

U.S. Department of Energy

NEVADA NATIONAL SECURITY SITE (NNSS)

(Formerly known as the Nevada Test Site (NTS))

Site-Specific Information for Processing EEOICPA Requests

May 2014



Nevada National Security Site

Managed and Operated by National Security Technologies, LLC



Nevada National Security Site (NNSS)

On August 23, 2010, the name of the Nevada Test Site was changed to the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS).

The new name better reflects the diversity of nuclear, energy and homeland security work conducted at the site.



Nevada National Security Site

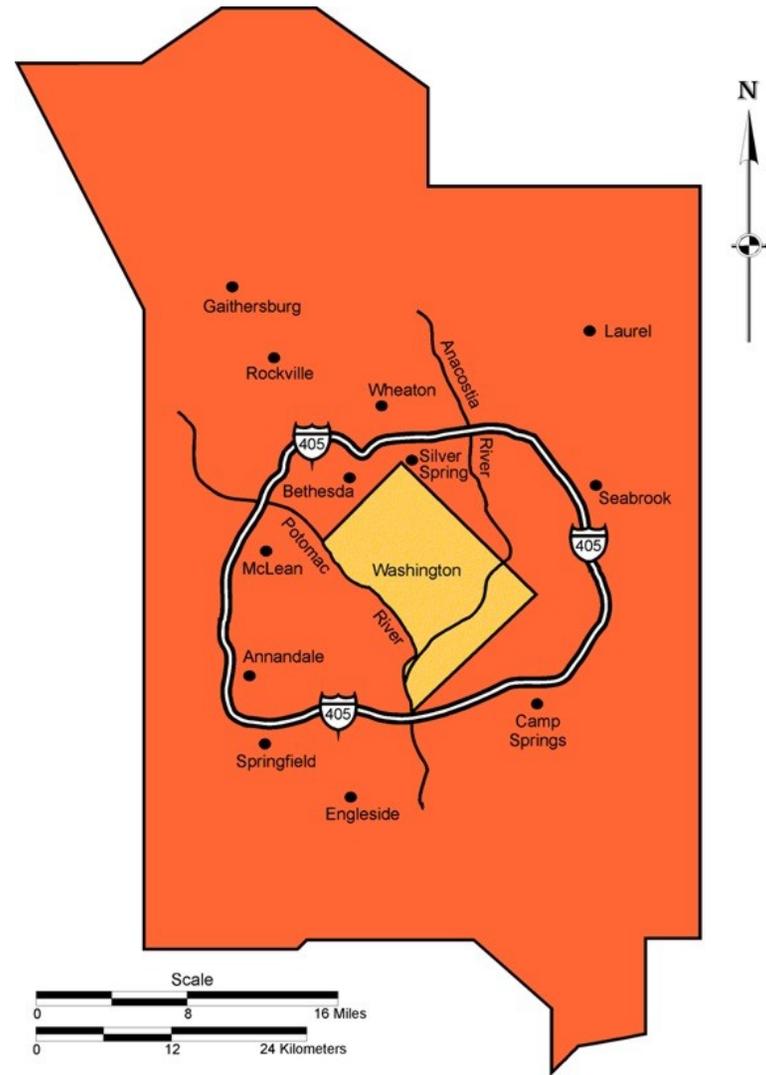
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NNSS LOCATION

The NNSS is one of the largest restricted access areas in the United States. It occupies approximately 1,375 square miles, and is larger than the state of Rhode Island.

For size comparison, the Washington, D.C. region would only take up part of the NTS territory.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Nuclear Weapons Testing Program

SIGNIFICANT DATES:

- Atmospheric Testing Era (1945-1962):
 - 1945 – New Mexico
 - 1946, 1948, 1951, 1952, 1954, 1956, 1958 – Marshall Islands
 - 1958, 1962 – Johnston Island
 - 1962 – Christmas Islands
 - 1952, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1958 – Nevada National Security Site
- Underground Testing Era (1961-1992):
 - 1957, 1958, 1961-1992 – Nevada National Security Site
 - Off NTS Tests in Mississippi, Central Nevada, Fallon (Nevada), Colorado, New Mexico, and Amchitka (Alaska)
- Testing Moratorium:
 - 11/01/1958 to 09/15/1961
 - 09/24/1992 to Present



BACKGROUND INFORMATION (cont'd)

DOSIMETRY PRACTICES:

