NRF Prototypes Oral History Project

**APPROVED** Oral History Interview Questions

Prepared by Colorado State University

*Please remind interviewees that these interviews are unclassified only and should include discussions of culture and personal experiences but not technical information.*

1. When did you start working at the NRF? How did you come to work there?
2. When did you stop working at the NRF?
3. What positions did you hold at the NRF?
4. Which reactors (S1W, A1W, and/or S5G) and facilities did you work on?
5. Do you recall what your first impression/earliest memory of the NRF was?
6. Where did you live while you were working at NRF? What was that community like?
7. What were your first impression of the area/community where you lived?
8. What was your training like? (Trainees)
9. What was a typical day like for you at the NRF?
10. What is your fondest memory from your time at the NRF?
11. Do you recall memorable or important people, such as Admiral Rickover, visiting the NRF during your time there?
12. Did you ever observe the defueling/refueling the S1W, A1W, or S5G reactor? If so, when (year)? Was that a significant moment at the NRF?

[Note to interviewer – if interviewee was present for final defueling of one or more

prototype reactors, then ask how use of the building changed? And, how deactivation of a prototype reactor impacted the NRF and its personnel?]

1. How was your experience as a [employee/trainee/operator/instructor/etc] affected by occasional shut-downs of the reactors for maintenance or refueling?
2. Did you attend the shut-down ceremony(ies) for the S1W, A1W and/or the S5G? If so, what are your memories of the event?
3. Do you recall if buildings or facilities were built or expanded during your time at NRF? Which ones?
4. If you were asked to identify the most historically significant remnants of a prototype and/or its building (e.g. those you would recommend be preserved in a museum), which elements/features would you recommend?
5. What was the value of training at a facility like the NRF? How did you apply the training you received there? (Trainees)
6. How did the conclusion of the training mission impact your work and responsibilities at the NRF?
7. There was a significant change in staffing at the NRF in the mid-1990s following shut down of prototypes after the Cold War ended. Did that impact how you did your job at the NRF? Did it change how the site operated as a whole?
8. Did you ever have direct interactions with other personnel at the NRTS/INL?
9. Did you work with, or collaborate with, colleagues based elsewhere, such as Chicago, Groton, Washington D.C. or Pittsburgh in your work for the NRF? Or, were operations mostly contained within the NRF as an independent site?
10. What is your impression of the NRF’s role/importance in the larger mission of the U.S. Navy?
11. How did the training your received at NRF affect your career?
12. In your mind, what is the NRF’s legacy (or to put it another way: How did your work and activities at the NRF contribute to history of the local area or U.S. history at large)?