

June 20, 1979

Occupation: Bookkeeper

INTERVIEWER: When did you first hear about the Three Mile Island incident? Do you remember, like the middle of the week, end of the week?

NARRATOR: Thursday, yeah, because the people here were leaving for camp on Friday. And we had heard about it Thursday because they had started talking about it, maybe not going or maybe they shouldn't or maybe what have you, so it was on Thursday.

INT: From whom did you hear it?

NAR: I think on Thursday it wasn't anybody special it was just a general topic of conversation about something going on. So I can't pin point any one person or what have you.

INT: Do you remember what you heard?

NAR: Let's see. I, if I'm not mistaken, the general talk, because I had heard about it over here where I work, and the general talk was to the extent that there was something wrong with the reactor and it was, I think mostly at that time they were speculating whether it was going to blow up.

INT: Did you know the reactor was there before the incident?

NAR: Yeah.

INT: And how far is it from us?

NAR: Ohhh. What did they tell me it was? Something like, I'm really not sure, something like. Oh, I can't even think. The guys at the firehouse had told me, the estimated miles as the crow flies or something, but I can't even remember what they told me. I know it was more than ten, but I don't know.

INT: O.K., but they had said something to you?

NAR: Umm, hmm. O.K.

INT: What did you think about when you first heard it? You said you were speculating about it blowing up, did you think anything else?

NAR: My first thoughts really were ones of confusion because I really didn't understand it, I really didn't know, you know if something that drastic was going on, or if it could affect us because we were like over ten miles away, and I think really. I didn't have any feelings of panic or anything. It was more of confusion and not knowing what might happen. You know, just take it as it goes because there is nothing I can do about it.

INT: Did you think it was a very serious situation then?

NAR: Yeah, I did. Because I guess

Interviewer's note—we were interrupted and I forgot to take the pause off, so we had to go over part of it again after this point.

INT: So you did think it was a serious situation?

NAR: Yeah, I sure did.

INT: Did you seek about further information?

NAR: I didn't really seek it out. I think I really learned to depend on the information I got from the firehouse. You know I, whatever they said, or whatever their actions were, that's the way I went. And as long as they were there and as long as I had my monitor and access to them. I figured I knew I was going to know all I had to know.

INT: And what was your connection with the firehouse?

NAR: My son and my son—in—law. And of course I have a lot of friends and I know a lot of other people there, too. But mainly through them.

INT: So did you keep in very close contact with them?

NAR: Yeah, constantly.

INT: Did you talk about it with any of your friends? Or your co-workers?

NAR: Yeah, it was a general topic of conversation, whether it was with my co—workers or whether it was with friends or whether it was with family, really that was about the only, the main topic of conversation during that time.

INT: And do you remember what you discussed?

NAR: Most of it was what's going, exactly what's going on. "What are you going to do?" You know, "Do you think this is going to happen?" Or "Do you believe what they are saying here?" Or, you know, "Do you think we should do this?"

INT: And what did you think was going to happen? Or what did you discuss in conjunction with that?

NAR: O.K., in terms of what was going to happen, the overriding thing was the threat of an explosion. And the possibility of being evacuated. I think the evacuation was the most common aspect of it. You know, not knowing whether we were going to be able to stay here or leave. And over and above that was the threat of the explosion.

INT: Were people afraid to be evacuated?

NAR: I don't think afraid. I don't know if I'd use that word afraid. Sad, and uncertain and what have you, but not afraid.

INT: Were they afraid of the explosion?

NAR: Yeah. Yeah, because the explosion, now that was like "boom, you're dead." So there was fear in connection with an explosion. Yeah, yeah.

INT: Did you picture the explosion in your mind?

NAR: Yeah,

INT: What did it look like?

NAR: Like a big ball, like a gigantic ball. It started out small and this ball would get bigger and bigger and bigger. And this ball the color's like orange and red shooting out through it.

INT: And what color was the ball itself?

NAR: It was like, it was like a great big puff of grey black smoke. And as it got bigger of course the colors, there was more orange and more red until it was like — it consumed everything.

