



Weapons to Wildlife

Artifacts periodically donated for museum

Donations of Rocky Flats artifacts continue as people learn about the Rocky Flats Cold War Museum on the website or start cleaning out their attics. One of the latest gifts was from Don Ofte, former Department of Energy Rocky Flats Plant manager from 1978-1982. He said his children wouldn't likely appreciate these items.



Ofte visited National Jewish Hospital in Denver this summer for a medical checkup for berylliosis, diagnosed a few years ago. He contacted Ann Lockhart, museum board president, to offer a plaque and several framed items. He also asked to be interviewed for an oral history, which will be arranged in the future.

Ofte donated an enlargement of a *Denver Post* article proclaiming, "There's good news today," in announcing the \$45 million atomic bomb production installation in Colorado. Ofte said when he arrived at Rocky Flats, he found a general perception in the public that the Atomic Energy Commission established the Rocky Flats Plant in Denver by stealth and in the dead of night.

Ofte also donated a framed lawsuit by the Rocky Flats Action Group against him and others, responding to Ofte's refusal to allow access to Rocky Flats federal property for a large demonstration planned for the spring of 1979. Ofte said he had agreed with the Jefferson County District Attorney that several acres outside the plant northern boundary would safely accommodate the expected assemblage. The DOE Secretary Jim Schlesinger directed him to fence off an area within the plant boundary and provide access to that site for the large number

expected for the "legal" Saturday demonstration. The Jeffco DA wrote to Schlesinger that Jeffco would no longer enforce trespass laws at Rocky Flats.

Ofte said the U.S. attorney brought U.S. marshals in from several states where they trained DOE and Rockwell Security in arrest procedures and swore a cadre of them in as Deputy U.S. Marshals, considered necessary because Daniel Ellsberg and other demonstration organizers were recruiting protesters to engage in illegal trespass on the Sunday following the Saturday "legal" rally. He said the demonstration attracted more than 10,000 to the rally site.

Ofte donated an original *Colorado Daily* cartoon by Rob Pudim depicting a Rocky Flats security inspector waving at a protestor. Ofte also donated photos of former Sen. Tim Wirth who was instrumental in the DOE selection of Rocky Flats as the national test site for small wind energy machines, outside of the security area. He said many novel wind energy machines were tested at the site, some of which were successful and many were not.

Inside...

- *Elk herd surprised*
- *Oral history: Don Sabec talks about rad monitoring*

Quote...

"[A] world without nuclear weapons would be less stable and more dangerous for all of us."

Margaret Thatcher, Remark to Mikhail S. Gorbachev, April 1987



Elk herd with their young surprised by June visitors at Rocky Flats

A group of Rocky Flats Stewardship Council members got a June 9 tour of the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge to see the progress on revegetation of the site and other legacy management activities.

This elk herd in the Rock Creek drainage area of Rocky Flats didn't stay around posing for photos.

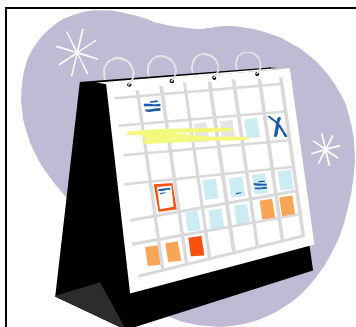
News Briefs

- **Condolences:** Our sincere condolences to board member Charlie McKay, whose daughter and office manager for Church Ranch, died recently. Kandi Ruth McKay fought a long battle with lung cancer. She was an active member in the Church/McKay family business and was proud of the Church Ranch family heritage dating back to 1869.
- **Thanks to donors:** Thelma L. Downing, Elizabeth Webster, Tom Rauch, Doug Parker, Don Rohlf and Roger S. Cichorz.
- **Volunteers needed:** The museum board would really like a marketing/sales person, an attorney, an accountant, special event organizer and amateur and professional historians to help on committees. Contact Ann Lockhart at 303-388-6978 to volunteer.
- **Former workers:** The museum board would appreciate the help of former workers knowledgeable about the scientific activities at the site and patents and innovations developed over its history. The Education Committee is working hard developing a list of potential exhibit ideas, artifacts and displays that could be used to show the public what the plant did.
- **Natural Resources Damages:** Rocky Flats Stewardship Council members have been discussing potential projects to restore natural resource damages at the site with representatives from parks and open space staff from local city and county governments adjacent to Rocky Flats. Federal funds totaling \$4.5 million remain after three of four mineral rights properties at Rocky Flats were purchased. One owner refused to sell, so the remaining funds are available for restoration projects.
- **Honorary board & awards:** The museum board approved a bylaw change to create an honorary board and also approved an awards program at its Aug. 13th meeting.

