

STATEMENT

PLACE 

DATE: 12-7-83

I, Robert Hamilton, hereby make the following voluntary statement to H. B. GRIFFIN, who has identified himself to me as an Investigator with the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I make this statement freely with no threats or promises of reward having been made to me.

I was hired by Brown & Root as a QC cad weld inspector in November 1976. Two years later I was transferred to coatings QC, and then was made coatings QC supervisor in 1979. Danny Hash ^{pre}ceded me as supervisor. Harry Williams was ^{brought} in as a supervisor over coatings just before Hash left Brown & Root. When I became the coatings QC supervisor, I worked under Williams who was under James Hawkins.

Danny Hash had many disagreement with Hawkins and Williams over coatings procedures. Prior to Williams arrival on site, the coatings inspectors did not have much contact or many problems with Hawkins. Hawkins had told the inspectors that he did not know much about coatings and that he would rely on us to follow procedure. I believe Hash left Brown & Root because of the disagreements with his supervisors. Hawkins and Williams supported the paint department over Hash in many arguments regarding procedure.

8410310100 831207
PDR ADOCK 05000445
G PDR

When I became supervisor, I immediately began having the same problem that Hash had had with Williams. Within 30 days after I

became supervisor, I went to Hawkins and told him that many of the inspection reports were incomplete, that the inspectors were not completing the paperwork, and that I could not get them to complete it. Hawkins told me not to worry about it. Williams was also aware of the condition of the coatings records, but was not concerned about them until he developed the "IR" system.

When Claude Johnson, the NRC inspector made his inspection on coatings records in 1981, I told him that volume of rework the inspectors handled resulted in many of the reports being incomplete. Johnson told me the records were unacceptable and a Notice of Violation was written.

Before Johnson's inspection, we kept the coatings records in a file cabinet in the QC trailer. Williams did not even know where the records were kept until he made inquiries following the NRC inspection.

After the Notice of Violation, Ron Tolson and Thomas Brandt called me to a meeting and told me the coatings records were "a mess". Tolson told me he should fire me. I explained to him that the volume of rework had resulted in the incomplete reports. Tolson told me to "get the records straight". I explained to Tolson that I had already brought the problem to Hawkins soon after I became supervisor.

I remember that because of the repeated damage to cable trays and concrete caused by construction, I had started keeping a log identifying rework inspections rather than have the inspectors fill out the inspection reports. The NRC cited Brown & Root for using a log in place of inspection reports. Hawkins knew I was using a log system and had approved the system before I started using it.

When I was first transferred to coatings, Cathy Gilbreath was the coatings QC file clerk. Her duties were to check and witness paint mixes and to monitor painter qualifications records. Gilbreath and later Cordella Hamilton, my wife, also reviewed coating records for thoroughness. The clerks returned the inspection records to the inspectors if they were incomplete. Many of the records were accepted in an incomplete form because the procedure at that time did not call for a final acceptance sign off by inspectors because of the ongoing damage and rework to painted surfaces.

To my knowledge, the coatings QC clerks did not make entries on the inspector's reports relating to locations or tag numbers. I remember that inspectors.

Fazi and Dandy, were particularly bad about completing their reports. I also remember that many of the mix sheets and repair inspection records were xeroxed because they applied to many inspections performed at the same time. I do not know of any falsification of these records by anyone. Coatings were of such a low priority at that time ^{ex.} that nobody really seemed to care about the condition of coatings QC records.

I have read the foregoing statement consisting of 4 hand written pages. I have made and initialed any necessary corrections. I swear the foregoing statement is true and correct. Signed on December 7, 1983 at 11:58 AM.

Robert W. Hamilton
Robert Hamilton

Subscribed ^{R.H.} and sworn to before me this 7th day of December, 1983.

H. Brooks Huff

