

US DOE ARCHIVES	
326 U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION	
Collection	DBM
Box	3374
Folder	13

720291

THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER  
 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY  
 POST OFFICE BOX 187, STATION 3  
 ROCHESTER 20, NEW YORK

December 8, 1959

ATOMIC ENERGY PROJECT  
 (ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF  
 RADIATION BIOLOGY UNDER CONTRACT WITH  
 THE U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION)

Dr. John F. Bonner  
 Medical Research Branch  
 Division of Biology and Medicine  
 U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
 Washington 25, D. C.

*John # 2657*  
*Box # 4201*

Dear John:

A good share of our inhalation facilities here at the University of Rochester have been "tied up" by a five-year chronic exposure of dogs and monkeys to an atmosphere of insoluble UO<sub>2</sub>. This exposure program will be terminating (we expect and hope!) on or around January 1, 1961. Looking to the future, we are considering extending, at least in a limited way, some of our earlier preliminary experiments on the inhalation of Thorium compounds. Our interest in Thorium has been whetted by the growing dichotomy of those who attempt to assess possible hazards of Thorium exposures. Is it relatively non-hazardous? Or, is it as "bad" or worse than Plutonium? (Refer to Handbook 69, page 83, for example).

To help us plan our future work, we are hoping to hold a two-day seminar on Thorium (with special reference to the inhalation route of exposure) on January 19th and 20th here at the University of Rochester Atomic Energy Project. Because of your special interest in and/or knowledge of this subject, we would like very much to have you present and participating. We hope to keep attendance limited in order to facilitate informal exchange of views and information. We hope also to circularize a bibliography and possibly also a limited number of special reports well in advance of the meeting, so that all can have done their "homework" ahead of time.

For those who need financial assistance in arranging travel, there is an appropriate place on the enclosed check-list which we would like to have you fill out and return to us at your earliest convenience.

Best personal regards,

*Bill*  
 William F. Neuman  
 Professor  
 Radiation Biology

*This is more an  
 less the "form letter" John*  
 WFN:gp  
 Enclosure

1149891

12834

*M. H. S. 21 Rochester Univ*