INT: Did it come out as far as Carlisle?

NAR: Yeah, it was like it came out as far as Carlisle and went over. It would grow and there it goes, right over you.

INT: Did you have any idea of what would happen to you if you were still in there and the big ball came over you? Did you think about that?

NAR: NO.

INT: Did your attitude change as the event progressed? This is now going back to the whole nuclear incident as you found out more information?

NAR: Yeah, like back when it all happened. Yeah. Right, my attitude, the way I felt, right? Yeah. I think then was when you really learned to see things different and you learned to appreciate things different. And you really start finding out about how you care about people, and what they meant to you. It was not something you could take for granted, you know. “I’m mad at you today. So what I’ll make up with you tomorrow.” Because at that time you thought, this, now counts because we don’t know about tomorrow. And I think if anything I learned to care more. More for my family and a lot of other people. I think I’ve gotten a lot more patient. But maybe in a way that’s a funny part. But I think I’ve learned to be more patient then.

INT: Was this a lasting change?

NAR: Yeah, I think it has been. I really think it has been. Because I can see in a lot of things there I’d get hyper before. I don’t get hyper now. And a lot of times I can really understand people a lot better than I used to because at that time I didn’t have the time to be bothered. Now there is time.

Interviewer’s note - after the interview the informant commented the TMI has stirred up these feelings so deeply she is reconsidering her entire role in life. She does not know where the change will lead her but some drastic changes are likely to occur. She would like to help people more.)

INT: Do you think it changed anybody else in this way?

NAR: Yeah, I think it changed a lot of people. I really do. Even like a lot of people I come in contact with here at work. With a lot of them I have seen a lot of changes, too, where they aren’t as pushy as they used to be or short tempered. You know, I’ve seen. Yeah really, in terms of patience or understanding or a general change in some people, I’ve seen it in others, too.

INT: Have you seen any other changes in them, besides more patience?

NAR: Yeah, a greater appreciation for their life, what they have. Just a much deeper appreciation for a lot of things. You know, their families, their homes, almost anything. I think a lot of us really learned to appreciate and thank God for what we’ve got, for what we have.

INT: How did you feel about their changes and reactions? Do you think it was for the better, or do you think in a way it is sort of sad that it had to happen?

NAR: I think it’s sad that it took something like that to bring about the changes. I am glad to see the changes and the changes are for the better. But it really is, when you stop and look at it or

stop and think about it, it's really sad that we have only learned these virtues through a near disaster or a tragedy. You know it's just sad that this can't be a part of us from the beginning.

INT: You got most of your information from the firehouse, did you follow the newspaper or the radio or the television at all?

NAR: Basically no. A lot of times I would listen to one of them and compare them. Just to see how much difference there was or to try and figure out what I would be doing if I was relying on them but it got to the point that I would get confused and upset, and I stopped. I more or less, as long as I knew what was going on at the firehouse.

INT: So you felt that they had the straight scoop?

NAR: Right, I figured, you know, they are going to tell me or let me know, keep me alerted so as long as they're there I am O.K..

INT: Was there a big difference between what the media reports were and what the reports were at the station?

NAR: There weren't, it wasn't always so much that there was a great difference. It was, with the media there were so many conflicting things. Like I'd listen to one radio station during news and as soon as that news went off I'd turn it to another one. Which was in a span of maybe three or four minutes and they'd be telling me something else. And I think it was the confusion about listening to so many different things all within a period of a certain time, and hearing so many different stories. Not greatly different but enough different that it made you wonder, you know, if is anything I'm hearing from them the truth or not? If it can be three different ways at one time. Is any of them the truth?

INT: But you did trust the firehouse?

NAR: Yeah, I did.

INT: So you weren't concerned about whether or not that was the truth?

NAR: Right.

INT: How did you feel about the way, the confusion in the media, the way they were handling it?

NAR: Mad, because with the seriousness of it, what hurt, I think what really cause the people so much hurt and suffering and sorrow is not knowing. And the media, you know, with you being so much confused and everything, this is where the after effects came in because I think the biggest effect of the whole thing on us was the not knowing, the uncertainty. And with the news media, they just made it worse. They just kept you on edge because you didn't know.