Nevada Test Site Oral History Project now online

The Nevada Test Site Oral History Project's website was launched at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in late April. Research was conducted in the Fall 2003 to Winter 2007-2008. The collection of 325+ hours of interviews with 150+ individuals affiliated with and impacted by Cold War nuclear testing in Nevada is housed in UNLV Library's Department of Special Collections.

The archive consists of digital audio, selected digital video, annotated and indexed transcripts, related photographs and documents. Several project participants contributed significant manuscript collections in conjunction with their interviews. Go to: <http://digital.library.unlv.edu/ntsohp> for the project website and digital archive of searchable transcripts, collection-wide metadata index, information about the Nevada Test Site and the project. Mary Palevsky, Ph.D., is director of the Nevada Test Site Oral History Project at the UNLV history department.



Upcoming Museum Meetings/Events

Thurs., Oct. 2, 7 a.m. Executive Committee, Panera Bread, Highway 36 and Church Ranch Blvd.

Wed., Oct. 8, 5 p.m. Rocky Flats Cold War Museum board meeting at 11025 Dover St., Suite 1000, Westminster (northeast of 108th Ave. and Wadsworth Blvd.); Location info: Bob Darr, (303) 377-9672.

Thurs., Oct. 23, 2 p.m. Education Committee to meet at the new museum The Cell in downtown Denver to check out the interactive exhibits.

Please see www.rockyflatsmuseum.org for list of meetings or contact 303-388-6978 for more information.

Book Review by Kim Grant

Nuclear Family Vacation: Travels in the World of Atomic Weaponry by Nathan Hodge & Sharon Weinberger

In *A Nuclear Family Vacation*, husband and wife reporters Nathan Hodge and Sharon Weinberger have written much more than a guide to nuclear tourist sites around the country. In fact, much of their highly readable book presents a thoughtful critique of current U.S. nuclear policy and its failures to move beyond Cold War era, MAD (mutually assured destruction) models for ensuring survivability, governmental continuity and some form of deterrence against new, multi-faceted threats of terrorism and weapons proliferation. In other words, the authors found a growing dichotomy between Cold War models of deterrence and present day realities and threats faced by the so-called War on Terrorism. They also found and highlighted plenty of examples of nuclear weapons related missions morphing into other things (namely "Homeland Security") in an attempt to justify the continued existence of the complex.

The observations were not made casually after short visits to the nuclear weapons research, production and testing sites. In many cases, the authors spent several days or weeks at different sites and were able to interview hundreds of scientists, production workers, security and military personnel and local residents. These visits included stops at the Nevada Test Site, White Sands Missile Range (Trinity Site), the Sandia, Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos laboratories, Oak Ridge (Y-12), F. E. Warren Air Force Base (including missile sites in Wyoming, Nebraska and South Dakota), Cheyenne Mountain, Greenbrier, Huntsville ("Rocket City, USA"), the Marshall Islands, Kazakhstan, Iran and Russia. For those interested in the architectural and subcultural aspects of "nuclear tourist" sites, the authors give richly detailed descriptions of what visitors are allowed to see at these places and the impact their development has had on both complex personnel and area residents.

The authors have impressive credentials with respect to defense and nuclear weapons related issues. Hodge writes for *Jane's Defence Weekly* and has reported extensively from Afghanistan, Iraq and the former Soviet Union. Weinberger was previously editor in chief of McGraw-Hill's *Defense Technology International* and a writer for *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, a leading aerospace and defense magazine. Both authors have contributed many defense and foreign policy related articles to the *Financial Times*, *Foreign Policy*, *Washington Post Magazine*, *Slate* and *Discover*. Over time they have come to understand quite well how "Each piece of the nuclear complex plays its role, from the design laboratories that draw up the bombs to the production complex that builds and maintains them...and finally to the last link on a very long chain that connects the development of nuclear weapons to their final—hypothetical—use (the world of the missileers)."

