

DAMO-NCC
SUBJECT: San Jose Island, Panama

22 October 1979

7. Ownership of San Jose Island was transferred circa 1965 to Mr. Tupper a U.S. citizen identified with the Tupperware Corporation.

a. Mr. Tupper apparently had plans to establish a resort area on the island.

b. Some construction has begun in an uncontaminated area near the airfield.

c. Construction activity is now dormant. Owner apparently does not intend to proceed with development plans.

d. Mr. Tupper offered the island to Gorgas Scientific Laboratory. It was not accepted and he has withdrawn the offer.

e. We are not certain that Mr. Tupper is aware of hazards on the island.

f. An EOD team was contacted by Mr. Tupper's son in 1974 with report that one of the their workmen had been burned and requested assistance.

(1) Team referred him to SOUTHCOM for official request for support.

(2) Nothing further was heard from the incident.

g. Details of present owners contract/deed are unknown.

8. CINCSOUTHCOM briefed the U.S. Ambassador to Panama on 23 October 1978.

a. Information on San Jose Island was provided.

b. U.S. Ambassador will discuss situation with owner if he starts moving toward development.

c. In response to the Ambassador's question, CINCSOUTH stated that we may be able to provide a survey team if required at some time in the future.

9. DARCOM has developed a concept plan for survey of the island should such a survey be requested.

a. Survey team would determine the bounds of chemical contamination on the island and assess the feasibility of returning it to a "safe for normal habitation" condition.

b. Time required to conduct a survey is estimated at 8-10 days. Assessment requires an unspecified longer period dependent upon survey findings.

10. A related San Jose Island issue concerns long term health effects on volunteers who participated in the San Jose Project in 1945.

a. Volunteers were exposed to mustard agent during tests of chemical protective clothing in 1945.

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b. Congressional inquiries (Congressman Mollohan) received on behalf of a test participant who has cancer.

c. Review of existing laboratory data and a literature search conducted by Army Environmental Hygiene Agency revealed no evidence that mustard exposures of the type experienced by San Jose Island volunteers are associated with later development of cancer or other long term health effects. Literature included studies of approximately twelve thousand World War I soldiers exposed to mustard.

d. CSA response to Mr. Mollohan stated that Army plans no further action with respect to San Jose Island volunteers.

Annex F

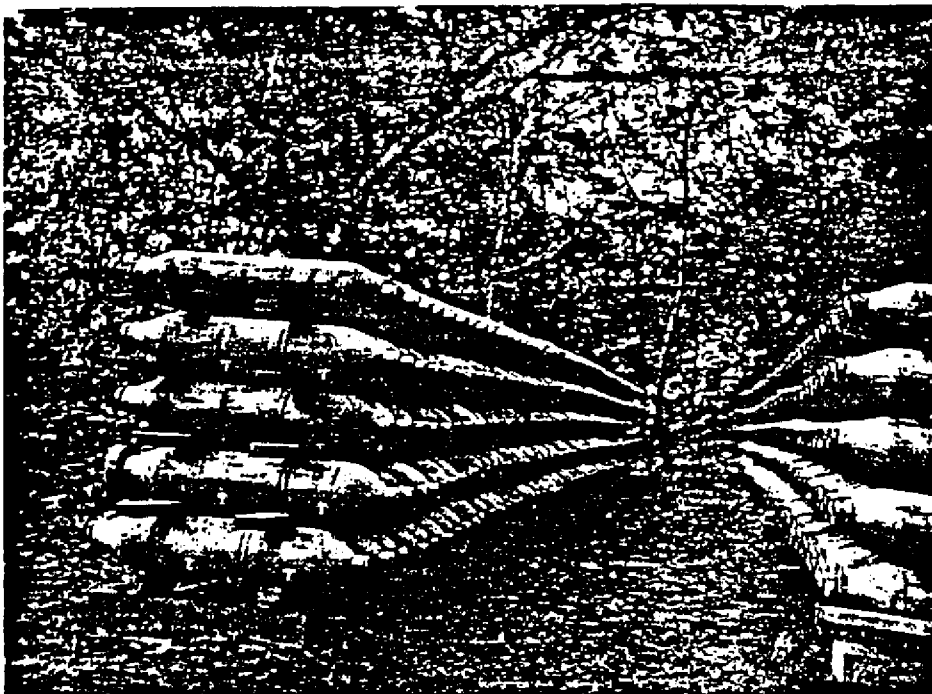
**Fotos de armas químicas en Rio Hato y de
sujetos humanos de pruebas de armas químicas (1945)
de los archivos del Proyecto San José, Archivos Nacionales**

