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2015 NAAV Convention in Washington DC

Pictured l-r standing: Bob Ruyle, Fred Shafer, Dallas Brown, Lincoln Grahlf, Ed Gettler, Haskell Watts Jr., Gillie Jenkins, Herb Lundeen, and Joe Mondello. Seated is Raymond Drumheller

The 2015 NAAV Convention in Washington, DC has just closed and was reported to have been successful. Items dealing with the governing body of our constitution that included future plans, procedures, as well as our financial status discussed and acted upon. Referable to the short period of time between the ending of the convention and the publication of this newsletter, we should expect, on our web page www.naav.com, the minutes and financial report, as exhibited by our National Commander soon. I have found the following convention, maybe in Las Vegas. I will get back to you again soon.

Change of Address, Membership or Renewal....Write or E-Mail

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Managing Editor 1925 S. Saint Charles, Spokane Valley Road, WA 99037. All photos must be sent in JPEG format preferably at 300dpi or mail us an original and we will copy it and get it back to you.

Nebraska Proclamation



L to R - Gov. Pete Ricketts, Bob Ruyle, Jim Skaja and Dale Anderson

On July 8th there was a gathering in the Rotunda of the Nebraska State Capitol building for a proclamation. Gov. Pete Ricketts issued a proclamation making July 16th a day of celebration honoring the Atomic Veterans on this the 70th anniversary of the detonation of the first Atomic Bomb.

Bob Ruyle accepted the official proclamation as the Nebraska State Commander of the National Association of Atomic Veterans as Jim Skaja and Dale Anderson stood by. Jim & Dale are two of the twelve living NAAV members here in Nebraska. Jim, even though he is nearing 90, still volunteers to help veterans at the VA in Omaha, Nebraska. Dale journeyed all the way from Dakota City to be present.

Bob was inspired by the director of state commanders, Gillie Jenkins, in his efforts to get July 16th to be an on going event, not just a one time remembrance. Since the governor did not do so he is now working with the legislator to get the words changed so it will be recognized each year rather than for one day.

He is also working with Gillie Jenkins and others to encourage their State Senators and Representatives to endorse a bill introduced by Gillie's Congressman to change the wording to make it a yearly event nationwide as was intended back in 1983 when it was first signed by President Reagan.

Atomic Bomb dropped from B-50 Bomber (continued)

--Continued from Page 7--

Mostly an experience I will never forget. Released from the secrecy surrounding these tests but many have passed and years have gone by now much of the details are forgotten. I was sent a letter asking for information on my health as early as May 11, 1979. They knew then I had participated in this test, yet when I asked for information in 1985 they told me I wasn't there. I had a copy of my original order, I sent it to them. Their reply, "we thank you for the information and acknowledge your participation but the records originally were lost in a fire in the records section in St Louis, MO." Sound familiar? Many times they don't want to acknowledge we were there.

But, we remember.

Story edited for newsletter space by newsboynaav.com



Atomic Vets (continued)

--Continued from Page 3--

And Jenkins, after so many years of mandatory silence, isn't stopping with state recognition for his peers.

A spokesman on Wednesday confirmed that Rep. Dave Brat, R-7th, whose district includes Jenkins' home, will introduce a resolution in Congress today designating July 16 of each year as National Atomic Veterans Day, "recognizing the important role played by the atomic veterans in the defense of our nation."

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KEEPING UP WITH OUR BILLS IN CONGRESS

If you would like to sustain up on bills that affect us – do the following. <https://www.congress.gov/> then in the rectangular box on the upper right, you should (type in – atomic veterans). You will be able to get any bills, if they affect us. Understand there may be newer action which has not hitherto been placed there.



Library of Congress



Jenkins

Virginia recognizes veterans in atomic tests by declaring today Atomic Veterans Day

Posted: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 10:30 pm
By JOHN RAMSEY Richmond Times-Dispatch

For nearly 50 years, Gillie Jenkins was sworn to secrecy about his job in the Navy. Jenkins and nearly 200,000 others who were involved in the nation's nuclear weapons testing couldn't tell their wives or even their doctors about their exposure to radiation while serving their country.

Thanks almost entirely to the efforts of the 85-year-old Jenkins, Virginia for the first time is recognizing those veterans by declaring today — the 70th anniversary of the first atomic bomb test in New Mexico — Atomic Veterans Day.

