



SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REGION V

1450 MARIA LANE, SUITE 210
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

SEP 20 1985

Docket No. 70-734
License No. SNM-696
EA: 85-97

GA Technologies Inc.
P. O. Box 85608
San Diego, California, 92138

Attention: Mr. T. R. Colandrea, Director,
Quality Assurance and Compliance

Gentlemen:

This refers to the safeguards inspection conducted on August 7, 1985, at the GA Technologies Facility at La Jolla, California. It also refers to the discussions of our inspection findings held with J. Montgomery and other members of this office and R. Dean, yourself, and other members of your organization on August 13, 1985, and the subsequent enforcement conference on September 4, 1985.

By letter dated July 29, 1985, W. Mowry (GA) to J. Montgomery (NRC) (GA Reference No. 696-7085), you informed us of a security incident which occurred on July 23, 1985. The event involved the degradation of a controlled access area barrier which occurred when the area was left unattended and the alarm system was inoperative. As a result of our inspection, it appears that the event lasted from 1653 hours until 1749 hours. The root cause of the event appears to be inadequate procedures which do not specify appropriate compensatory actions.

In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (1985), the violation described in the enclosed Notice has been classified at a Severity Level III. Normally, a civil penalty is considered for a Severity Level III Violation. However, after consultation with the Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement, I have decided that a civil penalty will not be proposed in this case because: (1) the violation was promptly identified and reported to the NRC; (2) the event was promptly investigated; (3) the corrective actions were prompt and extensive; and (4) the event appears to be an isolated occurrence. We emphasize, however, that similar violations of this type in the future may result in additional enforcement action. We encourage your interest in assuring adequate protection of materials in the future by reactivating certain security measures to augment those currently in place for the protection of moderate strategic quantities of special nuclear material.

ENCLOSURE CONTAINS
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You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with Section 2.790(d) of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, documentation of the findings of your safeguards and security measures are exempt from public disclosure; therefore, the enclosed inspection report will not be placed in the Public Document Room and will receive limited distribution.

We have determined that the enclosures so designated contain Safeguards Information and therefore are subject to the controls of 10 CFR 73.21.

The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance provisions of the Office of Management and Budget, otherwise required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
John B. Martin

John B. Martin
Regional Administrator

Enclosures:

- A. Notice of Violation
- B. Inspection Report
No. 70-734/85-10 (IE-V-708)

cc w/enclosures:
W. R. Mowry, GA

cc w/o enclosure:
State of CA

bcc:
RSB/Document Control Desk (RIDS) (w/o enc)
Mr. J. Martin
Mr. Faulkenberry

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