

Curtiss Atomic Marines

Operation Greenhouse

Keith D. Cunday

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Subject: Cpl Keith D Cunday.

I served on the USS Curtiss AV4 during the Operation Greenhouse April 1950 to June 1950.

Our Primary Duty was to guard the compartment on the ship, which contained Top Secret Material. Only certain personnel were allowed to enter certain compartments. We checked badges, and the picture of the individual that was allowed in the compartments.

We also escorted the bomb to the island on which the test was performed. I remember on one test, I escorted a bomb to Runit Island.

I remember the first shot that I saw. I was told to turn my back to the shot cover my eyes with my arms, count to thousand four and then turn around to watch the mushroom cloud. Being engrossed of the sight in front of me, not thinking of the sound that was to come a few second later, when it hit me I jumped a few feet off the deck. Not knowing what was going on. It sure gave you a scare.

The next Shot I was able to use the dark glasses.

This is an adventure that will be remembering the rest of my life.

Semper Fi

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