Original en
mal estado



TECHNICAL OPERATION
TYPE MUNITIONS USED

Bombs at Río Hato
18 July 1944



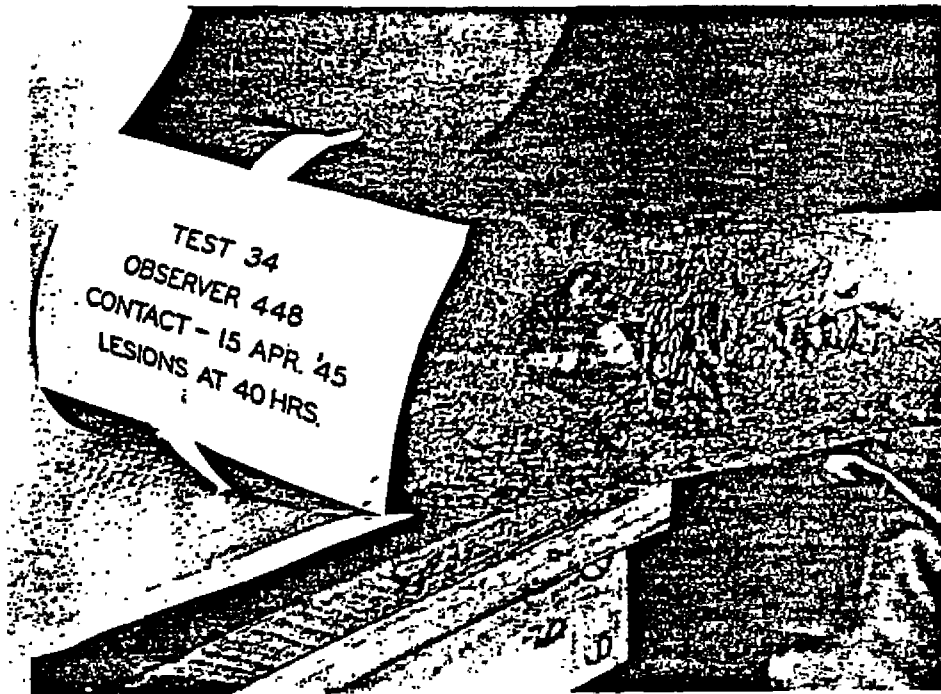
Bomb Dispersal Yard
Bombs, Gas, H, 115
Lb. M70
7 July 1944

Original en
mal estado



EM crawling thru
mustard contaminated
area,
3 July 1944.

