



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • (617) 498-9017

OFFICE OF
THE CITY CLERK

March 29, 1984

Mr. John F. Magee
President
Arthur D. Little, Inc.
23 Acorn Park
Cambridge, MA 02140

Dear Mr. Magee:

Pursuant to the request of the City Council, I am transmitting a copy of the enclosed order for informational purposes, as adopted by the Council at its meeting of Monday, March 26, 1984. Said order with regard to the existence of gaseous fumes in the Kirkland Street-Cambridge-Somerville area on Tuesday, March 20th and unforeseen accidents generally.

Your very kind attention in this matter will be greatly appreciated by the City Council.

Very truly yours,

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

PEH/mh

Enclosure: City Council Order #3 of 3/26/84



City of Cambridge

3.

IN CITY COUNCIL

March 26, 1984

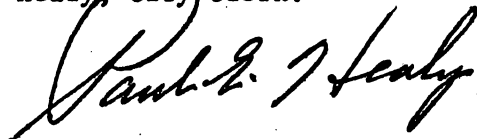
COUNCILLOR VELLUCCI

- WHEREAS: On Tuesday, March 20, 1984, at approximately 9:25 PM students and residents from Cambridge, Somerville, and Allston complained to me, Councillor Alfred Vellucci, about a gas-like smell in their immediate area; and
- WHEREAS: I investigated the complaints and learned that the major complaint was the inhalation of fumes present in the Kirkland Street-Cambridge-Somerville residential area; and
- WHEREAS: I checked with the Cambridge Police and Firefighters and was unable to obtain accurate information as to what the "gas-smelling" problem was all about; and
- WHEREAS: On the same evening of March 20 it was also revealed that a manhole cover had exploded near the Mass General Hospital in Boston; and
- WHEREAS: During the week of March 19 the TV news media reported nuclear explosion problems somewhere in the U.S.A.; and
- WHEREAS: Now then, came Mr. John F. Magee, President of Arthur D. Little Company in Cambridge, to the City Council on the evening of March 19 and tried in vain to assure nine elected City Councillors that "all was safe and well in their laboratory where nerve gas is being researched and we here in Cambridge have nothing to worry about." In the meantime, Arthur D. Little officials went to court and got themselves an injunction to temporarily stop Cambridge City officials from serving them (Arthur D. Little) with an order to stop all testing of nerve gas until further notice; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be requested to direct the Health Commissioner, Police Chief and Fire Chief jointly to send a written report to the City Council immediately and without delay reference to the "gas-like" smell that panicked the entire Harvard Square area on March 20, 1984; and be it further
- ORDERED: That the City Clerk be requested to send a copy of this order to the officials of Arthur D. Little Company to appraise them of the fact, "that accidents do happen" and can happen even in the case of nerve gas testing in the Arthur D. Little Laboratory.

In City Council March 26, 1984.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

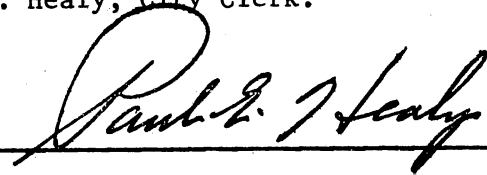
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul E. Healy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

In City Council March 26, 1984.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 6 members.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul E. Healy", is written over a solid horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.



City of Cambridge

3.

IN CITY COUNCIL

March 26, 1984

COUNCILLOR VELLUCCI

- WHEREAS: On Tuesday, March 20, 1984, at approximately 9:25 PM students and residents from Cambridge, Somerville, and Allston complained to me, Councillor Alfred Vellucci, about a gas-like smell in their immediate area; and
- WHEREAS: I investigated the complaints and learned that the major complaint was the inhalation of fumes present in the Kirkland Street-Cambridge-Somerville residential area; and
- WHEREAS: I checked with the Cambridge Police and Firefighters and was unable to obtain accurate information as to what the "gas-smelling" problem was all about; and
- WHEREAS: On the same evening of March 20 it was also revealed that a manhole cover had exploded near the Mass General Hospital in Boston; and
- WHEREAS: During the week of March 19 the TV news media reported nuclear explosion problems somewhere in the U.S.A.; and
- WHEREAS: Now then, came Mr. John F. Magee, President of Arthur D. Little Company in Cambridge, to the City Council on the evening of March 19 and tried in vain to assure nine elected City Councillors that "all was safe and well in their laboratory where nerve gas is being researched and we here in Cambridge have nothing to worry about." In the meantime, Arthur D. Little officials went to court and got themselves an injunction to temporarily stop Cambridge City officials from serving them (Arthur D. Little) with an order to stop all testing of nerve gas until further notice; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be requested to direct the Health Commissioner, Police Chief and Fire Chief jointly to send a written report to the City Council immediately and without delay reference to the "gas-like" smell that panicked the entire Harvard Square area on March 20, 1984; and be it further
- ORDERED: That the City Clerk be requested to send a copy of this order to the officials of Arthur D. Little Company to appraise them of the fact, "that accidents do happen" and can happen even in the case of nerve gas testing in the Arthur D. Little Laboratory.

Order # 3

F-88

C. Vellucci order re: City Manager to direct the Health Commissioner, Police & Fire Chiefs jointly to report to the Council immediately Re: the "gas like" smell that panicked the Harvard Square area on March 20, 1984.

*Copy of order sent to John F. Magee,
President of Arthur D. Little Inc.
with letter of transmittal 3/30/84 akh*

In City Council,

March 26, 1984

3/26/84

[Signature]