



## ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

November 1, 1973

Dr. James L. Liverman, Director  
Division of Biomedical and Environmental Research  
United States Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Jim:

The Center for Human Radiobiology has located four individuals out of the group of 18 who were injected with plutonium and americium in 1945—1947. Three of these individuals were placed in the metabolic ward of the University of Rochester Hospital for periods ranging from eight days to two weeks for complete physical examinations and excreta collections. Two of these individuals carry  $^{239}\text{Pu}$ , the third received  $^{238}\text{Pu}$ . We have exhumed one body of an individual in this group who died approximately 18 months after injection.

These cases were first described by W. Langham, et al., in LA-1151, Distribution and Excretion of Plutonium Administered Intravenously to Man, dated September 20, 1950. These cases were subsequently reviewed by P. Durbin, Plutonium in Man: A New Look at the Old Data, which appeared in the symposium volume: Radiobiology of Plutonium (1972).

The details of our involvement in this study can be obtained from Dr. Sidney Marks, the technical representative for the Center, who was fully informed of our activities during his visit here on October 4 and 5, 1973. I will be in Germantown November 5—7, and will be pleased to discuss these cases with you if you wish.

Sincerely,

R. E. Rowland, Director  
Radiological and Environmental  
Research Division

RER:fc  
cc: R. Bauer

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*Handwritten signature/initials*

PROVENANCE

REPOSITORY: OFFICE OF HUMAN RADIATION  
EXPERIMENTS (OHRE)

COLLECTION: PLUTONIUM INJECTION INVESTIGATION  
FILES (OHRE 1)

BOX: 3

FOLDER: PLUTONIUM - CHR

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