

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

JAN 27 1971

Files

OFFICE VISIT BY MR. RICHARD WALZ

Mr. Walz called at our Bethesda office at 10:00 a.m. in the morning of January 20, 1971, to discuss the application for general license distribution of self-luminous gun sights submitted by Nite-Site, Incorporated (Application No. 17047).

Mr. Walz was given a copy of ORNL-TM-3254 "Radioisotope Program Progress Report for November 1970". We discussed the data on page 22 with respect to radiation levels associated with the self-luminous gun sights containing promethium 147. It was agreed that the calculated radiation levels (based on bremsstrahlung only) are much higher than would be expected from the same amount of material in the form of microspheres contained within the luminous elements in the gun sights. However, it was also agreed that these figures are probably more reliable than the figures submitted with the original Nite-Site application (based on a sight containing 0.6 millicurie of promethium 147) and therefore may be used with more confidence in assigning a maximum radiation level to each sight per millicurie of contained activity.

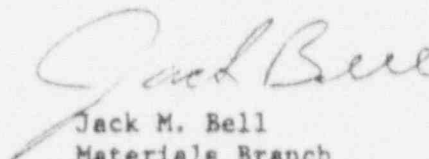
Mr. Walz was reminded that the applicant is expected to show compliance with 10 CFR 32.51(b)(2) which limits exposure to radiation from a generally licensed item to that which could result in a 0.5 rem dose to any person. Mr. Walz indicated that such compliance could be shown based on the calculated figures reported in ORNL-TM-3254 and stated that he would prepare the necessary information for Nite-Site to respond to our January 8, 1971 letter.

Mr. Walz was asked if he had responsibility for participation in either of the other two items of information requested by our January 8 letter and he stated that he was gathering information pertaining to Item 1 concerning the basis for Nite-Site's request for a three-year leak test interval for the self-luminous sights. Mr. Walz stated that he is gathering more specific information concerning devices utilizing the 1E2X elements with respect to testing of these elements over a three-year or longer interval of use. He stated that Grumman Aircraft has tested a large number of devices containing the 1E2X element without detecting any evidence of leakage or contamination.

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Mr. Walz stated that the reason for Nite-Site not wishing to prepare an application for exempt distribution of the sights as luminous products are as follows: (1) Nite-Site does not wish the sights to be made available to everyone, (2) Nite-Site was advised by Mr. Walz that the preparation of such an application would entail a great deal of time and effort over and above what has been put into the preparation of the present application, and (3) it is their understanding that the distribution of such sights will be regulated by a federal agency in the future. It was pointed out to Mr. Walz that the control over distribution of the sights will have to be accomplished by Nite-Site (assuming they are licensed for such distribution) and that, therefore, whether the sights are distributed as generally licensed or as exempt items would not affect the degree of control exercised over such distribution.

Mr. Walz asked if a representative of Nite-Site had contacted us yesterday with respect to making an appointment for a visit to this office during the week of January 25, 1971. He was informed that they did not contact us on January 19 with respect to setting up such an appointment or for any other purpose.



Jack M. Bell
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