

BIOSAFETY LEVEL 4 LABORATORY

Staff photo by Skip Lawrence



PROTECTIVE SUIT DISINFECTANT SHOWER

USAMRIID lab personnel who work in BSL-3 and BSL-4 labs must shower when entering and leaving the suites. BSL-4 suites have an additional level of safety in that anyone entering or leaving must shower with both water and a decontamination chemical.

AUTOCLAVE

Any waste leaving labs is chemically and/or thermally decontaminated. Items, including laundry, are placed in an autoclave, which uses high temperatures and pressure to sterilize them before being handled outside the containment suites.

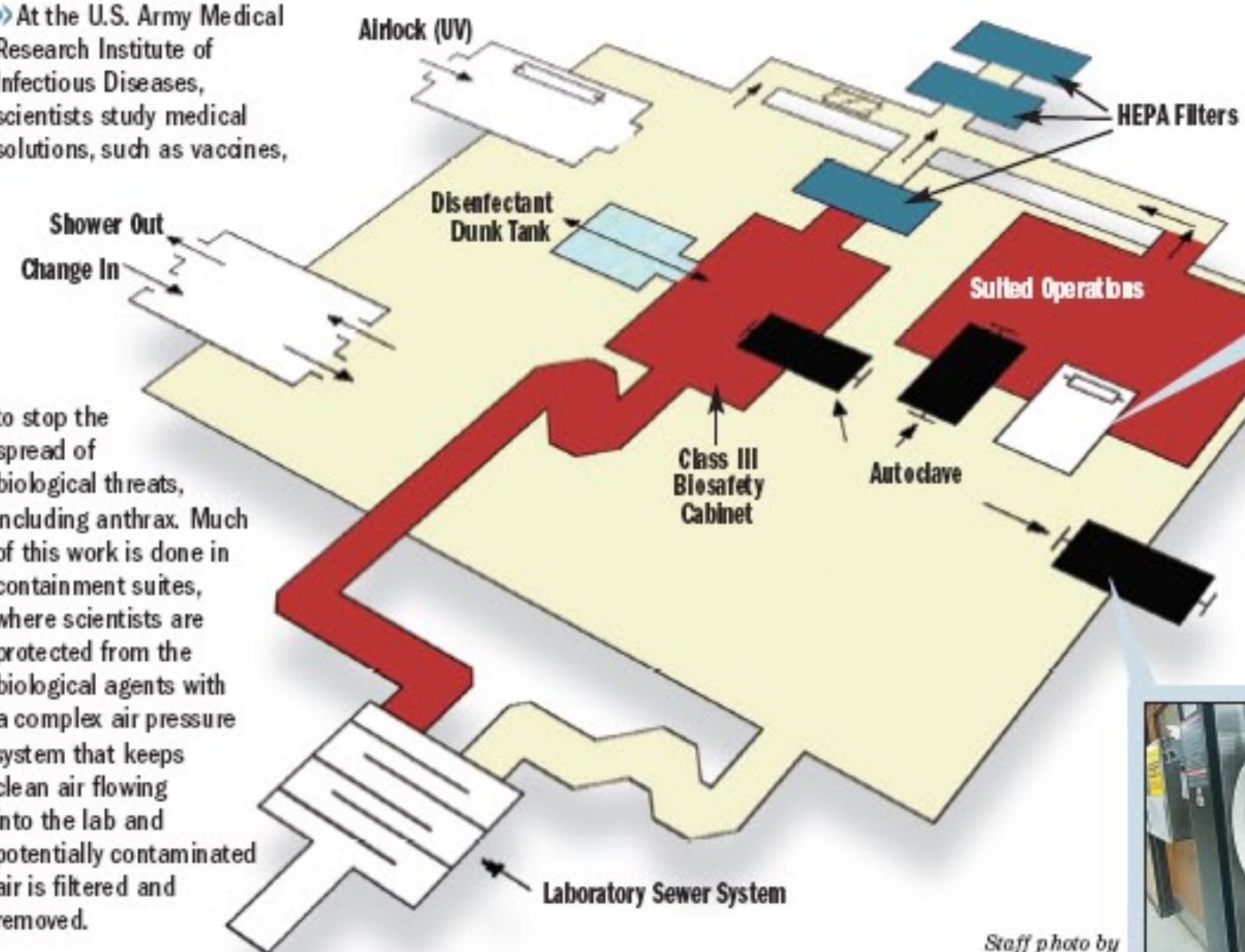


Staff photo by Sam Yu

CONTAINMENT SUITES

At the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, scientists study medical solutions, such as vaccines,

to stop the spread of biological threats, including anthrax. Much of this work is done in containment suites, where scientists are protected from the biological agents with a complex air pressure system that keeps clean air flowing into the lab and potentially contaminated air is filtered and removed.



INFECTIOUS AGENTS

Workers filed mishap reports after any potential exposure to a biological agents.

N/A	33
Anthrax	11
Glanders	5
Botulism	3
Plague	3
Herpes B	3
Unknown Agent	3
Tuberculosis	2
Bleach	1
Clostridium Botulinum T	1
Construction Dust	1
Dry Ice and Acetone	1
V.E.E.	1
UV Radiation	1
Yellow Fever Vaccine	1
R/ORNRU	1
RNase Zap	1
SARS	1
Tissue Culture Media	1
Undisclosed	1
Lidocaine	1

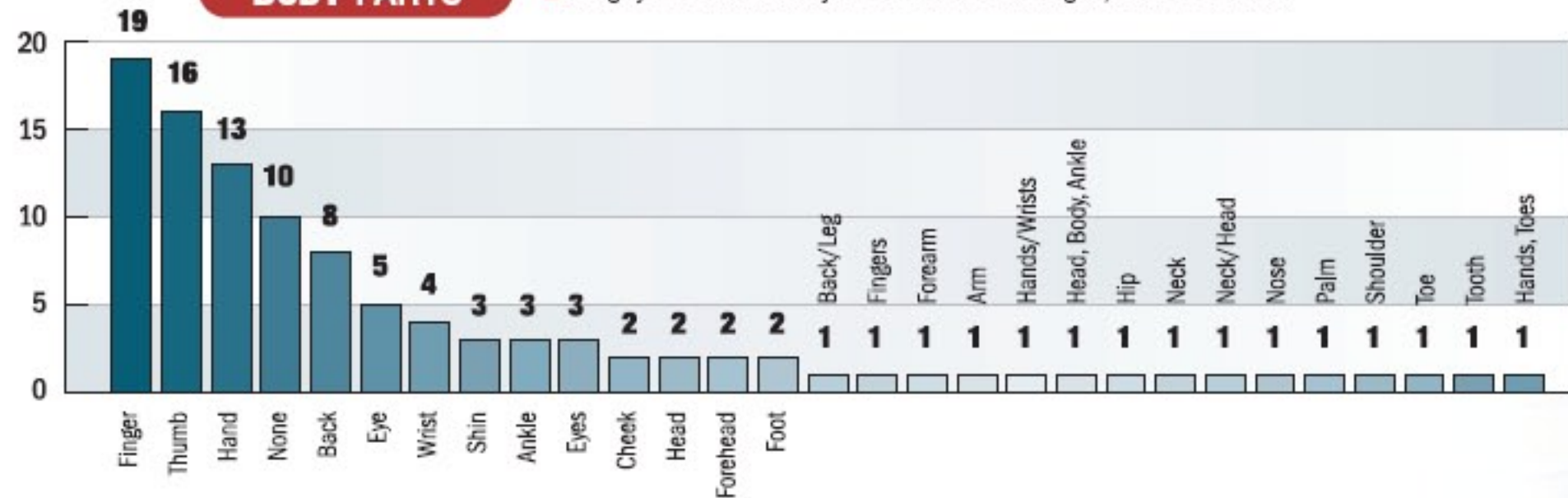
ANIMAL INVOLVEMENT

Of the 161 potential exposure reported, 30 involved some type of animal.

