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UCRL-51879 Part 2

ANALYTICAL PROGRAM — 1975 BIKINI RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY

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MS. date: November 11, 1976

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ANALYTICAL PROGRAM - 1975 BIKINI RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Abstract

The analytical program for samples of soil, vegetation, and animal tissue collected during the June 1975 field survey of Bikini and Eneu islands is described. The phases of this program are discussed in chronological order: initial processing of samples, gamma spectrometry, and wet chemistry. Included are discussions of quality control programs, reproducibility of measurements, and comparisons of gamma spectrometry with wet chemistry determinations of ²⁴¹Am. Wet chemistry results are used to examine differences in Pu:Am ratios and Pu-isotope ratios as a function of the type of sample and the location where samples were collected.

Introduction

In June 1975 a field survey was conducted on the islands of Bikini and Eneu within the Bikini Atoll. During this survey, several hundred samples were collected to assess the radiological status of the islands and their suitability for reinhabitation by the Bikini people. Instrumental to the radiological assessment was a thorough and comprehensive program for the analysis of collected samples. Since many facets of the Bikini program were similar to those employed for Enewetak, we used the excellent discussion of the Enewetak analytical program by Hoff et al. as a source

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document in the preparation of this report. A listing of the samples submitted for analysis is presented in Table 1.

More than 950 samples were collected from Bikini and Eneu Islands during field operations. All samples were processed prior to selection for gamma spectrometry and/or wet chemistry. Of the total samples processed, 624 were counted by gamma spectrometry at LLL on the Ge(Li) detector systems of the Biomedical and Radiochemistry Divisions. Wet-chemistry analyses were performed by the McClellan Central Laboratory (MCL) on 588 of

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R. W. Hoff, J. W. Meadows, H. D. Wilson, A. L. Prindle, R. Gunnink, and K. O. Hamby, "Analytical Program," *Enewetak Radiological Survey*, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Nevada Operations Office, NVO-140, Vol. 1, 426-485, October 1973.

Sample type	Total collected	Gamma counting	Wet chemistry
Bikini soil	648	369	333
Eneu soil	167	118	118
Bikini vegetation	96	96	96
Eneu vegetation	31	31	31
Bikini animal	10	10	10

Table 1. Analytical program for Bikini samples.

the samples analyzed by gamma spectrometry. All radionuclide concentrations, whether determined by gamma spectrometry or wet chemistry, were reported to a reference time of 1 Jan 1975 (001.000 Z, 75).

All initial processing was conducted at LLL and consisted primarily of drying, homogenizing, and packaging the samples. Soil and vegetation samples were dried by heating in ordinary ovens. Ten samples of pig and chicken tissue collected on Bikini were lyophilized.

Wet-chemistry analyses performed by MCL involved the dissolution of a sample aliquot, chemical separation of the desired elements, and radiation measurement of the elemental samples. In no case was an entire sample consumed in a single dissolution. All vegetation and animal tissue samples submitted for wet chemistry had been analyzed previously by

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gamma spectrometry. Separate aliquots from each large soil sample were submitted for wet chemistry and for gamma spectroscopy. Wet chemistry was required for certain nuclides that could not be measured by gamma counting; the majority of these nuclides were either alpha or beta emitters.

Discussions of the individual quality control programs are included in the sections dealing with gamma spectrometry and wet chemistry. Reproducibility of measurements was examined by statistically comparing ratios of the individual measurements of a given isotope. The mean value and standard deviation of the ratios were then calculated. The significance of a mean value differing from unity, i.e., indication of possible bias, was tested by calculating the standard error, $s_{\tilde{\mu}}$ of the mean $\tilde{\mu}$ (logarithmic mean) multiplying $s_{\overline{11}}$ by a factor t, which is based upon the 95 percent

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confidence level and is obtained from standard tables, and comparing the value of $t \cdot s_{\overline{\mu}}$ with μ . If the logarith-

mic mean exceeded to $s_{\overline{\mu}}$, the observed bias was said to be significant with a 95 percent level of confidence.

Initial Processing of Field Samples

SOIL SAMPLES

Soil samples, by far the largest category, were treated similarly to those samples obtained during the 1972 Enewetak Survey.¹ The treatment consisted of drying, pulverizing, blending, screening, packaging, and preliminary gamma assay. Three separate aliquots were produced from each soil sample: an aluminum "tuna can" containing 300 to 350 g and two vials containing 50 g each.

The soil-processing facility was carefully surveyed for possible radioactive contamination. Airfilter samples and swipe samples taken from the floors were analyzed for ⁶⁰Co, ¹³⁷Cs, and ²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰Pu content. There was no detectable contamination. The area was considered suitable for initial processing of soils. This monitoring program continued throughout operation of the facility.

Drying ovens designed and built for the Enewetak Survey were used for initial drying of samples at approximately 70°C. Two ovens were constructed of asbestos board with steel shelves inside; two 300-W air heaters

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blew warm air into each unit, which was equipped with a fan in the vent pipe. Final drying was accomplished in a large commercial drying oven at 150°C.

Samples were ground in a 1-gal paint can using eight 1-in. steel balls. The cover of each can was taped securely; then the entire can was covered with a galvanized-steel jacket that was held in place by two large rubber "O" rings to prevent the lids from falling off during ball milling. A maximum of 48 samples could be milled overnight to provide 15 to 24 h of grinding.

Packaging, weighing, and labeling of samples were performed by hand. All work with finely divided soil was performed in fume hoods. Before each sample was packaged, clean paper was laid out on the hood bench. Care was taken to prevent cross-contamination of samples.

The following is a detailed chronological description of the operations:

• The samples were first unpackaged from the shipping container and logged. The appearance of each sample was noted (e.g., amount of

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organic matter, color, presence of large chunks, etc.).

- The samples were transferred to a disposable aluminum cake pan and covered with aluminum foil. Holes were punched in the top of the foil to permit evaporation.
- The samples were transferred to preliminary drying ovens that were designed to handle about 200 samples. These ovens were set at a temperature of approximately 70°C and operated contiunously. The average residence time per sample was 48 h.
- To assure complete dryness, the samples were placed in a second oven at approximately 150°C; the sample residence time averaged about 3 h.
- The samples were transferred to a l-gal paint can and dry weights were determined. Sample weights varied from 100 g to 2 kg.
- The samples were milled with eight 1-in steel grinding balls. The sample residence time in the ball mill was between 15 to 24 hr.
- The soil was screened through 2-mm grid, stainless-steel screens to produce a uniform, homogeneous sample for analysis.
- The finely ground soil was prepared for gamma spectrometry and wet chemistry analysis by placing it

in two different containers. The gamma-spectrometry samples were placed in tightly sealed "tuna cans" made of 0.25-mm-thick aluminum. The large can was 3.9 cm high, 8.3 cm in diameter, with a crosssectional area of 53.8 \mbox{cm}^2 and a volume of 210 cm 3 . The small can was 3.3 cm high, 6.0 cm in diameter, with a cross-sectional area of 28.5 cm^2 and a volume of 95 cm³. Soil-sample weights in these cans ranged from 100 to 375 g. Two samples for wet-chemistry analysis, each weighing approximately 50 g, were placed in vials. One of the vials was committed to chemical analysis, and the other held as a backup sample.

The gamma-spectrometry samples
 were assayed for gross gamma counts
 with a 3 × 3-in. NaI (Tl) detector;
 a 512-channel NaI (Tl) gamma
 spectrum was measured for those
 samples that exceeded 100 counts/
 min. These preliminary NaI (Tl)
 data guided the scheduling of more
 precise measurements with Ge(Li)
 detectors and wet-chemistry proce dures.

More than 810 samples were processed in the soil-preparation facility between 4 September 1975 and 10 October 1975 by an average working force of 4.5 people.

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VEGETATION AND ANIMAL SAMPLES

Both plant and animal samples were received frozen with dry ice. The plant samples were spread in stainless steel pans and dried at approximately 80°C for at least 24 h in a forced draft oven until they reached constant weight. The dried plant materials were ground in a Wiley mill with a 2-mm screen, pressed into the aluminum "tuna cans" with a Carver press at about 14,000 psi, and sealed. Two sizes of cans were used, one containing 210 cm^3 , the other 95 cm³. Samples insufficient in volume to fill a small can were packaged in plastic vials. Sample weights were logged for calculation of specific activities.

Coconut meat, because of its high oil content, was not ground but was broken into small chips and pressed into the aluminum cans. Coconut milk was mixed with formaldehyde and canned. Litter samples were sifted through a 3 1/2mesh screen (5.613-mm openings) before being pressed into cans.

The animal tissue samples were sliced thinly and freeze dried. Skin and bone were removed from muscle tissue. Freeze-dried tissues were cut into small pieces and pressed into "tuna cans" as described above for plant materials. Aliquots for wet chemistry were packed into 30 mm snap top plastic vials.