INT: Do you think they were doing that on purpose?

NAR: No, not really. I really don't know. I don't know. Why, I guess I really don't know why. They were only repeating what they had heard, where they, what their source of information was. You know, so they themselves weren't doing it for any specific reason, they were only just repeating what they heard.

INT: How did you feel about the way the government handled it?

NAR: O.K. With the government, when it comes to that I don't think my thoughts got that far. You know, I relied so much like I said before, on the firehouse on the local level. I don't think my thoughts went to that extent after I stopped listening to the news media. My thoughts were

more concentrated on what was going on here, on a local level, but I didn't, my thoughts didn't go far enough to involve that.

INT: Did you think about industry, Metropolitan Edison, how they handled it?

NAR: Yeah, I didn't think they handled it right at all.

INT: Why?

NAR: O.K., because I don't think they made the people that should have known what was going on know about it in time. I don't think they were honest about it. I think they were more out for their own benefit of it than they were out for us. And I didn't, that part of it I didn't like.

INT: Was there anyone that you particularly mistrusted?

NAR: No, I couldn't say there was any particular one or particular thing.

INT: Was there anyone that you particularly trusted, especially? Would that be the firehouse?

NAR: It would have been, yeah.

INT: Did you feel that those in charge were in control of the situation?

NAR: In, on what level?

INT: Over at in industry Metropolitan Edison, the people running the whole thing.

NAR: Did I feel they could be trusted?

INT: No, Did you feel they were in control of it? That they had a grip on what was happening? That they could prevent an explosion or something like that?

NAR: No, I don't think I did. You know, because we didn't really didn't know exactly what was going on and I don't think they knew exactly what was going on either, so how could they have been in control of it?

INT: Do you think they are in control of it right now?

NAR: Maybe more so, but I don't think my feelings have gotten to the point where I'd say they now know exactly what they are doing and what's going on, I don't think my feelings have changed to the extent where I could accept that and believe it.

INT: Did you make any plans different from what you ordinarily would have made?

NAR: During?

INT: Alright, during the incident. You mentioned earlier that, was it your son—in—law who packed your bags?

NAR: Yeah, right. As far as doing things differently I mainly went about my life the same way as I usually do. I came to work, I went to places I had to go and what have you. As you said and as I had told you, my son-in-law saw that I had a bag tacked and it was ready to go and my son kept after me not to be out in the street any more than I had to and things like this. I didn't change my lifestyle any more than I had to, but there were steps of preparation that were taken.

INT: Would you have made those steps on your own?

NAR: I probably would have, maybe not as soon or as fast as my son-in-law doing it. I think eventually I would have. But I think I didn't want to have to do these, because if I didn't do

them, then it was like trying to convince myself there isn't anything to this. I'll get up tomorrow morning and I'll find out it never happened or it's all over with.

INT: What would have made you leave the area?

NAR: Like I said, whenever I talked about the firehouse, too, also the communication base up in the courthouse, you know, my son-in-law, he spent a couple of days up there working and stuff, but that was another source of information, what have you. I guess maybe that's why I had so much faith in them. But when they would have gone into an alert evacuate people within a ten mile distance, then is when I would have thought of putting any plans I had into effect, or making any plans to leave, you know, when they went into alert.

INT: Then when they told you to leave, you'd leave?

NAR: Right.

INT: What would you have taken with you?

NAR: The first thought I had then when we talked about, really talked about having to evacuate. I have two pets, I have a Siamese cat and I have another cat, and I had made up my mind. I think the first thought that really went through my mind was, "if I go, they go." I would have taken personal belongings, too. Clothing and things that I would have really needed. And gone with the rest of my family, but the biggest thought, and the deepest thought I had at that time was with the animals, with the cats.

INT: Now you said you had a mental picture of the explosion going on, with the smoke and the fire. Did you have any other mental pictures? Of what was going on.

NAR: You mean in regards to the explosion?

INT: In regards to anything, things that were going through your mind, any daydreams or just?

