

Accession Number: BLDG. 69-SHELF 6092

File Code Number: 19-1-21

Division/Department/Group: ICSD - ARCHIVES & RECORDS

Series Title: LORI HEFNER, HUMAN RADIATION EXPERIMENTS

Box Number: 3/8 ADMIN. FILES

Folder Title: MARSHALL ISLAND RECORDS SEARCH

402501



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July 18, 1994

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lori Hefner  
FROM: Trina Baker  
SUBJECT: Marshall Island Reference and Initial Records Survey

I began by reviewing For the Records--A History of the Nuclear Test Personnel Review Program, 1978-1986 for search terms. That list of search terms is enclosed. Primarily, creating the list consisted of separating tests in New Mexico (land tests) from those in the Pacific Proving Ground.

The search then moved to a review of the search completed by Dennis Copeland related to fallout.

- Items of note:
1. Notes from a phone interview with Wade Patterson of EH&S have a list of personnel at Plumbbob (Hardtack), a New Mexico test, but among the names were those of Carl Lindenkin, identified as also being at Redwing, and Boyd Thompson "in Health Physics; was also at another test in Pacific, in 1952."
  2. From an Archives and Records Department box, a list of personnel at Operation Crossroads from the University of California that includes 21 names identified as being those of LBL employees. This included Dr. John Lawrence and Dr. Joseph Hamilton.
  3. The divisions reviewed by Dennis Copeland included Administration, includes the Director's Office; Engineering; Nuclear Science; and Physics, including Research Medicine and Radiation Biophysics.

On the whole, he identified pages, rather than boxes of materials that were related to Nuclear Testing and Fallout. However, it is unclear whether or not he included engineering records related to the development of experimental equipment. His survey was completed in 1991. Since then significant numbers of additional LBL employees have retired and contributed records to the Archives and Records Office Collection.

An additional literature search turned up the following additional information:

"Hiring of civilians was especially complicated also. Special contracts and payroll procedures had to be imposed almost overnight. Some men were arbitrarily placed on the Los Alamos payroll. . . ."

Shurcloff, Bombs at Bikini, The Official Report of Operations Crossroads, p. 32

And an additional lab specific note:

" And finally, the Radiation Laboratory at Berkeley had participated in diagnostic measurements of the George Greenhouse shot so that a group of its young, post doctoral physicists had become familiar with the details of thermonuclear weapon design and were keen on participating in a second weapons laboratory....There were 40 scientists in this Berkeley group who had worked on the George Greenhouse shot."

Libby, The Uranium People, p. 301

According to this book those present at Greenhouse included Ernest Lawrence.

Of the ten Pacific Proving Grounds Operations, a significant number Radiation Lab (Lawrence Berkeley Lab) personnel have been identified as contributing to at least four during my cursory search: Crossroads, Greenhouse, Redwing, and Dominic I. In addition to those noted above, a review of the lists of publications suggest that participants also include E. O. Lawrence and Duane Sewell (Sewell was also at Dominic and Wigwam) at Redwing. Cornelius Tobias at Castle. Wade Patterson at Hardtack I.

If this search is to go further, I would suggest a review of any personnel lists that DOE could provide and the viewing of the records from the Dennis Copeland list, most of which are readily available on microfilm (and many of which coincide with the current search for plutonium injections.) In addition it would be helpful to know more about what DOE is looking for. Are they interested in records related to equipment development or other matters beyond the presence of personnel at tests?