Gamma Spectrometry

All gamma measurements of Bikini soil, animal, and vegetation samples were made by the Radiochemistry and Biomedical Divisions of LLL. A total of 624 samples were analyzed, 282 by Radiochemistry and 342 by the Biomedical facility. Radiochemistry used several Ge(Li)-diode detector systems with diodes that were 50 cm³ or more in volume. The Biomedical

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facility used four Ge(Li) diodes ranging from 7 to 19 cm³ in volume. Most samples were analyzed for approximately 1000 min, although some of the more active samples were analyzed for 300 to 400 min. All gamma spectra were transferred to magnetic tape for analysis on a CDC-7600 computer using the GAMANAL code.² A detailed description of measurement

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R. Gunnink and J. B. Niday, Computerized Quantitative Analysis by Gamma Ray Spectrometry, Vols. 1-4, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, Rept. UCRL-51061 (1971).

equipment, calibration procedures, and GAMANAL are given in the Enewetak Radiological Survey report.¹

Most of the Bikini samples were packaged in 3.3- or 3.9-cm-high aluminum cans with nominal volumes of 95 and 210 cm³, respectively. Isotopic activities are reported as disintegrations per minute per gram (dpm/g). Eleven nuclides have been observed in Bikini samples: ⁶⁰_{Co,} ^{102m}_{Rh}, ¹⁰⁶_{Ru}, ¹²⁵_{Sb}, ¹³³_{Ba}, 137 152 155 207 235 U, and $^{241}\mathrm{Am}.$ When these radionuclides were not detected, upper limits were calculated by defining the upper limit photopeak area to be twice the square root of the number of counts observed in the continuum normally occupied by the photopeak.

Thirty-one samples were submitted for comparative measurement to both the Biomedical and Radiochemistry facilities. The results are presented in Table 2. Testing the ratio for bias indicated that there was no significant difference in the results from the two facilities and that on the average, for a series of samples, both would obtain the same result. Statistical variation does, of course, exist in the measurement of any individual sample, but for dose assessment the average value of many samples is the important factor.

In addition to the interfacility comparison, a series of samples originally measured in the Biomedical facility was resubmitted to the facility at a later date for comparison of the analytical results. The data are presented in Table 3. Again there is no indication of any statistical bias in the data.

These comparisons reconfirm the reproductibility of results within a facility and between facilities observed during the course of the analytical work for the 1972 Enewetak survey.

Wet-Chemistry Analyses

GENERAL

Wet-chemistry analyses were required to quantify a number of nuclides that could not be determined by gamma spectrometry. Briefly, this procedure involves the dissolution of a sample in the presence of a known

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amount of elemental carrier or tracer, chemical separation and purification of the desired element, gravimetric or tracer yielding, and quantification by an appropriate technique. Table 4 presents a list of the measured nuclides, their halflives, principal radiation, and

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Master log number	Biomed dpm/g	Radiochem dpm/g ·	Biomed Radiochem
01-0065-01	47.1 ±1.3%	37.7 ±0.8%	1.25 ±1.5%
01-0088-91	26.8 ±1.3	22.2 ±3.5	1.21 ±3.7
01-0111-01	266 ±1.1	210 ±0.9	1.27 ±1.4
01-0134-01	108 ±1.1	104 ±1.2	1.04 ±1.6
01-0157-01	156 ±0.8	152 ±1.2	1.03 ±1.4
01-0226-32	84.0 ±1.1	70.2 ±1.8	1.20 ±2.1
01-0318-95	2.20±9.5	1.86±1.6	1.18 ±9.6
01-0456-32	119 ±1.0	128 ±1.0	0.930±1.4
01-0479-32	126 ±0.9	125 ±1.2	1.01 ±1.5
01-0800-10	1500 ±0.8	1970 ±1.2	0.761±1.4
01-0804-10	1930 ±0.7	1910 ±0.8	1.01 ±1.1
01-0808-10	483 ±2.1	500 ±1.0	0.966±2.3
01-0813-10	77.5 ±1.7	70.2 ±1.6	1.10 ±2.3
01-0816-10	541 ±1.0	554 ±0.8	0.976±1.3
01-0817-10	106 ±1.2	94.2 ±1.1	1.13 ±1.6
01-0821-10 .	169 ±1.1	140 ±1.1	1.21 ±1.6
01-0822-10	660 ±0.8	686 ±0.9	0.962±1.2
01-0831-10	864 ±0.8	840 ±0.9	1.03 ±1.2
01-0841-10	954 ±1.2	882 ±0.9	1.08 ±1.5
01-0846-10	229 ±0.9	264 ±1.3	0.867±1.6
01-0856-10	1150 ±0.8	1110 ±0.9	1.04 ±1.2
01-0860-10	527 ±0.8	536 ±1.0	0.983±1.3
01-0872-10	271 ±1.9	342 ±0.9	0.792±2.1
06-0928-10	3.59±4.4	5.05±2.9	0.711±5.3
01-1001-10	167 ±1.3	154 ±1.0	1.08 ±1.6
01-1019-10	80.6 ±1.1	71.5 ±1.4	1.13 ±1.8
06-0664-01	28.0 ±1.8	27.8 ±1.8	1.01 ±2.5
06-0709-32	25.0 ±2.3	27.2 ±1.2	0.919±2.6
06-0755-32	28.4 ±2.9	29.0 ±2.2	0.979±3.6
06-0893-92	2.73±5.9	2.35±5.1	1.16 ±7.8
06-0928-10	3.59±4.4	5.05±0.9	0.711±4.5
		Aver	age 1 0+15%

Table 2. Concentrations of ¹³⁷Cs in selected vegetation and soil samples. Biomedical vs Radiochemistry gamma detection.

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Master log number	Measurement l dpm/g	Measurement 2 dpm/g	<u>Meas l</u> Meas 2
01-0525-71	21.7 ±1.3%	21.2 ±2.7%	1.02 ±3.0%
01-0548-72	4.95±4.8	5.39±3.0	0.918±5.7
01-0617-92	34.4 ±1.1	32.3 ±1.5	1.07 ±1.9
01-0191-32	80.6 ±2.7	83.9 ±1.8	0.961±3.2
01-0212-32	86.6 ±1.2	78.4 ±1.0	1.10 ±1.6
01-0269-32	223 ±1.0	201 ±0.9	1.11 ±1.3
01-0353-91	74.2 ±1.5	73.4 ±1.0	1.01 ±1.8
01-0384-92	70.0 ±1.0	72.8 ±1.0	0.962±1.4
01-0422-32	153 ±1.8	160 ±1.1	0.956±2.1
01-0463-32	297 ±0.9	272 ±0.9	1.09 ±1.3
01-0481-31	475 ±1.8	508 ±0.8	0.935±2.0
01-0561-74	202 ±0.8	182 ±1.7	1.11 ±1.9
		Avera	age 1.02±7.2%

Table 3.	Concentrations	of ^{13/} Cs	in selected	soil samples.	Duplicate counting
	for gamma detec	tion.			

method of measurement. Most of the analyses were for 90 Sr and 239,240,241 Pu. Approximately 14 percent of the samples scheduled for wet chemistry were analyzed for Am. The primary purpose of the Am analyses was for comparison with the gamma-spectrometry results. In the case of some vegetation samples, these analyses fulfilled a secondary role of extending the sensitivity for 241 Am detection to lower levels. The remaining nuclides in Table 4 were measured in only a small fraction of the samples to provide an indication of their existing levels.

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Analyses for stable iron, calcium, and strontium were performed on a limited number of samples. Table 5 summarizes the wet-chemistry analyses performed by MCL. Samples provided for wet chemistry were 50-g aliquots of finely divided coral, 20- to 100 plus-g aliquots of mulched vegetation, and 50 plus-g aliquots of lyophilized animal tissue.

CHEMISTRY PROCEDURES

Determinations of 90 Sr, Pu, 55 Fe, and 63 Ni were made in a single sample aliquot. A separate aliquot

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Nuclide	Half-life	Principal radiation	Type of detection
55 Fe	· 2.7 y	5.95-keV x ray	Gamma counting: Nal(Ti), Ge(Li) detectors.
63 _{Ni}	92 y	β particle (E = 65.9 keV) max	Liquid scintillation counter.
90 _{Sr}	28.5 y	β particle of ⁹⁰ daughter (E _{max} = 2.27 MeV)	Beta counting: gas-filled proportional counter.
151 _{Sm}	87 y	β particle (E = 76 keV) max	Liquid scintillation counter.
238 _{Pu} .	87.8 y	5.50-MeV a	Alpha-pulse-height analysis (Frisch-grid chamber, solid state).
239 _{Pu}	24,400 y	5.16-MeV α	Mass spectrometry, alpha- pulse-height analysis.
240 _{Pu}	6,540 y	5.17-MeV a	Mass spectrometry, alpha pulse height analysis.
241 _{Pu}	14.0 y	β particle (E = 21 keV) max	Mass spectrometry.
241 Am	433 y	5.49-MeV a	Alpha-pulse-height analysis.
Fe, Ca, Sr	Stable	None	(Atomic absorption).

