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ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS OF THE
HANFORD RESERVATION FOR NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1967
(ANNUAL SUMMARY)

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6.	T. H. Essig	3705 300	39.	R. L. Walsen	202A 200-E
7.	W. L. Fisher	3701-L 300	<u>Atomic Energy Commission -</u>		
8.	R. F. Foster	326 300	<u>Richland Operations Office</u>		
9.	R. B. Hall	3705 300	40.	R. B. St. John	Fed. 700
10.	J. F. Honstead	328 300	41.	M. W. Tiernan	Fed. 700
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ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS OF THE
HANFORD RESERVATION FOR NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1967

By

Evaluations and Measurements Unit Staff
Environmental Studies Section
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

edited by C. B. Wooldridge

April, 1968

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ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS OF THE HANFORD RESERVATION
FOR NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1967
(ANNUAL SUMMARY)

I. Introduction

This report summarizes data collected in 1967 from sampling locations within the Hanford plant boundaries for the routine environmental surveillance program by the Evaluations and Measurements Unit, Environmental Studies Section, Environmental Health Department, Battelle-Northwest. These environmental measurements are reported here for the information of the Richland Operations Office of the Atomic Energy Commission and its contractors.

Data from off-site sampling locations will be presented in the annual report, "Evaluation of Radiological Conditions in the Vicinity of Hanford for 1967", scheduled for issuance in June, 1968.

Since this summary contains data for the on-site environmental surveillance program, the reader may wish to retain it for reference while discarding all previous reports in the BNWL-CC-1197 series. The next issue of this report will start a new year and will contain a new set of graphs. However, these graphs will contain 13 months of data - for the current month and the 12 months preceeding - in order to facilitate comparisons.

The term "analytical limit", as used herein, is defined as the concentration at which the laboratory can measure a radionuclide with a precision of ± 100 per cent at the 90 per cent confidence level. The detection limit for a specific radionuclide varies with sample type, sample size, counting time, and the amounts of interfering radionuclides present. The "analytical limits" were chosen to represent upper bounds to these fluctuation detection limits.

The majority of the data presented in this report was supplied by the U. S. Testing Co., Inc., which performed all routine radioassays of environmental samples.

II. Surveillance Summary - 1967

A summary of 1967 surveillance highlights is given below with references to the page number(s) where more detail on the subject appears. The topics to be summarized are, in order of discussion, as follows:

1. Liquid Waste Disposal
2. Gaseous Waste Disposal
3. Surface Contamination
4. Fallout from Nuclear Weapons Testing

Liquid Waste Disposal

In June, 1967, D reactor was retired.

Fuel-element cladding failures during September and October caused increased ^{131}I concentrations in raw river water (p. 6) and in Richland drinking water.^{1,2}

Fuel oil that had leaked to the ground at 100-N was detected in samples of Columbia River water (p. 6) near the reactor area.

Disposal of low-level radioactive wastes to open swamps, ponds, and trenches resulted in several unusual events. Total beta concentrations exceeded the limit for open waters - Ref. AECM 0510, 50,000 pCi/l, in T Swamp Inlet and in T Swamp during October; the principal gamma emitters present were ^{137}Cs , ^{134}Cs , ^{106}Ru , and $^{144}\text{Ce-Pr}$. (See p. 19). Releases through the Purex Chemical Sewer resulted in several instances of high ^{131}I concentrations in B Swamp with a maximum of 370,000 pCi/l occurring in February (p. 20). ^{131}I was also observed in game birds collected from B Swamp in November (p. 21). Total alpha concentrations temporarily exceeded 50,000 pCi/l at the 234-5 Ditch outlet in November (p. 19). In addition, total alpha concentrations in samples from the 231 Z Waste Pit exceeded 50,000 pCi/l in February, March, April, October, November, and December. The maximum alpha activity was 2,000,000 pCi/l in a sample collected October 20. A gamma scan detected ^{241}Am (p. 20).

Gaseous Waste Disposal

Gaseous waste handling in the 200 Areas resulted in increases in total beta activity and ^{131}I concentrations at the end of January, in early April, May, October, and November (p. 28). A sample of atmospheric alpha activity indicated 1.6 pCi/m³ at 200-W East Center in early March. Although the radionuclide was found to be ^{239}Pu , the source of this contamination could not be identified. (See p. 41)

¹ Radiological Status of the Hanford Environs for September, 1967, BNWL-420 9, edited by G.B. Wooldridge. Pacific Northwest Laboratory, Richland, Washington, December, 1967.

² Radiological Status of the Hanford Environs for October, 1967, BNWL-420 10, edited by G.B. Wooldridge. Pacific Northwest Laboratory, Richland, Washington, January, 1968.

Gaseous Waste Disposal (cont.)

In the 300 Area, high atmospheric beta activities indicated by air filters removed in early July and in early August were attributed to the release of radioactive particles from a 300 Area stack. Localized ground contamination resulted from a release of relatively large particles from a different 300 Area stack (p. 30).

Surface Contamination

During 1967, routine road surveys found seven widely separated radioactive particles that were attributed to the transportation of radioactive wastes (p. 46). For comparison, road contamination resulting from the transportation of radioactive materials was detected twice in 1966.

The results of re-surveys of the contamination spread around the 216 B-C Crib area indicated that some particle shifting had taken place. Approximately four square miles remained contaminated (at levels up to 400 mrad/hr) with rabbit feces containing ^{90}Sr and ^{137}Cs . (See p. 49).

Contamination detected in January near 100-N Area consisted of fresh fission products and ^{60}Co that had apparently been spread by a high wind from the 100-N trench to an area east and southeast. (See p. 50).

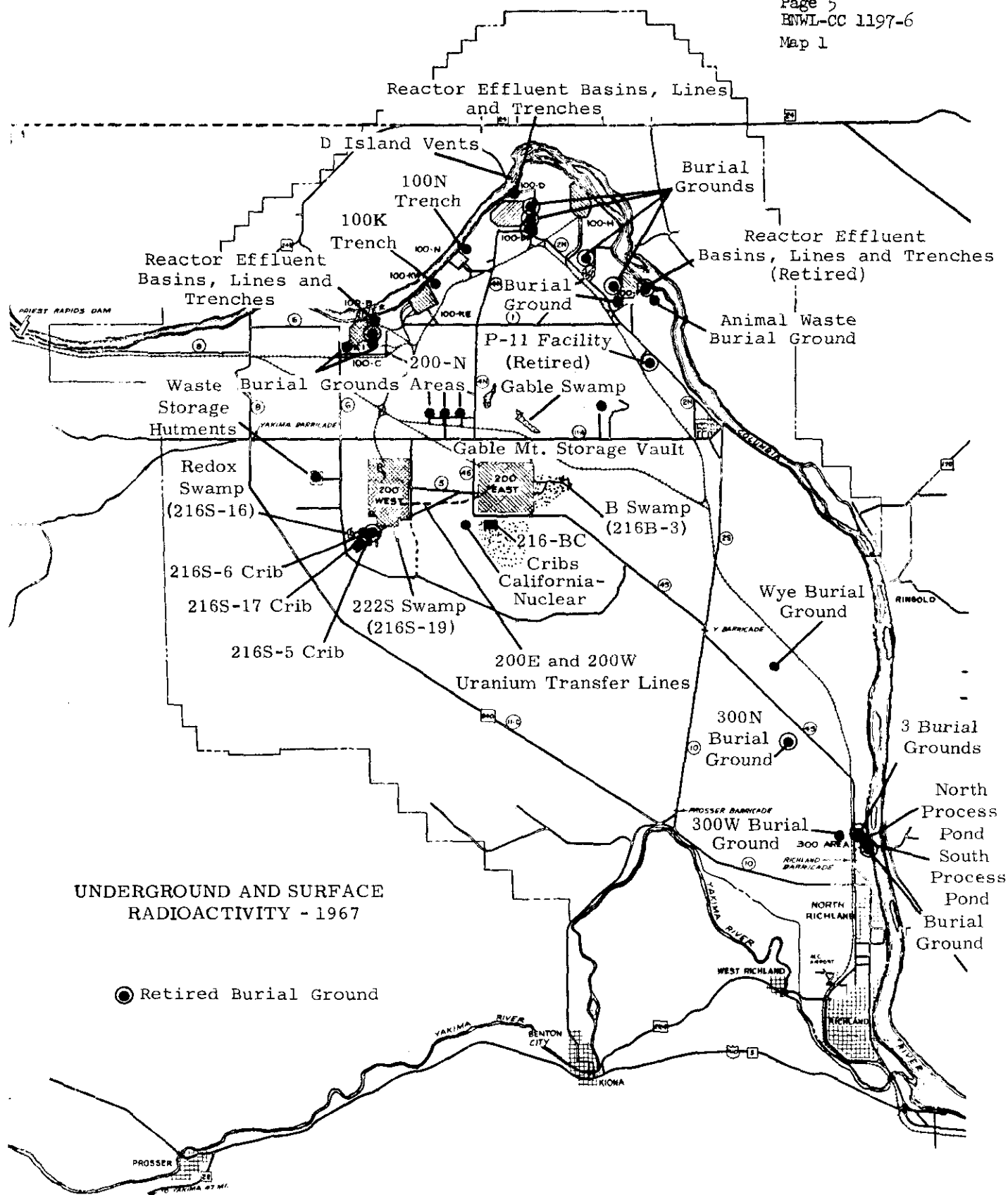
Routine surveys of control plots detected eleven radioactive particles (p. 49). Several particles (to 8,000 c/m) were found on the Wahluke Slope for the first time since 1964.

Fallout

Fallout attributed to reported nuclear weapons tests was detected three times in 1967 (pp. 29-31). A nuclear weapons test on December 27, 1966, resulted in an increase in total beta activity that was noted in early January at most sampling locations. The highest total beta concentration due to fallout was 9.7 pCi/m^3 at the 700 Area during January. In mid-year, slight increases in atmospheric beta activity were observed following a nuclear weapons test on June 17. Fallout from a nuclear weapons test on December 24, 1967, was observed at some sampling locations during the last week of December.

III. Summary of Underground and Surface Radioactivity

There are several locations within the Hanford project outside of area perimeter fences which contain underground or surface radioactivity and, therefore, require controlled access. These sites include swamps, ponds, burial grounds, etc., and are shown in Map 1 which follows.



IV. Columbia River Water

The locations from which raw water and drinking water samples were obtained during 1967 are shown in Map 2.

A. Raw Water

Weekly cumulative samples of raw Columbia River water were routinely taken at Priest Rapids Dam (Table 1) and 100-F (Figures 1-2). "Grab" samples were taken at Ringold (Figures 3-7) and Hanford (Figure 7). The monthly average results of tritium, strontium-90, total alpha, and total beta analyses of water collected above the reactors are shown below. The numbers in parentheses are the analytical limits for each analysis.

TABLE 1

Average Radionuclide Concentrations in Columbia River Water
(Weekly Cumulative Samples from Priest Rapids Dam)

<u>Month</u>	<u>^3H pCi/l</u>	<u>^{90}Sr pCi/l</u>	<u>Total β pCi/l</u>	<u>Total α c/m/ml</u>
Jan.	<1100 (1000)	0.78 (0.5)	<1 (1.0)	<0.005 (0.005)
Feb.	1700	0.72	<1	<0.005
March	1800	0.56	<1	<0.005
April	1700	0.63	<1	<0.008
May	<1200	0.68	<1	<0.005
June	1600	0.69	<1	<0.005
July	<1200	0.67	<1	<0.005
Aug.	<1200	0.52	<1	<0.005
Sept.	1700	0.79	<1.1	<0.005
Oct.	1300	<0.60	<1	<0.005
Nov.	<1000	<0.65	<1	<0.005
Dec.	<1000	<0.52	<1	<0.005

A brief summary of 1967 events is shown below.

May-June - D reactor was retired in June. Because fuel oil had leaked from 100-N, special samples of river water were obtained at 100-D and 100-F; however, no oil was detected.

July-August - The increase in ^{65}Zn concentration in the third week of August at 100-F was slightly higher than expected for this time of year.

Further sampling of river water at 100-D showed oil concentrations between 0.2 and 0.7 ppm. Samples obtained above (Priest Rapids) and below the reactor areas (100-F and Richland water plant) were not significantly different.

Weekly cumulative sampling was begun at 181-D and continued through October. Results are shown on Table 2.

TABLE 2

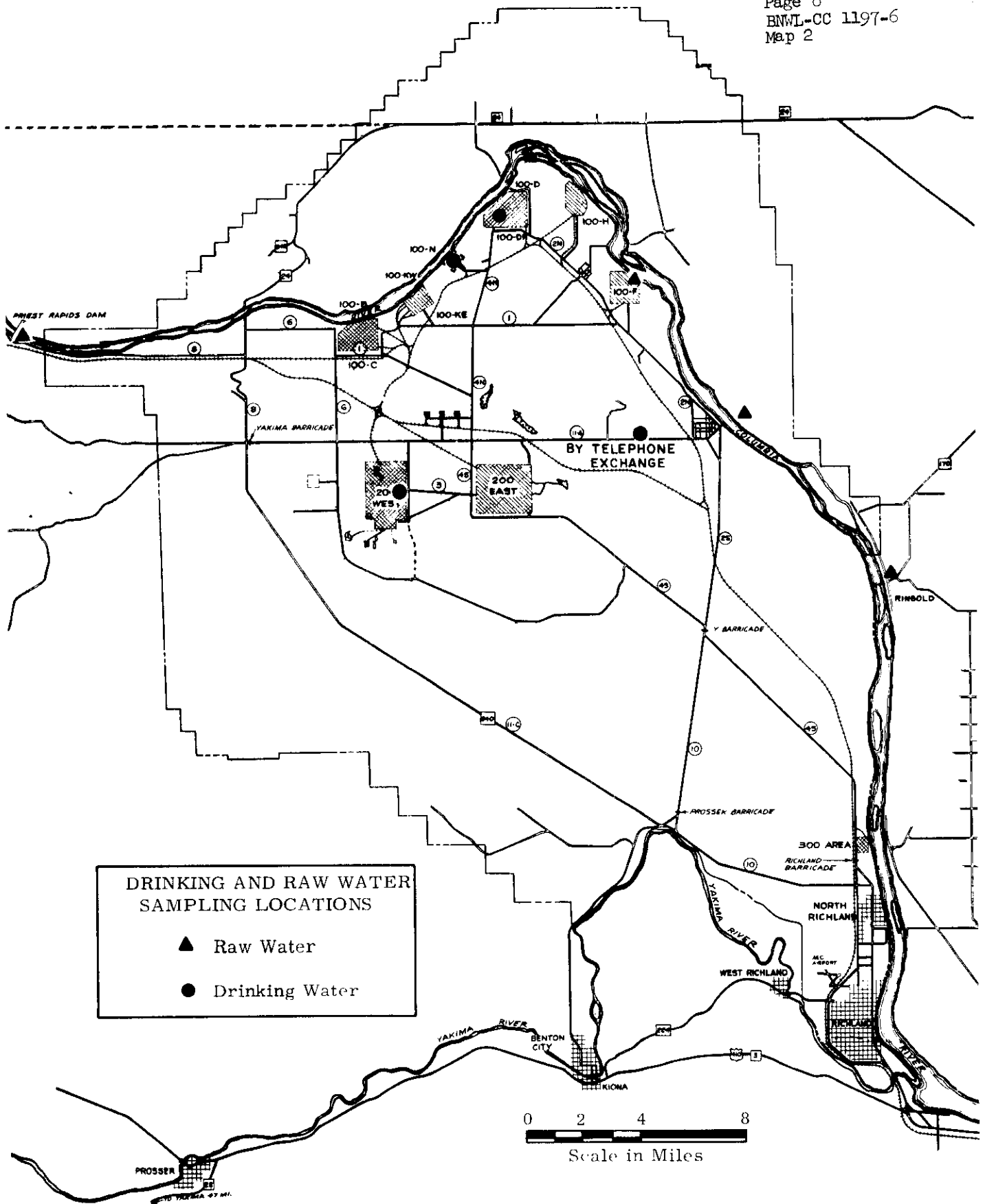
Radionuclide Concentrations in Columbia River Water
 (Cumulative Samples from 100-D)
 (pCi/l)

<u>Week Ending</u>	<u>³²P</u>	<u>⁵¹Cr</u>	<u>⁶⁵Zn</u>	<u>¹³¹I</u>
Analytical Limit	6	70	20	2
7-11	14	500	41	2
7-18	6.8	290	97	2
7-25	9.6	470	150	4.0
8-1	30	990	130	4.6
8-8	24	3900	97	13
8-15	8.2	2900	92	6.4
8-22	8.2	740	76	7.2
8-29	46	2400	100	12
9-5	180	3300	340	40
9-12	86	3700	68	43
9-19	350	7500	360	820
9-26	1000	5200	1100	130
10-3	570	3600	670	26
10-10	110	2300	98	16

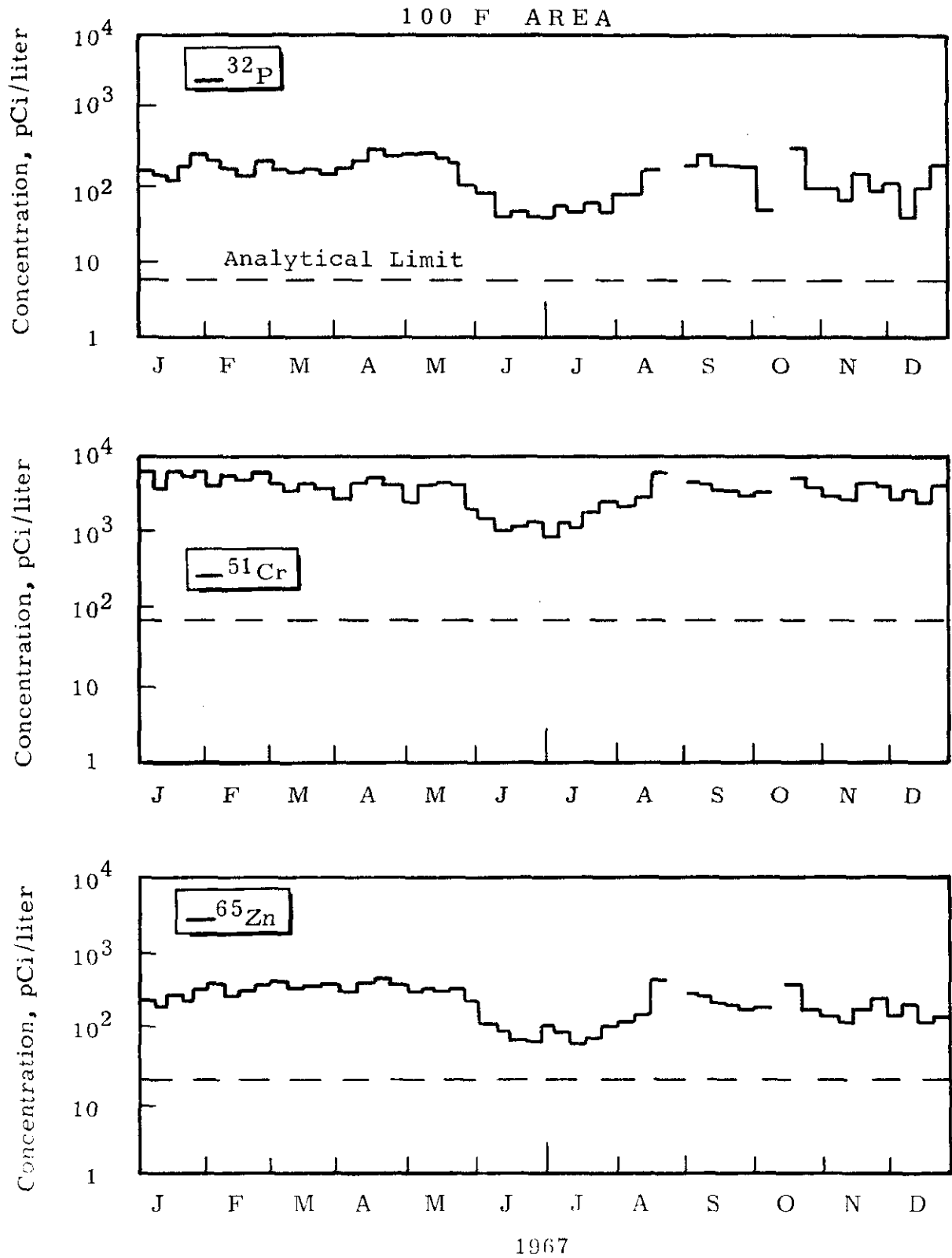
September-October - Sampling at 100-D was discontinued on October 11 because 181-D river pumps were no longer operated continuously.

Increased concentrations of ¹³¹I in Columbia River water resulted from several fuel element cladding failures. The largest single release of ¹³¹I (30-35 Ci), with associated fission products, occurred on October 27. Mid-September increases in ¹³¹I concentrations at 100-D were attributed to a fuel element cladding failure on September 16 which released about 15 Ci ¹³¹I.

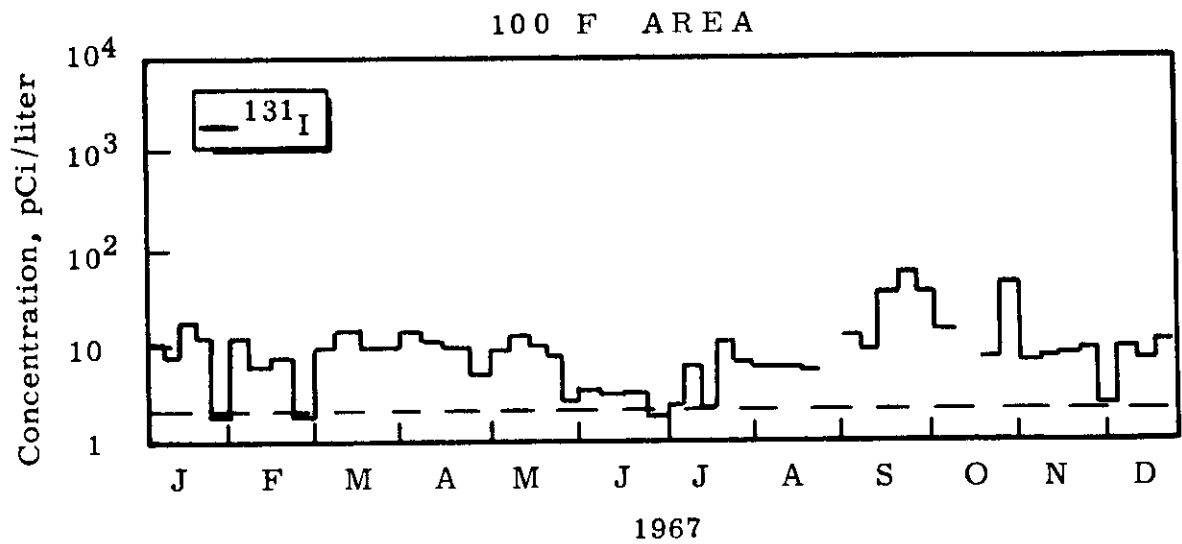
Special river water samples from four locations (Priest Rapids, 100-D, 100-F, and Richland Pumping Plant) indicated that little or no oil entered the river during September-October.



