



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
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MAR 30 1953

OFFICE
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

SUBJECT: Use of Human Volunteers in Experimental Research (U)

1. On the day on which you informed General Nichols and Doctor Gaskill of the Secretary of Defense's approval of a policy on the subject (Memorandum to Secretary of the Army, Secretary of the Navy, and Secretary of the Air Force, subject: "Use of Human Volunteers in Experimental Research", from Secretary of Defense, dated 26 February 1953) you requested that the Army's plan be prepared and submitted to you. Conferences were held, followed by a meeting to prepare a program for the conduct of tests, with primary concern for experimental research on human subjects to determine susceptibility to and proper therapy for possible enemy BW agents. In attendance at the meeting were the following:

- Major General K. D. Nichols, Chief of Research and Development, Office of the Chief of Staff
- Doctor Harold V. Gaskill, Deputy Chief of Research and Development, Office of the Chief of Staff
- Doctor George W. Merck, Consultant to Department of the Army
- Major General J. F. Uncles, Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4; for Research and Development
- Major General E. F. Bullene, Chief Chemical Officer.
- Major General G. E. Armstrong, The Surgeon General
- Doctor Lloyd Swearingen, Assistant Chief, Research and Development Division, G-4
- Colonel John R. Wood, Chairman, Medical Research and Development Board
- Doctor Stanhope Bayne-Jones, Office of The Surgeon General

2. The proposed program submitted by the Chief Chemical Officer and concurred in by The Surgeon General involves the following points:

- a. Defensive Orientation
 - (1) Probability of successful BW infection
 - (2) Effectiveness of defense measures
 - (a) Immunization
 - (b) Chemoprophylaxis
- b. Ethical Considerations
 - (1) International Military Tribunal recommendations are considered adequate if followed explicitly (copy attached)

~~Handwritten notes and signatures, including "M. N. Parker 1136"~~

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Tentative Plan of Experiment

- (1) Agents and limiting characteristics
 - (a) Controllable lethality
 - (b) No serious chronicity anticipated
 - (c) Effective therapy available
 - (d) Adequate background of animal experimentation (with respiratory tract route of infection)
 - (e) Relationship to BW agent disease desirable

- (2) Volunteer subjects
 - (a) Males under 35 years of age with no physical or mental disease

- (3) Mechanics of experiment
 - (a) Use enlarged (4X) Henderson apparatus for exposure
 - (b) First experiments to determine level of susceptibility using two volunteers at low levels of dosage
 - (c) Increase number of persons to that level giving probable significance
 - (d) Then use immunized persons and persons on prophylactic chemotherapy
 - (e) Details of immunologic study

- (4) Safeguards for Volunteer personnel in the experiment
 - (a) Direct responsibility for the planning of the experiments and for the medical care should rest with one adequately trained physician
 - (b) All apparatus and instruments necessary to deal with any emergency situation must be available, e.g., Drinker respirator, Mine Safety Pneophore oxygen apparatus, etc.
 - (c) Medical treatment and hospitalization will be provided for all casualties of the experimentation, as required
 - (d) Consultants representing many of the specialties must be available on short notice
 - (e) Appropriate provisions for insurance for disability or death, within the provisions of law, will be made for casualties of the experimentation

- (5) Problems
 - (a) From the techniques developed and from the results of 2c(3), final step will be to use volunteer subjects, or if a good correlation with a particular animal for a particular micro-organism, then that animal, on the proving ground at Dugway downwind far enough from the munition so that the concentration will be known to be approximately equal

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to the level required to induce infection.
(This will rule out subjecting volunteer to
crash concentration.)

- (b) Source of volunteers
(1) Paid volunteers
(2) Volunteer prisoners
- (c) The Surgeon General of the Army will review and approve all experimentation, prior to implementation. Where appropriate, he will seek the advice of The Surgeons General of the Navy, Air Force and/or U. S. Public Health Service.
- (d) Conduct of work
Work will be conducted both in military installations and by civilian contracts

2 f (5) (c) →

Some human experimentation has been conducted with Chemical Warfare Agents beginning approximately thirty years ago. Intensive work was conducted in 1944 and the years following. A satisfactory technique has been developed, since these agents can be measured in dosage as a poison and do not multiply as is generally the case with BW agents. Therefore since this technique has been employed successfully, work will be continued as the necessity for it is determined.

No experimentation on human subjects will be conducted by the Chemical Corps in Radiological Warfare.

3. Salient points which contribute to my approval of the plan as submitted are three: First, the program is distinctly oriented defensively, which is in accord with the directive from the Secretary of Defense; second, The Surgeon General will be responsible for the review and approval of all experimentation prior to implementation, seeking the advice of other medical authorities whenever appropriate, and having direct access to the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board; and third, planning for each test and for medical care will rest with one competent and adequately trained physician.

4. I feel that this program, with supplemental requirements for meeting administrative details directed by Secretary of Defense, such as the necessity for submitting to you each experiment for approval in writing, provide adequate safeguards while at the same time permitting essential experimentation.

1 Incl.
Permissible Medical
Experiments

Approved April 30th
S. L. Lennitzer

L. L. Lennitzer

L. L. LENNITZER
Lieutenant General, GS
Deputy Chief of Staff for
Plans and Research

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