“Ask anybody what they know about atomic veterans and you know what they'll say? ‘Never heard of it,’” said Jenkins, Virginia's state commander for the National Association of Atomic Veterans. “I just think it's good for people to know there is such a thing as atomic vets. We're the forgotten group.”

For 16 months in 1948 and 1949, Jenkins worked as a sort of security guard aboard the USS Independence while others gutted the radioactive vessel off the coast of San Francisco. The Independence had been in a fleet of ships taken to Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands for atomic testing. Two bombs were detonated, sinking 15 ships, damaging the Independence and soaking it with radioactive water.

Jenkins would stand guard for 3 1/2 hours at a time, wearing a new set of Navy-supplied work clothes, marked with red to denote their use, and a hard hat as his only protective gear. After each short shift, he was

required to disrobe, shower and have his radiation level checked with a Geiger counter. He'd don a new red-embazoned outfit before heading back out to the ship.

“I couldn't even wear what I wore that morning,” said Jenkins, 85, who grew up in Richmond and now lives in Chesterfield County.

The secrecy of the job made it difficult for many of the atomic veterans to prove that their ailments later in life were tied to the radiation they encountered. One of Jenkins' best friends, Haskell Watts of West Virginia, was sent to the Pacific on a ship in the 1950s for a mission called Operation Red Wing. He's been diagnosed with cancer six times and had various other health problems since.

“When the bombs went off, we would steam under the fallout and collect the radiation numbers,” Watts said. “I just want people to know that there was another bunch of veterans out there that gave their life and health for their country.”

Watts and Jenkins said some atomic veterans were advised not to have children for up to 10 years after their service ended. Jenkins, blessed with good health, sees his mission these days as identifying and helping other atomic veterans. His state chapter had close to 200 members a dozen years ago. That number has dwindled close to 20 now.

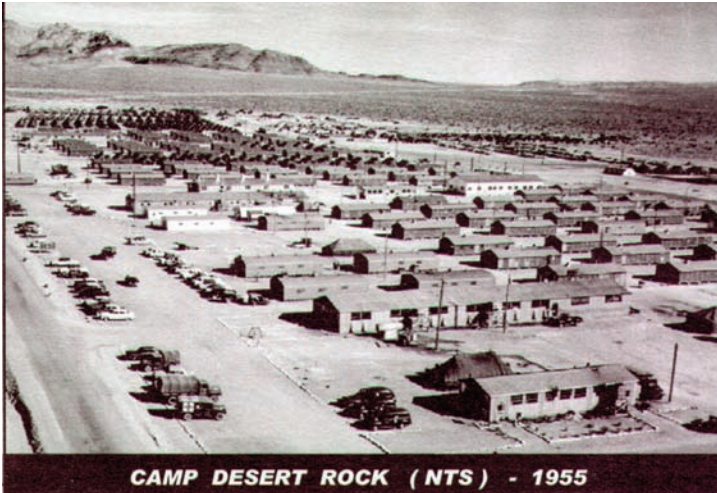
Jenkins said he'd be at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond at 11 a.m. today to introduce himself to any atomic veterans who aren't yet part of his group.

Del. Roxann L. Robinson, R-Chesterfield, at the request of Jenkins, sponsored the legislation that sailed through the General Assembly unopposed earlier this year recognizing atomic veterans.

“It was important to do it before they're all gone. How many of these folks are still living? How many of them suffered through the consequences of being exposed to the radiation? It wasn't really kept track of,” said Robinson, whose father served as an Army medic in the Korean War. “It's such a passion for (Jenkins) as an individual to recognize his friends and his peers that he was in the service with. That's why it became important to me.”

