

OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS FROM THE MARCH 9, 1983  
DRILL OF THE INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS AT THE  
CROTON-ON-HUDSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

None of the following reflects on the abilities of the Croton Police Department. They took the Drill seriously and performed the duties required.

The following are the observations and conclusions of observers Kathy Toscani, Katherine Feit, and Lee Culpepper.

1. Communication problems with Hawthorne Police Headquarters were evident because they were so garbled.
2. A 10 year old Motorola radio had been installed a day before the Drill to help with Police Department communication with other police departments countywide.
3. At least ten calls were received after the siren sounding. The public was assured it was only a test.
4. An Emergency Operation Center is needed such as Ossining Police are attempting to implement.
5. Siren malfunctioning was a problem as was the seemingly lack of their sounding the full three minutes.
6. Traffic problems on Routes 9 and 9A were noted; miles of traffic backed up, all at different times of the day. This proves the roads in this area would not be adequate for an evacuation.
7. The personnel's comments evidenced their knowledge of the invisibility of radiation. A conclusion drawn from this was lack of protective measures for them.
8. It was noted that the copy from the Municipal Building of the Emergency Response Plan, thick in size, is not even page numbered. The conclusion is that numbering the pages would make sense.
9. A problem arose regarding evacuation maps. Croton Police have a blue map; Ossining seems to have a red one. Lack of coordination between the police departments would be a vast problem during a real evacuation. Jurisdiction problems also arose as to who services certain sections of the evacuation maps.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE 1983 INDIAN POINT DRILL  
AT THE CROTON-ON-HUDSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Kathy Toscani, member of Parents Concerned About Indian Point, was an observer for the first few hours on March 9.  
The Drill was declared started at 8:27 with the Alert Stage.
2. Police Chief Reginald Lambruschi commented that the County sent and installed a Motorola radio yesterday. It is a 10 year old radio.
3. Village Manager Herbek noted that it takes a Drill to get anything done.  
Traffic on Routes 9 and 9A a mess this morning.  
The river ought to be used for evacuation.
4. Mr. Herbek and Sargeant Doran saying that the traffic is so terrible on Route 9 that it is at a standstill.
5. Sargeant Doran said that he heard on the radio someone got "radiated"; sent to hospital; decontaminated; sent home. It would be good to hear of it here in the Police Station even though it has no impact on us.
6. The Chief asked Sargeant Doran if he understood the last transmission? This indicates communication problems.
7. A phone call informed the Sargeant that 9A South is at a complete standstill.
8. Mr. Herbek asked the Chief if any press was expected to which the Chief replied no.
9. Mr. Herbek asked if this (the Police Station) was the Emergency Room? The Chief replied yes, but it is wrong. We should take "top brass" as in the army and set up in one room. Mr. Herbek agreed. The Sargeant thought that the Armory would be the best place for protection. Mr. Herbek said that the windows here won't keep radiation out. The Chief said some radiation won't penetrate. The Police men on the roads have dosimeters.
10. Mayor Price came in and Chief Lambruschi told him of the "new" 10 year old radio from the county for better communication between Police Departments.
11. The Mayor said kiddingly, "Did you take your iodide pill?"  
The Chief replied, "It wouldn't do much."
12. Mr. Herbek asked if we have a copy of the Emergency Response Plan?  
Mr. Gagliotti said he thought so; would go upstairs to the Municipal Building to get it. Mr. Herbek thought they should have it to refer to during the day.
13. 9:10: Radio transmission: "This is a drill. This is a drill. County Executive has declared all schools closed in the 10 mile EPZ. Send the children home."
14. Mr. Herbek questioned about parents who work. So many emergency numbers have to be called.
15. Mr. Gagliotti recalled an instance when a siren went off and the Police Department was not informed of it.
16. Mr. Herbek asked if there was any response from Mr. Siegel (school superintendent)?