Original en
mal estado



TECHNICAL OPERATIONS
OBSERVERS USED IN

BURNS ON ARM OF
OBSERVER,
17 APRIL 1945

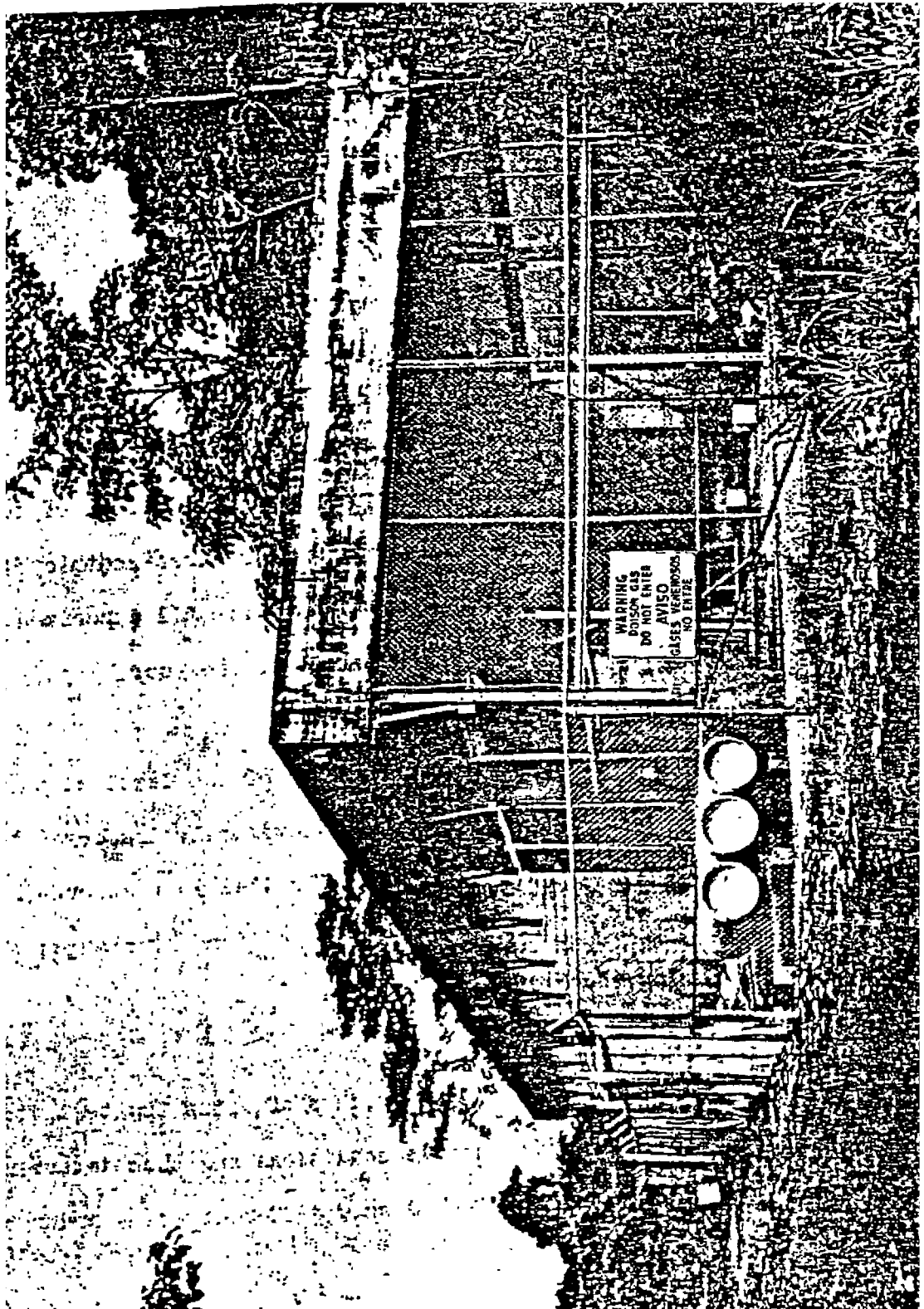


BURNS ON ARM OF
OBSERVER,
17 APRIL 1945

Annex G

**Mapa y fotos de Sitios de Pruebas Tropicales, 1956
de "Chemical Corps Tropical Test Team, Fort Clayton, Canal Zone,"
Dugway Proving Ground, 25 de Enero 1956**