- 1945-1955 – Individuals badged into radiologically controlled areas
- 1954 – Bravo Event (Operation Castle, PPG) led to change in policy
- 1956 – All participants received film badges during pacific operation (permanent and mission-related)
- 1957 to End of Testing Era – All NNSS workers received continuous dosimetry
- 1957 to 1986 – Film badges were issued on a routine monthly basis. Radiological workers could receive more frequent badges.
 - 1987 – Dosimetry system changed to thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs) issued on a quarterly basis
 - 1966-2000 – Dosimetry placed inside the security badge holder



PROCESSING NEVADA EEOICPA CLAIMS

The Dosimetry Research Project (DRP) and the Nuclear Testing Archive (NTA) have access to dosimetry records from 1945 to present for the Nevada National Security Site (AKA: Nevada Test Site), Pacific Proving Grounds, and other U.S. nuclear testing locations.

Database systems and archival records are searched to support radiation exposure history reports and individual citations.



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PROCESSING NEVADA EEOICPA CLAIMS (cont'd)

- The NNSS EEOICPA NFO Contractor support staff and NTA downloads EV and DAR requests from SERT.
- NFO contractor staff and NTA Staff identify records to be retrieved.
- NTA staff search a variety of resources and tools to conduct reasonable data searches.
- NTA and NFO contractor staff scan relevant documents into PDF files for each case and creates the Case File (PDF File).
- NTA Uploads EV & DAR Files to SERT



PROCESSING NEVADA EEOICPA CLAIMS (cont'd)

The *Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act* (EEOICPA) Requests Processing:

- **Employment Verification (EV Requests)**
 - Conduct Employment Verification Search Procedures

- **Document Action Requests (DAR Requests)**
 - Conduct Employment Verification Search Procedures
 - Conduct Radiation Exposure Records Search Procedures
 - Conduct Industrial Hygiene Records Search Procedures
 - Conduct Medical Records Search Procedures



EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION SEARCH PROCEDURES

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Federal personnel**, the following record sources are accessed by the **NNSA Albuquerque**:

- St. Louis National Personnel Records Center (NPRC)

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Wackenhut Services, Inc. (WSI) personnel or its predecessor Federal Services, Inc. (FSI)**, the following record sources are accessed by **WSI**:

- FSI/WSI employment records

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Yucca Mountain Project (YMP) personnel**, the following record sources are accessed by **DOE Legacy Management**

- YMP records



EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION SEARCH PROCEDURES (cont'd)

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Contractor personnel**, the following record sources are accessed:

- Local Records Center (LRC)/Federal Records Center (FRC) for Personnel/Human Resources Records.
- Employment cards & printouts
- Employment related databases

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Subcontractor personnel**, the following record sources are accessed:

- Dosimetry databases, Nuclear Testing Archive databases
- LRC/FRC



MEDICAL SEARCH PROCEDURES

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Federal personnel**, the following record sources are accessed:

- St. Louis NPRC (access by NNSA Albuquerque)
- LRC/FRC
- Current medical records

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Contractor and/or Subcontractor personnel**, the following record sources are accessed:

- LRC/FRC
- Current medical records



INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SEARCH PROCEDURES

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Federal, Contractor, and/or Subcontractor personnel**, the following record sources are accessed:

- LRC/FRC
- Optix database
- Electronic Records System (ERS) database (Industrial Hygiene & radiological monitoring data)
- Microfilm index
- Historical Health Hazards Inventory (HHI) listings
- Current HHI database
- IH Position Matrix
- Industrial Hygiene Shop files
- Current Industrial Hygiene files



ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SEARCH PROCEDURES

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Federal, Contractor, and/or Subcontractor personnel**, the following record sources are accessed:

- LRC/FRC
- DRP
- NTA
- Current National Security Technologies safety and medical records



DOSIMETRY SEARCH PROCEDURES

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Federal, Contractor, and/or Subcontractor personnel**, the following record sources are accessed:

- DRP
- NTA



OTHER INFORMATION SEARCH PROCEDURES

When conducting reasonable searches in response to **Federal, Contractor, and/or Subcontractor personnel**, the following record sources are accessed:

