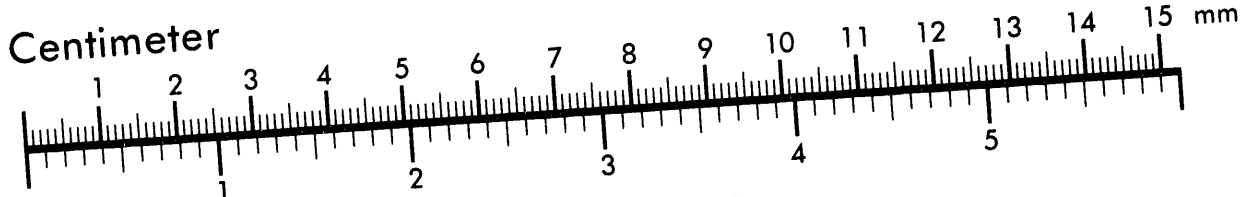
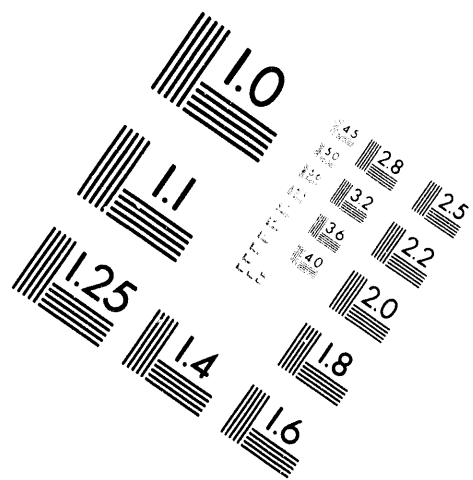
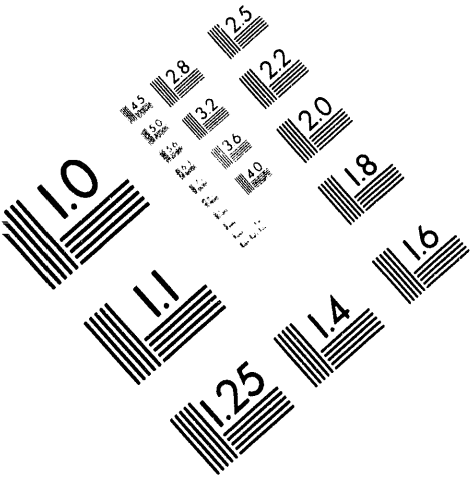




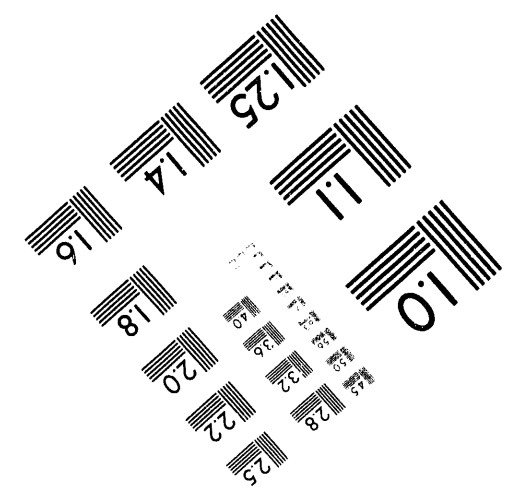
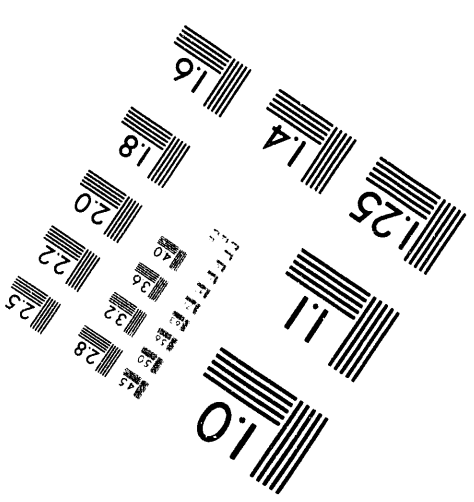
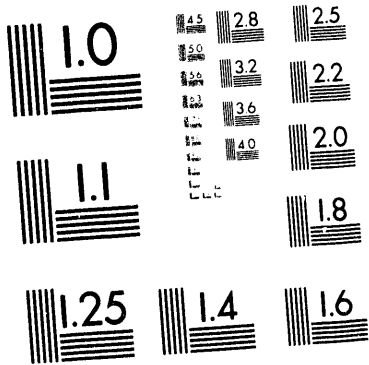
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HANFORD ATOMIC PRODUCTS OPERATION - RICHLAND, WASHINGTON

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G.O. Amy

RECORD

K. R. Heid, Acting Manager
Personnel Dosimetry Section
Battelle Northwest Laboratory

RADIATION INCIDENT

COPY

On January 12, 1967, zirconium cladding was being stripped from irradiated coproduct target pieces. The stripping facility is in the 105-N building south storage basin under about ten feet of water. It is necessary to strip the zirconium cladding from coproduct pieces prior to shipment.

Indefinite Retention _____ Disposal _____

The ends of the zirconium can which surround the aluminum clad coproduct piece are welded closed by helium. During welding some helium gas is trapped between the zirconium and aluminum cans. When the ends of the zirconium can are cut off and the can removed, the helium gas escapes and rises to the surface of the water.

If for some reason the end of the aluminum can is cut during removal of the outer zirconium can, it is possible for a mixture of helium, hydrogen and tritium gas to be released. Because of this potential, an effort is made to trap all gas bubbles beneath an underwater hood. This hood is vented by half-inch plastic tubing extending to the roof of the storage area.

On the above date, eight employees were either engaged in the removal operation or were performing work at adjacent locations. Because of the size of the bubbles emerging from some of the pieces being stripped, it was evident that the aluminum can was being breached. There was also some question that the gas bubbles were being trapped and vented.

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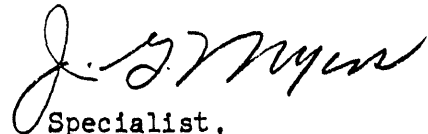
-2-

February 23, 1967

It was felt that there was some possibility that employees working at the stripping facility and at adjacent locations could have come in contact with the tritium. Bioanalysis of these people was, therefore, requested. Following is a list of these individuals:

<u>Suffix</u>	<u>Payroll No.</u>	<u>Name</u>
4350	376	D. B. Thomas
4350	2697	J. W. Kern
4350	3439	E. E. Westenberg
4350	7107	C. R. Moss
4350	8687	A. E. Martin
4350	18756	L. L. Spilman
4430	964	H. J. Bellarts
4550	16297	F. M. Newby

No positive results were reported for these people. It can, therefore, be concluded that these individuals were not exposed to a significant amount of tritium or tritium oxide.


 Specialist,
 Environmental Control
 & Liaison
 N-Reactor Plant Production

JG Myers:jj

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