RADIOACTIVITY OF COLUMBIA RIVER WATER
(CUMULATED) SAMPLES

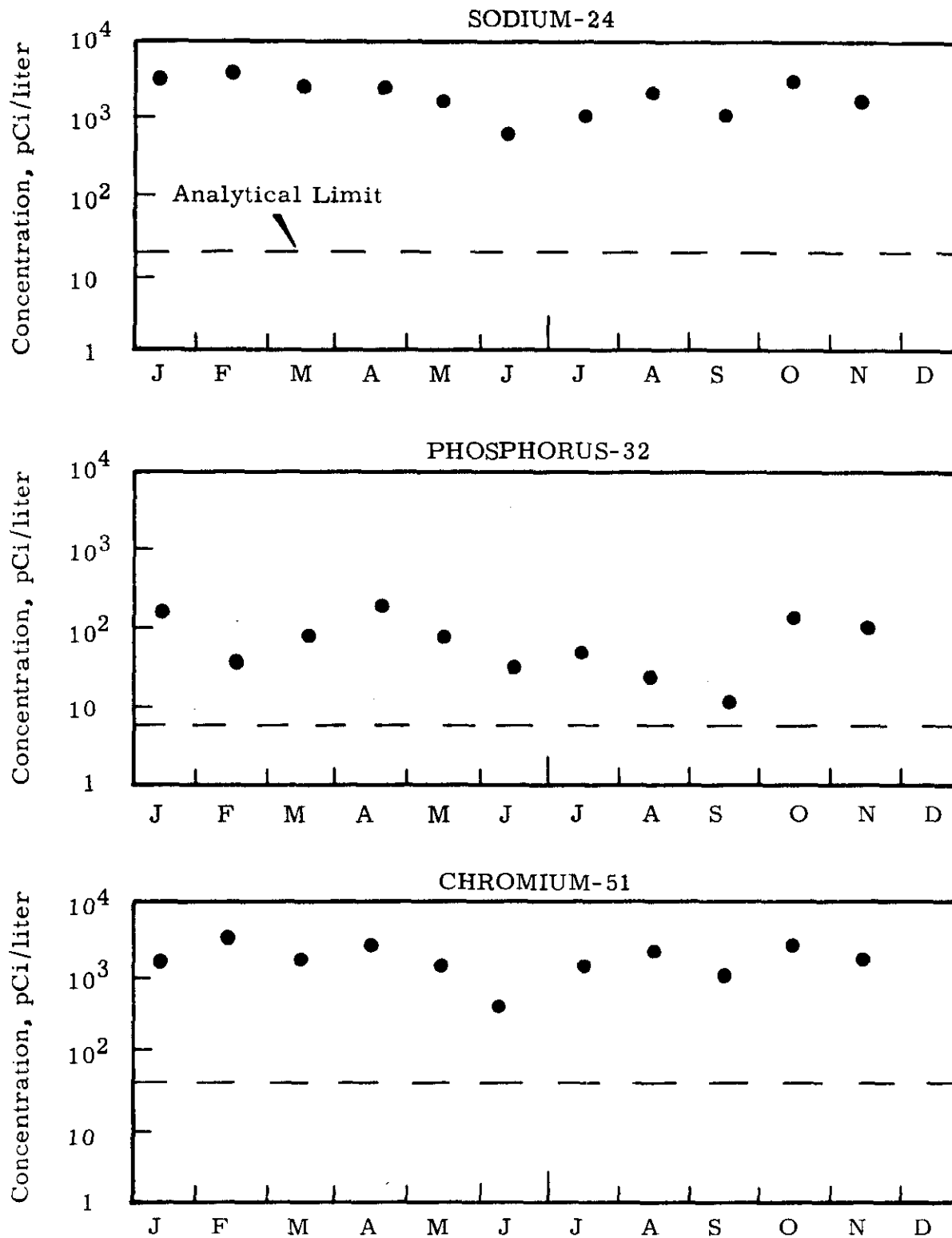


RADIOACTIVITY OF COLUMBIA RIVER RAW WATER
(CUMULATIVE) SAMPLES

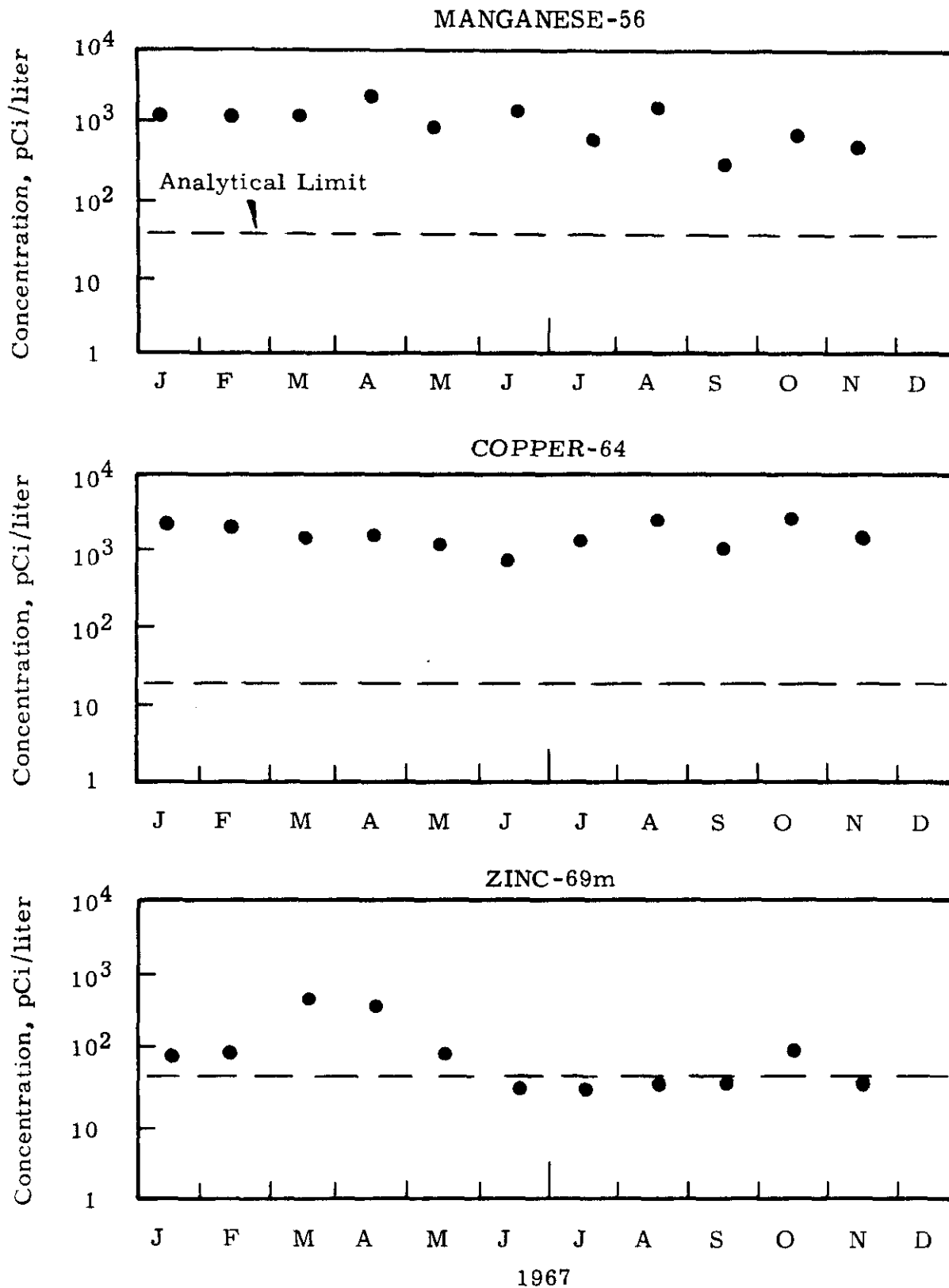


RADIOACTIVITY OF COLUMBIA RIVER RAW WATER
(GRAB) SAMPLES

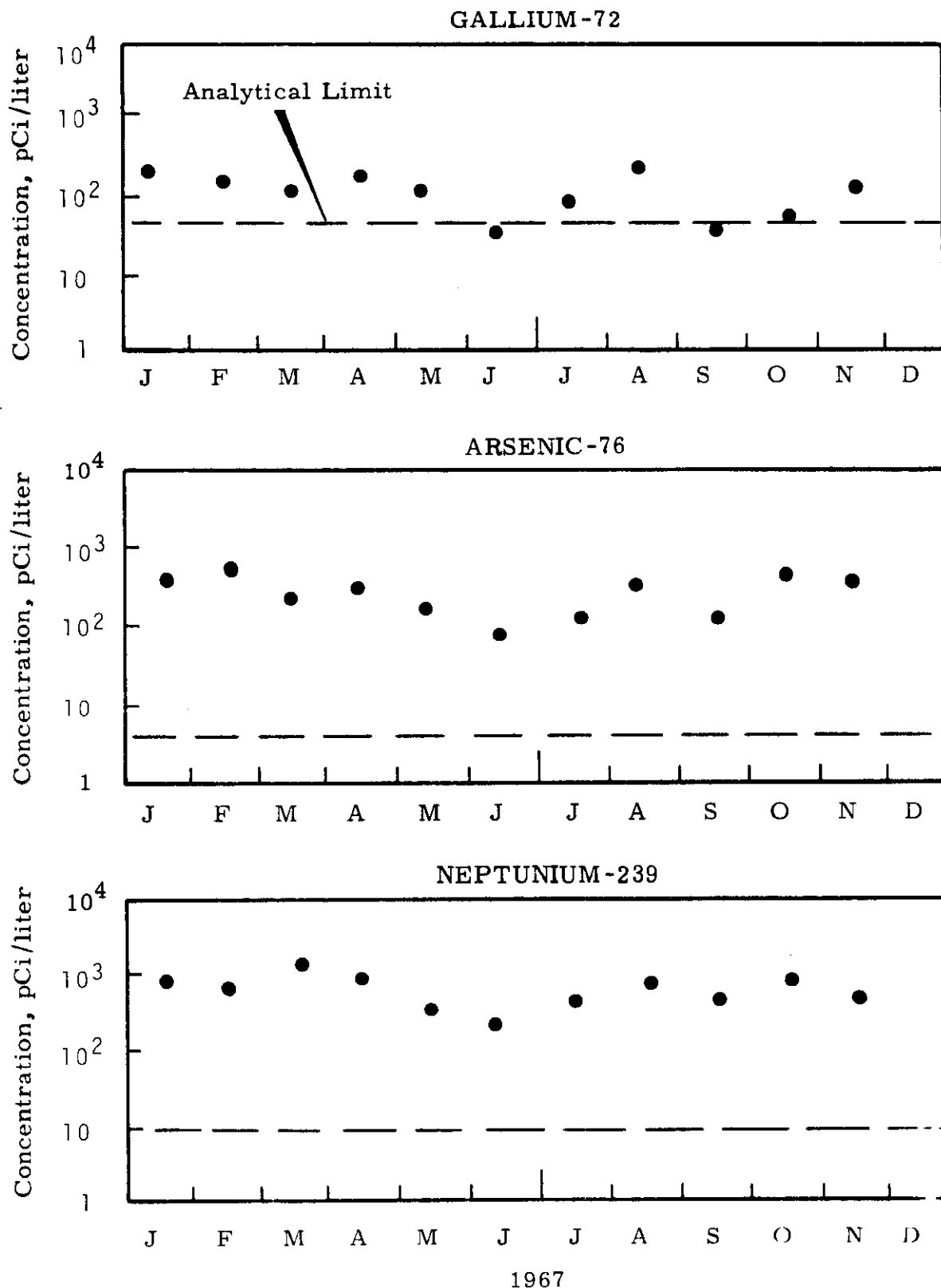
RINGOLD



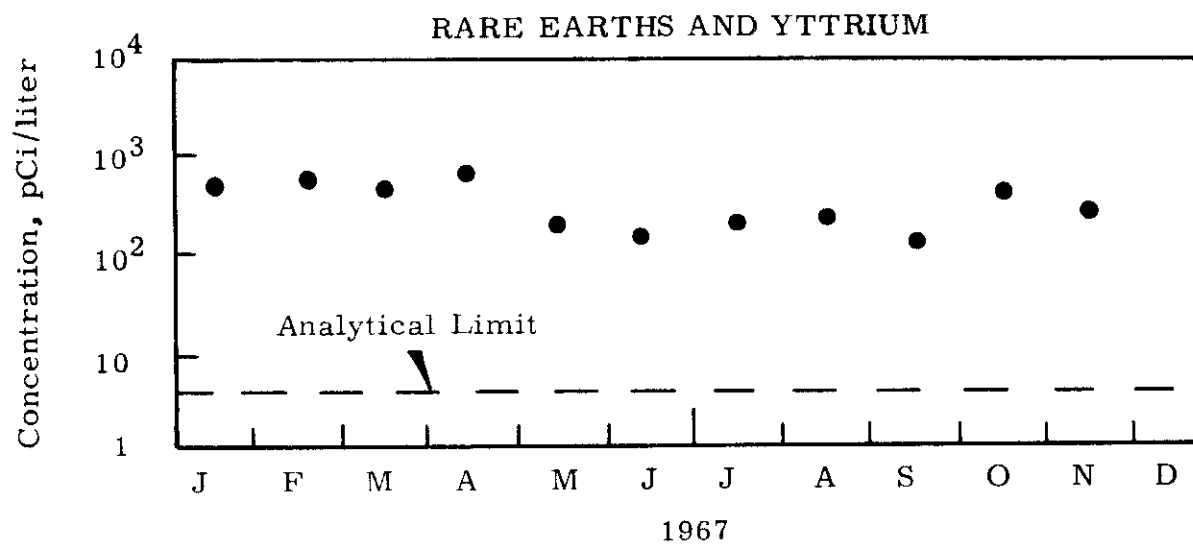
RADIOACTIVITY OF COLUMBIA RIVER
RAW WATER (GRAB) SAMPLES
RINGOLD



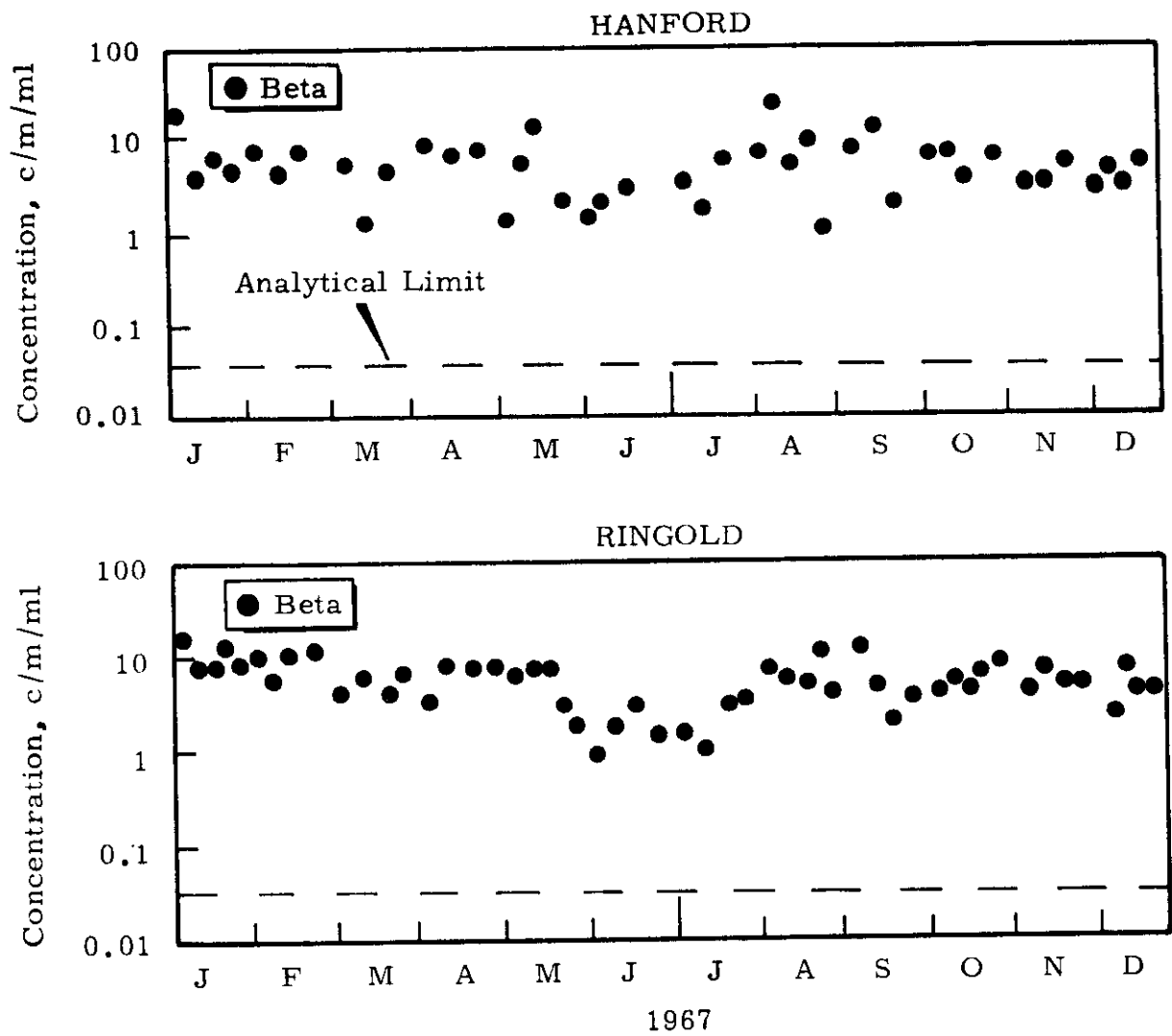
RADIOACTIVITY OF COLUMBIA RIVER
RAW WATER (GRAB) SAMPLES
RINGOLD



RADIOACTIVITY OF COLUMBIA RIVER RAW WATER
(GRAB) SAMPLES



RADIOACTIVITY OF COLUMBIA RIVER RAW WATER
(GRAB) SAMPLES

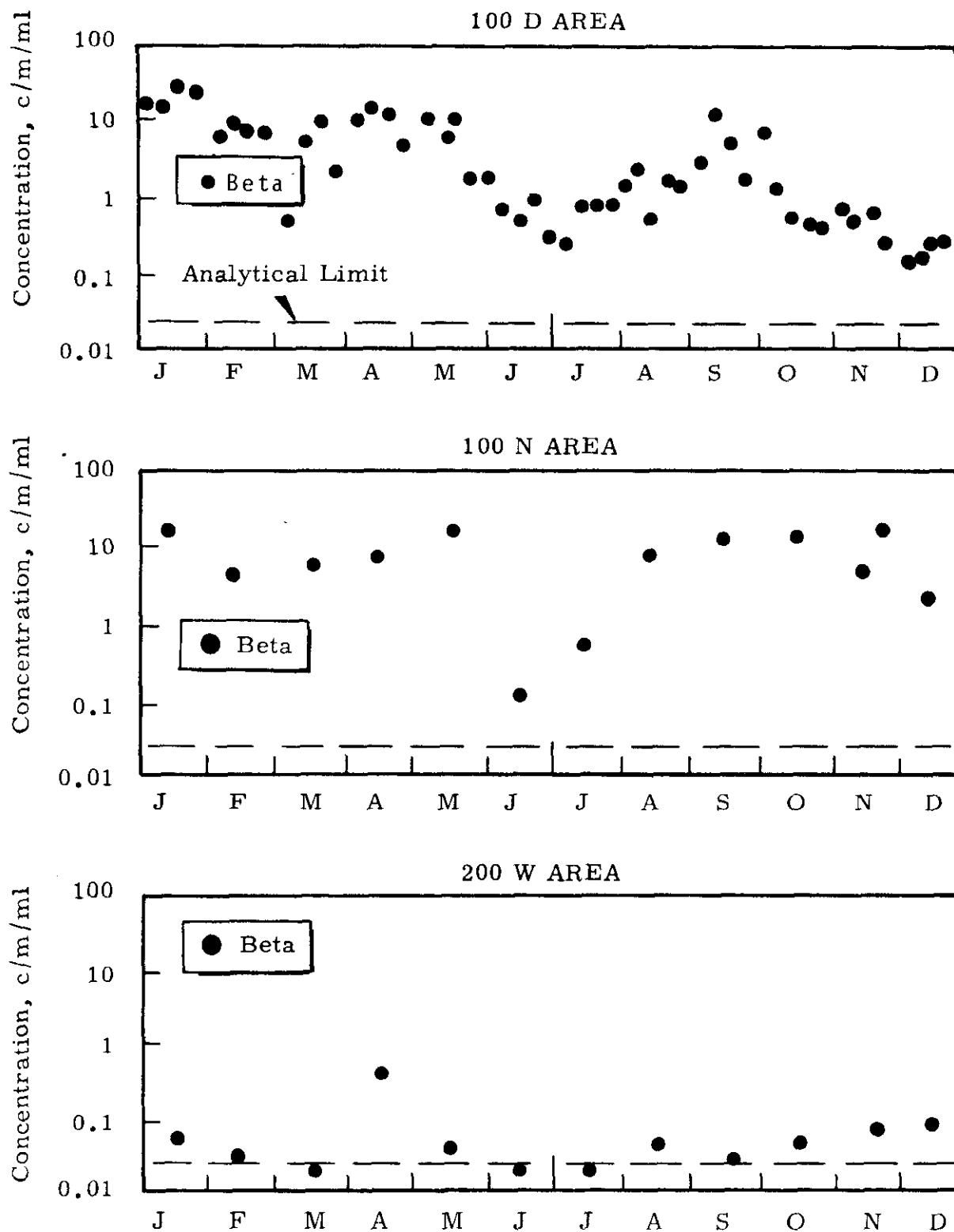


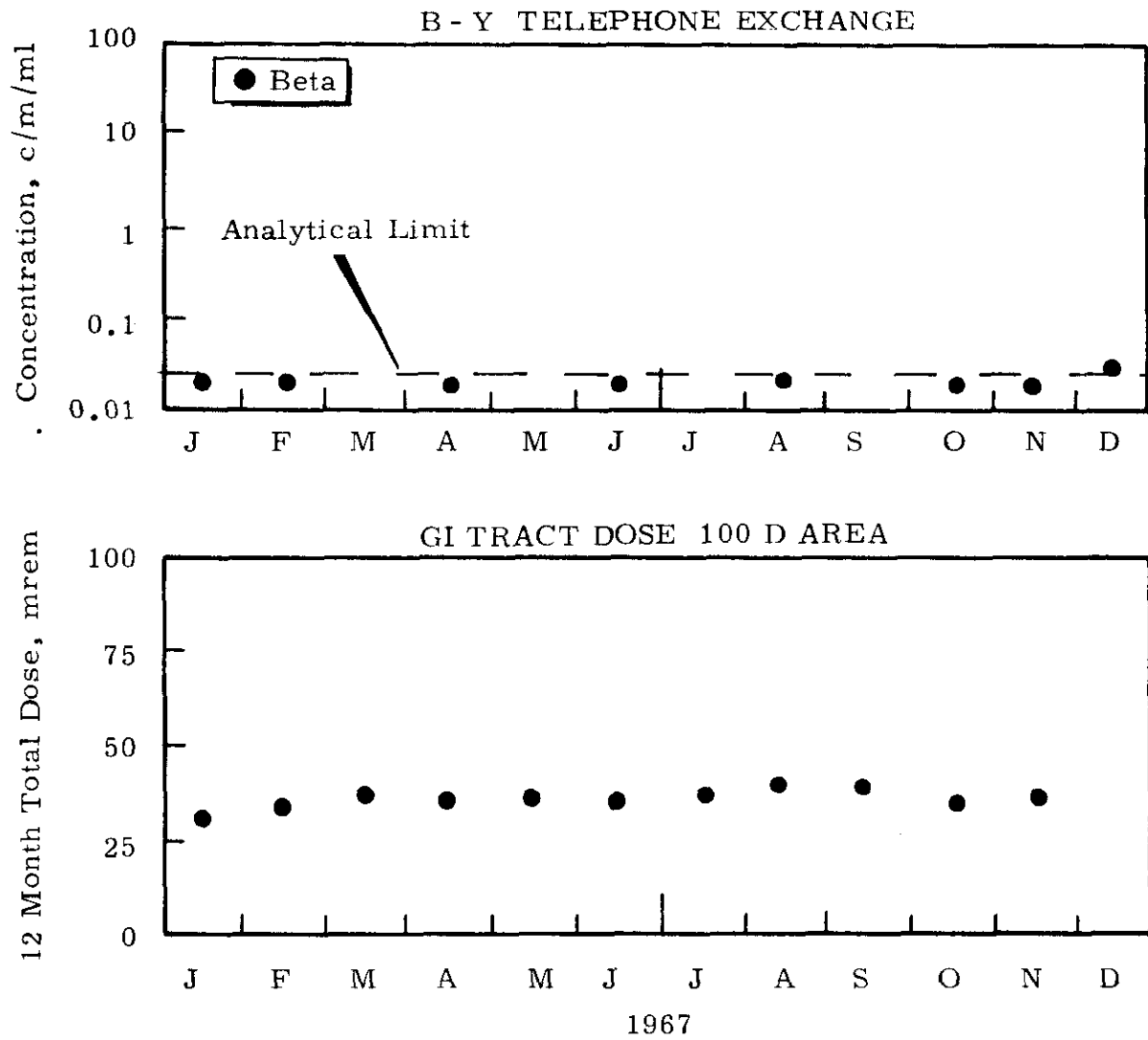
B. Drinking Water

Total beta analyses of drinking water samples taken from 100-D, 100-N, 200-W, and B-Y Telephone Exchange are shown in Figures 8 and 9. The doses to the GI tracts of plant employees were estimated from isotopic analyses of drinking water samples collected at 100-D. This estimate was based on an assumed intake of 1.2 liters per day, 5 days per week. The GI tract dose integrated over the 12-month period ending November 30, 1967, (date of last sample) was 37 mrem. This was only slightly higher than the 12-month dose for 1966 (35 mrem), which included the effect of an extended period of reactor shutdown.

Routine sampling of drinking water at 100-N replaced sampling at 100-D in December, 1967.

RADIOACTIVITY OF DRINKING WATER (GRAB) SAMPLES





V. Swamps, Ditches, and Ponds

A. Waste Water

Open waters which may be used by migratory waterfowl are routinely sampled in the locations shown in Map 3. Results of analyses are shown in Figures 10-15. For the convenience of the reader, the maximum values appearing on some of the graphs are listed below with their corresponding dates. Transient increases in radioactivity which occurred at several locations in 1967 are also summarized below.

Swamps, Ditches, and Ponds - 1967
(Results are in units of pCi/l)

200-West Area

T Swamp Inlet

<u>Date</u>	<u>Alpha</u>	<u>Beta</u>
9-8	770 (max.)	23,000
10-6	18	350,000* (max.)
10-13	12	93,000
10-20	33	4,000
10-27	7	84,000

* A gamma scan showed ^{137}Cs -55,000 pCi/l; ^{134}Cs -18,000 pCi/l; ^{106}Ru -7,700 pCi/l; and $^{144}\text{Ce-Pr}$ -15,000 pCi/l. A sample from T Swamp on Oct. 13 also showed ^{137}Cs and ^{134}Cs . (Refer below.)

234-5 Ditch Outlet

<u>Date</u>	<u>Alpha</u>
11-3	90
11-10	100,000* (max.)
11-17	720

* All subsequent samples were within the range of concentrations observed the previous three months.

U Swamp North

<u>Date</u>	<u>Alpha</u>	<u>Beta</u>
5-19	100	3,400
5-26	200	4,800* (max.)

* A gamma scan showed ^{137}Cs (3,400 pCi/l) and ^{134}Cs (970 pCi/l).

T Swamp North

<u>Date</u>	<u>Alpha</u>	<u>Beta</u>
10-13	4.5	110,000* (max.)
12-1	760 (max.)	2,100

* A gamma scan confirmed the presence of ^{137}Cs -1,100 pCi/l; and ^{134}Cs -460 pCi/l.

200-West Area (cont.)

Redox Swamp (NE)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Alpha</u>	<u>Beta</u>
1-13	140	1,400* (max.)
3-17	210 (max.)	77

* A gamma scan showed ^{81}Cr -1,300 pCi/l; $^{95}\text{Zr-Nb}$ -450 pCi/l; ^{95}Zr -300 pCi/l; and ^{137}Cs -270 pCi/l.

200-East Area

231 Z Waste Pit

<u>Date</u>	<u>Alpha</u>	<u>Beta</u>
2-17	140,000	3,200
2-24	66,000	920
3-17	430,000	27,000
3-31	51,000	3,500
4-14	320,000	8,300
10-20	2,000,000* (max)	53,000* (max)
11-3	270,000	2,300
12-1	44,000	11,000
12-15	1,300,000	22,000

* A gamma scan showed ^{241}Am -54,000 pCi/l.

Purex Chemical Sewer

<u>Date</u>	<u>Alpha</u>	<u>Beta</u>
1-27	36	7,900* (max)
3-17	170 (max)	150

* Increased ^{131}I concentrations in Purex Chemical Sewer resulted in high ^{131}I concentrations in B Swamp several times in 1967. Results of some of the monthly gamma scans are shown below.

<u>Date</u>	<u>^{131}I</u>	<u>^{137}Cs</u>
1-27	1,530,000 (max)	2,100 (max)
3-17	61,000	ND
5-19	152,000	180
9-15	92,000	51

B Swamp North

<u>Date</u>	<u>Alpha</u>	<u>Beta</u>
6-30	21 (max)	340
12-1	2.8	15,000* (max)

* High concentrations of ^{131}I were observed several times in 1967. Results of some of the weekly gamma scans are shown below.

Date	¹³⁷ Cs	¹³¹ I
1-20	130	98,000
1-27	97	220,000
2-3	ND	370,000 (max)
2-10	90	140,000
2-17	ND	66,000
6-2	<51	44,000
8-11	<51	39,000
9-29	<51	44,000

B. Game Birds

Game birds that have utilized swamps and ponds which receive low-level radioactive wastes may contain ³²P, ⁶⁵Zn, ¹³⁷Cs-¹³⁷Ba and other radionuclides. Results of radioassays of game birds collected at certain locations during 1967 are shown in Table 3.

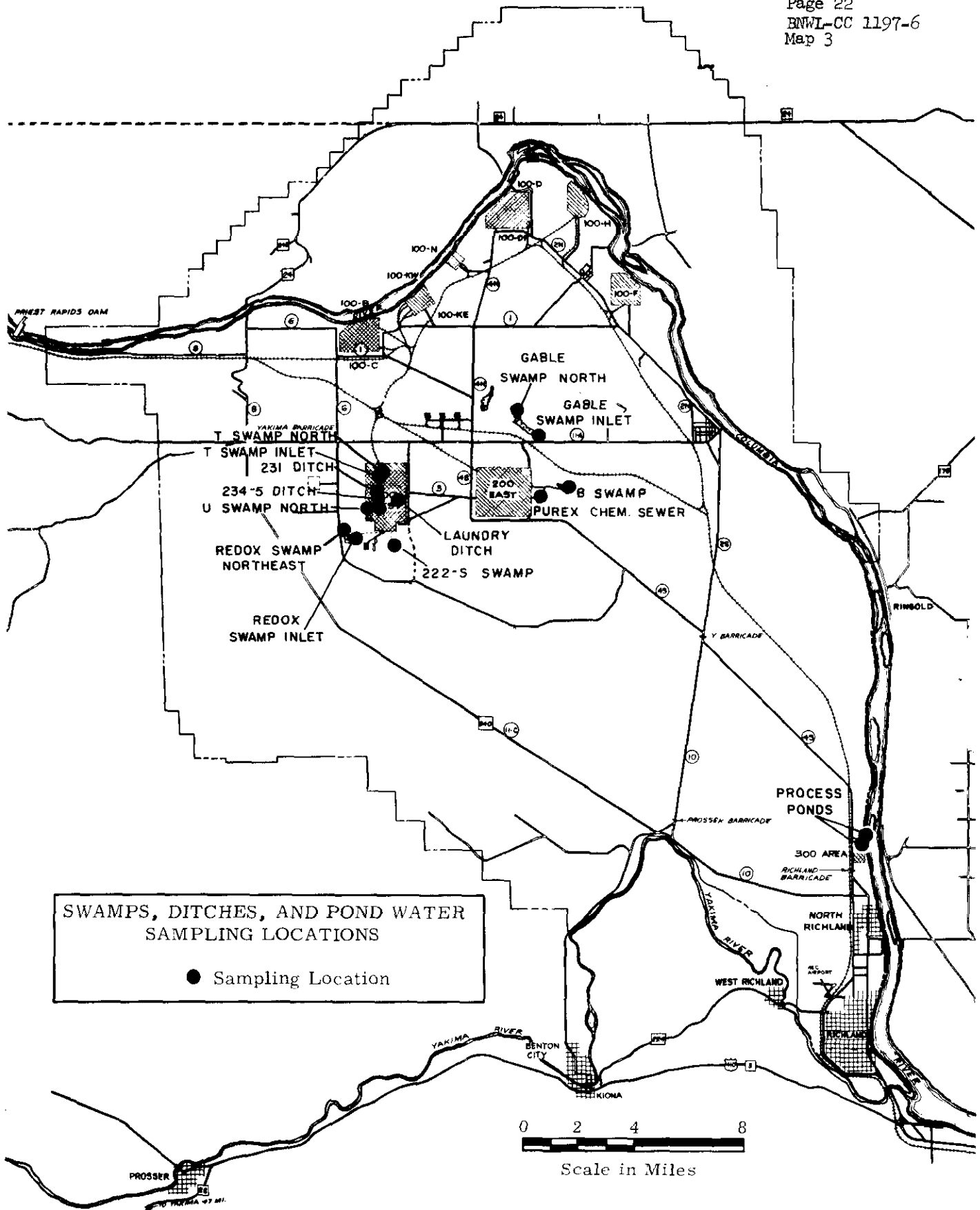
TABLE 3

GAME BIRDS - 1967

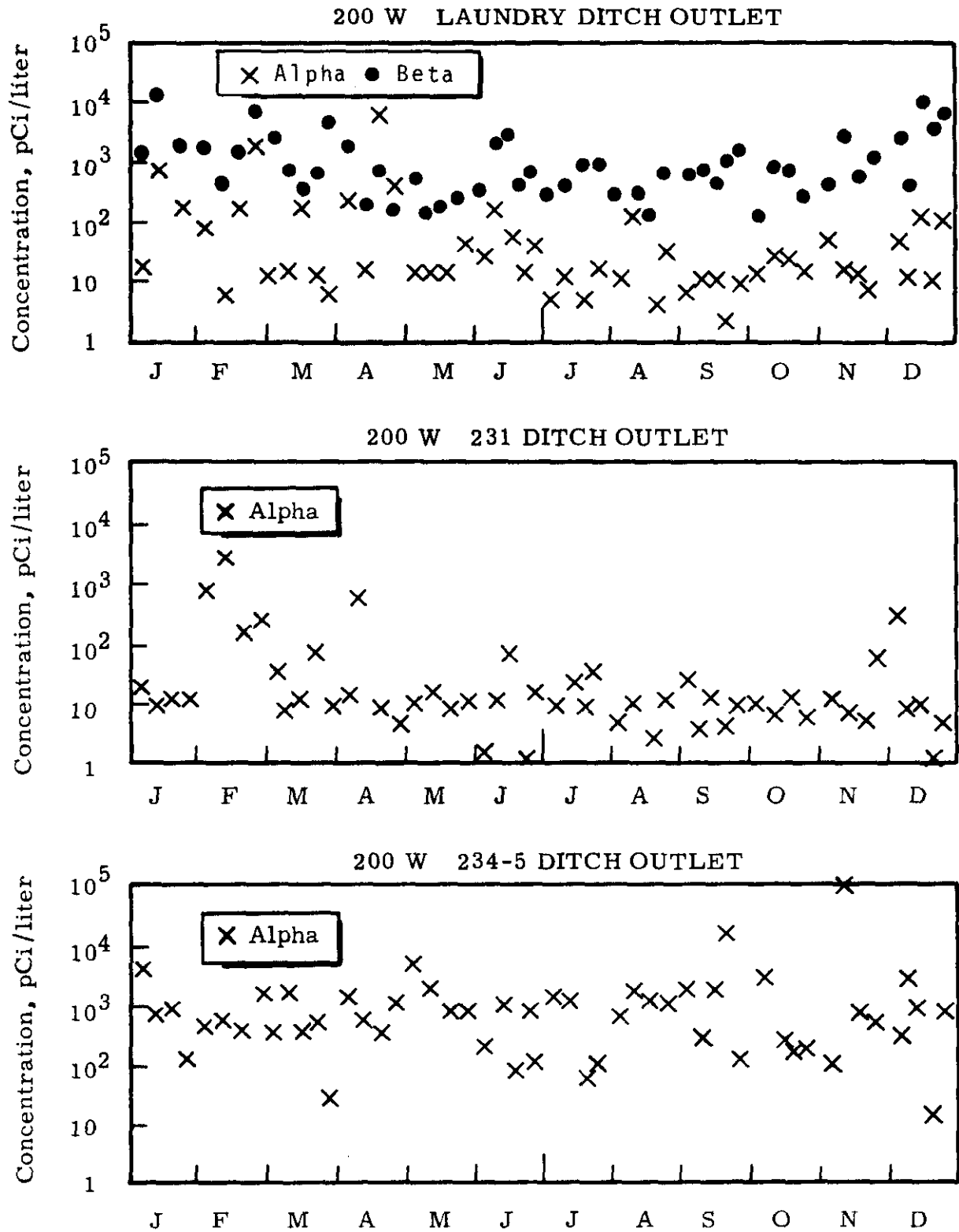
RADIONUCLIDE CONCENTRATION IN MUSCLE (pCi/gm)

Analytical Limit			³² P 1.0	⁶⁵ Zn 0.2	¹³¹ I 0.15	¹³⁷ Cs- ¹³⁷ Ba 0.1
<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Species</u>				
<u>Redox Swamp</u>	1-20	L. Scaup	7.0	.28	-	-
	1-20	Mallard	4.4	5.7	-	68
	11-10	Shoveler	52	.77		160
	11-10	Mallard	23	.23		63
<u>U Swamp</u>	10-20	Mallard	-	.64		20
	10-20	Coot	4.8	1.1	-	240
	10-20	Widgeon	29	.55		160
	11-10	Pheasant	1.8	.26		110
	11-10	Golden Eye	-	.44	-	43
	11-10	Widgeon	43	.38		170
<u>B Swamp</u>	10-20	Coot	1.9	.91	3.4	.50
	11-10	Mallard	-	-	2.3	2.8
	11-10	Coot	-	1.8	3.3	9.0
	11-10	Coot	1.7	.86	18	4.6
<u>Gable Mt Swamp</u>	10-20	Scaup	-	.9	.64	31
	10-20	Coot	3.4	1.1	-	160
	10-20	Coot	21	2.2	41	70
	11-10	Coot*	680	103	-	61

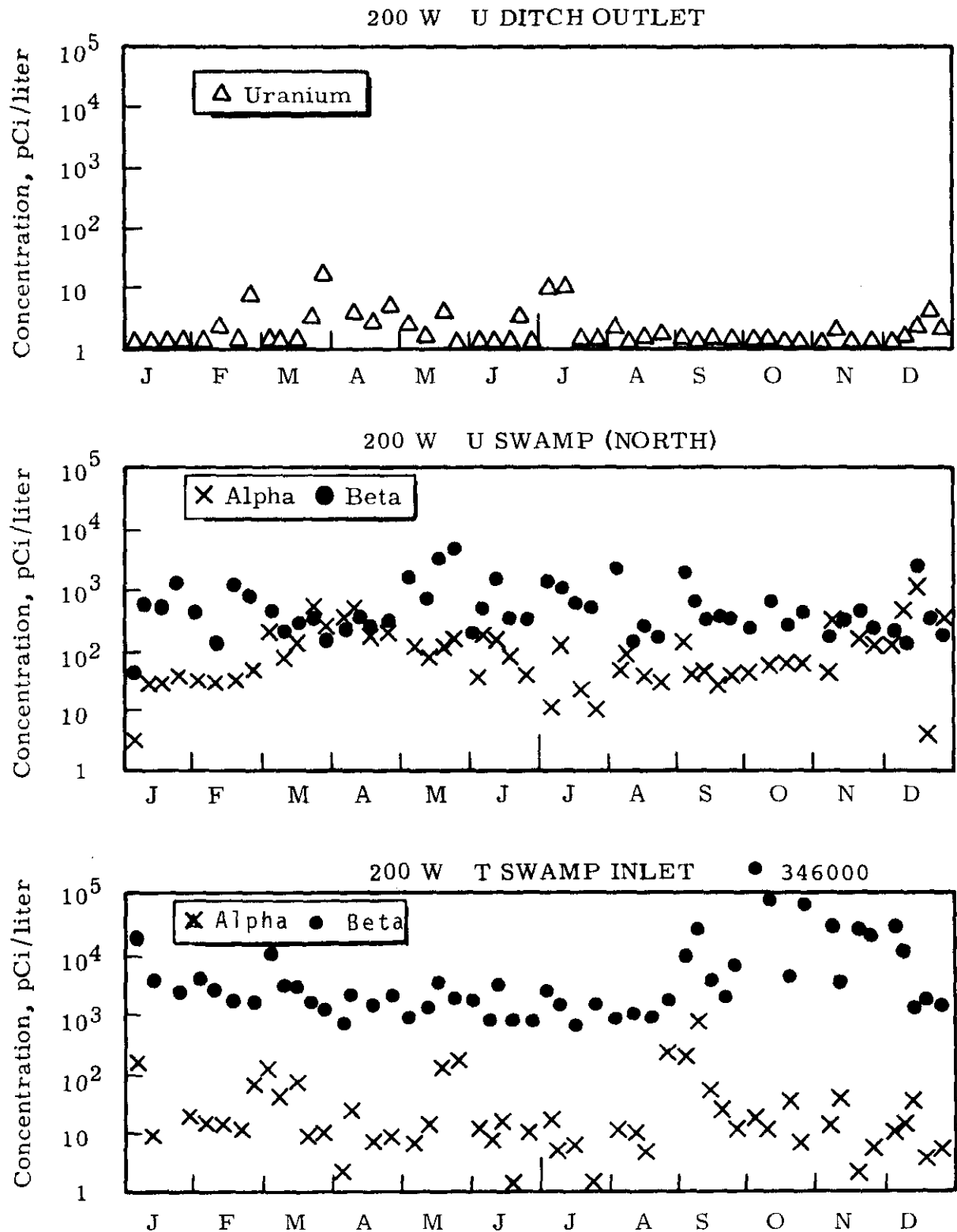
* Higher ³²P and ⁶⁵Zn concentrations are normally characteristic of ducks sampled from the areas adjacent to the Columbia River.



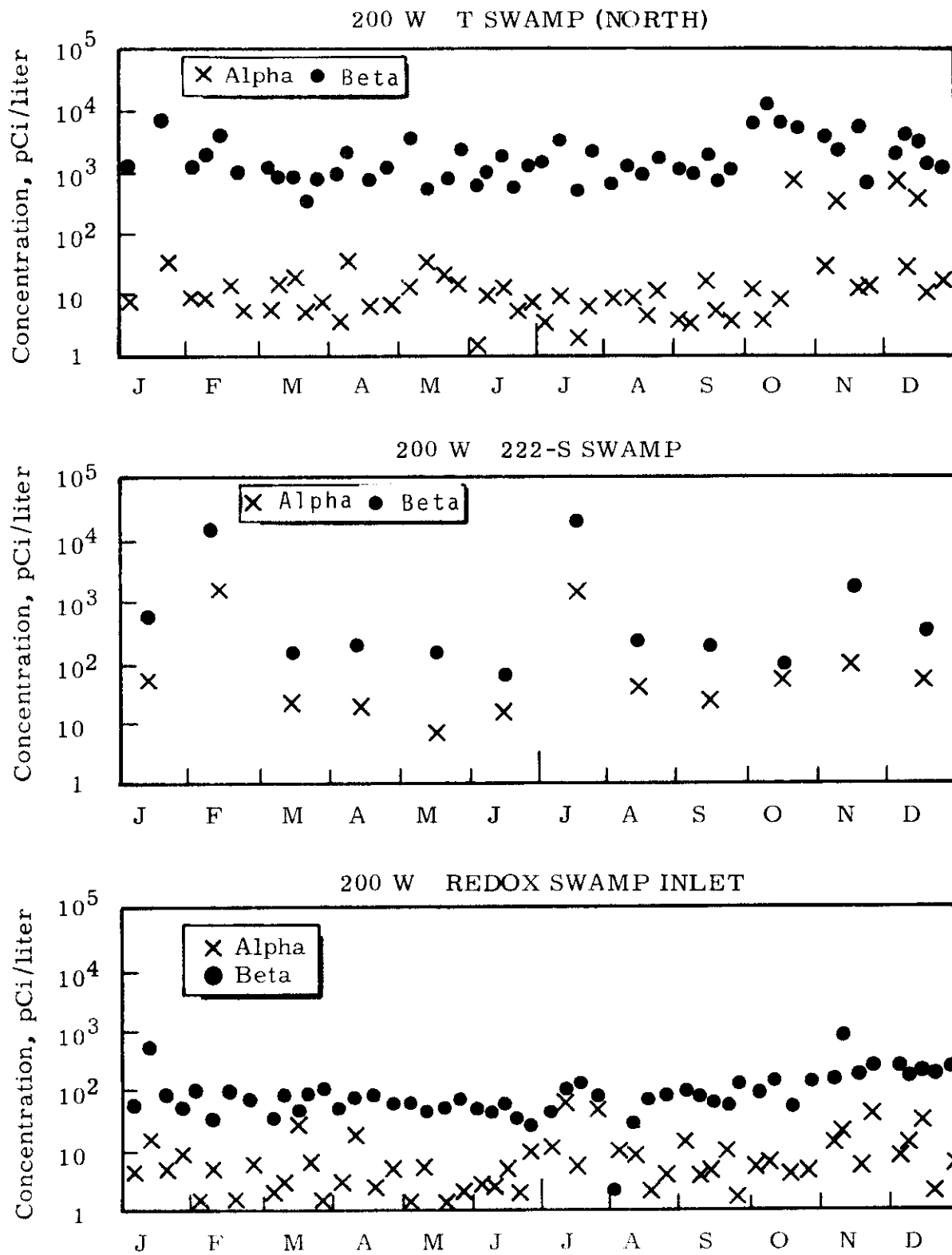
RADIOACTIVITY OF WASTE WATER SAMPLES



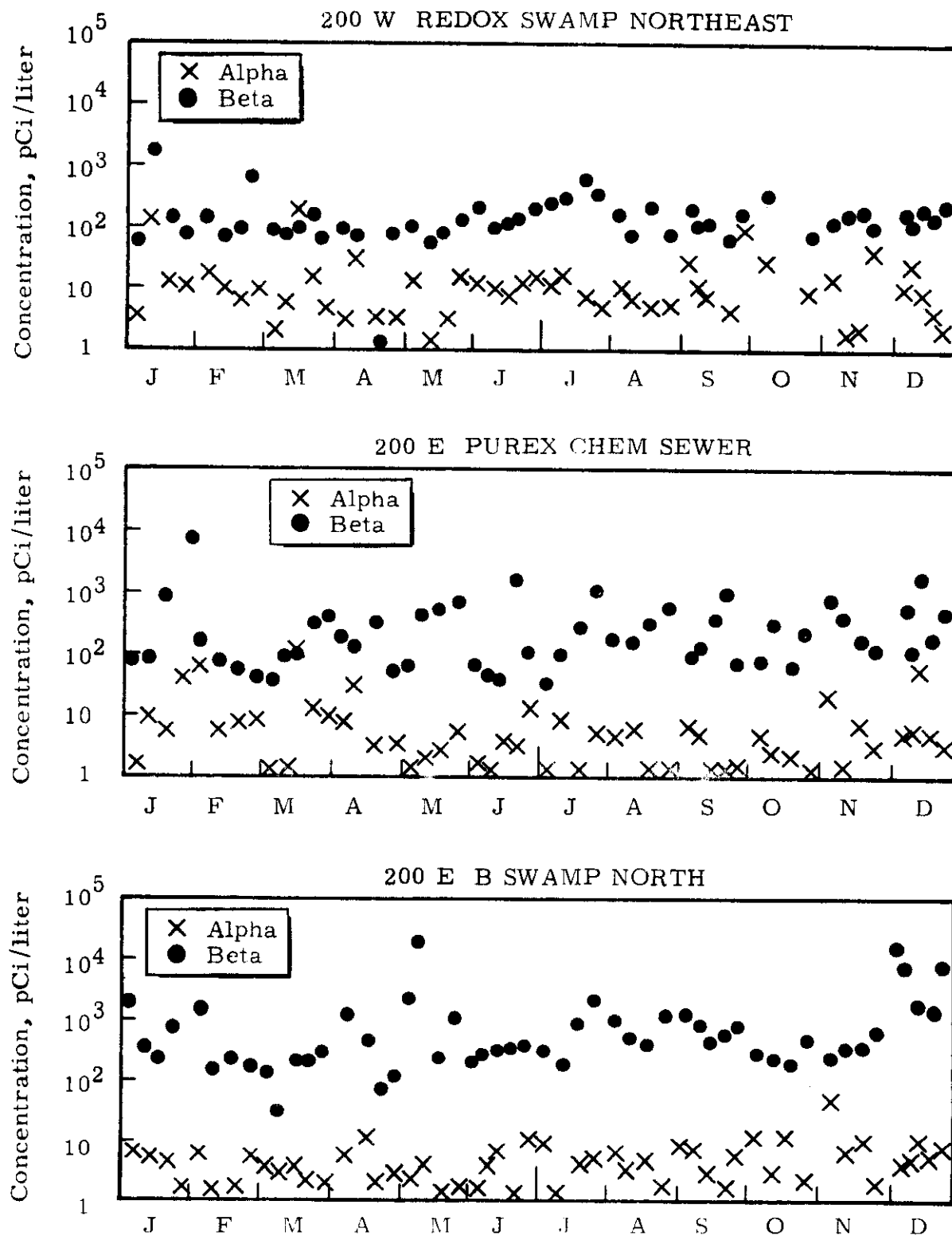
RADIOACTIVITY OF WASTE WATER SAMPLES



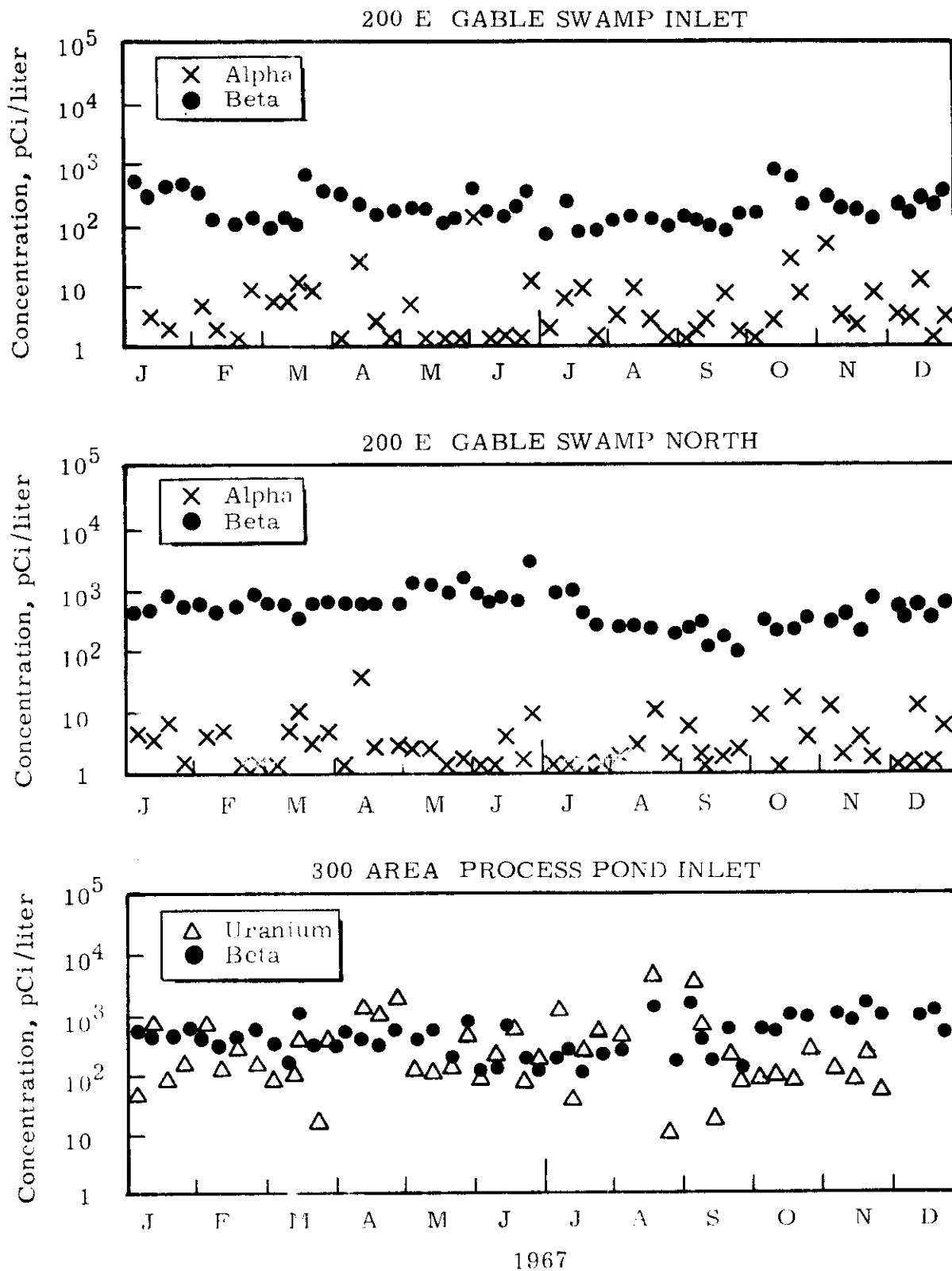
RADIOACTIVITY OF WASTE WATER SAMPLES



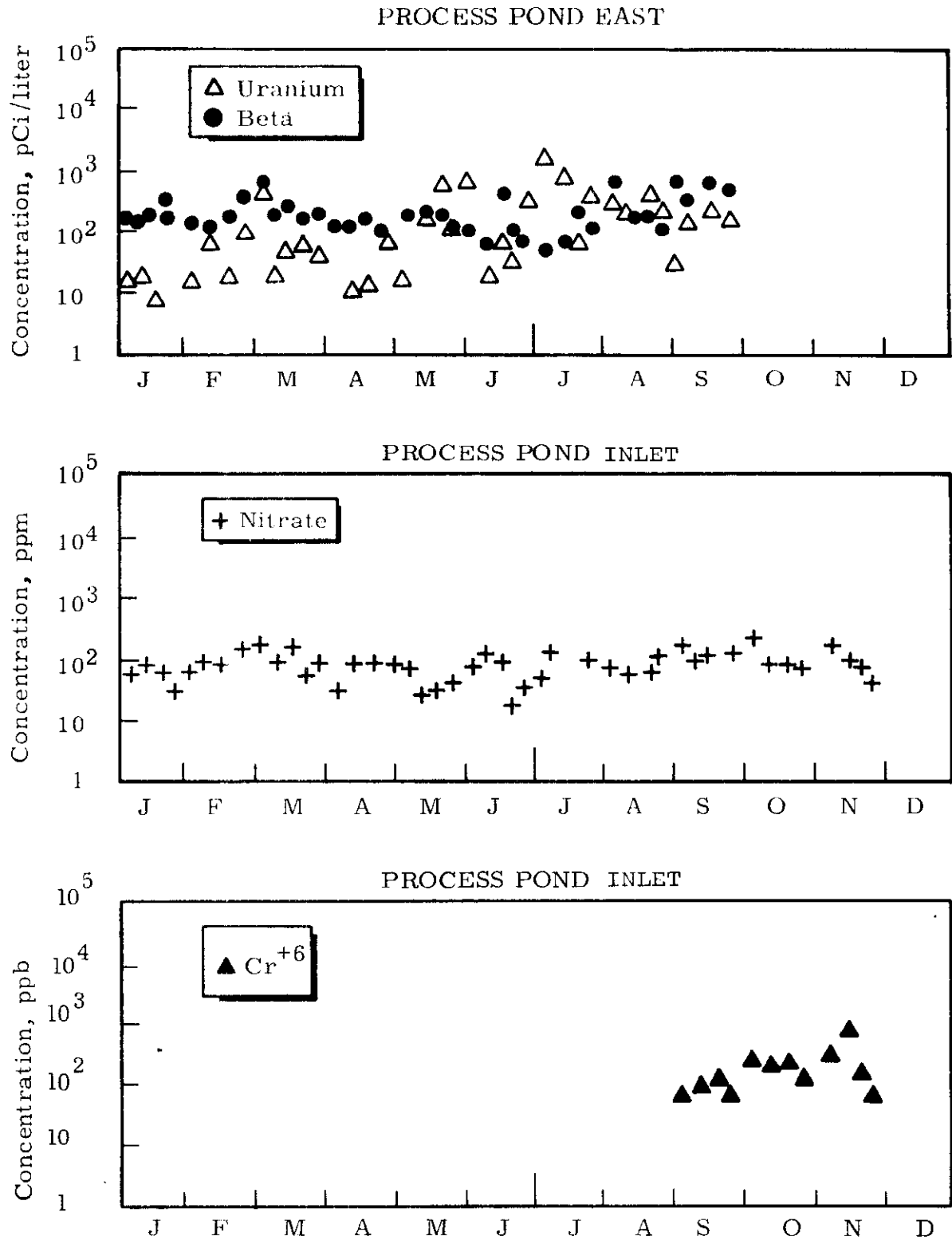
RADIOACTIVITY OF WASTE WATER SAMPLES



RADIOACTIVITY OF WASTE WATER SAMPLES



WASTE WATER SAMPLE ANALYSES
300 AREA



VI . The Atmosphere

A. Iodine-131 and Total Beta Activity

Results of routine sampling of the atmosphere at 23 locations within the Hanford Reservation (Map 4) are shown in Figures 16-23. At most locations, the sampling equipment was contained within a small building designated "614". "Total Beta" represents the activity of particulates collected on F-70 filter paper during a one-week sampling period. The air then passed through a solution of NaOH for ^{131}I collection. During 1967, several transient increases in total beta and/or ^{131}I concentrations were observed. A month-by-month summary of each change in concentration follows.

January-February - Fallout attributed to a reported nuclear weapons test of December 27, 1966 reached the Hanford environs in early January and caused significant increases in total beta activity at most sampling locations. The highest total beta concentration due to fallout was 9.7 pCi β/m^3 at the 700 Area for the week ending January 3. The following short-lived radionuclides were found after a qualitative gamma scan of the 700 Area filter: 2.8-day ^{99}Mo , 3.3-day ^{132}Te , 13-day $^{140}\text{Ba-La}$, and 2.4-day ^{239}Np .

Increases in total beta activity and ^{131}I concentrations at the 200 East Area during the last week of January through mid-February resulted from waste-handling operations. Gamma scans of three air filters with high total beta activities (5.2, 11, and 4.2 pCi β/m^3 , respectively), are shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4

Gamma Scan Analyses of Air Filters Radionuclide Concentrations, pCi/m³

<u>Location</u>	<u>Week Ending</u>	<u>$^{99}\text{Zr-Nb}$</u>	<u>^{103}Ru</u>	<u>^{106}Ru</u>	<u>^{131}I</u>	<u>^{137}Cs</u>	<u>^{141}Ce</u>	<u>$^{144}\text{Ce-Pr}$</u>
Semi works	1-30	0.20	ND	ND	0.31	0.05	ND	11
200 EEC	1-30	0.16	ND	ND	0.91	0.10	ND	22
200 EEC	2-14	0.11	0.10	0.58	0.73	0.37	0.58	ND

ND - Not Detected

March-April - ^{131}I concentrations at the end of March increased at 200 EEC, 200 ESE, Semi works, and the Emergency Relocation Center sampling locations following a small temporary increase in the emission rate of ^{131}I from a chemical separations facility. In April, increases were also noted in ^{131}I concentrations at the 700 Area following above normal ^{131}I emissions from laboratory buildings.

May-June - Increases in ^{131}I concentrations at the 200 EEC, 200 ESE, 200 EWC, Semi works, Redox, and ERC during May were the result of a small increase in emission rate of ^{131}I from a chemical separations facility. Increases were also noted in ^{131}I concentrations at the 300 and 700 Areas, following above normal ^{131}I emissions from laboratory buildings.

Slight increases in atmospheric beta activity were observed following a reported nuclear weapons test on June 17.

July-August - In early July, total beta activity reached 17 pCi/m^3 at the 300 Area following a filter change in a laboratory building. A gamma spectrometer analysis of the 300 Area air particle removed July 3 indicated $^{144}\text{Ce-Pr} = 11.4 \text{ pCi/m}^3$, $^{106}\text{Ru-5h} = 2.65 \text{ pCi/m}^3$, $^{137}\text{Cs-Ba} = 2.47 \text{ pCi/m}^3$, $^{95}\text{Zr-Nb} = 0.3 \text{ pCi/m}^3$ and $^{134}\text{Cs} = 3.42 \text{ pCi/m}^3$. Later, radioactive particles were released from another 300 Area stack and resulted in localized ground contamination. (See p. 46).

Increases in total beta activity were observed in the latter part of August at sampling locations within the Hanford boundaries and at perimeter communities but could not be explained on the basis of known plant releases.³

September-October - Increases in total beta activity in the last week of October could not be explained on the basis of known Hanford releases.

Air sampling was discontinued at the White Bluffs townsite in early October.

November-December - At some locations, slightly increased beta activity was observed in November. A gamma scan was requested on the Emergency Relocation Center air filter that was removed November 24, 1967, which had a total beta of 1.49 pCi/m^3 . The gamma emitters present were $^{95}\text{Zr-Nb}$ (0.01 pCi/m^3), and ^{106}Ru (0.13 pCi/m^3). A gamma scan on an air filter from an off-plant location, Moses Lake, that was removed on November 21, showed only $^{95}\text{Zr-Nb}$ (0.27 pCi/m^3).

During December the beta activity collected on a filter at 200 East East Center indicated a concentration of 2.35 pCi/m^3 . A gamma scan showed $^{137}\text{Cs-}^{137}\text{Ba}$ (2.6 pCi/m^3), $^{95}\text{Zr-Nb}$ (0.45 pCi/m^3), and ^{106}Ru (0.3 pCi/m^3).

^{131}I concentrations increased slightly at 200 East Southeast in the third week of November, and at the 200 East East Center, 200 East Semiworks and Emergency Relocation Center sampling location during early December following a slight increase in the emission rate of ^{131}I from a chemical separations facility.

³ Radiological Status of the Hanford Region for August, 1967, BNWL-420 8, edited by R.H. Essig and E.F. Wiedemann. Pacific Northwest Laboratory, Richland, Washington, November, 1967.

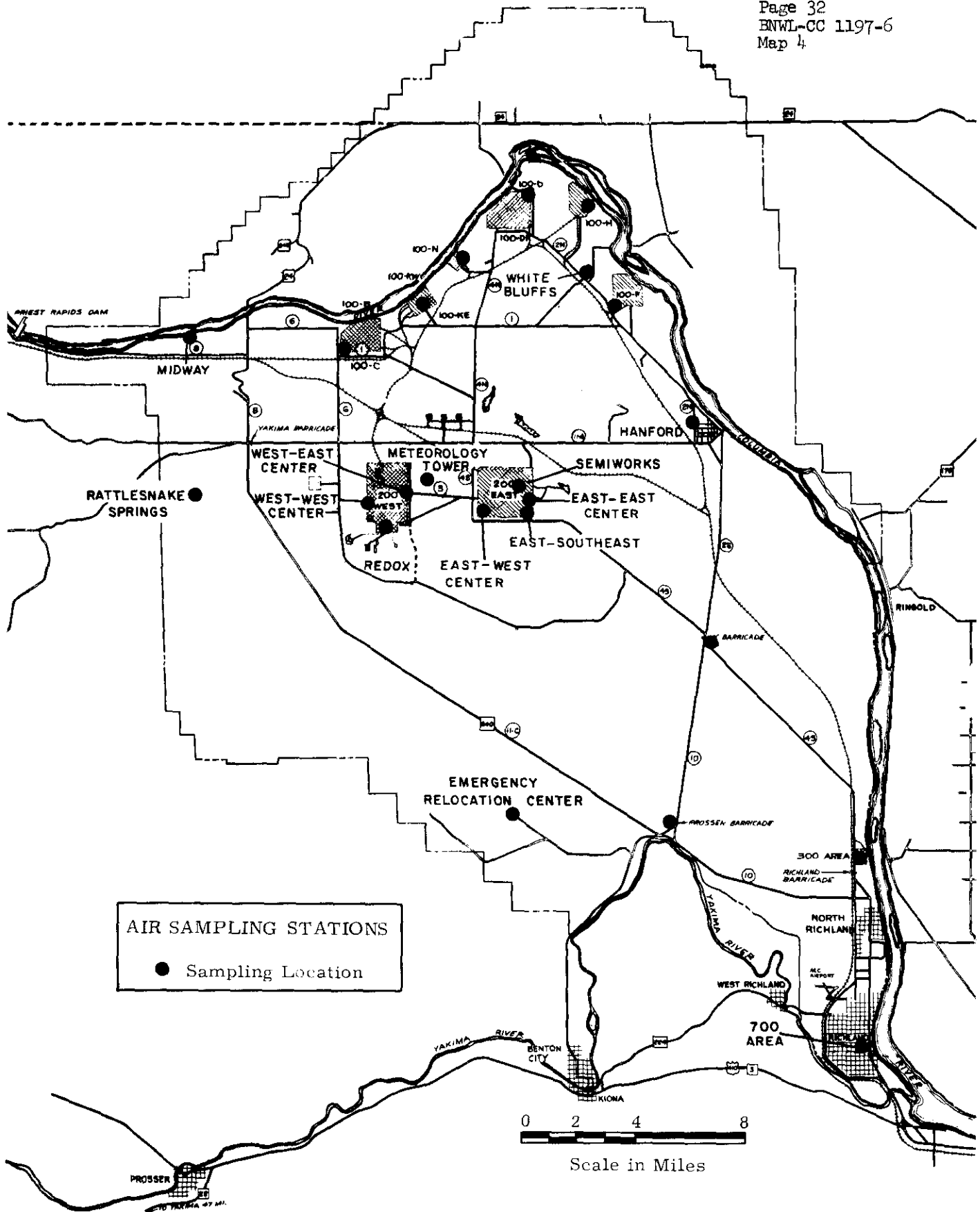
Fallout was observed at some sampling locations during the last week of December following an announced nuclear weapons test on December 24.

The average ^{131}I and total beta concentrations for 1967 are shown below in Table 5, and for comparison the averages for 1966 and 1965 are also shown.

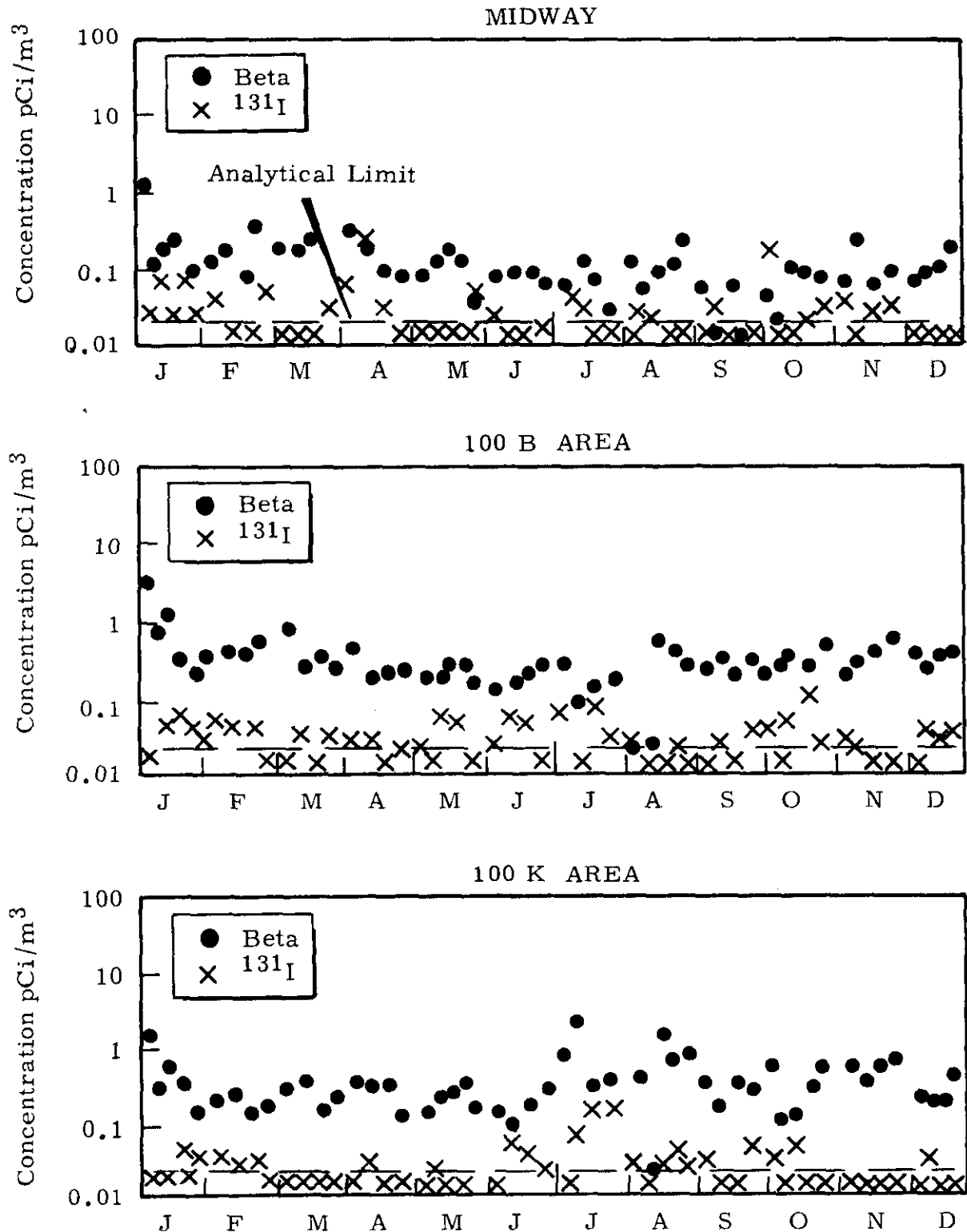
TABLE 5

Atmospheric ^{131}I and Total Beta Concentrations - Yearly Averages
(Results in pCi/m^3)

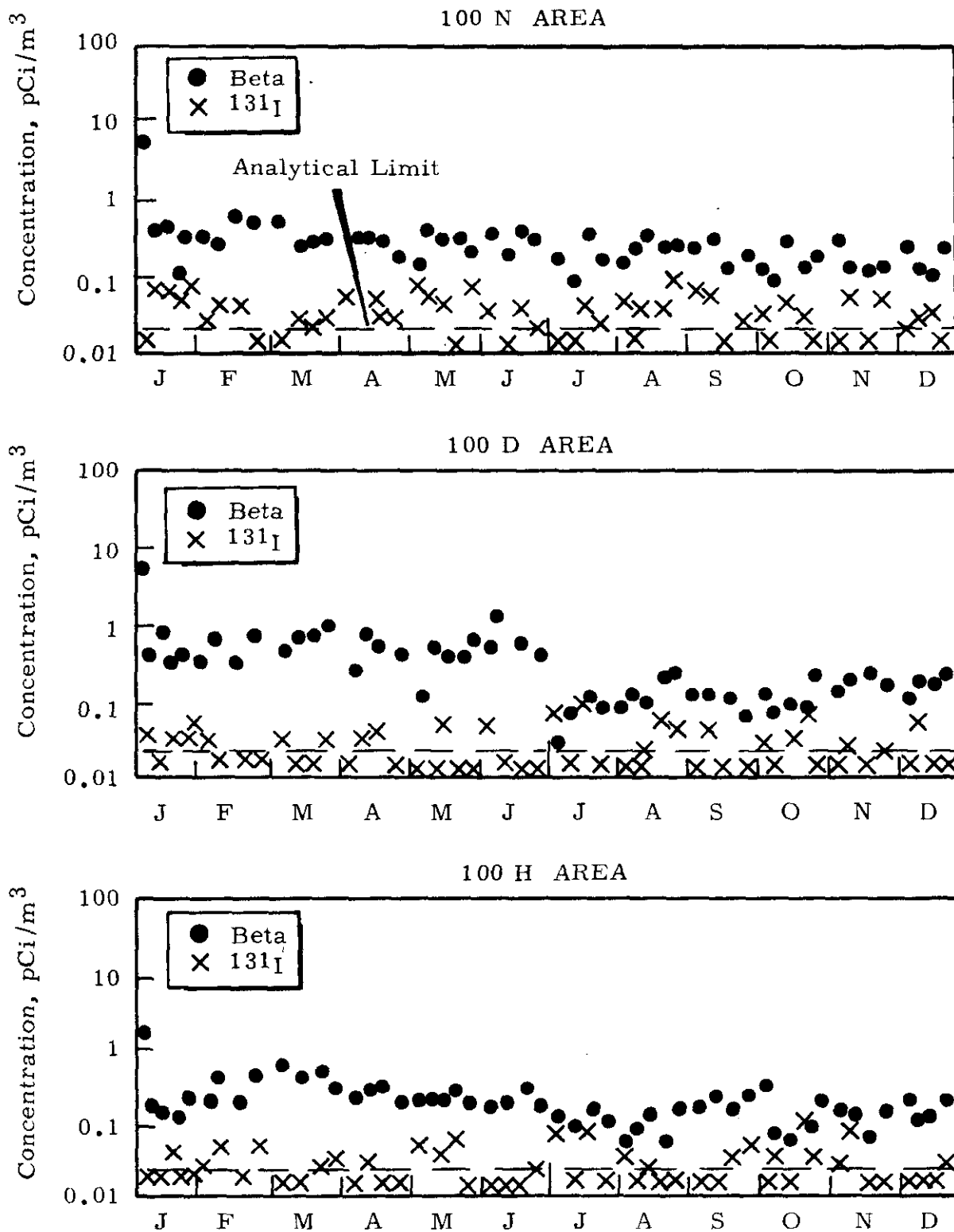
<u>Location</u>	<u>Total Beta</u>			<u>^{131}I</u>		
	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
100 Areas	0.34	0.29	0.44	0.02	0.20	<0.03
200 Areas	0.41	0.58	0.80	0.09	0.10	0.14
Other N-Plant locations	0.26	0.24	0.34	0.04	0.20	0.05



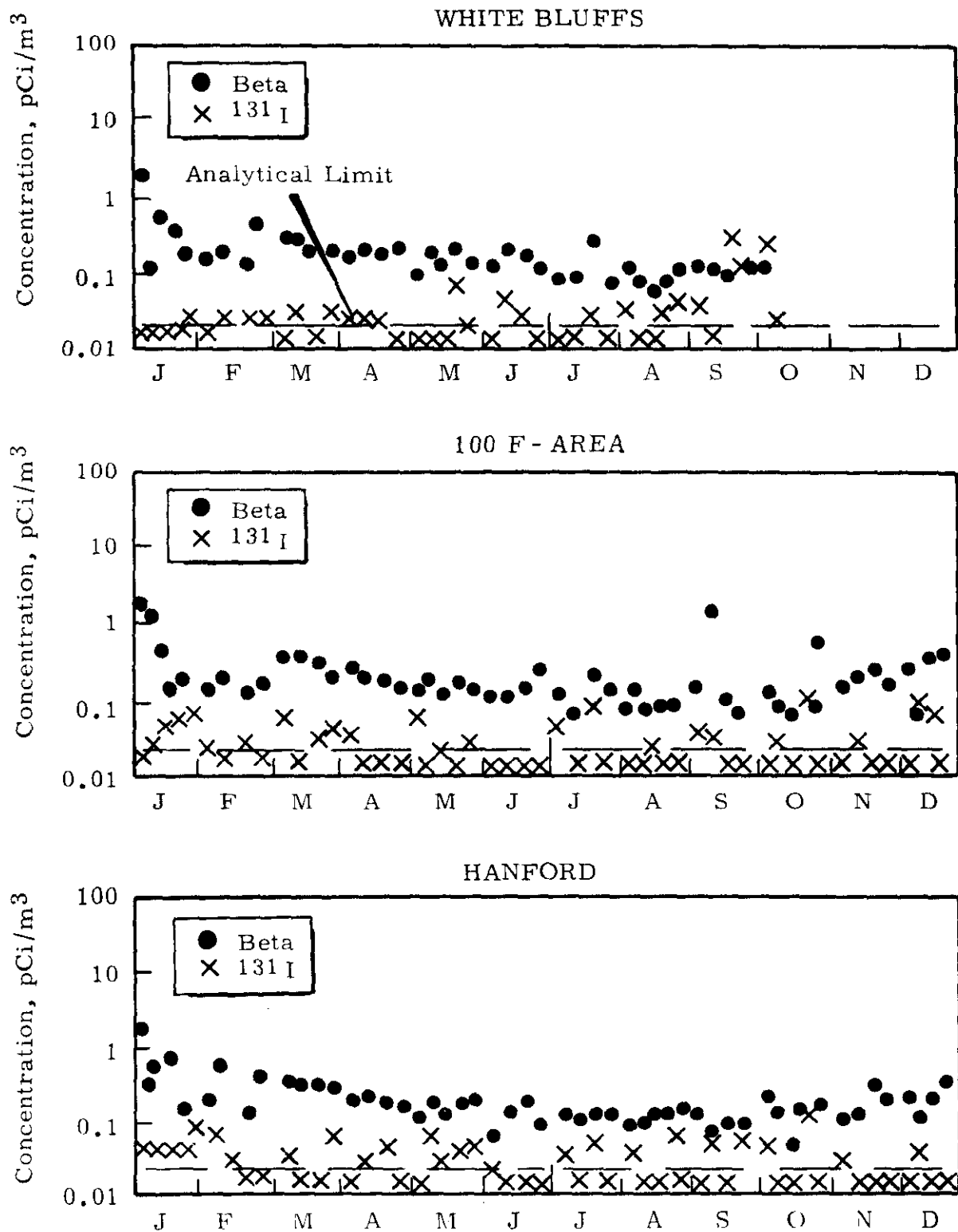
IODINE - 131 AND TOTAL BETA ACTIVITY
IN THE ATMOSPHERE



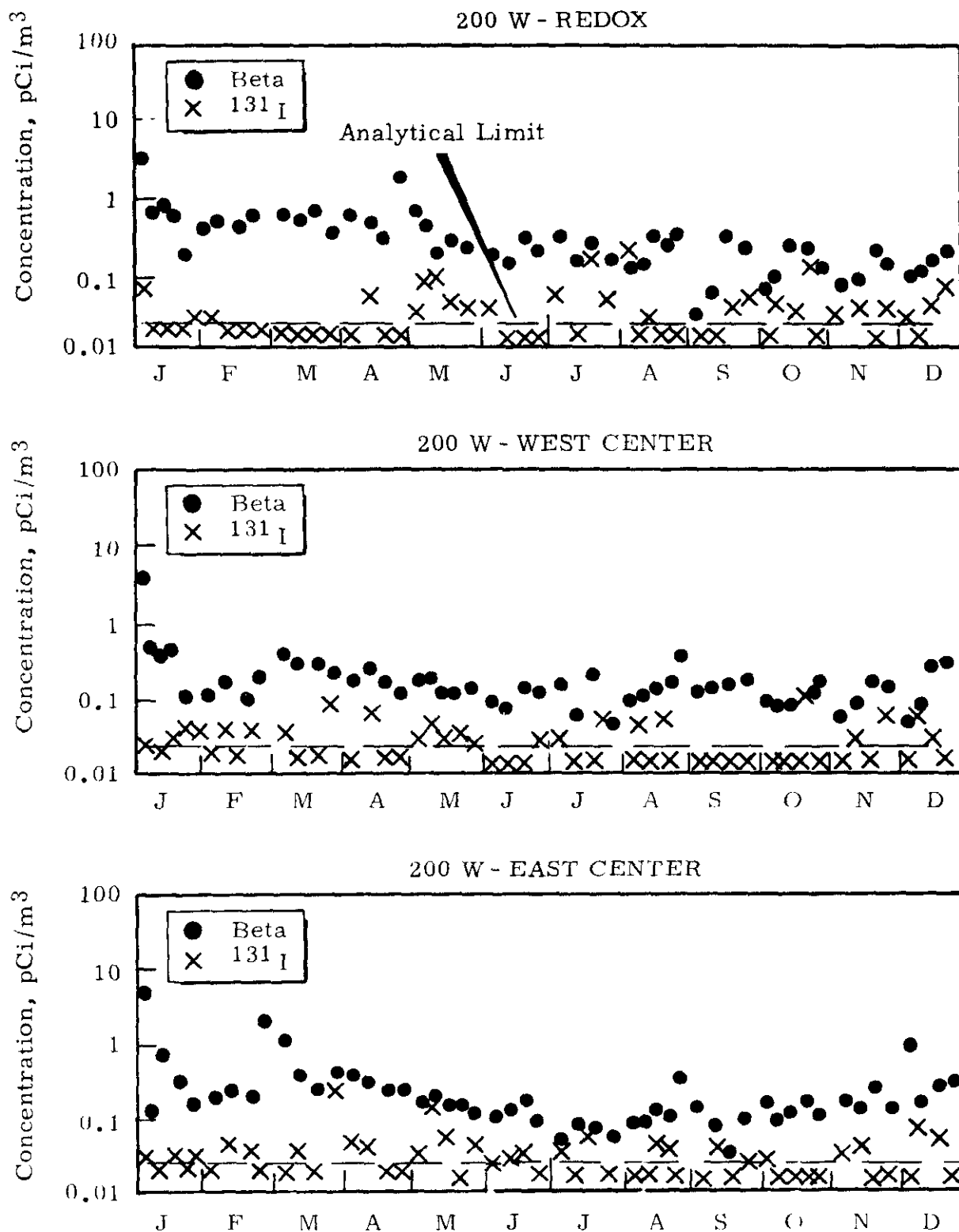
IODINE - 131 AND TOTAL BETA ACTIVITY IN THE ATMOSPHERE



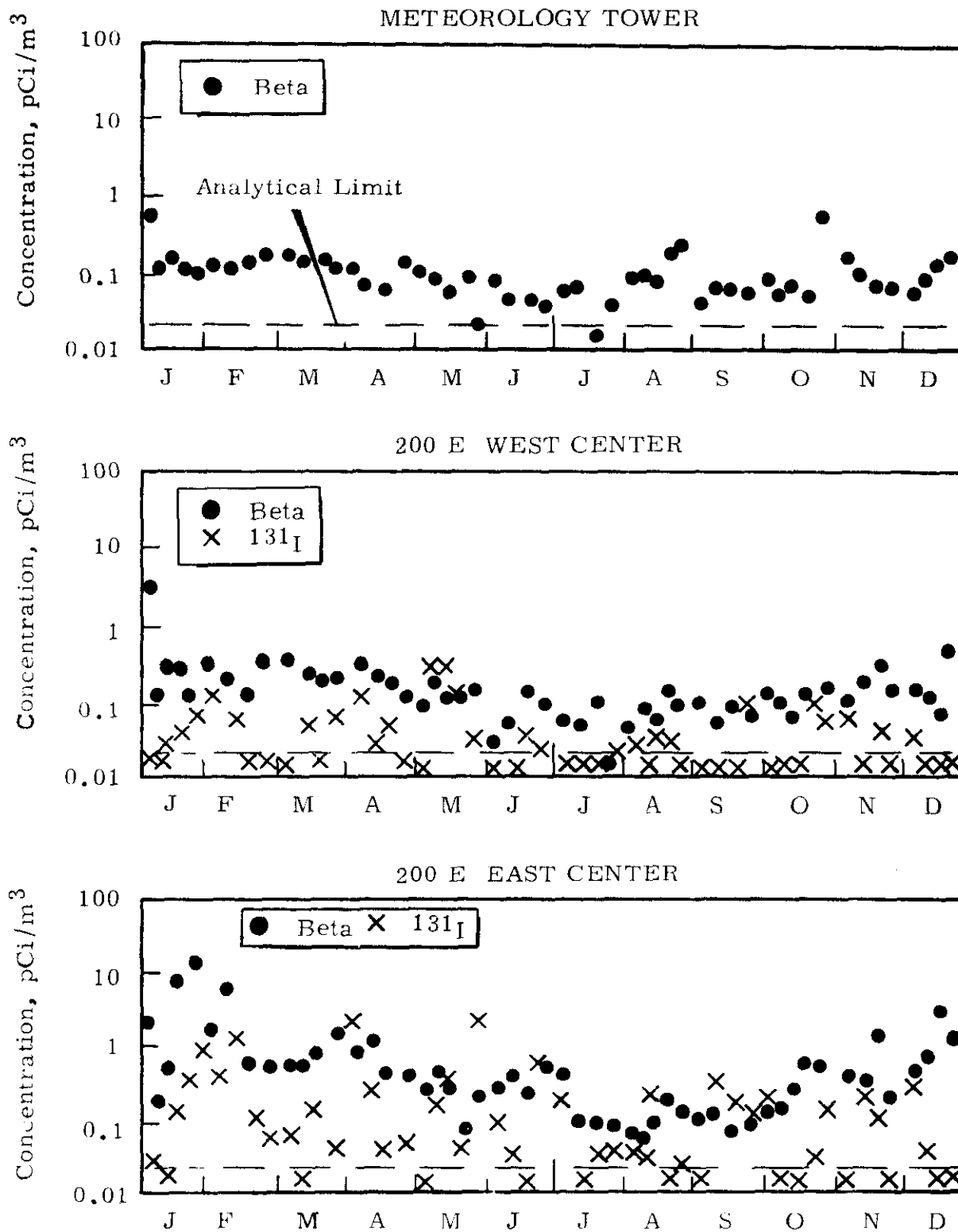
IODINE - 131 AND TOTAL BETA ACTIVITY
IN THE ATMOSPHERE



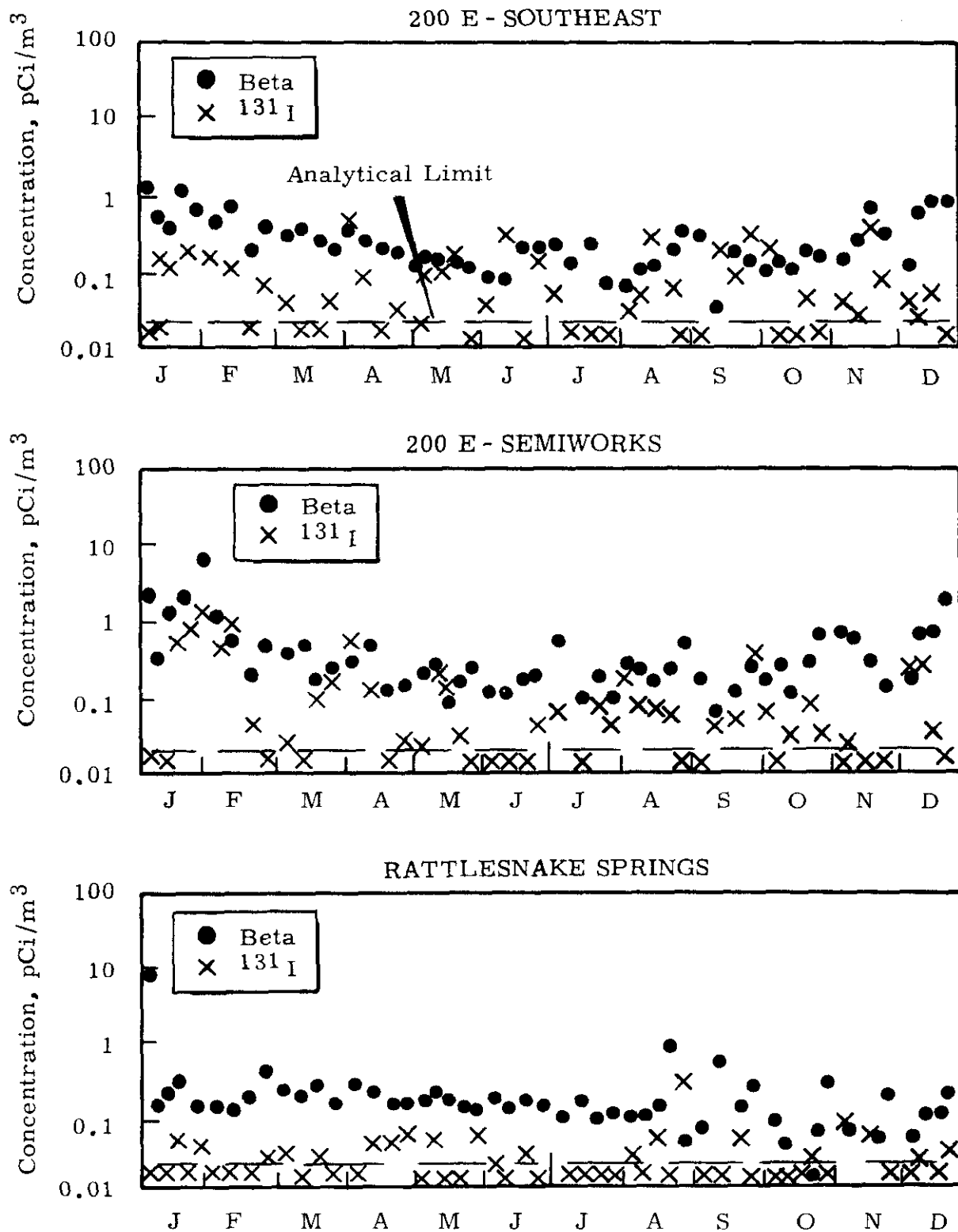
IODINE - 131 AND TOTAL BETA ACTIVITY
IN THE ATMOSPHERE



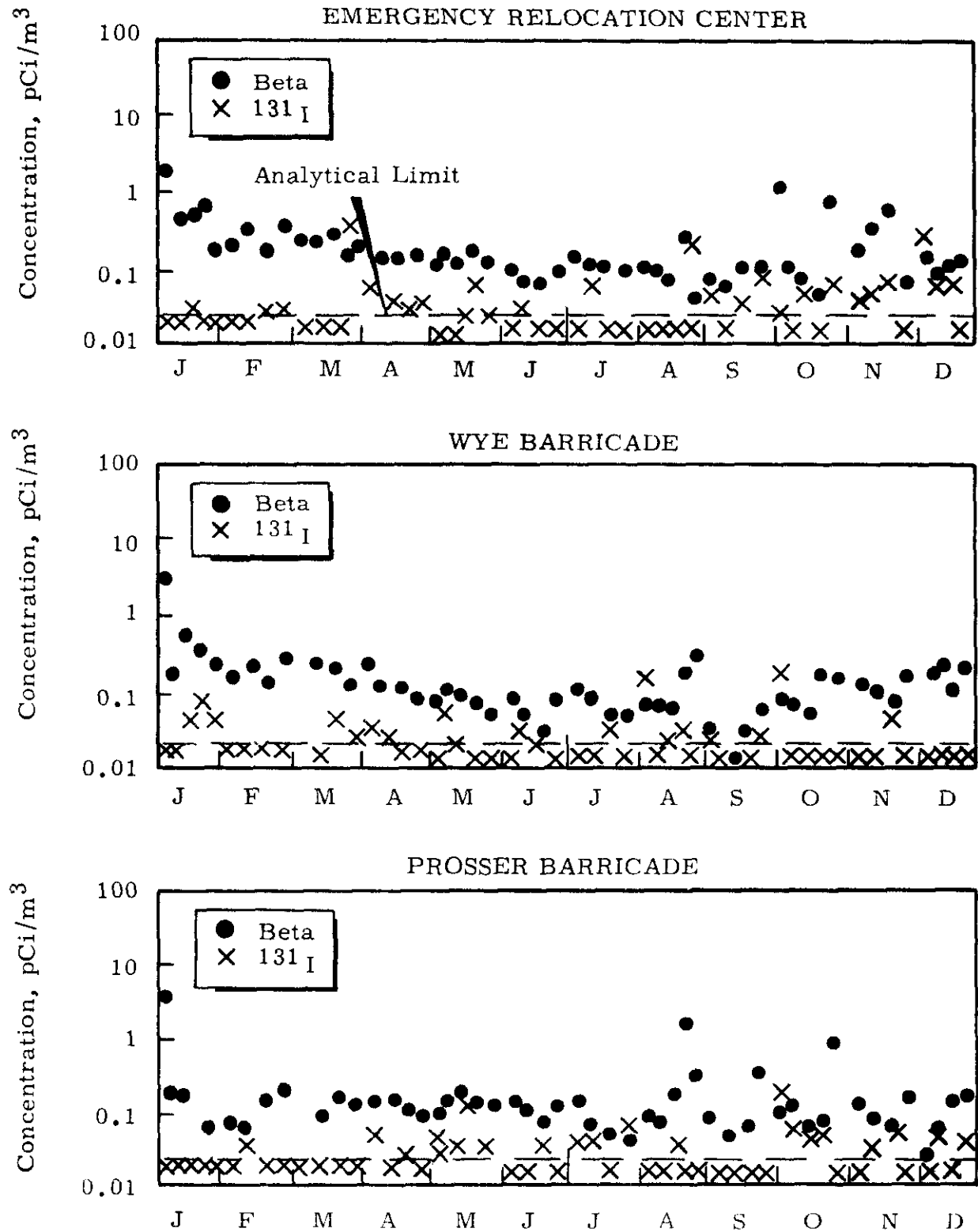
IODINE - 131 AND TOTAL BETA ACTIVITY
IN THE ATMOSPHERE



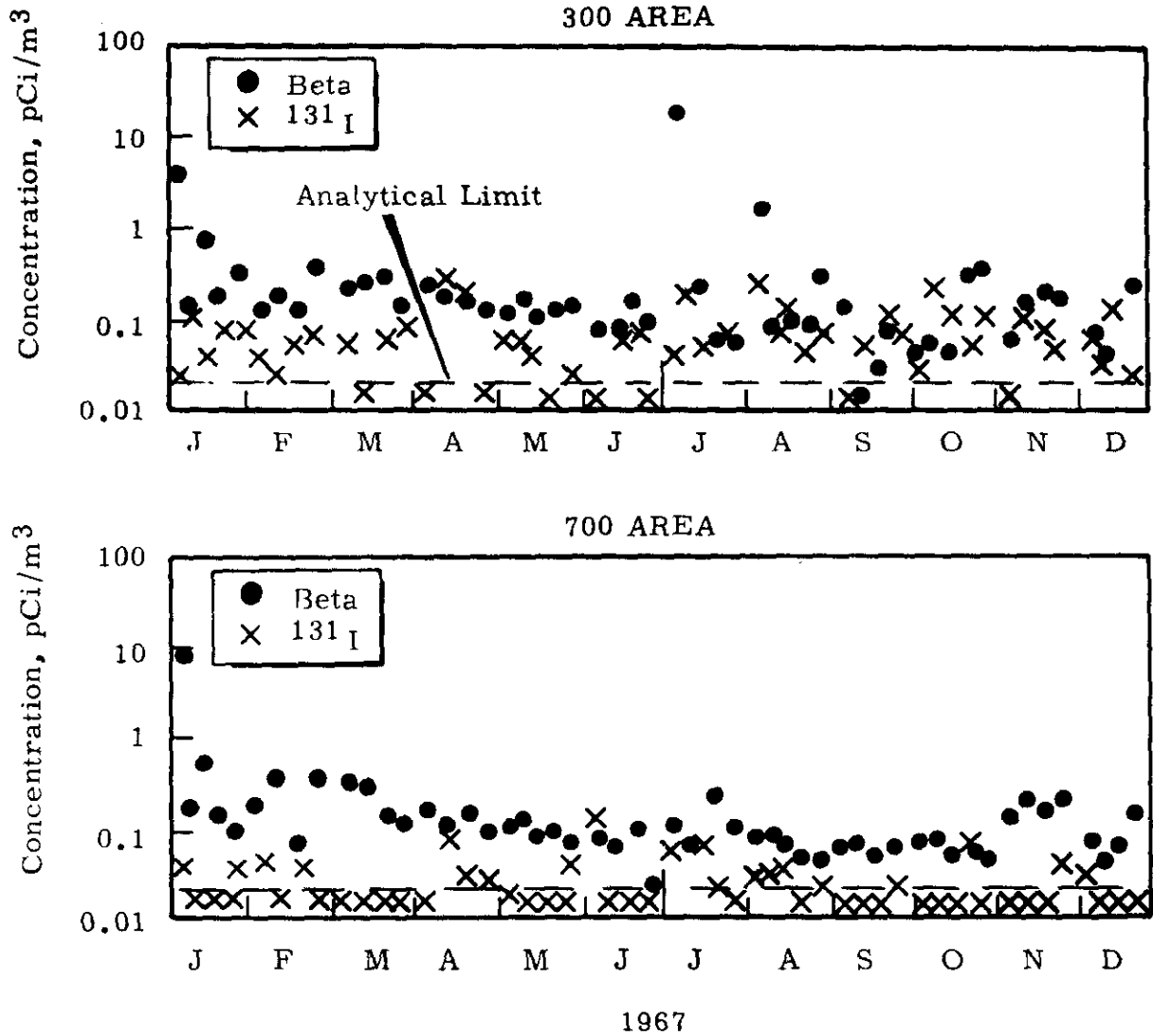
IODINE - 131 AND TOTAL BETA ACTIVITY
IN THE ATMOSPHERE



IODINE - 131 AND TOTAL BETA ACTIVITY
IN THE ATMOSPHERE



IODINE - 131 AND TOTAL BETA ACTIVITY
IN THE ATMOSPHERE



B. Total Alpha Activity

Eleven of the 23 weekly filters which collect beta-gamma emitting radionuclides are also analyzed for alpha activity, with most of the sampling sites located in the 200 Areas. These data are presented in Figures 24-27.

For most sampling locations, results were generally at or below the analytical limit of 0.01 pCi α /m³ throughout 1967. However, in early March, the total alpha concentration temporarily reached 1.6 pCi/m³ at 200 West East Center. The contaminant was identified as ²³⁹Pu by alpha energy analysis. The filter was autoradiographed and was found to have a particle distribution similar to those normally found in air filters. No explanation has been found for the temporarily increased alpha activity.

An isolated temporary increase in total alpha concentration at 100-F occurred during the third week of November.

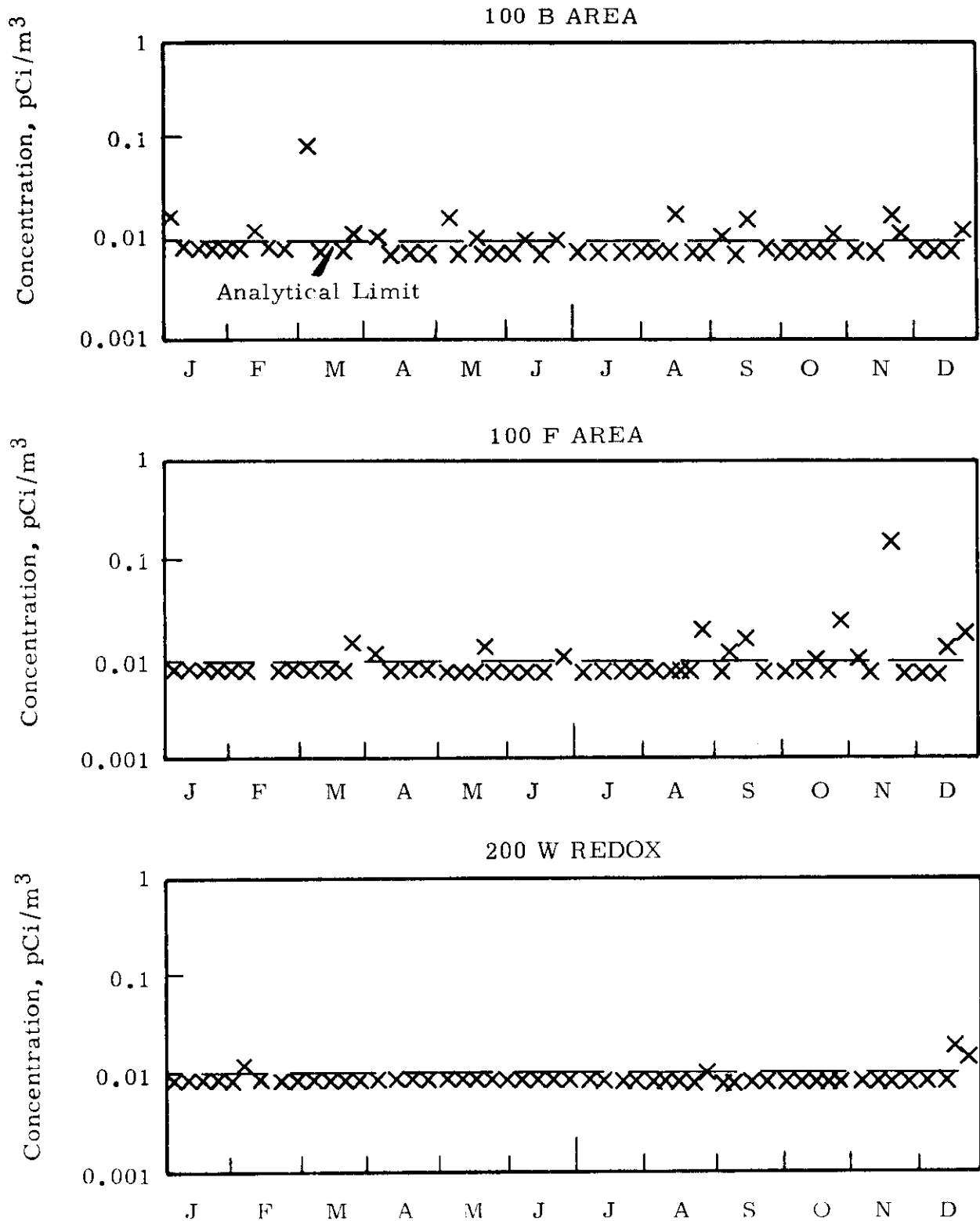
The annual average total alpha concentrations in the atmosphere for 1967 are presented in Table 6. For comparison, averages for 1965 and 1966 are also shown.

TABLE 6

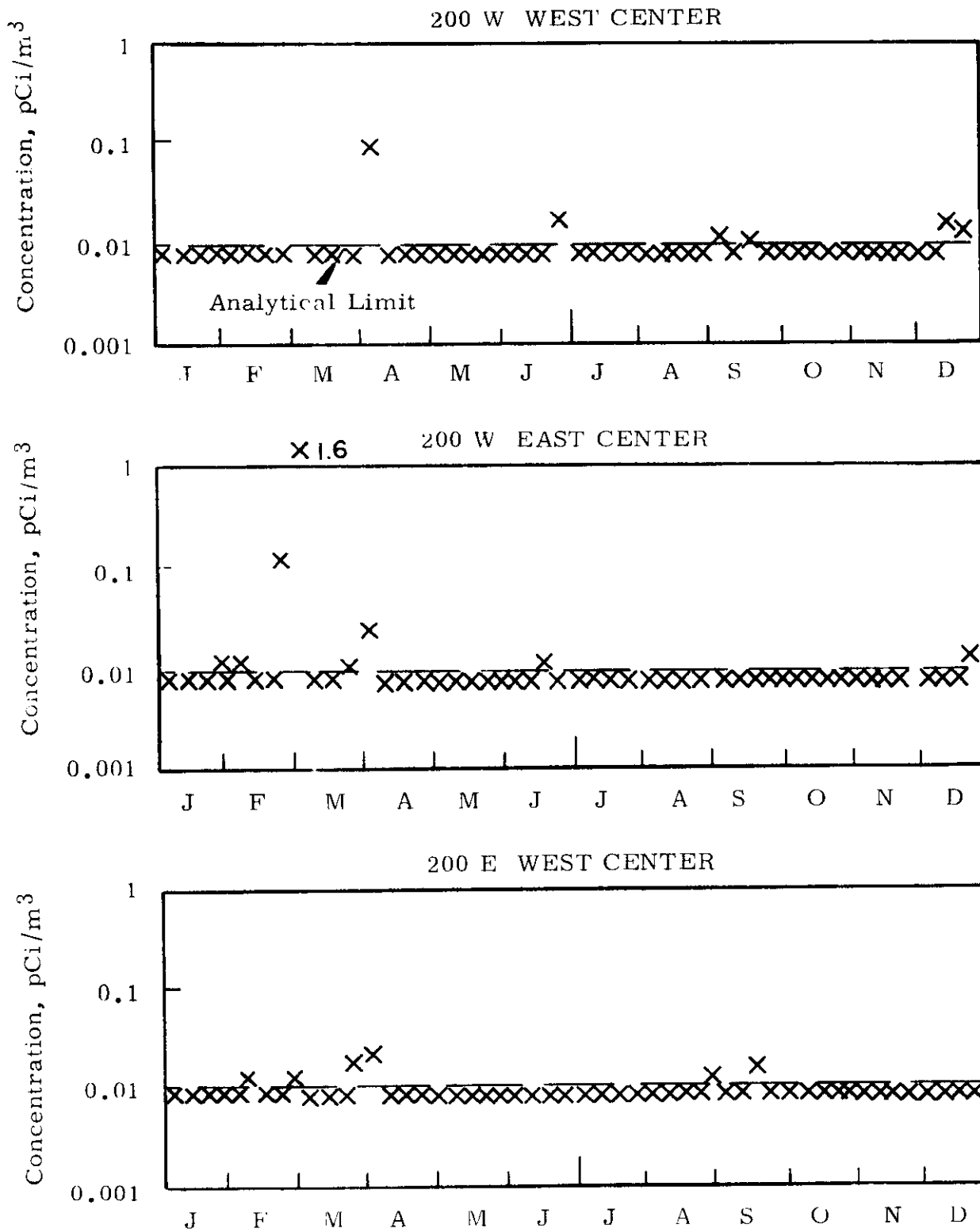
Atmospheric Total Alpha Concentrations - Yearly Averages (Results in pCi/m³)

<u>Location</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
100 Areas	.01	.01	<0.02
200 Areas	.02	.01	<0.03
300 Area	.01	.02	0.08
700 Area	.01	.02	<0.02

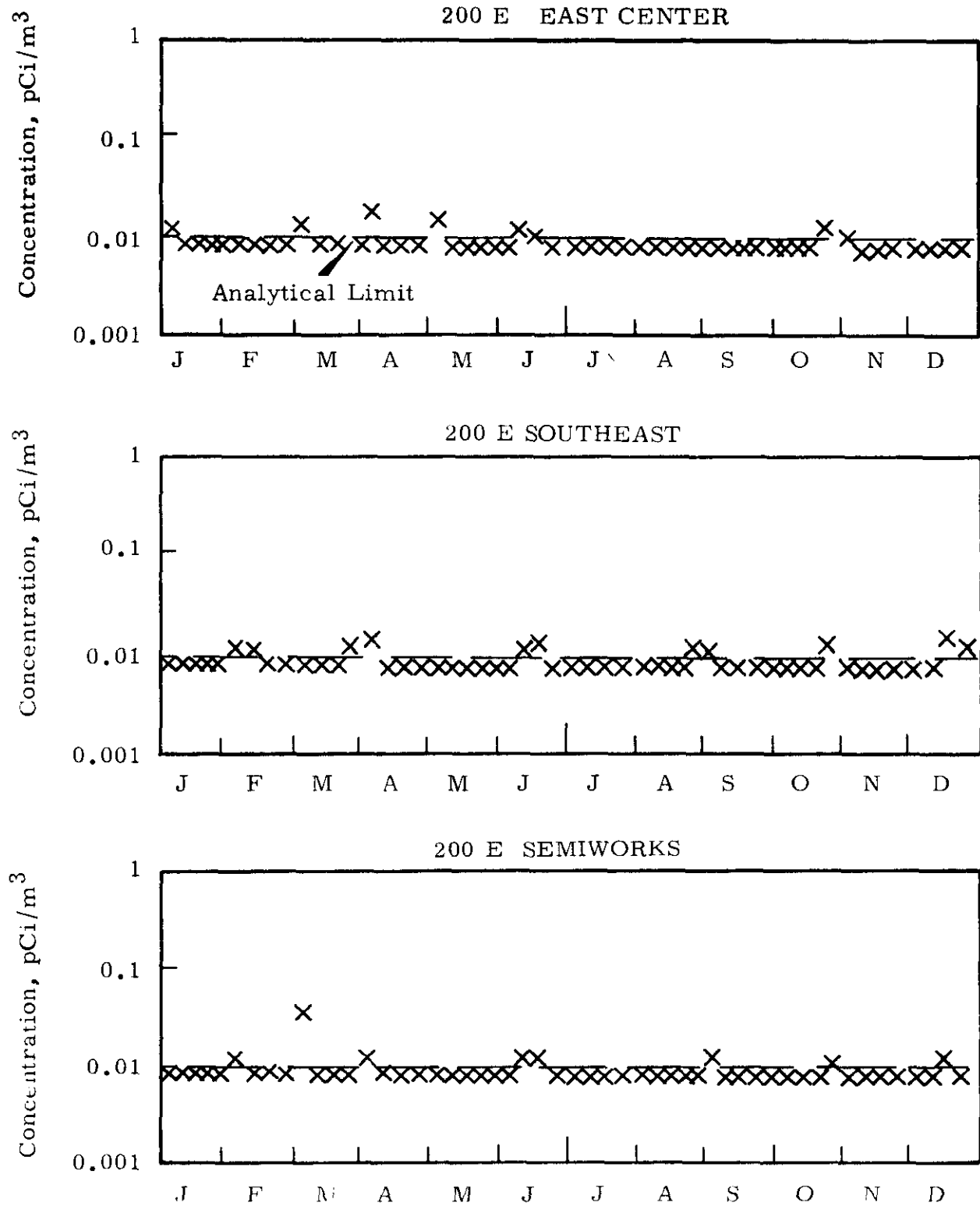
TOTAL ALPHA ACTIVITY IN THE ATMOSPHERE



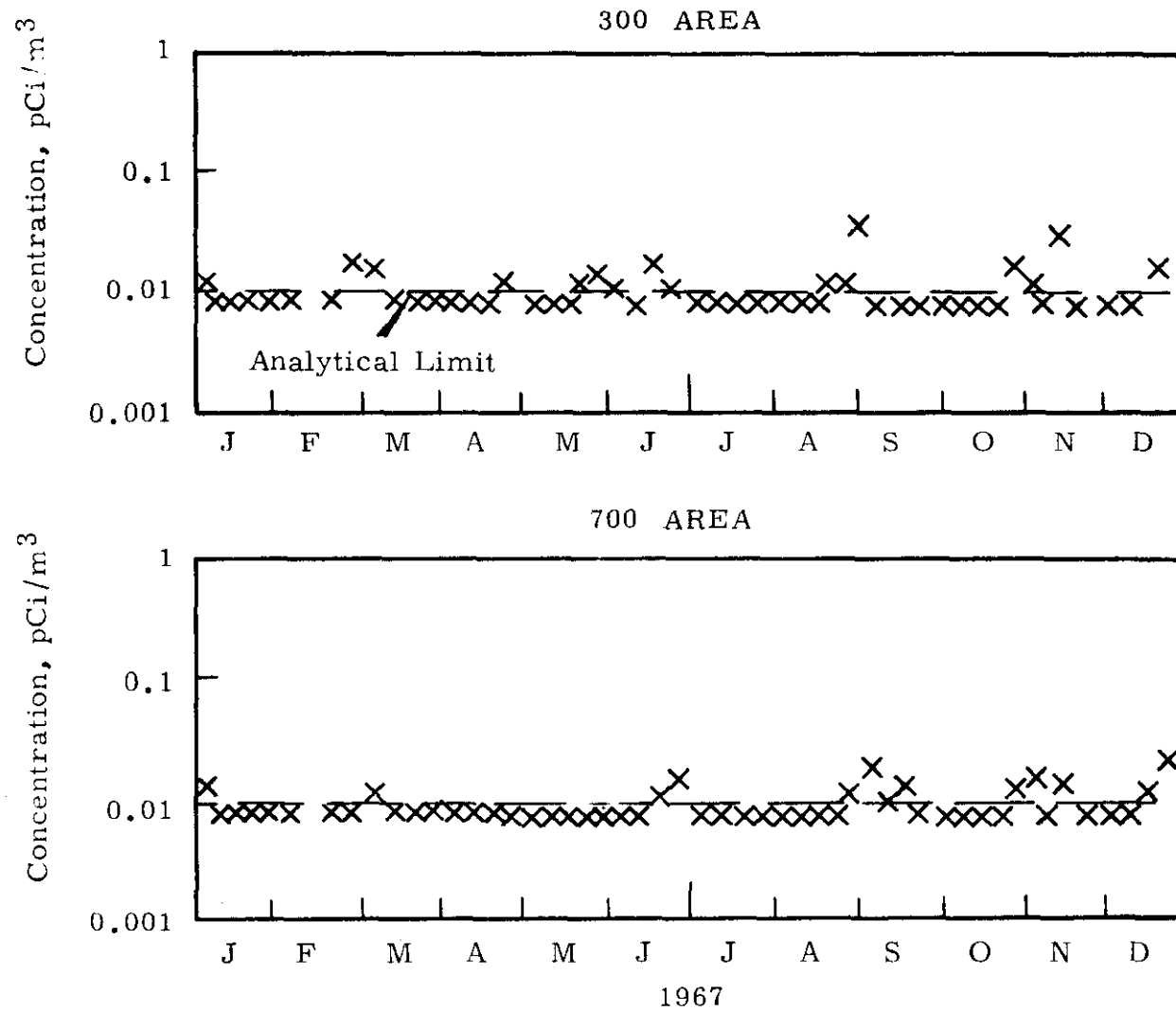
TOTAL ALPHA ACTIVITY IN THE ATMOSPHERE



TOTAL ALPHA ACTIVITY IN THE ATMOSPHERE



TOTAL ALPHA ACTIVITY IN THE ATMOSPHERE



VII. Radiation Surveys

A. Surface Contamination

1. Hanford Roads

Hanford roads are routinely surveyed (see Map 5) with a bioplastic scintillation detector which is attached to the front end of a truck and is positioned about two feet above the surface of the road. The minimum level of contamination that can be detected by the road monitor corresponds to a portable GM meter response of approximately 1000 c/m per probe area.

A month-by-month summary of significant findings during 1967 follows.

May-June - On May 11, an isolated radioactive particle (^{60}Co) was found on the side of the road leading to 100-K Area. A comprehensive survey revealed no additional particles.

On May 31, an isolated radioactive particle was found on the road between 200 East and West Areas.

Tumbleweeds contaminated with $^{144}\text{Ce-Pr}$ were found against the 200 East Area fence near Control Plot No. 10 a week after a particle had been found on that control plot. (See p. 48).

July-August - On July 12, two isolated radioactive particles were found during routine road monitoring. One particle (100,000 c/m-GM) was on the east shoulder of Route 43 just south of the Wye Burial Ground road. The other particle (10,000 c/m-GM) was located off the side of route 43 southwest of 200-B. A supplemental survey of the two locations revealed no other radioactive particles.

On August 3, an isolated radioactive particle (100,000 c/m-GM) was found embedded in the road surface on the southeast side of the railroad crossing on the road leading to 100-N.

On August 24, a radioactive particle (10,000 c/m-GM) was removed from the White Bluffs cut-off road near its junction with Route 1. The major gamma emitter was ^{60}Co .

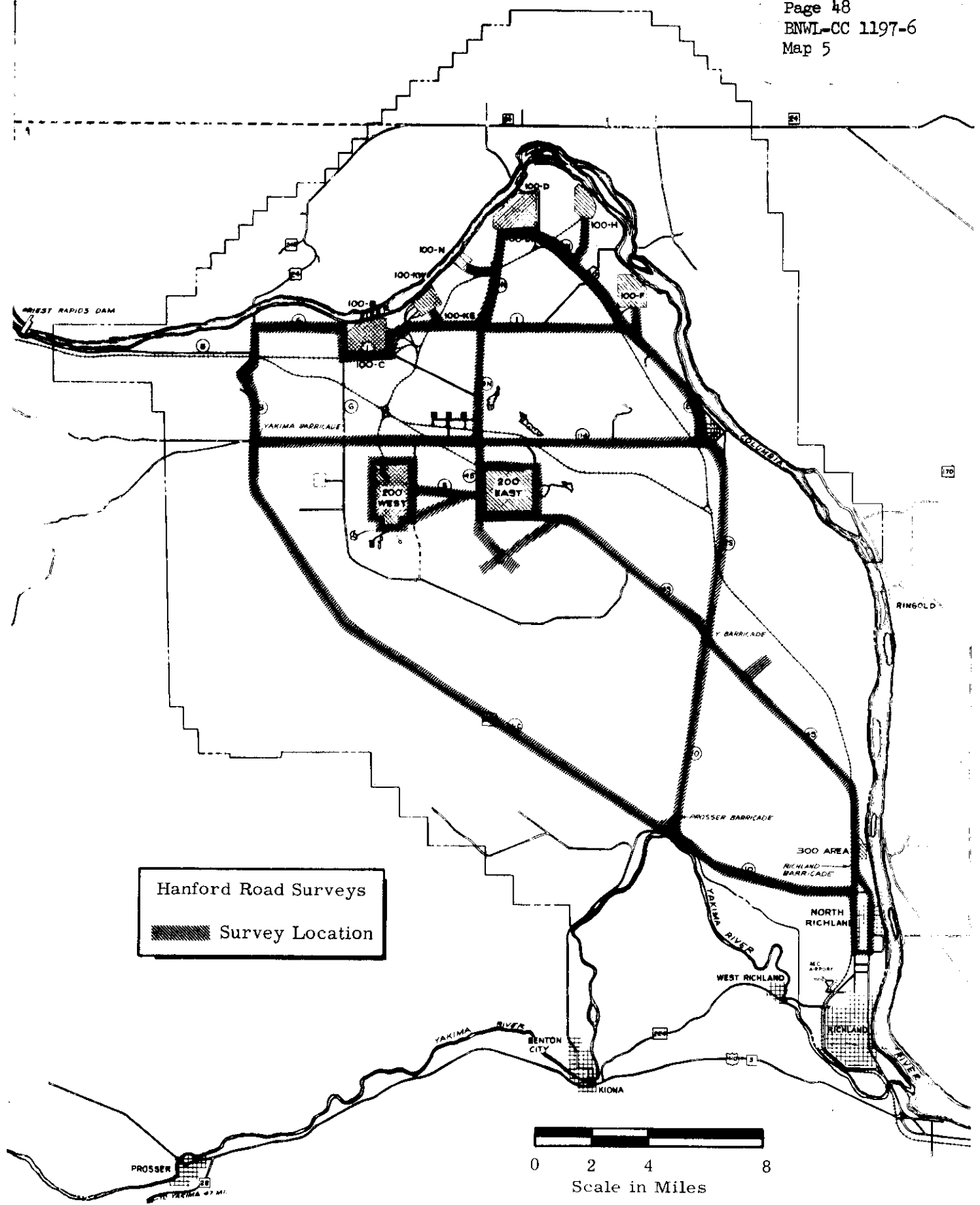
On August 31, vegetation was sampled from the back-fill area over the old B-ditch. A gamma scan of a dry weed showed ^{90}Sr and possibly ^{106}Ru or ^{103}Ru , ^{137}Cs , and ^{90}Zr . A green weed contained ^{90}Sr and ^{137}Cs .

September-October - Special supplementary surveys were made around the 300 Area following the August emission of radioactive particles (500-70,000 c/m-GM) from the 305 building stack. Because of relatively large particle sizes, deposition was confined to the immediate vicinity of the release with some contamination extending as far south as the south edge of the 300 Area main parking lot. Analyses of several typical particles indicated that the principal radionuclides were $^{144}\text{Ce-Pr}$ and ^{147}Pm . Particles located during the survey were either fixed in place or removed.

November-December - Routine surveys of several retired and active radiation facilities outside of operating areas (300 West and North burial grounds, P-11 facility, White Bluffs burial ground, 100-N and 100-K trenches, 212-N, -P and -R facilities and B Swamp) revealed no measureable exposure rates or contamination except at the radiation zone boundary of the 100-N trench where exposure rates from 5-15 mR/hr were measured.

In early December, ammonium nitrate crystals contaminated with radio-ruthenium were reported to have been released from the Purex stack. However, the contamination was apparently localized as no radioactive particles were encountered in perimeter surveys of the 200 East Area.

On December 21, an isolated radioactive particle was found on the Wye Burial Ground approach road about 100 yards from the burial ground. The level of radioactivity was 100,000 c/m-GM with a corresponding CP reading of 120 mrad/hr including 13 mR/hr (uncorrected for source size). The major gamma emitters present were ^{134}Cs and ^{137}Cs , with $^{144}\text{Ce-Pr}$, ^{155}Eu and ^{154}Eu also present.



2. Control Plots

Forty-six land areas, called control plots, are located within the Hanford boundaries (see Map 6). These plots measuring 10' by 10' are periodically surveyed with a GM counter in order to detect any deposition of particles. A summary of findings during 1967 is shown below.

200 B-C Crib Area

Re-surveys of the 200 B-C Area contamination spread were made in co-operation with Isochem and ARHCO personnel. Results indicated that conditions in the vicinity of the 200 B-C Crib Area have not changed appreciably over the past 1-2 years, although some particle shifting has taken place. On February 23, five particles (rabbit feces with radiation levels from 40,000 c/m-GM to 250 mrad/hr) were collected during a routine survey of the 216 B-C Crib access road (south of the 200 East Area). The radioactivity of these particles was due to ^{90}Sr and ^{137}Cs . On February 28, a similar particle was isolated which contained ^{90}Sr (9 μCi) and ^{137}Cs (1.1 μCi). Altogether some 250 discrete particles with radiation levels from 1000 c/m to 400 mrad/hr were found in about square miles. Particle densities were from 1 to 14 per 100 sq. ft. Surveys conducted in March and December showed no significant changes in the extent or level of old radiocontamination.

January-February - During January, four radioactive particles (6,000 - 80,000 c/m-GM) were found on Control Plot No. 10 (east of 200-E Area). The radionuclides present were ^{106}Ru and $^{144}\text{Ce-Pr}$.

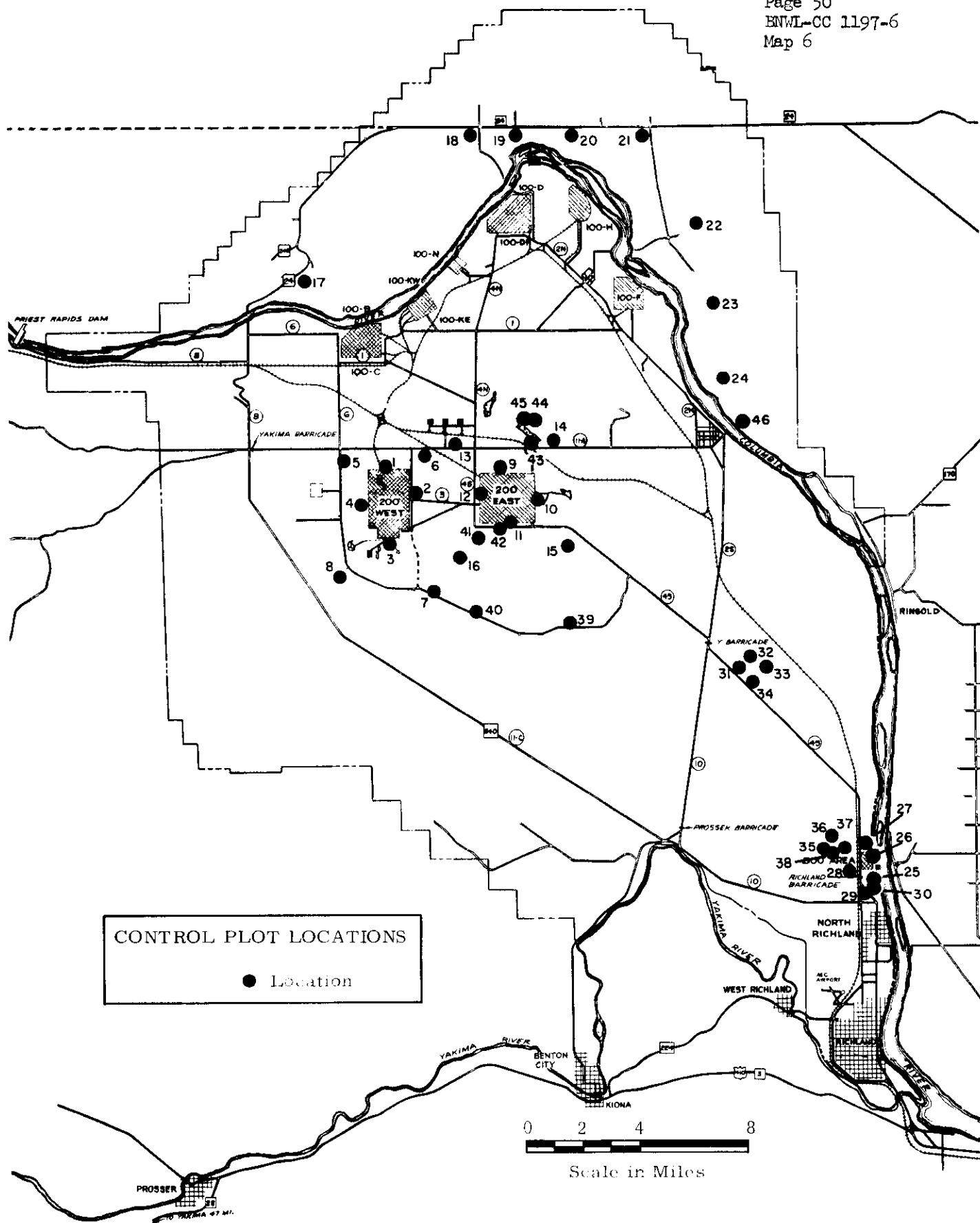
On February 25, radioactive particles (8,000 c/m-GM) were found on the Wahluke Slope (Control Plots 20 and 22) for the first time since the spring of 1964. The particles could not be isolated for analysis and could not be detected during subsequent surveys.

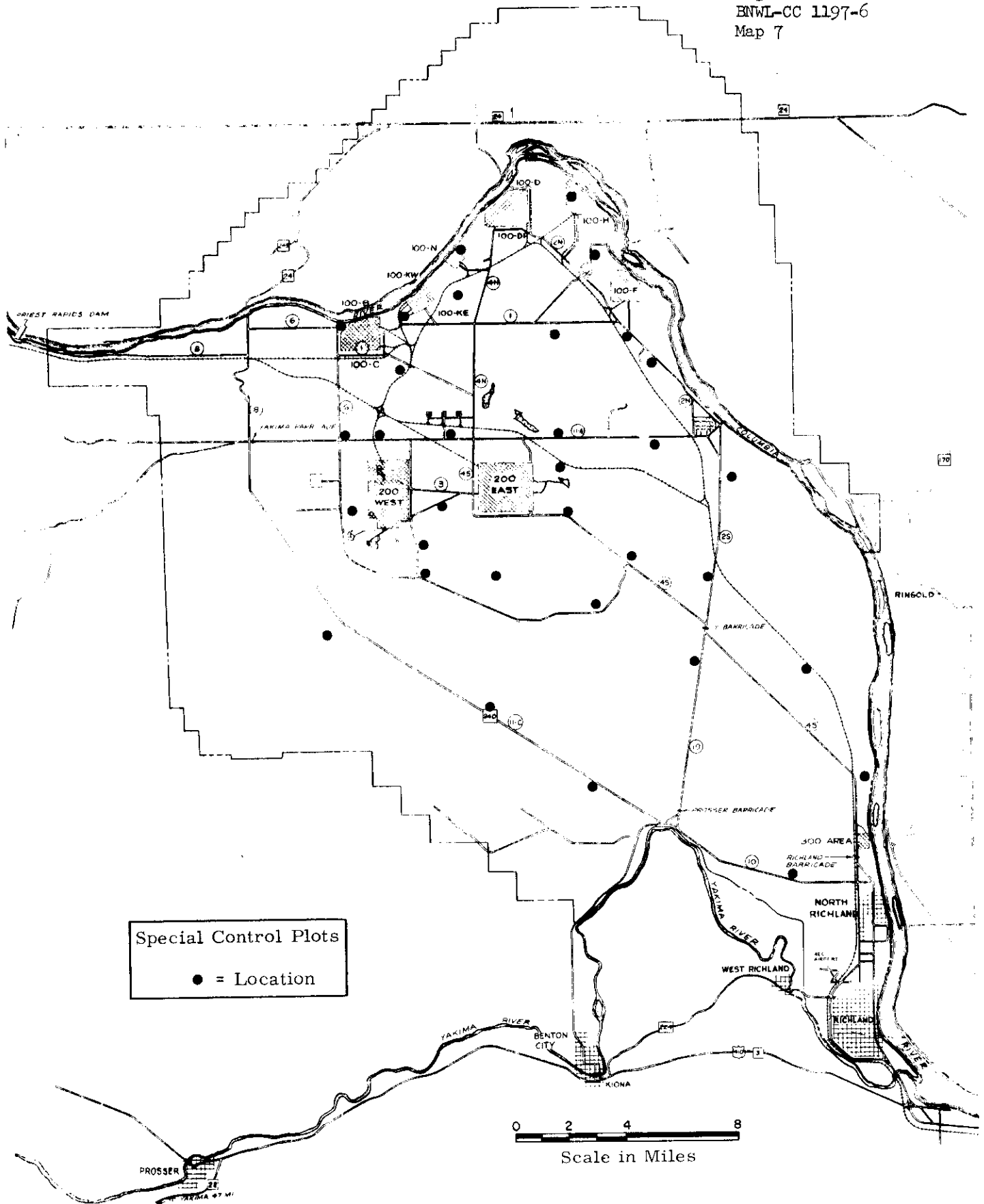
Special control plots near Hanford Test Wells (see Map 7) are surveyed on a semi-annual basis. In January, a particle (15,000 c/m-GM - 1 $\mu\text{Ci}^{60}\text{Co}$), was found on the special control plot northeast of the 100-N Area. A follow-up survey revealed particulate contamination in an area extending about 1,000 yards South to 2,000 yards Southeast of the 100-N trench. The contamination had apparently been spread by a high wind. Radiation levels were 4,000 to 90,000 c/m with particle densities of 1-4 per 100 square feet at several locations.

March-April - On March 14, a radioactive fuelweel fragment (3,000 c/m-GM) was found on Control Plot No. 10 (east of 200-E Area). The contaminant was identified as $^{144}\text{Ce-Pr}$.

May-June - On May 23, radioactive contamination that was found on Control Plot No. 10 was identified as $^{144}\text{Ce-Pr}$.

September-October - In October, the routine semi-annual survey of 32 special test well control plots revealed no deposition of radioactive particles.

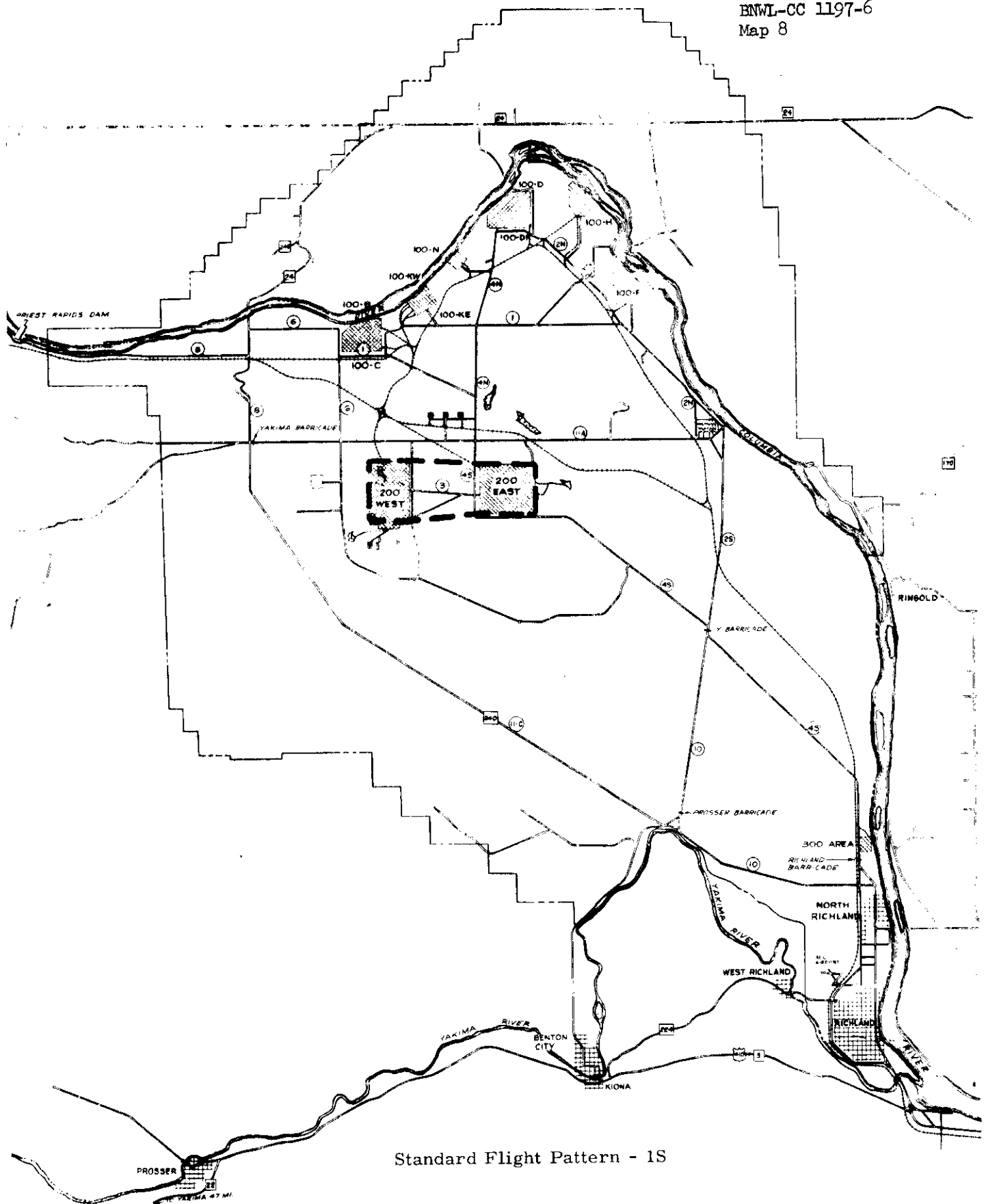


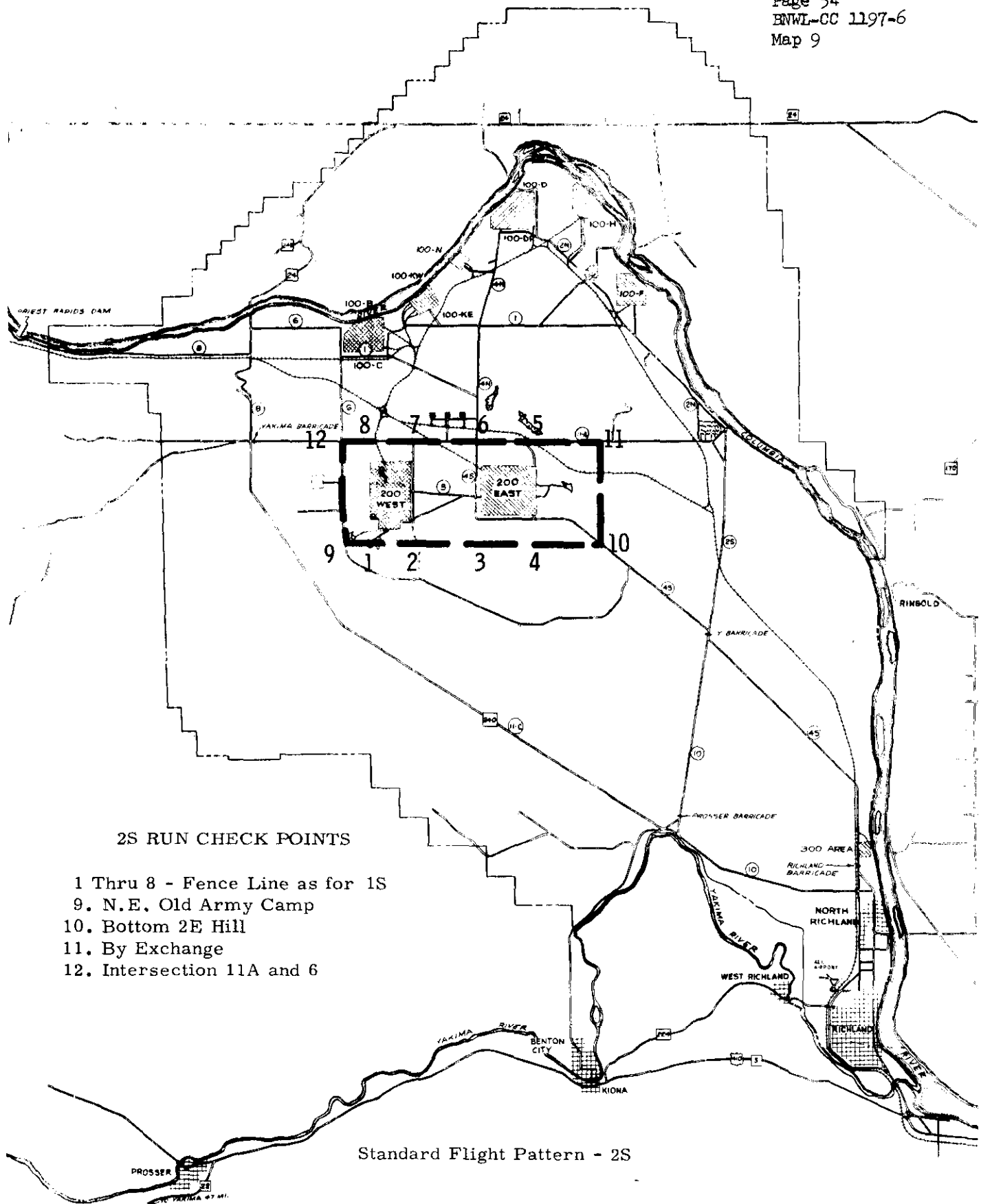


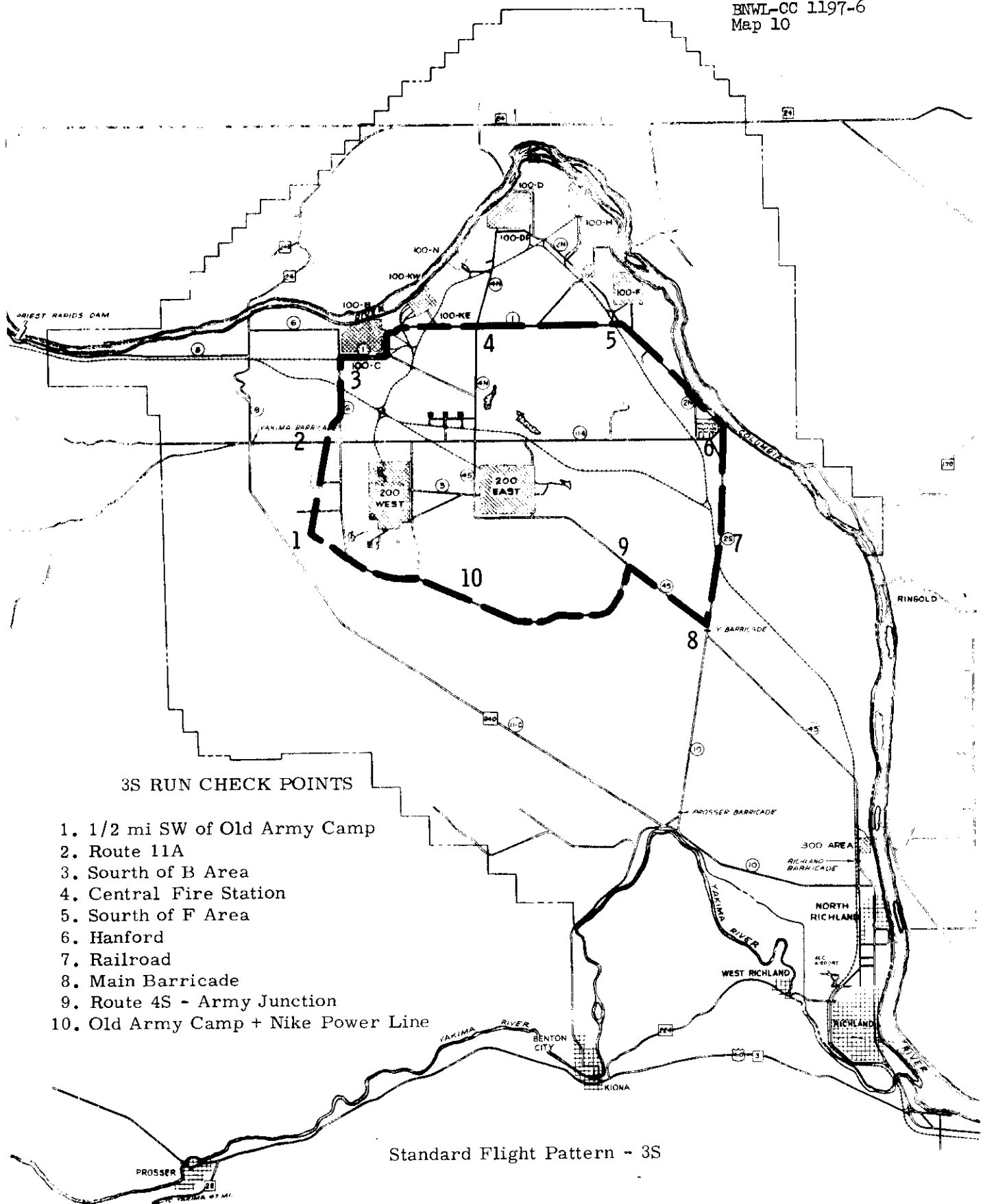
3. Aerial Surveys

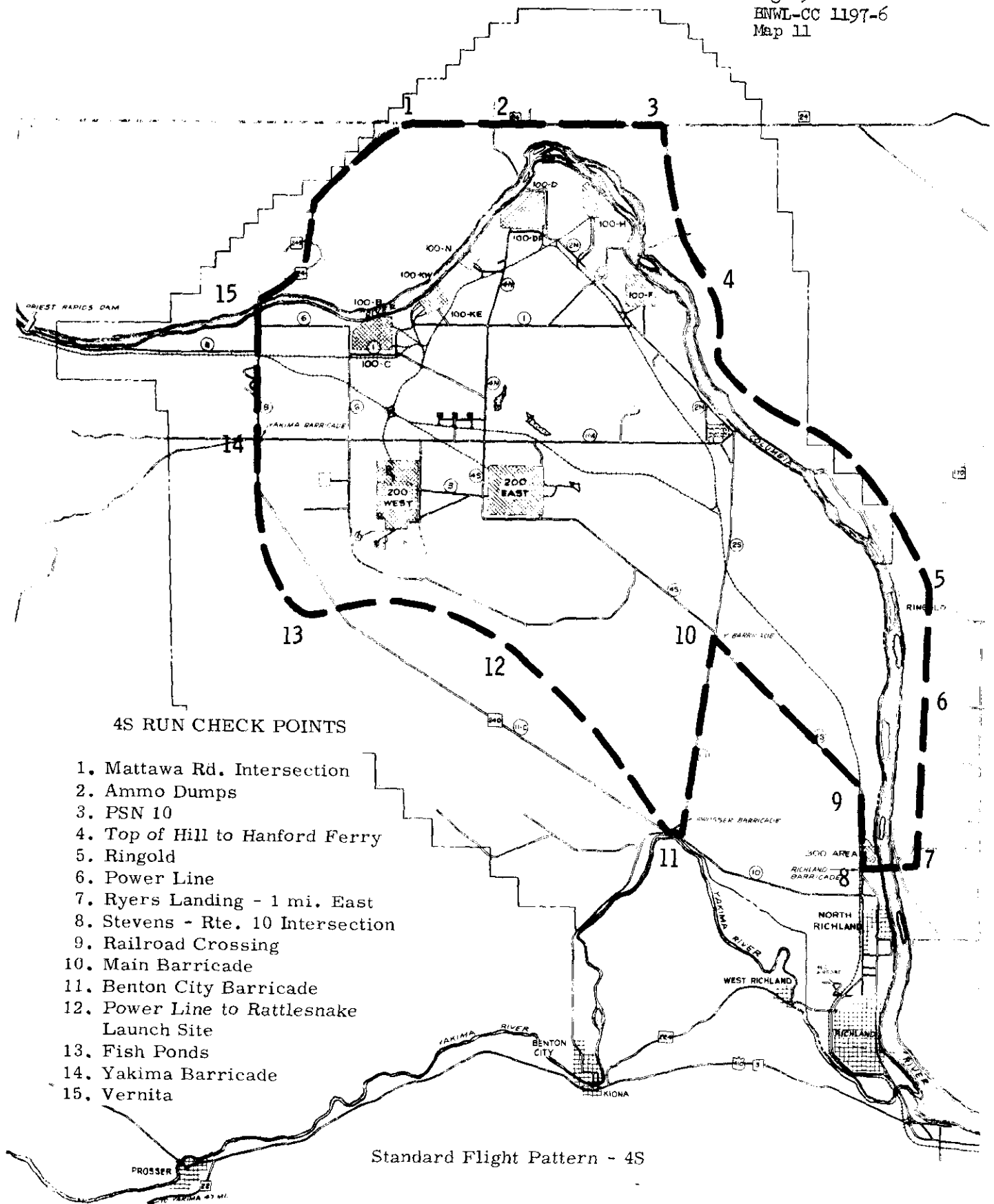
Aerial surveys can be used to detect contamination which is spread over a large land area. Like road and control plot surveys, aerial surveys are qualitative in nature, and though routine use of this technique, a capability for rapid assessment of an emergency situation is maintained. All surveys are conducted at an altitude of 150 meters (500 feet). The detector is a three inch by five inch NaI (Tl) scintillation crystal. Nine flight patterns are located within and near the Hanford project perimeter. In addition, two flight patterns cover the Columbia River from Priest Rapids Dam to the Pacific Ocean and two other flight patterns cover the Richland-Pendleton-Spokane "triangle" and the Richland-Ellensburg-Ritzville "triangle". (See Maps 8-19).

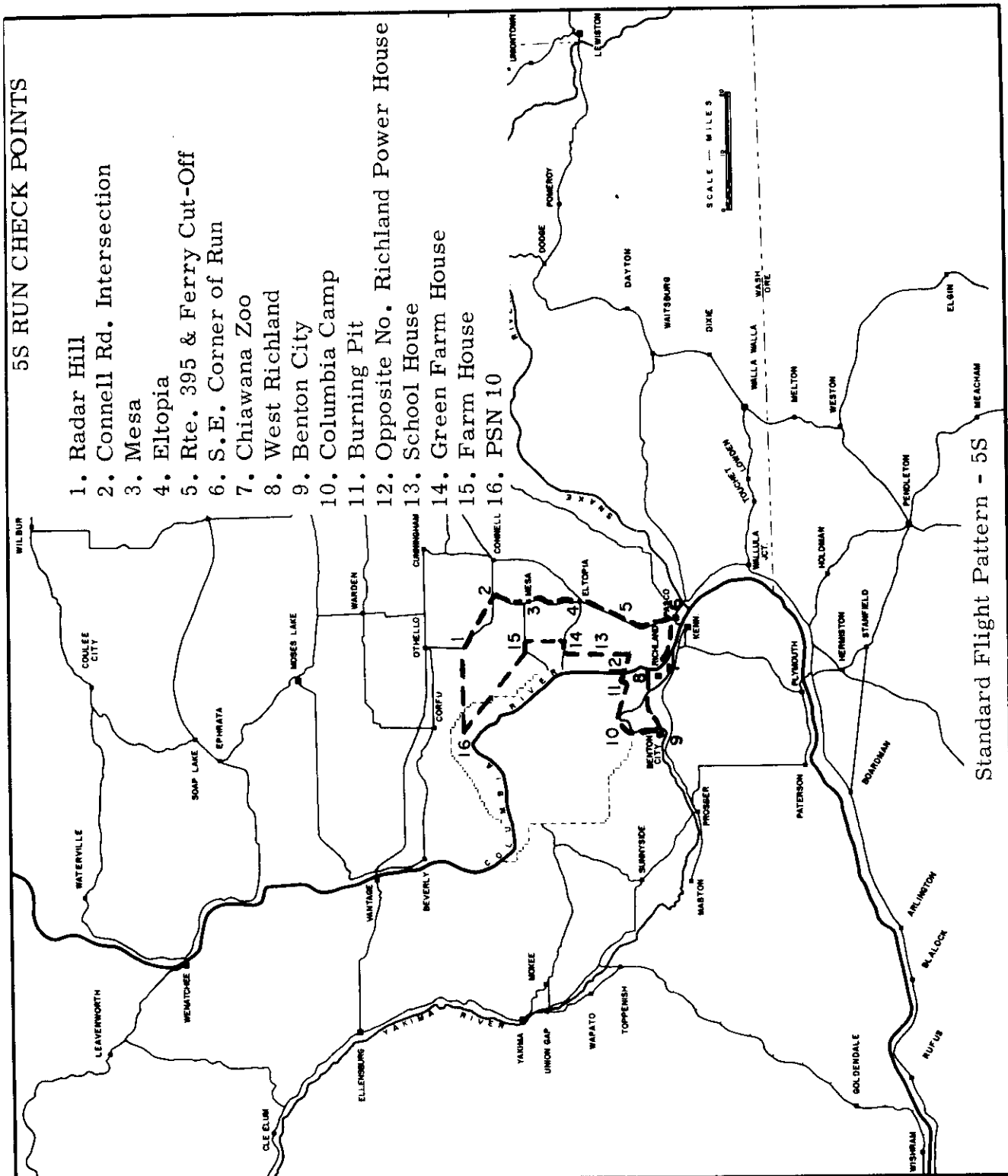
The forty-one aerial surveys made during 1967 showed no significant changes from previous radiation levels.

