

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the staff on this date.

Facility: No Facility  
Cleveland, OH

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
       Notification of Unusual Event  
       Alert  
       Site Area Emergency  
       General Emergency  
  X   Not Applicable

Subject: VIAL MARKED RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL FOUND ON CLEVELAND, OHIO STREET.

On Sunday, September 26, 1982, two private citizens found a lead container marked "radioactive material" near E. 30th & Prospect, Cleveland, Ohio. They notified the Cleveland police who, in turn, called the fire department. A radiation survey by the firemen showed no unusual readings on the lead container, which was then placed in a plastic bag and delivered to St. Vincent's Charity Hospital for a more detailed evaluation. The lead container was identified as one which had been used for transporting a radiopharmaceutical. A wipe survey showed the vial was free of any radioactive contamination and will be discarded with the hospital's waste. The private citizens and firemen were also free of contamination as determined by the hospital's surveys.

The police located the owner of the lead container by tracing the registry of a car identified by the two citizens as being near the area where they found the vial. According to the Cleveland police, the owner said she obtained the unlabeled lead container from a hospital's waste and affixed her own "Radioactive Material" sign. She reportedly used the device to discourage theft of her automobile by leaving the labeled container in full view on the seat.

There has been no known media interest concerning this event, and none is anticipated.

Region III does not plan to issue a news release at this time.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only.

The State of Ohio has been notified.

Region III (Chicago) was notified of this incident by the Cleveland police officer at 7:30 a.m. (EDT) on September 26. This information is current as of 3:15 p.m. (CDT) September 27, 1982.

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