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Title: INTERVIEW OF GEOFFREY SIRR

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96B

ADDENDUM TO INTERVIEW OF Geoffrey L. Surr Jr. / Tech A
 - (Name/Position)

Page	Line	Correction and Reason for Correction
2	15	Tech A at M.I.T. Cambridge MA.
4	3	I think the E17-342 is the
4	5	the
5	12	delete the just the
5	21	add make sure its ALARA delete just reduce it
6	2	delete something like
6	6	add container at end of sentence
6	24	delete But I think
7	9	delete I think the requirements -- I think
7	10	delete a -- its the amounts
8	2	replace B-25 with E-25
8	7	delete Thats all this
8	8	delete building on campus was Building 48
8	10	replace B-25 with E-25
8	14	replace 44-52A with 44-55
8	15	delete for
8	18	course the efficiency for iodine is different with
8	15	delete a little bit -- for
8	19	replace hard hard hard
8	19	replace hard w/ hard
9	10	replace go w/ wipe
9	22	delete and then
9	23	delete the whole line -- the whole line
9	24	delete whole line
9	25	delete whole line
10	1	delete whole line
10	2	delete I that
10	3	replace I w/ is
10	3	replace expect w/ expected
10	3	delete that person

Page 1 of

Signature

[Signature]

Date 6/25/95

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ADDENDUM

Page	Line	Correction and Reason for Correction
10	4	delete whole line
10	6	replace this w/ that
10	17	delete I write
11	16	delete yeah, that
11	20	delete No, could you
11	5	delete So he told me
11	19	delete because I tell them
11	20	delete
11	21	delete
11	22	delete
11	23	delete
14	1	delete I wasn't even
14	1	replace even w/ ever
14	22	delete yeah
15	5	delete yeah
17	8	replace B-25 w/ F-25
18	10	add technician
19	3	delete it was kind of refresher training for me
19	4	delete
19	21	delete I can't
19	22	delete exactly
20	22	delete we have right now where we
21	24	delete is what
23	16	delete yeah

ADDENDUM

Page

Line

Correction and Reason for Correction

23

18

Delete and went and

Page

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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INCIDENT INVESTIGATION TEAM

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INTERVIEW OF GEOFFREY SIRR

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MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1995

+ + + + +

2:30 P.M.

INTERVIEWERS:

ALAN MADISON

BETSY ULLRICH

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

(2:28 p.m.)

1
2
3 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, it's 2:30, October 23rd.
4 This is an interview with Geoffrey Sirr. My name is Betsy
5 Ullrich. I'm a health physicist with the NRC Region 1
6 office.

7 MR. MADISON: I'm Alan Madison. I'm with the
8 Nuclear Regulatory Commission out of Washington. I'm with
9 the office that has program responsibility for the incident
10 investigation program.

11 MR. SIRR: Okay.

12 MS. ULLRICH: And if you would, for the record,
13 state your name and your position here?

14 MR. SIRR: My name is Geoffrey Sirr. I'm a
15 Tech A at the MIT, Cambridge, Mass.

16 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, as you know, we're here as
17 part of the incident investigation team, and we're looking
18 into the contamination incident that occurred over at the
19 Cancer Center. We're here to try to establish what
20 happened and see if we can identify a possible cause, and
21 also to look at what lessons learned can be passed on to
22 the R&D community, as well as the regulatory community to
23 help prevent such a thing from happening in the future.

24 We're transcribing the interview so that we
25 don't have to worry about taking notes during the

1 interviews. Also, we then have a written record to which
2 we can refer later on. In about a day -- I think it's
3 within 24 hours, the transcript will be available for you
4 to review, if you so desire.

5 You'll be provided with an errata sheet so any
6 corrections or additions that you may need to make, you can
7 put on that sheet and it will become part of the transcript
8 or part of the record, I should say. After the team issues
9 its report in the form of a NUREG, which will be in 45 days
10 or so after we leave here, the -- you can get a copy of the
11 official record and the transcripts will become part of the
12 public document room information.

13 And at that point, you could also get a copy of
14 your transcript if you wanted. Before you leave today,
15 I'll give you a sheet of paper that describes that again
16 and the name of the contact person that you would make
17 arrangements with to review your transcript.

