

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Swift, Robert** **TMI-Swift**

Material: Papers (1979-c1990)

Volume: .25 linear feet (1 Document Box)

Donation: Gift of Robert Swift, 2006

Usage: These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Robert Swift was a Pennsylvania statehouse reporter during the accident at Three Mile Island. As such, he not only covered the numerous press conferences held to discuss the incident, but also reported from TMI the first night of the accident.

The Three Mile Island nuclear power plant is located near Middletown, Pennsylvania. It consists of two nuclear reactor stations, Unit One and Unit Two. The Unit Two station was the site of the most serious accident in U.S. nuclear power plant operating history. The accident took place on March 28, 1979 at four o'clock in the morning.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Robert Swift Collection was donated to Dickinson College in 2006 by Robert Swift. The collection consists mostly of press releases and printed materials collected by Swift while covering the early responses to the accident at Three Mile Island.

The Press Releases in this collection cover the period from March 29, 1979 to 1989. They have been placed at the beginning of the collection and are grouped according to the office or organization that produced them: Metropolitan-Edison, Pennsylvania Governor's Office, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor's Office, and United States President's Office. The individual press releases within each of these five categories are then arranged in chronological order.

The Printed Materials found in this collection date from March 29, 1979 to April 18, 1985. They include official statements and remarks made by Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh in the weeks immediately following the TMI accident. They also contain testimony given by Thornburgh to the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation, the President's Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island, and the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Select Committee on Three Mile Island. In addition, this portion of the

collection includes a 1985 address in which Thornburgh reflected on the emergency management lessons learned as a result of the nuclear power plant accident. The items in the Printed Materials category are organized in chronological order.

The final category in this collection is Miscellaneous. It includes a detailed log of TMI-related events for March 30 and 31, 1979, as well as various memoranda, statements, and publicity materials dating primarily from the two months immediately following the accident. These items are arranged in alphabetical order according to folder title.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - TMI-Swift

PRESS RELEASES - METROPOLITAN-EDISON

Folder 01) March 31, 1979
April 12, 1979

PRESS RELEASES - PA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Folder 02) March 1979
Folder 03) April 1979
Folder 04) May 1979
Folder 05) July 1981

PRESS RELEASES - PA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

Folder 06) April 13, 1979

PRESS RELEASES - PA LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Folder 07) March 21, 1989

PRESS RELEASES - U.S. PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Folder 08) April 6, 1979

PRINTED MATERIALS - DICK THORNBURGH

Folder 09) Statement by Governor Dick Thornburgh - March 29, 1979
Statement by Governor Thornburgh - March 30, 1979
Governor's Remarks: Three Mile Island - April 6, 1979
Statement of Dick Thornburgh, Governor of Pennsylvania: U.S. Senate
Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation - April 23, 1979
Testimony of Governor Dick Thornburgh: Pennsylvania House of
Representatives Select Committee -- Three Mile Island - May 10,
1979
Statement of Dick Thornburgh, Governor of Pennsylvania: President's
Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island - May 17, 1979
"The Three Mile Island Experience: Ten Lessons in Emergency
Management" – A Gubernatorial Fellowship Address by Gov.
Dick Thornburgh of Pennsylvania - April 18, 1985

BOX 1 - TMI-Swift (cont.)

MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 10) Action Log - March 30, 1979
- Folder 11) Background on Bankruptcy Memorandum - April 30, 1979
- Folder 12) Governor's Office Press Advisory
- Folder 13) May 6th Coalition March on Washington
- Folder 14) Notes on Preparedness Activities since the 1979 TMI Accident – c1990
- Folder 15) Pennsylvania Department of Banking Proclamation - March 30, 1979
- Folder 16) W. G. Kuhns' Testimony before the Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works - April 23, 1979