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December 14, 1973

TO: R. J. M. Fry BIM

FROM: A. F. Stehney RER

SUBJECT: Summary of Center for Human Radiobiology (CHR) Studies  
of Plutonium Cases

For information to the ANL Review Committee for Research on Human Subjects, I am enclosing a summary of CHR activities in connection with eighteen persons injected with plutonium (and one person injected with americium) in 1945-1947. The summary was prepared by R. E. Rowland, Director of the Radiological and Environmental Research Division on November 8, 1973.

This study is being done as part of the research project, "Effects of Internal Radiation on Humans", for which the Revised Research Protocol submitted on August 27, 1971 was approved by the Review Committee on September 17, 1971. Within the scope of that proposal which "covers medical studies and radioactivity measurements of humans exposed to internal radiation under circumstances beyond our control", we are seeking to determine the subsequent history of the persons described in the attached summary. As indicated in the summary, the eighteen plutonium cases had been described in the literature by other research workers previous to our direct knowledge of these cases which began on December 13, 1972.

Briefly, the present situation is as follows:

- 1) Four persons are known to be alive; we have obtained excreta samples from two of these people and have examined one person at Argonne.
- 2) The status (living or dead) of two persons is still unknown.
- 3) We are attempting to exhume remains of the other persons and have actually exhumed one person whose remains were brought to Argonne on September 24, 1973.

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PROVENANCE

REPOSITORY: OFFICE OF HUMAN RADIATION  
EXPERIMENTS (OHRE)

COLLECTION: PLUTONIUM INJECTION INVESTIGATION  
FILES (OHRE 1)

BOX: 3

FOLDER: PLUTONIUM - CHR

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R. J. M. Fry

-2-

December 14, 1973

Please let me know if I, or other CHR personnel, can provide further information which may help the Review Committee to evaluate this work in connection with its responsibility for research projects involving human subjects.

*A. F. Stehney*

A. F. Stehney  
Section Head, CHR

AFS:jt

Enc. (6 copies w/enclosures)

cc: M. V. Nevitt, OTD  
R. E. Rowland  
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