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Tele. Conv.

DOCUMENT NAME: 100-F Area Animal Farm

AUTHOR K. Brewer DOC NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 6/15/90

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## TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

CALL TO: Val Taylor/BATTELLE/(509) 376-2635

CALL FROM: Kathy Brewer/CH2M HILL

DATE: 06/15/90

TIME: 3:15 PM

PROJECT: CVO30419.B0.02

SUBJECT: 100-F Area Animal Farm



Val worked at the Animal Farm from 1952 until 1976, when all animal research activities were located to the Battelle facilities in Richland. GE ran the research facilities until 1965, when Battelle took them over.

The earlier work was mainly with sheep. They had up to 1000 head of sheep at a time. The main isotope used in the dose studies was iodine-131, though strontium-90 and cesium-137 were also used. Most of the studies done were lifetime 20 year studies. The sheep were kept in the main barn 141.

As the sheep studies were phased out, they started working with pigs. Pigs were studied from 1952 until 1976. Another facility was built across from 141 to house the pigs. Similar isotopes were used with the pigs as for the sheep.

Extensive studies were also done on beagle dogs. Approximately 300-400 dogs were kept at a time. The dog kennel runs were on the south end of the 141 building, approximately 300 yards from the retention basin. He did not know much about the dog experiments other than that plutonium was used. He suggested that I call Jack Parks (376-0107) about the dog research.

Other pilot studies were done on miniature goats, milk cows, chickens, and ducks.

The strontium gardens in the southwest end of the site were used to grow different types of wheat and barley. Val said that he believed that they were watered with cooling water effluent. They also used the 10 acre pasture in that area to keep pregnant sheep and animals that were still too young for the experiments.

Botany experiments were also conducted in the greenhouses near the river. These were mainly potted plants.

The contaminated manure and sawdust from the buildings was placed in standard radiation boxes (24"X18"X18") and placed in the trench behind the 105 reactor building. They started at one end of the trench and filled to the other. The radiation boxes were constructed of cardboard and lined with plastic. They could hold

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50-75 lbs.

The contaminated manure and sawdust that could not be shovelled out was hosed out to the sewer that went to a special sump. When the sump would start to get full, they would pump the waste through a screen and the liquid portion would go to the animal leach trench. the solids trapped by the screen would be allowed to dry and then they were sent to the sawdust pit. Manure and sawdust from "clean" areas would also go to the sawdust pit.

Carcasses and all other tissue wastes were incinerated. They were placed in one of two large rail car type tanks that were located close to the road that goes behind the reactor building. The tanks were orientated north-south. The carcasses were dropped in through a manhole, and lime was placed on them to start them decomposing. When the tank car was sufficiently full, diesel fuel was poured in and ignited. He said that the carcasses burned fairly completely, with relatively small amounts of ash being generated. This ash was not cleaned out of the tanks, and when one tank eventually started to fill with ash, the other one was constructed. Val said that no carcasses were buried.

During the last burn on one of the tanks, it got so hot it collapsed in on itself. He said that both tanks should still be there.

Other contaminated solid waste generated by the biology labs was placed in radiation boxes and buried in the trench behind the 105-F reactor.

Val said that he would be on vacation next week.