



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE NEW LONDON  
GROTON, CONNECTICUT 06340

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Ser 00/000  
10 FEB 1994

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Submarine Medical Research  
Laboratory  
To: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (MED-21), 2300 E  
Street NW, Washington, DC 20372-5300  
Subj: HUMAN RADIATION RESEARCH REVIEW  
Ref: (a) BUMED Msg 0720312/Feb 94

1. In response to reference (a), the following information is provided as a preliminary report:

A. 1) Name and Location of Activity:

Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory (NSMRL)  
Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, CT

2) POC: CDR Curley, DSN 241-3265, COM 203-449-3265

3) Applicable records located? NO

4) Status of Search Effort: 70% complete; exhaustive efforts continuing.

5) Assessment of whether command conducted or sponsored human radiation research:

- NSMRL and its predecessor (Medical Research Department of US Submarine Base New London, CT) participated in research evaluations of radium in the prevention and treatment of aerotitis media in submariners. This medical treatment occurred during and immediately following World War II.

- No other human radiation research at NSMRL or its predecessor has been identified to date.

B. 1) It is reasonable to believe records associated with radium treatment existed at NSMRL following World War II. However, no current staff member, including senior personnel with 25+ years on site, recall existence of records.

2) If records exist at command, most likely sites include NSMRL Central Archives, and in basement of Bldg 141.

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3) All Command spaces and contents are being searched. Exhaustive search of Central Archives by 16 personnel is 80% complete; detailed search of remaining command spaces is 70% complete.

2. Final report of search results will be forwarded IAW reference (a).

*P. K. Weathersby*

P. K. WEATHERSBY

SEARCH FOR RADIUM TREATMENT RECORDS

1. Physical search for records concerning radium treatment of aerotitis media (and related radiation material) was conducted. The following information documents each space searched.

Precise location of space searched: Bldg 148 Room Library

Name of individual conducting search: Elaine M. Gaucher

When search was conducted: Date 2/10-18, 94 Time Working hours

Items searched (example: 3 filing cabinets, 12 boxes, etc.):

2 filing cabinets which included 6 drawers of files.

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Results of search (include negative findings): \_\_\_\_\_

1. Early correspondence on aerotitis media (1944-46).  
Discusses therapy and procedure used at that time.  
Only a short list of names of individuals to be given the  
treatment was included.

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2. A file of Diving Accident reports form 1950-1960. This may  
include more names of individuals with the problem.

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3. A folder of names of subjects used in a blood pressure experiment-  
in 1945.

Signature

4. Classified Cabinets - *Elaine Gaucher*  
no records.

SEARCH FOR RADIUM TREATMENT RECORDS

1. Physical search for records concerning radium treatment of aerotitis media (and related radiation material) was conducted. The following information documents each space searched.

Precise location of space searched: Bldg 143 Room Library

Name of individual conducting search: Elaine M. Gaucher

When search was conducted: Date 2/10-16, 64 Time Working hours

Items searched (example: 3 filing cabinets, 12 boxes, etc.):

2 filing cabinets which included 6 drawers of files.

Results of search (include negative findings): \_\_\_\_\_

1. Early correspondence on aerotitis media (1944-46).

Discusses therapy and procedure used at that time.

Only a short list of names of individuals to be given the treatment was included.

2. A file of Diving Accident Reports from 1950-1960. This may include more names of individuals with the problem.

3. A folder of names of subjects used in a blood pressure experiment in 1945.

Signature

4 Classified Cabinets

no records

*Elaine Gaucher*