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DATE September 23, 1965
TO S. L. Fawcett
FROM R. S. Paul
SUBJECT Experiments with People--Policy Need?

Through frequent discussions with Bill Roesch, Manager - Radiological Physics, regarding ideas for worthwhile future research, we have come to recognize a need for policy guidance for research which uses people as experimental subjects. Bill has prepared the attached memo at my suggestion to describe the need as he sees it in terms of a particular example--whole body counting research which includes administering radioactivity to people.

The questions posed have a wider scope. For example, we have ambitions to develop research in bio-instrumentation and bio-engineering, and Bert Thomas speaks of Battelle moving into the behavioral sciences.

In my opinion, it should be proper for Battelle (BNW) to engage in certain research projects involving human subjects provided (1) there are adequate provisions for the health, safety, legal, and public relations aspects and (2) the research objectives are in accord with the spirit of the Battelle Will regarding the development and application of science and technology to benefit the welfare of mankind.

If you agree with my opinion, in principle, I will volunteer to draft a proposed Policy Guide establishing guidelines for the consideration, and procedures for the review and approval, of proposed research projects of the subject type. My thinking at present is to set up a review board to which the researcher could present his proposed project. This board would include appropriate representatives from the Technical, Legal, Personnel, and Safety organizations, and probably a Consulting Physician. The latter might be obtained under contract with the Occupational Health Foundation.

Do you have any comments on the general subject? Should I draft a proposed Policy Guide as suggested above?

HSP:pb

Encl.

cc: LB ←
File w/encl.

→ WC Roesch

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