NAR: No, I didn't really daydream, you know, or other than. O.K., I told you about how I, the mental picture I had about the explosion, and this of course occurred when we would talk about it and my son had said there's this bubble in there and its going to explode and all this and all that. But as far as day dreaming or visualizing anything else, no. I didn't day dream or fantasize or anything of this type.

INT: Did you have any night dreams?

NAR: No.

INT: Was your sleep disturbed at all?

NAR: Yeah, it was. Not by dreams or not by any visions or anything, but due to the monitor I use to keep in contact with what was going on around me. Normally it's turned down where you can't hear it at night. But during that period it was kept up almost to the same level I keep it at day time, so of course any time a beep, beep, went off I automatically woke up. What was this monitor, what did it? It monitored all the fire stations and the communication base and the police networks and the state police. So I'd hear through that when they start any action going.

INT: You'd be the first to know?

NAR: Right, we'd know it.

INT: You kept that up specifically for information where you normally would have turned it down?

NAR: Right, because I know I wouldn't have slept if I hadn't been sure of being aware of what was going on, and so long as I had that really I didn't have any trouble sleeping. I'd go to bed and sleep.

INT: Did you think that anything that happened at TMI might have affected your health? Or has your health been affected by the incident?

NAR: I don't really think my health has and I've thought or wondered what effects we will find out later. I, you know I don't know if it has affected our health or if it will. I don't know I haven't really given it too much thought to my own.

INT: What about your family?

NAR: There I have, when it comes to my kids, my daughter, my grandson. Because with my daughter, she only has one child, she's still very young. She's going to have more. Now I've wondered and I think I've gotten upset, too with the fact that maybe it has affected her, maybe it will, my grandson, or any future children she has. So you know, I have thought about this in that respect. I've gotten angry about it too. You know, this makes me angrier than anything, thinking that maybe they will be effected. Me, it's not, you know, uh, I don't know, where it came from or what have you but it was speculated or talked about you know that the effects of them may not show up for twenty, thirty years, okay in twenty, thirty years my life's gonna be about over, you know I would have lived my life, but they wouldn't have. And, I get upset when I think about maybe, if it has done anything to us, they're going to suffer for it. And it's not right because they didn't ask for it, they didn't do anything to cause it.

MT: Do you have any idea what these effects may be?

NAR: No, I myself don't, you know, there again you fall back on your news media or general talk that you've heard, you know, and they'll say, you know it could, like in a pregnancy, the baby could be born with deformities, or what have you, and uh, just general things like that. But as far as myself I have no idea, just what it could cause.

INT: Were you afraid to eat the food or drink the milk from the area?

NAR: No.

INT: Did you picture in your mind any effects of radiation on life around you? Say wildlife or plant life?

NAR: Uh, when I thought of anything like that, about, the only picture that ever really came to my mind was like a scene of barren land. Where there's nothing, nothing but dirt, And, I guess you'd have to say really that's the picture I would see in my mind. Like where everything had been totally wiped out, or stripped out, everything dead. That's the picture I saw.

INT: Did you have any envision on how far this would spread? Like would it keep spreading over the whole world, or would it cover the eastern part of the world?

NAR: I can't, I think once I saw it where it hit us and went like floating over up. I didn't see any, it was like, after it had gone that far I just didn't see how far it went or what have you. It had gone far enough to where I was really affected, or what have you. I didn't see how much further it might have gone.

INT: Did you think about your own death?

NAR: Uh, I think we were talking about, did I visualize my own death? No, I didn't in mind.

INT: Did you visualize anyone else's death?

NAR: Okay, I didn't maybe actually visualize as far as seeing a picture, you know, but the thought went through my mind, and especially in regard again to, my family, my kids, and my brothers and sisters. But a lot of this, when it came to the thought of death, uh, my parents went through my mind. Because, you know they're older my mother has health problems to begin with. And, the threat of death really, really bothered me, where they were concerned because her blood pressure is so high and the thought even if nothing drastic happened, It even if it wasn't an explosion, and we didn't have to be evacuated, still all this pressure and this mental strain and this not knowing and worrying you know could have been or had an effect on her where maybe it might have caused her death inadvertently or indirectly. Now, so I did worry about them a lot.

