did they have a jacket on?

6 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: [REDACTED] had a raincoat,
7 and [REDACTED] I think, had a short -- it was a little chilly
8 that day, so they did have coats on.

9 MS. JONES: I think that is it. I really want to
10 thank you both, all three of you, for all your help in
11 putting together all the information for our team.

12 As I mentioned before, the transcripts will be
13 made available. We will be in Indiana, Pennsylvania, so if
14 you want to come up and look at it.

15 If you have any questions, I will leave my phone
16 number. I will give you a business card, and also leave the
17 phone number in Indiana at the Best Western where we are
18 staying. We will probably be there through Wednesday or
19 Thursday of this week, if you have any questions.

20 Once you find out what the blood tests are for the
21 people involved, let us know once everyone has gotten their
22 tests done and, if anything, we can ask that your doctor
23 contact the doctor that we have on the team, and give him
24 the results.

25 Do you have any questions at all?

1 INTERVIEWEE CLAYTOR: Do you want us to just call
2 you tomorrow then when we have these results?

3 MS. JONES: That would be fine.

4 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: I still haven't heard, how
5 did this source get into the medical waste stream?

6 MS. JONES: Well, it was in a device that is
7 called a high dose afterloader. It is a device that is used
8 for radiation therapy. In this case, it was used for a
9 tumor. You can use radiation to shrink tumors, and that is
10 why people go in, if they have cancer, and get the radiation
11 treatment. In this case, the source actually came out of
12 the machine, went into the location through those plastic
13 tubes that you saw, which are called catheters. It stays in
14 there for a period of time, and then it comes back out and
15 it gives a radiation dose.

16 For what reason, and the reason why we are putting
17 this together, the source broke inside the woman in question
18 that was getting the treatment.

19 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: And was that at Indiana
20 Hospital, because I had heard --

21 MS. JONES: The Cancer Treatment Center.

22 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: I had heard on a radio
23 report that it was left in by surgeons, or something, and
24 that then the patient ended up dying 48 hours later, and
25 that was basically all the report said.

1 MS. JONES: We are still trying to piece together
2 all the pieces of the puzzle, but the source inadvertently
3 stayed in, broke off somehow, stayed in the woman. The
4 woman was transferred to the nursing home. It stayed there
5 from the 16th to the day that she died, which I believe was
6 the 20th or the 21st. I can check my records.

7 MR. LLOYD: The 21st.

8 MS. JONES: The 21st. Thanks.

9 The red bag waste then, at one point a catheter
10 did come out of the woman, which turned out to be the one
11 that had a radioactive source. It was put in a red bag
12 waste container, and got put into one of your boxes for BFI.
13 So when it was picked up on the 25th, that source was in
14 there.

15 INTERVIEWEE GAJEWSKI: So when this catheter was
16 removed, as it would normally be removed, the source was
17 there, or did something else transpire that they had to get
18 this source out?

19 MS. JONES: One of the catheters fell out of the
20 patient.

21 MR. LLOYD: The nursing home was not aware that
22 the source had broken off from the end of this long wire.
23 The source is extremely small. It is just a fraction of a
24 millimeter in diameter, and very short. It was right at the
25 end of the wire which goes through the machine, and then

1 into the catheter that you saw. Right behind the source is
2 where it broke off, and that stayed in the catheter, which
3 was placed in the woman.

4 The nursing home was not aware of that. Others
5 were not aware of that. When the catheter was removed, they
6 just assumed that it was another bio-hazard waste, and that
7 is how it got into the container, and then it got picked up
8 by BFI.

9 MS. JONES: So that is what happened.

10 I thank you, and this is the close of the
11 interview.

12 [Whereupon, at 11:45 a.m., the interview was
13 concluded.]

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceedings
before the United States Nuclear Regulatory
Commission

in the matter of: Incident Investigation Team

NAME OF PROCEEDINGS: Interview of: JAMES GAJEWSKI
And DENISE CLAYTOR

DOCKET NUMBER:

PLACE OF PROCEEDINGS: Carnegie, Penn.

were held as herein appears, and that this is the
original transcript thereof for the file of the
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission taken
by me and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me
or under the direction of the court reporting
company, and that the transcript is a true and
accurate record of the foregoing proceedings.

Mark Mahoney

MARK MAHONEY
Official Reporter
Ann Riley & Associates, Ltd.