Original en
mal estado



Original en
mal estado

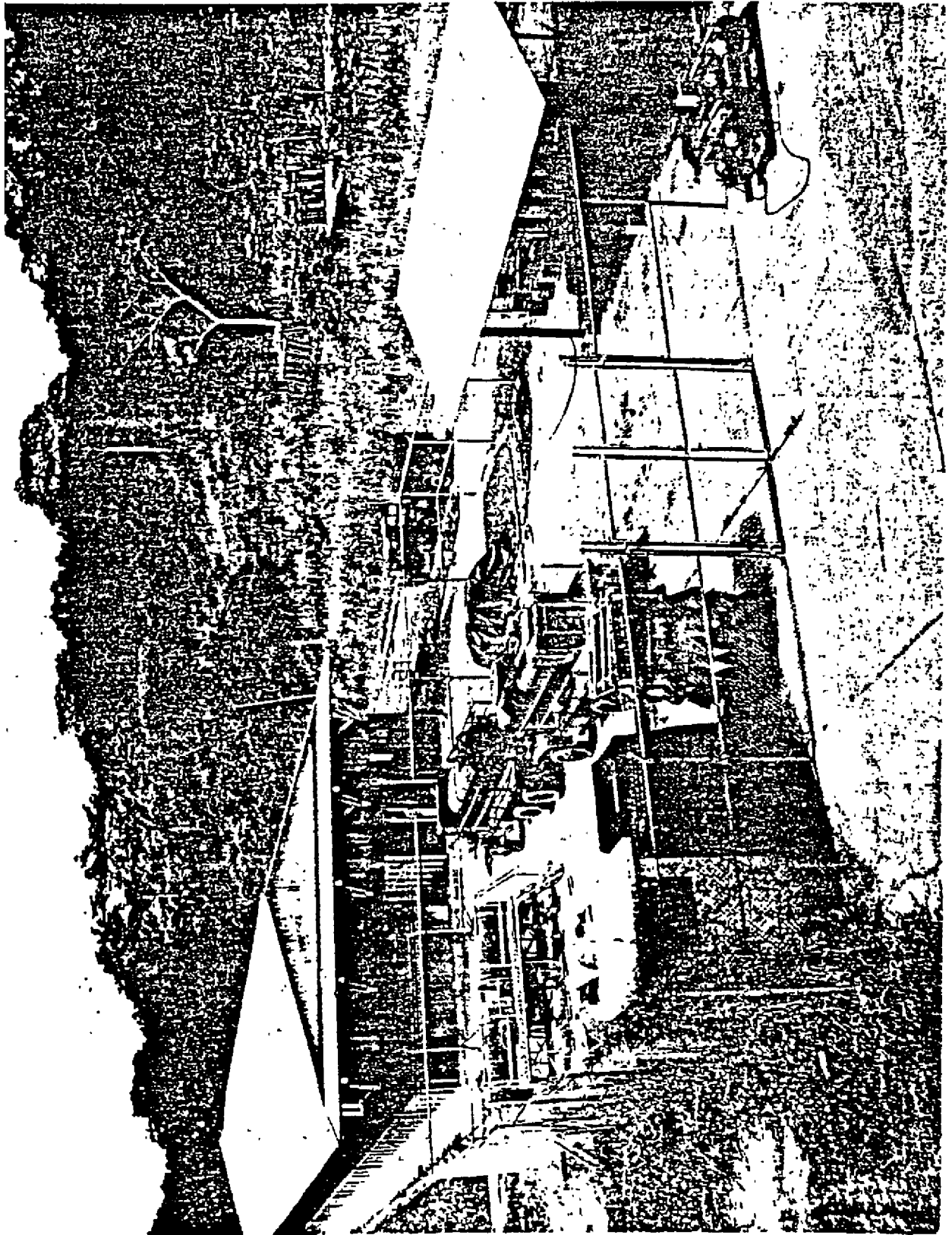


Fig. 3. - Enclosure 1003 In the Curundu Testing Area showing decontaminating apparatus undergoing tests.

