[redacted] 5 5 2

VERIFIED UNCLASSIFIED
PUBLICATIONS
Lanl Classification Group
~~Aug 8/1/98~~

470.1 Beryllium

May 20, 1950

TAD- 98

Mr. Lawrence R. Hafstad, Director
The Division of Reactor Development
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C.

CRM FILE BC i
DD 30875

Via: Mr. Carroll L. Tyler, Manager
Santa Fe Operations Office
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Los Alamos, New Mexico

RECEIVED
OCT 28 1998
OSTI

Brig. Gen. James McCormack, Director
The Division of Military Application
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hafstad:

Apart from 100 odd pounds of beryllium metal turnings and powder, the beryllium inventory of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory consists almost entirely of two classes of material. These are:

1. some 300 carefully fabricated rectangular blocks, varying in size from 1/2" cubes through blocks 1" x 4" x 8",

2. from several inches to a few feet each of beryllium rods varying in diameter from 1/2" to 3-3/16".

The rectangular blocks were procured for the purpose of making critical assembly studies, but because of the present accelerated and concentrated program of the Laboratory, they are not actually in use at the present time in these studies. However, it would seem extremely wasteful to melt up such blocks before they have been used to any appreciable extent for the purpose for which they were ordered, especially in view of the rather high cost involved in their careful fabrication and long delivery period of two to three years.

VERIFIED UNCLASSIFIED
Restricted Data as defined in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.
Any [illegible] and [illegible] subject to civil and criminal penalties under applicable Atomic Energy laws.

[redacted]

470.1 Be
0-9, D-98

Mr. Lawrence R. Hafstad [redacted] May 20, 1950

The beryllium rod on hand serves as a small stock for two major and several minor purposes. In the first place, certain weapon components are manufactured from some of the smaller sizes, and it is obvious that an adequate supply for this purpose must be maintained at Los Alamos. The largest sizes are used for the fabrication of special purpose devices and for studies of the shock hydrodynamic characteristics of this material.

The use of certain small amounts of beryllium in the 1951 spring tests is already foreseen, and it appears not unlikely that appreciable additional amounts will be required in connection with certain of the thermonuclear tests.

It may be noted that the Laboratory exercises great care in the use of beryllium in that one of the Division Leaders in the Laboratory has been made responsible for its use, and no beryllium is issued for any purpose without a written explanation approved personally by the Division Leader concerned.

For the reasons given above it is requested that the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory be exempted from your request to ship immediately all metallic beryllium which is not currently being used in the program to the Beryllium Corporation of America.

Very truly yours,

Original signed by
DAROL FROMAN

Darol Froman
Technical Associate Director

DFrb

Distribution:

1 - Lawrence R. Hafstad - Rec. 47767 - via Tyler
2 - Carroll L. Tyler - Rec 47768
3 - Brig. Gen. James McCormack - Rec 47769 - via Tyler
4 - File (retained by Emma Berry)
5 - Mail & Records

AUTHORIZED
MAY 30 1950 (AM

[redacted]