What they could not find, despite persistent efforts, was any consensus about the purpose of nuclear weapons in a world that has changed significantly since the Cold War era that produced them. In conclusion, the authors ask: "Where was the debate over nuclear strategy? We had spent two years traveling the world to understand how nations view nuclear weapons. We came away less convinced than ever that there was any strategy to speak of. During our journey across the U.S. nuclear complex, it occasionally felt like we were visiting an Oldsmobile factory: outmoded facilities with a cynical workforce and little in the way of a vision for the future. In the United States, we found a complex adrift, grasping for meaning and purpose." The only thing that appears certain, based on recent Bush

administration directives, is that the nation's nuclear weapons complex will shrink over the coming years. Still missing from these directives, apparently, is any significant discussion about the purpose of the nuclear arsenal. *A Nuclear Family Vacation* succeeds in raising these and other important questions. Along the way, it proves to be a highly entertaining read that is well worth the effort.

BOARD MEMBER BIO: Doug Parker, Rocky Flats retiree

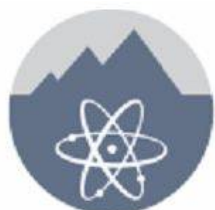
Doug Parker is a 23-year retiree of the Rocky Flats site. In the first two years he worked in weapons production. For the next 21 years, he was instrumental in shipping nuclear material and hazardous and nuclear waste off the site until the closure of Rocky Flats. During that time he was responsible for compliance with the U.S. Department of Transportation and state and local regulations for thousands of shipments.



Born in Phoenix, AZ, he grew up in northeast Ohio. After serving in the Navy, he worked as an air traffic controller for 11 years, until August, 1981, when he and approximately 15,000 others were fired by former President Reagan. He then was among at least 24 ex-controllers who began working at Rocky Flats. Parker earned an associate's degree from Community College of Denver.

An active volunteer for the Arvada Police Department, he started attending meetings of the Rocky Flats Cold War Museum about four years ago. He joined the board in 2006 and has been updating its databases. He was elected board treasurer for 2008. He hopes to see the museum become a reality to show future generations what was needed to bring an end to the Cold War era.

Doug and his wife Linda, who have two married sons and three grandchildren, have enjoyed traveling to both Florida and California (Disneyland) yearly for the last ten years. He is currently working part-time for the Boulder County Household Hazardous Waste Unit, collecting waste from households in both Boulder and Broomfield Counties.



Weapons to Wildlife

The *Weapons to Wildlife* newsletter is issued periodically by the Rocky Flats Cold War Museum board. In July 2001, the board incorporated as a 501(c) 3 organization to develop the museum to "document the historical, social, environmental and scientific aspects of Rocky Flats." We want to tell all sides of the Rocky Flats story.

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Web site: www.rockyflatsmuseum.org

Rocky Flats Oral Histories: www.bplcarnegie.org/oralhistory/ Click on special collections and click on Rocky Flats.

Email: editor@rockyflatscoldwarmuseum.org to be removed from or added to this newsletter distribution list.

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Oral history excerpt

Radiation Monitor Don Sabec talks about his career

Abstract: Hannah Nordhaus interviewed Don Sabec January 3, 2006, for the Maria Rogers Oral History Program and the Rocky Flats Cold War Museum. Sabec, born in 1940, talks about his work at Rocky Flats from 1961 to June 2004 as a janitor, process technician and radiation monitor. He discusses safety issues at Rocky Flats, problems with radiation monitoring equipment and records, cleanup of the 1969 fire, the FBI raid, and adjusting to having women working at the plant, among many other topics. The transcriber was Sandy Adler. Read and listen to the transcript at www.bplcarnegie.org/oralhistory.

(...give me a little bit of background on when you were born...)

I was born right in Denver, Colorado, January 8th, 1940. I went to grade school in Denver and then I moved out to Arvada in 1951...graduated from Arvada High....I went to work at Rocky Flats in April of '61, got married in December '62, got drafted in May of '63, got out in April of '65, went back to work at Rocky Flats and spent the rest of my time here in Arvada and Rocky Flats...44 years...I was in the Army. I went to Korea. Went on notice three times to go to 'Nam, and for whatever reason, I didn't go. Just the luck of the draw, I guess.

(Had you heard of Rocky Flats before you went to work there?)

Oh, yeah. Nobody knew what it was. Everybody assumed they were making Saran Wrap for Dow Chemical...I went to work in building 881, which was the uranium building at the time...no idea what I was going into. Took me in the locker room, gave me coveralls to wear, shoes, socks, underclothing. And I thought, "Well, wait a minute here. This is not what I really envisioned I was going to be doing." So I started working in there, later...went into process tech, and then... into radiation monitoring....

