

US DOE ARCHIVES	
326 U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY	
RG	COMMISSION
Collection	OGM
Box	5501
Folder	November - 1947

This document contains 2 pages
 Copy ~~_____~~

5 NOV 1947

Dr. Robert S. Stone
 University of California
 Medical School
 The Medical Center
 San Francisco 24, California

Dear Dr. Stone:

Your letter of September 18 regarding the declassification of biological and medical papers was read at the October 11 meeting of the Advisory Committee on Biology and Medicine. The Committee reaffirmed the stand of the Medical Board of Review, which met in June, and considers the matter of human experimentation classified where the conditions cited below were not complied with. For your information, the following is quoted from the preliminary unpublished and restricted draft of the report read to the Commissioners:

"The atmosphere of secrecy and suppression makes one aspect of the medical work of the Commission especially vulnerable to criticism. We therefore wish to record our approval of the position taken by the medical staff of the AEC in point of their studies of the substances dangerous to human life. We believe that no substances known to be, or suspected of being, poisonous or harmful should be given to human beings unless all of the following conditions be fully met; (a) that a reasonable hope exists that the administration of such a substance will improve the condition of the patient, (b) that the patient give his complete and informed consent in writing, and (c) that the responsible nearest of kin give in writing a similarly complete and informed consent, revocable at any time during the course of such treatment.

"Were it not for the extreme value and pressure for securing reliable information on the limits of human tolerance of radioactive substances there would be no need for explicit reference to this subject. We wish to see immediate and steady increase in this gravely important subject of human tolerance of radioactivity, but we believe that since secrecy must of necessity mark much of the medical research supported by the federally-sponsored AEC, particular care must be taken in all matters that under other circumstances would be open to investigation and publicity."

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Classification Cancelled

Changed To _____

By Authority Of DOC 11/17/47

Copy for Mr. Wilson

CONFIRMED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED
 BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OC
 DATE 4/17/89
 REVIEWED BY _____



Dr. Robert S. Stone

- 2 -

We trust that this information will assist you in evaluating this problem.

Your continued interest and support in our biological, medical and health physics program is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Carroll L. Wilson
General Manager

Copy No. 1 Addressee
2 Mr. Wilson
3 Mr. Derry
4 Mr. Volpe
5 Dr. Fidler
6 Medical Director
7 Major Dauer
8 File

DOE ARCHIVES

