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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : S. R. Sapirie, Manager
Oak Ridge Operations Office

DATE:

FROM : F. H. Belcher, Area Manager
St. Louis Area Office

SUBJECT: MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT FOR JULY, 1957 - PART IV - FISSIONABLE MATERIALS

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

REPOSITORY: O:HRO

Attention: J. W. Ruch

Plant production, material receipts and shipments for the month of July are tabulated below:

Production		Scheduled (1)	Actual
Refinery	D/S	314 (2)	396
	N/S	35	4
Green Salt		369 (2)	325
Reduction		248 (3)	239
Casting		95	77
Receipts			
Virgin Feed	D/S	477	512 (4)
Shipments			
Derby to NLO		152 (3)	163
Ingot to NLO		76	78
Dingot to NLO		10	0
Metal to Bridgeport Brass		25	23
UF ₄ to Paducah		0	12

- (1) July 19, 1957, operating schedule as adjusted by teletype to C. L. Karl dated July 19, 1957.
- (2) July 19, 1957, operating schedule reduced 82 TU.
- (3) July 19, 1957, operating schedule reduced 73 TU.
- (4) Includes 6 TU of Laredo and 6 TU of Consolidated Denison Canadian Concentrates.

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORIZED

ROY ANDERSON, ANALYSAS
Name (ADC) - Organization

1-23-95
Date

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General

Due to the strike, Weldon Spring lost one week's production and Destrehan Street two day's production. One day the Destrehan plant suffered a complete power failure for one hour and the refinery deluge system triggered itself causing some lost time.

Destrehan Street

Refinery: Production totalled 384 TU during 20 days operation at an average daily production rate of 19.2 TU. Raffinate losses for July are estimated at 0.16%. The two additional denitration pots have been installed but are not yet in operation. Eight pots, including the above, have been equipped with 15 H.P. motors for denitration of sulfated UO_3 . Experiments on introducing virgin feed liquors direct to the neutral extraction system are continuing. Tests on metal dissolver and I.R.P. product liquors show that these materials can be extracted completely by the neutral system.

Green Salt: Production totalled 325 TU during 20 days operation at an average daily production rate of 16.3 TU. Although production was 46 tons less than the revised schedule sufficient reject material is on hand to make up deficit by blending during the next month. Mechanical failures, high rates, and work on the fluid bed reactor have resulted in a low ontime factor of 71%. This plus shut-downs and start-ups have yielded a larger amount of reject material than normal. The fluid bed reactor has been installed with modifications and is operating satisfactorily except for jamming of the main screws on that reactor.

Metal Plant: Derby production totalled 239 TU during 20 days operation at an average daily production rate of 12.0 TU. Ingot production totalled 77 TU during 20 days operation at an average daily production rate of 3.9 TU. A major quality problem arose in the reduction step due to the high water soluble content of the green salt resulting in a series of blow-outs. To alleviate this condition we have lowered the water soluble specifications and lengthened the heating cycle. The July derby production schedule was reduced by about 5 days due to time lost during the strike and this quality problem. Ingot production suffered from power failures.

Weldon Spring

Sampling Plant: Evaluation work was stopped by the strike; also, some revisions to the equipment designed to decrease air flow velocities. Evaluation work with Uravan concentrate has been resumed. During the strike, ore concentrates were packaged in hoppers for the refinery.

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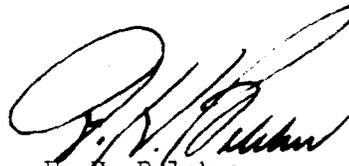
S. R. Sapirie

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Refinery: During the month of July the start-up of the Weldon Spring Refinery proceeded with the exception of the period from July 18 to 26, during which the wage employees were on strike. During this period supervisory personnel operated the Digest System and certain services, but were unable to operate the Extraction System. Given below is a brief table recapitulating the start-up dates of the various operations in the refinery.

Digestion	5/31/57
Feed Make-Up	6/2/57
Extraction	7/2/57
Denitration	7/15/57
Packaging	7/16/57

Some difficulty has been experienced with certain pieces of the operating equipment, primarily the packaging and milling equipment; however, no insurmountable difficulties have appeared. Initial test results of product indicate an iron contamination of approximately 60 ppm which is expected to decrease as additional material is processed.


F. H. Belcher

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