



THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 606

MEETING MINUTES
Restoration Advisory Board
October 19, 2000
Dunn Elementary School
1500 Dunn Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee 38106

The Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. on October 19, 2000 at Dunn Elementary School, 1500 Dunn Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee. The attendance list is attached.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- 1 MR PHILLIPS Good evening, everybody. If we could make our way to our seats Good
2 evening and welcome to the October 2000 Restoration Advisory Board
3 meeting I'm Shawn Phillips I'm the facility chairman of the Restoration
4 Advisory Board and Mr. Kevin Clay is my community co-chairman.
5 Kevin?
6 MR CLAY Good afternoon I want to thank Ms Willie Mae Willett, the principal here
7 at Dunn Avenue Elementary School, for allowing us to meet here in her
8 renovated school This is a wonderful community. She's done an excellent
9 job with our students So, for that, we all applaud her And at this time, if
10 she doesn't mind, I would like for her to say a few words to welcome
11 people to her school. We're going to call it *our* school
12 MS WILLETT Good evening and welcome to each of you. I'm delighted to host this
13 meeting This is the second opportunity that Dunn Avenue has had to host
14 this meeting and we are sincerely delighted to do that I guess I have been
15 with the RAB since the beginning and that has been a learning experience
16 for me, also Dunn Avenue has a repository of all of the big notebooks, the

1 minutes, the documents that I have collected in my service on this
2 committee They can be found, not only for the Dunn Avenue parents and
3 community, but available to anyone who comes during our opening hours
4 to see those materials that are either in my office or in the library area
5

6 This school is a K-5 school However, students at this school come from
7 twenty-eight other communities, including Southaven, Mississippi That's
8 because we have programs that serve the visually limited and those that are
9 totally blind We have a large number of autistic children and children who
10 have many varied special needs So, if their school community -- if
11 Memphis or the surrounding area cannot offer that, we try to offer it here
12 because we have the space to do it We have a very diverse student body
13 and we try to serve them as best as we can
14

15 We have a number of walkers who live in the community and certainly
16 these issues surrounding those that live here have been very heavily on my
17 mind and are my concern I have done what I could to try to educate those
18 groups of individuals who have come to me for information.
19

20 It is a delight this evening to have all of you and I hope that we will have a
21 very pleasant meeting If I can be of service -- I guess I can tell you that
22 the female restroom is just a few paces that way to the east (indicating)
23 The male restroom would be to the west, back this way (indicating).
24 Anything else that you need, please call on me.

25 MR PHILLIPS Thank you, Ms Willett. Before we begin some of our business for tonight,
26 I need to make a couple of introductions for folks who are here from out of
27 town and other folks who haven't been to a Board meeting Thank you for
28 having us tonight Ms. Willett
29

1 We have Captain Chris McKelvy, who I will be introducing a little bit later
2 on tonight. He's my commanding officer. John Whiting from the Corps of
3 Engineers in Mobile. He's a project manager for our construction project.
4 Mr. Wilson Walters who's been with us before, the Corps of Engineers
5 safety gentlemen. Mr. Benjamin Moore from the Agency for Toxic
6 Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in Atlanta. Thanks for being
7 here tonight Mr. Moore. Dr. Lynda Park is the medical director at the
8 Med - Regional Medical Center emergency room. Dr. Steven Winbery,
9 he's a toxicologist also at the Med. Thanks for being here tonight.

10
11 I have some birthdays on the Board. I don't want to embarrass folks, but
12 Kevin Clay, November 12th. I won't say how old you are.

13 MR. CLAY: I will be 45 and proud of it.

14 MR. PHILLIPS: All right. Mr. James Webb, who is not with us tonight, his birthday is on
15 the 14th and our Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representative,
16 Turpin Ballard, he's also a year wiser this year on November 17th.

17 MR. BRAYON: Turpin says he still needs experience. ..

18 MR. CLAY: I have a couple of issues I would like to comment on. First, if we could get
19 everyone here at the meeting to sign in. It's awfully important to get
20 everyone to sign in. That means RAB members as well as visitors. Next
21 on the agenda is ---

22 MR. PHILLIPS: Excuse me just a second, Kevin. We also -- the court reporter asked us
23 before the meeting started tonight -- the acoustics in this room are not
24 quite as good as our cafeteria. It's harder to hear. If you could please state
25 your name clearly before you speak so she could capture that. Thank you.

26 MR. CLAY: Thank you Shawn. Next we were supposed to vote on the approval of the
27 September minutes. However, we all know we just got them. So, we
28 won't try and have a vote on those minutes today. Also, we have been
29 handed a copy of the public comment period meeting minutes that was held
30 in August. We won't have to vote on them, but we want everybody to

1 know that copies are available. Please pick them up if you haven't gotten
2 one.

3
4 **OLD BUSINESS:**

5 **COMMUNITY RAB HOUSEKEEPING ISSUES**
6

7 MR. CLAY: A couple of other things I need to cover is that there is a vacancy on the
8 Restoration Advisory Board. We have advertised the position of the
9 opening in the Commercial Appeal, the Tri-State Defender and the Silver
10 Star News. I think we're taking applications through November 8th is it?
11 And after -- everyone will be mailed a package with at least five
12 applications for all the RAB members. So, if you can get those out to the
13 people who you think may be interested. We want to make sure we get
14 those out.

15
16 After the November 8th deadline, the subcommittee - membership
17 subcommittee - Mr. Truitt, Mr. Williams, Ms. Willett, Mr. Covington and
18 myself -- will meet so that we can evaluate the applications and come to an
19 arrangement of I guess the top three and go from there. We have extra
20 applications available here at the front desk.

21
22 Also, we need the RAB - we need to have a vote to have a partnering
23 session or a -- some sort of meeting, a call meeting -- a date for a call
24 meeting so that we can cover some issues that are hanging out there. So,
25 we're looking at sometime in December to have one. I just wanted to let
26 you know that we will be calling a meeting and hopefully we can call it on
27 a date when everyone can come and be available to participate. Let's see.
28 Is Mr. Tyler present? He is not? Okay, Mr. Mondell Williams is
29 recognized.

1 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, I would like to make a couple of suggestions or recommendations.
2 One is that we get a new computer for the reading room first. And the
3 second, if we could possibly clean up the golf course to residential levels,
4 seeing that the public will be there. And the last one is the paint shed, if we
5 could possibly clean up that to residential levels.

6 MR. CLAY: You know, Mondell, I'm in full agreement with those three suggestions.
7 We probably need to have a little discussion on it. If you don't mind, can
8 you -- well, if you don't mind, anybody have any discussion on those three
9 issues that we kind of -- that were just brought up by Mr. Williams?

10 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, first of all, if I could make a couple of comments. I think that the
11 computer is very important to the community, as well as the employees and
12 anyone who wants to come in and browse the computer to find out what's
13 going on with the environment and the issues that's facing us today. So, I
14 think that is a top issue that we really need to take care of because the only
15 one we had was the one that was donated to us. I think as computers go,
16 they'd be antiquated in three years, you know.

17
18 And I think the golf course, that's a piece of land that is very valuable, not
19 only to the installation, but possibly to the community. At one time that
20 used to be a very famous or important golf course at one point. I just think
21 that it really needs to be cleaned up to residential levels.

22 MR. CLAY: I'm also concerned about the paint shop personally, of the issues that you
23 just brought up, because of its proximity to the residential area and
24 community. I know Mr. Brayon is very much interested in that area as well.
25 One of the things that we haven't done as a RAB is made formal
26 recommendations to the BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) Cleanup
27 Team. I'm all for the suggestions. However, if you're going to make a
28 motion, we're going to have to ask someone to second it and vote on it.
29 Mr. Brayon is recognized.

1 MR. BRAYON: All of the suggestions -- Brayon. All of the suggestions I concur with. As
2 a matter of fact, I would like to see everything brought up to residential
3 specifications. But we have been told by EPA and all of the parties,
4 including BRAC, that these things are going to be brought up to industrial
5 levels only.

6
7 And I think that the BRAC Cleanup Team is in a mode of pushing ahead,
8 closing out, closing down, moving on, and I'm afraid that we can ask, but
9 it's futile. We will not -- I'm afraid that after all of this time, everything that
10 you say is going to be written down, heard, put in the minutes and set
11 aside. I'm sort of despondent and pessimistic.

12 MR. CLAY: Well, Mr. Brayon, I think -- I'm with those who are a little discouraged
13 with the process here but, you know, I would have to agree with Ms.
14 Young. Let's not get too despondent. So, is there a motion? One more
15 thing. Mr. Williams?

16 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. I would like to know that -- I think -- in the Master Lease
17 Agreement, I think somewhere in there it had language that the site would
18 be cleaned up to light industrial. I was wondering, has that changed from
19 that time to now?

20 MR. CLAY: You mean the difference between industrial and light industrial?

21 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. At one time during the Master Lease Agreement before the sublease
22 was done, they had some language in there saying that it would be cleaned
23 up to light industrial.

24 MR. CLAY: Well, we'll ask Turpin to give us his input on that, the difference between
25 industrial and light industrial.

26 MR. BALLARD: From a cleanup standpoint, there's really residential and then
27 commercial/industrial. The name industrial or the term basically is intended
28 to conduct a cleanup that would allow occupational use. You know, you
29 might as well substitute occupational for industrial, because it would clean
30 up to a level that would allow a person to go to work, work there safely

1 for a normal, you know, working life and not receive exposure of any
2 levels that would produce an unacceptable risk.

3
4 So, you know to say, is it light industrial or is it industrial? It's sort of a
5 moot point. It's being cleaned up to a level or the levels -- it's being
6 cleaned up to a level that will allow occupational use, allow the reuse for
7 commercial and slash, light industrial purposes consistent with the Depot
8 Redevelopment Plan. The land use policies that EPA has put out in the last
9 few years provide for and encourage, when you're making risk management
10 decisions, encourage making those decisions taking into account the
11 reasonably anticipated future use of the site.

12 MR. PHILLIPS: I need to -- Mondell was referring to light industrial. The place that that
13 terminology is used, from my experience or from knowledge, to my
14 knowledge, is through the Depot Redevelopment Corporation's reuse plan.
15 Jim, is that what this light industrial reuse means in your plan?

16 MR. COVINGTON: Jim Covington. There are two light industrial, we'll call them, definitions.
17 One's based on zoning, which the Depot property itself is zoned LI, for
18 light industrial, which means the kind of use that can come to the Depot is
19 limited in its examination of the company to see whether it was light or
20 heavy. That is controlled by zoning. Then it just -- just a second definition
21 would just be light in the sense that you're doing light manufacturing,
22 assembly, warehouse and storage kind of activities.

23 MR. CLAY: I have one follow-up question to Turpin Ballard. The environmental
24 cleanup to industrial standards, is it based on an eight-hour workday?

25 MR. BALLARD: Yes, two hundred and fifty days a year, eight hours a day. I haven't -- you
26 know, I realize that some people work overtime. That's variable from, you
27 know, one site to another or one employer to another. But the eight-hour
28 day, 250 days a year assumption is a national standard that's applied, you
29 know, across the country as a standard default.

