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CHEMICAL CORPS MEDICAL LABORATORIES
ARMY CHEMICAL CENTER, MARYLAND

20 April 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lt. Col. R. E. Selk, TCW Division, Cml C Research & Engineering Command, Army Chemical Center, Maryland

SUBJECT: Comments Re: RECOM Procurement Instruction No. 54

1. Para 3, Scope - Status of Military Chemicals should be stated. Add "or military chemicals such as propellant fuels, fire extinguishants and brake fluids."

2. Para 4 - See Para 8 below.

3. Para 5, Policy a (1) - The voluntary consent of the mentally competent human subject is absolutely essential.

Comment: It is urged that "mentally competent" be inserted and that provision be made elsewhere for research on mentally incompetent patients. (See para 6 below).

4. Para 5a (1) (c) - Requires clarification as to who is to be responsible as this should not be divided between persons.

5. Para 5a (12) (c) - Such wording is objectionable. Why carry out research on therapeutic agents if effective therapy is already available? Suggest alteration to "therapy available but the search for superior therapy is justified."

6. Para 5a (14) - Suggest adding: In the case of mentally incompetent subjects the responsible relative or guardian will give his voluntary consent. This consent will cover only studies of therapeutic drugs.

Comment: Many chemical agents and drugs used for treating CW casualties are potentially useful in treating mental illnesses. For example atropine itself is now being used in large doses for treating schizophrenia with promising results. This being the case it is essential to make provision for using mentally incompetents in Cml C contracts.

7. Para 6a - It is assumed that this will have been accomplished by the research agency in advance of negotiation of the contract. The Secretary of Defense has given Cml C Medical Laboratories broad authority for human experimentation involving CW and therapeutic agents.

8. Para 6b and c - This implies that all Research and Engineering Command contracts calling for human volunteers will be the responsibility

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of Cml C Medical Laboratories. If this is intended should not para 4
be equally restrictive?

/s/ David B. Dill
DAVID B. DILL
Scientific Director

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2

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