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UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY
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711327

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Section of Therapeutic Radiology (Ext. 6001)
Chicago Tumor Institute
Radiation Protection Service (Ext. 5031)
Research and Development Shop (Ext. 6119)
Biomedical Electronics (Ext. 6158)

DRAFT

Dr. J. R. Totter
Director, Division of Biology and Medicine
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear John:

At the 135th meeting of the Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine Commissioner Johnson asked us to comment directly to you concerning the investigation involving testicular radiation of volunteer subjects.

|| On the basis of information received at this meeting the ACBM believes that the protocol for these experiments is in accord with the Helsinki Convention and other recommendations concerning investigations involving human subjects.

However, two questions remain:

- || 1) Since viable spermatozoa may remain in the seminal vesicles for weeks following vasectomy, is a sperm count showing no spermatozoa after vasectomy obtained before release?
- 2) What previously unsubstantiated hypothesis forms the basis and justification for this experiment? That is, is there a need for new knowledge in this area which is of such significance that investigations involving human volunteers are clearly indicated?

|| Since we do not feel that we have sufficient information at this time in relation to these two points, we request that the ACBM receive a staff briefing at the 136th meeting concerning this investigation in particular reference to these points. We would then be in a position to make a recommendation in relation to this project. We would like to reiterate that we see nothing at this point to indicate that the provisions of various recommendations relating to investigations involving human subjects are not being adhered to; ~~however~~ however, we believe that, particularly with prisoner volunteers, there is a burden of proof concerning the significance of the thesis to be tested.

Very truly yours,

1071387

ROBERT D. MOSELEY, JR., M.D.
Chairman, Advisory Committee for
Biology and Medicine

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY

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REPOSITORY 236 US ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

COLLECTION BIOLOGY OF MEDICINE DRAFT

BOX No. 2

FOLDER 8 Dr. J. R. Totter
Director, Division of Biology and Medicine
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Notes by P.R. Stouff
a) Return 1 copy to
Dr. R. Moseley
b) forward 1 copy
Rosemary Elmer
c) Retain 1 copy - my files
P.R.S.

Dear John:

At the 135th meeting of the Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine Commissioner Johnson asked us to comment directly to you concerning the investigation involving testicular radiation of volunteer subjects.

~~Although~~
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However, two questions remain:

- 1) Since viable spermatozoa may remain in the seminal vesicles for weeks following vasectomy, is a sperm count showing no spermatozoa after vasectomy obtained before release?
- 2) ~~What previously unsubstantiated hypothesis forms the basis and justification for this experiment? That is, is there a need for new knowledge in this area which is of such significance that investigations involving human volunteers are clearly indicated?~~

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at this point to indicate that the provisions of various recommendations accepted relating to investigations involving human subjects are not being adhered to. ~~However, we believe that, particularly with prisoner volunteers, there is a burden of proof concerning the significance of the thesis to be tested,~~ ~~warrants the use of human subjects for the experiments.~~ *must be*

requirements
very assurance

Very truly yours,

ROBERT D. MOSELEY, JR., M. D. DOE ARCHIVES
Chairman, Advisory Committee for
Biology and Medicine

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