

ID 165

Interview of Dr. William F. Bale of the University of Rochester in his laboratory by Dr. Marks and Mr. Miazga at 11:00 AM on 4/30/74. Dr. Bale is professor of biophysics in the Department of Radiation Biology at the University of Rochester. He was the contact person at Rochester for correspondence between Los Alamos and Rochester relative to the human plutonium study.

Dr. Bale was asked what he could recall of the experiment involving injection of plutonium into patients. He said that he was active in the polonium experiment but did not recall anything about the plutonium experiment. When we inquired about the types of disclosure that might have been made he said that a distinct policy was established for the polonium experiment. The patients were told that the experiment is important to the war effort. They were told that the radioactive substance to be injected is potentially hazardous in large doses but that the amounts that were to be injected into the patients were small and were not believed to constitute any risk to them. They further emphasized that these experiments would be important to the war effort. Dr. Bale said that only people who were enthusiastically interested in cooperating were chosen for the experiments.

Dr. Bale discussed the names of some of the professional people involved in the work of the metabolism unit at that time. These included Albert Frenkel, Dorraine Leake, Helen Van Alstine, and Nat Cedars. He said that Albert Frenkel was concerned with tracer chemistry in the experiments. Later Dr. Bale provided employment information on the people who were on the payroll of the metabolic ward at that time. Those names,

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PROVENANCE

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addresses, and termination dates are filed separately. The personnel include a few nurses and technicians.

S. Marks
Sidney Marks