

26 Aug 1969

From: Commanding Officer, Lake Mead Base, Las Vegas, Nevada 89110  
TO: Commander Field Command, Sandia Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico,  
87115 (ATTN: FCSE)

Subj: Waste Disposal Areas

Ref: (a) Field Command Base Inactivation Plan With Change 1  
Incorporated dtd 18 Apr 69  
(b) Department of the Army Drawing L2-353.1 D.O. Series 1271/5  
Spec No. OC2-53-90-C

Encl: (1) Dry Waste Disposal Area  
(2) Wet Waste Disposal Area

1. It is anticipated that once the action required in reference (a) is completed, and permanent records are transferred to the records holding area at Headquarters Field Command, that pending or future disposition of Lake Mead Base property may generate questions concerning the contents, former employment, and future disposition of the two Waste Disposal Areas located on Lake Mead Base as depicted on reference (b).

2. Enclosures (1) and (2) provide a history of these Waste Disposal Areas. The information was derived from disposal records and through discussions with personnel previously attached to or employed by the Lake Mead Base.

3. It is requested that enclosures (1) and (2) be retained by Headquarters Field Command DASA as permanent source documentation on the Waste Disposal Areas of Lake Mead Base.

P. J. BROWNLOW

Copy to:  
COMFLDCOM(FCSM)  
COMFLDCOM(FCNM)

### DRY WASTE DISPOSAL AREA

1. The Dry Waste Disposal Area is a 25 x 100 foot fenced-in area of earth located within the Lake Mead Base Classified Storage Area. Construction details of this area are contained in the Department of the Army Drawing Number L2-353.1.
2. This area was used from September 1954 until April 1969 for the disposal of waste products resulting from routine ordnance maintenance procedures performed in the maintenance plants in support of the mission assigned to Lake Mead Base. Waste products generally consist of rubber gloves, tissues, desiccant, masking tape, and wrapping paper. All disposal was accomplished in accordance with the appropriate manual governing disposal of such waste. There are no records or known instances of source material being disposed of in this area. No readings higher than background were known to be recorded on the disposed waste.
3. The quantity of waste disposed of in this area is estimated at 2650 pounds of plant processing waste materials.
4. Disposal procedures required that waste material be confined in secured paper bags and such bags being buried in an augered hole 7 to 10 feet in depth. In no case was waste material located closer than 5 feet from the surface of the earth.

Note: Should it become necessary to deactivate and eliminate this area it is recommended that a permanent concrete and ground fill cover and siding be applied to the entire area.

## WET WASTE DISPOSAL AREA

1. The Wet Waste Disposal Area is a 100 x 100 foot fenced-in land area within the Lake Mead Base Classified Storage Area located immediately behind C-Structure Building 309. It provides a 5000 gallon waste water storage tank for the drainage system of building 309. Construction details of this area are also contained in Drawing L2-353.1.
2. Building 309 was initially utilized for the purpose of components inspections by Sandia Corporation and AEC personnel. In later years the building was used by military personnel for office spaces. The capability for performing component inspection was retained in the designated component inspection room.
3. The Wet Waste disposed of through the drainage system of building 309 consisted of wash water from the sanitation system. A washing machine drainage also fed into this drain system. The Wet Waste resulted from washing-up and showering of personnel following routine component inspections, and the laundering of outer clothing utilized by component inspectors and maintenance plant personnel.
4. Routine monitoring of the storage tank's vent system over the years has produced no readings above normal background. The piping system to the tank provides the capability for flushing the tank to the water table in the ground. This procedure has been accomplished a number of times over the years.

Note: Should it become necessary to deactivate or eliminate this area it is recommended that the tank be capped off below the ground surface and the drainage system to building 309 be re-routed to the regular drainage of adjacent buildings in the area. The Wet Waste Disposal Area could then be disestablished.

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15-MAR-83	R138Z	SAMPLE ANALYSIS RESULTS
USAF HOSP NELLIS/SGPM	USAF OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL	
NELLIS AFB NV 89191	HEALTH LABORATORY (AFSC)	
	BROOKS AFB, TEXAS 78235	

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IDENTIFICATION	TYPE OF SAMPLE	DATE RECEIVED	DEHL NUMBER
GN830001	WATER	31-JAN-83	18300137
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GROSS ALPHA	3. +/- 1.	PICO CURIES PER LITER
GROSS BETA	11. +/- 3.	PICO CURIES PER LITER
URANIUM 235	<21.0	PICO CURIES PER LITER
POTASSIUM 40	<45.0	PICO CURIES PER LITER
COBALT 60	<4.2	PICO CURIES PER LITER
CESIUM 134	<2.3	PICO CURIES PER LITER
CESIUM 137	<3.0	PICO CURIES PER LITER
TRITIUM	<0.2	NANOCURIES PER LITER

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| DAVID R. CASE, LT. COL., USAF, BSC | DATE COMPLETED 11-MAR-83 |  
| CHIEF, RADIOANALYTICAL SERVICES BR. | |  
| AUTOVON 240-2061 | |

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