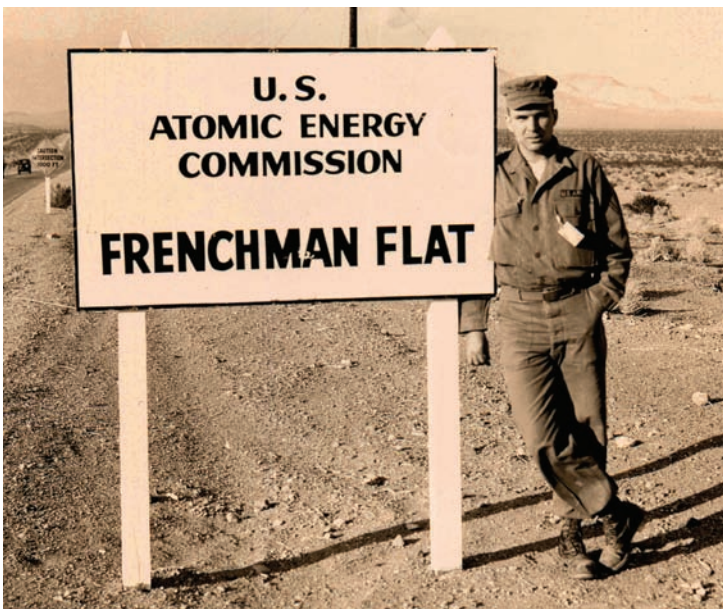
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Photographing the Bomb



CAMP DESERT ROCK (NTS) - 1955

From 1953-1955 I was a cameraman, MOS 1745, in the 2d Signal Platoon (photo) based first at Fort Monmouth, later attached to the Signal Corps Pictorial Center. In February 1955 our entire platoon was sent on a TDY to Camp Desert Rock, Nevada, where we spent four months photographing the fourteen detonations that comprised Operation Teapot. One of the fourteen shots (shot ESS) was buried underground, and two were air drops; these three took place at midday, as did one of the tower shots (shot MET).



William Ingram at Camp Desert Rock, Nevada

All eleven tower shots involved devices installed on metal towers, and these were all (except for shot MET) detonated at dawn, just a moment or two before the sun rose. The rationale for this was that the detonation itself should be in darkness, for better test measurement, but the

mushroom cloud should rise up into the sunlight for the same reason. Each steel shot tower was erected on a concrete base, and after a shot the base would show some remains of twisted steel, but most of the tower was simply vaporized.



For all eleven tower shots, members of our unit were present, in trenches in the forward area, some 3000 yards from the tower, with our cameras. (For comparison, the diameter of the typical mushroom cloud was about 4000 yards, and was thus over our heads when we could finally look up.) The conventional wisdom at that time was that six to eight feet of earth was sufficient protection against the radiation, so of course we had to stay huddled in the trenches during the detonation – the moment when all the radiation was released – and wait for the shock wave, which reached us about eight seconds later, to pass. Then we could emerge. I began filming the other troops in the trenches about two seconds before detonation, and used the bomb burst – which really was, as everyone says, brighter than the sun – as my sole source of light. The light moved silently for eight seconds through brilliant white, then yellow, then orange, and then the eight seconds were up and the chaos of the shock wave hit us, showering dirt (perhaps radioactive) upon everyone, and on our cameras, so after a quick clean-off we climbed out and filmed the damage wrought by the explosion. We had only

--Continued on Page 5--

PHOTOGRAPHING THE BOMB (Continued)

--Continued from Page 4--

about thirty minutes to do this, because at that point the radioactive dust in the mushroom cloud would begin settling back down on the ground, so we had to be evacuated quickly, along with whatever other troops were there participating in the exercise.

After some weeks of this activity our film badges (“dosimeters”) began showing cumulative exposure levels beyond the upper limit set by whoever sets such limits. But this over-exposure did not secure us a release from further forward-area activity. We were told to keep going out there and take pictures anyway, dosimeters be damned. So we did. I’ve lost touch with all the others in our platoon, so I don’t know what effect that had on their subsequent lives. For myself, I’m still alive and healthy, though I don’t understand why. I should be dead.



The fourteenth and final shot in the series was a joint exercise with armored units that came over from Camp Irwin. They moved their tanks into the area, at a distance of some 3000 yards from the ground-zero of the tower. The exercise was “to demonstrate the capability of a reinforced tank battalion to seize an objective immediately after a nuclear detonation”, according to the official report. In the darkness before the shot, we all moved into the forward area; the armored troops climbed into their tanks and we got into our trenches. Then the shot was detonated, and the tanks began moving forward toward the

remains of the tower base, some coming as close as 800 yards before veering off.

Presumably the top brass learned something from this exercise. What the armored troops learned was that it’s possible to feel utter terror sitting in a tank waiting for an atomic bomb to detonate 3000 yards in front of you. The armored troops told us afterwards that despite all tank turrets being rotated to the rear, all hatches closed, and all sight apertures sealed with opaque tape, the blast lit up the tank interiors like a bright light bulb, and when the shock wave hit they said it felt like crashing into a wall.