Table 4. Nuclides measured in wet-chemistry analyses.



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Table 5. Summary of wet-chemistry analyses.

Sample type	Number of samples	Nuclides analyzed
Bikini soil	346 ^a	⁵⁵ Fe (10), ⁹⁰ Sr (all), ²³⁸ Pu (30), ^{239,240} Pu (all), ²⁴¹ Pu (259), ²⁴¹ Am (47).
Eneu soil	122 ^b	⁹⁰ Sr (all), ^{239,240} Pu (all), ²⁴¹ Pu (56), ²⁴¹ Am (15).
Bikini vegetation	96	55 Fe (4), 63 Ni (4), 90 Sr (all), 151 Sm (4), 239,240 Pu (all), 241 Pu (15), 241 Am (20).
Eneu vegetation	31	⁹⁰ Sr (all), ^{239,240} Pu (all), ²⁴¹ Am (2).
Bikini animal	10	⁵⁵ Fe (2), ⁶³ Ni (2), ⁹⁰ Sr (all), ¹⁵¹ Sm (2), ^{239,240} Pu (all), ²⁴¹ Sm (3).

^a Total includes 13 samples where duplicate soil samples were analyzed. ^b Total includes 4 samples where duplicate soil samples were analyzed.

was used to determine the ²⁴¹Am and ¹⁵¹Sm concentrations. For coralline soil and animal tissue, these aliquots were nominally 5 g. A smaller aliquot of approximately 3 g was taken from vegetation samples. In all cases, samples were ashed at 950°C for 8 h as the initial step in the chemical dissolution. The MCL chemistry scheme for the determination of ⁹⁰Sr and Pu from coralline soils, vegetation, and animal tissue is outlined in Table 6.

Iron-55 was isolated by passing the working solution, containing iron carrier, through a Dowex 1-X8 anion column $(NO_3^{-}$ form), precipitation of Fe(OH)₃ with NH₄OH, adsorption and elution from a Dowex 1-X8 column (Cl form), and final mounting by electrodeposition. A separate aliquot of each sample was ashed and dissolved for elemental analysis of iron by atomic absorption spectroscopy. These analyses were required to provide corrections to

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DissolutionFire coral, vegetation, or animal tissue at 950°C for 8 h. Add ash to Y cartier and 242Pu tracer. ^a Dissolve with 12M HCl + 5.5M HL. ^b Add HNO ₃ , boil to oxidize Pu, convert to Cl ⁻ .SeparationLoad on Dowex 1-X8 column from 12M HCl (Pu-Y separation). Wash column with 12M HCl (Load and wash to Y purification.) Elute Pu with 12M HCl + saturated NH ₄ I (to Pu purification.)Y PurificationPrecipitate Y(OH) ₃ by adding NH ₄ OH. (Note Sr-Y separation time.) Wash precipitate with H20; dissolve with 16M HNO ₃ ; dilute with H20. Precipitate Y(OH) ₃ by adding NH ₄ OH; wash precipitate with H ₂ O. Dissolve in 0.1M HCl. Extract twice with 10% HDENPC ^c in toluene. Back-extract with 3M HCl. Precipitate Y (OH) ₃ by adding NH ₄ OH. Wash with H20, dissolve with 12M HCl + H ₂ O, filter. Precipitate Y oxalate by adding saturated oxalic acid, digest. Filter precipitate, dry, fire to Y ₂ O ₃ at 900°C, 2 h. Weigh, count ⁹⁰ Y betas.Pu PurificationTo column eluant add 5M NH ₂ OH-HCl, LaCl ₃ carrier, saturated NH ₄ I, ZrO(NO ₃) ₂ carrier. Precipitate LaGH) ₃ by adding NH ₄ OH. Dissolve with 16M NHO ₃ th 12M HCl + few drops HNO ₃ . Load on Dowex 1-X8 column. Wash with H2O, dissolve with 12M HCl + few drops HNO ₃ . Load on Dowex 1-X8 column. Wash with H2O, dissolve with 12M HCl + few drops HNO ₃ . Load on Dowex 1-X8 column. Wash with 12M HCl-saturated NH ₄ I. a. Add 12 drops H ₃ O ₃ forme to SO ₃ evolution. Transfer to plating cell; electroplate (for Pu determina- tion by α-pulse-height analysis). OR b. Transfer to mass spectrometry for filament loading (for	Table 6. Chemis vegeta	try scheme for determination of 90 Sr and Pu in coralline soils, tion, and animal tissue.
SeparationLoad on Dowex 1-X8 column from 12N HCl (Pu-Y separation). Wash column with 12M HCl. (Load and wash to Y purification.) Elute Pu with 12M HCl + saturated NH4I (to Pu purification).Y PurificationPrecipitate Y(OH)3 by adding NH4OH. (Note Sr-Y separation time.) 	Dissolution	Fire coral, vegetation, or animal tissue at 950°C for 8 h. Add ash to Y carrier and ²⁴² Pu tracer. ^a Dissolve with 12M HCl + 5.5M HI. ^b Add HNO ₃ , boil to oxidize Pu, convert to Cl ⁻ .
 <u>Y Purification</u> Precipitate Y(OH)₃ by adding NH₄OH. (Note Sr-Y separation time.) Wash precipitate with H₂O; dissolve with 16M HNO₃; dilute with H₂O. Precipitate Y(OH)₃ by adding NH₄OH; wash precipitate with H₂O. Dissolve in 0.1M HC1. Extract twice with 10% HDEHP^C in toluene. Back-extract with 3M HC1. Precipitate Y(OH)₃ by adding NH₄OH. Wash with H₂O, dissolve with 12M HC1 + H₂O, filter. Precipitate Y oxalate by adding saturated oxalic acid, digest. Filter precipitate, dry, fire to Y₂O₃ at 900°C, 2 h. Weigh, count ⁹⁰Y betas. Pu Purification To column eluant add 5M NH₂OH·HC1, LaCl₃ carrier, saturated NH₄I, ZrO(NO₃)₂ carrier. Precipitate La² by adding NH₄OH. Dissolve with HNO₃ + H₃BO₃. Precipitate La(OH)₃ by adding NH₄OH. Wash with H₂O; dissolve with 12M HC1 + few drops HNO₃. Load on Dowex 1-X8 column. Wash with 12M HC1, saturated NH₄I. Add 12 drops H₃SO₄; fume to SO₃ evolution. Transfer to plating cell; electroplate (for Pu determination by α-pulse-height analysis). 	Separation	Load on Dowex 1-X8 column from 12M HCl (Pu-Y separation). Wash column with 12M HCl. (Load and wash to Y purification.) Elute Pu with 12M HCl + saturated NH ₄ I (to Pu purification).
Pu Purification To column eluant add 5M NH ₂ OH·HCl, LaCl ₃ carrier, saturated NH ₄ I, ZrO(NO ₃) ₂ carrier. Precipitate LaF ₃ by adding HF. Dissolve with HNO ₃ + H ₃ BO ₃ . Precipitate La(OH) ₃ by adding NH ₄ OH. Dissolve with 16M HNO ₃ , boil. Precipitate La(OH) ₃ by adding NH ₄ OH. Wash with H ₂ O; dissolve with 12M HCl + few drops HNO ₃ . Load on Dowex 1-X8 column. Wash with 12M HCl, 12M HCl-dilute HF, more 12M HCl. Elute Pu with 12M HCl-saturated NH ₄ I. a. Add 12 drops H ₂ SO ₄ ; fume to SO ₃ evolution. Transfer to plating cell; electroplate (for Pu determination by α-pulse-height analysis). OR b. Transfer to mass spectrometry for filament loading (for	Y Purification	<pre>Precipitate Y(OH)₃ by adding NH₄OH. (Note Sr-Y separation time.) Wash precipitate with H₂O; dissolve with 16M HNO₃; dilute with H₂O. Precipitate Y(OH)₃ by adding NH₄OH; wash precipitate with H₂O. Dissolve in 0.1M HCl. Extract twice with 10% HDEHP^C in toluene. Back-extract with 3M HCl. Precipitate Y(OH)₃ by adding NH₄OH. Wash with H₂O, dissolve with 12M HCl + H₂O, filter. Precipitate Y oxalate by adding saturated oxalic acid, digest. Filter precipitate, dry, fire to Y₂O₃ at 900°C, 2 h. Weigh, count ⁹⁰Y betas.</pre>
b. Transfer to mass spectrometry for filament loading (for	<u>Pu Purification</u>	<pre>To column eluant add 5M NH₂OH·HCl, LaCl₃ carrier, saturated NH₄I, ZrO(NO₃)₂ carrier. Precipitate LaF₃ by adding HF. Dissolve with HNO₃ + H₃BO₃. Precipitate La(OH)₃ by adding NH₄OH. Dissolve with 16M HNO₃, boil. Precipitate La(OH)₃ by adding NH₄OH. Wash with H₂O; dissolve with 12M HCl + few drops HNO₃. Load on Dowex 1-X8 column. Wash with 12M HCl, 12M HCl-dilute HF, more 12M HCl. Elute Pu with 12M HCl-saturated NH₄I. a. Add 12 drops H₂SO₄; fume to SO₃ evolution. Transfer to plating cell; electroplate (for Pu determina- tion by α-pulse-height analysis).</pre>
		b. Transfer to mass spectrometry for filament loading (for

- Pu determination by mass spectrometric analysis).
- 242 Pu was used as a tracer for pulse-height analysis ($\alpha-PHA$) and for mass spectrometry. Note that 238 Pu could be determined only in those samples that were assayed via $\alpha-PHA$.
- ^b The addition of HI is necessary to insure equilibration of plutonium tracer with the plutonium in the working solution.