INT: Did you feel that you had certain responsibilities during the incident? Like toward your job or the community?

NAR: Okay, where . . . it went in the direction of my family, my mother and father, my kids, and also went where the community was concerned too. Like if there was an evacuation or something to be done, I wanted to be, and wanted to do what I could do. And yet I knew that if anything happened, my kids would leave.

INT: Did you feel any conflicts over that?

NAR: Yeah, like wanting to go with them, wanting to make sure they were okay, be there to see it, and also wanting to be here, or be with whether it was the Salvation Army or any emergency unit that was doing any help. Knowing that I could and should be able to help them. And, it was like a tug of war back and forth, although I think I know that my kids would have gone, my kids would have been okay. And I think that I would have stayed and done, or gone to the area where I was most needed.

INT: You mentioned before that, your daughter and daughter-in-law and grandson would leave but your son and son-in-law would have stayed?

NAR: Would have stayed, and this too, you know to go with my son and my daughter and my parents and what have you and knowing they were safe and knowing my son and my grandson or my son and my son-in-law were back here, uh, that going made it hard you know. Go with one and leave the other. And either way it would have been the same thing. Let one go and stay.

INT: Do you know what they would have wanted you to do?

NAR: What I felt was right. Uh, I know with my son and my son-in-law, they kept telling me I was leaving. If my daughter left, I left with her and yet they would end up saying, but you're gonna have to do what you want to do. They were telling me to go, but you do what you want to do. It's like my daughter told me, if we go and you know were going, you're going to stay. Because if you can help you're not going to be happy wondering what's going on with Kenny and Chuck, back here and knowing you might have been able to help in some way.

INT: Was your job or work affected by TMI?

NAR: Yeah, in the extent where, there wasn't mental concentration that I should have had. My work in that respect suffered, you know, because I just didn't . . . when I should have. And

through the interruptions, the people being in and out so much, you know, and everybody talking and speculating. Wanting your version of it or wanting to know what would you do. In this respect, I think it did.

INT: Was your work at home effected?

NAR: Yeah, its so much easier, you become so involved in what's going on or what might happen that it was a lot easier to put off to tomorrow what normally I would have made a point to do today. I...

INT: At the time did you think of any past experiences or past events? Anything that say in your life would have happened? Say a personal crisis for example, I know some people thought of a death in the family. Or it could be if you lived through a hurricane or a flood.

NAR: No, As far as any personal experience, I didn't think of anything like that. I didn't even think of the flood or anything else. As far as any kind of tying it in with any other events that had ever taken place or anything, The only thing that came to my mind was when I compared it, you know, with, the explosion, in terms of the explosion where the explosion went through my mind in terms of seeing what it must have been like at Hiroshima. When it was the terrible, terrible explosions and all the fire and that's where the colors of red and orange came in too so much and like getting bigger and bigger and bigger. You know it was like on a smaller scale of what I had imagined what it would have been like at Hiroshima.

INT: Did you think of the explosion of being the worst thing that could have happened?

NAR: No with the explosion, if it would have happened, boom it would have happened. But it's the after effects of what it would have caused and the way it would have effected everybody's life, that's, to me that would have been the worst part of it, not the explosion itself.

INT: What would it have caused?

NAR: Okay, probably death, we'd have been effected if not through our direct family, through friends or what have you. A total loss of probably what you spent your lie working for. If we would've had to evacuate, would we or when would we have ever been able to come back. And, an explosion, I mean if we, if I, if in the explosion, if you died in the explosion it was all over. But if you survived the explosion, it wouldn't have been the explosion, it would have been the after effects of the explosion, the damage that the explosion did afterwards, not right at that moment.

INT: Okay was this incident more or less frightening as a flood or a hurricane?

NAR: Yeah.

INT: Why?

