OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Lester M. Baggett, Group Leader, GMX-4 TO

DATE: March 20, 1972

Thru

Garl Buckland, Leader, General Monitoring Section, H-1

: Dean D. Meyer, Group Leader, H-1

, Robert Martin, General Monitoring Section, H-1 FROM

SUBJECT: GMX-4 PU CONFINEMENT SHOT

SYMBOL : H-1

And

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A plutonium confinement shot using 212 grams of 239Pu and 3.3 lbs. of HE was fired on Wednesday, March 8, 1972, at the CMX-4 IJ firing point.

No alpha contamination was detected during the loading operation. After loading, the three-foot confinement vessel was pumped down and purged twice with nitrogen and let up to atmospheric pressure with methane.

After the shot was fired, the outside of the safety vessel was monitored using a portable alpha instrument and no alpha contamination was detected. The pressure in the confinement vessel was then bled off and during this time an air sample was drawn from the manifold through two HV-70 filter papers on the H-1 Gast sampling system. No alpha contamination was detected on the filter papers using a portable alpha instrument. The first filter paper read 3.0 counts/min or 9.0 dis/min and the second filter paper had no detectable alpha contamination per Edna Marx, H-1 Count Room, CMR Building. The confinement vessel was then pumped down and purged twice with outside air.

No alpha contamination was detected around the confinement vessel after the safety vessel door was opened, and no contamination was detected after the copper trumpet was cut and replaced.

A giraffe air sampler was sampling the breathing air during the pre-shot. and post-shot activities and it read 2.55 dis/min-M per Edna Marx.

Robert Martin

RM:ed

Xc: Dick Warnes, GMX-4 Ellery Storm, H-1

File thru C. Blackwell, H-1

Hecewed by ER-RPF

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