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NCBC GULFPORT
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LETTER FROM U S AIR FORCE REGARDING SOIL SAMPLING TRIP FOR HERBICIDE
ORANGE BETWEEN 10 JANUARY AND 12 JANUARY 1977 NCBC GULFPORT MS
1/18/1977
U S AIR FORCE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OL AA; USAF OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LABORATORY
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS 78241

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REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

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18 Jan 77

NCBC

SUBJECT:

Trip Report - Environmental Sampling at the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), Gulfport MS

TO:

Chief, OL AA, USAF OEHL, Kelly AFB TX *ADJ*
Commander, USAF OEHL, Brooks AFB TX
IN TURN

1. Persons Making Trip: Capt Thomas R. Doane and TSgt James A. Post.
2. Place: Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), Gulfport MS.
3. Inclusive Dates of Travel: 10-12 Jan 77.
4. Primary Mode of Travel: Commercial Air.
5. Purpose of Trip: To sample the soil in the herbicide Orange (HO) storage area in order to ascertain the extent of TCDD contamination and to conduct the quarterly environmental sampling of the NCBC area.

6. Persons Contacted:

Capt James Taylor, Commander, NCBC
Lt Cmdr Howard Holcomb, Commander, Medical Facility, NCBC
Maj Charles Thalken, USAF Academy CO (USAFA)
Mr. Claude Anderson, Mgt Engr, NCBC
Mr. Jim Adcock, Transportation Office, NCBC
Mr. Paul Lester, Agent Chemical, Inc. (ACI)

7. Findings and Observations:

a. Collection of Soil Samples: Soil samples in the HO storage area were collected according to the protocol developed by OL AA USAF OEHL and USAFA and outlined in Lt Col Taylor's Trip Report, 27 Oct 76. The only major change from the original protocol was the addition of a fourth depth (18-24") resulting in a total of 72 samples instead of the 54 samples that were projected. A more detailed report on the soil sampling procedures and the preliminary findings will be covered in Maj Thalken's separate Trip Report.

b. Potable Water Samples: Analytical results of the original 20 potable water samples collected in October 1975 showed that there was no TCDD contamination of the potable water supply. Also the initial screening of the water samples revealed no 2,4-D or 2,4,5-T acids or esters in the water supply. Six potable water samples were collected during this trip. Sites sampled were:

- (1) Bulk water storage tank at well No. 1 (Bldg 201)
- (2) Rhodes Hall, BOQ (Bldg 402)
- (3) Bulk water storage tank (Bldg 227)
- (4) Bulk water storage tank (Bldg 182)
- (5) Fire House (Bldg 321)
- (6) Mess Hall (Bldg 367)

These six sites should be sampled on a quarterly basis in conjunction with the quarterly environmental sampling/inspection.

c. All of the above samples were shipped to Wright State University (WSU), Dayton, Ohio on 12 Jan 1977 and received by WSU on 14 Jan 1977. Duplicates of the 72 soil samples were collected and have been archived at USAFA.

d. Environmental Sampling/Area Inspection: Samples of water and sediment were collected from three points in the NCBC drainage ditch system. Sites sampled were:

- (1) In the middle of plat 84 where several ditches converge
- (2) Adjacent to Bldg 215 where the drainage ditch emerges from crossing under the bauxite pile
- (3) Between Gate #6 and Bldg 225 where the drainage ditch system exits from NCBC.

The inspection of the H0 storage area revealed that the area was in good condition with no signs of recent leakage. This could be expected due to the cold weather and the resultant increased viscosity of the H0.

e. Both Capt Taylor, NCBC Commander, and Lt Cmdr Holcomb, Medical Facility Commander, were briefed on the results of all environmental sampling to date and on the purpose of this trip. A copy of a consultative report, "Summary of Environmental Sampling Program at the Herbicide Orange Storage Site on NCBC, Gulfport MS" was left with each officer. That report is attached to this trip report.

f. A meeting was held with Mr. Paul Lester (ACI) on 11 Jan 77. At this time permission was given for the removal of the boiler which was used in the ACI reprocessing pilot plant study; however, this piece of equipment was not removed at this time due to the illness of Mr. Del Hightower. Mr. Lester was also informed that as far as this Laboratory was concerned all of the equipment in the southwest end of the pilot plant pad could be removed as none had been exposed to TCDD. However, he was advised that he had official clearance to remove only the boiler at this time.

8. Conclusions and Recommendations:

a. It will not be possible to recommend reclamation procedures for the H0 storage area until the results of the TCDD analyses on the soil samples have been received from Wright State University (WSU).

b. The potable water supply system at NCBC should be sampled by OL AA USAF OEHL on a quarterly basis.

Thomas R Doane

THOMAS R. DOANE, Capt, USAF, BSC
Consulting Biologist (Envr)

1 Atch
Consultative Report w/o Atch

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USAF/LGY
AFLC/LOS/LOT
SAF/ILE
NCBC w/o Atch
USAFA/DFCBS w/o Atch
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