



DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION CENTER
2001 MISSION DRIVE
NEW CUMBERLAND, PA 17070-5000

30-33261

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

DDC-DS

NOV 06 1997

37-30062-01

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

This letter is our reply to the Notice of Violation we received from Region I on October 31, 1997. In accordance with Enclosure I to their letter and the format described therein, the following comments are provided:

- (1) The violation was cited because of failure to secure radioactive material from unauthorized removal.
- (2) Corrective actions taken to prevent the incident from recurring and the results achieved include:
 - (a) The radioactive material in the field item return area at Defense Distribution Depot Letterkenny (DDLDP) is secured in a locked cage with the supervisor controlling the key. This action minimizes any further unauthorized removal of radioactive material at DDLDP.
 - (b) The incident was discussed at the annual DDC Radiation Protection Officers Workshop. The result was that all depot RPOs or their alternates became knowledgeable of what to observe in their operations, a reemphasis on security and corrective actions taken.
 - (c) The Radiation Safety Officer visited another depot that had similar operations and recommended several improvements in the security of radioactive material. The result is that radioactive material from field returns will be more secure.
 - (d) Depots were tasked to evaluate their security of radioactive material. The result is that an increased awareness now exists regarding the potential to pilfer radioactive material.
 - (e) Lessons learned from this incident was prepared and distributed to all depots storing radioactive material. The result is that other depots are better prepared to deal with a similar incident.
 - (f) A radiological checklist is being prepared to assist DDC Radiation Safety Officers when they conduct site inspections. The result will be a continued attentiveness to the issue of security.
- (3) Corrective actions are completed with the exception of item (f) which will be completed by December 18, 1997.

We believe we have been responsive to your notice. However, if additional information is required, please contact our POC, Mr. Allen Hilsmeier, Com (717) 770-4762.

Sincerely


JOHN STAMATELLOS
Acting Director
Office of Public Safety

TE0710

cc: Regional Administrator, USNRC Region I/ DDC-IVDD/ CAAEH

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