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Department of Defense
 THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
 COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL SCIENCES
 AND
 COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY
 Washington 25, D.C.

OSD1.940706.013

JOINT PANEL ON MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ATOMIC WEAPONS

Minutes of Third Meeting
 Held 15 and 16 December 1949 at the
 Argonne National Laboratory
 Chicago, Illinois

MEMBERS AND DEPUTIES PRESENT:

- Dr. Joseph C. Aub, Chairman
- Dr. Franklin C. McLean
- Dr. Robert H. Newell
- Dr. Hobley D. Evans
- Dr. Hymer L. Friedell
- Dr. Louis H. Hampelmann
- Col. Elbert DeCoursey, MC, USA
- Lt. Col. Frank L. Bauer, LC, USA
- Major Gerald M. McDonnell, LC, USA
- Captain G. F. Behrens, MC, USN
- Dr. Sidney Galler
- Col. John H. McGraw, USAF (MC)
- Lt. Col. Robert H. Blount, USAF (MC)
- Lt. Col. John M. Talbot, USAF (MC)
- Lt. Col. Karl M. Houghton, USAF (LC)

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ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Dr. Howard L. Andrews, NIH, Bethesda, Md.
- Mr. Allen M. Pond, USPHS
- Major William J. Brown, Logistics Br., GSUSA

SECRETARIAT:

- Dr. James B. McCormack
- Dr. Joseph M. Pisani
- Cdr. Joseph P. Pollard, LC, USN
- Major James B. Nuttall, USAF (MC)

OTHERS:

- Brig. Gen. M. B. Loper, USA, Comte on Atomic Energy
- Dr. Lowell T. Coggeshall, Comte on Medical Sciences
- Dr. George V. LeRoy
- Dr. Henry L. O'Bryan, RDB

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12 July 1994
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The Panel members, as guests of the Argonne National Laboratory, were afforded the opportunity of visiting the facilities of the Laboratory and related activities of the University of Chicago. An excellent program review of selected current research activities was presented by members of the staffs of the Argonne National Laboratory, Institute of Radiobiology and Biophysics, the Departments of Medicine, Surgery and Pharmacology, and the Toxicity Laboratory of the University of Chicago.

A vote of thanks and appreciation for the splendid presentation and hospitality was extended to the participants by the Panel, and the Chairman delegated Dr. Franklin McLean to write official letters of appreciation.

The Panel was convened by the Chairman at 8:20 p.m., 15 December 1949.

1. Minutes of the Second Meeting.

The Panel:

approved the minutes of the Second Meeting.

2. Review of Service Programs on Medical Aspects of Atomic Warfare.

Captain Behrens presented the current program of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

Dr. Galler presented the program currently being conducted under the auspices of ONH.

The Panel adjourned at 10:50 p.m., 15 December 1949 and reconvened at 3:10 p.m., 16 December 1949.

Lt. Colonel Talbot presented the U.S. Air Force program and furnished Panel members with a brochure of project descriptions.

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Lt. Colonel Bauer presented the program of the Medical Department of the Army.

The relationship of the research program in thermal burns to the field of interest of the Panel was discussed.

The Panel:

- A. Noted the programs presented.
- B. Agreed that the Panel should retain primary interest in the thermal burn research program.
- C. Instructed the Secretariat to obtain copies of LA cards on all projects for each Panel member. (to be mailed separately).
- D. Instructed the Secretariat to obtain a copy of AFSWP Radiological Defense Manual, Volume I, for each member of the Panel. (mailed separately).

The Panel adjourned at 6:10 p.m. for dinner and reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

3. Program Guidance Report, 1952.

Pre-assigned working groups prepared and reported preliminary drafts of sections of the Program Guidance Report, in accordance with the following schedule:

1. AW-5.2 Dosimetry and Monitoring Equipment. (Reported by Dr. Evans)
2. AW-5.9 and AW-5.10 Individual Protection and Collective Protection. (Reported by Dr. Friedell)
3. AW-5.12 Decontamination Studies. (Reported by Dr. Galler)
4. AW-5.16 Field Test of Detection, Protection and Decontamination Equipment and Techniques. (Reported by Dr. Evans)
5. AW-6.1 Blast Studies. (Reported by Lt. Col. Blount)
6. AW-6.2 Thermal Studies. (Reported by Dr. McLean)
7. AW-6.3 Psychological Studies. (Reported by Dr. Newell)
8. AW-6.4 Biological Effects of Radiation. (Reported by Colonel DeCoursey)

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9. A-6.5 Radiation Treatment. (Reported by Col. DeCoursey)
10. A-6.6 Medical Participation in Atomic Bomb Tests.
(Reported by Captain Behrens)
11. Development of methods for protection of personnel against radioactivity. (Reported by Dr. Hempelmann)

After review of the preliminary drafts, and discussion,

The Panel:

- A. Accepted reports 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.
- B. Accepted reports 3 and 5 after revision.
- C. Instructed the Secretariat to edit all reports and prepare a final draft of an integrated Panel report.
- D. Appointed an editorial group to review and approve the final draft of the Report with the following membership:

Dr. Aub
Dr. Hempelmann
Captain Behrens
Lt. Colonel Blount

4. Other business.

- A. Further Discussion of the Bio-medical Program of the Next Atomic Bomb Test.