- ¹Donald Richter, *Chemical Soldiers: British Gas Warfare in World War I*, (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1992), p. 195.
- ²Leo P. Brophy, Wyndham D. Miles and Rexmond C. Cochrane, *The Chemical Warfare Service: From laboratory to field*, Washington: Departamento del Ejército, Oficina del Jefe de la Historia Militar, 1959, p. 227.
- ³Brown a Army Adjutant General, 13 de marzo, 1931, en los Archivos Nacionales de Estados Unidos (desde aquí citado como NARA), RG175/290/3/16/2-3, Caja 159.
- ⁴*Ibid.*, pp. 208-209.
- ⁵Actas del Comité Asesor sobre la Efectividad de Pertrechos Químicos en el Trópico, 4 de marzo 1944, 17 de mayo 1944, 19 de julio 1944, y 7 de diciembre 1944, en NARA, RG 175, 290/3/28/142.
- ⁶Robert D. McLeod, Jr., "In the wake of the Golden Galleon," *Armed Forces Chemical Journal*, IX (Marzo-Abril 1955), pp. 36-39.
- ⁷"A Historical Record of the San Jose Project," c. 1945, NARA (RG 338/290/40/17/2, Box 1), p. 1.
- ⁸Leo P. Brophy and George J.B. Fisher, *The Chemical Warfare Service: Organizing for War*, Washington: Departamento del Ejército, Oficina del Jefe de la Historia Militar, 1959, p. 136.
- ⁹Intercambio de notas diplomáticas, citado en Herasto Reyes, "Contaminaciones militares en Panamá: El caso de la isla de San José," *La Prensa*, 3 de julio 1997.
- ¹⁰Sede, Proyecto San José, "General Order Number 11," 6 July 1944, reporte sobre San Jose Project, en NARA, College Park, MD.
- ¹¹"Chemical Corps Tropical Test Team, Fort Clayton, Canal Zone," Dugway Proving Ground, 25 de enero 1956, p. 33.
- ¹²*Ibid.*, pp. 9, 11, 13.
- ¹³*Ibid.*, p. 11.
- ¹⁴U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, Dugway Proving Ground, "Chemical Corps Participation in Project Swamp Fox I," November 1962, p. 6.
- ¹⁵U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, Dugway Proving Ground, "Chemical Corps Participation in Project Swamp Fox I," November 1962 (AD #896503); Army Ballistic Research Lab, Aberdeen Proving Ground, "Swamp Fox II, Republic of Panama, Volume VIII, Target Acquisition," abril 1964 (AD #440862).
- ¹⁶PRC Environmental Management, Inc., "Unexploded Ordnance Assessment of U.S. Military Ranges in Panama: Empire, Balboa West and Piña Ranges," enero 1997, p. 25.
- ¹⁷*Ibid.*; lista de pruebas del Centro de Pruebas Tropicales, con números de informes, compilado por Rick Stauber, especialista de disposición de explosivos, cuando estaba contratado con PRC Environmental Management, Inc. para el estudio citado aquí.
- ¹⁸*Ibid.*, pp. 9, 11. Las referencias no eran disponibles para revisar al publicar este informe.
- ¹⁹Comunicación al autor de Theodore Henry, Director Asociado del Centro de Participación y Evaluación para la Salud Comunitaria (CHAPP), 17 de julio 1998.
- ²⁰*Ibid.* y Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *Chemical Disarmament: New Weapons for Old*, (New York: Humanities Press, 197_), p. 81.
- ²¹Ley Pública 91-121, 19 de noviembre 1969, con enmiendas, parafo 1513.
- ²²Carta de Col. Michael Debow, Co-presidente, Subcomité Ambiental, Comité Conjunto, al Lic. Ramiro Castrejón, Co-presidente, Subcomité Ambiental, DEPAT, 18 de agosto 1997.
- ²³PRC Environmental Management, Inc., *op.cit.*, p. 25.
- ²⁴R.H. McIntosh, et al, "Development Test II (Prototype qualification test-government (Tropic Environmental Phase) of AH-64 Chemical Biological (CB) Protective Mask," mayo-diciembre 1985. (AD# B102800)
- ²⁵Cpt. Jerzell L. Black, "NBC Stakes in Panama," *CML, Army Chemical Review*, septiembre 1987, pp. 32-35.
- ²⁶Graham Stullenbarger, "Proposal for Tropic Test Center Membership in the City of Knowledge," July 21, 1997, p. B-2.
- ²⁷Jefe de Mando Interín Coronel Wallace C. Philoon, "Chemical Annex to Panama Canal Defense Project," 1 de diciembre 1940, NARA, RG 338.
- ²⁸Brophy, Miles and Cochrane, *op.cit.*, pp. 263, 265, 375.
- ²⁹Lt. Gen. Daniel Van Voorhis, a Adjutant General, 1 de agosto 1941, in NARA, RG338, 290/40/17/3-6, Caja 60.
- ³⁰"Camouflage problems in the Canal Zone: Report on a survey of camouflage requirements in the Canal Zone made on March 25-April 8," [1941], NARA, RG338, 290/40/16/7-18; Lt. Col. S.C. Godfrey, "Cerro Tigre Drainage