18 MR. SIRR: Okay.

19 MS. ULLRICH: Let's start with -- to getting an
20 understanding of what it is that you do as a technician
21 here over at the Cancer Center.

22 MR. SIRR: Okay, in respect to the whole
23 building, E-17?

24 MS. ULLRICH: Sure.

25 MR. SIRR: Okay. On a monthly basis and a

1 weekly basis, I go over and inspect the laboratories over
2 at the Cancer Center. The Tonegawa group has both monthly
3 and weekly inspections. I think it's E-17 and 342 is the
4 only lab out of the Tonegawa group that has a weekly done
5 on it.

6 What I do is usually I go into the
7 laboratories, I inspect for contamination -- loose
8 contamination. I do a survey of the facility, all the labs
9 with a GM detector. Make special attention to the hoods,
10 floors, benches and make sure that if any contamination was
11 found on bench paper, that such thing, that I notify people
12 within the lab.

13 I don't generally go in and clean up or clean
14 up after them. I want to make sure they're aware of
15 anything that's around so they can -- I'm there to
16 supervise and make sure that it's actually taken care of.
17 So if there's bench paper contaminated, I'll have them
18 remove it and place it in the proper dispenser.

19 Also, if there's a spill on the floor, that
20 type of thing, I'm there to isolate the area, contact RPO
21 if necessary, make sure that someone in the lab is aware of
22 it so they can get some assistance in cleaning it up. And
23 basically I'll stand by or I'll assist someone if they need
24 it.

25 I'm there usually for questions -- if they have

1 any questions about calibration of the instrumentation. I
2 also have to keep on eye on them having proper protection,
3 wearing lab coats when they're working with radioactivity,
4 make sure that their film badges are on and representative
5 of their dose and not placed somewhere on their books or
6 what have you.

7 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

8 MR. SIRR: I look around for evidence of
9 eating, cans -- whether they have wrappers there from
10 breakfast or whatever -- tell me that they brought some of
11 the food in. And also, I check the containers just to make
12 sure that there's no contamination being thrown in just the
13 clean containers and make sure it's properly disposed of in
14 the labeled radioactivity containers.

15 I also check their benches for tidiness. I
16 want to make sure that they're properly shielding their
17 experiments. I find that sometimes they don't do that, and
18 there will be someone sitting within the lab just doing
19 their calculations, and they might be receiving some
20 exposure. Probably trivial exposure, but I just want to
21 make sure it's -- just reduce it.

22 MS. ULLFICH: Sure. Do you talk with the
23 people in the laboratory?

24 MR. SIRR: Oh, yeah. I mean, I go in and talk
25 to -- it's pretty friendly. I go in and talk to a lot of

1 people when I'm going through the lab. But when I do find
2 something, I just make sure that -- something like -- when
3 I find radioactivity in the trash, which happens on
4 occasion, but that tends to tick me off a little bit. I
5 don't see any reason -- I don't see how that even happens.

6 If there's a question, just throw it in the --
7 especially with material when it's just going to be decay
8 stored anywhere and gone on as regular trash anyhow. So
9 why don't we just hold onto it for a little while. So I
10 might stress that a little bit more to some of the people.

11 But generally I just ask them how it's going,
12 you know, that type of thing.

13 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay. And you said they
14 had -- Tonogawa's lab had one room that was a required
15 weekly survey, that was 342?

16 MR. SIRR: Right.

17 MS. ULLRICH: Was that the lab that the
18 individual worked in who was contaminated?

19 MR. SIRR: I don't think so.

20 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

21 MR. SIRR: He worked within walking distance.
22 I mean, it just -- the next room over though.

23 MS. ULLRICH: Sure.

24 MR. SIRR: But I think -- I don't think I've
25 ever seen him in 342.

1 MR. MADISON: Where's the radioactive material
2 stored? Is that in 342 or --

3 MR. SIRR: There's a refrigerator that's in --
4 no, it's in the lab that the particular individual ingested
5 the P-32.

6 MR. MADISON: Why is 342 required the weekly
7 survey?

8 MR. SIRR: I think that the amount of activity
9 that they're using, I think the requirements -- I think
10 that they have a -- it's the amounts.

11 MR. MADISON: There's more activity in that lab
12 as far as radioactive material used?

13 MR. SIRR: Per experiment.

14 MR. MADISON: Okay.

15 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. So you're in there monthly
16 then and weekly into the one laboratory?