30 MR. CLAY: Thanks.

1 MR. PHILLIPS: I must ask the RAB, we have the October agenda in front of us and we
 2 frankly got into a comment period here. I have a couple -- I actually only
 3 have one -- no, two items of Old Business. But I need to ask where we are
 4 on this agenda right here because I think we have gotten off it.

5 MR. CLAY: We're going to -- to address Turpin. There is a fallacy of the industrial
 6 standard. In today's environment, very few people are going to work eight
 7 hours a day and go home. So, that's the problem that we, the community,
 8 have with the status of the industrial cleanup. If you will, Mr. Williams,
 9 we'll hold your thought until we get back to the RAB Comment Period.
 10 Thank you Mr. Williams. All right.

11
 12 **COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM SEPTEMBER MEETING**
 13

14 MR. CLAY: Shawn, you have some Old Business?

15 MR. PHILLIPS: There was an issue raised last month about one of the RAB members who
 16 has not been coming out regularly and you were going to raise that. That's
 17 your business.

18
 19 Mr. Tyler requested a 30-day extension to the public comment period. I
 20 was hoping he would be here tonight. My agency and I have considered
 21 that request, and I've got a response for him here. Basically, the request
 22 and the extension is not warranted and has not been granted. The reasons
 23 for that are explained in this letter. I have a copy of the letter for all the
 24 RAB members. Basically, it's the length of time that the Remedial
 25 Investigation has been available for review -- that's since February of 2000
 26 -- the number of opportunities we've had for public comment, the number
 27 of copies that we've had available for the public to review and also the fact
 28 that we received a substantial amount of comments prior to the October
 29 13th closure date.

1 I received comments from I know two RAB members and Kevin Clay sent
2 me letters which the post office returned to him. But he gave them to me
3 today and they were properly postmarked. I mean, there are comments to
4 the Proposed Plan in those letters. And so we've received comments from
5 several members of the Board and several members from the community at
6 large. It's my position and the position of my agency that the system has
7 worked. We've got a lot of difficult comments to address and to respond
8 to and we need to get on with the business of responding to those.
9

10 **REVIEW AND APPROVE OCTOBER AGENDA**
11

12 MR. PHILLIPS: Now, it was just mentioned to me by Ms. Alma Moore that we actually
13 have not approved of this agenda tonight yet. I'm in Old Business right
14 now but ---

15 MR. BRAYON: I move that the agenda be accepted.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: Do we have a second?

17 MR. CLAY: I second.

18 MR. PHILLIPS: Those in favor?

19 THE BOARD: "Aye."

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Opposed?

21 (Brief pause.)

22 MR. PHILLIPS: Therefore, we're working on the agenda. It passes and that's it.
23

24 **NEW BUSINESS:**

25 **CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIEL (CWM) REMOVAL**

26 **PROJECT UPDATE**
27

28 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, New Business for tonight: As you know, most members of the
29 RAB, hopefully you received a letter that I sent out regarding an incident at
30 Dunn Field with the chemical warfare materiel on September 15th that

1 resulted in three workers being examined and released from the Regional
2 Medical Center. Members of the community who are present here tonight
3 might have seen it on the news. I believe that was last Friday night that the
4 coverage hit. As that letter that I sent out to the RAB indicated, this event
5 involved a routine safety response on the part of the Corps of Engineers
6 and it clearly was not an emergency situation and did not present danger to
7 the community.

8
9 However, the Memphis Depot staff and the Army were very concerned on
10 how the issue was communicated and that the issue was first brought to
11 our attention from a RAB member and not through the appropriate internal
12 chains of communication. As a result, we are conducting a full
13 investigation of how that response was handled. In a few minutes Mr
14 Clyde Hunt and I will lead you through what we know so far of that
15 incident.

16
17 MR. PHILLIPS

18 First I would like to welcome one of our guests for this evening. I
19 introduced Captain McKelvy at the beginning of the meeting. He's a
20 commander, my commanding officer, the commander of the Defense
21 Distribution Depot in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania and he oversees the
22 formal Memphis Depot Caretaker operations. When Captain McKelvy
23 learned about this situation, he brought all the parties to the table to find
24 out what was going on and conducted a thorough investigation to provide
25 a response to our community.

26 The captain asked to be here tonight to personally express his concern
27 about the safety response and the safety commitment that we made to the
28 community and to ensure you that the performance will improve on
29 communicating these types of issues in the future. Without any further
30 adieu, Captain McKelvy.

1 CAPT. MCKELVY: Thank you Shawn and Mr. Clay. I would just like to say thank you to the
2 RAB for allowing me to come down here tonight to speak. Is this on?
3 (Indicating microphone) All right, first off I do want to set the record
4 straight. It's Captain McKelvy, U.S. Navy not Army. Okay, I've got a
5 couple of old white hats here that know the difference there. So, I just
6 wanted to set that record straight.

7
8 I know that the agenda tonight is quite full. So, with your permission, I'm
9 not going to take a lot of time here. The reason for my visit tonight is to
10 reaffirm our commitment to an open and ongoing dialogue with you and
11 the community that concerns the restoration, the reuse and the
12 revitalization of this site. Let me give you my personal assurance that my
13 organization and therefore my staff here, are committed to sharing
14 information on our cleanup efforts in a very timely way with you and our
15 neighbors. But you will hear tonight there are some times that we haven't
16 met your and not even our own expectations. I want you to know that the
17 failure to meet these expectations is taken very seriously by my command.

18
19 About three weeks ago the Depot received a call from a RAB member, Mr.
20 Gray, asking us to clarify a report that he had received that three UXB
21 employees were treated at the Med for possible exposure to CWM at Dunn
22 Field. I can tell you that I was surprised, as I'm sure you were when you
23 received our letter last week, to hear about this, especially since there was
24 a CWM update at the last RAB meeting. As soon as we were able to get
25 some preliminary information, I called my local staff here, the Corps of
26 Engineers and my community relations team, to meet at my office. The
27 purpose of that meeting was for all of us to understand what happened,
28 how it happened, what corrective actions needed to be taken to ensure that
29 this lack of communication does not occur again.

30

1 I can tell you that my deputy commander, Mr. Jeff McCauslin, and our
2 environmental and community relations team and I were not pleased with
3 the breakdown in communications between the Corps and my staff here.
4 As you will hear tonight, we had a breakdown in communications and a
5 misunderstanding on how seriously we take our commitment to
6 communicate timely and sensitive information to you. We have taken
7 action to ensure that this type of communications breakdown does not
8 occur again. The corrective actions that we have initiated, while simple
9 and obvious, are important steps to building the trust and our credibility
10 with you.

11
12 CAPT. MCKELVY: In March we kicked off our CWM removal with a vision that we will do
13 whatever it takes to ensure that the cleanup is done in a safe way -- safely
14 for our neighbors, safely for the community, safely for our workers and
15 safely for our environment. Over the last six months we have and we will
16 continue to achieve that mission. The on-site safety response to the
17 workers concerned was handled by the book and exactly as we laid out in
18 the Site Safety Plan. That's the technical response folks. The
19 communication response wasn't by the book and that's why we have made
20 changes.

21
22 We take this commitment and I take this commitment to you seriously. I
23 commit to you tonight that you will receive timely, accurate and sensitive
24 information about what we are doing here. If we do have timely and
25 sensitive news to share with you, we won't wait until the next RAB
26 meeting. You will hear it from us by letter, by fax, by phone call --
27 whatever it takes. That is my commitment to you.
28

1 I know this event may have cost us some credibility with you, but I hope
 2 that the measures that we have put in place, what we're going to brief you
 3 on tonight, will help us restore your confidence and our credibility.
 4 Before I end my remarks, I want to once again reaffirm my commitment,
 5 our commitment, to an open and ongoing dialogue with you and the
 6 community concerning the restoration and reuse and revitalization of this
 7 site. Thank you for your patience, your assistance and understanding as we
 8 proceed through this. Thank you.

9 MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Captain McKelvy. Clyde Hunt, the on-site coordinator for the
 10 Corps of Engineers and myself, have a briefing we are going to through.
 11 We need to set up for it. So if you could give us a moment. Clyde?

12 MR. HUNT: Good evening. Thank you. My name is Clyde Hunt. I am the on-site
 13 coordinator for the chemical warfare materiel removal project at Dunn
 14 Field. What I'm going to address this evening is the event that occurred on
 15 September 15th and before we do that, what I would like to do is set the
 16 climate of what was occurring during the week of September 9th that led
 17 up to the event that occurred on the 15th.

18
 19 Okay, I want to address the events of September 15th at Dunn Field, site
 20 safety response procedures and results. This presentation is twofold. Of
 21 course, Shawn will come up later and address the communication issues,
 22 the follow-up investigation and the reporting protocol.

23
 24 I ask if you could hold your questions until the end of the presentation --
 25 just make a note of it and I will be more than happy to address any
 26 questions or concerns that anyone may have. What I have in my hand is a
 27 daily report that is generated on each day activity that occurs at Dunn
 28 Field. So, what I would like to share with you first of all, is the format of
 29 the daily report that I have. Basically, what it provides is, first and
 30 foremost, if there was a chemical warfare materiel agent release on that

1 particular day. If so, it was noted during the air monitoring or the
2 examination of any of the soil. If that was the case, it would indicate on my
3 format -- on my sheet that there was a release.
4

5 Secondly, it identifies whether or not any chemical warfare materiel was
6 found on any given day that work was being done. This daily report
7 provides -- I probably need to stand still. This daily report provides
8 information in regards to the weather, the safety specialists on site as well
9 as the contractor, the personnel who were on site and the many supporting
10 teams that we have in place and actions that occurred on any given day
11 and, of course, any observations that would be sent through our chain of
12 command.
13

14 MR. HUNT: So, as we refer to September 13th, this was on a Wednesday. I'm looking
15 at my report. The weather was overcast, low 90s. This was the first day --
16 well, let me back up. September 6th I believe was the day that we started
17 excavation at this particular site, Site 24-A, which is where we suspected
18 the burial of the 29 bomb casings. We started the work on September 6th.
19 So I'm just going to move up to September 13th because that was the first
20 day that we had success in terms of finding a bomb casing.
21

22 I just want to share with you exactly what the daily report says. It says,
23 "Today we have success. The team has uncovered a 500 kilogram bomb
24 casing." It says here that, "The team will remove the casing on tomorrow,"
25 and then it makes comments or observations and it just observes the
26 visitors that we had on site for that day. So, I receive this daily.

27 The other thing that is significant and important is that through our air
28 monitoring and our analysis of the soil on our first day of success it says

29 here in terms of whether or not any chemical warfare materiel agent was
30 detected, but through all of our analysis, no. There was no indication of

1 any mustard release or any mustard or chemical warfare materiel in the soil.
2 But, of course we found a bomb casing, which is considered as chemical
3 warfare materiel. So, in regards to that, we had a success. That was
4 Wednesday.

5
6 The next day, September 14th, it was clear on that day, 90 degrees. We
7 had our personnel on site, UXB. Our supporting team was in place.
8 Edgewood Chemical Biological Command (ECBC) was responsible for the
9 air monitoring. Our team was there and once again, in terms of detection
10 of any type of release within the vapor containment structure it was
11 negative. In the soil analysis there was no indication of any chemical
12 warfare materiel.