NAR: Okay, I've never been through a hurricane, I mean, I have no idea what its like we went through the flood here and of course that was pretty terrifying in its own way too. But with this, uh, it was the not knowing, you know, and not being sure of exactly what is going on you know, You go to bed and maybe we'll all, if we have the explosion during the night we simply won't wake up. But I think it was much more terrifying not knowing you know, do you run or don't you run because you don't know. Is there going to be an explosion or isn't there, during the flood were coming up. They knew what was going on, they knew you were going to have a flood. I

mean there was no. Once it started there was no question of it. Where as with TMI you didn't know. And that was worse.

INT: So it was the unknowing that really got to you?

NAR: Right.

INT: Did any TV shows or movies or books or stories come to mind?

NAR: No, not really

INT: Did you find yourself singing any songs or thinking of any songs?

NAR: No.

INT: What changes happened to people around you during the incident?

NAR: Okay, I guess by changes you mean changes in their behavior. I guess one of the biggest changes I saw the changes, you know, were people became so much more patient about so many more things. About themselves, about others, Also people learned to appreciate what they had so much more. They learned to appreciate their family, their loved ones, their life really. So there were changes in people.

INT: These were lasting changes?

NAR: Yeah.

INT: Did you hear any jokes about radiation or Three Mile Island?

NAR: Yeah, uh, I've heard jokes and different comments or what have you. Uh, where the jokes are concerned, you know, I don't even really listen to them I usually walk away or I just let it be known I don't want to hear it. I don't think that any part of it was a joking matter. It was serious, to me it was serious and I just can't see and I don't appreciate making jokes out of it. It upsets me really, when I hear someone making a joke about it, I don't really like it.

INT: Do you remember what any of the jokes that you did here about the subject matter?

NAR: No, not really, its almost like when anybody gets joking about it or makes fun of it or thinks it is amusing, I block it out.

INT: Do you remember if you heard more jokes after the event or during the event?

NAR: After.

INT: What do you think of the people wearing the tee shirts?

NAR: I don't like those either. I really don't, it was, like I said, to me it was really a serious situation and it had a lot of effect on a lot of people.

INT: Why do you think people were joking?

NAR: I don't know, maybe for some of them it was a form of release. Maybe it was a release of their frustrations and what have you, you know, I know what the jokes and making fun of it did to me, but to them maybe it was good for them. Maybe that's how they released their frustrations and their tensions. Maybe that's how they dealt with it.

INT: Did you ever hear any joking in other crisis?

NAR: Yeah, to give you an example or anything I probably wouldn't be able to, but even like with the flooding, you know, I've heard thing about the waters rising and stuff. I think people will make jokes or amusing comments about any situation. I don't, I really don't care what kind it is. Somewhere along the line you're bound to run into a joke or some kind of an amusing tale concerned.

INT: Was there anything that I didn't ask you again?

NAR: Not really

INT: Did any biblical stories or events or sayings cross your mind?

NAR: Not really except I keep going back to where I read the monumental picture of what the explosion would be like. And I also, in that mental picture, I also saw in terms of a much more gigantic scale, of what I had visualized as being the bombing of Hiroshima. And again when it comes to the biblical sense, it would have been like the burning of the bush. So I don't know, when he came down from the mountain. Most of my tie-ins have been with the mental picture of the burning, the flames and the fire.

INT: Did you think of the last judgment at all?

NAR: No, not really.

INT: So you didn't think of the last judgment?

NAR: No.

INT: Did you think about Satan at all?

NAR: No, I don't think I did directly, but you know, I have wondered about this, and there's, one of the people that come here to the Salvation Army, come to church. We've gotten to talking about this different times and I talked about my visions of the fire and stuff. And I've said I've often wondered if I haven't compared that to what I thought hell would be like. In terms of Satan or the devil or what have you. So I don't know if there's any connection there consciously or subconsciously or what. But you know I have speculated on that, because most of my mental pictures of anything have been with fire.

INT: Did you or do you now consider the incident at Three Mile Island related in any way to God's disciplining mankind or instructing mankind?

