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March 3, 1952

TRIP REPORT TO NYOO AND ENL

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Made a courtesy call on Mr. Burke Fry, NYOO, preparatory to spending the day with Merril Eisenbud and his staff. Mr. Fry expressed some concern over the future character and scope of the work of the Health and Safety Division and indicated that sometime, in the future, when more time was available, he would like to discuss it with us. I told him that we would be happy to do so, but that in the meantime, he could rest assured that it was not the intention of the Division to distract the Health and Safety Division from its primary mission of providing health services to the NYOO and that our purpose in drawing upon Mr. Eisenbud and his staff was that they are peculiarly well prepared in equipment and personnel to undertake the fall-out studies. Mr. Fry said that he appreciated this.

Following the discussion with Mr. Fry, I reviewed with Mr. Eisenbud the telemetering development program and the role of the New York Laboratory in that program vis-a-vis the Bureau of Standards and the Radiation Instruments Branch. During this discussion we inspected the instrumentation laboratory, noting particularly the progress being made in the development and production of survey meters for the Raw Materials Division.

In going through the laboratory stockrooms, and noting the number of radiation instruments there, the question arose as to the continued value of the emergency monitoring teams. Apparently, there is some question in the mind of the New York Office as to the utility of these teams, doubt as to the availability of the personnel in time of an emergency, some misgiving as to the lack of communications equipment which they believed necessary to enable the team to fulfill its mission, and some concern over the cost of maintaining the instruments. Without attempting to pass judgment on the validity of these arguments, it does occur to me that it might be timely to determine whether or not the emergency radiation monitoring program has served its purpose, and whether the FCDA is now in a position to take over this function. Certainly, in the case of New York City, it would seem that the civil defense organization there is organized to the point where, with perhaps some assistance, they could assume this duty. We could well afford to give the instruments to the various civil defense organizations, inasmuch as their annual maintenance runs up to about \$50,000.

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While we should not abandon this service to the nation simply because of its cost and additional responsibility, nevertheless it would be timely, I believe, to urge the FCDA to take over this function which they are expected to do ultimately anyway.

Discussed with Warren Donnelly the nature of the services performed by the Research Contract Administration Section. It appears that the services per contract are minimal, on the average, but that multiplied by the some 110 lump-sum contracts which the New York Office administers for us, the services become rather substantial. For example, the NYOO negotiates the contract with the University and the investigator. More often than not the negotiation can be accomplished by telephone or by letter, but not infrequently a visit to the institution or by the institution to the NYOO is necessary to get the work underway. It is practically always necessary for the office to explain the nature of the contract and its terms. In addition, the NYOO pays the contractor, services the vouchers and in the case of smaller universities actually helps prepare the vouchers. It gives assistance to the contractor with respect to priorities and selective service, keeps track of progress reports and renewals and maintains a complete record on all contracts. While the foregoing does not represent a particularly difficult function, nevertheless it is a substantial service to the Division which could not be absorbed here without some additional increase in staff.

The following day was spent at BNL and an early start being enabled by staying overnight at Patchogue. The primary purpose of the visit to BNL was to discuss the forthcoming Brookhaven program review and go over the construction program at BNL.

In connection with the program review it was pointed out to Mr. Van Horn that the meeting might afford him an opportunity to receive the backing of the Division with respect to matters of relationship or other problems involved in his job of administering the contract. He therefore agreed to provide in advance a list of questions which might be raised during the program review and which would serve to draw out matters of policy and plans for conduct of the scientific program. Mr. Van Horn also agreed to provide information on the personnel hiring program which would not ordinarily appear in the budget material provided by the Laboratory.

I was gratified to learn that the Laboratory has actually made some progress in the preparation of a master plan for future construction. I understand that two of the trustees have taken a strong interest in this and that as a result of their interest preliminary plans are now on paper. It would appear that these plans, which extend approximately 10 years in the future, are somewhat more ambitious than we will

OFFICE ▶	probably be able to go along with, nevertheless, they do represent
SURNAME ▶	a more practical brand of thinking than has been in evidence heretofore.

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The question came up as to whether or not the master plan should be discussed at the forthcoming ENL program review. It was my recommendation that: (1) Such a discussion would require more time than would be available at the program review meeting; and (2) considerably more work was needed on the plan itself. For example, the present plan does not offer any narrative justification as to the need of the facility contemplated, nor as to the significance of the particular year on the schedule in which it is to come into being. It was agreed, finally, that Brookhaven would prepare a draft staff paper of a master plan, bring it to Washington along about May or the first part of June where it would be reviewed by the Division of Biology and Medicine and probably Research. The plan would then be re-worked in accordance with this discussion and presented to the Commission in the form of a final staff paper.

The afternoon was devoted mostly to an inspection of the physical facilities of ENL except for the visit with Dr. Farr which will be mentioned later. It will be recalled that the 1953 budget contained an item of \$130,000 for an underground steam line. Later this estimate was revised upward as the result of an engineering study performed at Brookhaven. We refused to grant the entire request on the grounds that it did not appear to be justified at this time. It now appears, as a result of inspection, that some of the work had already been done, perhaps financed from Miscellaneous Site Improvements. The dollars involved here are minimal but the principle is important. We cannot effectively defend a budget before the Bureau or before the Congress unless such defense is based upon accurate information. I believe our position has been made clear to the Brookhaven Area Office. Also visited the warehouses. There are some 7 of them, and it will be recalled that \$500,000 were requested in the 1953 budget for a permanent warehouse. Hereagain, the Laboratory was quite insistent as to the need for permanent facilities, but upon inspection, and discussion during inspection, it appeared that they weren't particularly hurt by the fact that they didn't get the warehouse. I don't mind feeling out the Bureau on a particular project, but I don't believe that we should go out on a limb as to its need when the Laboratory itself isn't entirely convinced of it. Nevertheless, the present warehouses are products of old Camp Upton. They are fire-traps, unsightly, and inefficient. Ultimately a new warehouse will be needed and will be more economical. But in view of the current fiscal situation, it would appear that a permanent building will not be needed for another two or three years.

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Memo to Files
from HCBrown

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After touring the various service and maintenance facilities Mr. Jack Lancaster, Mr. Van Horn's Construction Assistant, kindly took me on a tour of the cosmotron building where I inspected the cosmotron which is nearly finished, the Van de Graaff, and the 18-inch cyclotron. I was impressed by the fact that 1953 should see in operation all of the major research facilities toward which the Laboratory has been working since its inception.

Called on Dr. Farr, expecting only to say hello, and found him willing to discuss his program at some length. He described the medical program at Brookhaven as being devoted primarily to the use of radioisotopes, internal emitters and neutrons in the following programs: (1) Nephrotic children; (2) thyroid cancer; (3) metastatic cancer; and (4) brain tumors.

I was interested in his comment that through the use of sodium they had been able to reverse the ratio of death and survival of nephrotic children from a ratio of 60:40 to 40:60. He also pointed out that in the thyroid cancer program they were able to exceed without ill effect the previous dosage levels of radioactive iodine. Another interesting feature of the program is the use of radioactive argon and chlorine-38 in the treatment of body cancers. Apparently some success has already been achieved in the use of chlorine-38 in the treatment of cancer of the ovary in one of the patients at the hospital. Incidentally, with the half life of chlorine-38 of 35 minutes and of argon of 108 minutes, an argument is provided for a hospital nearer the pile. With respect to the brain tumor work Dr. Farr reported that 7 patients had been treated and apparently all but two of them have died but not without some promising results. Heretofore they have been leery of exposing a patient twice to the neutron beam. The last patient however has been exposed twice and apparently the tumor temporarily has been arrested. The individual is back at work. A third exposure is planned soon.

It is planned to extend the neutron technique to other parts of the body in the near future.

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