



FACT SHEET

Office of the
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Deployment Health Support Directorate

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Deseret Test Center Project SHAD

DTC Test 70-C

Project Shipboard Hazard and Defense (SHAD) was part of the joint service chemical and biological warfare test program conducted during the 1960s. Project SHAD encompassed tests designed to identify US warships' vulnerabilities to attacks with chemical or biological warfare agents and to develop procedures to respond to such attacks while maintaining a war-fighting capability.

The purpose of DTC Test 70-C was to characterize the naturally occurring airborne particulates in a marine atmosphere for background data applicable to the operation of biological detectors under development and to detection concepts under consideration. An additional test objective was to assess the marine and land/sea interface for phosphorescent and fluorescent emission spectra of resident flora and fauna.

As originally planned, DTC Test 70-C was to comprise 10 days of sampling each quarter of fiscal years 1973 and 1974. Ultimately, trials were conducted only twice - once in October 1972 and a again in February-March 1973. The US Naval Sealift Command ship USNS *Samuel Phillips Lee* (T-AGS 31) served as the sampling platform in October 1972. The USNS *Silas Bent* (T-AGS 26) served as the sampling platform in February and March 1973.

The Department of Defense (DoD) is providing this information, at the request of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), to assist the VA in providing healthcare services to qualified veterans and to assist veterans in establishing service connection for disability claims. The Deployment Health Support Directorate (DHSD) collected this information from multiple sources and requested that the military services declassify it to allow its public distribution. The VA accepts this information provided on location, dates, units and/or ships, and substances involved in this exercise, which DHSD extracted from classified DoD records, and will provide it to individual veterans as necessary, but the VA cannot verify its accuracy.

Test personnel used the ROYCO particle monitor sampler and the Aminco-Bowman spectrophotofluorometer analysis equipment to collect data on naturally occurring soluble and insoluble particles found in a marine environment. No chemical-biological simulants or agents were used in this test.

DTC Test 70-C trials took place in the Pacific Ocean. The first trial was conducted aboard the USNS *Samuel Phillips Lee* (T-AGS 31) between October 19 and 25, 1972 in an area 50 to 65 nautical miles off the coast of San Diego, California in the vicinity of San Clemente Island. The second trial began on February 9, 1973 when the USNS *Silas Bent* (T-AGS 26) departed San Diego, California and ended when the ship arrived at Rodman Naval Station, Balboa, Canal Zone, March 31, 1973.

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Test Name	DTC Test 70-C
Testing Organization	US Army Deseret Test Center
Test Dates	October 19-25, 1972 February 9 – March 31, 1973
Test Location	In the Pacific Ocean off the coast of San Diego, California; In the Pacific Ocean between San Diego, California and Rodman Naval Station, Balboa, Canal Zone
Test Operations	To characterize the naturally occurring airborne particulates in a marine atmosphere for background data applicable to the operation of biological detectors. To assess the marine and land/sea interface for phosphorescent and fluorescent emission spectra of resident flora and fauna.
Participating Services	US Navy Sealift Command, Deseret Test Center personnel
Units and Ships Involved	USNS <i>Samuel Phillips Lee</i> (T-AGS 31) USNS <i>Silas Bent</i> (T-AGS 26)
Dissemination Procedures	Passive collection of naturally occurring particles in a marine environment
Agents, Simulants, Tracers	None
Ancillary Testing	Not identified
Decontamination	Not applicable
Potential Health Risks Associated with Agents, Simulants, Tracers	Not applicable.

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