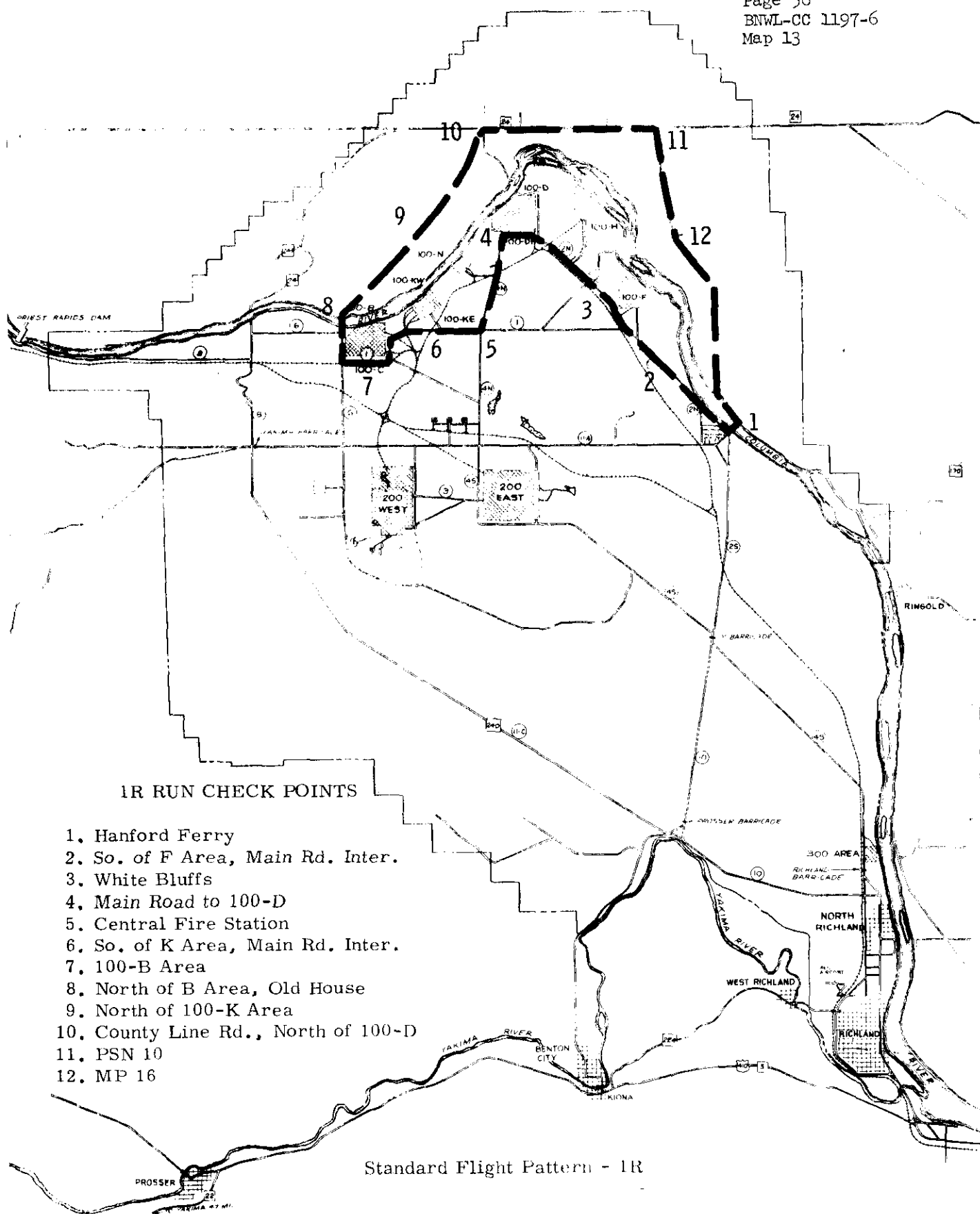


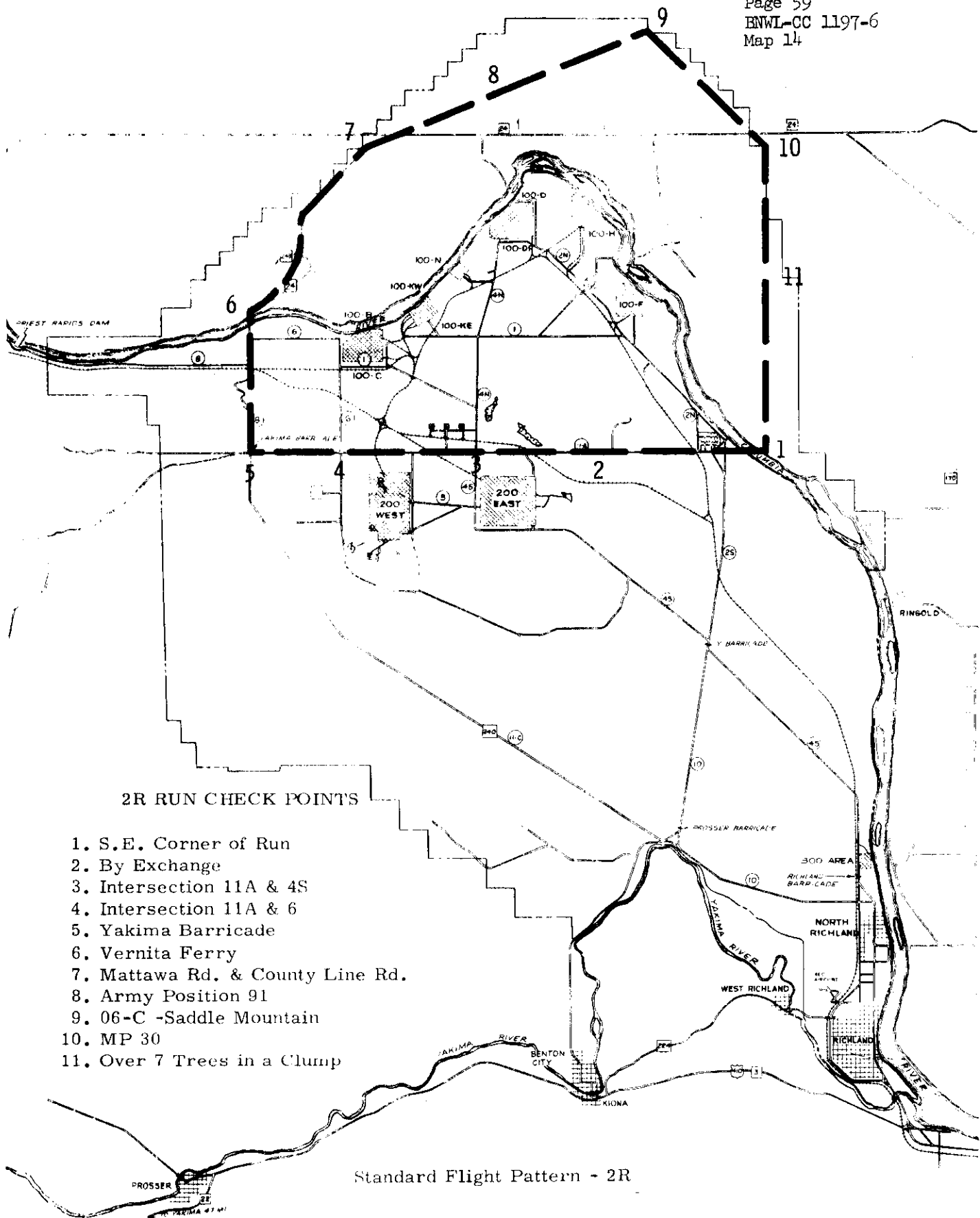


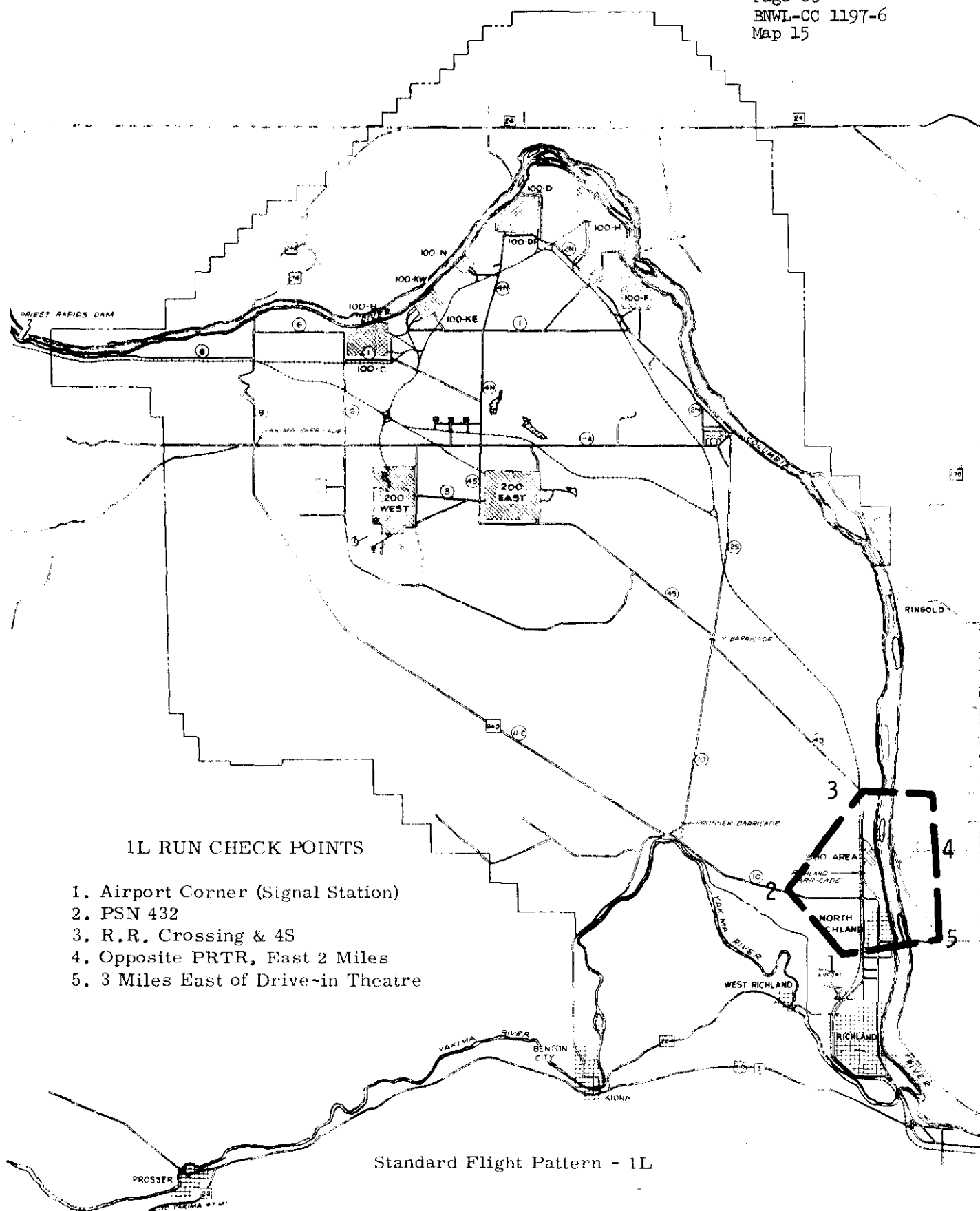






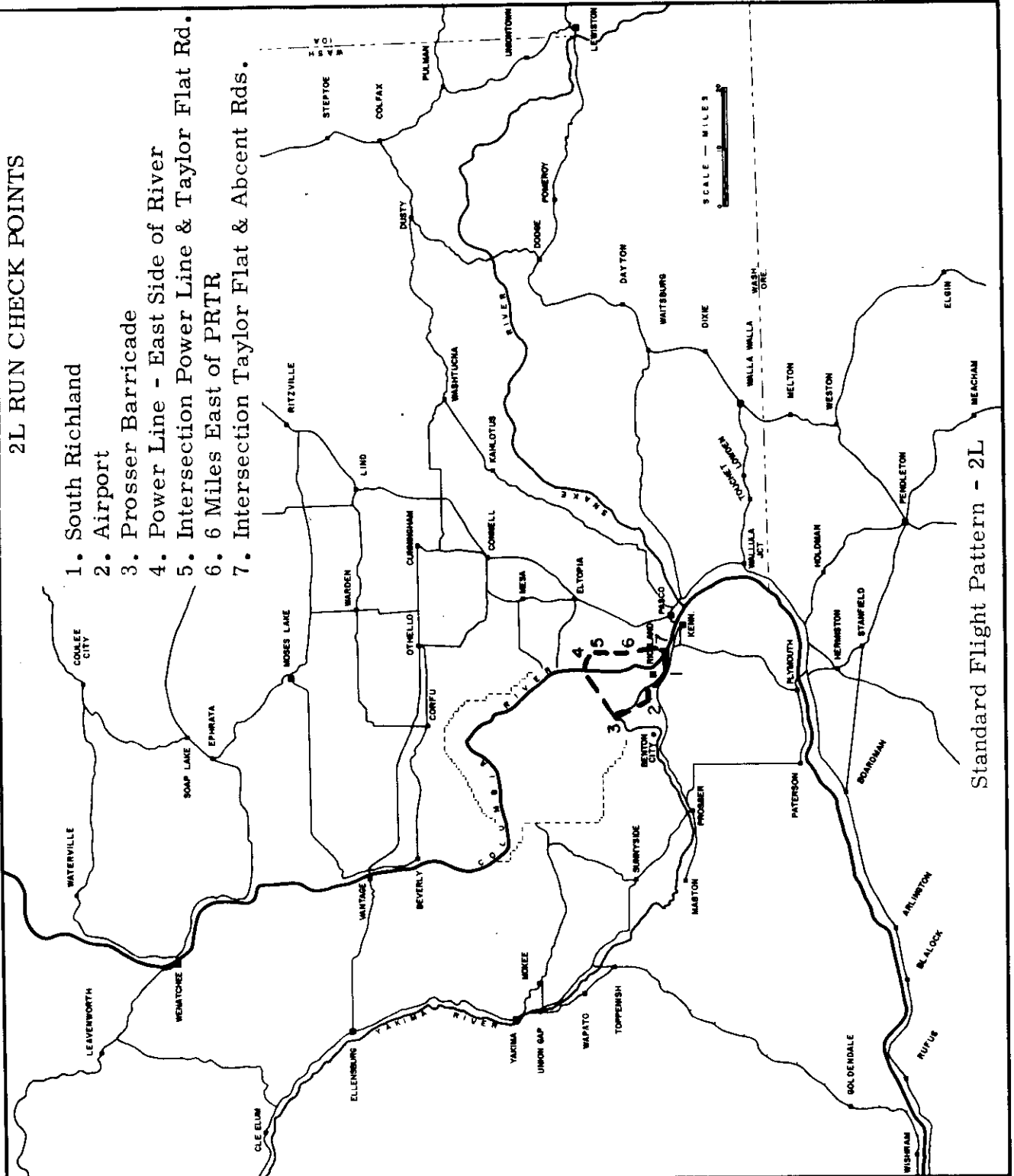




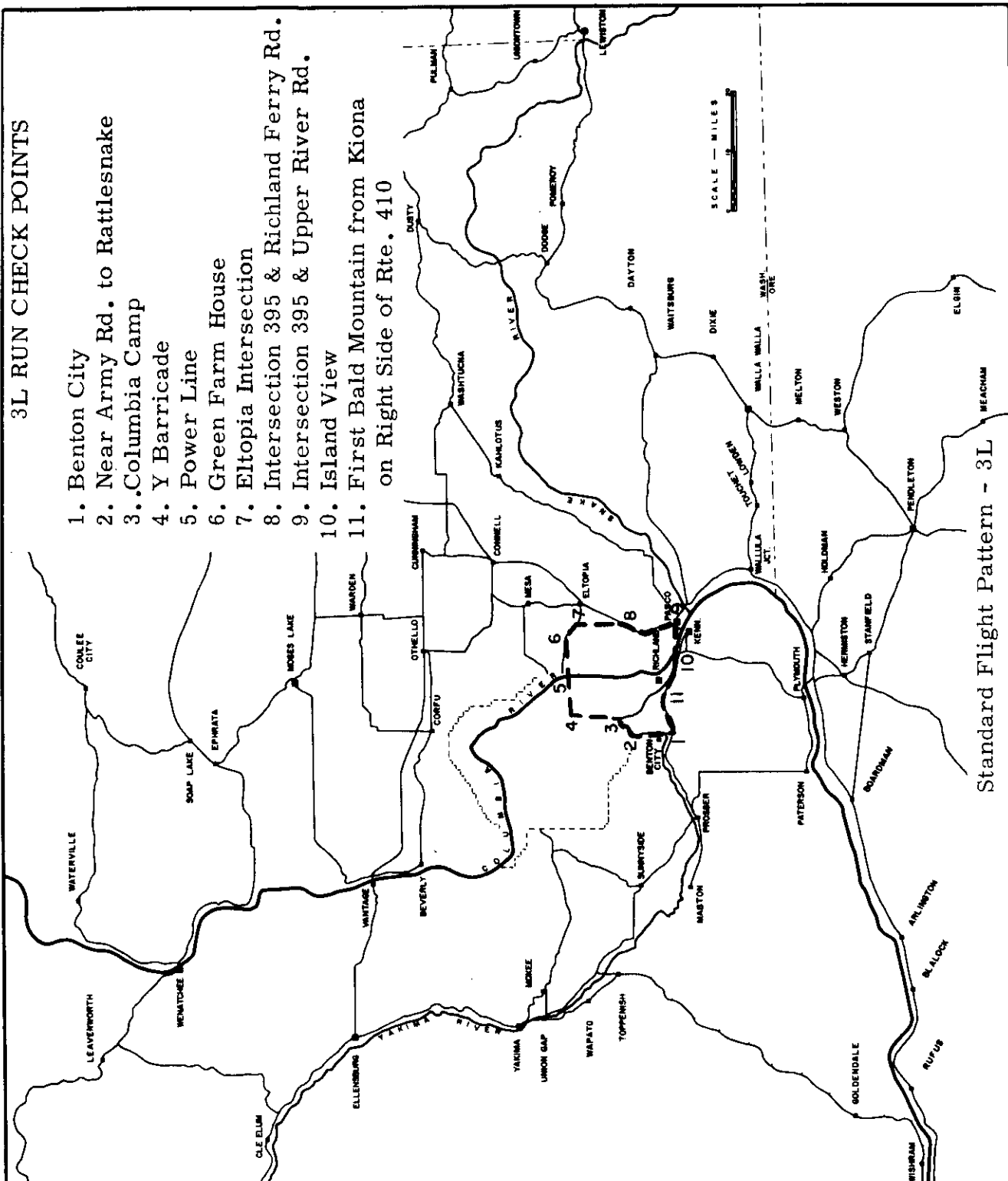


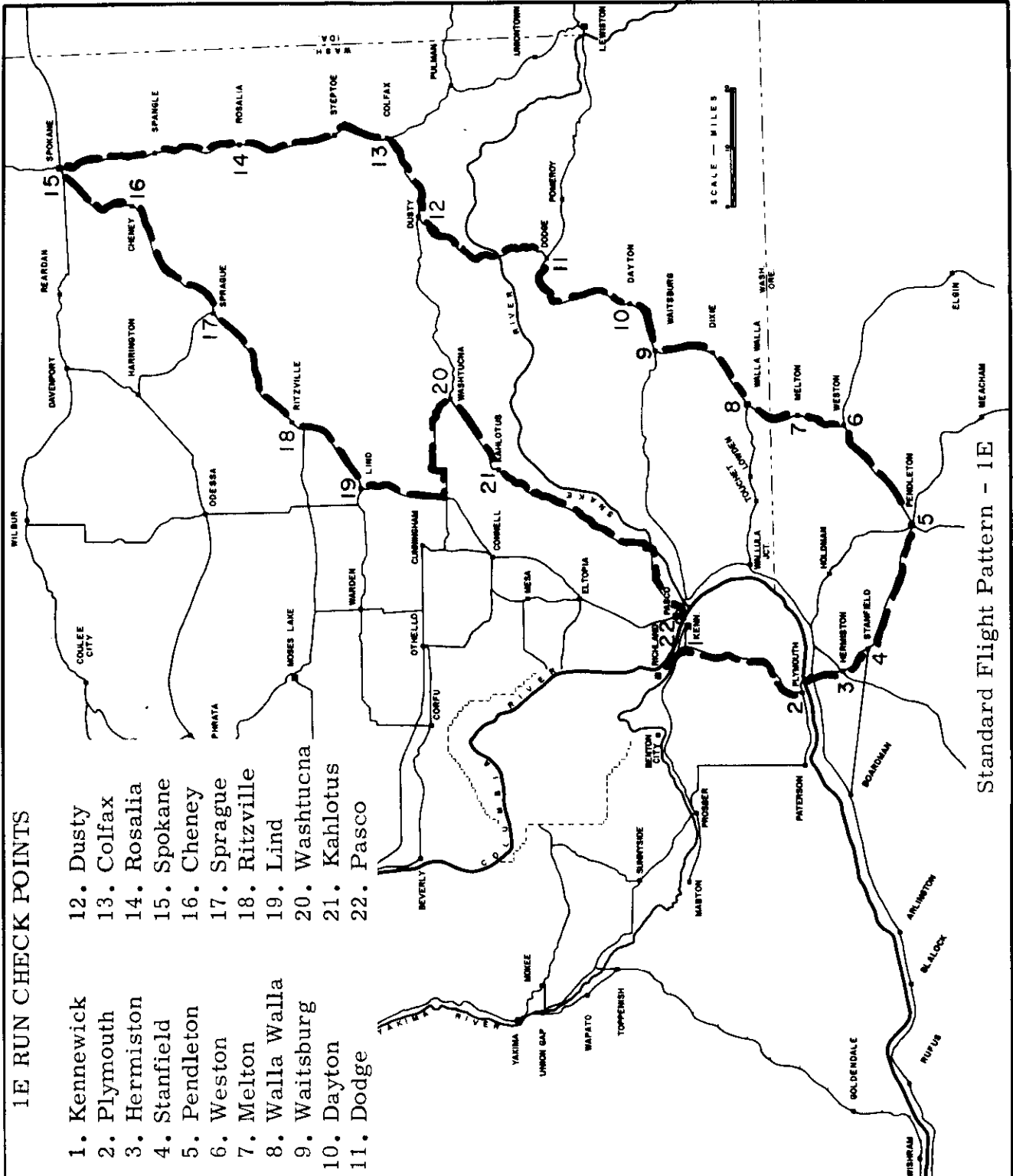
2L RUN CHECK POINTS

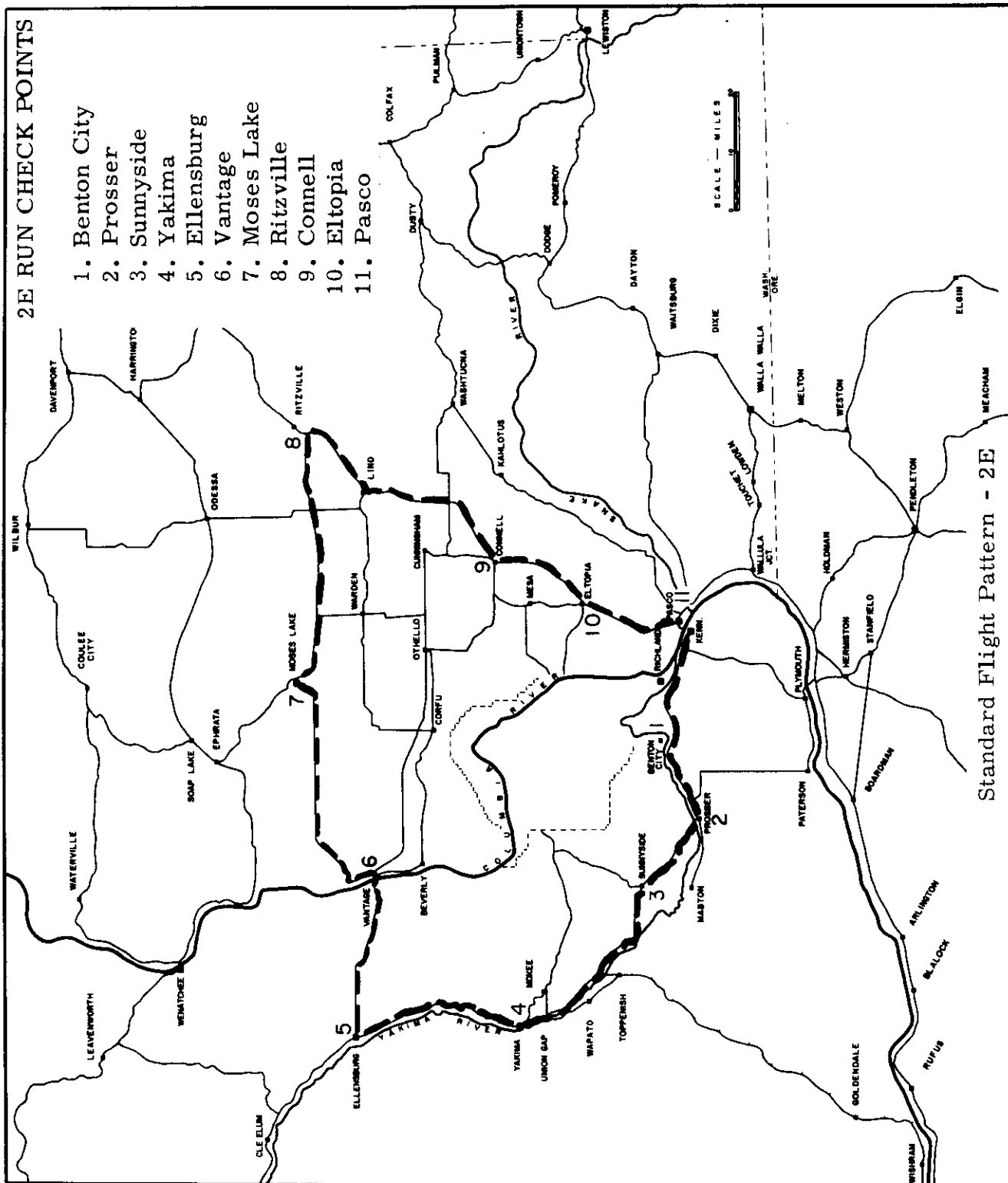
1. South Richland
2. Airport
3. Prosser Barricade
4. Power Line - East Side of River
5. Intersection Power Line & Taylor Flat Rd.
6. 6 Miles East of PRTR
7. Intersection Taylor Flat & Abcent Rds.



Standard Flight Pattern - 2L







B. External Radiation Exposure Rates

1. Exposure Rates on Plant

External pencil-type gamma radiation exposure rates (in units of mR/day) were determined from pencil-type gamma dosimeters located within buildings designated "614" (Map 20). At most locations, the peak exposure rate during 1967 was observed in the third week of January (Figures 28-35) and was primarily due to fall-out, although augmented by plant releases. The average results for the year for each location are presented in Table 7 below. Where available, 1966 averages are also presented for comparison.

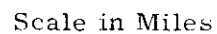
TABLE 7

YEARLY AVERAGE EXPOSURE RATES (Results in mR/day)

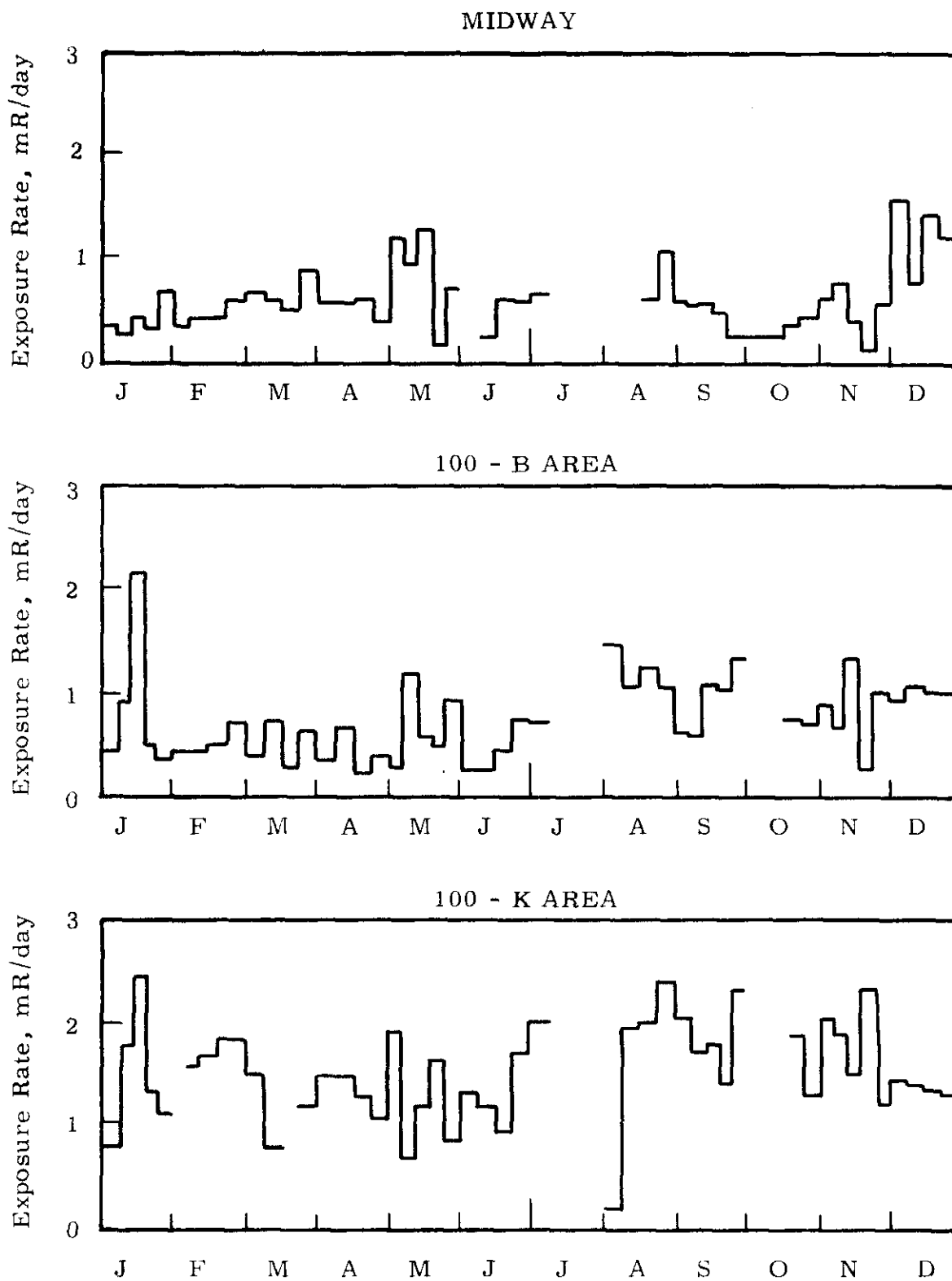
	<u>Location</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966*</u>
100 Areas	Midway	0.58	-
	100-B	0.72	0.64
	100-K	1.5	1.3
	100-N	0.83	0.67
	100-D	0.56	0.58
	100-H	0.64	0.47
	White Bluffs	0.44**	0.51
	100-F	0.39	0.53
	Hanford	0.59	0.53
200-W Areas	Redox	0.59	0.95
	West Center	0.43	0.48
	East Center	0.44	0.58
200-E Areas	West Center	0.37	0.45
	East Center	0.55	0.55
	Southeast	0.39	0.59
	Semiworks	2.02	1.6
Other	Rattlesnake Springs	0.45	-
	Emergency Relocation Center	0.38	-
	Wye Barricade	0.58	-
	Rt. 10 Mile 1.6	0.35	0.35
	Prosser Barricade	0.51	-
	300 Area	0.48	0.47
	700 Area	0.59	0.50

* The 1966 averages include an extended period during July-August when the reactors were shut down due to a strike.

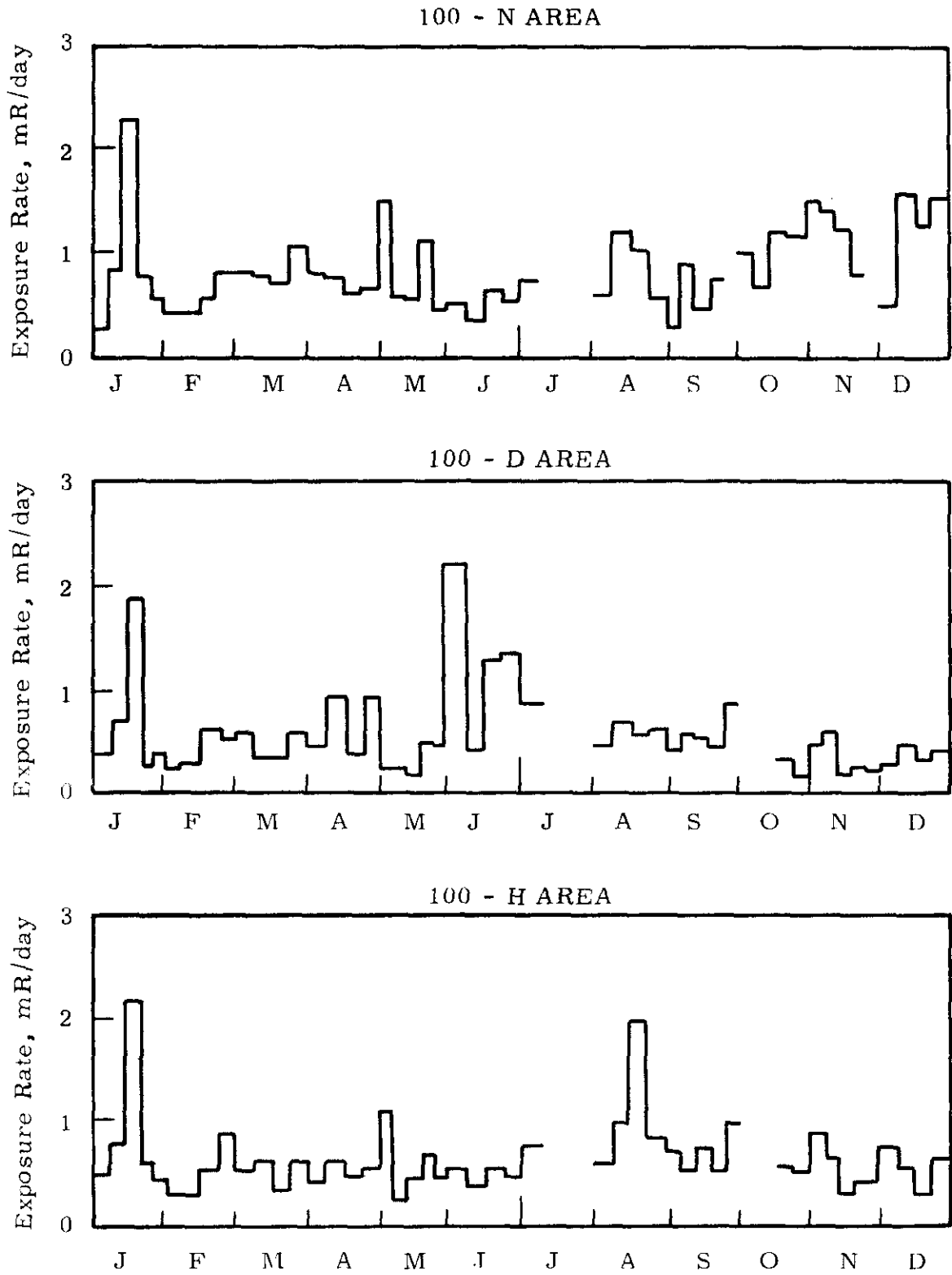
**Measurements in White Bluffs were discontinued 10-2-67.



EXTERNAL RADIATION ON PLANT

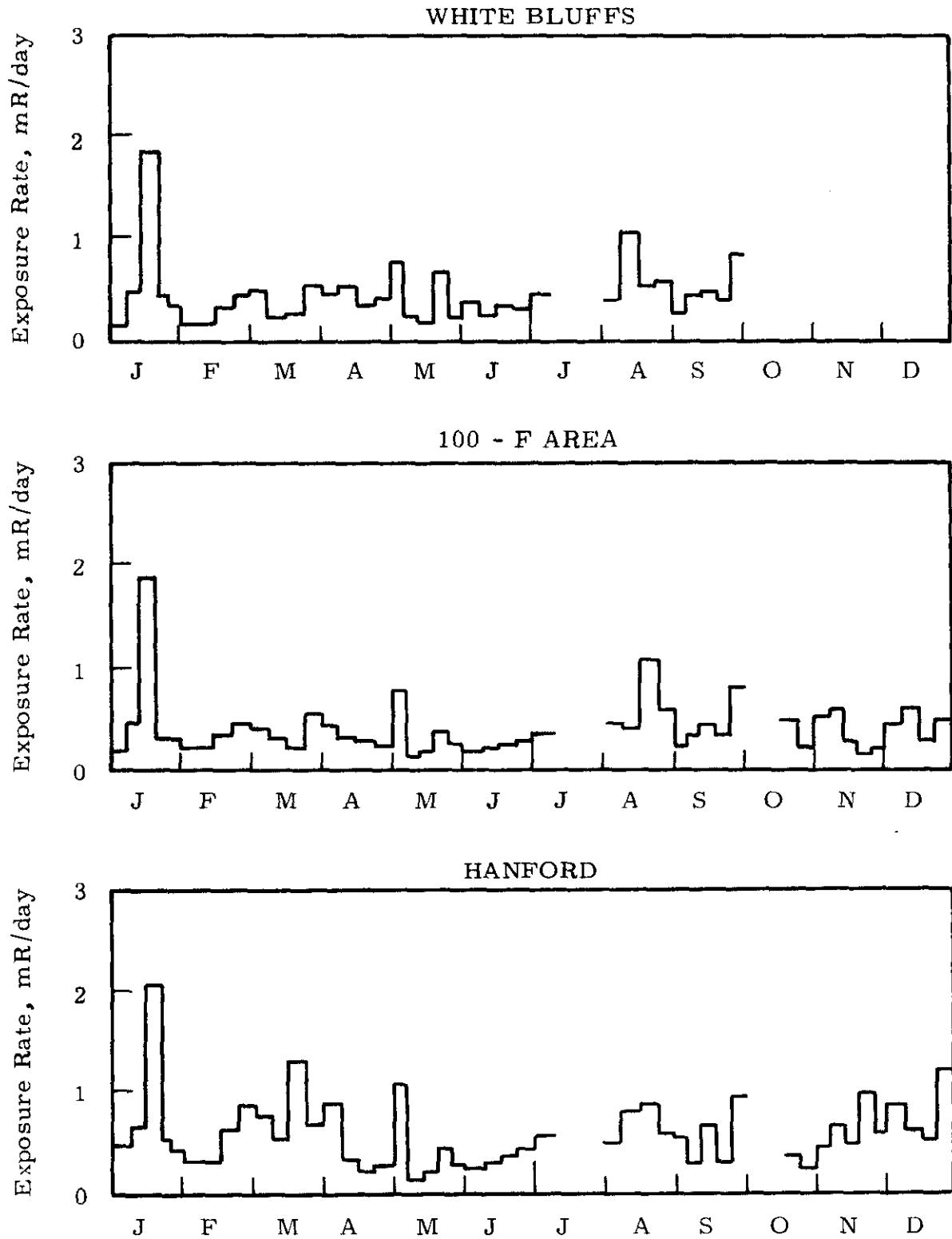


EXTERNAL RADIATION ON PLANT



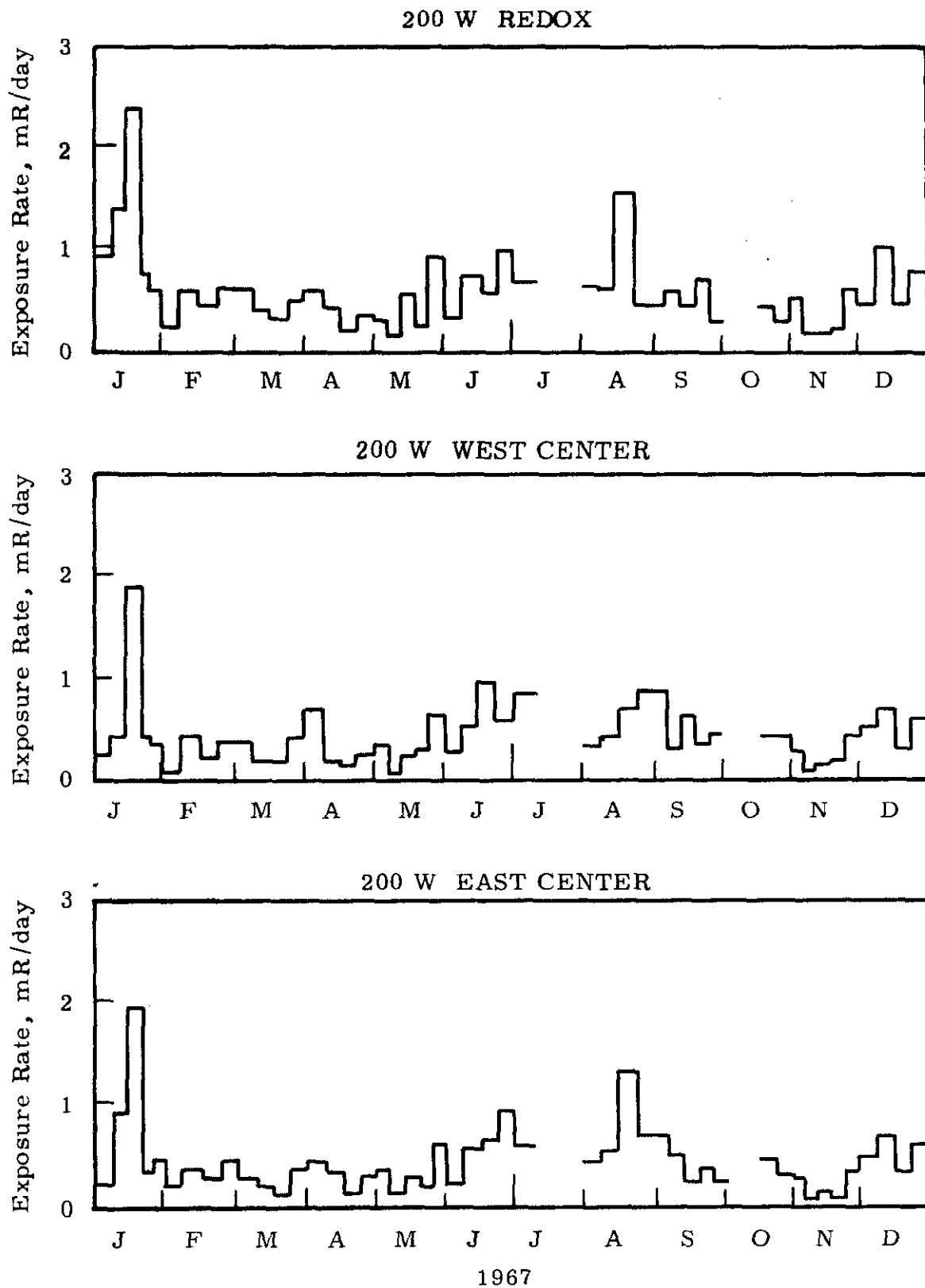
1967

EXTERNAL RADIATION ON PLANT

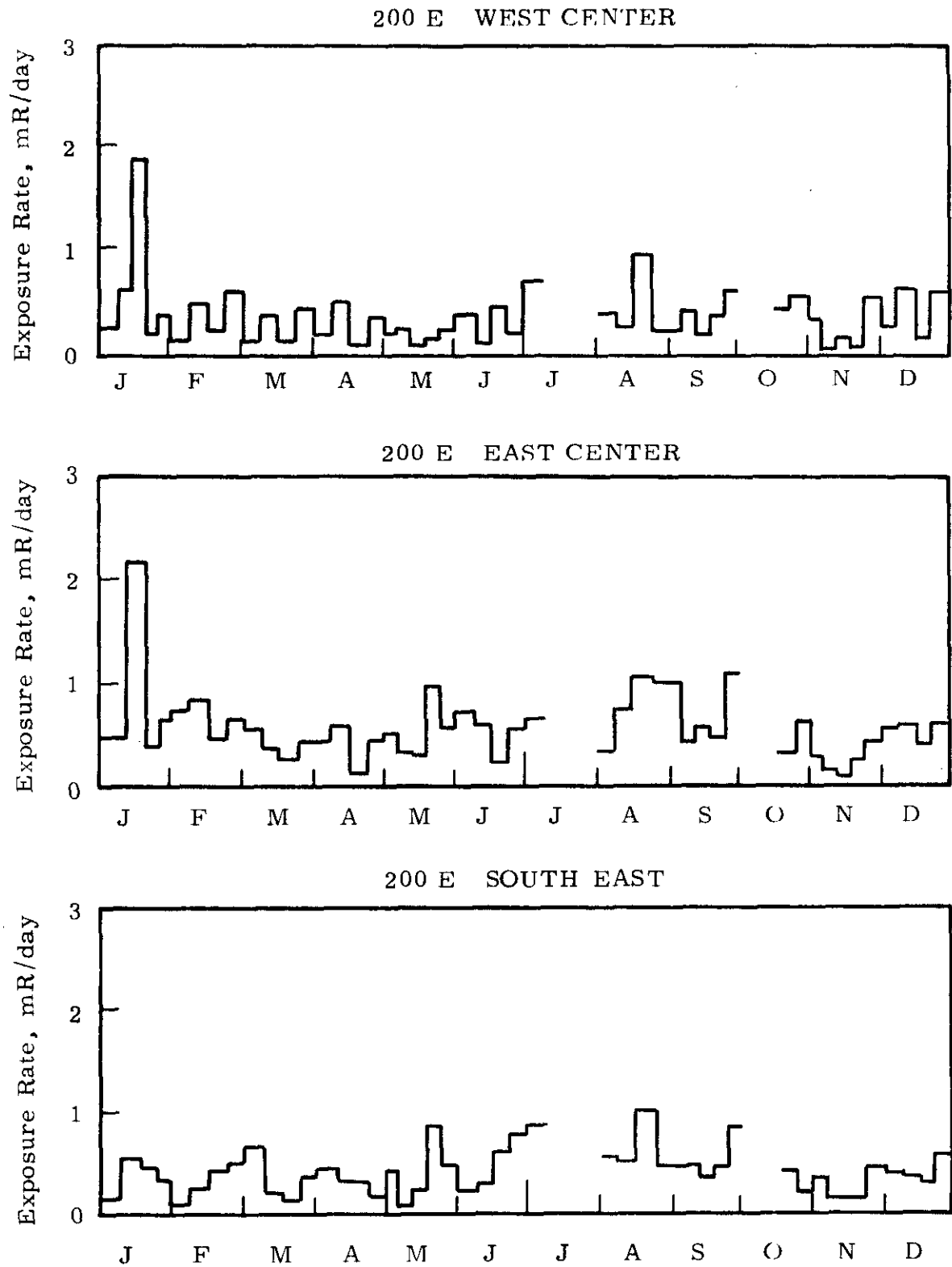


1967

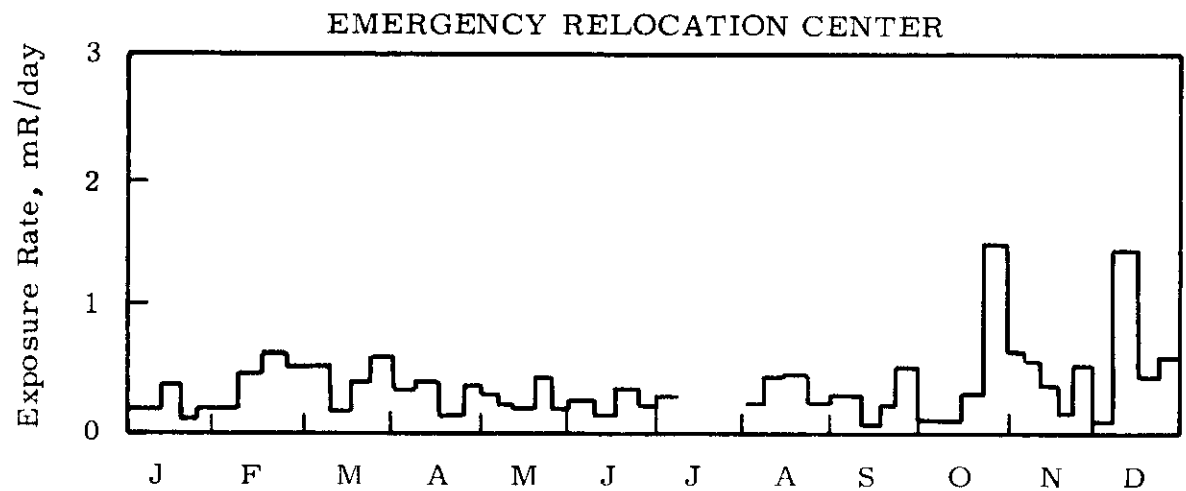
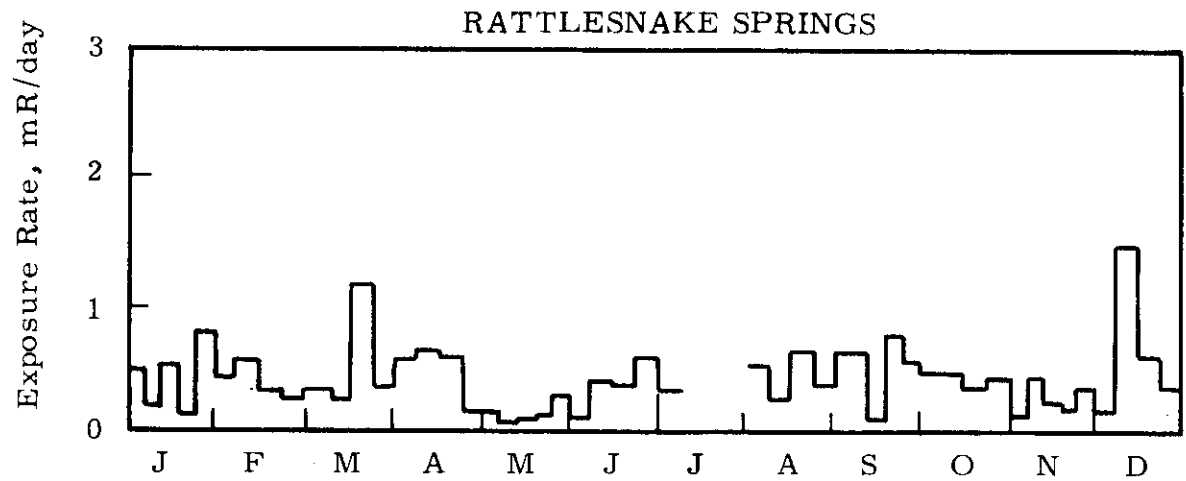
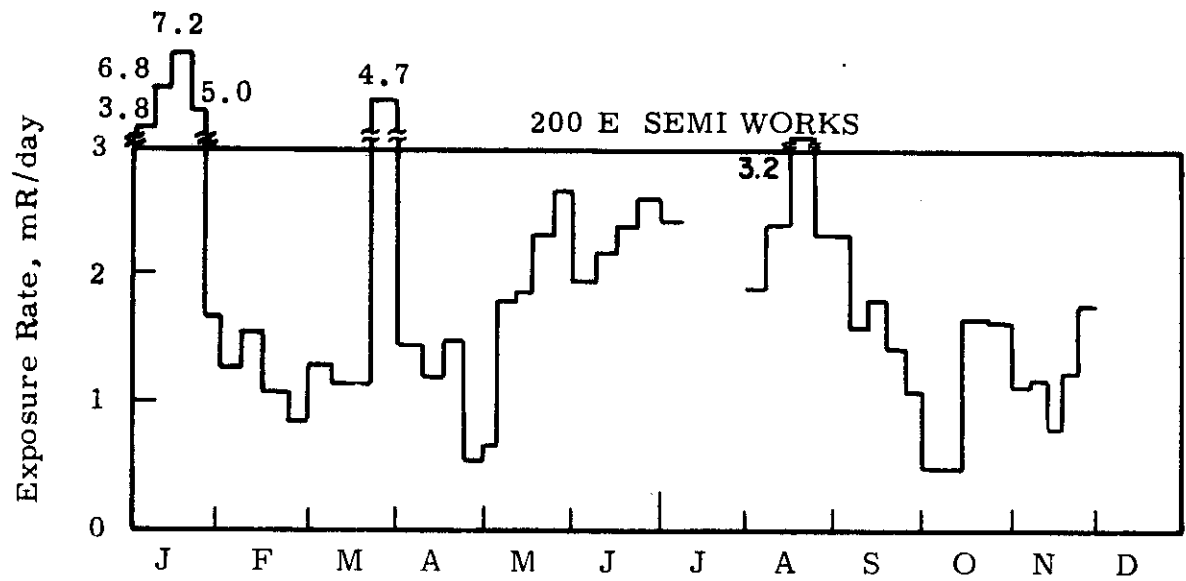
EXTERNAL RADIATION ON PLANT