The revised protocol of the AEC-DD Biomedical Program was presented to the Panel and discussed with Dr. George V. Lofey, who was Chairman of the original group which drew up this program.

The Biomedical Program was reviewed in accordance with specific criteria as required by memorandum from the Committee on Atomic Energy to the Committee on Medical Sciences, dated 6 December 1949, Log No. 35065. It was agreed that the Biomedical Program is a well integrated unit composed of mutually interdependent parts which have been arbitrarily described as individual projects for technical and administrative purposes. After discussion,

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The Panel:

1. Approved the Program as presented.
2. Recommended that studies involving mice, dogs, swine and lower forms be given equal priority.
3. Agreed that all projects of the Program fall into Category II. (Log No. 35065, Those projects considered necessary to the national security from a long range point of view).
4. Recommended that lower forms, especially Tradescantia be included in the drone planes.

B. Radioactive Contamination of water and Related Problems. (BAW 11/1, BAW 11/2 and BAW 11/3)

Discussion of this subject was deferred until the next Panel meeting.

C. Report on Radiological Instrumentation Panel, AFSOP.

Dr. Evans reported that he has been unable to attend any meetings of this group.

D. Report on Utilization of Catastrophes to Study Mass Handling of Casualties.

Lt. Colonel Bauer reported that informal discussion of the proposal had been held with the following groups or agencies: USPHS; NSRB; Committee on Surgery, NRC; Committee on Burns, NRC; Medical Service, USAF; Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, USN; and Office of the Surgeon General, USA. It was stated that the general feeling of those consulted was that not sufficient new fundamental knowledge concerning the mass treatment and handling of casualties had been accumulated since the Coconut Grove

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disaster to warrant the establishment of an observation team or teams for participation in catastrophe relief. It was stated that most catastrophes occur in urban centers which afforded competent handling and observation of medical casualties. It was noted that a Symposium on Burns will be held by the NRC early in 1950 in response to a request by the Committee on Medical Sciences, RDB. It was recommended that the problem of utilization of disaster for the study of mass handling of casualties be referred to this symposium for further study and discussion.

Mr. Pond presented the Public Health aspects of national disasters. After discussion,

The Panel:

accepted the following recommendations:

The Panel on medical aspects of Atomic Warfare recommends to the Committee on Medical Sciences that appropriate steps be taken to establish, and provide funds for, one or more teams of medical and health experts for on-site observation of peace-time disasters, especially to study the case of casualties and the handling of sanitary problems.

It is the opinion of the Panel that such action would make it possible in peace-time to accumulate experience necessary for planning and carrying out essential disaster relief activities in the event of enemy action against

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urban communities. Furthermore, the Panel recognizes that the Public Health Service has an important interest in this activity and that the armed services should cooperate in its activities.

E. Medical and Biological Military Problems in Radiological Warfare.

Dr. McLean presented a brief outline of developments in the field of medical aspects of radiological warfare and expressed his serious concern about the current status of inactivity and thwarted initiative in this field. After discussion,

The Panel:

agreed to defer any action until further discussion at the next Panel meeting.

F. Radiological Warfare Status Report.

After review of TID 259, Log No. 50995A, in accordance with RDB 88/16, Memorandum for Executive Director, Committee on Medical Sciences from Executive Secretary, RDB,

The Panel:

approved the recommended medical and biological studies incidental to the RW program, as outlined in Appendix C, TID 259, Log No. 50995A.

G. Steering Committee.

After discussion of procedural difficulties arising at Panel meetings,

The Panel:

Recommended and approved the appointment of a Steering

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Committed by the Chairman to meet one day prior to each meeting, in order to expedite the business of the meeting.

4. Date of Next Meeting.

The next Panel meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. on 16 and 17 February 1950, at which time opportunity will be had to review the relevant programs at the National Institute of Health and Naval Medical Research Institute.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m., 16 December 1949.

James E. McCormack
 JAMES E. MCCORMACK, M.D.
 Executive Director
 Committee on Medical Sciences

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