13
14 MR. HUNT: So, the work that was occurring on the 14th was basically removing the
15 bomb casing from the pit. On the 13th it was uncovered, but it was not
16 removed. So, on Thursday, the empty bomb casing was removed from the
17 burial pit. There was no chemical warfare agent detected in the soil or in
18 the air samples, and the bomb casing was removed and wrapped in a heavy
19 gauge plastic.

20
21 To perhaps better explain that, it's kind of like when I prepare lunch for my
22 children in the morning, a ham sandwich. You know, you have the bag, the
23 plastic bag, you take the ham sandwich, and you put it inside and you seal
24 it. Well, this is similar to what occurred with the bomb casing. It was
25 removed from the burial pit. It was wrapped and sealed.

26
27 Now, in the next statement it says, "No chemical warfare agent was
28 detected inside the plastic wrap." But you might ask, "Well, how could
29 that be determined?" Well, they have the air monitoring system is
30 referred to as a DAAMS (Depot Area Air Monitoring System) and it is

1 inserted into the sealed wrap of the bomb casing. When it was inserted,
2 that allowed the opportunity to monitor whether or not there was any
3 presence of mustard. That chemical agent would cause the blistering.
4 Once again, from our analysis, it was negative.
5

6 This basically leads up to the event that occurred on September 15th.
7 Once again, I'm just going to refer to my report, and then I will refer to
8 what is on the overhead. It says that it was clear on that day. The
9 temperature was low 80 degrees. There was no presence of chemical
10 warfare materiel agent, no presence of mustard. All of that, once again,
11 was monitored. Air and soil samples indicated there was no indication of
12 any of those agents or release of agents. The comment that I received on
13 that day that Team 2 -- we have several teams that work within the vapor
14 containment structure -- and Team 2 complained of nausea and headaches.
15 It says here as a precaution to have them see a doctor. This is the report
16 that I received on that day.
17

18 MR. HUNT: So, as we look overhead, it says we had three workers. That was Team 2,
19 of course who were employed by our contractor, UXB. They were
20 examined and released by the Regional Medical Center in Memphis. They
21 reported a strange odor, symptoms of nausea, symptoms of headache,
22 dizziness and sinus irritation. Once again, the workers were inside the
23 vapor containment structure at Site 24-A, which is the site where we
24 suspected the burial, where we had the success of finding the first bomb
25 casing. They were in there for approximately one hour and what they were
26 doing was conducting soil removal of the empty bomb casing. It's kind of
27 like -- if I could refer back to that ham sandwich that you would put in a
28 plastic bag and you seal it. If it remains in there for two days or for an
29 extended period of time and you open it, there is an odor from that.
30

1 They were wearing a protective mask a dust mask that prevents dust from
2 being inhaled, and all of this was in accordance with what the Site Safety
3 Plan requires because everything was negative in terms of the presence of
4 any type of release or any type of mustard.

5
6 Upon removing the plastic, there was an odor that came out of that
7 removal. What our workers did, they reported the odor and symptoms to
8 the on-site medical personnel, and many of you know we have that in
9 place. This happened approximately around 10:27 a.m. on Friday morning.
10 All of the work inside the VCS stopped until it was confirmed that no
11 hazardous substances were present. The monitoring equipment showed no
12 mustard or other vapors present inside the VCS. The workers were placed
13 on oxygen for approximately 30 minutes and they felt significantly better.
14 I had an opportunity to talk with the three men -- well, one of the three
15 men. In fact, he was a team leader. And I asked him in terms of feeling
16 nauseated, "How would you describe that perhaps on a scale of one to ten,
17 and ten being the worst?" And he shared with us "one," that he just felt
18 just a -- just slightly nauseated. After receiving the oxygen, he felt much
19 better.

20
21 MR. HUNT: But when this information was passed on to our site safety specialist, he
22 immediately recommended for them to go to the Med for further testing.
23 The on-site ambulance crew transported the workers to the Regional
24 Medical Center for examination. This occurred around 11:42 a.m. The
25 medical center was informed in advance of our arrival. The workers were
26 examined by doctors who were trained in the treatment of chemical warfare
27 materiel exposure. And all of this, in terms of the doctors being trained, is
28 required in our site safety manual to have personnel in place at a hospital
29 that's familiar with chemical warfare materiel and how to treat exposure to
30 that. So, it was no surprise in terms of when we called the hospital. They

1 were well aware of the work that we do and the doctors were there to
2 provide treatment

3
4 On examination, blood tests of the three men revealed that there was no
5 toxic substance, that there was no exposure to the chemical agent mustard.
6 The physician reported there was no evidence of exposure to the chemical
7 warfare agent or related chemicals. The doctor authorized the workers to
8 return back to work -- this was on a Friday -- to unrestricted work. Of
9 course, being Friday the weekend, the workers were sent home for the
10 weekend.

11
12 MR. HUNT: The samples that were collected from the area where the workers were
13 handling the soil, once again, there was no mustard agent detected in the
14 soil or the air samples. The soil contained a very low level of two
15 degradation byproducts of sulfur mustard, as you see before you. The
16 byproducts were produced back in 1946 when the bleach mixture was
17 introduced with the mustard, during that neutralization process, produced
18 the two byproducts. The incident was documented by the U.S. Army
19 Corps of Engineers as a routine safety response. And, once again, I was
20 aware of the incident on the 15th of September.

21
22 On the 18th of September, the workers returned back to the Regional
23 Medical Center, three days later, for a follow-up examination. The
24 physicians reported that there was no evidence of health effects. The
25 symptoms did not continue. The workers returned to unrestricted work
26 and in fact, they are back at Dunn Field.

27
28 As we look at the results, first and foremost there was no chemical warfare
29 materiel released to the workers or to the people in the community nor to
30 the environment. Secondly, we had our site safety response procedures in

1 place. As we look back at the situation that occurred on the 15th,
2 everything that we did was in accordance to our Site Safety Plan. Thirdly,
3 the local medical personnel has certified that there are no persistent health
4 effects, and at this point, I'll just turn it over to Shawn.

5 MR. BRAYON: Do we have to wait for the second report?

6 MR. PHILLIPS: I have about five slides. Let me go through my five slides, and then we'll
7 open up for comments. First let me mention to you, we have a
8 commitment. We made a commitment all along, since our public meeting
9 last June through the present, to keep the community informed with what
10 we're doing, especially with this high profile action we're taking with the
11 chemical warfare materiel. We made many efforts with our weekly
12 meetings and our monthly RAB updates. We are disappointed in how this
13 happened.

14
15 The Depot was first notified of this incident on the 27th. I believe that's a
16 Thursday. That was twelve days after it actually occurred. The incident
17 had been reported and had been heard about by a RAB member, Mr. Gray,
18 through informal channels through the community. Once we heard about
19 it, we were surprised and we started asking questions. We began our
20 investigation of what events occurred. The first thing that we wanted to
21 know was if it was true and are the three employees in question okay. We
22 were assured right off the bat that was the case. That didn't satisfy. We
23 had to find out more with the communication issues to see what happened.
24 The way the Corps of Engineers responded once the three employees
25 reported their activity with the nausea has been shown to us to be a -- the
26 response has been shown to be by the book, like the captain said. They
27 were monitored. They were taken to The Med for precautionary measures
28 and we have been satisfied with that.

Monday morning -- even later Friday afternoon, they showed no lingering effects of the dizziness or the nausea and the sampling indicated that there wasn't a release. We asked the Corps the question, "How many other safety incidences have there been since you have been working on this site since April?" There have been four other incidents and basically, I believe two of them I've read the report. Other incidents were clods of dirt hit employees, but minor injuries were involved, no physical hazardous substances were involved. They were basically slip, trip and fall types of injuries or events that occurred.

MR. PHILLIPS: We determined that since we didn't know about it and we found out through Mr. Gray that the communication between the Corps of Engineers and the Depot was ineffective. We've made some arrangements to that. A lot of these arrangements were deliberated through the meeting that the captain referred to where the communications folks, the Depot folks, our command and the Corps of Engineers met at the captain's office. One of those -- well, I'm going to go through some of the things we've implemented -- and there is a strict reporting protocol. I've got a slide about that, the next slide.

We also wanted to train some of the folks on the site in terms of what is important for DLA and for the community to know, what type of incident is important, you know, a Band-Aid on a thumb or a guy going in an ambulance to the hospital. So, we've worked training that. We also have a new project manager, if he is with us tonight, Mr. Bob Torstrick. Are you here tonight, Mr. Torstrick? Mr. Torstrick is a professional engineer and we look forward to him joining our team.

Some of the events -- I spoke about reporting protocol, getting details, what are the details? Here is what we're doing: The contractor, UXB,

1 will notify the on-site Corps safety officer. I don't see him here tonight.
2 That is a role that formerly had been filled by Mr. Wilson Walters over
3 here. That Corps on-site safety specialist will then let the Depot staff --
4 that's myself or my boss -- know immediately if there is an event of a safety
5 response. Additionally, they are going to tell us daily what the progress on
6 the site is and we've been doing that for two weeks. I get the daily op brief
7 before I go home.

8
9 In the case that I or my boss, Mr. DeBack, are ever notified that there has
10 been a safety response, we're going to let the members of the RAB know
11 and the captain referred to telephone calls, faxes and letters. That's what
12 we're planning on doing.

13
14 There is also some detailed Corps of Engineers reports that had been being
15 generated that we have now gotten in the loop on that shows the work
16 progress. The bottom line is it's our commitment to let you know if
17 something of a safety nature occurs over there, of something of a release
18 nature.

19
20 That goes to my last slide. Commitments were made to you earlier tonight.
21 I want to reiterate those commitments. Safety is what we're -- the name of
22 our game at Dunn Field -- safety for our workers and for the community.
23 We also would like to enhance how we're letting the community know
24 things that are going on and that's why we're taking these reported protocol
25 steps. Mr. Williams?

26 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. First of all, I would just like to say that -- first of all, I would like to
27 say that the RAB members, I guess when they speak -- I hope I can speak
28 for all that when we comment, we're not taking personal attacks against
29 any particular person when we talk. And everyone here, we try to be as
30 professional about the things that involve our community, first of all. At

1 the last RAB meeting you stood up in the RAB meeting and we talked
2 about all the different sites that were foreseen to have ammunition or
3 whatever buried in those sites. The people that was handling the project
4 for the Huntsville or for the -- yes, for the Corps of Engineers said that
5 there was nothing found in any other sites that was on the map. That's
6 what they said.

7
8 My thing is this: Now, we've had three employees that nothing was wrong
9 with them; they just went to the hospital. But we're looking at our
10 community. The people that's in the community can't go to the hospital
11 when they're sick and feel that there is nothing wrong or it's minor. You
12 know, this is what we've been hearing from day one, ain't nothing wrong.
13 Everything in here is just like whatever you keep in your cabinet under the
14 sink.

15
16 MR. WILLIAMS: I guess I feel that so much information has been so distorted that has been
17 brought before us to trust the things that have been going on. I think we
18 have lost that kind of trust. I don't know if I speak for everybody, but I
19 speak for the people that I represent in my community, which I am the
20 president of a community organization that I represent. I just feel that a lot
21 of things that we have come to the bargaining table -- or we have sat here
22 and discussed issues that I feel that has went as a deaf ear for the RAB
23 members. We represent our community. I understand that the things that
24 we address are just issues that have already been taken care of prematurely
25 or in a meeting before now.

