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RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
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REC. MGT. DIV. WHS  
Name..... Brian V. Kinney

**MEMORANDUM TO CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL SCIENCES**

**Subject:           Coordination of Programs Related to Radiological Warfare**

1. Since receipt of your memorandum of March 23 on this subject, there have been sufficient developments to enable me to clarify the status of the RDB procedures for handling the portions of the programs in radiological warfare of joint interest. For the purposes of review of the Departmental 1951 budget estimates, each Committee will be expected to report on the portions of the programs which are identified as belonging to the technical objectives of the Master Plan assigned to the Committee. In the field of radiological warfare, Technical Objective AN-6 has been assigned to your Committee in accordance with the definition of this objective, "..... techniques and equipment for solution of medical problems encountered in radiological warfare". The Committee on Atomic Energy has been assigned all other technical objectives in this category. I am sure that the proposals in this field will be handled adequately in the reviews that will be undertaken, particularly in the light of the joint Panel between your Committee and the Committee on Atomic Energy. The procedure outlined above is in accord with paragraphs 5 and 6 of Dr. Compton's memorandum to the Committee Chairman, RDB 212/1.

2. Dr. Noyes, Chairman of our Committee on Chemical Warfare, is in a position to review programs of joint interest from two points of view, as he is also the chief scientific advisor to General Nichols, head of the Armed Services Special Weapons Project. Dr. Noyes has recently expressed the opinion to us that we should have a single Committee on BW, CW, and RE. This was considered at the time the Board authorized the establishment of a Committee on Chemical Warfare. The reasons for separate Committees may not be as valid now as a year ago and perhaps it is now appropriate that we reconsider merging of the Committees. A first step in this direction would be one or more joint Panels covering those portions of the field where there is a great deal of duplication or similarity in the problems and objectives. You may be aware that the Secretariats of the Committees on BW and CW are attempting to organize a joint Panel on certain of the defensive aspects of BW, CW, and perhaps RE. I believe they are discussing this matter with Dr. Sadusk, because, obviously, the Committee on Medical Sciences will be involved through problems related to all three fields as well as to each field individually. I will be glad to have your thoughts on this proposal; when it has reached a sufficient state of crystallization, the proposal will be submitted to your Committee for consideration.

3. Mr. Quarles, Chairman of the Committee on Electronics, has proposed that his Committee be involved only in the portions of the programs that

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clearly include electronic aspects. To this end, he has urged that the Panel on Radiological Instrumentation be established under the Committee on Atomic Energy and that the Committee on Electronics be represented on the Panel. This would appear to be a satisfactory solution which may guide us in similar problems in other fields.

(Signed) R. F. Rinehart

**R. F. RINEHART**  
Executive Secretary

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