17. The Chief replied, "No." He added that it is hard to pass meessages or get to the right person in the County; get three or four other persons first; it is frustrating dealing with the County. Mr. Herbek agreed; he had just had a similar experience with the County assessment office.
18. Mr. Herbek said that his wife is emergency number to about 10 kids in their neighborhood. He questioned what he should do if he was down county that day and decided to stay out of the 10 mile EPZ. Would his wife be liable for all those children? It sure is crazy, he noted.
19. Kathy Toscani observed no blackboard.
20. The Chief said there is a "hot line" separate from their regular police telephone. It is for all Police Departments and one in Connecticut for major crimes.
21. A message came in over the radio: The siren will be activated for the Drill. (9:46). Sirens sounded.
22. The Mayor said that it is only a test, but questioned its credibility.
23. 9:47; report of a malfunctioning siren.
24. Ten phone calls came in regarding the siren sounding; told "It was only a test."
25. Many commented it didn't seem the sirens went off for the full three minutes.
26. 9:53--call from Hawthorne PD headquarters to see if they could be heard over radio transmission; Sargeant told them on the phone that they came in garbled; he couldn't understand transmission on radio from Hawthorne.
27. The Chief and the Mayor have a special number to interrupt any and all television channels to tell of nuclear emergency. They don't need a special community station for it. (Don't feel this was told to me as public info.)
28. Katherine Felt, member of Parents Concerned About Indian Point, now observing.
29. Siren near High School did not work.
30. Question as to whether Drill was over. Officer told the other one that it wasn't/
31. Someone joked about whether the other person was taking potassium indide pills? And added whether or not the other person had "seen" any radiation yet.
32. 10:58 Hotline - Voice (10:13?) of County Executive O'Rourke declaring State of Emergency county wide.
33. Question arose if they had map with all coordinates? Block out C1 to C8; but they're not in Croton! (Raspbery Hill) Croton is 6B,C,D.
34. Police Department told to shut down Northbound expressway; that's all we are responsible for.
35. Chief Lambruschi hung blue map of ERPA's at 11:03.

36. County heard loud and clear.
37. 11:15 -- radio transmission--Route 9 North and South closed; only one lane open in alternating pattern.
38. Question of manning barricades; that's up to Buchanan; out of our jurisdiction. They will check traffic conditions from Croton to Wlecher Avenue. That's all.
39. Jokes about having thyroid pills. Police on road have them. The Chief had a copy of the evacuation plan now; joking about size; not even pages are numbered. Joking about cost of producing this document.
40. Phone call regarding C8 which is not in our jurisdiction. That's Ossining's; they must have a different color map.
41. Noon -- call; Sargeant answered regarding Montrose Exit; we don't go that far. Are you looking at Blue Map? That's state police. Do you want us to go out of our jurisdiction? I have to clear it with my Chief.
42. The Chief said Croton PD would cover Croton Point exit. We don't have man power for more. We'll do traffic spot check; but not barricade. Call State Police. We have only two men on. This is Croton, not the County.
43. The Chief said they keep talking about Red Map. Do we have one? No, only blue one and it's not updated.
44. Calls coming in every now and then to make sure its working..
45. 12:05 -- Hotline (#29) Drill, drill; at 11:50, Cuman takes over State of Emergency. Evacuate ERPA's 1,2,3,4,7,8,9, Shelter 10,11,14.
46. 12:15 -- Hotline -- Drill, drill - Emergency at reactor #3.
47. Patrolman Shepper on duty now noted the "radiation cloud" is moving NE. We're clear so far unless wind changes.
48. Phone call regarding Rt. 9 Northbound.
49. 12:20 - at Croton Point; just simulate stopping traffic. You do this if cloud comes our way. Right now we're safe.
50. Observations of Lee Culpepper:  
1:18 - call for the Chief. Rt. 9A traffic situation going up the hill earlier in the day.
51. Call answered by Lt. Doran. Ambulance and patrol car to go to VA Hospital.
52. Someone came in and noted that all is quiet. No problems yet. If it keeps up like this till 4 pm, we'll be OK.
53. Call came in; traffic backed up for miles on 9A. We haven't evacuated anybody. Man needed on scene to "evacuate" 9A traffic.
54. Lt. Doran noted "Everybody in Croton called about those Sirens."
55. Policeman's account of talk at demonstration on effects of radiation at 5 miles (by State & when?) said it "scared the hell out of everybody."
56. During the period from 1:15 to 4:15, very little happened which related to the drill. Things were very quiet.

10-10-80  
11-11-80

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