26
27 So, I feel that we really have not been heard. We have sat at the table, but
28 we have not engaged into a conversation. We're just here. A couple of
29 RAB members said at the last meeting when I brought this out that we are
30 not here to make decisions or to do certain things. We're just here to hear

1 their comments. And I don't think that should be. We have faced things
2 that's happened in our community and no one has said anything. And they
3 stood up at the last meeting and said nothing has happened, nothing has
4 went on and I really don't understand it. So I can't elaborate any further.
5 But I just want you to know that representing my community, I have
6 vested interest in it. I have genuine concerns and I try to express my
7 feelings about the way I feel and about the way my community would feel
8 about what is going on.

9 MR. CLAY: Thank you Mr. Williams. Mr. Brayon you're recognized.

10 MR. BRAYON: Thank you sir. I think that it's obvious and I applaud Mr. Gray for what he
11 did, bringing this to the attention of Mr. Phillips and the communication
12 breakdown. You are correct in that and I can see that that's well onboard.
13 But there are a few things that, Mr. Hunt, maybe you can clarify for me
14 with that ham sandwich and sealing a bag and then putting a probe in a
15 sealed bag and not contaminating the product inside the bag in order to get
16 a test result.

17 ..
18 Now, that's not all. I understand that -- I understood that the people that
19 were doing this project would be clothed properly so that they would be
20 protected against any mustard gas. But yet, you're telling me that they had
21 dust filters, which I don't think will protect against filtered gas. You also
22 said that within this bag and the ham sandwich there was an odor, but
23 everything is negative. What was giving out the odor? You say you talked
24 to one person and that one person gave a one on a one to ten. What about
25 the other two? What did they rate it as?

26
27 It is extremely difficult for me to believe that these people were clothed
28 properly and going into a situation like this. Now, if one did it, then you
29 could say that there was a human physiological breakdown of that
30 particular one person. But for three of them to complain, there has to

1 have been something there. Now, it may have been that the something that
2 was there was not there, but enough time to contaminate or to cause this
3 particular problem. So, the sealed bag, the dust filter, the odor, the one to
4 ten and the test negative.

5 MR. HUNT: On September 13th -- if I could just back it up. There was no indication of
6 a chemical release on the 13th, 14th, 15th. In fact, there has been no
7 indication of the presence of mustard or chemical agent release since the
8 day that we began work. The protective clothing that they had on,
9 basically, it was just the filter and our site safety specialist can correct me
10 on that. That was probably because of the fact that there was no
11 indication of any mustard. There was no indication of any type of release.
12 So it was okay for our men to be working at that certain level of protective
13 clothing. With the bag holding the bomb casing, the DAAMS tube was
14 inserted to test if there was a presence of any mustard and from that
15 monitoring system, there was no presence of mustard. There was no
16 presence of any type of release.

17 MR. BRAYON: How do you insert a tube in with the sealed bag?

18 MR. HUNT: From how it was explained to me -- and I might need to refer this to our
19 site safety specialist.

20 MR. TYLER: Will you please?

21 MR. HUNT: Would you refer to that?

22 MR. PHILLIPS: Mr. Walters could you answer this please?

23 MR. WALTERS: Actually, it's simple. We cut a small hole and put the tube inside and take
24 the reading. As the tube is pulled out, you seal it back with tape. You take
25 that monitoring equipment and it tells you. I mean, the purpose of the
26 double bag or the heavy bag, is to cause the elements inside to heat up to a
27 certain degree, at least 70 degrees, sort of ball tie it. So this tube would
28 have been stuck in and pulled out because it's pulled through a -- sort of a
29 tube.
30

1 So, what we do is basically, we punch a hole in that ham sandwich bag,
 2 stick your straw in there, pull your air samples, pull it out, seal it back with
 3 tape and run it through the process. If it comes back negative, then you
 4 take -- then you have a negative reading. If you have a positive reading,
 5 then you do other steps.

6 MR. PHILLILPS: Thank you Mr. Walters.

7 MR. CLAY: Ms. Peters you're recognized.

8 MR. HUNT: I think there was one other issue in regard to symptoms. Did you have a
 9 question about that?

10 MR. BRAYON: Yes, the one to ten symptoms. What about the other two?

11 MR. HUNT: I can't speak about the other two. I probably can get that information, but
 12 I can say that on the day of the incident, none of the three wanted to go to
 13 the hospital. It was insisted by the Corps that they go because it was part
 14 of our Site Safety Plan.

15 MR. CLAY: Ms. Peters you're recognized now.

16 MS. PETERS: I'm concerned because the neighbors who live close around here are
 17 concerned because the newspaper never gave what could have made these
 18 men nauseated or sick, you know -- whether it was mustard gas or some
 19 other chemical. It's like if you have a rotten potato, you're going to find
 20 that potato and you will know what's causing the odor.

21
 22 So, the people in the community, they are concerned about what caused
 23 that. You know, some of us are allergic to something in the air. Some of
 24 us are allergic to plants. So they want to know is it safe for them to
 25 breathe the air. Because they read in the paper and the way the paper read,
 26 you know, there was not no mustard gas. But then there might be
 27 something else there. They're concerned about it being identified of what
 28 was there, what did cause it.

1 It could have been anything else and a lot of people are concerned if you
 2 know all the areas where all of this mustard gas and capsules are You
 3 know where bottles are located I'm wondering if they have found all
 4 these things Because when you start digging, that's what's dangerous If
 5 you didn't disturb the earth and let it stay there, it might not be as
 6 dangerous Since you're digging, they want to know exactly what caused
 7 them to get nauseated.

8
 9 And just an ordinary doctor cannot tell them what chemical that's in their
 10 body and what effect it has Because when they had a spill in my
 11 community, my medical doctor could not tell me. Because I had a
 12 headache, he said I would have to go to a chemical doctor to find out what
 13 caused it So, I'm concerned and the neighbors are concerned about what
 14 was in that hole that they were digging in.

15 MR. HUNT I can refer that question perhaps to our doctor who examined the three
 16 men if you would at this time

17 DR. PARK I'm Lynda Park I'm the medical director for the emergency department at
 18 The Med and this is Dr. Winbery And you're right when you said that
 19 (inaudible) identify these chemicals and that's one reason that the Corps
 20 went to some pretty extraordinary lengths to train us in the chemicals that
 21 we're dealing with on the site. It was my understanding at the time -- and I
 22 spoke with the site safety manager a few minutes after the occurrence In
 23 fact I, spoke with the people in Huntsville, the people at the Corps, a few
 24 minutes after that the chemical was identified as Dithiane, which is a
 25 byproduct of mustard degradation Do I need to back up any?

26 MS. PETERS Yes You need to back up to where you -- the step you said was this came
 27 from part or what it takes to make mustard gas.

28 DR. PARK Well, the breakdown is mustard gas

29 MS. PETERS Okay

1 DR PARK Because the mustard was buried a very long time ago, and it has degraded
2 and broken down over the years, and it is a product of mustard
3 degradation I was informed this by people on the site within a few
4 minutes This was even before the workers were transported to the
5 hospital

6 MR BALLARD It's on one of the slides The other doctor ---

7 DR PARK. Yes, and maybe -- I don't get to read the paper everyday, but the article
8 that I read did mention that chemical, Dithiane, as well as Thioxane Now,
9 the chemical they mentioned to us was Dithiane Dr Winbery is no regular
10 doctor He's a Ph.D. in pharmacology, a toxicologist, internal medicine,
11 pediatrician and emergency medicine specialist So he's one of those
12 overachievers Before the workers even got to the hospital, he said, "Well,
13 you know, Lynda, there must be some Thioxane somewhere," and sure
14 enough there was And that was reported that day, the same day, at least
15 twice So, we knew what we were dealing with the whole time
16 Any other questions?

17 MR BRAYON Just a comment on that I read that article too I think if you read it
18 doctor, they said that it was present, but they did not connect it to
19 anything You see? And I'm glad you're connecting it

20 DR PARK That's my understanding of it That was all that was detected there. The
21 workers reported to me it was a very strong odor Their symptoms were
22 very short lived. They felt it was all overkill coming to the hospital They
23 really felt rather ridiculous

24 MS PETERS What's the side effects to that, whatever it's called?

25 DR PARK The symptoms -- they can have a little local irritation of the mucus
26 membranes of the nose and the sinuses If you have ever been in a -- and
27 we've (inaudible) breathed very freely If you have ever worked and you're
28 cleaning the house, stripping the floors and get a strong whiff ---

29 MS. PETERS Just don't mix no ammonia and Clorox

1 DR. PARK: --- of maybe chlorine bleach or ammonia. Something like that, you know,
2 it irritates you for a few minutes.

3 MS. PETERS: Ammonia and Clorox will knock you out.

4 DR. PARK: Well, not that combination, but a few minutes later you get a breath of
5 fresh air and you feel better.

6 MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you Ms. Peters. I believe Mr. Tyler was next to be recognized.

7 MR. TYLER: Stanley Tyler. I will try to be brief. My first question is for Ms. Burks and
8 Mr. Hunt. As you know, I try to make a habit of coming to all those
9 briefings, having you fax that information to me. Now, I sat in that room I
10 believe so many days after these incidents. No one politely, under the
11 table, over the table, said, "We might have a slight incident at the Depot.
12 We just want to bring you up to speed." Because it's always my habit to
13 have you fax me any and everything that goes on over there at Dunn Field.
14 Is that not correct, sir?

15 MR. HUNT: From day one, when I started as the on-site coordinator, my primary focus
16 was to provide information to the community as it relates to work activities
17 at Dunn Field. My primary concern in the event on the 15th: Was there a
18 presence of mustard? Was there a chemical release? Were the people in
19 the community harmed as a result of the incident? All of those answers
20 were "No."

21
22 And I guess if you -- just going back to the 13th, there was a lot of
23 excitement in terms of success of finding that bomb casing, that on the 14th
24 we removed it from the burial pit. Monitoring was continuous. There was
25 never any indication of any type of release. If you read all of my reports in
26 terms of the Wednesday updates, I always refer to the fact of whether or
27 not there was a presence of chemical warfare materiel and whether or not
28 there was any type of release. In all of my updates I have always indicated
29 that there was no release, which was true. I've always provided
30 information regarding whether any chemical warfare materiel was found

1 and that's what I did. There was never any intent on my behalf to not
2 provide information. If anything, perhaps I erred in seeing it as a routine
3 situation.

4 MR. TYLER: Okay, a follow-up question that Mr. Brayon had. If they had on all this
5 safety equipment, how could this minute odor cause all of this damage?
6 Isn't the safety equipment designed to stop this?

7 MR. HUNT: Well, first of all as our doctor said in regards to the workers, they
8 considered it as overkill. There was an odor; they smelled it. They were
9 inside the VCS for approximately one hour. Coming outside, they were
10 slightly nauseated. They mentioned it. The site safety specialist insisted
11 that we follow the procedure in our Site Safety Plan, which required them
12 to be examined by a physician. We did all those things. The reason we
13 have a vapor containment structure in place is to contain any type of
14 release if a release occurs. To date, no release has occurred. There has
15 been no presence of mustard.

