Certified By

## PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

-20-9124

Date: November 25, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-T-80-171

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

Licensee: United States Testing Company

Peading, Pennsylvania License No. 37-15445-01

Subject: THEFT OF TRUCK CONTAINING RADIOGRAPHIC EXPOSURE DEVICE

At 5:00 a.m., on November 25, 1980, the licensee reported the theft of a truck containing 40 curies of iridium-192 in a Technical Operations Model 533 radiographic exposure device. The licensee had notified the Reading, Pennsylvania police who determined that the truck had been seen going in the direction of Allentown. Pennsylvania. Region I contacted the licensee at 8:15 a.m. and was informed that the device was in an overpack and secured to the truck by a chain.

Media interest is expected. The Reading police have notified the local media of the theft of the radiographic exposure device. Region I has issued a press release. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed.

Region I will maintain contact with the licensee and will conduct a special inspection to review the circumstances of this event.

Region I received notification of the event at 7:50 a.m. on November 25, 1980 from the Headquarters Duty Officer who had been notified by the licensee at 6:00 a.m. on November 25, 1980.

Contact: J. Kinnenan 488-1206 F. Costello 488-1353

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