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ESTIMATES OF GAMMA EXPOSURES IN COMMUNITIES AROUND NTS

SYMBOL: BMREW:GMD

MILITARY RESEARCH & APPL

7-1  
NTS

The above subject is not imperative at the moment but I would like to pass along some comments and explore with you what, if anything, we should do.

As you know, a committee was appointed by you to evaluate the fall-out data from Operation PLUMBBOB, with one objective of developing a single set of estimates of external gamma exposures in communities around NTS. The committee used new conversion factors for decay rates based principally upon the work of one offsite program. It does not seem advisable to me to adopt a new set of decay rates based on limited data. What could be done is to design and conduct carefully thought out independent studies, if future activities at NTS provide the opportunity for such offsite studies.

In conjunction with the data mentioned above, the data from other programs such as automatic gamma recorders and film badges should be utilized in coming to a single set of estimates of radiation exposures in communities. Again, this requires most carefully planned and executed programs, especially for the film badges.

We all recognize the importance for both scientific and public relations reasons to do as thorough and responsible a job as possible and coming up with one set of best estimates of exposures. Perhaps those more interested in the conduct of the field programs and those more concerned with evaluation of the data would profit by developing a mutually designed set of studies.

cc: Dr. Dunham  
Dr. Shilling  
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DMA - Attn. Col. Blue

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Jose Diaz 4/15/81  
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