16 MR. TYLER: Okay now, getting back to the basic issue. When I first got this letter, the
17 first thing I did the next morning was talk to Mr. Carter Gray at the health
18 department to verify if what he said was true. The Commercial Appeal,
19 you can believe it or not, but I wanted somebody who works around this. I
20 was told what I read in that letter was true and that there possibly were
21 some chemicals. I don't know whether that was in the paper or not. I'm
22 not going to rely on the paper. I want the experts and I want that
23 document that says what chemicals were there to be given to me and the
24 RAB members.

25
26 Why don't we have the paperwork that says such and such chemicals may
27 have caused this on such and such a date to such and such a worker? As to
28 worker one, worker two -- worker three was a one, worker two was a
29 three and worker four was a five. Why don't we have that information? I
30 have requested it from you, UXB and Shawn. I have faxes right here. I

1 get the run around I have Mr Gray's He referred me to UXB UXB
 2 referred me to you two You two referred me back to Shawn
 3 Now, I have left messages on everybody's answering machine for the
 4 document that states what were the chemicals, what caused them and
 5 exactly what time of day did this occur?

6
 7 And number two, you treat us like we're children in this community "Y'all
 8 don't understand so we don't want to scare y'all so bad, so we're going to
 9 keep this in the house " But you've got people living on that fence line who
 10 see the ambulance coming and going at the fence. Those people got overly
 11 excited I'm sad about this We need to treat people in the community like
 12 the adults they are and the taxpayers they are. So, y'all need to be a little
 13 more forthcoming with information It's not your information It's the
 14 public's information.

15
 16 And number three. When am I going to get an answer in writing from all
 17 this paperwork that you faxed me telling me to check with A, B, C or D?

18 MR PHILLIPS Mr Tyler I need to make a request of you Can I get a copy of what you
 19 sent me please?

20 MR TYLER: Sir, I left it on your answering machine three times. I can give you the
 21 dates and the times if you prefer Do you check your mail -- your
 22 answering machine?

23 MR PHILLIPS Yes, I do

24 MR TYLER: Mr Gray did I leave a message with you -- on your answering machine,
 25 sir?

26 MR GRAY Stanley, I know we talked I have responded to you in a fax

27 MR TYLER So I try to have everybody respond to me in a fax, something in writing so
 28 people can't say I'm just going off half cocked. I have this fax I have the
 29 UXB fax I have your fax Carter, Shawn, I do not have your fax here All
 30 I have is words telling me to go from A to B to C to D I work for the

1 government. I understand you go Department A, Department B,
2 Department C, refer back to Department A and go to Department F. Now,
3 what I want is some documents stating what was found, when it was found
4 and what amount was found. Now, who can I ask to get that or is this
5 classified information or where do I this free information?

6 MR. HUNT: If you're referring to the byproduct that was presented in the presentation
7 in terms of the levels, I believe it was on -- it was on the slide.

8 MR. TYLER: Yes, it was on the slide. Where is the documentation saying that you
9 measured these levels? How can you measure what's there? Did
10 something measure these levels or somebody stuck a thermometer in there
11 and said, "Well, it's 95 degrees. It ought to be 2 percent"?

12 MR. HUNT: We have a lab on site. It's through soil analysis that determines the levels
13 of these byproducts of the sulfur.

14 MR. TYLER: Okay, so let me get this straight and I'm going to be through. You had
15 three workers in top flight safety equipment working and following all the
16 safety rules. Three of them got nauseous and they came outside the
17 containment area.

18 MR. HUNT: We had three workers who were not at Level A protective, which is the
19 highest level. They were at level -- I believe it was Level D modified,
20 which was basically the mask. And once again, there was no presence of
21 mustard on that first day, the 13th. When we uncovered and saw about 25
22 percent of the bomb casing exposed, through all of the air monitoring that
23 was continuous through the soil analysis, there was no indication of the
24 presence of mustard or a release. Therefore, the workers were at a Level
25 D modified.

26 MR. TYLER: Who made that decision? I thought you're supposed to be at the full safety
27 level working in the biodome, biosphere or whatever you call it.

28 MR. HUNT: Everything in terms of the levels of protection is outlined in the Site Safety
29 Plan. I might need to refer that once again to our site safety specialist.

30 MR. TYLER: No problem. Bring him up.

1 MR. WALTERS: The levels of protection which are in the safety manuals, or in the library
2 for you to read, states that if there are no products being monitored or
3 giving a positive reading as a mustard -- the same thing about the eight
4 hour thing. Over an eight-hour period it can downgrade to a lower level
5 because we have realtime monitoring equipment. In other words, this tells
6 you now that you've got something. Under the -- and it's set at a level
7 that's for relative eight-hour -- in other words, for eight hours you can
8 work in an atmosphere of this amount and not be really harmed by it.

9
10 Now, this is worker protection. We're talking about different protocol for
11 the community. We set it at a lower level than that. When an alarm goes
12 off, then they come out and they upgrade to the next level, which is Level
13 B, supplied air. But before that, when you're getting no readings and
14 you're not getting any indications from your soil, from your air monitoring
15 or anything else, then they downgrade. They can downgrade to a lesser
16 level for two reasons. One is it's 90 degrees outside, but your heat index
17 inside has gone up tremendously and your work time goes from an hour to
18 minutes. So if you downgrade to a Level D, you have all your monitoring
19 equipment in place and you have people watching those things continually.
20 They have alarms on them that when they get to that level, the alarm
21 notifies us. We bring the guys out and then we upgrade and go back in at a
22 substantial higher level.

23
24 And that's what they were in. The mask that they were wearing was
25 strictly for dust and that was brought up during the preliminary survey --
26 the prep that we did. There was a concern that the dust that they were
27 digging could cause them some irritation of their noses and throat and over
28 a long period of time could cause a severe irritation. So we went to a
29 HEPA (High-Efficiency Particulate Air) filter, which is nothing more than a

1 particle filter for dust to protect the workers for -- strictly for dust. There
2 was nothing that indicated whatsoever we should upgrade.

3 MR. TYLER: I'll try to make this brief now. They had -- just basically had on a little dust
4 filter you can buy at Wal-Mart?

5 MR. WALTERS: No, sir. No, sir. They're filtrated respirators with filters inside like they use
6 in a paint shop. Then you can add -- you know, like if you decide that
7 you've got organics, you add another filter. If you've got acid, you can add
8 it on. I mean you can have like, a four to filtrate it, depending on the
9 working environment. This is a regular full-faced respirator that has the
10 filter for dust.

11 MR. TYLER: Okay, now getting back to what I saw on the slides, someone called this a
12 strange odor. That word was mentioned on that slide.

13 MR. WALTERS: Yes, sir.

14 MR. TYLER: So, a strange odor caused three workers with full respirator masks on to
15 get nauseous, nose burns.

16 MR. WALTERS: Well, the mask doesn't filter out odors.

17 MR. TYLER: But that's my point. What was the odor? No one has given me -- given me
18 the odor in writing, the chemical compound breakdown in writing of what
19 odor caused this. That's all I want is the information.

20 MR. WALTERS: The only thing we can give you is when we did the soil extractions of the
21 pit and of the bomb casing, it was fine. Of the two byproducts, Thioxane
22 and Dithiane, which came up, it showed up on the tests. We have those.

23 MR. TYLER: And ---

24 MR. CLAY: Excuse me, Mr. Tyler. In interest of time, we have other people who
25 probably need to ---

26 MR. TYLER: I am truly sorry for taking up so much time. I regret it and I'm sorry.
27 Thank you. I will relinquish the floor and please forgive me.

28 MR. CLAY: Thank you. Here is the lineup. We have Turpin Ballard, Mr. Morrison,
29 myself, Ms. Mills and Ms. Brooks.

1 MR. BALLARD: Okay, we've got the breakdown products found in the soil which caused
2 symptoms that the workers were experiencing

3 MR. WALTERS: Excuse me, sir. We do not know that.

4 MR. BALLARD: Caused the symptoms that the workers -- the workers reported headache,
5 nauseous and dizziness, and the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for
6 those breakdown products state that these breakdown products cause
7 headaches, nausea and dizziness.

8 MR. WALTERS: So do a lot of other chemicals.

9 MR. BALLARD: I understand that. What I said was: We have breakdown products which
10 were identified which cause the symptoms that the workers reported.

11 MR. WALTERS: Cause them, yes sir.

12 MR. BALLARD: The workers were in Level D dust filters to protect them from dust. But
13 clearly -- well can you -- do you know that those dust filters would not be
14 effective or can you state whether they would or would not be effective
15 against the Dithiane and Thioxane?

16 MR. WALTERS: No sir, I can't. Basically the HEPA filter is just a dust filter.

17 MR. BALLARD: So it won't stop those vapors --

18 MR. WALTERS: I can't say for sure, no, sir. That's out of my department.

19 MR. BALLARD: Okay since that incident, what levels of protection have the workers been
20 using?

21 MR. WALTERS: They have been upgraded to Level B, supplied air, because we have an area
22 which we do not know what caused it, Dithiane or Thioxane, that the
23 HEPA filters would not filter out. We had to go one level up. So, now
24 they have supplied air.

25 MR. BALLARD: And they have been in supplied air, I assume, with the full-faced mask?

26 MR. WALTERS: Yes, sir.

27 MR. BALLARD: Have they upgraded their clothing as well?

28 MR. WALTERS: Yes, sir.

29 MR. BALLARD: So they are in full Level B?

30 MR. WALTERS: Yes, sir.

- 1 MR. BALLARD: But I also don't ---
- 2 MR. WALTERS: The Tyvek clothing, we use gloves and a full-faced respirator with supplied
3 air, bottled air or by air line or by a bottle on the back, whichever one they
4 work in.
- 5 MR. BALLARD: So, the upside of that is they're going to be completely protected. The
6 downside is they're going to probably work a little more slowly because of
7 that.
- 8 MR. WALTERS: Yes, sir.
- 9 MR. BALLARD: Okay, is that what you -- at least for Site 24-A, that's what you expect a
10 week on the site?
- 11 MR. WALTERS: Yes, sir.
- 12 MR. BALLARD: But, again since the incident none of your monitoring has shown any
13 chemical agents ---
- 14 MR. WALTERS: No, sir.
- 15 MR. BALLARD: --- inside the VCS?
- 16 MR. WALTERS: No mustard agent whatsoever.
- 17 MR. BALLARD: Does your chemical -- does your realtime monitoring include -- will it pick
18 up the breakdown products as well?
- 19 MR. WALTERS: Not at this time sir. It will not. There is a method to do that. It takes
20 about two weeks to bring that up on line and get that validated. Any
21 monitoring equipment has to be validated.
- 22 MR. BALLARD: Calibrated, yes.
- 23 MR. WALTERS: Yes, sir.
- 24 MR. BALLARD: Okay, are you doing that so that you could downgrade it or are you just
25 going to continue with the Level B?
- 26 MR. WALTERS: Well, right now we're going to continue working at Level B because as the
27 soil extractions are done, you still see the evidence of the two there. So
28 there's -- really the monitoring is working.
- 29 MR. BALLARD: So that's a moot point.
- 30 MR. WALTERS: So, it's just another backup.

