



HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

IN REPLY REFER TO
MEDPS-PO

13 April 1964

ARM2.941209.179

SUBJECT: Overexposure to Ionizing Radiation

THRU: Commanding General
Second United States Army
ATTN: Surgeon
Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

TO: Commanding Officer
Kenner Army Hospital
ATTN: Surgeon
Fort Lee, Virginia

1. The inclosed copy of TWX, LX04505, dated 6 April 1964 from Lexington Army Depot, Lexington, Kentucky indicates that Vegh of your command received a dose of ionizing radiation of 9000 millirems during the period 23 February through 22 March 1964.

2. A dose of 9000 millirems is in excess of the permissible total body radiation for a four week period. Should such incidents recur frequently, serious impairment to the health of the individual could result.

3. Request that the cause of this overexposure be investigated and information on the results be forwarded to this office, ATTN: MEDPS-PO. If assistance is desired in studying this matter or reviewing your radiological hygiene program, the services of the U. S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency are available upon written request to this office.

FOR THE SURGEON GENERAL:

1 Incl
as

ADAM J. RAPALSKI
Colonel, M. C.
Chief, Preventive Medicine Division

Washington National Record Center
Office of the Army Surgeon General
Record Group 112

Accession #: 67A-4511

Box #: 43

File: Over exposure Second U.S. Army

MEDPS-PO

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OHB File Copy (Prev Med Div)
Room 1604

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ADAM J. RAPALSKI
Colonel, M. C.
Chief, Preventive Medicine Division



BERNARD L. GOLDSTEIN
Major, MSC
Preventive Medicine Division

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6 APR 22 '15

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CO LEXINGTONARMYDEP LEXINGTON KY

RUCLC/CO KENNER US ARMY HOSP FTLEE VA

FO RUEPDA/TSG DA WASHDC

UNCLAS LX04505 FOR X-RAY DEPT INFO MEDCE-OH FROM SSMLX-ME-1

LM NR 014ILT WORN BY VEGH PD OF 23 FEB THRU 22 MAR 64 INDC

USAGE OF 9000MILLIREMS/9.000 REMS/PD

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Handwritten mark

AIAME-PM (13 Apr 64) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Overexposure to Ionizing Radiation

HQ SECOND US ARMY, Ft Geo G Meade, Md 20755 **16 APR 1964**

TO: Commanding General, US Army Quartermaster Center and Fort Lee,
Fort Lee, Virginia 23801

For compliance and return through this headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



F. L. CONN
2d Lt, AGC
Asst AG

1 Incl
nc

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Office of the Army Surgeon General
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AIBFSH-PM (13 Apr 64) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Overexposure to Ionizing Radiation

HEADQUARTERS, US Army Quartermaster Center and Fort Lee, Fort Lee, Va. 6 MAY 1964

THRU: ~~Commanding General, Second United States Army, ATTN: Surgeon,
Fort George G. Meade, Maryland~~

12 MAY 1964

TO: The Surgeon General, ATTN: MEDPS-PO, Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to your letter of 13 April 64 regarding the film badge overexposure dose reading of 9.0 Rem which was assigned to Pfc Vegh for the period 23 Feb thru 22 Mar 64. Upon investigation, Pfc Vegh stated that she may have been wearing her film badge at the time she was undergoing a full mouth study herself. This certainly could have accounted for some of the high film badge dose reading. The room in which the patient was working had been surveyed by the Radiological Hygiene Survey Team from Army Environmental Hygiene Agency, Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland, on 11 June 63. No actual discrepancies were found and the only recommendation made was that the tube heads in all the dental x-ray units have lead collimators which could reduce the primary beam diameter to three inches at a distance of one and one-half inches from the tip of the cones. This recommendation was acted upon on 3 Sep 63. In view of the patient's age (19) it was decided to remove Pfc Vegh from doing any x-ray work until her next birthday, at which time her total accumulated occupational exposure dose of 10 Rem would permit her to return to x-ray work until such time her total exposure dose reached the 10 Rem level.

2. Regarding the film badge reading of 4.8 Rem assigned to Pfc Poidmore for the period 1 Dec 63 through 4 Jan 64, apparently this individual was stationed at US Army Dispensary, Saumur, France, during the period in question. Upon interviewing Pfc Poidmore, he claims to have worn his badge faithfully and does not recall any time that he may have misplaced it. He stated that he could have worn the film badge while holding a patient, but that these incidents would be few and far between. Pfc Poidmore is 22 years old and his maximum accumulated permissible total accumulated dose would be 20 Rem. To date, he has accumulated a total of 4.803 Rem. Pfc Poidmore continues to perform x-ray duties as he would be permitted under present standards, to accumulate an additional 15 Rems before his next birthday. Perhaps inquiry should be made at the US Army Dispensary, Saumur, France, as to possible equipment failure or discrepancies in the monitoring program.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Incl not rec'd in
Hq 2d US Army


H. N. GILBERT, JR.
Lt. Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General

3

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Second U.S. Army