ALMD64121070595

SECRET

THIS DOCUMENT CONSIST OF 1 PAGES
THIS IS COPY 1 OF 6, SERIES A

MONSANTO RESEARCH CORPORATION

Inter-Office Correspondence

From LOCATION : Research Department - Mound Laboratory

DATE : December 4, 1964

SUBJECT : Telecon With Lee Meyer of Savannah River on December 3, 1964, Concerning Low Grade Plutonium Shipments

REFERENCE :

cc DISTRIBUTION:
Copy 1 - G. R. Grove
Copy 2 - D. L. Scott
Copy 3 - J. E. Bradley
Copy 4 - L. V. Jones
Copy 5 - R. E. Vallée
Copy 6 - J. A. Powers

TO : Dr. G. Richard Grove

SECRET
DATE 12-4-64 INIT JAP

Released through the MOUND LSDR PROJECT (funded through DOE's OPENNESS INITIATIVE) Record Copy held at Mound Facility

Mr. Lee Meyer indicated that a letter (DPST-64-578) concerning the status of the low grade plutonium production program was transmitted to their local AEC office on December 3, 1964, and should be to us within a week. The letter contains information concerning the total amount of material presently on hand as well as some analytical data on material purity.

Savannah River presently has 3.6 kilograms total oxide which was obtained from one campaign. A 75% efficiency was accomplished in the recovery and production of this material. Ultimate annual production rates are still uncertain since the plutonium-238 content (20%) of this batch was quite different from that value predicted by the physicists. The discrepancy between the predicted (10%) and actual (20%) plutonium-238 content is currently under investigation and Mr. Meyer promised to send additional information concerning annual production rates to us by January 1, 1965. However, he did say that the reactor schedule at Savannah River is such that two or three campaigns are carried out annually and that the plutonium-238 isotope content should increase with each cycle. However, based on current knowledge and recovery efficiencies of 90% to 95%, a total oxide production capability of 10 to 15 kilograms annually would be minimum.

MOUND DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW
DATE 4/8/99
ADC ☒ADC ☐ADD
2ND REVIEW-DATE: 8/4/99
AUTHORITY ADD
NAME: Rotay
DETERMINATION
1. CLASSIFICATION
2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGE
3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASS.
4. COORDINATE WITH
5. CLASSIFICATION CANC
6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
7. OTHER (SPECIFIY):

James A. Powers

JAP: kh

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

SECRET

RESTRICTED DATA
This document contains restricted data as defined in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954. Its transmittal or the disclosure of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited.