

## DISCUSSION

Ted Litheeland gave me the following account of a similar incident that appears in the 1984 Isotracer (University of Toronto) annual report:

“Last year an equivalent age of older than 70,000 years BP was reported for high purity aluminum. Since that time many samples have been analyzed and the source contamination has been re-examined several times. Up to wheel 10B, no evidence of cross-contamination had been observed. On October 18, the source was contaminated by an enriched sample, enriched to between 20,000 and 200,000 times modern. This sample was run for no more than 15 minutes, but immediately after, the system background was observed to be ten times greater. After the sample holder and the source aperture plate (behind which the sample is positioned) were replaced and the rest of the source thoroughly cleaned, the background was measured to be at the same level as it was before the enriched sample was analyzed.”

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