- Project," memorandum al Dept. Ordnance Officer, 21 de agosto 1936, NARA, RG98, 471.88, Caja 6; "Installation of Utilities at Cerro Tigre Ammunition Depot," 17 de marzo 1938, de PCD Dept. Engineer a Ordnance Officer, *Ibid.*
- ³¹U.S. Army Signal Corps, "The San Jose Project," filme disponible en NARA, College Park, MD, circa 1945.
- ³²Office of the Chemical Officer, Hq Panama Canal Department, a Lt. Col. J.C. Prentice, Office of the Chief, Chemical Corps, 10 de diciembre 1946, in NARA RG 338.
- ³³Entrevista con Róy Blades por el autor, 24 de junio 1998.
- ³⁴Carta de Jack Cadenhead, noviembre 1997; entrevista con Jack Cadenhead por el autor, 24 de mayo 1998.
- ³⁵F.I. Diehl et al, "Report on Tests of Protective Clothing - Phase III: Tropical Zone Tests (Panama), June 1943, citado en Mayor R.C. Carlisle y Capt. F.I. Diehl, "The stability and irritancy of permeable protective clothing and the irritancy of ointment, protective, M5, in tropical wearing trials (Southwest Pacific Area)," 4 de mayo 1945, en NARA, archivos del San Jose Project.
- ³⁶Capt. Jay S. Stockhardt, "San Jose Project," *Armed Forces Chemical Journal*, enero 1948, p. 34.
- ³⁷HQ, San Jose Project, "General Order Number 11," *op.cit.*
- ³⁸Entrevista con Weldon Guest por el autor, 3 de septiembre 1997.
- ³⁹U.S. Army Signal Corps, 1945, *op.cit.*
- ⁴⁰"A Long Term Strategic Plan for the Defense of the Panama Canal, 1946," RG 338, NARA. El mapa es marcado: "Iguana Island Range - High Level Bombing, Strafing, Chemical Spray". Para comentarios sobre el uso de la isla para las municiones convencionales, ver Betty Brannan Jaén, "De la contaminación en Isla Iguana," *La Prensa*, 16 de julio 1997.
- ⁴¹LTC Grant S. Green, Jr., memorandum a Jeffrey Farrow, White House Counselor on Territorial Policy, December 19, 1979.
- ⁴²Entrevistas con Eugene Reid por el autor, 16 de septiembre 1997 y 7 de junio 1998.
- ⁴³Robert Harris y Jeremy Paxman, *A Higher Form of Killing: The secret story of chemical and biological warfare*, New York: Hill and Wang, 1982, pp. 137-138.
- ⁴⁴Herasto Reyes, "La siembra de la contaminación," *La Prensa*, 29 de julio 1997. El filme del Signal Corps dice que los chivos fueron llevados desde Nuevo Orleans.
- ⁴⁵Col. John R. Wood, "Work of the CC Medical Division," *Armed Forces Chemical Journal*, enero 1948, p. 7.