(What was the clearance process like at that time?)

Well, I had to go back 20 years. I was 21...Put down some references. The FBI followed me for about two weeks. Everywhere I went, they went. I knew they were following me. I'd wave at them. They'd sort of duck their heads down.... And I noticed when I went a lot of places, a car was behind me...And they do five-year updates too...

(Coming onto the plant site the first time...what was the atmosphere like?)

Well, it was pretty cordial...The guy I was working with...started showing me what we were going to do...It was a little strange...stainless steel floors...walk zones...and you had to...wear booties on your shoes and surgeon's gloves. It was a different world altogether than I was used to....

(Were you nervous about radiation and health effects? Did you know much about it?)

...I didn't know much about radiation at all when I first went out there. They talked about the blue flash, which was a (criticality) incident. A couple of times when they were welding in the area and I didn't know it...this flash would go off...and I'd be heading for the door. [chuckles] ...Pretty soon you got to understand the severities, distances, time, shielding...I was afraid of being in a incident, but I wasn't afraid of the radiation. I had respect for it....Some people were really afraid, they'd quit after maybe a week or two...we had limitations on the amounts we could have in the form of liquids or metals or whatever...You had to know what you were working with...The only time I would ever be afraid...I got to hyperventilating so bad outside I thought I'd actually been in one...[laughs] it was a false alarm....So I went back to normal breathing and quit shaking [laughs] and went back to work....we had very loud horns if that happened...I was surprised at some of the speeds I had when I was leaving the building...

(Did you have any exposures to plutonium or beryllium or solvents?)

Yes....when you work with the material, you're getting an exposure all the time...the radiation passing through you and going on. We had the first film badges, and then they later on went to TLDs [radiation detecting devices]. It measures the amount of exposure you had, depending on the radiation levels that were expected on that type of job, dependent on the frequency, they changed them so they could keep your radiation exposures down to within the limits that...DOE had set for us. You had daily, quarterly and annual limits that you were supposed to stay under.



(And did you stay under them?)

No...neutrons were not counted back then for radiation exposures....I worked about three years without having any neutron exposure values. And then...they decided, "Yeah, we'd better check these out"—you're allowed 50 rem lifetime exposure...for a working career. When they recalculated my neutron dose, I got 35 rem added to my limit, so it took me way over the 50 rem already. I have a partial inhalation in my lungs that they counted about every month for ten years and then they went to once a quarter, and then...the annual count. I guess we were used...as guinea pigs...I didn't even know I had had an exposure. They found it through a routine lung count...

(Were you anxious about it?)

No, I was just sorry that I got it. I don't know how...I hadn't been in any incidents without protection on. It could have been my mask failed...you would think with an inhalation of that magnitude, I would have had some contamination on my face from it...it's like riding a motorcycle. About the time you think you really know how to handle it, it'll put you down on the ground...

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"I guess we were guinea pigs, because nobody had ever worked
with radioactive materials for their whole working life...
I basically made a whole working life out of it...."
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(You described being a guinea pig...Did you feel that was a good way to treat workers...?)

...I guess we were guinea pigs, because nobody had ever worked with radioactive materials for their whole working life. And I basically made a whole working life out of it...I retired at 64 and a half...I started when I was 21...

(Did you feel that it could have been safer...?)

Yes. I felt it could have been a lot safer. But production was the main key. You had a quota to meet, and you met that quota....So some of the safety issues were dropped. The union got very involved in the safety issues....They had a joint company-safety union committee that was formed. If you had problems, you could...talk to them about it. And they did a lot of changes...We ended up getting a better respiratory program.

...I remember going into...the "infinity room" at Rocky Flats...It was a pit...I was a process tech at the time, chem op...put all the extra clothing on and everything—but I went in with just a half-mask on, which you couldn't even use a half-mask up there after a while, it wasn't good enough. But I went in the highly contaminated areas and scrubbed the inside of the walls with brushes and decon agents...

(Do you think you could have gotten your inhalation then?)

I don't think so, because it showed up many years after that...We used to call them body counts, because they counted [radiation in] your lungs and your liver. Then they eliminated the liver part... you went in and they shut the door on you. You could have low lights on, like a bed, you'd lay down and get a half-hour's sleep, play soft music....I usually fell asleep when I was in there.

(What was it like to work in such high security?)