NAR: Yeah, I thought of it in terms that God's trying to tell us something. Trying to tell somebody something and there again too I go back to the fire so often and I have through this whole thing, you know, seeing the fire in the picture of the fire has played a big part in my thoughts and my feelings toward it. And you had asked me a question a while ago, and I'm not even sure what the question was but maybe the last judgment or what have you. Maybe this has something to do with that I don't know. But picturing this fire so much, and they say they speculate on when the world's gonna come to an end. When the world judgment day is coming, what have you, and I've always thought or visualized in my mind, that when the end of the world comes it's going to go up in flames. So maybe all this to me, inside, inside it all ties in it's the same thing. And maybe you know as far as the last judgment, maybe this ties in there.

INT: Did you attend a religious service during the crisis?

NAR: Yeah, we did here, we had prayer readings and what have you.

INT: Was any mention made of the TMI incident?

NAR: Yeah, mostly you know in terms that of course we didn't understand completely what was going on or anything and it was mainly in the prayer meetings, prayed that God would be with us. And that he would bring us through this, you know, not only us, speaking in terms of everyone, anyone and everyone involved.

INT: Did that make you feel any better, listening to the prayers?

NAR: Yeah, it always does, you know it's just not with just a group of people or anything, but a lot of times when things like this happen or anything I spend a lot of time talking to God. I don't have to be at a prayer meeting. You know when you ask him, no matter whether it's in a prayer meeting or whether you're asking directly, I think it always makes you feel better, when you ask him.

INT: At the prayer meetings were there the same number of people as usual there?

NAR: No, there were more. There again maybe it's because people didn't take so much for granted there might not be tomorrow, you know where today if you have prayer meeting and so you have something you'd like to do more, so you don't come, you come next week. Only I think that when this was going on, you weren't so sure there was going to be a next week. So maybe, I don't know maybe this is the reason there were more there. I don't know.

INT: Were there mostly Salvationists there or did you have other people coming in?

NAR: We had other people come in. We deal, here we are so open to the public and we do have many different religions but we had, not only our own Salvationists but other religions too. Other different denominations.

INT: Was it unusual to have the number of other denominations that you had?

NAR: No, not really, because we do get them at other meetings anyway. It's not something unusual or something that wouldn't happen at any other time.

INT: Does your own faith say anything about the rightness or wrongness of man's desire to use or control atomic power? Do you feel that man should use, atomic power, do you think in relation to your fate do you think God has given man the ability to exploit this kind of thing?

NAR: No, okay, he has given him the ability, and maybe even the know-how, uh, but when it comes to something like this, this is my own personal belief, and I've always believed God has given us a free will. And he's has given us a terrible amount of knowledge, and what have you but I also believe and I'm not even sure how I developed this belief, but I also believe man's gonna outsmart himself, He's going to take God's given talents and use them for his own benefit and this is wrong. This is where he's going against God. And therefore he is going to destroy himself, and maybe this is the warning from god. That hey buddy, you're getting to that point, you know, you're not any longer using your knowledge right, of mankind but for your own personal benefit, and it's wrong.

INT: Do you think religious persons or institutions should take a public stand on human development and atomic power?

NAR: That's kind of hard to answer.

INT: Do you think they ought to remain neutral?

NAR: No I don't think they should remain neutral, but okay they can't go out and say this is the way it has to be and you can't be this way and that. But, and I don't believe they, should, the church or anything is the place for politics, but when something's wrong, it's wrong, and in their own quiet way, through their services and their own actions, they can let it be known that they disapprove of something Or they don't feel something's right. But they don't have to you know...

INT: Be so blatant about it?

NAR: Right.

INT: What is your personal opinion of nuclear power, what would be done with it?

NAR: I don't know, my personal opinion is I wish I had never heard of the thing, I wish there wasn't such a thing and I wish they'd stop it. That's about the way I feel, I wish they'd leave their hands off and leave well enough alone. Before they do blow us up.

INT: How would you feel if they built a nuclear power plant in your back yard?

NAR: It won't be my backyard any longer.

INT: So you'd move out then?

NAR: Yeah

INT: Is there anything else you'd like to add?

NAR: No, not really, there is nothing really I can think of other than what you've already asked me or we've gone over.