 $^{\rm c}$ Bis(2-ethylhexyl)orthophosphoric acid.

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the chemical yields for iron originally present in the samples.

Standard chemical procedures were used for the isolation and purification of 63 Ni, 151 Sm, and 241 Am. Gravimetric measurement of the recovered nickel and samarium carriers provided yields for the 63 Ni and 151 Sm samples. The addition of 243 Am tracer was required to determine the yield of the 241 Am samples. Nickel was purified by numerous precipitations as nickel dimethylglyoxime. The rare earth, samarium, was separated from americium on a Dowex 50 cationexchange column by gradient elution with α -hydroxyisobutyric acid.

MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES

Strontium-90 was determined by beta measurement of the chemically separated 64-h ⁹⁰Y daughter. Interferences from radiochemical contaminants were identified and eliminated through least-squares analysis of the data. These procedures are rather common for determination of the long-lived ⁹⁰Sr parent.

Plutonium-239, 240, and 241 were separately quantified via mass spectrometric measurement techniques. Observation of the characteristic mass-to-charge ratio for each isotope provided the means of separation and measurement. To determine the

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atom concentrations of 239,240,241_{Pu} in each sample, ²⁴²Pu mass tracer was added during the chemical dissolution. Specific activities were calculated from the measured atom concentrations and appropriate decay constants. Since 238 Pu could not be determined mass spectrometrically, alpha pulse height analyses of ²⁴²Putraced plutonium samples was required. Alpha pulse-height analysis was also essential for the quantification of Am. Chemical yields for the americium samples were determined from the ²⁴³ Am tracer. Quantification of ²³⁸ Pu and ²⁴¹ Am was accomplished by the ratio of the characteristic alpha peak areas to those of the appropriate tracers.

Thin NaI(T1) and planar Ge(Li) diode pulse-height-analysis detection systems were used to measure the characteristic 6-keV Mn x ray of ⁵⁵Fe. All samples were measured by NaI(T1). Ge(Li) detection systems served to confirm results and extend the sensitivity for ⁵⁵Fe detection to lower levels. Sixteen samples were analyzed for their ⁵⁵Fe content.

Nickel-63 and samarium-151 were determined by liquid scintillation counting at LLL with a Packard Tri-Carb spectrometer.

Errors reported with each result represent the measurement uncertainty and are based primarily on counting

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statistics. For those nuclides with multiple sample determinations, the

reported results and errors are those of the simple average.

Quality-Control Program

SAMPLE ALIQUOT

The usual MCL quality control program was expanded to examine the validity of wet-chemistry analysis of small sample (3 to 5 g) aliquots. Specifically questioned was whether the small aliquots were representative of the larger sample. For wellhomogenized samples, the small aliquots were known to be representative.

Twenty-seven samples (5 vegetation and 22 soils) were selected for carrier-free dissolution of 25-g aliquots. The term carrier-free describes working solutions obtained by the dissolution of sample in the absence of appropriate carriers and tracers. The major difference between the carrier-free and standard carrier dissolutions was the absence or presence of the carriers and tracers in the working solution. Processing of ⁹⁰Sr, Pu and ²⁴¹Am samples from the carrier-free solution was accomplished by adding Y carrier and ²⁴²Pu mass tracer to one aliquot and 243 Am to another, achieving isotopic exchange in the solution, and proceeding with the standard methods for separation and purification.

Results from dissolution of the 25-g aliquots are compared in Table 7 with those from the smaller aliquots. The ratio of results from carrier to carrier-free dissolutions is given for each of the atom ratios and isotopic concentrations. Errors reported with each entry result from propagation of uncertainties in the individual measurements. Soil samples from both Bikini and Eneu show excellent reproducibility in all major isotopes. Past experiences in mass spectrometric measurement of minor isotopes such as ²⁴¹Pu would lead one to expect an even greater spread than that observed. The fact that the results are reproducible to within 10 percent is quite encouraging. For the soils there is no indication of a statistically significant bias resulting from the use of small (5 g) sample aliquots.

Comparison of the measurements of samples of vegetation indicate the possibility of a slight bias in the dterminations of 90Sr and 239,240Pu; however, these biases are not significant at the 95 percent confidence level. There is a definite indication of significant

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Master log	240:239 _{Pu}	241:239 _{Pu}	239 _{Pu}	239+240 _{Pu}	241 _{Pu}	241 Am	90 _{Sr}
number	atom ratio	atom ratio	dpm/g	dpm/g	dpm/g	dpm/g	dpm/g
			Bikini	soil			
01-0003-92	1.02 ±0.8%	1.22 ±2.2%	1.04 ±0.8%	1.05 ±0.8%	1.27 ±2.4%	0.959±2.0%	0.985±0.9%
01-0055-90	0.01 ±1.9	1.07 ±5.7	0.996±1.4	0.998±1.4	1.07 ±5.8	1.01 ±1.9	1.03 ±0.7
01-0056-91	0.999±1.2	1.05 ±2.7	1.02 ±1.0	1.02 ±0.9	1.07 ±2.9	1.03 ±3.1	0.959±0.7
01-0057-92	1.00 ±1.8	1.07 ±5.6	0.986±4.0	0.986±3.0	1.06 ±6.9	1.03 ±3.2	0.934±0.6
01-0076-92	0.993±0.5	0.876±4.3	0.996±0.6	0.992±0.5	0.872±4.3	0.874±7.5	1.03 ±0.6
01-0111-01	0.992±0.4	1.04 ±3.4	1.02 ±0.6	1.02 ±0.5	1.06 ±3.4	0.973±1.5	1.04 ±1.2
01-0118-01	1.01 ±0.2	0.996±0.6	0.972±0.5	0.976±0.4	0.968±0.8	1.01 ±1.9	1.02 ±0.6
01-0119-90	1.00 ±1.1	0.955±3.0	1.02 ±0.9	1.02 ±0.9	0.972±3.1	0.956±6.7	1.03 ±0.8
01-0121-92	1.01 ±0.5		1.00 ±0.6	1.01 ±0.5		0.966±1.5	1.02 ±0.8
01-0288-92	0.992±0.4	0.813±5.7	0.981±0.6	0.976±0.5	0.797±5.8	1.07 ±3.8	0.994±0.8
01-0331-92	1.00 ±0.6		0.973±1.1	0.974±0.9	•	0.969±1.7	1.00 ±0.6
01-0341-90	1.01 ±0.6	0.999±2.5	0.970±0.9	0.975±0.7	0.970±2.6	0.921±3.1	0.989±0.5
01-0352-90	1.00 ±1.8	1.07 ±6.2	1.00 ±1.3	1.01 ±1.3	1.08 ±6.4	0.980±1.9	1.00 ±0.7
01-0354-92	1.02 ±1.6		1.05 ±1.3	1.07 ±1.2		1.25 ±3.3	1.00 ±1.0
01-0384-92	1.01 ±1.0	0.973±1.5	1.00 ±0.8	1.00 ±0.8	0.972±1.7	0.978±2.8	1.03 ±1.2
Average	1.00±9.9%	1.0±10%	1.00±2.4%	1.01±2.8%	1.0±12%	0.998±8.4%	1.00±2.9%
			Ene	eu soil			
06-0707-32	0.982±2.6%		0.998±1.3%	0.989±1.6%		0.994±3.4%	1.04 ±1.5%
06-0708-32	1.01 ±0.8		0.975±0.9	0.979±0.8		1.02 ±3.1	0.988±1.2
06-0719-32	0.974±2.0	÷	1.00 ±1.7	0.988±1.6		1.05 ±3.8	1.06 ±1.9
06-0722-32	1.03 ±0.9		0.897±0.7	0.910±0.7		0.990±5.4	1.01 ±3.7
06-0732-32	0.981±1.2%		1.01 ±1.1%	1.01 ±1.0%		1.16 ±6.0%	1.04 ±2.3%
06-0936-94	0.994±0.8	1.06 ±4.3%	0.970±1.0	0.967±0.8	1.03 ±4.4%	1.01 ±4.4	0.990±1.1
06-0950-73	0.998±1.3	<u> </u>	0.972±1.0	0.971±1.0		1.06 ±2.8	0:943±1.3
Average	0.996±2.0%		0.975±3.9%	0.973±3.2%		1.04±5.7%	1.01±4.0%
			Bikini	vegetation			
01-0639-10	0.995±2.2%	······	1.07 ±1.3%	1.07 ±1.5%		0.866±6.3%	1.09 ±1.8%
01-0641-10	0.973±1.3	<u> </u>	0.996±0.9	0.982±1.0		0.767±5.6	0.984±0.5
01-0803-10	1.01 ±1.0		0.766±0.7	0.769±0.7	<u></u>	0.785±5.6	0.948±1.0
01-0829-10	0.963±2.9	····,,	0.934±2.5	0.915±2.3		0.859±6.3	1.06 ±1.0
01-0850-10	1.00 ±1.4	0.992±4.7%	0.876±2.8	0.877±2.9	0.894±4.5%	0.929±4.9	1.17 ±1.2
Average	0.988±2.0%	<u></u>	0.93±12%	0.92±12%		0.841±7.8%	1.05±8.4%

