

AEC

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(NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: The following announcement is being issued by the Oak Ridge Operations Office, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and is distributed for your information.)

MALLINCKRODT CHEMICAL WORKS CONTRACT
EXTENDED IN ST. LOUIS AREA

Oak Ridge, Tenn., January 6, 1956 -- A contract has been signed with Mallinckrodt Chemical Works, St. Louis, Missouri, for operation of all of the Atomic Energy Commission's Feed Materials Facilities in the St. Louis Area, S. R. Sapirie, Manager of the AEC's Oak Ridge Operations, announced today.

Sapirie said the new contract reflects the increased scope of the work which Mallinckrodt performs for the AEC, and modifies a prior contract to a cost-plus-a-fixed fee type. The contract with Mallinckrodt previously provided for production at a unit price and research, development, and minor construction on a cost-reimbursement basis. Under the new four-year contract the AEC will provide the working capital for the cost of the operation and will pay Mallinckrodt a fixed annual fee.

Mallinckrodt presently operates in St. Louis a government-owned plant which is being expanded. The firm will be the operator of a new AEC plant which is under construction on a portion of the government-owned Weldon Spring ordnance works about 25 miles from St. Louis.

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The function of the existing plant and the one under construction is the refining of ores and concentrates into highly-purified uranium metal and intermediate compounds.

Mallinckrodt began operations in the atomic energy field in 1942 under contract with the Manhattan Engineer District for production of very pure uranium oxide, and subsequently for production of uranium tetrafluoride and metal. The uranium used in the first atomic reactor at Chicago in 1942 was fabricated at the Mallinckrodt plant.