17 MR. SIRR: Right.

18 MS. ULLRICH: Monthly everywhere else in
19 Tonegawa's lab?

20 MR. SIRR: Right.

21 MS. ULLRICH: How about for the rest of the
22 building?

23 MR. SIRR: The rest of the building I work the
24 same type of format.

25 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. And do you do these kinds

1 of surveys in other buildings as well?

2 MR. SIRR: B-25.

3 MS. ULLRICH: Is that biology?

4 MR. SIRR: Yes, I believe so.

5 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

6 MR. SIRR: I have Building 20C, which is -- or
7 20, which is the building we're in now. That's all this
8 building on campus was Building 48. I have a few monthlies
9 that are spread out, but generally the concentration of my
10 surveys are in Building 17. A few in E-18, and B-25.

11 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Now you said you do your
12 surveys in Tonegawa's lab with a survey meter. What are
13 you using there?

14 MR. SIRR: I use the 44-80A, which is just a
15 Geiger-Mueller. And it has a wider area for -- the
16 chamber's a little wider, so you get a little better
17 efficiency. But I also carry the sodium iodine, because of
18 course the efficiency for iodine is a little bit -- for the
19 GM, it's had to see it with the GM detector, so you have to
20 use the sodium iodine.

21 MS. ULLRICH: Sure.

22 MR. SIRR: So, I switch them, especially when I
23 go into the E-17 329 facility, which is the iodination
24 room. I use a GM, but then I go right to the iodine.

25 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Do you also do wipe

1 surveys over in the building?

2 MR. SIRR: Yeah. What I do is I generally go
3 through the lab for a visual inspection as I'm using the GM
4 detector looking for -- like I said before, evidence of
5 eating and contamination. And then what I'll do is I'll go
6 back and I'll swipe the areas. We have envelopes, and so
7 I'll take the swipe out of the envelope, and I'll say that
8 the floor or bench, such and such, where you'll be doing
9 experiments.

10 Sometimes I won't go exactly what it says on
11 the envelope, because I know that some of the experiments
12 have moved around. And for me to come back and tell Bob in
13 the computer constantly change the numbers and positions
14 around would be almost weekly.

15 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

16 MR. SIRR: So I tend to cover the laboratory
17 quite thoroughly.

18 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. What are the common
19 problems you do run across? You had mentioned occasionally
20 getting spots on the bench paper and occasionally spill --

21 MR. SIRR: Yeah, centrifuges are a problem.
22 Centrifuges can get contaminated quite often. And then
23 people -- it's hard to -- it's hard for some of the people
24 in there for some reason to own up to them saying that they
25 used it last or what have you, or such and such used it and

1 he's not around right now.

2 Well, what I tell them usually is that that
3 person -- I expect that person to clean up the centrifuge.
4 If not, I want you to take action and clean it up yourself
5 or find someone in the lab that will take responsibility.
6 I'll be back this afternoon to check it.

7 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. So you give them maybe a
8 half a day or a day to clean things up and --

9 MR. SIRR: I generally -- a couple of hours.

10 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

11 MR. SIRR: Because I come back in the lab -- I
12 deliver packages also, so I'm back in the laboratory. I'll
13 just pick up one of their GM detectors and make sure that -
14 -

15 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Do you record those kinds
16 of follow up surveys that you do?

17 MR. SIRR: I write -- we have a qualitative
18 sheet that we fill out. So if something like that happens,
19 I'll write that down on my qualitative sheet -- centrifuge
20 was contaminated. And if there's any -- I might say
21 something like 10MR on contact or something like that. And
22 then what I'll say is just rechecked, okay; which means I
23 went back and checked it out and it was all right.

24 MS. ULLRICH: Are you talking about the
25 microfuges or the large --

1 MR. SIRR: The smaller -- is that a microfuge?

2 MS. ULLRICH: The bench top versions?

3 MR. SIRR: Right.

4 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

5 MR. SIRR: Right.

6 MS. ULLRICH: Yeah, I think some people refer
7 to them as microfuges.

8 MR. SIRR: Okay.

9 MS. ULLRICH: Maybe diameter of about four or
10 five inches?

11 MR. SIRR: Something like that.

12 MS. ULLRICH: Yeah, okay. In terms of Dr.
13 Tonegawa's lab, do you recall when you had most recently
14 been in there prior to learning of the contamination
15 incident?

