



Thomas Townsend

25 AUGUST 2001

Commanding General
ATHN: AC/S, EMD
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PSC Box 2004
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SUBJ: THM Sampling, 1980-1981

Ref: (a) Colonel Karle's letter of 6 August 2001

THM sampling at CLNC in 1980-81 was mentioned in a 6 Feb 2001 edition of the Chronology as "The samples from 21 October 1980, 18 December 1980, 25 January 1981, 26 February 1981, 9 March 1981 reflect chlorinated hydrocarbons in the sampled water, which interfered with THM sampling in Hadnot Point".

Reference (a) follows this observation by noting "Based on limited information available to date, test results from the 1980-81 timeframe indicate that unidentified halogenated or chlorinated hydrocarbons, other than TTHM's were detected in some of the samples submitted for testing under a preliminary TTHM monitoring program."

The phrase "limited information" I assume refers to data developed by the U.S. Army Environmental Health Agency (RD-5) Laboratory TTHM inspection team from Ft. McPherson, Georgia.

It is rather intriguing that MCB knows the sampling dates that reflect the presence of halogenated or chlorinated hydrocarbons in the Hadnot Point water system, that these samples were submitted for testing, that the hydrocarbons present interfered with the THM analysis yet does not know if there was any attempt to determine the identity of those hydrocarbons or to consider

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the possible effects of these hydrocarbons on the MCB System. As noted MCB has "limited information" available to it and perhaps those details are not present.

I would appreciate receiving a copy of the "limited information" referred to in reference (a) since the complete records of the 1980-81 TTHM inspection team, originally on file at the Aberdeen Proving Ground are currently unavailable at either Aberdeen or LAUTDIV that organized the TTHM monitoring program.

If MCB's "limited information" cites the sample dates and the fact that they were in fact submitted for TTHM, to some N.C. certified laboratory for analysis has this laboratory been identified and questioned if the testing laboratory made any effort to determine the nature of the unidentified halo-genated or chlorinated hydrocarbons?

The possibility does exist that the Ft. McPherson team was contracted by LAUTDIV, as part of a Navywide TTHM inspection, to limit their analysis scope to TTHM's and that extraneous compounds found in the extracted samples were the responsibility of the inspected command to investigate and follow through as deemed necessary. LAUTDIV may know the inspection protocol required by DOD in response to the oncoming EPA rules.

I would appreciate receiving the available "limited information" that MCB, CLW now holds and a response to the question posed above.

CC: Senate Armed Services
COMLAUTDIV (Jim Harris)

Respectfully Submitted,
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MAJOR, USMC (Retired)

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