- 1 MR. CLAY: Hold on just a second if you would, Mr. Ballard. There's a point of
2 clarification.
- 3 MR. TYLER: Point of clarification. The meeting is only required to go to 7:30 p.m. The
4 meeting has to stop or I have to make a request for more time. I know no
5 one wants me to do that, but I'm going to do it anyway.
- 6 MR. BALLARD: Can I make that request? You don't have to. I can.
- 7 MR. TYLER: Well, since I ran the meeting longer, I move that we extend the meeting
8 another 35 minutes so that we can get in the necessary business that the
9 RAB needs to get in.
- 10 MR. WILLIAMS: I second that.
- 11 MR. CLAY: I have a question. Why don't we just extend the meeting until we finish our
12 business?
- 13 MR. PHILLIPS: Before the RAB votes on that, let me -- Mr. Covington, you're prepared to
14 do a presentation tonight? Your presentation was on the status of the
15 leasing?
- 16 MR. COVINGTON: Yes.
- 17 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, the RAB may want to choose to ask him to table his discussion until
18 we meet in January.
- 19 MR. COVINGTON: I would be happy to.
- 20 MR. PHILLIPS: So we have two things out on the floor: the extension, plus the change to
21 the agenda. I need motions on one or the other.
- 22 MR. CLAY: We have a motion to extend for 35 minutes.
- 23 MR. BALLARD: Let's vote or discuss.
- 24 MR. PHILLIPS: Vote or discuss. The comment was made, 35 minutes, or the co-chair said
25 until business is over.
- 26 MS. PETERS: I wouldn't go with that business is over business.
- 27 MR. TYLER: I will withdraw my motion so that Mondell's motion can stay on the floor.
- 28 MR. CLAY: Mondell, what's your -- Mr. Williams?
- 29 MR. WILLIAMS: My motion is that we stay for the 35 minutes. I second his.
- 30 MR. PHILLIPS: All those in favor?

1 THE BOARD: "Aye."

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Those opposed?

3 (Brief pause.)

4 MR. PHILLIPS: We're extending this meeting until 8:05 at this point.

5 MR. CLAY: Mr. Ballard, were you finished?

6 MR. BALLARD: Let's see. I'm trying to think where I was, but close enough to ---

7 MR. TYLER: You were working on the suits they were in. You were doing a good job
8 of trying to explain it to us.

9 MR. CLAY: Mr. Jim Morrison, you are now recognized.

10 MR. MORRISON: Jim Morrison. I have two questions, one for the safety specialist and one
11 for the doctor. Let me get the doctor's first. These two chemicals,
12 Thioxane and Dithiane, are either of these two chemicals toxic or
13 hazardous to humans or the environment?

14 DR. WINBERY: We promised each other we would split it. So, I'm Steven Winbery, board
15 eligible in toxicology and boarded in internal medicine and pediatrics. I
16 was the ER physician, to get it straight for the record. I did investigate
17 these extensively, both right before the patients arrived and afterwards, and
18 according to their MSDS as well as what you can find on the Internet. By
19 the way, both names are very searchable on the Internet -- they are non-
20 carcinogens, and they have been shown to have no chronic affects when
21 they (inaudible) these into animals.

22
23 Human exposure is extremely limited, unless you consider the folks in
24 World War II that actually put the bleach to these bombs, and none of
25 them, supposedly, had any long-term affects. But, again, that's what's
26 public. They did force feed this stuff to rats for months at a time and could
27 not show any chronic affects. So, as far as I can tell -- and you can look
28 that information up yourself -- there are no chronic affects.

29 MS. BROOKS: Excuse me.

30 DR. WINBERY: Yes, ma'am.

1 MS BROOKS I have a -- could you spell those two chemicals?

2 DR WINBERY It's on the slide up there I'm terrible at spelling

3 MS BROOKS Okay, thank you

4 MR CLAY Ms Mills, you are recognized

5 MR MORRISON I'm sorry

6 MR CLAY Oh, Mr Morrison, you have a follow-up question?

7 MR MORRISON Turpin answered question one I just wanted to make certain, will the two

8 chemicals and any other degradation products that may result from the

9 breakdown of mustard gas be monitored for?

10 MR WALTERS When he asked the Board -- I guess I have to start with something When

11 you talk monitoring to me, that's air monitoring

12 MR MORRISON That's what I was asking.

13 MR WALTERS Okay, the lab -- see, we take soil samples of every dig we do out there

14 everyday. The lab has that capability to identify if there's Thioxane and

15 Dithiane in the soil out there My comment was, we don't have air

16 monitoring things in place that goes to Level B right now. It's sort of -- I

17 don't want to use the word view point; but it's a point that does get

18 monitored because as we did all the research and talked to the doctors

19 Realistically, you might be a little nauseous every now and then, it wouldn't

20 hurt you But as a safety precaution upside, we put them in supplied air,

21 but we're still doing soil extractions looking for those two chemicals in

22 them We're validating those soil samples everyday that we do that and

23 those are on our reports if we find them.

24 MR BALLARD Wilson?

25 MR WALTERS Yes, sir.

26 MR BALLARD Did I understand that when you were telling me earlier you are still finding

27 the chemicals -- chemicals in the soil?

28 MR WALTERS To a certain degree

1 MR. BALLARD To a certain degree So, as long as you're finding them in the soil, you
2 know, and the workers are on the supplied air, there is no need to monitor
3 realtime for those chemicals because they're on supplied air?

4 MR. WALTERS Right

5 MR. BALLARD If you wanted to downgrade, you would have to -- you would have the
6 realtime monitoring ---

7 MR. WALTERS We don't have those ---

8 MR. BALLARD --- to tell you when to upgrade?

9 MR. WALTERS. Yes, most certainly, and like the doctor said, it's not toxic. Like I said, if
10 you don't mind being a little queazy to your stomach or whatever. I can
11 walk into a fabric store and I get sick, the same thing, caused from the
12 fabric. But to answer your question, we do not have an air monitoring
13 system inside the VCS at this time to look for those chemicals But the
14 mobile lab extracts that and tells us what we're getting in the soil, which
15 gives you actually a more accurate reading

16 MR. PHILLIPS. I need to request a point We have an point of order that Mr. Clay pointed
17 out I'll let you complete that answer because it was a clarification of his
18 question The next person who is up is Ms. Mills, unless Mr. Morrison is
19 not finished

20 MR. MORRISON I have one last question

21 MR. PHILLIPS. Okay

22 MR. MORRISON The filters that are being used to screen the air, to protect the air, to
23 protect the community from Thioxane, Dithiane or any kind of degradation
24 product that may occur from the mustard, are they sufficient enough to
25 also capture these chemicals along with the mustard? Because, to me,
26 that's the much larger question

27 MR. WALTERS. Let me put it this way You know, if you have been out there to the site
28 and been briefed on it, which we invite people to do if they go through
29 Shawn, the filtration systems that we have is the DAAMS connected to
30 the prefilter, midfilter and back They have pulled those and have not

1 found Thioxane or Dithiane anywhere in those filters or tubes. So, the
2 answer to your question, I take that as the charcoal filters and the other
3 filters stop it.

4 MR. MORRISON: That's what I was asking.

5 MR. CLAY: Ms. Mills is sitting in for Ms. Doris Bradshaw. She's recognized.

6 MS. MILLS: And thank you all for allowing me. My question is the fourth employee.
7 Why was a fourth employee allowed to actually smell the odor after you
8 have already sent three to the hospital? You allowed a fourth person to
9 open a bag and smell the odor?

10 MR. WALTERS: I don't know of any fourth person.

11 MR. PHILLIPS: Mr. Hunt?

12 MS. MILLS: He spoke about a fourth person that actually opened the bag and smelled
13 the odors that were detected.

14 MR. HUNT: I don't believe that I spoke about a fourth person. Of course, we can have
15 it brought back to the record. But the team -- there were three people that
16 were on Team 2 that did the examination of the bomb casing that was
17 wrapped.

18 MS. MILLS: And a fourth.

19 MR. HUNT: To my knowledge, there was no fourth person.

20 MR. CLAY: I believe what she's trying to say is one person taking the sample is
21 probably the question.

22 MS. MILLS: No. He said that the bag was opened after the three were sent to the
23 hospital. The fourth person opened the bag, smelled the odor, and that's
24 when the odor was detected and the gauge itself was inserted.

25 MR. PHILLIPS: I did not understand that from the events of that day. I mean, I can -- it
26 was a fairly technical brief, Mr. Hunt. I can see how it's related. But
27 explain how the Team 2 went in.

28 MR. HUNT: Well, moving up to the day on September 15th, and that's when Team 2
29 walked inside the vapor containment structure to examine the bomb casing
30 that had been removed out of the burial pit and it was wrapped. Their

1 purpose was to remove the soil from the bomb casing. So, all three
 2 members of that team was inside the vapor containment structure, opened
 3 the -- or removed the plastic bag and began to examine the soil.

4 MR. CLAY: Moving right along, Ms. Mills -- I'm sorry. Ms. Brooks, you're recognized.

5 MS. BROOKS: I just want -- this is Peggy Brooks. I just want to put a human face on the
 6 activities occurring at Dunn Field. I'm praying and asking that you realize
 7 this is affecting humans. It's affecting us. I live right across the street from
 8 Dunn Field, and whatever affects Dunn Field, somehow I have to believe in
 9 some way it will affect me and the residents who border Dunn Field. So,
 10 I'm just asking for your prayerful consideration and your realization even
 11 more that we're dealing with elderly people, children, adults as a whole and
 12 basically, that's it. I appreciate it. Mr. Morrison asked the question that I
 13 was going to ask and I appreciate that. Thank you.

14 MR. CLAY: Thank you, Ms. Brooks. Carter Gray is now recognized.

15 MR. GRAY: Do you have a question?

16 MR. CLAY: No, I'm taking mine down.

17 MR. GRAY: I really had only one clarification on one or two issues. It was my
 18 understanding that activities inside the containment structure were to be
 19 videotaped to make a permanent record of what had occurred within there.
 20 When I initially asked my questions about the incident, I was informed that
 21 there was no videotaping at this time in the containment structure. Is that
 22 still true? Was videotaping of this part of the removal effort undertaken?

23 MR. HUNT: There is videotape available for that particular day, yes.

24 MR. GRAY: Does it cover the pertinent time period?

25 MR. HUNT: To my knowledge, yes.

26 MR. GRAY: Yes, it does. So, they were in there for about an hour from what you
 27 discussed?

28 MR. HUNT: The team that complained of the ---

29 MR. GRAY: Nausea?

30 MR. HUNT: Yes.

1 MR. GRAY: And we do have that. So, it was going on, but that was not what I was
2 initially told. Do you videotape continuously when there are workers
3 inside the structure?

4 MR. HUNT: Yes, we do. The videotape is continuous.

5 MR. CLAY: Thank you both. We need a motion to ask Mr. Covington to postpone his
6 presentation of the restoration -- I'm sorry -- the redevelopment activities
7 so that we can stay on the restoration.

8 MR. TRUITT: So moved.

9 MR. CLAY: It's been moved ---

10 MS. PETERS: Second.

11 MR. CLAY: --- and seconded that we ask Mr. Covington to postpone his presentation
12 until I think it will be the new year. All in favor?

13 THE BOARD: Aye."

14 MR. CLAY: Any opposed?
15 (Brief pause.)

16

17 **RAB COMMENT PERIOD**

18

19 MR. CLAY: We now find ourselves in the RAB Comment Period.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Carter, were you finished?

