

February 15, 1978

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF SAFEGUARDS EVENT--

PNS-78-5A

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

Facility: Palisades Nuclear Power Station
Consumers Power Company
Covert, Michigan
(DN 50-255)

Subject: SECURITY ALLEGATIONS (REFERENCE PNS-78-5)

Additional media interest (Associated Press) precipitated by the security investigation at Palisades is being received by RIII (Chicago). The media was informed that RIII has required the licensee to take certain steps to immediately correct deficiencies noted in areas relating to guard training and site access controls.

Another security related allegation has been received since the completion of the investigation. On February 14, 1978, the Resident Inspector for D. C. Cook notified RIII that his office received an anonymous call regarding the loss of a security officer's weapon at Palisades. The individual identified himself as an employee of Consumers Power Company and stated he received information from several plant employees that a security officer at the plant fell asleep on duty and had his weapon stolen from him. RIII established through a telephone conversation with the plant Security Operations Supervisor on February 14, 1978, that a .38 caliber revolver with six rounds of ammunition was in fact lost by a guard on February 5, 1978.

RIII is sending an inspector to the plant to interview the guard and collect further information.

The IAT was notified.

This PN is being issued to alert the Commission of increased media interest in this matter.

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