NO	130
YES	30
N/A	1

BODY PARTS

Roughly one-third of all injuries occurred to the fingers, thumbs or hands.



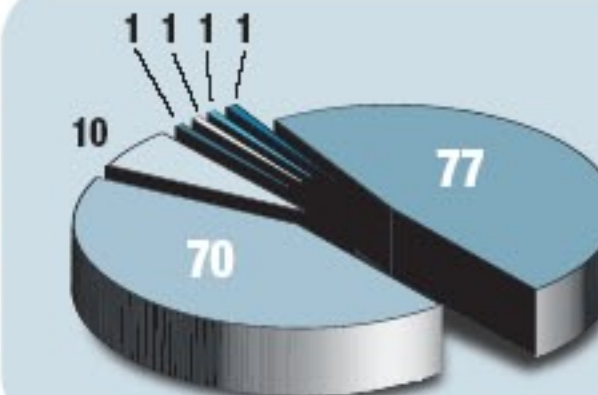
Pvt. Nick Shobe donned a Chemtursion-brand full body protective suit during a tour of the BSL-4 patient care containment suite at USAMRIID recently.

Staff photo by Sam Yu

Graphic and photo illustrations by William P. Sears II

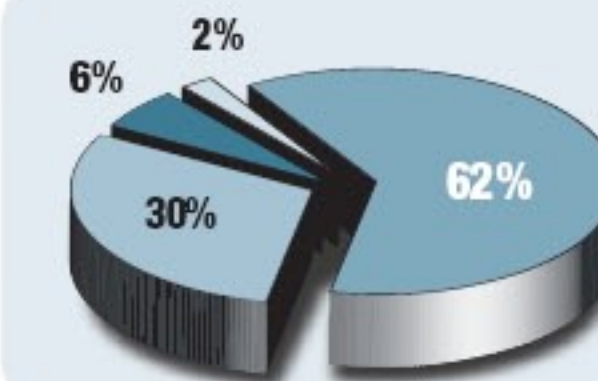
DANGEROUS PLACES

Locations where accident occurred



REPEAT OFFENDERS

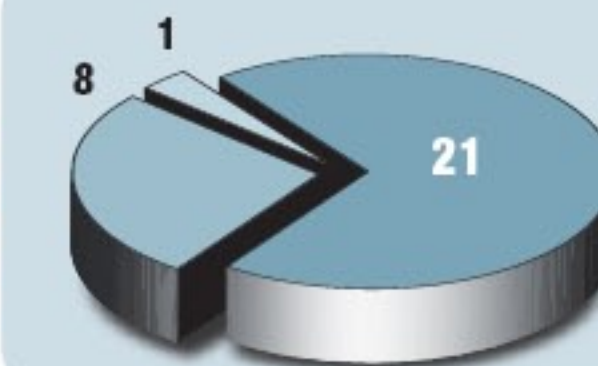
Most potential exposures occurred in Building 1412



BUILDING 1412	31
BUILDING 1425	15
N/A	3
B3	1

ANIMAL OFFENDERS

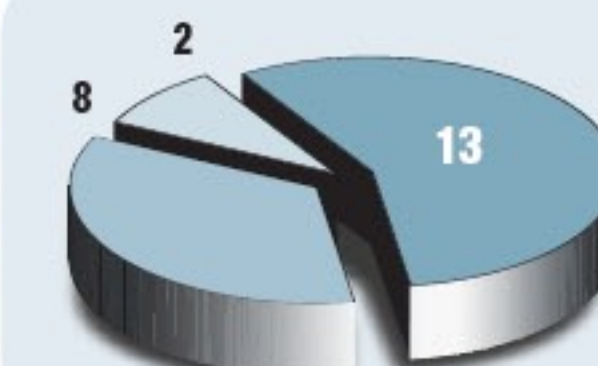
Locations of cases involving animals



BUILDING 1412	21
BUILDING 1425	8
N/A	1

RAZOR SHARP

Locations involving injuries with sharp objects



BUILDING 1412	13
BUILDING 1425	8
N/A	2