The blast from this final shot (shot Apple2) was measured at 29 kilotons, half again as large as the Hiroshima bomb. The largest shot in the Teapot series, shot Turk, had yielded 43 kilotons some weeks earlier. But for us in the photo platoon, shot Apple2 was just the last in a long series of shots we had photographed over three months; been there, done that, time to go home. I marvel now at how casual we had become about going out to place ourselves in front of one nuclear blast after another. How little we knew then.

The official report of the Teapot series can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/nwfm4l>, and a wide variety of images related to Teapot can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/mgqy3qg>.

--By William Ingram



William Ingram at Camp Desert Rock, Nevada

Atomic Bomb dropped from B-50 Bomber caused complete destruction of target area.

U.S. troops move in to secure areas around “Ground Zero”.

A story by Sgt. Robert C. Abbey RA 16 395 061

If you showed that “Headline” to a 30 year old college graduate today where would they say this occurred? Japan? When? 68 years ago? I don’t think so. Troops did not move in to secure anything when the atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, nor did they move in at Nagasaki on August 9, 1945. But they did move in at Frenchman flats Nevada on May 8, 1953 securing a “Target Area” devastated by a 27 Kiloton Atomic Bomb dropped from a B-50 Bomber flying out of Kirkland Air Force Base Nevada. The Bomb was delivered at approximately 0830 Pacific daylight time and detonated at 2,423 ft above Area 5 (Frenchman Flat), it was off target by 250 meters. It was called “Shot Encore” of a series designated as “upshot Knothole” and the only “Air drop” in the test program. The bomb dropped here was 10 times the strength of the bombs dropped on Japan.

A Uranium core bomb (Little Boy) destroyed Hiroshima, Three days later a Plutonium core bomb (Fatman) was dropped on Nagasaki, killing 40,000 civilians instantly and a total of 70,000 in the days that followed. The bombs were exploded at an altitude of 1,625 ft completely ‘destroying the entire city.

Here is my story. I had to tell you the above (which is fact, not a tale) because it relates to what the U.S. was doing in the aftermath of WWII. Testing, using actual personnel to determine the effects of Atomic Warfare on not only the enemy but on the troops involved once a bomb has been delivered. Nuclear weapons are usually detonated above ground in order to maximize the effects of their spherical expanding “Fireball” and the resulting high temperature and blast waves. The fireball itself begins to rise into the air, acting on the same principle as a hot-air balloon. Once the hot gas has cleared the ground sufficiently as a “spherical cap bubble” an instability factor forms, air is drawn upward and into the cloud (similar to the updraft of a chimney) producing strong air currents while inside the head of the cloud the hot gases begin

to rotate in a “toroidal” shape. These winds will draw in dirt, pebbles, rocks, and an assortment of other debris from the ground below that will then form the “Mushroom cloud”.

When this device was dropped I was hunkered down in a foxhole approximately 9,400 yards from “Ground Zero”. On 20 April 1953 a special order was issued out of Headquarters 278 Infantry Regimental Combat Team stationed in Camp Drum, New York under Special Order number 93 putting me on DS with Hq Co, 1st army Desert Rock, Battalion V (Provisional X), Auth: Genl Order #45, Hq. 1st Army, GINY, <lttd 13 Mar 53.

I this was a very high priority order. Everyone transferred to this Battalion was checked out by the FBI for “Top security”. The FBI even visited my parents. A couple of weeks later we were loaded on a “Troop train” at Watertown, New York. This train moved through to Las Vegas, Nevada in three days (remember in 1953 that was the fast track move for troops, they didn’t have the planes to move infantry except Airborne). The only stops were to change train crews. Coming out of upper New York we were in our winter uniforms. Imagine getting off the train in Nevada the end of April. I don’t know who’s fault that was but it sure was hot on that train platform in winter uniforms. We moved to “Camp Desert Rock” Nevada by bus. About 70 miles out of Las Vegas. Camp Desert Rock was activated in the fall of 1951. The task of establishing the camp was assigned to the 231st Engineer Combat Battalion out of Fort Lewis, Washington who erected living quarters (tents), sanitary fill areas, garbage service, mess halls, wash racks and kitchen areas. Showers were provided from towers holding 3,000 gal water tanks. It all served it’s purpose, but moving out of barracks in upper New York to tents in the desert in Nevada was a shock in itself.

