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NAVY INPUT FOR SECDEF BRIEF ON HRRR

Q1. Status of the search for experiments to date (overall status).

A1. In the Department of the Navy, the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, the Office of Naval Research and the Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory were identified as having conducted human radiation experiments. The Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory was disestablished in 1969 and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery has taken over responsibility for the search of its records. The following summarizes searches conducted by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery:

A. Key researchers, both active duty and retired, were questioned concerning research activities at various commands and documentation practices from 1944 to the present. They identified approximately seventeen activities where humans may have been exposed as part of a study. Search is complete.

B. The reports at the Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) were searched to identify applicable studies. Copies of research reports funded under a specific contract or budget line are supposed to be forwarded to DTIC upon completion of work. The DTIC computerized Title Index contains all reports (700,000) provided to DTIC since 1972 (Some of the reports reflect research performed prior to 1972, e.g. work performed in the 1940's and 1950's, but not submitted to DTIC until after 1972). Reports provided to DTIC prior to 1972 are maintained on index cards. DTIC performed a search by key words of their computerized and card indexes. The search identified over 3,600 Titles representing Army, Navy, Air Force, Defense Nuclear Agency, Defense Atomic Support Agency, Atomic Energy and other US Agency work, and translations of foreign work. Review of the Titles, Abstracts and Reports identified six sponsored by the Navy. Search is complete.

C. The Naval Environmental Health Center, manager of the medical department's Radioactive Material Use Permits, was asked to review Nuclear Regulatory Commission Licenses and Permits to

identify activities authorized to use radioactivity on human test subjects, and provide an estimate of the time periods when various commands had active programs. In addition, copies of any curriculum vitae (CV) containing publications of studies on humans were requested. Search is complete.

D. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was asked to identify the location and number of licenses and protocols used in investigational radiopharmaceuticals. From 1963 to 1975 NRC reviewed and approved all protocols using investigational radiopharmaceuticals in humans. Search is pending.

E. Federal Records Centers and National Archives were queried to identify any records from activities suspected of having performed studies. The Federal Records Center and National Archives, San Bruno, California and Saint Louis, Missouri were identified as having records. Search is complete.

F. Each activity was tasked to search their records and report any experiments or clinical trials that involved exposure to human test subjects. Searches completed at all but two activities (Naval Medical Research Institute (NMRI), Bethesda, MD. and Naval Medical Research Unit, Taiwan (NMRU-2).

G. Researchers were asked to provide a list of their published papers (CV). Search is complete.

H. A list of possible researchers was compiled to allow a literature search for publications by author. Search is pending.

I. Records maintained at the Federal Records Center and National Archives, San Bruno, California of work performed by the Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory, 1955-1969, were physically reviewed. Search is complete.

The following summarizes searches conducted by the Office of Naval Research

A. comprehensive search of reports filed with DTIC was made, and all abstracts which related to sponsored research involving radiation were reviewed. Search is complete.

B. A systematic review of the contract card file was completed. The card file lists the titles of research grants, the institutions who received the funding, and the year of the

grants. More complete records are not available, since records dating back more than twenty-five years were destroyed. Search is complete.

C. Universities and laboratories who received grants have been contacted and are conducting their own in-house investigations. Search is pending.

Q2. Number of experiments identified to date.

A2.

669 studies have been identified by the Department of the Navy. Of the 661 studies identified by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, only 12 may have been for military applications; the rest are clinical research. No evidence has been found of secret human testing or use of other than volunteer subjects. All evidence, anecdotal and documented, indicates that great care was taken to ensure volunteers were informed and appropriate safety precautions were taken.

The Office of Naval Research has identified four sponsored human radiation experiments, including the much publicized work done at the Boston Lying-in Hospital on pregnant women and infants. Four other titles from the contract card file could indicate human radiation testing, and we are working with the universities to determine if these studies involved radiation and humans.

Q3. How much of the work for this task of identifying has already been done.

A3. The answer to question one provides details, but all the studies available have been reviewed.

Q4. What remains to be done.

A3. The answer to question one provides the details, but the majority of the work remaining is a literature search. This is older material that may be difficult to find. This should be completed in June 1994.