Sometimes it was really frustrating....they'd have lockdowns, and if you...got hit in a lockdown, you didn't go home. They'd pay you for the overtime...Any time there was an infraction of security, we would go into a lockdown. Security alarms would go off... One time we got a bomb threat, and they asked me and this other senior RCT if we'd help them search for the bomb...in 771. I said..."I won't even know what I'm looking for." They said, "Well, just look for something that's unusual." ...I got to looking around...and I thought, "What am I doing up here?" ...It was a false alarm. I told them, "I don't think I want to do this any more....Bring the dogs...in."

...they had explosives dogs and drug dogs. Because drugs have become a big problem in the work industry...The dogs were all business...Big bruty things, looked like a big Rottweiler to me.

(What was it like not to be able to discuss your work with your family and friends?)

At first it was really frustrating...I'd really get upset up there, and I'd come home and I couldn't talk about it. After a while I got used to it. I just talked to the people up there about it, at lunches and breaks...

(What would you get upset about?)

Some of the contractual decisions. Contract time would roll around and management would start getting tough on you...I just thought there's gotta be better ways of doing negotiations than this. But I worked for...Dow Chemical, Rockwell, EG&G and then Kaiser-Hill, all four...

(How did the contractors differ? Was there one that you preferred working for...?)

Well, to get into the plant, they all seemed like really nice people, and then once they were in... They wouldn't be so union-friendly after that. I was strictly a union man, too. I tried management for about five weeks and I thought, "This is not the job for me. I wanna go back as an RCT."

(Why didn't you like it?)

Well, it really put you between the union and the company. The company would say, "You're going to do this." Being a strong union person, I'd say, "That's not really right." "We're not asking you what's right and wrong. We're telling you what we want done." So I went back. I never was sorry that I did.

(I guess you were there for a couple of strikes, right?)

...Right after I started...in 1961, we went out on strike...71 days in 1970 we were out on strike.

(Was there always that tension between the union and management?)

Not, not really...I think Kaiser-Hill and the union were doing well working together. We got things that I didn't think we'd ever get...separation pay, which was 20 weeks extra pay, when I retired. And then a bonus...I was very grateful for it...yeah, I got my pension.

Do you feel that people whose health has suffered have been well taken care of by the companies, by DOE?

No, not at all. I have a brother-in-law that a year ago had over half of his right lung taken out due to cancer. He worked out there. The surgeon...said...only two kinds of things that cause this type of cancer...radiation and...smoking. Well, he smoked, and he also was in a lot of radiation out there...He put in for the benefits of the cancer exposure thing they have, and they denied him the benefits. He's still appealing the case...The surgery and everything was all paid for...but the...\$150,000 they pay if you come down with one of the cancers. But they have to add up the exposure...Exposures out there weren't that well kept. I mean, if they added 35 rem to me, obviously they're not keeping very close eyes on exposures...there was this one individual, the badge was almost black. They said nobody could get that much radiation. So they gave him a zero. At the time I thought, zero? Why didn't they go to the guys he was working with ...and see what the person was that had the highest dose and at least give him the highest dose that any one of those people received? They didn't do that.

...I think most people were pretty upright on their exposures. But there was abuse on both sides. I think most of the people understood it...a dose is a dose, as they say. It's for the rest of your life.

“...People fear what they don't know. The more knowledge you gain... the less fear you have of it, as long as you're in the controlling situation.”

(...the pay was better in the hot areas?)

We used to get hot pay...And then all of a sudden...they did away with the hot pay...I actually liked working the plutonium building...

(The public and the media had a sense that Rocky Flats was a really dangerous place to work. Did you ever feel that this was so...?)

...People fear what they don't know. The more knowledge you gain...the less fear you have of it, as long as you're in the controlling situation. I think maybe some of the protests were good for us, because it did help us in some safety issues we had...once they got the plant closed and we were officially shutting down production, I went into...decontamination and deconstruction...we were more likely to have a problem in D&D than we ever were in production.

(Why is that?)

Because of unknowns...I wasn't overly fond of the way they did some of the D&D work...There are areas up there that have plutonium in the ground, still, and they're leaving it there. That sort of upsets me...Sooner or later, I think our

grandchildren, our great-grandchildren...going to have to pay the price and go in there and do it. They shoulda done it while it was really exposed to us. But there was bonuses given for getting it done real quick. I'm not a real advocate of companies getting bonuses for finishing quicker and saving money. I don't think it's going to save any money in the long run at all...

(What about the...'69 fire?)

I was an operator when the fire happened, and I went into radiation monitoring at that time.