Table 7. Comparison of radiochemical results from carrier and carrier-free dissolutions. (Ratios are carrier to carrier-free).^a

 $a_{\Lambda 11}$ results are reported to a reference time of 1 January 1975 (001.000 Z, 75).

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bias in the determination of ²⁴¹Am. Although the number of samples compared is a relatively small fraction of the total analyzed, it appears that the standard vegetation aliquots (3 g) may underestimate the ^{239,240}Pu concentrations by 7 percent and the ²⁴¹Am concentrations by as much as

16 percent. Since the compared samples were either litter or roots, sample inhomogeneity is the likely source of these apparent biases. However, it is also possible that these biases may be indicative of an error resulting from surface contamination of vegetation so that the results may not be a true measure of the isotopic uptake by the plant.

SAMPLE HOMOGENEITY

MCL received duplicate samples from 17 large-volume soil specimens. The question to be answered was whether separate samples from a large specimen of finely divided soil could give reproducible results. The

standard carrier dissolution was used to process these samples. Analyses were primarily for 90 Sr and Pu. Americium-241 was determined in three of the samples. Measurement results are compared in Table 8. The ratio of A to B samples is presented for each of the measured atom ratios and isotopic concentrations. Ouoted statistics are derived from the propagation of errors. Sample homogeneity is evidenced by the excellent agreement in the 239,240 Pu and 90 Sr concentrations from both Bikini and Eneu. Results for ²⁴¹Pu exhibit some spread among the individual data points but are reproducible to within 11 percent at a mean of unity. This spread is but another example of the inherent difficulty of minor isotopic measurement by mass spectrometry. The 241 Am comparison, though limited to three points, also shows no significant bias. Comparison of these samples indicates that separate aliquots of soil can be expected to show reproducible results to within the errors presented in Table 8.

Data Comparison

MEASUREMENT OF ²⁴¹AM CONCENTRATION - ALPHA VS GAMMA DETECTION

Approximately 13 percent of the . 624 samples assayed by gamma spectro-

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metry were selected for ²⁴¹Am wetchemistry analysis. In each of the 624 samples of soil, vegetation, and animal tissue, ²⁴¹Am was quantified through either a positive gamma

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Master log	240:239 _{Pu}	241:239 _{Pu}	239 Pu	239+240 _{Pu}	241 _{Pu}	²⁴¹ Am	90 _{Sr}
number	atom ratio	atom ratio	dpm/g	dpm/g	dpm/g	dpm/g	dpm/g
			Bikini	soil			
01-0065-01	1.01 ±0.4%	1.21 ±2.1%	1.02 ±0.8%	1.02 ±0.6%	1.23 ±2.2%		0.968±1.1%
01-0088-91	1.01 ±0.9	0.860±9.3	1.03 ±0.9	1.03 ±0.8	0.883±9.4	0.909±8.6	0.990±1.7
01-0111-01	0.998±0.6	1.09 ±2.8	1.00 ±1.6	1.00 ±1.3	1.10 ±4.4	0.987±2.1	1.03 ±4.0
01-0134-32	0.985±2.5	0.90 ±15	0.927±4.3	0.920±3.3	0.845±6.5		0.950±4.5
01-0157-32	1.01 ±0.3	1.03 ±0.9	1.00 ±0.5	1.01 ±0.4	1.03 ±1.1	<u> </u>	1.00 ±0.7
01-0180-32	0.997±1.1	0.930±4.8	1.00 ±0.8	0.998±0.9	0.930±4.9		9.998±2.4
01-0226-32	1.01 ±0.4	1.01 ±0.8	0.995±0.5	0.999±0.4	1.01 ±1.0		1.03 ±2.4
01-0318-95	0.992±2.2		0.970±3.3	0.965±2.7			0.985±2.0
01-0341-90	0.998±0.8	0.955±1.3	1.04 ±2.2	1.04 ±1.9	0.993±2.6	1.08 ±6.4	1.04 ±0.8
01-0387-95	0.984±2.2	0.99 ±28	1.06 ±3.6	1.05 ±2.4	1.1 ±28		0.965±2.6
01-0525-71	1.01 ±0.8	1.16 ±7.4	0.956±1.3	0.959±1.0	1.11 ±7.5		0.951±0.9
01-0548-72	0.984±3.5	<u></u>	1.07 ±6.1	1.06 ±4.2	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		1.03 ±2.6
01-0617-92	1.01 ±1.2	1.06 ±4.4	1.03 ±0.9	1.04 ±0.9	1.09 ±4.5		1.02 ±1.4
Average	1.00±1.1%	1.0±11%	1.01±4.0%	1.01±4.0%	1.0±11%	0.992±8.6%	0.997±3.2%
			Eneu	soil			
06-0709-32	0.994±1.1%	0.91 ±11%	1.01 ±0.9%	1.01 ±0.9%	0.92 ±11%		1.01 ±1.9%
06-0755-32	0.978±3.8	<u> </u>	1.05 ±2.4	1.04 ±2.6			1.08 ±6.5
06-0893-92	1.02 ±1.5		0.961±1.4	0.971±1.3	·		0.988±6.3
Average	0.997±2.1%	<u></u>	1.01±4.4%	1.01±3.4%			1.03±4.7%

Table 8. Comparison of radiochemical results from separate samples of a largevolume soil specimen. (Ratios are A to B sample aliquot).^a

^a All results are reported to a reference time of 1 January 1975 (001.00 Z, 75).

signal or calculation of a detection limit. Wet-chemistry measurements served two purposes: to permit comparison of two different methods for measuring ²⁴¹Am, and for other samples, to provide greater sensitivity for detecting ²⁴¹Am than available from routine gamma measurement.

Comparison data for 52 soil samples are presented in Table 9. The mean value for the MCL:LLL ratio is 1.2 ± 16%, with evidence for significant bias. For soil samples, wet chemistry is expected to assess the ²⁴¹ Am concentration more accurately. Uncertainties in self-absorption corrections because of voids resulting from settling of the soil in the can limit the accuracy of ²⁴¹ Am assessment via gamma spectrometry. Thus, it appears that the ²⁴¹ Am data for soil samples reported via gamma spectrometry may be systematically low by about 20 percent. Even so, the effect of a 20 percent bias will be negligible on the estimated external dose since ²⁴¹ Am contributed a very small fraction to the total.

