



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

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13 September 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR (See Distribution)

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fourteenth Joint Medical Research Conference

The following were present at the fourteenth conference in Room 3-E-1040, The Pentagon, 0900 - 1130 hours, 12 September 1962:

Col F. J. Frese, Jr., ODDR&E
Dr. F. W. Hartman, OSG, USAF
Col K. H. Houghton, OSG, USAF
Col T. E. Huber, OCRD-ARO, D/A
Dr. R. A. Kern, Temple University Hospital (Chairman)
Capt J. A. O'Donoghue, BuMed, D/N
L/Col M. Putnoi, OASD/M (BB&M)
L/Col R. E. Robards, AFRDR-LS, D/AF
L/Col J. L. Sherman, Jr., AMR&DC
Col C. F. Vorder Bruegge, AMR&DC

A new DOD Instruction Number 5129.40, dated 6 September 1962, Subject: DDR&E Advisory Panel on the Medical and Biological Sciences, has been published. This constitutes an official basis for the reestablishment of the Panel. Of the seventeen members previously selected by the Joint Conference, seven already possessed the necessary clearances for membership, and letters inviting them to serve on the Panel have been dispatched. Preliminary security clearances have been initiated for the remaining ten selectees. However, since processing such papers normally takes two to three months, it is unlikely that their membership can be confirmed in time for the proposed fall meeting. Dr. Kern decided that the number of matters awaiting Panel consideration would not permit further postponement of a meeting, and proposed that the host service, the Air Force, consult Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, as to an acceptable date. The dates suggested were 30 November or 7 December 1962.

In response to a query from the Chairman, Colonel Frese stated that the final report of the Institute for Defense Analyses Task Group 20 on medical and biological research programs in the DOD has been received. The report received a preliminary review in DDR&E and was referred to the individual Services for comment and recommendations. The Services are to report back to DDR&E by 1 December 1962.

Colonel Huber and Colonel Vorder Bruegge reported on a telephone conference last week with Colonel Tigert, USA MC, who is head of the group

now in Southeast Asia investigating the requirements for medical research in that area. The investigation has been somewhat delayed by local conditions, but Colonel Tigert plans to make his report to the Army Medical Service on 1 October 1962. The following discussion emphasized the importance and urgency of greatly increased effort in medical research on those diseases exotic to this country. Malaria, in particular, still remains the number one killer in the world, and the historic scourge of armies since history began. Effective control through prophylaxis is still an unsolved problem in practically all of the world's potential trouble spots. The same is true of many other diseases, such as tuberculosis, cholera, typhus, and plague, which are endemic to these areas.

Colonel Houghton gave a brief resume of a new Air Force regulation (AFR 80-22) which covers the support and administrative handling of proposals for clinical investigations.

In response to a request by Army representatives, Colonel Houghton explained the Air Force practice regarding research work on the possibility of air contamination downwind from rocket launching pads. As part of the Air Force "systems concept," the prime contractor is responsible for the initial investigation of the control of air contamination. His findings and solutions as to control are delivered with the weapon system. Subsequently, through in-Service capabilities, the Air Force performs continuous investigations during the operational phase. These military personnel also assist and monitor the activities of the prime contractor and furnish feedback to the contractor for any required modifications in the production phase.

The date of the next meeting of the Joint Conference was set as 10 October 1962, in room 4-B-737, The Pentagon. The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 1130 hours.


FREDERICK J. FRESE, JR.
Colonel, USAF-MC
Chief, Medical Sciences Div.
OAD(Research)

Incl
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