- LRC/FRC
- DRP
- NTA



DATA SOURCES

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- United States Nuclear Tests July 1945 through September 1992 (DOE/NV--209):
http://www.nv.energy.gov/library/publications/historical/DOENV_209_REV15.pdf
- Radiological Effluents Released from U.S. Continental Tests 1961 through 1992 (DOE/NV-317):
http://www.nv.energy.gov/library/publications/historical/DOENV_317.pdf
- Origins of the Nevada Test Site (DOE/MA-0518):
[http:// www.nv.energy.gov/library/publications/historical/DOE_MA0518.pdf](http://www.nv.energy.gov/library/publications/historical/DOE_MA0518.pdf)
- Nuclear testing movies:
Search Youtube using the phrase: declassified u.s. nuclear test film
- Nuclear testing photographs:
<http://www.nv.energy.gov/library/photos/default.aspx>



DATA SOURCES (cont'd)

ONLINE RESOURCES (cont'd):

- Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) Nuclear Test Personnel Review (NTPR) Web Site:
<http://www.dtra.mil/SpecialFocus/NTPR/NTPRHome.aspx>
- NTPR Atmospheric Historical Reports:
<http://www.dtra.mil/SpecialFocus/NTPR/AtmosphereNuclearTests.aspx>
- Underground UNTPR Historical Reports: Go to www.dtic.mil
Go to www.dtic.mil – Enter the search term UNTPR

- Film Badge Dosimetry in Atmospheric Nuclear Tests:
http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=1404
- The Five Series Study: Mortality of Military Participants in U.S. Nuclear Weapons Tests: http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=9697



DATA SOURCES (cont'd)

DATABASES:

- OpenNet (provides bibliographic data):
<https://www.osti.gov/opennet/>
- OPTIX Database
- Electronic Records System Database (Industrial Hygiene & Radiation Monitoring data)
- Current Health Hazard Inventory Database
- Dosimetry Research Project Databases
- Nuclear Testing Archive Databases



DATA SOURCES (cont'd)

MISCELLANEOUS RESOURCES:

- Employment cards
- Microfilm index (Historical Records Center)
- Historical Health Hazard Inventory listings
- Industrial Hygiene Position Matrix
- Shop files
- Radiological safety reports
- Formal, final operation radiological safety reports
- Logbooks (specific locations – maintained by Rad Safety Staff)
- Area access registers
- Air sampling forms
- Laboratory request forms and follow-up analysis documentation
- Meteorological data



DATA SOURCES (cont'd)

PUBLISHED REPORTS:

- DNA 1251 Volumes 1 and 2 (atmospheric testing information)
- DOE/NV-317, Radiological Effluent Released from US Continental Tests 1961 through 1992
- DOE/NV-401, Radiological Effluents Released from Nuclear Rocket and Ramjet Engine Tests at the NTS 1959-1969
- Environmental Site Reports – 1964 to present
- Harry Hicks Reports – Atmospheric test-related isotope inventory over time
- Nevada Applied Ecology Group (NAEG) Reports
- Nevada Test Site Radionuclide Inventory and Distribution Program (RIDP) Reports
- Technical Reports associated with the Nevada National Security Site Operations



JOB CATEGORIES

Laborers:

- During the atmospheric testing era, laborers could have been used in recovery operations.
- Some laborers were used in Project 56 recoveries, including the January 18, 1956, safety test that went slightly critical.
- Generally, the job category “laborer” was not used for underground recoveries. (In tunnels, “Bull Gang” was the category for laborer.)



JOB CATEGORIES (cont'd)

Tunnel Workers:

- Miner
- Bull Gang
- Mucker (Muck Machine Operator)
- Shifter
- Tunnel Walker
- Dinky Locomotive Operator (DKY LOCO Op)



JOB CATEGORIES (cont'd)

Drilling-Related:

- Driller Operator Supervisor (Oil Field or Core Drill Type)
- Driller Operator (Oil Field or Core Drill Type)
- Rotary Drill Operator/Rotary Drill Helper
- Driller Helper (Oil Field or Core Drill Type)
- Derrickman (Oil Field Type)
- Motorman (Oil Field Type)
- Fishing Tool Engineer (Oil Field Type)
- Drill Helper Trainee



PERSONNEL WORK LOCATIONS

AEC/ERDA/DOE-NFO Personnel:

The main office for the AEC/ERDA/DOE-NV was located in Las Vegas. Since 1997, The DOE NNSA Nevada Field Office has been located at the North Las Vegas Facility.

Most staff members worked in town and only went to the NNSA for specific activities such as test day activities, meetings, project oversight activities, etc.