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Master log number	α-PHA (MCL) dpm/g	Gamma spectrometry (LLL)dpm/g	MCL:LLL
01-0001-90	9.26 ±0.7%	6.76± 8.9%	1.37± 8.9%
01-0002-91	7.88 ± 1.1	6.6 ±11	1.2 ±11
01-0003-92	11.4 ± 2.9	10.1 ± 8.7	1.13± 9.2
01-0011-90	6.98 ± 4.8	4.9 ± 1.8	1.4 ±19
01-0012-91	4.39 ± 1.7	3.9 ±16	1.1 ±17
01-0045-90	1.56 ± 2.4	1.2 ±31	1.3 ±31
01-0046-91	4.32 ± 3.1	3.29± 4.9	1.31± 5.8
01-0047-92	1.2 ±13	0.98±15	1.2 ±20
01-0055-90	8.04 ± 0.9	6.85± 6,6	1.17± 6.7
01-0056-91	10.6 ± 1.7	8.36± 9.9	1.3 ±10
01-0074-90	5.23 ± 3.0	5.0 ±14	1.0 ±14
01-0075-91	19.5 ± 1.6	15.0 ± 4.2	1.30± 4.5
01-0076-92	27.7 ± 9.5	17.5 ± 9.1	1.6 ±13
01-0086-01	9.67 ± 8.7	10.5 ± 7.8	0.92±12
01-0087-90	2.06 ± 9.2	1.98± 5.6	1.0 ±11
01-0088-91	1.46 ± 8.4	1.3 ±12	1.1 ±15
01-0110-01	11.3 ± 5.8	11.4 ± 7.3	0.991±9.3
01-0111-01	19.3 ± 1.9	17 ±20	1.1 ±20
01-0112-01	23.5 ± 0.8	16.2± 6.8	1.45± 6.8
01-0116-01	18.0 ± 3.4	12.9± 8.5	1.40± 9.2
01-0118-01	26.4 ± 1.0	19.0 ± 5.8	1.39± 5.9
01-0119-90	5.81 ± 3.2	3.9 ±12	1.5 ±12
01-0120-91	8.97 ± 3.4	8.14± 7.6	1.10± 8.3
01-0121-92	14.5 ± 2.5	10.4 ± 5.1	1.39± 5.7
01-0273-90	14.8 ± 3.9	11.4 ± 8.8	1.30± 9.6
01-0274-91	1.20 ± 3.4	1.2 ±25	1.0 ±25
01-0275-92	0.884± 3.2	0.95±30	0.93±30
01-0286-90	7.12 ± 7.0	5.6 ±16	1.3 ±17
01-0287-91	13.4 ± 6.8	11 ±12	1.2 ±14
01-0288-92	21.7 ± 4.5	16.2 ± 7.4	1.34± 8.7

Table 9. Comparison of alpha-pulse height analysis (α -PHA) and gamma-spectrometric analyses for ²⁴¹Am in separate batches of soil (MCL vs LLL).^a

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Table 9. (Continued).

Master log number	α-PHA (MCL) dpm/g	Gamma spectrometry (LLL) dpm/g	MCL:LLL
01-0329-90	13.6 ± 2.5%	10.1 ± 9.1%	1.35± 9.4%
01-0330-91	21.5 ± 7.6	14.0 ± 7.9	1.5 ±11
01-0331-92	41.0 ± 2.2	27.9 ± 6.1	1.47± 6.5
01-0341-90	50.8 ± 5.6	37.9 ± 8.7	1.3 ±10
01-0342-91	7.62 ± 1.8	6.0 ±10	1.3 ±11
01-0343-92	1.02 ± 7.3	1.0 ±50	1.0 ±51
01-0352-90	3.02 ± 1.4	3.0 ±29	1.0 ±29
01-0353-91	1.77 ± 1.8	1.5 ±19	1.2 ±19
01-0382-90	2.74 ±.2.0	2.4 ±32	1.1 ±32
01-0383-91	3.67 ± 1.7	3.6 ±11	1.0 ±11
01-0384-91	4.85 ± 1.6	4.6 ±14	1.1 ±14
06-0707-32	4.07 ± 1.3	4.06± 9.8	1.00± 9.9
06-0718-32	3.30 ± 8.1	2.86± 8.7	1.2 ±12
06-0719-32	2.47 ± 3.7	2.0 ±11	1.2 ±12
06-0722-32	0.811± 2.4	0.74±13	1.1 ±13
06-0752-32	3.2 ±10	2.4 ±13	1.3 ±16
06-0740-32	0.764± 5.1	0.42±43	1.8 ±43
06-0752-32	2.42 ± 4.7	2.90± 6.2	0.834±7.8
06-0758-32	3.78 ± 5.1	2.98± 6.4	1.27± 8.2
06-0765-32	0.72 ±10	0.62±13	1.2 ±16
06-0936-94	6.69 ± 1.2	5.35± 5.4	1.25± 5.5
06-0950-73	4.78 ± 4.1	3.37± 9.5	1.4 ±10
		Average	e 1.2±16%

^a All results are reported to a reference time of 1 January 1975 (001.0002, 75).



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Table 10 presents a comparison of all vegetation samples that showed positive 241 Am via gamma spectrometry. This limited data set of five samples exhibits a mean MCL:LLL ratio of $0.95 \pm 22\%$, with no evidence for significant bias. Wet-chemistry results are the simple averages of the individual determinations by carrier and carrier-free dissolution procedures. As indicated earlier in the section on quality control, wetchemistry determinations of Am in vegetation may be systematically low. In addition, the large uncertainties in the individual gamma measurements provide for a very broad range of possible ratios. Thus, there is no reason to conclude that there is any significant difference between wet chemistry and gamma spectrometry of ²⁴¹Am in vegetation.

In all other cases wet chemistry provided a more sensitive measure of $^{\rm 241}{\rm Am}$ concentration than did gamma spectrometry. For vegetation samples, increases in sensitivity were in the range of 2.1- to 637-fold. Animal samples exhibited increases in the range of 1.2- to 7.4-fold.

WET-CHEMISTRY ANALYSES OF 241 Am VS 239,240_{P11}

Results for ²⁴¹Am and ^{239,240}Pu were compared in those samples selected for wet chemistry. Concentration ratios of ²⁴¹ Am to ²³⁹ Pu and to 239+240 Pu were calculated. The purposes of these computations were to examine any differences between sample types (soil vs vegetation) and sampling location (Bikini vs Eneu), and to determine mean ratios

Table 10. Comparison of α -PHA and gamma-spectrometric analyses for Am in vegetation (MCL vs LLL).^a

Master log number	α-PHA (MCL) dpm/g	Gamma spectrometry (LLL), dpm/g	MCL:LLL
01-0639-10	0.44±10%	0.34±30%	1.3 ±32%
01-0641-10	0.75±19	0.91±55	0.82±58
01-0803-10	4.9 ±17	6.1 ±20	0.80±26
01-0829-10	0.43±11	0.51±56	0.84±57
01-0850-10	1.67± 5.2	1.6 ±30	1.0 ±30
		Avera	ge 0.95±22%

 $^{
m a}$ All results are reported to a reference time of 1 January 1975 (001.000Z, 75).

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for the calculation of wet-chemistryequivalent ²⁴¹ Am concentrations. Comparisons of the Bikini soil, Eneu soil, and Bikini vegetation are presented in Tables 11, 12, and 13, respectively. Only those samples giving positive ²⁴¹ Am and ^{239,240} Pu signals have been included.

From Table 11 it is apparent that the Bikini soils exhibit quite consistent ²⁴¹ Am: Pu ratios regardless of the profile depth. In fact, the agreement among the mean ratios for the various profiles is rather remarkable. Results indicate that the average dpm ratios of ²⁴¹Am: ²³⁹Pu and ²⁴¹Am: ²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰Pu on the island are quite specific and are $1.17 \pm 8.1\%$ and $0.550 \pm 8.1\%$, respectively. As evidenced in Table 12, there is also excellent agreement among the Eneu soil samples. Although the total number of samples is considerably less, there is no appreciable variation with profile depth. For Eneu Island soil samples, the 241 Am: 239 Pu and 241 Am: $^{239+240}$ Pu dpm ratios are 1.08 ± 3.0% and 0.512 ± 3.6%, respectively. Statistically, there is no difference between the ²⁴¹ Am to Pu concentration ratios of these two islands. Bikini vegetation ratios in Table 13 are in reasonable statistical agreement as indicated by the fact that the average dpm ratios exhibit lower deviations than any of the individual determina-

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tions. Although the average 241 Am: 239 Pu and 241 Am: $^{239+240}$ Pu dpm ratios of 1.11 ± 8.1% and 0.512 ± 7.9% are different than those in the Bikini soils when compared on an absolute basis, the deviations associated with the individual determinations indicate that the soil and vegetation ratios are the same.

PLUTONIUM-ISOTOPE RESULTS

Mean isotopic atom ratios of 240 Pu and 241 Pu to 239 Pu have been calculated from the individual mass spectrometric results. These ratios from the various sample types and sampling locations are presented in Table 14. Also included are the activity ratios as determined from the mean atom ratios and half-lives listed in Table 4. Soil results from the two islands are indistinguishable. Statistically, the soil and vegetation results are in agreement. The absolute differences between the $^{240}\mathrm{Pu};^{239}\mathrm{Pu}$ soil and vegetation results show the difficulties associated with the measurement of minor isotope in samples with low concentrations. Extensive experience in mass spectrometry has shown that for low level samples such as vegetation, measurement of minor isotopes will be biased higher than the actual concentrations. To construe that the differences in soil and vegetation are an indication of fractionation would be erroneous.