16 MR. SIRR: Yeah, that -- I don't know how
17 accurate I can be. I'm guessing. I'd have to look at my
18 records, because they reflect when I -- the times I was in
19 there. I would have to say -- from the time of the
20 incident? No, could you --

21 MS. ULLRICH: Prior to the incident, do you
22 have any sense that you had identified any contamination in
23 the area the week or so before Dr. Li realized that he was
24 internally contaminated?

25 MR. SIRR: Yes. I would say that it was

1 probably two to three weeks prior to any knowledge of the
2 incident that I surveyed the lab. And what happened is was
3 I came in the next -- I think it was a Monday morning I
4 came in and -- or was it Tuesday? Mitch said come on,
5 we've got to go over to E-17. So he told me -- he
6 explained to me what happened, and what I did was that
7 morning I surveyed the Tonegawa labs, all of them.

8 I went right through them. And that was what
9 we call a special survey, and I recorded that as a special
10 survey. And then the following -- maybe four days later, I
11 did another thorough survey of all the Tonegawa labs, and
12 that was my monthly. So in essence, I did it twice.

13 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

14 MR. SIRR: But I recorded it once as a special
15 survey.

16 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

17 MR. SIRR: And two weeks prior to that
18 incident, I didn't see any evidence of eating, or I didn't
19 see any cups or anything like that. Because I tell them
20 get those out of there, put them -- you know, those have to
21 be cleared out. Because that tells me that they might be
22 carrying their water in or whatever.

23 But I didn't see any of that.

24 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Have you ever observed
25 anybody pipetting by mouth in the laboratory?

1 MR. SIRR: No, never seen that.

2 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Ever see anybody with food
3 in the laboratory actually eating in the laboratory?

4 MR. SIRR: Yeah, yeah.

5 MS. ULLRICH: How frequently would you say you
6 might run across that?

7 MR. SIRR: Maybe once every month and a half.

8 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

9 MR. SIRR: Something like that.

10 MS. ULLRICH: Would that be throughout the
11 building, throughout all your surveys, or are you talking
12 Tonegawa's lab specifically?

13 MR. SIRR: I'd say throughout E-17.

14 MS. ULLRICH: Throughout E-17, okay.

15 MR. MADISON: Repeat offenders?

16 MR. SIRR: No, no, at random. No, just at
17 random.

18 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Now --

19 MR. SIRR: I've found beverages in a cold room,
20 stuff like that -- like you know alcohol and beverage and
21 beer and stuff like that.

22 MR. MADISON: Have you ever had to counsel Dr.
23 Li?

24 MR. SIRR: No.

25 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

1 MR. SIRR: I wasn't even -- I haven't even
2 talked to Dr. Li at all prior to this, and kind of pretty
3 much didn't -- he's pretty much in his own little world
4 over in the corner. But I really --

5 MR. MADISON: Have you ever found any
6 contamination in his work spaces?

7 MR. SIRR: No.

8 MS. ULLRICH: So he's a fairly -- in your
9 experience, fairly careful worker in terms you're not
10 seeing contamination in his area identifying things that he
11 doesn't --

12 MR. SIRR: Fair enough. I wasn't finding a
13 problem in his area.

14 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, good. Okay, in terms of
15 the people in the laboratory, you get to know who's working
16 in there by doing surveys? Do you generally see new
17 people? Is there a high turnover in the laboratory?

18 MR. SIRR: Yeah, you do see new people. I
19 would say on a -- I don't know if they're on semesters, but
20 maybe every four or five months when it seems like there
21 might be another person in there, and then someone else is
22 leaving. Yeah.

23 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Does that seem to be any
24 pattern in your identifying food or drink or contamination
25 with new people?

1 MR. SIRR: As far as people would come in that
2 knew that testing or just --

3 MS. ULLRICH: Been experienced with MIT and not
4 knowing your rules?

5 MR. SIRR: Yeah. No.

6 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay. Is there anything
7 different about Tonegawa's lab than the other laboratories
8 in your experience doing surveys?