PERSONNEL WORK LOCATIONS (cont'd)

Laboratory Personnel:

Many Los Alamos National Laboratory and Livermore National Laboratory scientists, engineers, and other staff were not full-time NNSS workers.

They would fly in to provide specialized support for certain nuclear tests or reactor activities, and later return to their home laboratory sites.



PERSONNEL WORK LOCATIONS (cont'd)

EG&G-EM (LVO) Personnel:

- EG&G had several offices in the Las Vegas area:
 - Atlas (now known as North Las Vegas Facility)
 - Escondido near McCarran International Airport (no longer exists – moved to Nellis Air Base and known as RSL).
- EG&G workers could be stationed downtown permanently, and could possibly visit the NNSA infrequently.
- EG&G was a non-union organization.
- Some workers could have extended assignments at the NNSA.
- Other EG&G Offices: Santa Barbara, San Ramon, Los Alamos, Kirtland Operations, Andrews Operation, MD, Woburn MA.
- EG&G Kirtland Operations contract ended on October 1, 1994. All other EG&G contracts ended December 31, 1995.



PERSONNEL WORK LOCATIONS (cont'd)

REECo Personnel:

Some workers were assigned to the Tonopah Test Range (TTR) on Work for Others projects.

For personnel assigned to the TTR, Sandia National Laboratories was the provider of the TTR dosimetry.

These individuals would process through Mercury Medical and Mercury Personnel on their way to TTR. These individuals will show up as having only one NNSC badge close to their hire-in date or change of assignment.

REECo TTR personnel would generally have personnel and medical files.



PERSONNEL WORK LOCATIONS (cont'd)

REECo Personnel:

REECo also had several offices in downtown Las Vegas, with personnel stationed permanently downtown. For the years, 1994-1995, REECo Las Vegas based personnel were relocated to the North Las Vegas facility.

Some of these individuals had occasions to go to the NNSS for specific tasks such as to attend meetings.

Note, REECo's contracted ended December 31, 1995.



PERSONNEL WORK LOCATIONS (cont'd)

Nuclear Rocket Development Station (NRDS) Personnel:

NRDS (Area 25) Contractors include:

- Pan American Airways (Pan Am)
- Aerojet General Corporation
- Westinghouse (WANL)
- American Car & Foundry Inc. (ACFI)
- Catalytic Construction Company



COMMONLY USED TERMS

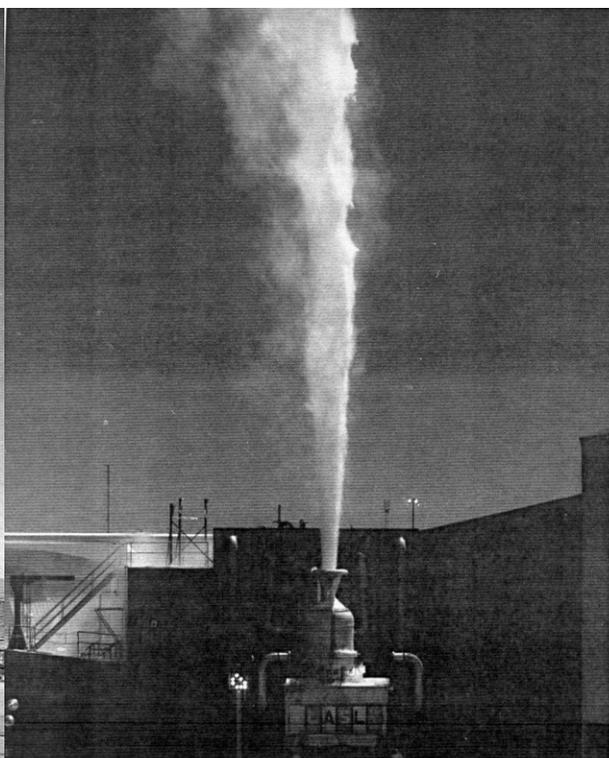
- **Building 1000:** Badge Office located outside of the NNSS main gate
- **Building 111:** Originally the Radiological Safety Building (later relocated to Building 650)
- **23:** Also known as Area 23 in Mercury
- **24:** Also known as Area 24 in Downtown Las Vegas
- **NRDS:** Acronym for the Nuclear Rocket Development Station in Area 25
- **Area 400:** The Los Alamos National Laboratory designation for Area 25
- **Area 401:** The Livermore National Laboratory designation for Area 26 (Pluto Project/Tory 2A/Tory2C Ramjets)
- **Area 52:** Also known as the Tonopah Test Range
- **CP:** Also known as the Control Point located in Area 6
- **CP-1:** The building where the test control room is located in Area 6
- **CP-2:** Also known as the Radiological Safety/Logistics Building where one could get film badges, radiological safety equipment, etc., located in Area 6