President Harry S. Truman gave his approval to this site in December of 1948 for the express purpose

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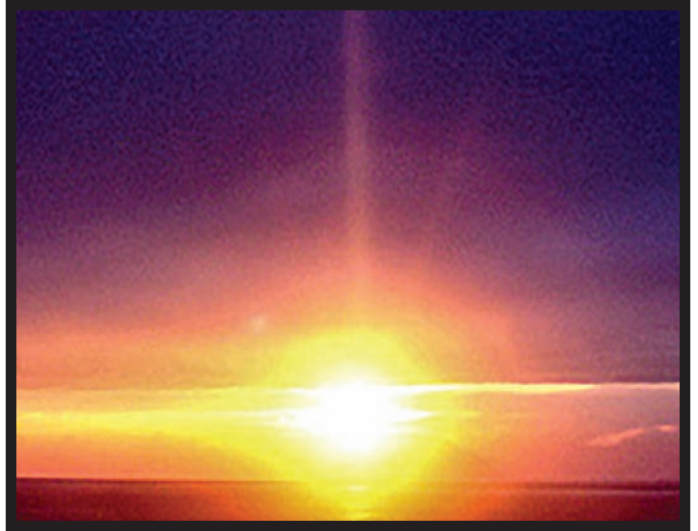
***If you haven't paid your dues then please, consider doing that now.
It's an important way to keep informed. \$25.00 annual or \$250.00 life.***

--Continued from Page 6--

of Atmospheric testing of Atomic Bombs. At that time it was known as the "Nevada test site". After construction it became known as "Camp Desert Rock" and would be used to house troops who would be assigned to participate in "Atomic Warfare" training and exercises with real "Live" nukes. This site was 23,058 acres. These exercises included "test" troops with various types of battlefield equipment and gear for the purposes of exploring the effects of blast, overpressure, heat and radiation from the detonation of a nuclear weapon. Various types of Military equipment, including jeeps, trucks, tanks, personnel carriers and half tracks were placed in positions at various distances from ground zero. Some buried to various depths ranging from a few hundred yards out to three miles from the point of detonation. Troops received training on the effects of radiation from nuclear weapons and provided with booklets plaining the importance of secrecy. They were prohibited from discussing any aspect of any nuclear test including the military maneuvers or any effects of the tests with friends, relatives or even doctors. They were constantly lectured with incorrect information and secrecy threats. From July of 1945 to November of 1962 over 550,000 military personnel were involved with these tests. In 1996 the government released us from this oath of secrecy. By that time 300,000 had already died and approximately 198,000 do not know this release had been issued. At this time there are approximately 85,000 known survivors.

Most of what you read was what we all had to deal with that participated in these tests. I can remember what it looks like these events are very real. This was 70 years ago. I think I have a good memory sometimes it tricks me into only seeing the highlights. I remember the morning of the drop, it was cold as it usually is in the desert that time of the year (we slept in tents and water froze in the butt-cans at night and it was 110 degrees in the tents during the afternoon). One last briefing and then moved out to our assigned positions. I was in a foxhole that had already been dug for me (great), it was about 7 ft deep with a couple of steps up to get out. We were told to stay at the bottom during the initial blast and would be told when we could get up and look at the blast area. I'm glad I listened to that part. We got into position at about 6:00AM, the actual drop was at 08:30 so for 2 Yz hours we were subjected to the cold. They wanted to get the test under way before the winds started to come up. Finally, close to the drop the loudspeakers informed us the aircraft was approaching the drop area flying at about 40,000 ft. The drop would be detonated at about 2,500 ft but we were warned not to look at the blast. I listened to that, when the bomb went off I was in the bottom of my foxhole at about 9,400 yards from ground zero and the light from the initial blast lit up the bottom of that hole to the point

of there being no shadows. This only lasted for a few seconds (they said if you looked at the blast, it would burn out the retinas in your eyes and you would be blind) I believe it. They then told us we could climb out of our holes and view the spectacle before us. The initial part of the explosion forms a fireball as I explained earlier but before the debris gets into it you witness the most beautiful sight you will ever see. The fireball is every color of the rainbow and as it rises into the atmosphere it forms a white cap on top (Which is ice). We were told at that time it was at about 20,000 ft in the air.



