

999

U. S. NAVAL RADIOLOGICAL DEFENSE LABORATORY
SAN FRANCISCO 24, CALIFORNIA

IN REPLY REFER
TO FILE: 999

RESTRICTED

MEMORANDUM

31 January 1951

From: Radiological Safety Officer, TG 98.5
To: CTG 98.5

Subj: Disposal of USS INDEPENDENCE, radiological safety report of

1. Prior to departure of subject vessel from San Francisco Naval Shipyard, all base floatable material was stowed below decks where it could not easily float free when the ship sank.
2. Complete sets of clothing and shoes for each person scheduled to board subject ship at sea were assembled and loaded aboard the appropriate vessel.
3. Radiological safety instructions were prepared and sent to the commanding officer of each ship in the task group and each task unit commander.
4. Before boarding subject vessel at sea each of the boarding party was dressed out in the special clothing and shoes furnished and upon his return he showered and upon monitoring was found to be clean. His clothing was washed and the procedure repeated the following day. The washer was checked and found to be clean.
5. After subject vessel was sunk about forty to fifty pieces of planking from the flight deck floated to the surface together with a couple of cans. The wood was retrieved by a small boat, placed aboard the tug, weighted and sunk. The cans were punctured by gun fire and sunk. The planking apparently was shaken loose as a result of the blast because it was not loose just before the ship left the Yard.
6. The clothing and hands of each person handling the debris were monitored and found to be clean. Likewise the surfaces of the tug that had been touched by the debris were monitored and found to be clean. However, all surfaces that had been exposed to possible contamination were scrubbed down.
7. The special clothing and shoes were returned to the Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory after return of the USS SARSI to the San Francisco Naval Shipyard.

RG 181 AGENCY/NRDL

Location SAN BRUNO ERC

Access No. 181-58A 3203 S-636

Folder CVL-22

USS Independence

10

8. A survey of suspect parts of the ATF-111 after the sinking of the target ship indicated no contamination. Radiological clearance has been requested through appropriate channels.

WILLIAM B. TAYLOR

SAN BRUNO FRC