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- 1. J. J. Nickson
- 2. R. S. Stone
- 3. J. E. Wirth
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KNOXVILLE 11, TENNESSEE

715893

February 22, 1945

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Dr. J. J. Nickson,
 Metallurgical Laboratory,
 University of Chicago,
 Chicago, Illinois.

re:

Dear Jim:

I have gone over as per the request in your letter of February 14, 1945. The loss of ridges is most noticeable on the tip of the left index finger and barely detectable elsewhere. It may be noted that he has an old phosphorus burn on the left index finger, and left middle finger. This old burn has resulted in deformity of the cuticle and scarring of the dorsum of the distal phalanx of those fingers, and undoubtedly accounts for the smoothness of the ridges of the left index finger. At the present time I can see no indication whatever of any change which I could attribute to a radiation effect.

The transverse ridges of the nails are present on the left thumb, index and middle fingers and the right thumb. The cuticles on these fingers are also abnormal in the sense that they are extremely short and, according to his own story he picks the cuticle of these fingers a great deal. These ridges are to me more indicative of continued trauma such as cutting the nail near the cuticle or this constant picking, than of any radiation effect.

I agree with you that the subject does require periodic observation.

Incidentally, will you forward me the report of Mr. chest film, taken just before he left Chicago.

1099942

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
 DATE AUG 22 1962
 For the Atomic Energy Commission
 TED REEDMAN for the
 Chief, Declassification Branch

Yours sincerely,

 John E. Wirth, M. D.
 Medical Director.



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