SUGGESTED PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS

- Do not search ORISE database. This information is invalid for employment verification purposes for NNSS and PPG. H&N records only have first hire and last termination information
- Verify accuracy of claimant's name and Social Security number by verifying against source documents upon application submission
- Provide claimant's complete name history (i.e., include alias, nicknames, name combinations, and suffixes)
- Include claimant's resume if provided
- Include as much information as originally provided by claimant
- Make sure all relevant companies are listed.
- Include area numbers for work locations if known (i.e., Area 2 Carpenter Shop)





Nuclear Rocket Development Station Photographs



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- Industrial Hygiene Operations, NNSS Area 12, September 13, 1967.





- NNSS Underground construction at N Tunnel, Area 12, November 27, 1967.



Signal cables are laid out at a test location on Yucca Flat, the principal underground nuclear weapons testing area at NNSS. Cranes will lower the cable down-hole with the weapons canister. The cables will relay scientific data to recording trailers at the surface. The tower was used to mount scientific instruments in the instrumentation canister suspended from the crane on the left. The tower will be removed in sections before the detonation. The drilled emplacement hole is beneath the tower

Big Hole Drilling





- Close-up of drill bit for NNSS drilling and mining operations, September 26, 1967.



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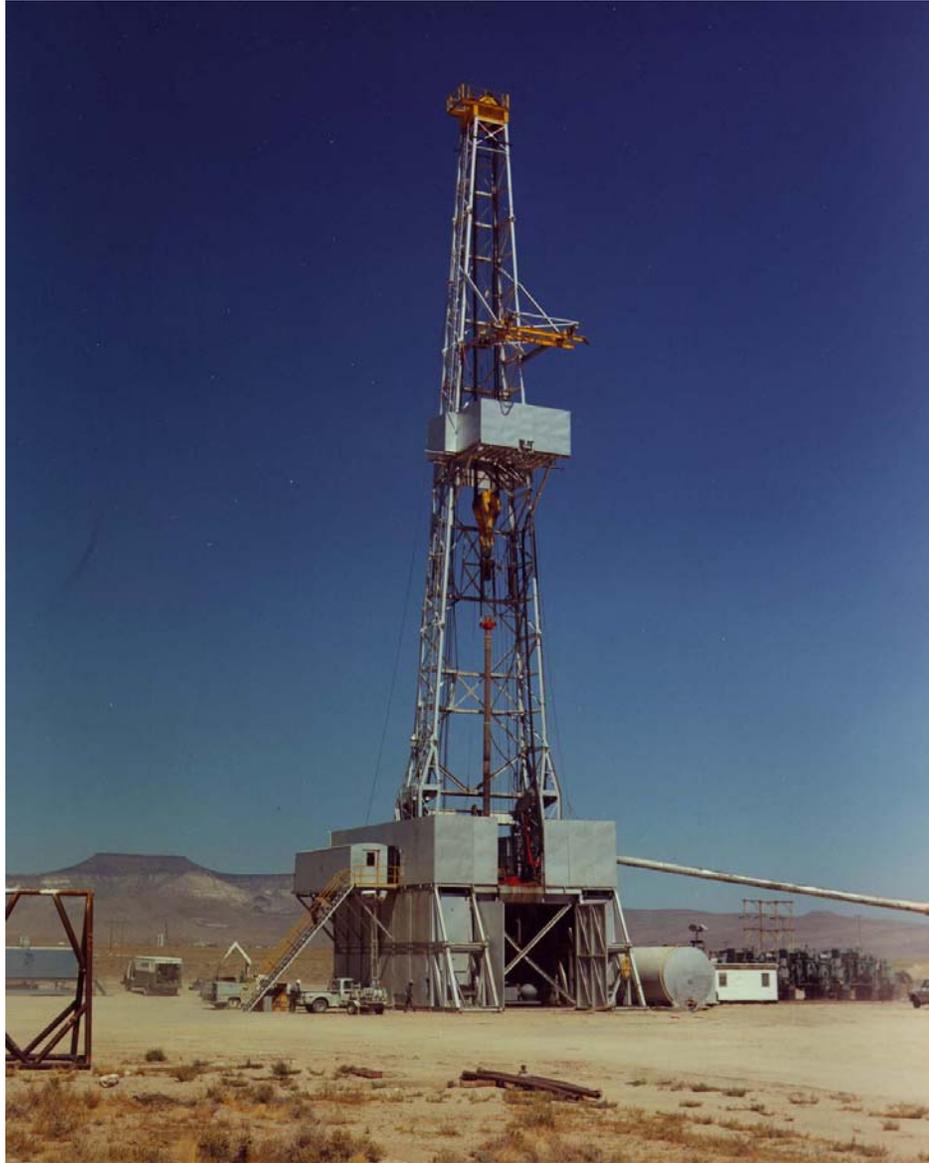


- Labor group working on drill rig floor at NNSS, July 23, 1967.



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The IDECO 2500, used at the Nevada National Security Site, is a 2000 horsepower diesel electric rig capable of drilling holes 72 to 140 inches in diameter to depths of 4,000 feet. The rated capacity of its 158 foot pyramid mast is 1,400,000 pounds.



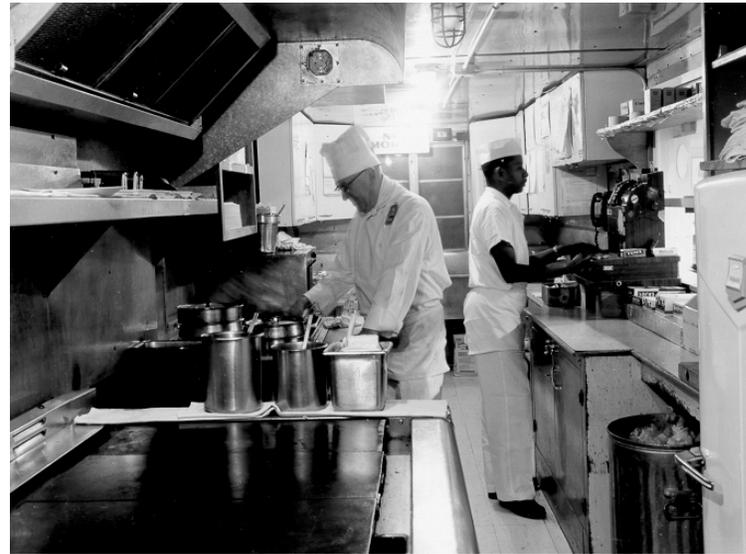
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Day in the Life of an Office Worker



Cafeteria

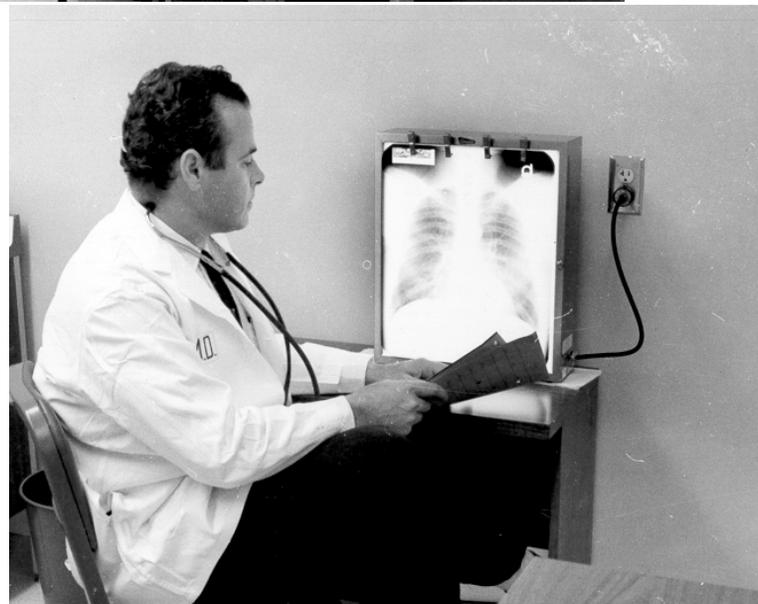


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Mercury Medical



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HOUSING



Mercury Nevada



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Vision • Service • Partnership

QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS



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