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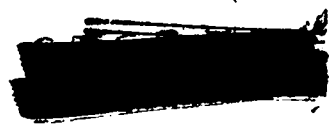
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**JULY 16TH NUCLEAR EXPLOSION:
EXAMINATION OF TOWER FOOTING**

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JULY 16TH NUCLEAR EXPLOSION: EXAMINATION OF TOWER FOOTING

Two tower footings, the NW and SW were partially excavated and examined on October 8, 9, and 10. The NW footing was excavated on the inside corner to a depth of about four feet. Examination of this reinforced concrete mass (Fig. 1,2) showed that the concrete above ground before excavation was crumbled and was without appreciable structural strength. The excavated part of the footing had strength but was marred by large cracks across the inside corner. Fig. 2 was taken after the structure was washed down with a fire hose revealing the cracks which were previously (Fig. 1) filled with dirt. The cracks were roughly normal to the edge of the base.

The SW footing was excavated on the inside edges to a depth of about 5-1/2 ft (Fig. 3). As in the case of the NW footing, the portion initially above ground was crumbled and it was possible to pull out large pieces by hand. Unlike the NW footing, the excavated portion was intact except for one superficial crack, approximately normal to the edge of the base.

The cracks normal to the edge are probably due to the outward component of the thrust exerted by the tower leg. The view of the SW base, for example, does not show such cracks on the two other visible edges. A probable explanation for the greater destruction of the NW base might be the fact that the SW base settled about 10" further, thus dissipating relatively more of the destructive energy transmitted to the footing by the steel tower leg.

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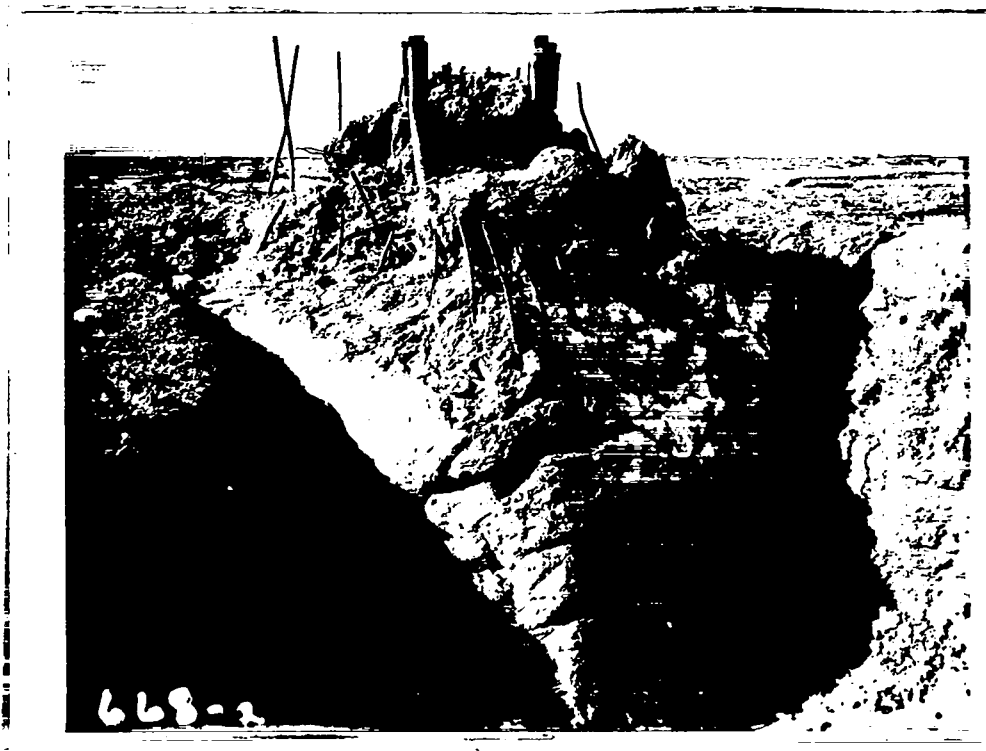


Fig. 1

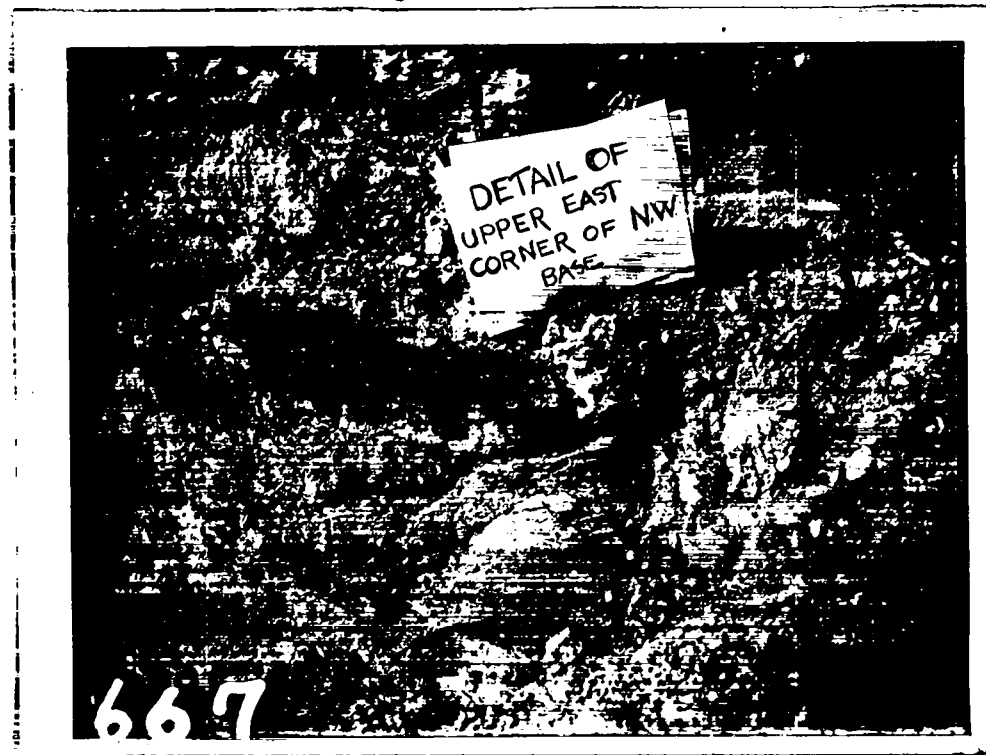


Fig. 2

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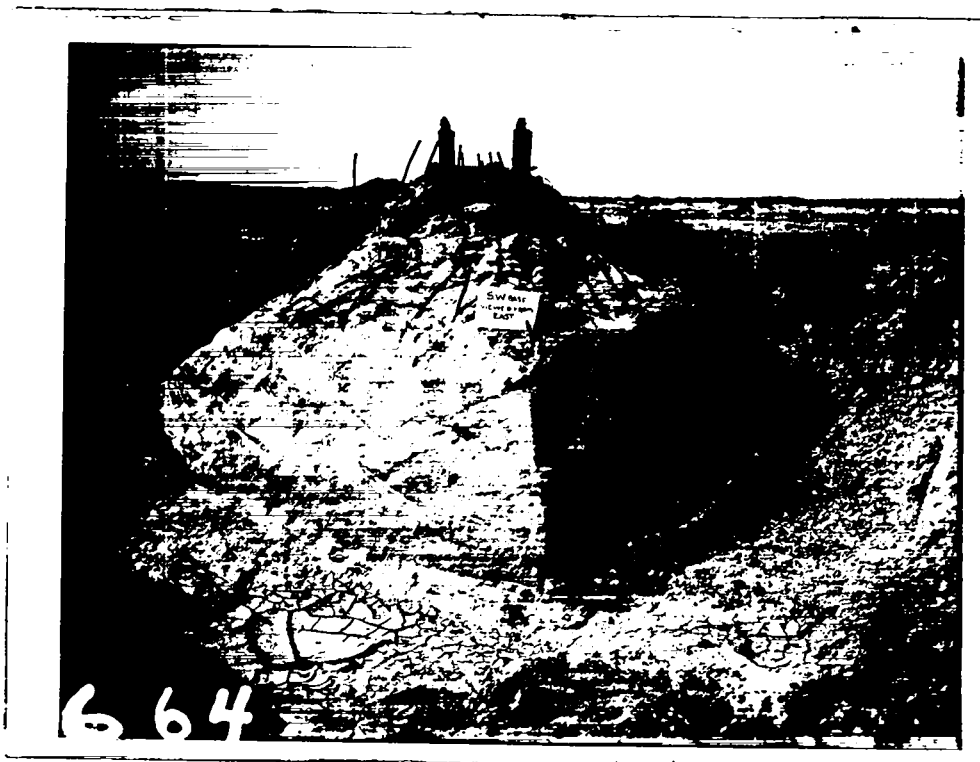
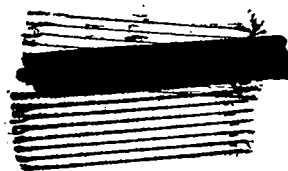


Fig. 3



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