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Master log number	239 _{Pu} dpm/g	239+240 _{Pu} dpm/g	241 _{Am} dpm/g	241 239 2 Am: ²³⁹ Pu dpm ratio	39 239+240 _{Pu} Am: dpm ratio
<u>-</u>		Profile	000-005		
01-0001-90	7.53±0.8%	15.7 ±0.7%	9.26±0.7%	1.23 ±1.0%	0.590±1.0%
01-0011-90	5.64±0.9	11.9 ±0.6	6.98±4.8	1.24 ±4.9	0.588±4.9
01-0045-90	1.30±1.8	2.82±2.0	1.56±2.4	1.21 ±3.0	0.554±3.1
01-0055-90	6.98±0.7	15.0 ±0.7	8.04±0.9	1.15 ±1.1	0.536±1.1
01-0074-90	4.33±0.5	9.23±0.4	5.23±3.0	1.21 ±3.0	0.566±3.0
01-0087-90	2.29±0.8	4.82±0.7	2.06±9.2	0.900±9.2	0.427±9.2
01-0119-90	4.81±1.3	10.2 ±1.4	5.81±3.2	1.21 ±3.5	0.570±3.5
01-0273-90	12.2 ±1.0	26.0 ±1.1	14.8 ±3.9	1.21 ±4.0	0.570±4.0
01-0286-90	5.75±0.9	12.3 ±0.9	7.12±7.0	1.24 ±7.0	0.580±7.0
01-0329-90	12.4 ±1.1	26.1 ±1.0	13.6 ±2.5	1.10 ±2.7	0.520±2.6
01-0341-90	39.5 ±2.1	84.1 ±1.8	50.8 ±5.6	1.29 ±6.0	0.604±5.9
01-0352-90	2.64±0.6	5.58±0.6	3.02±1.4	1.14 ±1.5	0.541±1.5
01-0382-90	2.47±0.5	5.25±0.5	2.74±2.0	1.11 ±2.1	0.523±2.1
01-9341-90	38.0 ±0.7	81.0 ±0.5	47.1 ±2.8	1.24 ±2.8	0.582±2.8
			Average	1.18 8.2%	0.554±8.0%
		Profile (005-010		
01-0002-91	6.91±0.5%	14.6 ±0.4%	7.88±1.2%	1.14 ±1.2%	0.538±1.2%
01-0012-91	3.87±0.6	8.33±0.8	4.39±1.7	1.13 ±1.8	0.528±1.9
01-0046-91	3.56±0.5	7.66±0.4	4.32±3.1	1.21 ±3.1	· 0.563±3.1
01-0056-91	8.89±1.2	18.7 ±1.2	10.6 ±1.7	1.19 ±2.1	0.567±2.1
01-0076-91	15.8 ±0.5	33.6 ±0.5	19.5 ±1.6	1.23 ±1.7	0.579±1.7
01-0088-91	1.46±0.6	3.09±0.6	1.46±8.4	0.998±8.4	Q.474±8.4
01-0111-01	16.6 ±1.6	35.0 ±1.3	19.3 ±1.9	1.16 ±2.5	0.551±2.3
01-0120-91	7.71±0.6	16.3 ±0.5	8.97±3.4	1.16 ±3.5	0.550±3.4
01-0274-91	1.05±0.5	2.38±0.6	1.20±3.4	1.14 ±3.5	0.505±3.5
01-0287-91	11.8 ±0.4	25.1 ±0.3	13.4 ±6.8	1.14 ±6.8	0.536±6.8
01-0330-91	15.2 ±0.5	32.1 ±0.4	21.5 ±7.6	1.41 ±7.6	0.669±7.6
01-0342-91	5.52±0.6	11.9 ±0.5	7.62±1.8	1.38 ±1.9	0.639±1.8
01-0353-91	1.62±1.4	. 3.49±1.3	1.77±1.8	1.10 ±2.2	0.508±2.2

Table 11. Wet-chemistry results of ²⁴¹ Am vs Pu in Bikini soil.^a

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Master log	239 _{Pu}	239+240 _{Pu}	241 2 Am	241 239 2 Am: ²³⁹ Pu ²	41 _{Am} : ²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu
number	dpm/g	dpm/g	dpm/g	dpm ratio	dpm ratio
01-0383-91	. 3.20 ±3.2%	7.06±3.8%	3.67 ±1.7%	1.15 ±3.6%	0.520±4.2%
01-9088-91	1.43 ±0.6	2.99±0.5	1.61 ±2.0	1.13 ±2.1	0.538±2.1
01-9111-91	16.6 ±0.4	34.9 ±0.3	19.6 ±0.9	1.18 ±1.0	0.561±1.0
•			Average	1.18±8.4%	0.552±8.7%
		Profile	010-015		
01-0003-92	9.53 ±2.9%	10.2 ±3.5%	11.4 ±2.9%	1.20± 4.1%	0.564± 4.5
01-0047-92	1.14 ±1.5	2.41±1.3	1.2 ±13	1.0 ±13	0.49 ±13
01-0076-92	22.9 ±0.3	48.6 ±0.5	27.7 ±9.5	1.21± 9.5	0.570± 9.5
01-0121-92	11.9 ±0.3	25.2 ±0.4	14.5 ±2.5	1.22± 2.5	0.575± 2.5
01-0275-92	0.738±0.9	1.72±1.0	0.884±3.2	1.20± 3.4	0.514± 3.4
01-0288-92	18.0 ±1.4	38.2 ±1.7	21.7 ±4.5	1.21± 4.7	0.568± 4.8
01-0331-92	30.7 ±1.9	63.8 ±1.9	41.0 ±2.2	1.34± 2.9	0.643± 2.9
01-0343-92	0.899±0.8	1.98±1.0	1.02 ±7.3	1.13± 7.3	0.512± 7.4
01-0354-92	0.588±3.8	1.25±4.7	0.69 ±16	1.2 ±16	0.55 ±17
01-0384-92	4.25 ±0.4	8.97±0.4	4.85 ±1.6	1.14± 1.6	0.541± 1.6
			Average	1.18±7.3%	0.553±7.8%
		Surfa	ace		
01-0110-01	9.92±0.5	21.0±0.5	11.3±5.8	1.14±5.8	0.539±5.8
		Profile (015-020		
01-0112-01	20.4±0.4	42.5±0.3	23.5±0.8	1.16±0.9	0.554±0.8
		Profile (015-025		
01-0057-92	14.7±1.0	31.1±1.0	17.5±2.1	1.19±2.3	0.563±2.3
		Profile 1	LO5-115		
01-0086-01	9.04±0.6	18.8±0.4	9.67±8.7	1.07±8.7	0.514±8.7
	Soil arou	nd roots (Pap	aya No. 1 Hou	se 24)	
01-0116-01	16.6±0.5	34.7±0.4	18.0±3.4	1.09±3.4	0.519±3.4

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Table 11. (Continued)

Master log number	239 _{Pu} dpm/g	239+240 _{Pu} dpm/g	241 Am dpm/g	241 239 Am: ²³⁹ Pu dpm ratio	241_239+240 Am: Pu dpm ratio
	Soil unde	er roots (Pap	aya No. l Ho	use 24)	
01-0117-01	0.0734±0.9	0.153±1.5	0.073±15	1.0±15	0.48±15
	Soil under	plastic (Pa	paya No. 1 H	ouse 24)	
01-0118-01	20.0±2.0	41.9±1.7	26.4±1.0	1.32±2.2	0.630±2.0
		Overall	Soil Averag	e 1.17±8.1%	0.550±8.1%

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b :

Master log number	²³⁹ Pu dpm/g	239+240 _{Pu} dpm/g	241 _{Am} dpm/g	241 Am 239 Pu dpm ratio	241 Am 239+240 Pu dpm ratio
		0-15 cm soil	sample		
06-0707-32	3.62 ±0.6%	7.63 ±0.8%	4.07 ± 1.3%	l.12± 1.4%	0.533± 1.5%
06-0708-32	8.02 ±1.8	17.1 ±1.5	9.02 ± 1.3	1.12± 2.2	0.527± 2.0
06-0718-32	3.05 ±0.4	6.38 ±0.4	3.03 ± 8.1	1.08± 8.1	0.517± 8.1
06-0719-32	2.34 ±0.5	4.84 ±0.9	2.47 ± 3.7	1.05± 3.7	0.510± 3.8
06-0722-32	0.756 ±7.7	1.60 ±6.7	0.811 ± 2.4	1.07± 8.1	0.508± 7.1
06-0727-32	0.0854±2.7	0.190±4.4	0.0895± 9.4	1.05± 9.8	0.47 ±10
06-0732-32	2.89 ±1.1	6.03 ±0.4	3.2 ±10	1.1 ±10	0.53 ±10
06-0740-32	·0.725 ±0.5	1.54 ±0.5	0.764 ± 5.1	1.05± 5.2	0.498± 5.2
06-0752-32	2.28 ±0.6	4.72 ±0.6	2.42 ± 4.7	1.06± 4.7	0.512± 4.7
06-0753-32	2.88 ±0.9	5.99 ±0.8	2.94 ± 3.0	1.02± 3.2	0.491± 3.1
06-0758-32	3.58 ±1.1	7.52 ±1.1	3.78 ± 5.1	1.06± 5.2	0.503± 5.2
06-0765-32	0.680 ±1.0	1.40 ±1.0	0.72 ±10	1.1 ±10	0.51 ±10
			Average	1.07±2.9%	0.509±3.5%
		Profile 02	5-035		
06-0936-94	6.32±2.2	13.0±2.4	6.69±1.2	1.06±2.5	0.513±2.7
		Profile 03	0-040		
06-0950-73	4.24±2.0	8.83±2.1	4.78±4.1	1.13±4.6	0.541±4.6
		Overall soil	average	1.08 3.0%	0.512 3.6%

Table 12. Wet-chemistry results of ²⁴¹ Am vs Pu in Eneu soil.^a

^a All results are reported to a reference time of 1 January 1975 (001.000Z, 75).