9 MR. SIRR: I don't think so.

10 MS. ULLRICH: In terms of what you discover in
11 there, you get about the same rate of incidence as you do
12 in other places?

13 MR. SIRR: As far as the biology labs?

14 MS. ULLRICH: Yeah.

15 MR. SIRR: I would say so.

16 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay. Now how long have
17 you been here at MIT again?

18 MR. SIRR: It will be two years this --

19 MS. ULLRICH: Two years?

20 MR. SIRR: -- this month.

21 MS. ULLRICH: Do you recall when Dr. Tonegawa's
22 lab was on probation? Was that since you've been here?

23 MR. SIRR: The only time I remember on -- well,
24 I don't remember being on probation except after this
25 incident, which it was for a little while.

1 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

2 MR. SIRR: If that's correct, right? I would
3 say so.

4 MS. ULLRICH: Yeah.

5 MR. SIRR: Yeah.

6 MR. MADISON: There wasn't an instance where
7 because of problems with their control of waste material
8 that they were placed on probation?

9 MR. SIRR: Well, see, I started taking over the
10 labs for Bobby, who was -- before I interviewed Bob from
11 the counting room. He was doing all the laboratories in E-
12 17.

13 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

14 MR. SIRR: And I took them over for him, I
15 think, in '94 in December or November of '94. So I've only
16 been doing them for about a year. So if the probation was
17 prior to that, I'm not aware of it.

18 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Yeah, it may have been.
19 Okay.

20 MR. MADISON: Could you compare the Tonegawa
21 lab to any other labs that have similar types of
22 radioactive materials for their control methods?

23 MR. SIRR: For the control methods -- for our
24 methods of controlling radiation protection from our
25 standpoint? Yeah, there's a lot -- as far as possessions

1 and limits for the lab --

2 MR. MADISON: Possession of the material,
3 control of the material, accountability of the material or
4 accounting for the material?

5 MR. SIRR: I think it's quite similar to a lot
6 of the labs that I survey.

7 MR. MADISON: Not just in the Cancer Center?

8 MR. SIRR: No, in -- all over B-25, I would say
9 also it's the same type of set up.

10 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

11 MR. MADISON: Do you have written procedures or
12 check lists that you follow on your weekly or your monthly
13 surveys?

14 MR. SIRR: Yes.

15 MR. MADISON: Have we --

16 MS. ULLRICH: I believe we've asked for them.
17 We've asked for the survey forms.

18 MR. MADISON: Is that what you use, or is there
19 a written procedure that you follow of things that you need
20 to look --

21 MR. SIRR: That's what we usually follow. It's .
22 -- you just go through the check list. You write down --

23 MR. MADISON: We need the procedures too if
24 there are written procedures.

25 MR. SIRR: It's a work sheet basically, a

1 qualitative work sheet that we usually carry around with us
2 on a clip board, that type of thing.

3 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Are you involved at all
4 with any of the laboratory work here?

5 MR. SIRR: No.

6 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

7 MR. MADISON: Have you worked any place else,
8 any other university prior to this?

9 MR. SIRR: Not a university, just Portsmouth
10 Naval Shipyard. But I worked as a -- up in the clinic.

11 MR. MADISON: Maybe you should just give us
12 your background -- a little bit of your training and
13 background, what that is.

14 MR. SIRR: Okay. 1989 to '92, I worked for the
15 Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and I worked under Keith Dinger
16 at 105.5, and I was basically -- 105.5 was a branch of
17 radiation protection. I was there for three years. I got
18 laid off, went back to school in health physics at
19 University of Lowell. Got my bachelor's degree, and I'm
20 currently in graduate school for health physics. I'm going
21 to complete it this summer, hopefully.

22 And then I started working here a year -- two
23 years to this -- to the end of this October. And that's
24 basically it where I have training in radiation protection.

25 MS. ULLRICH: When you started working here,

1 did they provide you with any training?

2 MR. SIRR: Yes, we had -- there was a refresher
3 training -- well, it was kind of refresher training for me,
4 I guess, yeah.

5 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

6 MR. SIRR: It was a four or five hour training
7 session we had.

8 MS. ULLRICH: Was it the same training that the
9 persons who work in the laboratories go through to be
10 authorized to use materials?

