

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

403354

DATE AUGUST 10, 1948
RG 376 US ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

TO: DAROL K. FROMAN

FROM: HERBERT I. MILLER

SUBJECT: MONITORING ACTIVITIES AND EXPOSURE RECORDS

*J-15
with folder notes. CS
230.61
P*

*Location
Records Center J-Do (Graves)
Collection C-2-D91
Folder 230.61 Monitoring Activities*

At the time of the departure of the main body of Joint Task Force-7 from Eniwetok, at the request of the undersigned a dispatch was sent to the atoll commander requesting that certain photography be accomplished concerning roll-up activities. This message is attached as reference "A".

The contents of the message was passed to photo team 6 but, as their equipment had been made ready for shipment they did not accomplish the requested coverage. Thereafter, and about 28 May 1948, at Oahu, T.H., the request was restated to Maj. Conner, as representative of the Official Photographer, JTF-7 and he undertook to send a team of photographers from Oahu to Eniwetok to effect compliance. One of the photographers in this group was a mandatory employee of the University of California, but reporting to the Official Photographer JTF-7. On 28 July 1948 he brought the following facts to the attention of Mr. D.K. Froman, Mr. A.E. Dyhre, and the undersigned: That upon his arrival at Eniwetok with the photo team assigned by Maj. Conner to cover the "roll-up" of the installation, an Army sergeant was assigned to the team to act as radiological safety monitor; that this monitor was not certain of his duties or the operation of his detection equipment; that at the various zero islands this monitor told the members of the team to go where they wanted and that he (the monitor) would tell them if it was safe; that for three days the team was not accompanied by the monitor as he had other duties, but the members were told to go about their work on the zero islands nevertheless. During this period the men entered the crater area and took pictures therein. That upon their return to Eniwetok after this three day period, the members of the team were examined by a Major (probably Major Butkus, the radsafe officer in charge) who advised that their clothing was contaminated and should be discarded. That the value of clothing was somewhere in the neighborhood of one hundred dollars.

It might also be noted in connection with the above that the undersigned was advised by the AEC Los Angeles office that some of the photographers, including when interviewed at UCLA in connection with a termination physical examination, indicated overexposure to radioactivity. Checking this matter further at Los Alamos, it was found, for example, in Toub's medical file in the "H" Division office that the notation appears "average exposure for ten days of .25 to .35R. No Symptoms." This notation is dated June 23, 1948 and signed by Dr. Taplin of the UCLA staff. The actual exposure records or copies thereof are not made part of this medical file and are assumed to be in the custody of Cmdr. Winant (C.T.G. 7.6) in Washington, D.C.

H. Miller

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OC
7/15/83
DATE
Approved 9/18/85

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LANL RC