

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~Organization Edgewood Proving GroundStation Army Chemical Center, Md.Period of Report 1 Feb to 28 Feb 1951Date of Submission 7 Mar 1951

CMIEP 314.7

SUBJECT: Historical Report

THRU: Post Historian  
Army Chemical Center, MarylandTO: Chief Chemical Officer  
Washington 25, D. C.

## 1. Strength of organization as of last day of month:

Military	<u>31</u>	Officer	<u>12</u>	Warrant	<u>0</u>	EM	<u>19</u>
Civilian	<u>37</u>	Graded	<u>11</u>	Ungraded	<u>26</u>		

## 2. Commanding Officers:

Lt Col Emory A. Lewis

3. There were no major changes of policy affecting the operation of this activity during the period covered by this report.

## 4. Major operations conducted:

a. During the period 9 Feb through 16 Feb 1951, accelerated tropical tests with the EIR3 one-piece impermeable protective suit were conducted in the tropical room of Medical Division at Army Chemical Center, Md. The draft report on these tests has been written and will be included in the final report of Edgewood PrGr Test 782, Section II. Additional tropical test of the EIR3 suit (Test M), to be conducted at Panama Canal Zone, is being arranged. A plan for this test has been prepared and was forwarded on 13 Feb 1951 to the Chief, Research and Engineering Division, Office of the Chief Chemical Officer, with a request that authority be obtained from General Staff, United States Army, for the Chemical Officer, USACARIB, to conduct the subject Test M. Arctic tests of the EIR3 suit were started at Fort Churchill, Manitoba, Canada, on 12 Feb 1951. Blister gas tests of the EIR3 suit are being delayed because of cold weather.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 10 YEARS;  
DOD DIR 5800.010

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Warm weather is required because of the high freezing point (46 degrees Fahrenheit) of liquid HD. Tests to determine the suitability of the E1R3 suit against bacteriological warfare currently are being conducted by personnel of Camp Detrick at Frederick, Md.

b. Edgewood PrGr Test 792, Section I, "Test of Boots, Service, Combat, Russet," was completed (10 Aug 1950), and the draft report on this test is currently being reviewed. Section II of the same test is currently in progress. Engineering tests on leather samples were started on 5 Feb 1951. The field service test plan on the boot has been approved but the actual start of field tests is being delayed pending the completion of engineering tests on the leather samples and test boots.

c. Edgewood PrGr Test 811, "Field Test of Bleaching Material (Mathieson)," is being delayed pending receipt and acceptance of laboratory sample of the Mathieson bleach by Technical Command, Army Chemical Center, Md. A further delay in the start of the test may be experienced since the submission of a requisition for the required amounts of bleach is dependent upon the results from laboratory sample tests.

d. Edgewood PrGr Test 812, "Test of Hood, Protective, Impermeable, E1CR9," is being coordinated with Technical Command, Army Chemical Center, Md., in the preparation of a joint service-engineering test plan. A test plan has been prepared by Edgewood PrGr and is presently being considered by Technical Command, Army Chemical Center, Md., in the preparation of their engineering test plan.

e. Major Jay S. Stockhardt of this organization and Lt Col Walter K. Cathey of the Chemical Corps Board attended a conference at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S. C., on 13 Feb 1951 with Col Whatley, Acting Chief of Staff, Fort Jackson, and Capt Allen, Post Chemical Officer, Fort Jackson. Purpose of the conference was to arrange for the conduct of Edgewood PrGr Test O, "E1BR4 Gas Mask Carrier for M9 Gas Mask." It was agreed at the conference that the subjects for the test would be furnished by the 64th Training Regiment and that Companies H, I, and K would be utilized for this purpose exclusively. It was further agreed that all facilities would be extended to assure the successful completion of the test. The test was begun 20 Feb 1951 at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S. C., and will terminate approximately 17 Mar 1951. Major Jay S. Stockhardt is the test officer, and he is being assisted by 2d Lt Norman Stern and three enlisted personnel from Army Chemical Center, Md.

f. The plan for Edgewood PrGr Test N, "Field Decontamination of Structures," is being prepared in coordination with Protective Division, Technical Command.

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g. Conference attended by representatives of Edgewood PrGr, Dugway PrGr, Technical Command, Camp Detrick, and Research and Engineering Division, OC Cal O, was held at Dugway PrGr 1 Feb to 2 Feb 1951 reference field tests to be conducted at Dugway PrGr during summer of 1951. Conclusions reached were:

- (1) General agreement was reached on the consolidated test program, as presently conceived.
- (2) It was agreed that Lt Col Speers G. Ponder will be the officer responsible for the scheduling of daily test operations.
- (3) Three distinct test teams will be required for the BW test operations, the GB and RW test operations, and the comparative evaluation of massive and clustered bombs (HD), respectively.
- (4) Most of the technical personnel and equipment required for execution of the consolidated test program will be provided by Dugway PrGr. However, in keeping with the concept of joint responsibility on the part of the participating agencies, each of the cooperating agencies will be prepared to render such assistance as may be necessary. Both agencies cooperating in a given test will participate in the evaluation of field data.
- (5) After careful study of all aspects, the consolidated test program agreed to at this conference appears capable of accomplishment during calendar year 1951. However, it must be understood that there are many problems yet to be solved, and some allowance must be made for unforeseen difficulties which always arise.

h. Following the conference at Dugway PrGr referenced in paragraph g, above, the Chief, Weapons and Munitions Division, Edgewood PrGr, studied possible locations for the conduct of Edgewood PrGr Test K, "Comparative Evaluation of Massive and Cluster Bombs, Charged HD," at Dugway PrGr and arranged for specific Dugway PrGr personnel to be assigned to this test.

i. Edgewood PrGr Test 816, "Field Test of Thickener, M2, Cold Weather Phase," was begun at Fort Churchill, Manitoba, Canada, on 1 Feb 1951. This test is still in progress.

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j. Section VII of Edgewood PrGr Test 797, "Cold Temperature Tests of Chemical Corps Materiel," on which preliminary work was begun 1 Nov 1950, has continued in progress in this status because the cold chamber at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., has not been available. This consists of low temperature tests of flame thrower fuels.

k. Approximately 1 Sep 1950 Edgewood PrGr initiated proposals for high temperature testing of Chemical Corps materiel. The result of these proposals was to institute a test program to be conducted during the summers of 1951 and 1952. Preliminary surveys for areas in which to conduct such tests were accomplished in January 1951; and Yuma, Arizona, was designated by United States Army General Staff as the test site. Pending a formal directive to conduct these high temperature tests, schedules for the Edgewood PrGr tests for the summer of 1951 have been submitted for approval, and plans for these tests are currently being prepared.

l. The monthly report of tests for February 1951 is enclosed.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

*Robert H. Dymond*  
ROBERT H. DYMOND  
Lt Col, GmlC  
Executive Officer

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Cy Mo Rpt of Activities  
5 Mar 51

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