11 MR. SIRR: I think so.

12 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

13 MR. SIRR: Because it was -- yeah, there was
14 some students in there.

15 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. In terms of refresher
16 training or updating of the radiation protection staff, do
17 you have any formal or informal training sessions?

18 MR. SIRR: We have -- I've had some training
19 for special materials -- radioactive special materials.
20 But I don't think that we've had -- I'm trying to remember
21 the last time we had proper training, retraining. I can't
22 exactly -- I can't recollect exactly what it was.

23 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay. One of the questions
24 I had goes back to some of the laboratories. We have been
25 walking through the buildings periodically since we've been

1 here during the past week, and we noted that there are a
2 number of signs around for radioactive material, who to
3 contact if there's an incident or a response.

4 Do you have any part in putting those signs up?

5 MR. SIRR: The radiation control stickers that
6 are on the doors?

7 MS. ULLRICH: Yes.

8 MR. SIRR: Yes, I have done them. I have gone
9 to different laboratories and put the proper --

10 MS. ULLRICH: Is that part of your routine
11 survey to check the signs and make sure they'll still up or
12 --

13 MR. SIRR: That's not -- well, I think that's
14 probably something that is assumed that I do maybe. I
15 mean, I don't think it's -- I'm not sure if it's actually
16 been told to me to make sure all those signs are there,
17 because I generally don't have a problem with signs not
18 being there.

19 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

20 MR. SIRR: There are some times when we have
21 been closing out all the laboratories in different
22 buildings because there are -- we have right now where we -
23 - sometimes a sticker has been left behind that was on
24 there that was maybe scribbled on or someone pulled off,
25 that type of thing.

1 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

2 MR. SIRR: I think most things are labeled
3 fairly well.

4 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay. Do you recall the
5 last time that signs had to be changed or updated for any
6 reason?

7 MR. SIRR: Yeah, we changed some of -- we went
8 to a different style and size -- sink cards were changed
9 out. I think they were changed out sometime in the spring.

10 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

11 MR. SIRR: I'm not exactly sure on that, but
12 that's something else that was changed out. Basically we
13 took down the cards and we accounted for all the activity -
14 - the concentrations that went out through the sewage
15 disposal, that type of thing, and put new sink cards up.

16 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay. Can you think of
17 anything related to the incident that you were involved
18 with in addition to the special surveys that you did?

19 MR. SIRR: Is there anything that I saw out of
20 the ordinary or --

21 MS. ULLRICH: Well, let's start with that,
22 okay.

23 MR. SIRR: Okay. Well, I did find his water
24 cup is what -- and rumors that I guess he uses that water
25 cup and he cleans it out and brings it back into his

1 laboratory. I did see it there that day that I did the
2 special survey.

3 MR. MADISON: Where?

4 MR. SIRR: It was up on the shelf.

5 MR. MADISON: In the lab?

6 MR. SIRR: Where his desk is. It was clean,
7 dry. I surveyed it in and out, all over. I didn't see
8 anything. I almost went through his books basically, but
9 you know, I just -- I was up all over that area with the
10 GM.

11 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

12 MR. SIRR: Under the desk, in his shoes, in his
13 bag. I didn't find anything. So I went in there and I was
14 kind of on a hunt for something. I just couldn't -- I
15 didn't find anything.

16 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Did you survey the
17 refrigerator -- the cold refrigerator as well as the hot
18 refrigerator?

19 MR. SIRR: No, I didn't survey the refrigerator
20 except just the outside of the refrigerator. Mitch was
21 going at it. He was going through the sources -- all the
22 deliveries.

23 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay.

24 MR. SIRR: So I didn't get in his way. I just
25 went on my way.

1 MS. ULLRICH: How many of you were involved in
2 that survey?

3 MR. SIRR: There was three of us there. Mitch,
4 Don Haes and myself.

5 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. And did you extend outside
6 of Tonegawa's lab?

7 MR. SIRR: Not for the special survey, no.

8 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

9 MR. SIRR: Just that whole group, which is
10 about seven laboratories.

11 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

12 MR. SIRR: Maybe eight. I don't remember off
13 hand.

14 MS. ULLRICH: All right. Did you survey any of
15 the areas that routinely don't see any lab work?

16 MR. SIRR: Yeah, I went outside in the hallway
17 and I went to -- there's a sink down the hall that I guess
18 they wash their cups out and stuff. And went and I went
19 through that too.

