

ARGONNE  
NATIONAL  
LABORATORY

40-003  
INTRA-LABORATORY MEMO

May 31, 1974

700526

TO: R. E. Rowland  
FROM: Austin M. Brues, M.D.  
SUBJECT: Trip Report - Visit to Milford and Italy, Texas, May 21, 1974

I was instructed by AEC to visit the personal physician of case Cal-3 (our CHR #40-003), to inform him of details of this patient's 1947 injection and to suggest that he convey this information to the patient before the end of the week. Dr. Walter Weyzen, DBER, was to accompany me.

Because of a necessary visit to Los Alamos May 22-24 and an engagement in the evening of May 20 in Chicago, I took the night flight and was to meet Dr. Weyzen and travel with him by car to see Dr. Dewey H. Roberts in Milford on May 21. I picked him up near the Dallas-Fort Worth airport, and we arrived about 11:30 at Roberts' office in Milford.

Dr. Roberts is a 1932 graduate of Kansas City School of Osteopathy. According to the 1972 Directory of Osteopaths, he was born in 1898 (but told us he is in his 80th year). He took over the patient when his original physician, Dr. A. O. Dykes of Italy, became incapacitated three or so years ago.

Dr. Roberts is an enthusiastic man who appears to have a large practice (although no patients were in evidence); says that he studied three years at Baylor Medical School before going to osteopathic school and takes many post-graduate courses. One might guess that he serves a rural population of several thousand.

I told him we found that the patient had received plutonium into the muscle of the sarcomatous leg three days before it was amputated, not enough in our belief to cause any trouble or to have any effect on the tumor, but that he should be carefully followed in any case because of the very small number of such cases that are living. I pointed out why we are extremely anxious to have an autopsy in the event of his death, also that we would like to be able to check him again at intervals. He will cooperate and wants advice as to whom to call in the event of serious illness or death. He said that these old fellows with hypertension, in his experience, are likely to go to sleep some night and not wake up.

Dr. Roberts was quick to form the belief that the injection may have cured the tumor: we tried to cool this but with questionable success. (I had given warning of this possibility before accepting the assignment.)

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REPOSITORY DOE-Chicago Ops. Center  
FOR Human Radiobiology  
COLLECTION CHR/Plutonium DOCS  
BOX NO. 1 OF 2  
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We asked Roberts to tell the patient about the nature of the injection as he has a right to know. The record seems to indicate only that he gave voluntary consent to an injection of radioactive material.

Dr. Roberts says he doesn't know how long he will keep in practice and that we should tell our story to Dr. Hatfield, who, since it was Tuesday morning, would be at the convalescent home on Highway 77 at the south end of Italy, 5 miles up the road, and who would undoubtedly acquire this patient when he retires.

Dr. Peter L. Hatfield was young, intelligent, unshaven, on his hebdomadal morning rounds at a 40- or 50-bed convalescent home. He is a 1963 graduate of Baylor Medical School. He and Roberts are apparently the only doctors in an area of more than 100 square miles. He quickly understood our problem and would like a copy of our letter to Roberts so that he would know what to do in the event he was called on account of the patient's terminal illness or death.

It was not on the agenda that we visit the patient; however, I felt that a social visit was essential, so obtained directions to his home at the [redacted]. To get there one goes off [redacted] takes the next [redacted] when the next [redacted] pass the alley), turns [redacted] the end, and on to the [redacted] only brick house on the [redacted] which is on the right. Our visit was welcome; his wife was taking her grade-school class to the zoo in Dallas; he is moving into the new house, finest in the area, apparently somewhat financed by his two children whom he visited when in the North; was advised that we talked with Dr. Roberts and that he should see him about this; he is well and has had no more blackouts (epilepsy) since he has been taking treatment prescribed at Rochester. He would visit us for a recheck if we request it in the future, if he doesn't have to fly.

*Clinton Jones*

AMB:R

cc: CHR-RR ✓

R. P. Hall, M.D.

B. C. Patten

A. F. Stehney

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