Then you see the blast coming across the desert (we were on high ground) and you brace yourself for it to hit. Even with the warning you can't stand up, it knocks you down, and remember this is 9,400 yds from ground zero. We were told the blast broke windows and knocked items off shelves in Las Vegas 70 miles away. With the resulting change in pressure etc and the debris field going up to meet the fireball you see the Mushroom cloud develop. The devastation at ground zero is complete. There were buildings there, a field hospital and they set up a forest of red wood trees that were brought down from the northwest and anchored in 10 tons of concrete. Everything was gone. We were then ordered to saddle up and move out with a assault on Ground Zero. I remember a Jack Rabbit running and his fur was smoking. Military vehicles at various distances had damage appropriate to the distance away from the blast. Tanks above ground with the tracks melted off and the side facing the blast had the paint burned off. There were sheep, goats and pigs, some exposed at ground level, some in bunkers, all dead. The sheep had blood around the nose and eyes, no other sign or trauma. Most died from the blast having had small particles of dirt driven into them like small bullets. After five hours all radiation badges were checked and we were decontaminated.

Operation Dominic • JTF-8 1962

OPERATION DOMINIC JTF-8 1962

Christmas Island/Johnson Island South Pacific
LT. C.A. Smith USS Halsey Powell 1961-1965

In 1962 USS Halsey Powell was assigned to JTF-8 and ordered to the Atomic Testing area of the South Pacific around Christmas and Johnson Islands. Our job there was several fold but all aspects entailed being in the target area for the detonation of 29 Atomic Bombs of various sizes, all larger than those dropped on Japan in WWII. Before each shot one of our first jobs was to warn civilian shipping that they were entering an atomic testing area and to change course away from the area for a given number of miles. We could do this by playing recorded messages in one of many languages, by signal light and by radio at certain times. We also collected large numbers of Bathythermograph readings, weather and other scientific data that were transferred to Scripps Institute at some point and we collected air samples after the detonation of a shot. We were all told we could never talk about this project that it was a secret project.

The entire Dominic Operation consisted of 119 atomic shots of various sizes and delivery methods. Our 29 shot portion of the overall operation were surface bursts, air bursts and sub-surface bursts. These bombs were delivered in various ways namely by ground launched rocket based on Johnson Island, dropped from a B-52 bomber or fired as a nuclear armed A-1 Polaris missile fired by the USS Ethan Allen SSBN 608. The submarine was submerged and 1200 miles away from the target area when the launch occurred. Regardless of the delivery method several things happened upon detonation of a bomb. My personal experiences were from within the engineering spaces where if you were talking to someone or were near someone, say in Main Control you could see their skeleton and he could see yours just as if you were looking at an X-Ray of your bodies. There was an eerie greenish glow similar to that emanating from a CRT on your computer. Some items seemed to fluoresce, therefore allowing you to find tools that had fallen in the bilges. This could go on for maybe a minute or so after detonation. I never timed it. Topside personnel were remanded to the side of the ship opposite the blast. There were goggles they could wear that prevented you from seeing a cutting torch flame right in front of your face but it was not possible to look at the shot without hurting your eyes.

In the aftermath of a shot there was so much corona and radiation in the air that our radios were useless. USS Cabildo LSD 16 was sometimes near enough to us for visual identification but radio communication was impossible and remained that way for up to a week depending on weather conditions. We could talk on flashing light but not radios. As an aside, many years later I worked on some projects developing "radiation hardened IC's", Integrated Circuit devices that replaced all our tube type radios and would function in the sort of atmosphere we experienced, created by such bomb detonations.

One of the jobs of the USS Cabildo on the first shot of the series was to load up the Islanders that resided on Christmas Island, take them safely to sea, show movies, serve popcorn and Kool-Aid and return them after the highest danger of radiation burns to the retina had subsided. After that first experience the native people didn't show up again to be taken to safety and many of them suffered severe retina burns.

Each of us wore a dosimeter and a film badge at all times. After a shot these would be collected, put in a secure case and taken by our Operations Officer to Christmas Island where they were accumulated and once or twice during our time with JTF-8 that officer would fly with them to Sandia National Labs in Albuquerque, NM where the data was retrieved and "stored". (I was at Sandia at least once a month the second half of the 70's and all of the 80's and requested my dosage data each and every time) My personal experience has found that these records are still classified Top Secret and not available to us as individuals, even with a similar security clearance. I have gotten my personal data for one shot. The smallest one that we were furthest from.

