

December 21, 1990

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-11-90-89

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 Region II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Amersham Mediphysics, Inc.  
College Park, GA  
(Agreement State Licensing)

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

SUBJECT: STOLEN COURIER VEHICLE CONTAINING RADIOPHARMACEUTICALS

On December 20, 1990, the National Response Center advised the Headquarters Duty Officer who in turn advised the Region that an Associated Courier Vehicle containing radiopharmaceuticals was stolen from the Amersham Mediphysics, Inc. facilities in College Park, Georgia.

The cargo included small doses of radiopharmaceuticals containing Gallium-67, Thallium-201 and Xenon-133.

On the morning of December 21, 1990, these materials were found abandoned in a parking lot in the Metro Atlanta area. The vehicle has not been recovered.

Representatives of the Georgia Health Department, Public Service Commission, and the Radiation Safety Officer of the Atlanta Office of E. I. Dupont De Nemours and Co., Inc., who manufactured some of the materials, are at the scene. Preliminary results indicate that three vials containing 9 millicuries each of Thallium-201 and two vials containing 8 millicuries each, also of Thallium-201, are unaccounted for. Some of the remaining boxes were opened but there does not appear to be any leakage or spread of contamination.

Local authorities are continuing in their efforts to locate the vehicle. Local media interest has occurred. The State does not plan on issuing a press release.

Region II received initial notification of this event at 8:15 p.m. EDT on December 20, 1990, by the Headquarters Duty Officer, and updated information from the State on December 21, 1990.

This information is current as of 2:30 p.m. EDT on December 21, 1990.

CONTACT: R. Trojanowski - 841-5597

110  
DE 34

DISTRIBUTION:

One White  
Flint North  
Chairman Carr  
Comm. Rogers  
Comm. Curtiss  
Comm. Remick  
OGC  
OCA  
GPA/SLITP/PA  
EDO  
NRR  
NMSS  
OE

M'land Nat'l  
Bank Bldg  
TRM  
OIG  
AEOD  
NRC Ops Ctr

Nicholson Lane  
RES

L Street  
PDR

Regions  
Region I  
Region II  
Region III  
Region IV  
Region V

Phillips Bldg  
ACRS

EW  
ASLAP

MAIL TO: DCS (Original IE 34)  
DOT (Transportation Only)  
FAX TO: INPO 338  
LICENSEE (Corporate)  
RII Resident

5520: 12/21/90 @ 3:00 p.m. (EDT) TO REGIONS AND HQ

DW

\*\*\*\*\*