20 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

21 MR. SIRR: Underneath the sink, around the
22 sink, any of the cups and papers that were up on top --
23 nothing.

24 MS. ULLRICH: Didn't see anything?

25 MR. SIRR: No.

1 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay.

2 MR. SIRR: Through the cold rooms.

3 MS. ULLRICH: Okay. Were you involved at all
4 during the week they were shut down?

5 MR. SIRR: I did find one thing in the cold
6 room. I found beers.

7 MS. ULLRICH: Found beers in the cold room?

8 MR. SIRR: That's it. Just took those right
9 out of there.

10 MS. ULLRICH: That was a rad cold room or a
11 non-rad cold room?

12 MR. SIRR: That was a rad cold room.

13 MR. MADISON: Did you report -- you reported
14 that I assume?

15 MR. SIRR: Yes, right. I told Don Haes. Oh,
16 Mitch was right there.

17 MR. MADISON: Does that get a written report to
18 the lab director or project --

19 MR. SIRR: I don't know. That's the staff's
20 position. I don't know how they handle it. I do notify
21 them. I say I found some materials in the cold room like
22 sodas or whatever. They try to keep them cold for their
23 little parties, I guess. I don't know.

24 MR. MADISON: You notify whom?

25 MR. SIRR: Don Haes is the staff member for E-

1 17, so I'll just tell Don.

2 MR. MADISON: Do you do a written report?

3 MR. SIRR: I'll put it on my qualitative sheet
4 generally. I don't think I did though for that day. I
5 didn't put it on the sheet that day. I don't believe I
6 did.

7 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

8 MR. SIRR: But I've only found it once. I
9 generally don't find beers in there.

10 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, were you involved in any
11 other surveys while they were shut down for that -- I guess
12 it was a week or so after the 19th?

13 MR. SIRR: I still went through the labs on my
14 weekly visits and that type of thing.

15 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

16 MR. SIRR: Whenever I was scheduled to go, I
17 still went through.

18 MS. ULLRICH: And you're not involved in waste
19 pick up at all?

20 MR. SIRR: No, I used to be, but I'm not any
21 more.

22 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay. Can you think of
23 anyone that we should talk to that we haven't regarding
24 this incident?

25 MR. SIRR: Well, I'm not exactly sure if -- he

1 might, but the person who delivers the packages every
2 morning. I don't know how many packages went to the
3 Tonegawa group. He might be someone you might want to talk
4 to. I don't deliver packages every morning, but on
5 occasion I'll do one morning a week. And you go to just
6 about all the labs.

7 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, who would that be?

8 MR. SIRR: It was Scott McLaughlin.

9 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, he's from rad protection?

10 MR. SIRR: Right.

11 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, okay.

12 MR. SIRR: He delivers the rad material.

13 MS. ULLRICH: Anything else you can think of
14 that might be related to the incident that we haven't
15 brought up?

16 MR. SIRR: I really --

17 MS. ULLRICH: Okay.

18 MR. SIRR: I really don't know.

19 MS. ULLRICH: All right, I have no further
20 questions at this time.

21 MR. MADISON: I don't either.

22 MS. ULLRICH: And I think we can go off the --

23 MR. MADISON: We want to be sure that he gets
24 our phone number and we know how to contact you through
25 radiation protection. If you have anything additional that

1 you can think of or anybody that you know that wants to
2 talk to us, they can also contact us by that number to pass
3 on that information. This is Exhibit 3-1. It further
4 explains the transcripts and the handling of the
5 transcripts.

6 MR. SIRR: Okay.

7 MS. ULLRICH: Okay, I think that's all we need
8 to do. We can go off the record.

9 (Whereupon, the proceedings were adjourned at
10 2:57 p.m.)

11

C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission in the matter of:

Name of Proceeding: INTERVIEW WITH GEOFFREY SIRR

Docket Number: --

Place of Proceeding: Cambridge, Massachusetts

were held as herein appears, and that this is the original transcript thereof for the file of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission taken by me and, thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under the direction of the court reporting company, and that the transcript is a true and accurate record of the foregoing proceedings.

M. Rudoff
Official Reporter
Neal R. Gross and Co., Inc.