

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Margaret Anne Rogers, H-12

DATE: 20 April 1978

FROM : L. A. Emelity, H-7 Alt. Group Leader *LAE*

SUBJECT : YOUR MEMO OF 23 MARCH 1978

SYMBOL : H7-78-143

MAIL STOP: 518

173R TA 21

I have a number of comments in reply to the subject memo related to LA-6848-MS. First of all, I agree with Dean Meyer that "Equivalent  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  in g" should be explained because it is otherwise very misleading. The numbers were obtained by dividing gross alpha count by the specific activity for  $^{239}\text{Pu}$ . Actually the activity in the cement paste is about half  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  and half  $^{241}\text{Am}$  by weight or about 2%  $^{239}\text{Pu}$ , 98%  $^{241}\text{Am}$  by radioactivity.

In your discussion of Area A, no mention was made of the radioactive iodide waste which had been stored on the surface in 55-gallon mild steel drums. When we finally began transferring this waste to TA-21-35 and TA-45, many of the drums had corroded and had lost solution to the ground in the storage area (east end of Area A). I have located a few notes, memos, etc. on the disposal operation and copies are attached.

LAE:bh

xc: J. R. Buchholz, H-7

