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NUCLEAR TESTING ARCHIVE PUBLIC READING ROOM TURNS 30

LAS VEGAS, Nev. – The Nuclear Testing Archive in Las Vegas will commemorate the 30th anniversary of its Public Reading Room in July. Formerly known as the Coordination and Information Center (CIC), the Public Reading Room features hundreds of thousands of documents as well as volumes of reading material, videos and media stories relating to the former Nevada Test Site’s rich atomic history.

The Nuclear Testing Archive project actually began in March 1979 as part of then-U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Site Office Manager Mahlon E. Gates’ efforts to create a central point for the collection of historical off-site radiological fallout documents that were scattered throughout the nation in the archives of several government agencies, laboratories and contractors. The CIC was opened on July 23, 1981, containing about 25,000 documents relating to weapons tests conducted at the site.

As resources at the CIC grew, the name was changed to better reflect the role the Public Reading Room plays in providing for the long-term preservation of historical documents, records and data. Managed today by National Security Technologies, LLC, the collection includes historic documentation on the detection and measurement of radioactive fallout, the health effects of radiation, and the related factors resulting from nuclear testing activities at the Nevada Test Site, the Pacific Proving Grounds, and other on-continent test locations, as well as related scientific and technical studies and reports. The collection now contains more than 370,000 documents dating back to the early 1950s, including more than 270,000 documents dealing with the U.S. nuclear testing program and more than 40,000 documents relating to Human Radiation Experiments conducted by the then-Atomic Energy Commission.

Normal Public Reading Room services, such as assistance in locating documents, are provided at no charge. Other services, such as copying and proxy research by staff are provided according to a fee schedule.

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National Security Technologies LLC (NSTec) is dedicated to devising integrated solutions and forging new partnerships at the Nevada National Security Site and its related facilities and laboratories for the Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, Nevada Site Office. NSTec strives to meet customer needs through strategic vision, exemplary service, and best-in-class tools to achieve missions including Stockpile Stewardship, Homeland Security and Defense Applications, and Environmental Management.

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PUBLIC READING ROOM ANNIVERSARY... (CONTINUED)

The former Nevada Test Site, known today as the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS), has continued its mission of supporting stockpile stewardship, without nuclear testing, using an array of high-tech experiments and sophisticated computer modeling. Its mission has also expanded and evolved to include many other homeland security and defense applications. The evolution of the NNSS is showcased every day at the Nuclear Testing Archive Public Reading Room and Atomic Testing Museum in the Desert Research Institute's Frank Rogers Science & Technology Building, located at 755 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas. It is open to visitors from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. The Atomic Testing Museum, located in the same facility, is open Monday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and on Sunday from 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.

For more information on the museum's Public Reading Room, call 702-794-5106.

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