- ⁴⁶Marion B. Sulzberger, "Protection and treatment of the skin exposed to blister gases," en E.C. Andrus, et.al., editores, *Advances in Military Medicine*, (Boston: Little, Brown), 1948, p. 591.
- ⁴⁷Entrevista con Dr. Morton Galdston por autor, 21 de septiembre 1997.
- ⁴⁸"San Jose Project Report No. 24 Summary," en carta del Secretario de Defensa William Cohen a Hon. José Serrano, Miembro de la Cámara de Representantes, 7 de abril 1998.
- ⁴⁹Dugway Proving Ground Test Plan 704, "Surveillance Test (Environmental) of Mine, Gas Persistent, VX, 2-Gallon, ABC-M23" (USATECOM Project No. 5-3-9504-1); Dugway Proving Ground Test Plan 719, "Surveillance Test (Environmental) of Projectile, Gas Persistent, VX, 155mm, M121A1" (USATECOM Project No. 5-4-9503-1); Dugway Proving Ground Test Plan 723, "Surveillance Test (Environmental) of Rocket, Gas Persistent, VX, 155mm, M55" (USATECOM Project No. 5-4-9502-1); and "Change to Surveillance (Environmental) Plan for Rocket, Gas Nonpersistent, GB, 115mm, M55" (USATECOM Project No. 5-4-9501-01). Obtenido através de la Ley de Libertad de Información. Todos los datos son de estos informes, a menos que se nota.
- ⁵⁰Congreso de Estados Unidos, Oficina de Evaluación de la Tecnología, *Disposal of Chemical Weapons: Alternative Technologies-Background Paper*, OTA-BP-O-95 (Washington, DC: US GPO, June 1992), p. 7.
- ⁵¹U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, Dugway Proving Ground, "Environmental Field Test: Food Testing and Screening Kit, Chemical Agents, ABC-M3," diciembre 1962, pp. 12, 21-23.
- ⁵²Blades entrevista, *op.cit.*
- ⁵³"Locations and Coordinates of Tropic Test Center Test Sites," sin fecha. Obtenido através de la Ley de Libertad de Información; y PRC Environmental Management, Inc., 1997, *op.cit.*, mapa de Emperador.
- ⁵⁴Reid, *op.cit.*
- ⁵⁵Entrevista con Rick Stauber por el autor, 26 de junio 1998.
- ⁵⁶"San Jose Project Post Diary, 1947," en NARA, archivos del Proyecto San José.
- ⁵⁷Capt. Jay S. Stockhardt & 1st Lt. Stephen D. Noyes, "The San Jose Project Moves," *Armed Forces Chemical Journal*, enero 1949, p. 53.
- ⁵⁸"San Jose Project Post Diary, 1 Jan 48-31 Dec 1948," in NARA, San Jose Project files.
- ⁵⁹Green, *op.cit.*
- ⁶⁰Stockhardt and Noyes, *op.cit.*, p. 54.

