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PROJECT

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By C. P. Kidder 34 E.L. Hunt

To Hood Worthington

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EXPLOSIVES - THX
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Graves
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✓ 4 E. E. Evans
✓ 5 E. F. Daniels
✓ 6 Fickler
✓ 7 Chronological

September 6, 1943

HOOD WORTHINGTON
TECHNICAL DIVISION
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

RANFORD ENGINEER WORKS
PROJECT 9536
C.M.T. - BING. 145
WEEKLY REPORT - 8/29/43 - 9/6/43

LABORATORY

The start-up of the laboratory has been delayed by poor delivery of chemicals. It was stated in last week's report that the chemicals had been received, but this was found to be in error. Delivery of these materials have been checked and are being urged. It is believed that a major portion of them will be on hand by September 7, 1943, but a few critical substances may not be received until a later date.

A still has been set up and operated in Barracks 1-A to provide double distilled water for making standard solutions. Operation of the still at this point will be continued until facilities for distilling water are available in the laboratory.

Dust conditions have proven serious during windy periods. It will be necessary to weatherstrip the doors and windows in the laboratory and to provide dust filters on ventilators and other openings to prevent dust affecting the accuracy of chemical analyses. This matter should be carefully considered in designing other laboratories or similar installations for Project 9536.

OPERATING AREA

Production of filtered water was not started last week as expected, because materials were not received to complete the installation of the river pumps. However, all necessary river pump items are expected to be on hand by September 7, 1943, and the filtering of water will very likely be started this week. Preliminary chemical tests on the coagulating and settling of river water indicate that it will be very difficult to form a floc with the river in its present condition. This matter is receiving further study in the laboratory and it is hoped that a suitable solution to the problem will be obtained.

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C. P. KIDDER
TECHNICAL DIVISION

Four technical operators arrived this week and were assigned to supervisory for instruction and training. The operating group in general has been following the preparation of safety rules and operating procedures for further work on the preparation of safety rules and operating procedures for the building.

The delivery on test spool pipes for the cold water lines appears to be quite late. Substitute piping of steel will be installed for the initial start-up.

The electrical system for the building is near completion and will cause no delay. The emphasis placed on getting the filtered water system in operation first, but this work is going ahead slowly due to the lack of materials and due to days. Some work is being done in the erection of the deaerating units, covered and put into place. The other one is expected within the next few and is being erected at the present time. One generator shall have been received. The equipment for starting the boiler feed water has been received. The start-up will be further delayed until they are received.

A start-up date of September 15, 1943, was set forth in last week's report as probable. It is doubted now, however, that test operations (tubes and plugs) will be on hand by that date and if this proves to be the case, the start-up will be further delayed until they are received.

September 6, 1943

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