The Russian Navy and Intelligence Service was much in evidence mostly disguised as a fishing fleet. Once over the horizon the nets and booms were taken in and the antennas again deployed. Their ships were photographed from the air on more than one occasion under these conditions as proof. At least two of their submarines were also present, both diesel boats.

During our time on station we did some repairs out of necessity that were normally for shipyards or tenders. Number one Ship's Service Generator was completely overhauled out of necessity. No sooner was that one back on the line then number two became a casualty. That too was completely overhauled and made operational. A BZ message

--Continued on Page 9-

Operation Dominic • JTF-8 1962 • Continued

--Continued from Page 8--

from CINCPACFLT followed these successful repairs as exemplary examples of shipboard “can do spirit”. Next casualty was Number Two Main Feed Pump which was also completely overhauled and brought into spec. We really developed a very effective small team that would work around the clock to affect these sorts of repairs. A couple of Halsey Powell MM’s became known for their generator talents and later as E-6 or E-7 MM’s overhauled Ship Service Generators on ships as large as Aircraft Carriers as a primary responsibility.

We did a lot of fishing and ate a lot of fish, especially on Sunday afternoon when we would have entertainment on the fantail, great western music by a lot of local talent and grilled fresh fish. Didn’t know until we came home that fish in those waters were potentially toxic from the bomb blasts.

I believe we crossed the equator more than 30 times. The first time was a great celebration. The other times were just hot. Operating in those waters and those temperatures it was often 145 degrees F or higher in the firerooms. On several occasions we went to two hour watches because of that heat.

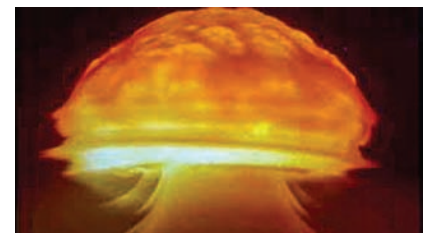
We had water hours because of a problem with oil in our water. A very dedicated Engineer lost his career in the Navy because of rusted drain lines that allowed oil to enter the condensate system and therefore the whole feed water system. A letter of Reprimand for these items out of his control ended his career. This and several other items like the generators were the result of bad maintenance practices long before we inherited the problems. We learned an awful lot in overcoming these however and became a very cohesive unit that survived the full power breaking of a main shaft that we have written about earlier.

An historic moment came for a few of us in June when we returned to Pearl Harbor for a short supply visit. The Captain was not aboard while we were

docked and when we saw a lot of boats heading down the harbor, myself, the Gunner and a boatswain and engineer took the Captain’s Gig for a little spin and followed the boats. We tied up and climbed aboard the USS Arizona Memorial just in time for the invocation for the dedication of the Memorial, June 1962. (in 2002 my wife and I were visiting our daughter and her husband in Honolulu and I took the speech that Governor George W.P. Hunt, the first Governor of Arizona made at the dedication of the USS Arizona at the Brooklyn Navy Yard June 19, 1915. There were also two cartoons from the New York Daily Mirror of the same day that the Park Service staff had never seen. These are now part of the Launch section of the USS Arizona Museum)

A very sad part of our experiences as part of JTF-8 are the number of our shipmates that have perished from various kinds of cancer as a direct result of our involvement in this Atomic Testing. Some got assistance from our government, many have been ignored or neglected. The NAAV, the National Association of Atomic Veterans has been a very big help for a lot of men and a big help in working through the government red tape for help. The VA has the Ionizing Radiation Registry for Atomic Veterans. I have found both of these groups to be very helpful and would encourage all involved to enroll with them if you are not already.

This was an experience of the demonstration of a massive amount of deadly power that I hope to never see again as a test or as a weapon used against an enemy or ourselves.
(Submitted by Lt. C.A. Smith)



Operation Dominic
Shot Truckee on the left and
Shot Chama on the right.

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All NAAV members – here is a list of all State Commanders as of 9 August 2014. Your Director of State Commanders Gillie Jenkins wishes for all members to be able to contact their State Commander for questions. Hopefully this will “keep us together.” If your state does not have a State Commander or to volunteer to be a State Commander in your state, call or write to Gillie.

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