21 MR. GRAY: Yes.

22 MR. CLAY: So, if any Restoration Advisory Board member has any comments you
23 would like to address, pose your name so we'll recognize you. Mr. Tyler,
24 you're recognized.

25 MR. TYLER: Stanley Tyler. Since I started on the RAB, my number one goal was to get
26 information on the Internet. It seems to me like we can't get this done, but
27 we can get all these high quality presentations together or all these
28 monitoring systems, but we can't get the government to get all this
29 -- information on the Internet. I'm going to present Shawn with a letter
30 stating that "I would like all the repository information on the Depot on the

1 Web-Page by November 1, 2000 If you have any questions about this,
 2 contact Stanley Tyler " I shall put this letter in Shawn's hand so that he can
 3 have it, so we can get all this information on the Web-Page, so we can
 4 download this information, so that in the future, we can move into the 21st
 5 century and we won't be doing things stone-aged

6
 7 It's terrible we have to read something in the Commercial Appeal about
 8 what went on maybe a hundred feet from your own house There is just no
 9 excuse for that. I thought we had a rapport where we could talk to each
 10 other like adults and citizens, and citizens don't keep things from citizens
 11 because "Well, it's a little incident, so we're not going to bother with it."
 12 So, in the future, let's try to get this information on the Web-Page So, I'm
 13 going to give this letter to Shawn

14 MR PHILLIPS

Thank you

15 MR TYLER

One more item and I promise I will be through talking It's about the
 16 extension I asked for for all these four volumes of technical documents, to
 17 extend the deadline another 30 days to 60 days I was told it was turned
 18 down in writing I read what you wrote, Shawn, and it said "I " Was that
 19 "I" you or a committee or what? Because I asked for three things

20
 21 I wanted that information put on the Web-Page because that's a lot of
 22 technical information folks have to go through Repositories are nice, but
 23 double clicking is much better, extremely better. Then you've got the
 24 experts who can go online and double check your facts rather than trying
 25 to check the book out, we'll just make photocopies and do what's what

26
 27 I wanted to ask for a third extension. Obviously, I'm not going to get the
 28 second one. So, you know, that's life You get disappointed in life, but
 29 " why can't we have this Depot restoration -- this Depot plan online? You

1 turned down my extension for a second 30 days. Why haven't you put it
2 online yet?

3 MR. PHILLIPS: Like I told you last month, like I told the RAB last month, we are doing
4 actions to get this information on the Web. I could not speak to you about
5 that because there was no contract awarded and that's still the situation.
6 But I am working on that issue.

7 MR. TYLER: It gets back to the age old question: You've got all this technical
8 information, books and repositories. You have posted information now
9 that you get that is online. Even your taxes are online. But yet, we're still
10 working on it, but deadlines are passing. Now we don't have experts who
11 we can get for reduced costs to double check this material. Because you've
12 got to check these books out. They've got to read them. They've got to
13 send them to them. When it's online, you can be on the phone like we were
14 the other day, double click on our computer, try to get into a Web site. If
15 I've got a question, you're looking at numbers in it, we can print it out,
16 bring it in and discuss it.

17
18 Now I have to go to a repository, make a photocopy, bring it to you, catch
19 up with you and say, "What is this?" And the citizens need better access to
20 the material. I know you've done a descent job of putting it in a repository,
21 but somewhere down the line we need to get all this information on the
22 Web-Page so it's easier access for the citizens. Thank you.

23 MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Tyler.

24 MR. CLAY: I have a couple of issues that I think are appropriate that we can talk about.
25 One issue I want to talk about is Dr. Kirk. I think we've extended the olive
26 branch to a great leader for a little over 12 months now, and I think it's
27 time that we either decide to ask for a new representative or come to some
28 closure on this issue. Anybody have a discussion on it?

29 MR. WILLIAMS: As I said before, that I stand behind the chair on its decision or his decision
30 on whatever he wants to make about the chair that's being vacant. But I

1 still go back to the facility co-chair to say that the procedure that was put
 2 in place to get a representative from -- for the seat, shouldn't -- or should
 3 we go through the same procedures? I'm not saying that the people who
 4 have served here have not done a great job or a good job, but we just need
 5 somebody on the job. So, as I said before, I'm here to stand behind
 6 whatever the co-chair suggests.

7 MR. PHILLIPS: I agree with you. I mean, we have been patient. I would like to suggest to
 8 Mr. Clay that we draft a letter together to the county commissioner and
 9 that we get every RAB member's signature on that letter.

10 MS. PETERS: Not mine.

11 MR. PHILLIPS: Or whoever will sign it from the Restoration Advisory Board.

12 MR. CLAY: What's going to be the content of the letter? Are we going to ask for a
 13 new representative? Is that kind of the issue that we're going to ask for?

14 MR. PHILLIPS: Over 12 months of absence.

15 MS. PETERS: Could I ask ---

16 MR. CLAY: Mr. Williams, you're recognized.

17 MR. WILLIAMS: Question: When will this Restoration Board Advisory resolve this?
 18 Because I think where we're headed at with this, either people are losing
 19 interest or they have no vested interest or everybody is just getting to be
 20 apathetic about it. Nobody cares about nothing, don't want to know about
 21 nothing. You know, I'm concerned about why it is. Because when I leave
 22 here, I'm going down the street and I see when a lot of people leave here,
 23 they're going somewhere else.

24

25 So, I look at it when people ask questions around the table, I see frowns. I
 26 see people wanting to leave. You know, I live here. I can't go nowhere.

27 All my money is here, right here in the property that I own. So, if people
 28 feel like that, you know, this is you know, killing their time or they are just
 29 taking time out for something---you know, nobody is getting paid here.

30 So, at any point any volunteer can get up and dismiss themselves.

1 You know, I have seen this so much. I have been on this Board ever since
 2 this Board just about started. From that time to now, I only missed, I'll
 3 say, two or three meetings and this is years. You understand what I'm
 4 saying? And I'm still here because I have concerns about what's going on.
 5 I just think that at this point if somebody don't have the concerns that -- we
 6 all should have genuine concerns at this table about our community or if it's
 7 not their community, then they still should have genuine concern. They
 8 should remove themselves from the Board if they don't have the concerns
 9 that the consensus - we have around here. I get so tired of seeing it, you
 10 know.

11 MR. PHILLIPS: Mr. Williams, I appreciate the sentiments you're having. At the very
 12 beginning of your comment you had a question. I would like to give you
 13 an answer to that question. You asked how long is this RAB going to be
 14 around; when is the RAB going to be a thought? I can tell you what the
 15 DOD policy is for RAB?

16 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: RABs are to be implemented at federal Department of Defense facilities
 18 until -- at least until the Records of Decisions are done. That's not only this
 19 Main Installation we're working on, but that's also Dunn Field. Right now
 20 our schedule for that is early 2002 I believe, or later -- mid 2002? So this
 21 Restoration Advisory Board has a considerable period of time left,
 22 according to the DOD policy.

23 MR. CLAY: Ms. Peters is recognized.

24 MS. PETERS: Mr. Chairman, I am trying to find out how did we get Dr. Kirk? And do
 25 you know of any other commissioner that is coming to the meetings?
 26 Because of the fact, I know every one of those commissioners. You had
 27 the most dedicated one coming over here when you had Dr. Kirk. He's
 28 sick and he can't come. So, then whatever method you use to ask another
 29 representative -- because you sure can't make nobody come. So, then I

1 want to know what process or what procedure will you do to get another
2 person to come over here every third Thursday?

3 MR PHILLIPS The original process was to draft a letter and to send it to the Board of
4 Commissioners That's how the process was done when Dr Kirk joined
5 the Restoration Advisory Board We wrote them a letter and asked them
6 for a representative

7 MR CLAY. If the county is not interested in having a representative, then, as Alma
8 indicated, we can ask for another citizen's representative So -- civic -- I'm
9 sorry

10 MR WILLIAMS We could probably find someone on the federal level to sit in on their seat

11 MR PHILLIPS Ms. Peters, were you finished with your comment?

12 MS PETERS You have a representative from the congressman's office here right now

13 MR PHILLIPS That's right

14 MR CLAY Mr Truitt, you're recognized

15 MR TRUITT Just a point Number one, if we are going to address the issue with Dr.
16 Kirk, we don't need the RAB's signature All that is needed is to
17 communicate to the person that's affected You know, what are you going
18 to do? I can tell you why he isn't here He's been ill, just like I was off for
19 six months from this place because I couldn't drive to get here My wife
20 wasn't going to sit up here and listen to this -- you know, these lengthy
21 discussions

22
23 And secondly, if you would notice -- if you will note the fact that not only
24 has he been sick, his wife is in the hospital now, very ill And,
25 consequently, what effect does he have on the RAB anyway? If you
26 notice, the council lady has departed One of the things -- we're going to
27 have problems getting citizen replacements who will dedicate themselves to
28 listening to the technical presentations and not going all night in these
29 tandrums and discussions that really amount to nothing

30

1 Look at our charter What does the charter say our responsibilities are?
2 Our responsibilities are not to become the technical experts, to criticize the
3 technical experts Our responsibility is basically oversight and you know,
4 that's why these meetings are extended for long periods of time And I --
5 you know, I'm one of the people that frowns I lose my patience when I
6 come to a meeting that's scheduled to start at 6 00 p m. and end at 7 30
7 p.m I absolutely lose my patience.

8 MR. CLAY Thank you, Mr. Truitt I will advise you that in the future that 7:30 p m.
9 doesn't seem to be the time we're going to be quitting these meetings Mr.
10 Tyler, you're recognized.

11 MR. TYLER I agree with some statements Mr. Truitt made However, if you're a
12 concerned citizen and you want to come to these meetings and voice your
13 opinion, that's what the RAB is here for - for those citizens who are
14 concerned about their comments and what's going on Different people
15 have different ways of being concerned about their community
16

17 I can disagree with differences However, this last incident where we had
18 to learn about it in the Commercial Appeal was just a bit much Hopefully
19 in the future we won't have to use the Commercial Appeal to find out
20 what's going on a hundred feet from someone's home or someone's
21 property So I apologize for being long, but I don't apologize for what I
22 said Thank you

23 MR. CLAY. Mr. Williams, did you have a follow-up?

24 MR. WILLIAMS I'm just really disappointed about, you know, the way a lot of things are
25 going at the table I just don't understand it really But, you know, I guess
26 we should be on the clock It's a time to do this and a time for this
27 Everything, you know, is not scheduled and kept to it That's the reason
28 you have to pencil in certain things that you do in a day because everything
29 that you plan to do in that day just don't work
30

1 I hate that we run into lengthy discussions and bring out stupid questions
 2 or things that we shouldn't ask, but if the technical people are not asking
 3 them, who is going to ask them? You know, that's the question. You
 4 know, anybody can answer that at the table. Who is supposed to ask them
 5 since the technical people are not asking them? We've got to take the
 6 matters in our own hands. This is our community.

7 MR. CLAY: Thank you. I want to go on record. Shawn, I think that you and I should
 8 get together and draft a letter and address it to the Shelby County Board of
 9 Commissioners asking for a different representative and if they fail to send
 10 one, then sobeit. We can take Dr. Kirk's from the table.