Master log number	Sample description	239 _{Pu} dpm/g	239+240 _{Pu} dpm/g	241 _{Am} dpm/g	241 _{Am:} 239 _{Pu} dpm ratio	$\frac{241_{Am}}{239+240_{Pu}}$ dpm ratio
01-0639-10	Old litter (coconut)	0.371 ± 4.7%	0.791 ± 4.5%	0.44 ±10%	1.2 ±11%	0.55 ±11%
01-0641-10	Composite litter: Papaya from 6 trees	0.729 ± 0.5	1.57 ± 1.3	0.75 ±19	1.0 ±19	0.48 ±19
01-0800-10	Mature pandanus leaves	0.139 ± 0.8	0.307 ± 1.4	0.165± 8.3	1.19± 8.3	0.537± 8.4
01-0802-10	Young pandanus leaves	· · · ·	0.14 ±18	0.073±14		0.53 ±23
01-0803-10	Pandanus roots	4.4 ±19	9.5 ±18	4.9 ±17	1.1 ±25	0.51 ±25
01-0804-10	Fallen fruit, papaya #2	0.0282± 1.3	0.0631± 3.2	0.032±10	1.1 ±11	0.50 ±11
01-0806-10	Young leaves, papaya #2	0.191 ± 4.2	0.426 ± 3.7	0.236± 7.1	1.24± 8.2	0.554± 8.0
01-0829-10	Root and crown of banana tree	0.393 ± 4.8	0.844 ± 6.3	0.43 ±11	1.1 ±12	0.50 ±12
01-0830-10	Breadfruit litter	0.0597± 3.4	0.139 ± 3.7	0.061±15	1.0 ±15	0.44 ±15
01-0839-10	Senescent leaves messerschmidia	0.0518± 5.5	0.118 ± 6.3	0.052±14	1.0 ±15	0.44 ±15
01-0847-10	Top litter Scaevola	0.121 ± 2.3	0.248 ± 3.8	0.127± 8.1	1.05± 8.4	0.512± 8.9
01-0850-10	Pandanus roots	1.43 ± 9.4	3.05 ± 9.2	1.67 ± 5.2	1.2 ±11	0.55 ±11
01-0853-10	Senescent <u>Scaevola</u> leaves		0.18 ±19	0.103± 8.7	,	0.56 ±21
				Average	1.11±8.1%	0.512±7.92

, Table 13. Wet-chemistry results of ²⁴¹ Am vs Pu in Bikini vegetation.^a

^a All results are reported to a reference time of 1 January 1975 (001.000Z, 75).

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$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$					
Sample type atom ratio atom ratio dpm ratio dpm ratio Bikini soil 0.305±5.2% 0.013±12% 1.14±5.2% 22±12% Eneu soil 0.301±7.2 0.013±15 1.12±7.2 22±15 Bikini vegetation 0.315±7.6 0.014±14 1.18±7.6 24±14 Eneu vegetation 0.326±6.6 1.22±6.6		240:239 _{Pu}	241:239 _{Pu}	240:239 _{Pu}	241:239 _{Pu}
Bikini soil 0.305±5.2% 0.013±12% 1.14±5.2% 22±12% Eneu soil 0.301±7.2 0.013±15 1.12±7.2 22±15 Bikini vegetation 0.315±7.6 0.014±14 1.18±7.6 24±14 Eneu vegetation 0.326±6.6 1.22±6.6	Sample type	atom ratio	atom ratio	dpm ratio	dpm ratio
Eneu soil 0.301±7.2 0.013±15 1.12±7.2 22±15 Bikini vegetation 0.315±7.6 0.014±14 1.18±7.6 24±14 Eneu vegetation 0.326±6.6 1.22±6.6	Bikini soil	0.305±5.2% .	0.013±12%	1.14±5.2%	22±1 2%
Bikini vegetation 0.315±7.6 0.014±14 1.18±7.6 24±14 Eneu vegetation 0.326±6.6 1.22±6.6	Eneu soil	0.301±7.2	0.013±15	1.12±7.2	22±15
Eneu vegetation 0.326±6.6 1.22±6.6	Bikini vegetation	0.315±7.6	0.014±14	1.18±7.6	24±14
	Eneu vegetation	0.326±6.6		1.22±6.6	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Table 14. Plutonium isotopic results from wet-chemistry analyses.^a

^a All results are reported to a reference time of 1 January 1975 (001.000Z, 75).

Acknowledgments

The field portion of the June 1975 radiological survey of Bikini and Eneu Islands of Bikini Atoll was accomplished by a very intense and thorough effort by 21 people representing six different organizations. The number of samples collected and the amount of information obtained during the ten-day survey is a direct result of the cooperation and diligent effort of the following individuals: Wayne Bliss

Environmental Protection Agency,

Las Vegas, Nevada

Bruce Clegg

Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Dave Coles

Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Tom Crites

Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Rod Eagle

Lawrence Livermore Laboratory

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Harley Erwicker Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Nat Greenhouse Brookhaven National Laboratory Paul Gudiksen Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Gale Holladay Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Bob Keller Nevada Operations Office (ERDA) Dennis McBreen Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Tommy McCraw Division of Operational Safety (ERDA) Ben Mendoza Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Vic Nelson University of Washington

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Vic Noshkin	H.	Aning
Lawrence Livermore Laboratory	D.	Beach
Frank Reed	М.	Beckinger
Environmental Protection Agency,	Ρ.	Carlson
Las Vegas, Nevada	W.	Clark
Jim Schweiger	R.	Draper
Lawrence Livermore Laboratory	W.	Dunlap
·Robert Spies	D.	Efurd
Lawrence Livermore Laboratory	н.	Erdman
John Stewart	D.	Fletcher
Nevada Operations Office (ERDA)	W.	Fuqua
Marshall Stuart	с.	Gay
Lawrence Livermore Laboratory	J.	Gholson
	D.	Griswold
Thanks is extended to the following	R.	Grogg
personnel for the superb job done in	J.	Hadl
the processing of all soil and vege-	Н.	Hamilton
tation samples collected during the	R.	Haslett
survey:	E.	Henry
Jim Schweiger LLL	L.	Hume
Ben Mendoza LLL	R.	Jefferies
Greg Calvaird RECO	R.	Johnson
Elizabeth Fletcher RECO	М.	Kantelo
Nancy Sawley LLL	Ρ.	Leciejewski
Cynthia Tafoya LLL	J.	Lucas
Marshall Stuart LLL	R.	Mayhew
Gratitude is also extended to the	с.	McBrearty
following personnel from McClellan	G.	Merrill
Central Laboratory for their excellent	J.	Miles
effort in the wet chemistry analysis	J.	Miner
of the soil vegetation and animal	Μ.	Mount
samples:	W.	Myers
A. Ackland	т.	Nibarger
R. Aduddel	т.	Opiela

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L. Alexander

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R. Osborne

A. Paglione

J. Phelps

J. Phillips

C. Rheault

J. Riggs

R. San Miguel

B. Scholl

·R. Schwarting

D. Seymour

J. Sexton

P. Sparman

W. Summers

W. Tracey

R. Wagoner

W. Washer

L. Williams

.J. Wright

and to the following LLL personnel who were involved in the gamma spectrometry of all samples:

Jesse Meadows Mike Allen Ruth Anderson

Robert Wikkerink

William Phillips has done a fine job in establishing, writing, updating

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and correcting the rather extensive data bank generated by the analytical efforts.

The survey crew extends its thanks to Dr. Guy Haywood for medical support during the survey operation and to the Nevada Operations Office and Pacific Area Support Office for support services which resulted in a smooth and efficient survey. Support from the Kwajalein Missile Range and the site contractor, Global Associates, as well as from the crew of the R. V. Liktanur is greatly appreciated.

The outstanding cooperation of personnel from the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and from the Office of the District Administrator of the Marshall Islands, as well as that of the Bikini people, played an important part in the successful completion of the survey.

> William L. Robison Technical Director Bikini Survey June 1975

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