

National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Nuclear Testing Archive celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary**  
*National resource continues to provide historical records,  
data about Nuclear Weapons Testing Program*

**LAS VEGAS** – May marks the 40th anniversary of the Nuclear Testing Archive (NTA), the official information center for unclassified information regarding the nation’s Nuclear Weapons Testing Program.

The NTA, located at 755 East Flamingo Road, has served more than 111,000 visitors in its four-decade lifetime. Researchers and the general public alike have access to more than 398,000 indexed



documents and 100 videos from more than 110 agencies. Among the NTA’s most unique artifacts is a journal from world-renowned nuclear chemist Glenn T. Seaborg, who is credited with the discovery of plutonium in 1941, when he was chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

“We got the diary of Glenn T. Seaborg,” said Martha DeMarre, who has served as manager for 30 of her 40 years with the NTA. “He kept a daily diary throughout his research. That’s more than 15,000 entries we have indexed into our library.”

Today, the NTA primarily receives inquiries from the general public, veterans, historians, Department of Energy (DOE) and other government agencies or contractors. Between 500 and 600 people visit the NTA each month. Its physical location features a public

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reading room, research area for in-depth studies and computer access. The virtual space, <http://www.osti.gov/opennet>, houses the hundreds of thousands of bibliographic records from the NTA collection.

Administered by the DOE National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office, the NTA serves to collect, consolidate and preserve historical documents, records and data related to U.S. nuclear device testing.

Prior to the NTA's 1979 opening, records from more than 1,000 test activities – including the Nevada National Security Site, Pacific Proving Grounds and Trinity Test Site – were disseminated throughout different locations, from the National Laboratories to the various locations of the National Archives to DOE and Department of Defense Collections. In 1978, Congress called for access to Atomic



Energy Commission historical documents to be publicly accessible. Thus, the Coordination & Information Center (pictured here during the CIC Reading Room ribbon-cutting ceremony in 1981), now known as the present-day NTA, was created in 1979.

“In my view, the collection in the NTA is a national treasure and impossible to place a value on,” said Bruce W. Church, who was instrumental in the formation of the NTA in the 1970s and 80s as a DOE management official. “These documents preserve history. It is a tremendous financial investment, and the collection can't be duplicated.”

The NTA is open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, see <https://www.nnss.gov/pages/resources/NuclearTestingArchive.html>.

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The NNSS and its related facilities help ensure the security of the United States and its allies by: supporting the stewardship of the nation's nuclear deterrent; providing nuclear and radiological emergency response capabilities and training; contributing to key nonproliferation and arms control initiatives; executing national-level experiments in support of the National Laboratories; working with national security customers and other federal agencies on important national security activities; and providing long-term environmental stewardship of the NNSS's Cold War legacy.

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For more information on the NNSS, visit [www.nnss.gov](http://www.nnss.gov).

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