11
 12 And, in all candor, people get sick, people retire and people move on.
 13 We're not going to stop the process because someone is temporarily or
 14 semi-permanently incapacitated. I think it's unfair to ask us to hold back
 15 what we need to do because a certain person is ill or whatever. It's not a
 16 promise that I will be here next month or the month after, but the process is
 17 going to move forward. And, Mr. Truitt, I do agree with you. Dr. Kirk
 18 really hasn't added a whole lot. So, I don't think he's going to be that
 19 terribly missed and I'm not saying that in a negative way. But the truth is
 20 the truth. Are there anymore RAB comments? Mr. Turpin Ballard.

21 MR. BALLARD: I just have a suggestion on the issue of length of time in the meetings. For
 22 I don't know how many meetings in a row we've gone routinely to eight
 23 o'clock, sometimes well past 8:00 p.m. So, the suggestion for y'all to
 24 consider and either mess with it now, or think about it and vote and discuss
 25 it or vote on it in January would be to have the meetings planned from 6:00
 26 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a five or a ten-minute break at seven o'clock on the
 27 agenda. Because there is going to be -- there is going to be an increasing
 28 amount of frequency, I should say, of technical presentations. You know,
 29 especially in response to the concerns expressed by the RAB members for
 30 timely information. We're trying to plan ahead for giving you that

1 information and the best way to do it is in the form of technical
 2 presentations Those take time to give, and they elicit a lot of comments
 3 and those comments always take us over past 7 30 p m
 4

5 So, my suggestion will be Plan to have the meeting from 6 00 p m to
 6 8 00 p m with a break, because two hours is a heck of a long time to sit
 7 yapping, and I don't mean "yapping" in a negative way. I'm just saying
 8 talking is hard to listen to for that period of time I'm getting myself in
 9 trouble here now

10 MR PHILLIPS. Thank you, Mr Ballard. The Restoration Advisory Board, we're all
 11 citizens here Some are official, but everyone is a citizen. We need to
 12 recognize that there is also a period of time at the end of the meeting for
 13 public comments I'm looking at the clock, and should we open the floor
 14 right now, Co-chairman?

15 MR CLAY. Yes
 16

17 **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**
 18

19 MR PHILLIPS Okay, Public Comment Period

20 MR CLAY Franklin, you're recognized

21 MR DEMETRIO I just have a couple of questions I wanted to ask -- you can't hear me?

22 MR PHILLIPS Will you identify yourself?

23 MR DEMETRIO. Oh, Franklin Demetrio Mr Hunt, I wanted to ask what was -- if I
 24 understood you correctly, the workers received oxygen for 30 minutes and
 25 then were taken to the hospital.

26 MR HUNT Correct

27 MR DEMETRIO What time of day did they come out of the containment structure and what
 28 time of day did they begin getting the test? Before you answer that, let me
 29 ask a couple of other questions
 30

1 The medical folks I wanted to ask If I understood, you were doing some
 2 tests for the presence of certain chemicals What chemicals were they and
 3 would the results of these tests be affected by the amount of elapsed time
 4 between when the workers were exposed to when they were tested?

5 And I would also like to ask Mr Phillips to repeat the certain dates I'm
 6 not sure I got them all, the date of the incident, the date that Mr Gray
 7 found out about it and the date that the Depot was informed. And, of
 8 course, the date that the RAB members got the letter was October 11th
 9 and it was only on that day that the public found out about it. If I
 10 understood you right, there was about two weeks between the time when
 11 the Depot found out and when the RAB members got that letter I just find
 12 it hard to understand why it would take so long I know I'm not the only
 13 one who heard that on that day and thought "Gee, it sounds like a cover-
 14 up "

15 MR CLAY Mr Hunt, would you like to respond to that?

16 MR HUNT The workers reported the odor and the symptoms to the on-site medical
 17 personnel That occurred at 10 27 a m The workers were placed on
 18 oxygen for approximately 30 minutes It was at 11 42 a m when the on-
 19 site ambulance transported the workers to the Regional Medical Center for
 20 examination

21 DR PARK And I can tell you -- I can tell you a little bit about what happened in the
 22 interim, although, I don't have the exact times written down We were in
 23 communication by telephone at the scene probably about an hour before
 24 they arrived to us Their symptoms were so brief, it lasted just a very few
 25 minutes, that they didn't want to come to the hospital They contacted us
 26 The paramedics on-site and the site safety manager contacted us We
 27 talked with them They told us what the chemical was and we went and
 28 researched it. It took all of, I don't know, 60 seconds on the Internet You
 29 know, it was that fast, as Mr Tyler has pointed out We pulled it up, got
 30 in contact with the site again, and the workers were all but refusing to be

1 in contact with the site again, and the workers were all but refusing to be
2 transported to the hospital because they felt so good and because the site
3 safety manager had assured them that this chemical, Dithiane, had no long-
4 lasting affects or toxicity.

5
6 Now, at that -- I feel partially responsible for this because the site safety
7 manager said, "You know, what -- should we send them anyway? What do
8 you think?" And I said, "You know, that's up to you." I said, "We have
9 been trained in this for so long, I think this is a perfect opportunity to have
10 a dry run. Let's test the system, see if it works. Bring them on. We'll wait
11 for them. We'll go through any kind of decontamination process."

12 It was a Friday morning, we were slow. I said, "Bring them on and let's see
13 if all the systems we have in place work," and that's what we did.

14
15 The blood test that we did -- as you may or may not know, sulfur mustard
16 gas has a long-lasting -- a long toxicity in addition to the blisters that you
17 may or may not get. It can cause bone marrow suppression -- and I will try
18 not to get too technical -- a few days -- a few days after the exposure. So
19 even though we were assured by our own research and by the site safety
20 manager that there was no mustard affect in the mustard byproducts, the
21 degradation product, we thought, "Let's test for this anyway." And we
22 checked functions of their bone marrow both on the Friday that they
23 arrived and then had them come back on Monday morning so that Dr.
24 Winbery and I could see them again, repeat the test and compare them to
25 the Friday, and there was no change.

26 MR. GRAY: But it's not a test that measures the chemicals?

27 DR. PARK: No, it would not measure the chemical. It would measure if there was any
28 affect on the bone marrow.

29 MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Dr. Park. I have a response to the end of that question, but I
30 would like to mention, I was in the room today when we spoke to the team

1 gentlemen I want you to know they appreciate it, too I think the team
 2 leader said he had never been poked and prodded so much in his whole life
 3 and hopes he never sees you again, but you can probably understand that
 4 DR PARK A lot of people feel that way
 5 MR PHILLIPS The incident occurred on September 15th The Depot was notified of it
 6 through emails and messages left on the telephone on 9/27 We first called
 7 Carter Gray back and said, "What were you told? You know, what was
 8 this rumor that you heard?" That led us to our investigation where we
 9 talked to the Corps, where we had our meeting with my command. After
 10 that process was over with, the first thing or question we had was "Are the
 11 three gentlemen -- are the three workers okay? And was there a release?"
 12 After that, we had to examine our process to see where the communication
 13 portion of the process failed
 14
 15 So, writing the letter that went out to the RAB was part of that process
 16 and that letter went out on October 10th So, those are all the dates in
 17 question. Oh, we need to recognize Mr. Benjamin Moore Mr Moore has
 18 an announcement about an ATSDR effort coming up
 19 MR MOORE Benjamin Moore, ATSDR I'm the regional rep for Region 4 Two
 20 announcements We had initially released a draft PHA (Public Health
 21 Assessment) for the Depot The final PHA will be released November 4th
 22 MR PHILLIPS Excuse me PHA?
 23 MR. MOORE. Public Health Assessment report Sorry about that. Also, the Greater
 24 Memphis area E J work group will have a meeting Saturday, November
 25 4th from 9 00 a m to 4 00 p m at Bethel AME Church at 1360 Alcy
 26 Road Each member of the RAB will get a letter with the agenda All
 27 those people who we have addresses on who attended the last E J work
 28 group will also get a letter and agenda indicating this meeting
 29 MR. CLAY. I take it E J is Environmental Justice
 30 MR MOORE Correct

1 MR. MOORE: Correct.

2 MR. CLAY: Are there any other public comments? I make a motion that -- Mr. Tyler.

3 MR. TYLER: One question. When you ran the dry run for the safety people, did you

4 ever stop to think "Why don't we have a dry run for the community? We

5 can just see how this emergency system works and just do it all in one-stop

6 shopping." Did anybody have that thought? Since you're going to do a dry

7 run for the safety of the workers and people live a hundred feet from the

8 Depot. Let's try the system and test it to make sure it works. It's just a

9 common sense thought since we had a slow day.

10 MR. CLAY: Thank you, Mr. Tyler. Mr. Williams?

11 MR. WILLIAMS: I was going to make a motion.

12 MR. CLAY: According to -- I wanted to tell you, all the RAB members are going to be

13 polled for a possible meeting on either November 30th or December 7th.

14 So, we can either call them by telephone -- so please think about it, and we

15 will have a meeting on one of those two days. Mr. Williams, you are

16 recognized.

17 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, I would like to make a motion that we adjourn the meeting.

18 MR. TYLER: Second.

19 MR. CLAY: It's been moved and seconded to be adjourned. All in favor?

20 THE BOARD: "Aye."

21 MR. CLAY: Thank you.

22

23 **(Whereupon at approximately 8:18 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.)**

24 **Next RAB meeting:**

25 **January 18, 2001**

26 **Hamilton Elementary School**

27 **1378 Ethlyn Avenue**

28 **Memphis, Tennessee**

Others in Attendance

Mrs Alma Black Moore	Frontline Communications
Mr Trevor S Diggins	Frontline Communications
Mr Wilson Walters	Corps of Engineers - Huntsville
Mr Clyde Hunt	Corps of Engineers - Memphis
Mrs. Elizabeth Burks	Corps of Engineers - Memphis
Dr Lynda Park	The Regional Medical Center
Dr Steven Winbery	The Regional Medical Center
Mr Benjamin Moore	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
Capt Chris McKelvy	DLA
Mr John Whiting	Corps of Engineers
Mrs Tondalaya Washington-Snyder	Frontline Communications
Mr Virgil W Jansen	Sverdrup Civil Engineering
Ms. Betty Mills	Citizen
Mr Ron Marichak	Defense Distribution Center (DDC)
Mr John DeBack	Base Transition Coordinator
Mr Rick Bowlus	(USACHPPM)
Mr Adam B Shepherd	BRAC - Pentagon
Mr Jim Thoren	Corps of Engineers - Memphis
Mr Frank Johnson	UXB
Ms. Peggy T DuBray	Corps of Engineers – Arnold AFB
Mr John Rollyson	Corps of Engineers – Arnold AFB
Ms Denise Cooper	Memphis Depot Caretaker Division
Ms Dorothy Richards	(USAESCH)
Mr. Steve Offner	CH2M Hill
Mr. Paul E. Lewis	Citizen
Mr Norm Lacharelle	Memphis and ShelbyCounty Health Department

Mr Jordan English

Tennessee Department of
Conservation (TDEC)

Mr Van Snyder

Citizen

Ms Margaret C Curry

Citizen

Ms Deborah J Rogers

Citizen

Ms Tanja Mitchell

Citizen

FINAL PAGE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

FINAL PAGE