

AMCSF-P (MONA-ARO/16 Oct 96) 1st End Mr. Manfre/jm/617-9340
SUBJECT: Diamond Ordnance Radiation Facility

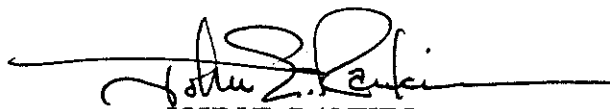
Commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command, 5001 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria,
VA 22333-0001

112 NOV 1996

FOR Director, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, ATTN: AMSRL-OP-IN-RK,
2800 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi, MD 20783-1145

1. Concur with the request in paragraph 5 of basic correspondence.
2. If radiation levels are discovered that are in excess of current Nuclear Regulatory Commission/American National Standards Institute standards, perform a risk assessment to validate (or rule out) any risks due to reactor related radioactive materials present at the DORF site.
3. Point of contact is John Manfre, DSN 767-9340, fax 9469, email jmanfre@hqamc.army.mil.
4. AMC - America's Arsenal for the Brave.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


JOHN E. RANKIN
Chief
Safety Office

CF:
HQDA, (DACS-SF), ATTN: COL Cherry
Dir, USANCA, ATTN: MONA-ARO
Cdr, WRAMC, ATTN: MCHA-HP (COL Johnson)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY NUCLEAR AND CHEMICAL AGENCY
7150 HELLER LOOP, SUITE 101
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22150-3198

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:
MONA-ARO

OCT 16 1996

MEMORANDUM THRU Commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command, ATTN: AMCSF-P
5001 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22333-0001

FOR Director, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, ATTN: AMSRL-D, 2800 Powder Mill
Road, Adelphi, MD 20783-1145

SUBJECT: Diamond Ordnance Radiation Facility

1. References:

- a. Army Regulation 50-7 (Army Reactor Program), 16 Aug 96.
 - b. Radiation Protection Special Study No. 28-43-0982-80, Close-Out Survey of Diamond Ordnance Radiation Facility (DORF), 25-28 February 1980, U. S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency.
2. AR 50-7 established the Army Reactor Office (ARO) at the U. S. Army Nuclear and Chemical Agency (USANCA) to manage the Army Reactor Program for the DCSOPS. This regulation specifies that Army reactors be designed, constructed, operated, maintained, and decommissioned per U. S. national standards.
3. The ARO has been reviewing documents regarding all Army reactors, whether operating, deactivated, or decommissioned, to determine their current status. This review included the Diamond Ordnance Radiation Facility (DORF) where a TRIGA nuclear research reactor was operated from 1961 until 1977.
4. Reference 1 b contains data concerning the radioactive contamination and radiation levels of the DORF after decommissioning. The conclusion of the study was that the facility conformed to the requirements of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Regulatory Guide 1.86. The report also indicated that the highest radiation levels were in the facility exposure room, with readings as high as 400 microroentgens per hour. Even allowing for normal decay of the radioactive contamination, this level indicates that the DORF exposure room might be above current national standards for decommissioned facilities. This needs to be further investigated.

MONA-ARO

SUBJECT: Diamond Ordnance Radiation Facility

5. Request a radiation survey of the DORF be performed within six months of the date of this letter. This survey should be designed to determine current radiation levels resulting from past DORF use. Guidance can be found in the NRC document NUREG/CR-5849 and the American National Standard for Decommissioning of Research Reactors (ANSI/ANS-15.10-1994).

6. Request also that the survey data be reported to the ARO at the letterhead address. If there are extenuating circumstances that prevent performance of the survey within six months, request that the ARO be notified.

7. If there are questions or concerns regarding the DORF, the point of contact at the ARO is Tim DeBey, (703) 806-7861 or DSN 656-7861.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim DeBey".

TIM DEBEY
Manager, Army Reactor Office