(What was that [the cleanup after the fire] like?)

Pretty eerie, really. When I first went up there, I went in through the west dock..an entrance there to go in in supplied air and SCVA [self-contained breathing apparatus] outfits. I just sort of peeked in through the door...There was stuff all over the floor. I thought, "Boy, that's going to take a while to clean up." ...a major project. \$69 million for that...Well, I didn't go inside for a long time... eventually we got it deconned enough down to where you weren't required to wear respiratory protection. But it took a while...

(How about the FBI raid?)

Oh, I got in on that, too! ...I even had to go testify. Yeah, that FBI agent made me mad after I told him he was full of crap...The guy got mad at me and my lawyer told me maybe I ought to settle down a little bit...

(Did you think the raid was warranted?)

No. [pause]

(Do you think there was any threat to the community?)

Not when the FBI made their raid. The threat was to us. They were trying to get our jobs taken away, and that's what they did. They shut the plant down...I think...they wanted to get rid of Rocky Flats. There was a lot of pressure by people and politicians to get the plant out of there. Obviously, the plant was really built in the wrong place...in the middle of nowhere...in a place that had 100-mile-an-hour winds...

And then of course, communities grew. We did have some releases. The fire definitely had a release. There was other releases that they denied...Plutonium just didn't get up and walk down into Walnut Creek. It had to get there by a leak source, which it did....

(And you think the cleaned-up site is not a threat to your community now...)

I think if it was ever to get away from them, it would be through the water...there could be people out there who have wells who end up picking up the contamination downstream.

(How did you feel about the protests?)

I thought they wanted to close Rocky Flats, which did upset me a little bit...I got a lot of overtime out of it...we had to be out there in case something went wrong or somebody tried to do some damage to one of the buildings....I got paid fairly decent for working out there.

(How did you feel about working in a plant that produced a key part of nuclear weapons?)

...we made a nuclear weapon that had a purpose...and hoped that, God forbid, we never had to use it...I could never see why we really wanted to build as many as we did. We had enough to kill the whole world—what—over five times, assuming every bomb made it to its target....

(What were the best and worst things about working at Rocky Flats?)

Working the midnight shift was the worst thing that ever happened to me. [laughs] I got stuck on seven-day midnights. We'd work seven, off two, work seven, off two, work seven off three. That was a 28 period. That got awful long. And I didn't sleep well.

When I first went to work out there, I got stuck on a p.m. shift as an assembler...working 16 hours a day...And after about...two-and-a-half weeks...I told the manager..."I can't work these 16s like this. I'm not sleeping well. It's just really tearing me up." He says, "Don, I'm sorry to hear that. Why don't you come in tonight and work 12 hours?"..." He says, "Then the next night 16 and then 12 and then 16." ...I caught pneumonia when I was doing it. I didn't get a day off for 90 days. And that was when—overtime was mandatory...

(...was there a specific goal they were trying to meet, or was it always like that?)

No, that was when John F. Kennedy...revamped the whole weapons program. We were in a big crash mode to get them all out the door, redone to the new configurations...so they just scheduled everybody for all this overtime to meet production schedules...So from 8 to 12 was time-and-a-half and from 12 to 16 was double time. I was an

assembler then....It tapered down, and we finally just went to straight eight-hour shifts, but seven days a week.

...They had, like, 15 different unions out there...Back in the `50s, we were still in the oncoming mechanical age. Everything was actually done by hand....I used to tell them, "For what we make, the most elite weapon in the world, we sure have some medieval equipment to work with." [laughs] ...as it got older, the plant got newer equipment and more modern equipment. It never got to the point where I thought it should be...

(Were there a lot of things that you did when you got there in the early `60s that you would never do in the late `90s and early 2000s...?)

...if they were to start a plant today, you'd see the controls much tighter than they were when we were working, the spills, the contamination leaks that got all over the buildings, explosions. Because we had several explosions out there that...were internal. We had one can pressurized and blew open and just scattered all over in the room

(...when you came to Rocky Flats there were far fewer women and minorities working in production areas...I wonder if that process of integrating women and minorities...was a smooth one...?)

Some people had real difficulties with women going into the workplace...I was a rad tech when they started putting women in there. Doing body frisk, I felt very uneasy running this probe over their bodies.... After it went on a while...you'd check them out and get them out of here.

To read the entire interview of Don Sabec or read other Rocky Flats oral histories, see the web site:
www.bplcarnegie.org/oralhistory/.

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