

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MATERIALS 10

TO : F. M. Belmore, Director, Production Division DATE: November 8, 1948

FROM : J. T. Consiglio, Chief, Middlesex Operations *Mc* (see Middlesex - NCV)

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF FOREIGN THORIUM BEARING ORES AT MIDDLESEX

REFER TO

SYMBOL: PA:JTC

326-28-588

Box #67

FOLDER: MATERIALS 10

#105

Reference is made to a memorandum to you, subject Shipment of Thorium Bearing Ores, dated October 25, 1948, in which an explanation was given concerning the reasons why subject materials were stored in bulk form in bins at Middlesex.

To date the following action has been taken on these materials:

All of the bulk materials have been stored in separate bins according to type. This office was advised by Mr. Thurlow of Raw Materials Operations, as to the name of each type of material. No assay was furnished.

The bin containing monazite sand has been left uncovered. Tarpaulins have been spread over the top of this material to prevent it from blowing away in a strong wind.

The other bins containing thorium hydroxide, vanadium precipitates and thorium bearing residues will be covered with a temporary wood and canvas roof to keep the rain, wind, and snow from physically coming in contact with them. These roofs are under construction at the present time.

A sample of each type of material was taken by the Perry Warehouse employees under the supervision of Lucius Pitkin representatives as it was being unloaded at Middlesex. These samples are now being prepared by the Lucius Pitkin employees at Middlesex and will be put into 8 oz. bottles, 4 for each type. One of these sample bottles of each type will be sent to NBS for analysis.

The packaged materials which have been stored in the Quonset Hut consist of about 20 different types ranging in weights from 0.1 lb. to 7700 lbs. This office was also advised by Mr. Thurlow as to the names of these materials. As with the bulk materials, no assay was furnished since none was available. Upon their receipt, however, it was discovered that some packages contained markings which did not appear on the advance notice from Mr. Thurlow. These materials therefore, were called unknown.

In a discussion with Mr. Niningger of Raw Materials Operations, it was decided that all of the unknown materials plus those of considerable weight and size (1/2 ton or more) should be sampled and analyzed at this time. Therefore, these materials will be sampled by Middlesex personnel and sent to NBS for analysis as soon as this work can be advantageously

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incorporated into our operations. The remainder of these small amounts of packaged materials will be sampled and analyzed at a later date if it is found necessary to do so.

Further disposition of these materials will presumably be made after the results of these analysis have been received. In the meantime, they will remain in storage as they now are at Middlesex.