

of the AEC, appears to some to have first claim upon any funds available. The ACBM, while acknowledging this responsibility, nonetheless took the view, as it has consistently over many past years, that the onsite program should not be favored at the expense of the offsite program. The ACBM recognizes the offsite and onsite programs tend to be different in several ways, but thinks that at times of budgetary limitations each part of each component should be re-examined for program relevance and scientific excellence and decisions reached so that neither component suffers in favoring the other. This is scarcely more than a restatement of the view of the ACBM over many years and a reaffirmation of the policies of Dr. Dunham and the DBM staff.

In this connection, the ACBM heard a description of the Planning, Programming, and Budgetary System (PPBS). It foresees some difficulties in applying the principles to non-applied research. Instituting such a new plan is almost certain to create some difficulties, but the ACBM was impressed by the vigor and thought the DBM has put and is putting into accomplishing the objectives of PPBS.

Food Irradiation. The ACBM heard a progress report on the food irradiation problem and feels that the staff is making a laudable effort in meeting and surmounting the difficulties involved in dealing with this problem.

High Altitude Sampling. The ACBM was made aware of the desire to keep the capability for high altitude sampling in a state of readiness, but senses that agencies and groups other than AEC might have great interest in such sampling, both by balloons and aircraft. The ACBM suggests that AEC call a conference of representatives of the interested agencies and groups with a view to ascertaining the degree of interest and their readiness to share in the considerable financial burden.

Artificial Heart. The ACBM learned of the progress toward developing nuclear-powered pacemakers and artificial pumps for patients with heart disease. Although several technical problems remain to be solved, this development, if successful, may be a significant use of nuclear energy for the benefit of mankind.

The next meeting of the ACBM is to be held at the Donner Lab, LRL, Berkeley, March 9-11, 1967.

Sincerely yours,

Earl L. Green, Chairman
Advisory Committee for Biology
and Medicine

Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg

OFFICE

Chairman

U. S. Atomic Energy Commission

SURNAME

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DATE

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(orig. signed by me at Dr. Green's request)