

326 US <sup>US DOE ARCHIVES</sup> ATOMIC ENERGY  
COMMISSION

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Collection *Biology of Medicine*

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Dear Dr. Cantrell:

Thank you for calling to my attention in your letter of October 21 certain matters which you considered important at the October 17-18 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine. The Commission has also been interested in these matters.

With reference to the proposal for the construction of a pulse reactor designed to meet requirements of the research program of the Division of Biology and Medicine, it has been determined in view of over all program planning and in recognition of the need to further evaluate the type of device most eminently suited to fulfill these specific needs, that this item be temporarily deferred subject to a later judgment.

The Commission is aware of its responsibility to contribute to the effective operation of the Civil Defense Program of the United States and is aware of the contributions made to date and by the Civil Effects and Liaison Branch of the Division of Biology and Medicine. The Commission hopes during FY 1960 to develop a demonstration program calculated to show how civil defense against nuclear warfare may be more effective.

The Commission is very much aware that the effectiveness of the operating Divisions depends in no small measure upon frequent direct communications and visits with individual scientists and scientific groups in the field where the research is being performed, and that current travel fund shortage is imposing a hardship on them as well as the entire Commission. I am pleased to advise you that recently we were able to increase the travel funds available to the Division of Biology and Medicine, and while the amount is recognized not to be sufficient to fulfill all of the travel considered essential, it will materially relieve the present critical situation. In any event, the Controller is conducting a continuing review of program administration funds and effecting adjustments to provide more travel funds when needed.

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to the extent possible. We have taken action to ease this situation in the FY 1960 budget and confidently expect that the situation will be substantially improved in the next Fiscal Year.

I was pleased to note your enthusiastic endorsement of the extension of the Commission's mammalian genetics program to include a large project in swine genetics and the importance which you give to human population studies. Steps are already under way to strengthen the AEC's program in the latter area.

I wish to thank you again on behalf of the Commission for your thoughtful consideration of these matters. I hope that I will have an opportunity to meet with the Committee when it meets again in Washington.

Sincerely yours,

Chairman

Dr. Simon T. Cantrell  
The Tumor Institute of  
The Swedish Hospital  
1211 Marion Street  
Seattle 4, Washington

cc: AGM/RID  
AGM/A  
GM

ADM. BR.                      CONTROLLER  
O'Neill  
/s/ M. Bly                    /s/ DSB  
12/19

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I wish to thank you again on behalf of the Commission for your thoughtful consideration of these matters. I hope that I will have an opportunity to meet with the Committee at its January meeting in Washington. We would be very much interested in discussing with you the AEC's cancer research program and particularly the matter of the appropriateness of the AEC continuing to operate such cancer research facilities as the Argonne Cancer Research Hospital and the Medical Division of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies.

Sincerely yours,

Chairman

Dr. Simon T. Cantril  
The Tumor Institute of  
The Swedish Hospital  
1211 Marion Street  
Seattle 4, Washington

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