

**EMERGENCY EXERCISE (EMEX)00-2  
Pantex Plant - Amarillo, Texas  
August 30, 2000  
"Verser Partout"**

**SECTION VII  
NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF  
SCENARIO EVENTS**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The scenario for EMEX00-2 involves a radiological accident in the Material Access Area (MAA). Routine dismantlement operations are being conducted on two W99<sup>1</sup> weapons. An explosion occurs resulting in the deaths of four personnel (3 Production Technicians (PT) and 1 DOE employee) and injuries to four others. The explosion releases a plume (puff) of plutonium into the air which blows downwind. The plume deposits contamination both on and off the plantsite. Offsite contamination will be significant, to include personnel and equipment.

This exercise will specifically focus on:

- the potential consequences of an explosion that results in severe damage to a facility, destruction of two simulated<sup>1</sup> weapons, and deaths and injuries to plant personnel.
- the activation of emergency facilities and response personnel.
- monitoring and consequences of radioactive contamination being deposited on and off plantsite.
- potential and actual threat to the general plant population and offsite population.
- treatment, decontamination, and transportation of injured personnel to both the Central Health Facility on plant, and to the Emergency Radiation Treatment Facility (ERTF) located at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Amarillo.
- the notification of next of kin for the injured personnel (time may not permit notification for the deceased).
- the containment and recovery of contaminated areas and equipment, both on and offsite.
- transfer of command from the Fire Department to the Radiation Safety Department.
- information transfer between and among all levels of response, the media, and the public.

## 2. NARRATIVE SUMMARY

August 30, 2000 is a typical late summer day in the Texas panhandle. The normal complement of workers are at the Pantex Plant.

Operations on the W99<sup>1</sup> program in building XXXX began at 0100 hours. Two W99s<sup>1</sup> are in the facility in various stages of dismantlement. There is 100 lbs of HE and 6.5 Kg of Pu in each W99<sup>1</sup>. There are three PTs and one DOE employee in the bay.

At 0829 hours, the Operations Manager begins exiting a nearby facility to take a break.

At 0830 hours, an explosion occurs in XXXX killing the four personnel in the bay. The Operations Manager was just opening the outer personnel door of XXXX when the explosion occurred. The explosion knocks the Operations Manager (Inj #1) against the wall fracturing his left forearm in three places. Another PT (Inj #2) was riding a pedacycle nearby and the explosion startled him causing him to crash into the wall just outside XXXX. This PT's injuries are a closed fracture to right femur and severe abdominal pain. Also, a nearby SPO (Inj #3) receives a possible fractured ankle and cut hand. All three are contaminated due to the dust and small debris scattered in the ramp. A fourth injury, cuts and bruises, will occur to a PT (Inj #4) away from the accident and will not be contaminated.

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<sup>1</sup>"W99" weapon program is a **FICTITIOUS** weapon program. All associated weights are purely **HYPOTHETICAL**. The W99 designation is for **EXERCISE PURPOSES ONLY**.

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Immediately after the explosion, the Fire Department Alarm Room receives a water flow alarm for XXXX. The Operations Center also receives a "trouble" alarm on the radiation monitor. Additional utility "alarms" begin to sound.

At 0830, a Security Patrol near XXXX reports the explosion to the Central Alarm Station (CAS) and begins to block the ramp.

At 0831 hours, a Security patrol outside on the north side of XXXX reports seeing smoke coming out of the bay roof of XXXX.

At 0835, the Operations Center declares a general emergency and implements the Pantex Emergency Plan. The ERO is recalled and the transition begins from an Operations Center to an Emergency Operations Center.

At 0900 hours, the offsite field monitoring will begin.

The remainder of the exercise timeline will be scenario dependent.

### **3. RESPONSE EXPECTATIONS**

All response elements and command or communication nodes will utilize canned weather readings throughout the exercise.

On and offsite warning systems (sirens, PAs, ToneAlert Radios) will be used as if for an actual event.

The ERO should be operational within 30 minutes.

The injured should be removed from the accident area within 15 minutes and should be on their way to a medical facility within 30 minutes.

The Joint Information Center (JIC) should be operational within 1.5-2 hours.

Significant issues should be worked through by the command and control elements such as notification of next of kin, on-plant contamination, minor and severe injuries both clean and contaminated, etc.

It is anticipated that this "emergency" would quickly, within 2-3 hours, transition from an emergency into a recovery mode and turn into a FRMAC response.

The Texas Bureau of Radiation Control field monitoring teams, a Radiological Assistance Program (RAP) team from Region IV RAP, and a FRMAC Representative, will pre-stage and begin field monitoring operations around 0900.

The City of Amarillo will activate their Reception Center to process evacuees, mainly from Highland Park School.

All expected actions are outlined in applicable Emergency Preparedness Procedures (EPPs) and other related documents.

Scope of participation is outlined in Section I. **CONSIDERABLE FREE PLAY IS ANTICIPATED.**