

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

*Revised 4/66
2nd Edition
Rad Safety*

E. Reeves, Manager
Nevada Operations Office

DATE: APR 23 1965

H. Woodruff, Director
Division of Operational Safety, HQ

H. H. W.

16752

RADIATION EXPOSURE CRITERIA FOR DOD PERSONNEL

TO: DIR: GMD

DNA1.940930.033

You kindly sent me copies of your memoranda dated December 4, 1964 and April 19, 1965 to the Defense Atomic Support Agency concerning waiver of exposure criteria.

In the first memorandum you state:

"For this exercise, troops 18 years old or younger should not exceed 10% of the quarterly exposure limit as allowed for troops older than 18 years."

According to AEC Manual Chapter 0524 an 18 year old atomic energy worker may receive 1.25 rem for the first calendar quarter, 2.5 rem total for the first two calendar quarters, 3.75 rem total for the first three calendar quarters, and 5 rem for the year, but in no case will exposure be more than 3 rem per quarter. It seems to me that we can do no less than this for 18 year olds under the cognizance of the Department of Defense.

You will recall that on August 25, 1962 there was general agreement between AEC and DOD concerning radiation exposures (copy attached). This agreement is still in effect. A statement about 18 year olds did not enter into these agreements because it was not a subject for consideration at that time. However, I feel that the general philosophy as expressed in this agreement also holds for 18 year olds, i.e. there should be "no unusual or unreasonable risks." These men are called upon to perform truly hazardous tasks while in uniform and we see no compelling reason why they should be restricted to less than the criteria established for 19 year olds. In short, we recommend that there be no added restrictions based on exposures to 18 year olds undergoing military training under the direct supervision of DOD.

The subject of 17 year olds is more difficult. Obviously, there is no magical demarkation of ages in terms of permissible radiation exposure. Some possible relevant factors are that there is no provision in the radiation

STATUS VERIFIED UNCLASSIFIED	
<i>[Signature]</i>	Date
John H. Campbell	

*CSB: HJG/134
dated 5/1/65
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exposure criteria for 17 year old atomic energy workers, since it is anticipated they will not be employed before age 18. Also, as you know, the DOD requires written consent of parents for 17 year olds to enlist. Therefore, even though it is admittedly somewhat arbitrary, we recommend that 17 year olds not be intentionally exposed to radiation levels that would exceed permissible amounts for individuals in the general population.

Attachment:

1 ltr to Hon GWJohnson, MLC, DOD
fm General Manager dtd 8/25/62

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE
TO THE
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25 D C

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57.6. 1463

Dear Sir:

I refer to your letter of 25 August 1962 concerning the establishment of general guides concerning the safe conduct of activities at the Nevada Test Site.

The Department of Defense concurs with the guides as outlined in the referenced letter and will be prepared to consider any additional mutual agreements as needed.

Sincerely yours,



GERALD W. JOHNSON
Chairman

Maj Gen Alvin K. Luedcke, USAF (Ret)
General Manager
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission

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19 1965

Defense Atomic Support Agency
Area 16
Nevada Test Site
Mercury, Nevada

Attention: Col. John J. Neuer

Subject: RECOVERY OF TECHNICAL DATA AT U16a

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter requesting permission to exceed the quarterly maximum permissible personnel radiation exposure.

Waiver of the 3 rem per quarter is hereby granted. However, exposure should not exceed 5 rem per personnel participating in the Gum Drop Operation.

This waiver is for those personnel under the direct supervision of the DOD Exercise Director.

Very truly yours,

Original signed by
James E. Reeves

James E. Reeves
Manager

cc: H. D. Edwards, Nevada Test Site, Area 16
STWT, Sandia Base, New Mexico
W. L. Woodruff, LRL-N
Col. E. G. Halligan, DASA/NVOO
Dr. G. M. Dunning, DOS, HQ

hitman
RF
Opns
SR (dup)

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OFFICE	OpSafDiv	Ofc AM/Opns	AM/Opns	Dep Mgr	Manager
NAME	Whitman:am Cefaratti	Edwards Roehlk	Allaire Thilligott	Borner	Reeves
DATE	4/15/65	4/15/65	4/15/65	4/15/65	4/15/65

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Honorable Gerald W. Johnson

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mixture of AEC and DOD personnel and would be considered under the first guide. (Incidentally, even here waivers were granted by the AEC when the need was established for higher radiation exposures than called for by the Standard Operating Procedures.) Such activities as Little Feller II would come under the second guide. For example, as guidance to the Manager, Nevada Operations Office, I advised him that radiation exposures in the range of five roentgens (as proposed by the DOD) were acceptable in the context of not constituting "unusual or unreasonable risks".

Like any generalized guides, those proposed here do not purport to cover all future eventualities, and additional mutual agreements can be made when needed.

If you so desire, I will be pleased to discuss this matter with you further.

Sincerely yours,

General Manager

bcc: A. R. Luadsack, CM
D. A. Ink, AMN
E. J. Blich, ACD
H. H. Woodruff, OS
A. W. Batts, MA