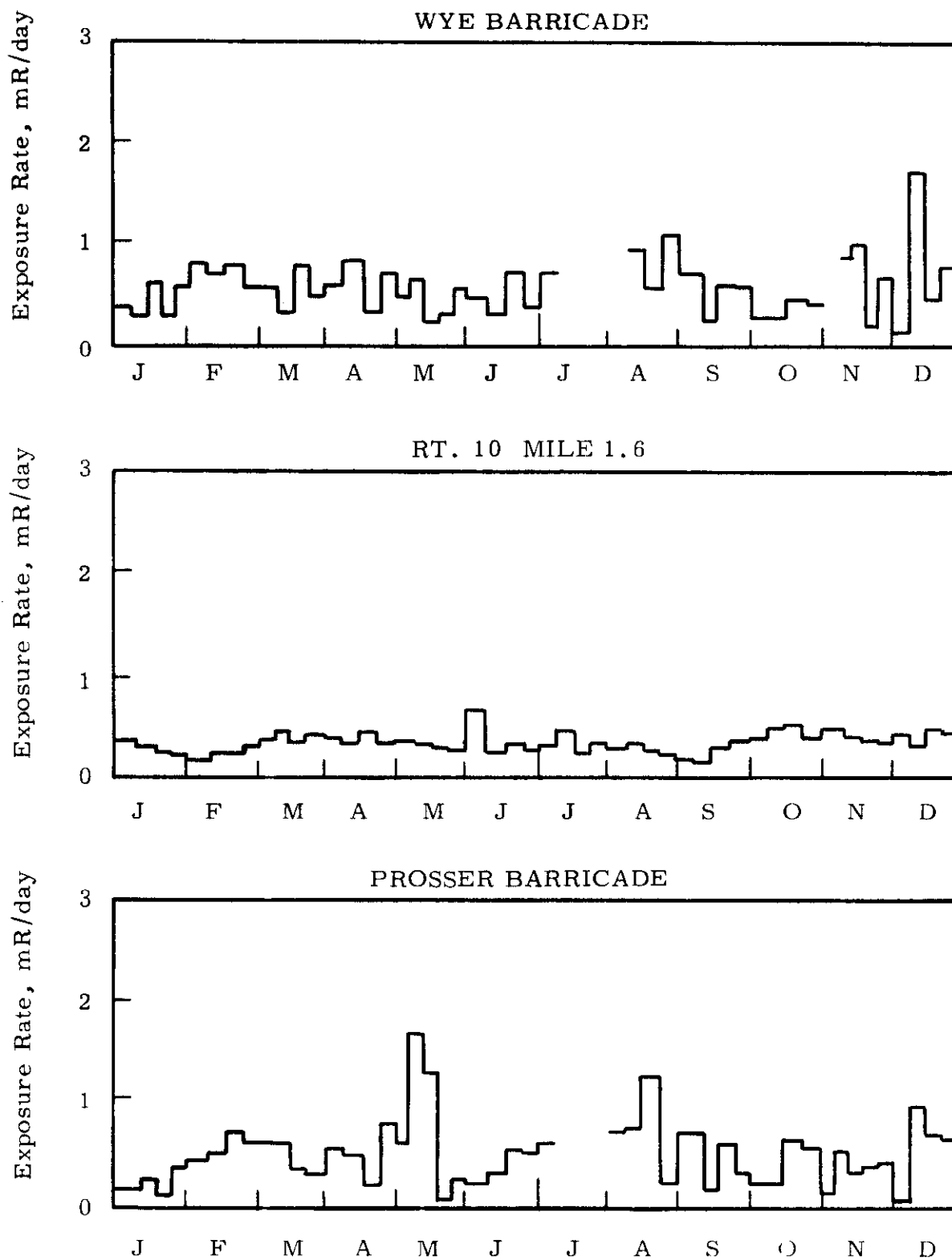
EXTERNAL RADIATION ON PLANT



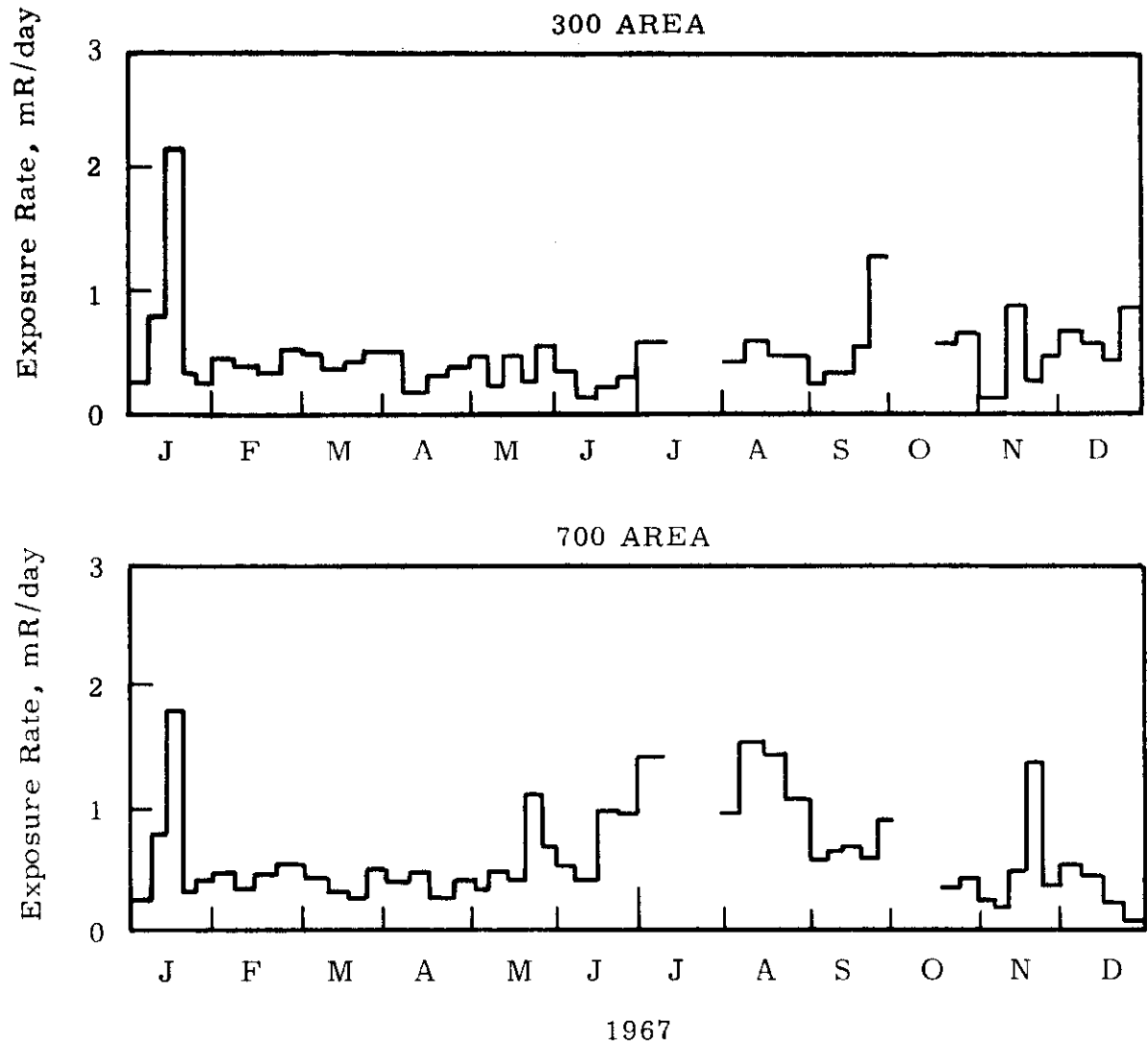
EXTERNAL RADIATION ON PLANT



EXTERNAL RADIATION ON PLANT



EXTERNAL RADIATION ON PLANT



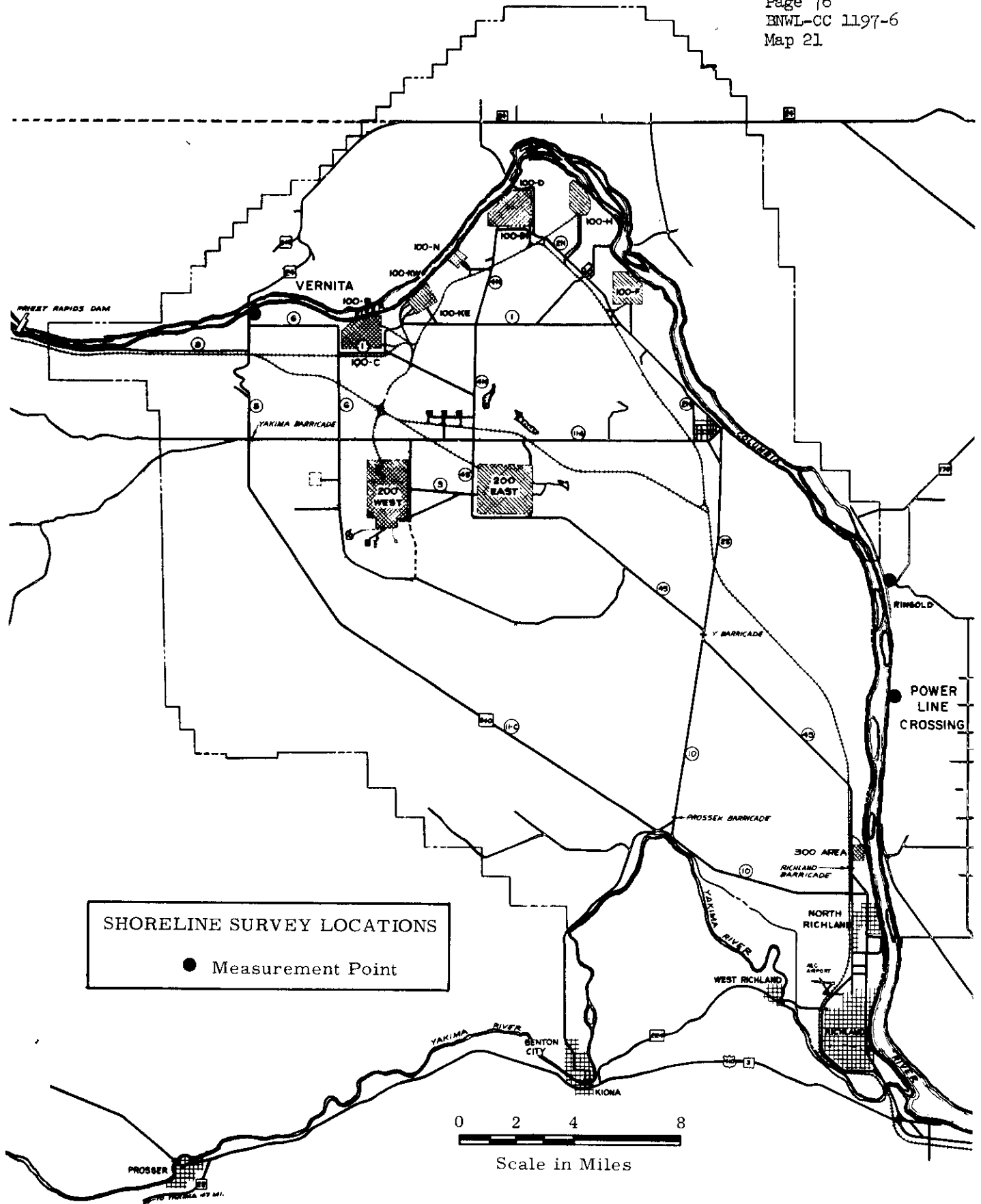
2. Exposure Rates at the Columbia River Shoreline

Shoreline exposure rates (Figures 36 and 37) are measured at 3 feet above the ground with a 40-liter ionization chamber whose response is interpreted in terms of $\mu\text{R/hr}$ (radium gamma calibration). This approximates the exposure rate to the gonads of a person standing on the riverbank. In addition to the locations shown in Map 21, measurements are made at Sacajawea Park and McNary Dam.

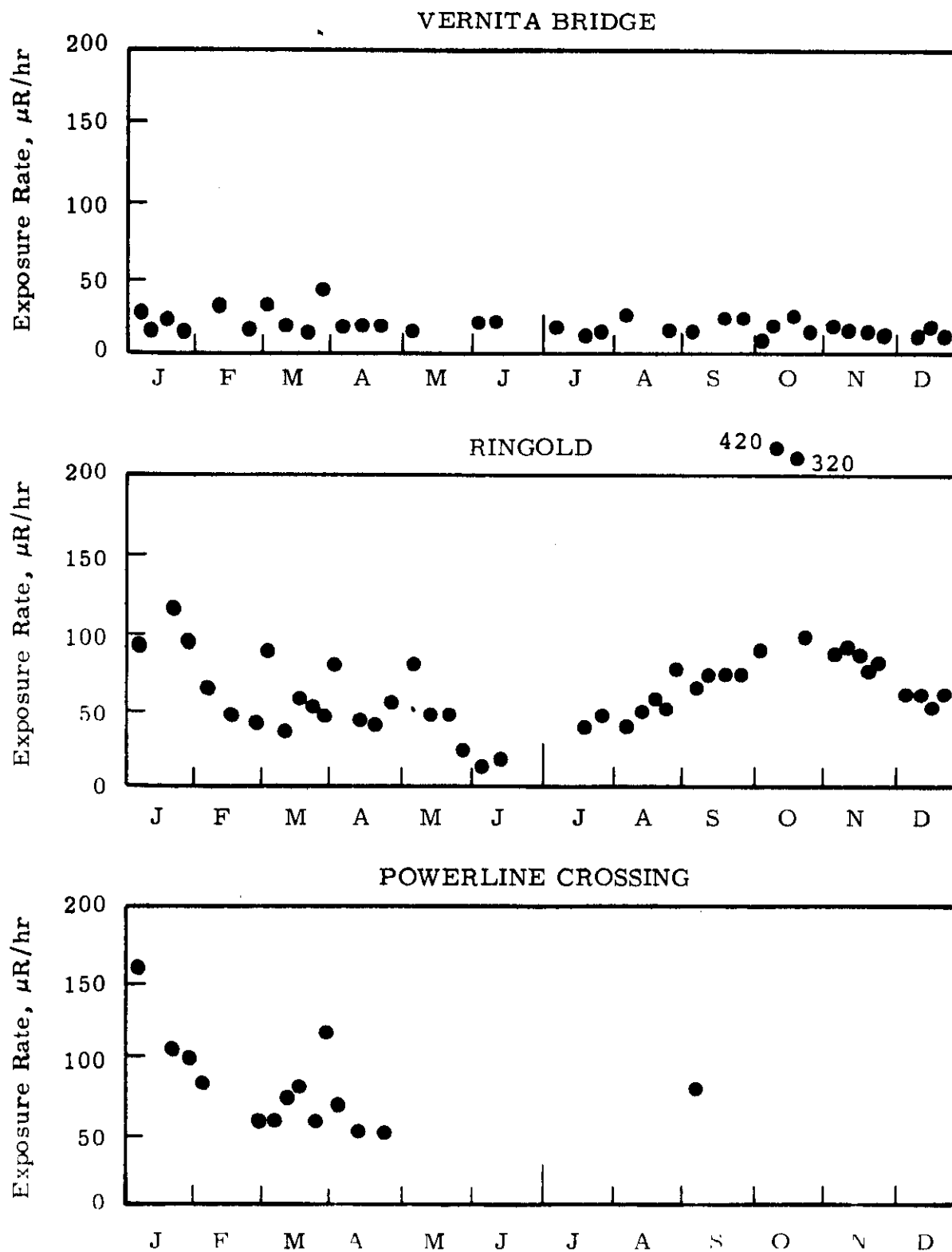
Seasonal increases in shoreline exposure rates are normally expected in March and April when increased concentrations in the Columbia River of stable ^{55}Mn due to spring run-off result in increased concentrations of ^{58}Mn .

As usual, the exposure rates decreased to the yearly minimum in June when the river flow rate was high. By August, declining river flow had begun to expose more shoreline, and exposure rates started to increase. However, the increased exposure rates measured temporarily at Ringold in mid-October were much higher (420 and 320 $\mu\text{R/hr}$) than any made at that location in recent years.

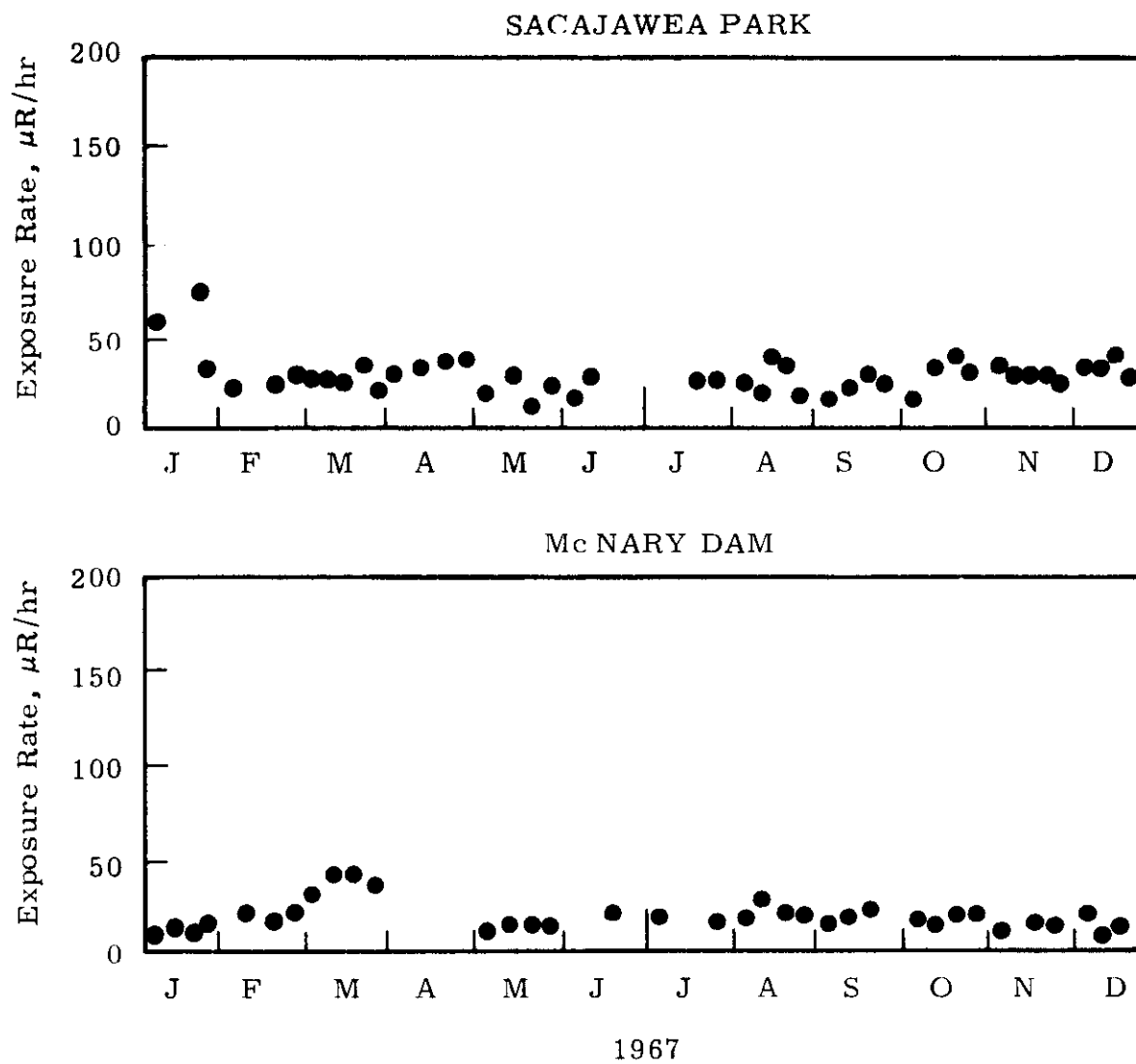
Although the data were not presented in this series of reports, additional monthly shoreline surveys in 1967 covered the reach of the river from the reactor outfalls to Richland. Shoreline exposure rates at several locations in the latter part of 1967 were somewhat higher than might normally be expected. These increases were attributed in part to increased concentrations of ^{48}Sc in the Columbia River, and, at certain upstream locations, to incomplete mixing of leaking reactor effluent with Columbia River water.



EXTERNAL RADIATION
AT THE COLUMBIA RIVER SHORELINE

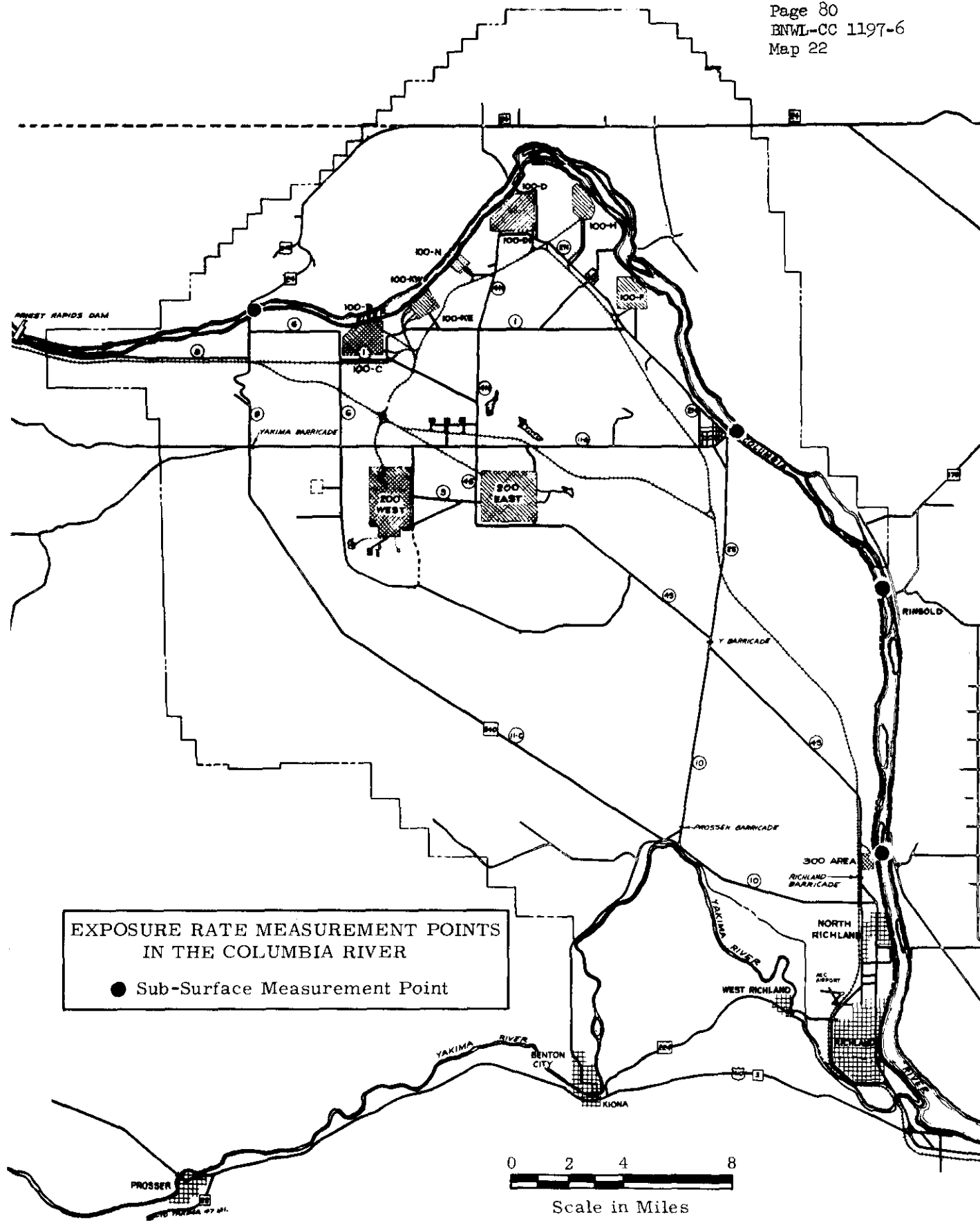


EXTERNAL RADIATION
AT THE COLUMBIA RIVER SHORELINE

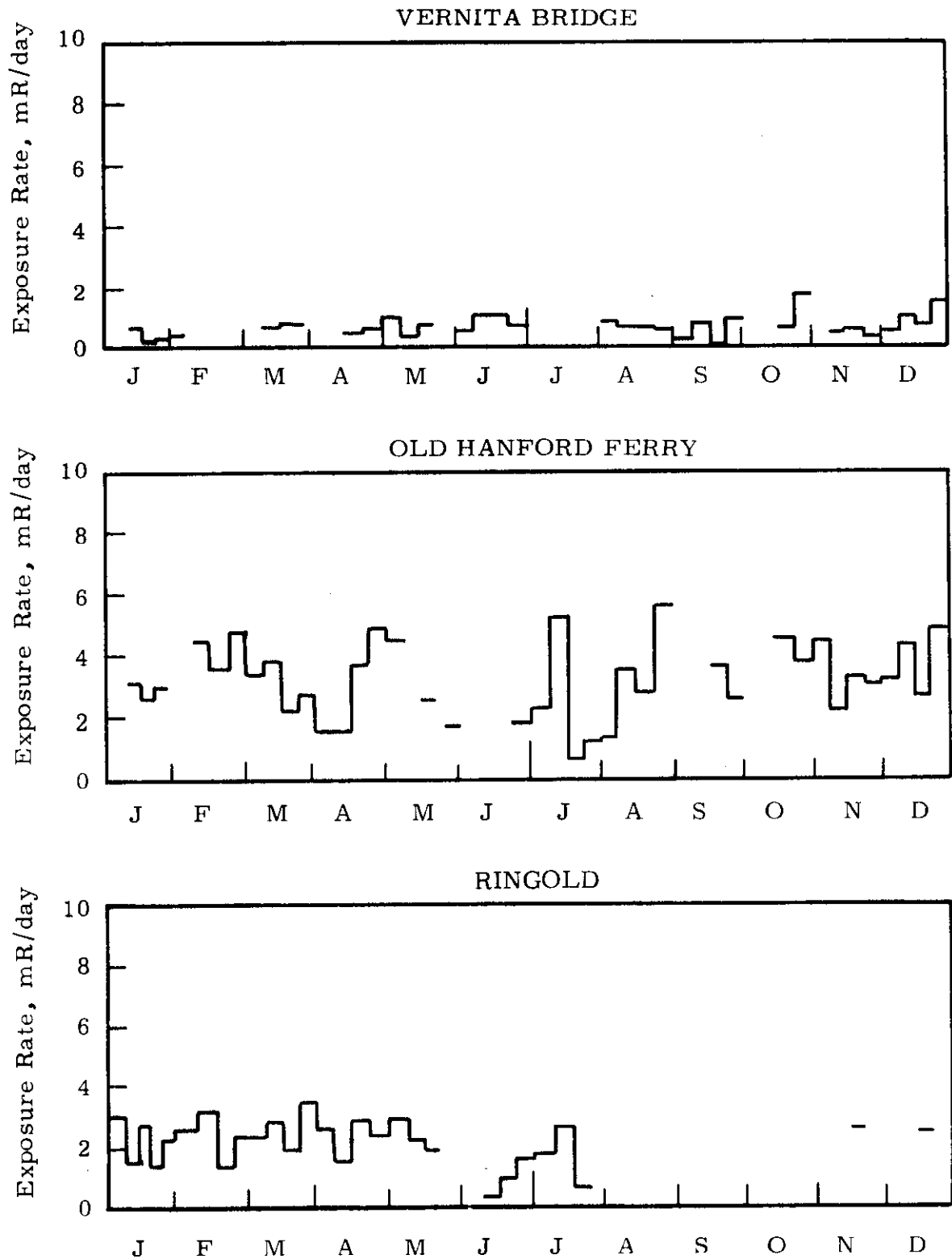


3. Exposure Rates Below the Surface of the Columbia River

Exposure rates in the river were determined from pocket dosimeters contained within submerged bottles at the location shown in Map 22. Missing data were the result of lost containers or equipment malfunctions. A slight increase in the sub-surface exposure rates was measured during the latter half of the year at McNary Dam. (See Figures 38 and 39).



EXTERNAL RADIATION BELOW THE SURFACE
OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER



EXTERNAL RADIATION BELOW THE SURFACE
OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER