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- ⁶¹"Survey and Analysis Report," Draft version, April 1993.
- ⁶²1948 Post Diary, *op.cit.*
- ⁶³Letter from Rick Stauber to autor, July 18, 1998.
- ⁶⁴"EU enterró municiones," *El Panamá América*, April 13, 1998, p. 1.
- ⁶⁵"Esperan que EU informe a Panamá sobre uso de campos de tiro," *La Prensa*, May 4, 1998.
- ⁶⁶Communication from Theodore Henry to autor, July 13, 1998.
- ⁶⁷Rafael Pérez Jaramillo, "Panamá: ¿laboratorio de armas químicas?" *El Panamá América*, April 19, 1998, p. A2.
- ⁶⁸Comunicación de Theodore Henry, Programa de Toxicología de la Universidad de Maryland, 13 de julio 1998.
- ⁶⁹Hongmei Deng and Peter O'Meara Evans, "Social and Environmental Aspects of Abandoned Chemical Weapons in China," *The Nonproliferation Review*, Spring-Summer 1997, p. 102.
- ⁷⁰*Ibid.*, pp. 102-103.
- ⁷¹Ted Henry, University of Maryland Program in Toxicology, note to autor and PINS accuracy data for suspect munitions, June 23, 1998.
- ⁷²Richard McSeveney, entrevista with FOR and CEASPA, April 24, 1998. At the conclusion of the same meeting, Mr. McSeveney's technical assistant, Navy Commander Hulin Davis, turned to the autor and said, "You mentioned something, the Chemical Weapons Convention. What is that?"
- ⁷³John Hart, "Some historical, legal and technical aspects of disposal of old and abandoned chemical weapons," presented in Budapest, Hungary, 2-4 April 1997, p. 12.
- ⁷⁴Communication from Col. Edmund W. Libby to autor, July 20, 1998.
- ⁷⁵Green, *op.cit.*, p. 2.
- ⁷⁶Letter from Glenn Tupper to the autor, June 22, 1998.
- ⁷⁷Constance M. Pechura and David P. Rall (eds.), *Veterans at Risk: The Health Effects of Mustard Gas and Lewisite*, (Washington: National Academy Press, 1993), pp. 2-8.
- ⁷⁸Letters from Lic. Ramiro Castrejón, Co-chairman, Environmental Sub-committee, DEPAT, to Col. Michael Debow, Co-chairman, Environmental Sub-committee, U.S. Army South, on January 28, 1997 (CCj-053-97) and August 1, 1997 (CCj-388-97).
- ⁷⁹Interview with autor, Lic. Sayda de Grimaldo, Regional Interoceanic Authority, June 24, 1998.
- ⁸⁰Dr. Rodrigo Noriega, Director for International Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, note to autor, June 8, 1998; and entrevista with Lic. Ramiro Castrejón, June 1998; communication from Fernando Manfredo, Jr. to autor, July 20, 1998.
- ⁸¹Debow, *op.cit.*
- ⁸²Letter from Fellowship of Reconciliation to U.S. Army, April 25, 1997; denial letter from U.S. Army Chemical and Biological Defense Command, May 13, 1997; appeal of denial by Fellowship of Reconciliation, July 19, 1997; phone conversation between Suzanne Council, Office of the Army General Counsel, and the autor, Fellowship of Reconciliation, May 1, 1998; denial letter of appeal from Army Principal Deputy General Counsel, Lawrence M. Baskir, May 20, 1998.
- ⁸³Lawrence M. Baskir, Principal Deputy General Counsel, Department of the Army, letter to autor, May 20, 1998.
- ⁸⁴U.S. Army Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization, "Survey and Analysis Report, Second Edition," December 1996, pp. VI-1 to VI-13.
- ⁸⁵Col. John A. Como, Commanding Officer, carta al autor, 24 de junio 1998.
- ⁸⁶Blades entrevista, *op.cit.*
- ⁸⁷Convención para la prohibición del desarrollo, producción, almacenaje y uso de armas químicas y para su destrucción (CAQ), Parte IV(B) del Anexo de Verificación, para. 15.
- ⁸⁸United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, "Primary Declaration Identification for the Submission of Initial Declarations in accordance with Articles III, VI and the Verification Annex," 29 de mayo 1997.
- ⁸⁹"USARSO's Range Closure Plan: Empire and Piña Ranges," 23 de enero 1998, p. 1.
- ⁹⁰Carlos Anel Cordero, "Aprueban convenio que obligaría sanear bases," *El Panamá América*, 8 de julio 1998.
- ⁹¹Verification Annex, Art.IV(B). 8, 9, 15.
- ⁹²Art. IV.11.
- ⁹³Verification Annex, Art.IV(B). 13, 14.
- ⁹⁴Art. IV.11.
- ⁹⁵Art. XII. 2, 4. On matters of substance, the Conference acts where possible by consensus; where consensus is not possible, the Conference acts by a two thirds majority.