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CE Newton
HM Parker
JMN-File
JMN-LB

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R. S. Paul

REPOSITORY PNL

J. M. Nielsen

COLLECTION PRISONER STUDY

BOX No. 3156

BNWL-589

FOLDER PU STUDIES ON PRISONERS

Dr. Wilson and I have reviewed your letter of November 20 containing results of the recent meeting of the Human Subjects Committee concerning the report BNWL-589. The results do not surprise us for we feel it is a reasonable position for the committee to take. There does seem to be a question as to what the real purpose of the document should be and what it should contain. The document as prepared reports on equipment and techniques with which a specified neutron dose can be delivered within certain stated limits to certain areas of a phantom. As Mr. Parker has indicated measurements of dose actually received by the volunteers should be made in the case of irradiation of human subjects. However, the need and techniques for the additional measurements in the case of humans were not described in the report (although they have been discussed with Dr. Paulsen). This omission was deliberate on the part of the authors since inclusion was felt to put them in the position of recommending a plan for the human irradiation. Not only was this felt to be the province of Dr. Paulsen, but if the document contained these recommendations the authors felt they would be in the position of being legally a part of the human irradiation rather than just having part in the dosimetry.

As the report stands it represents equipment and techniques for delivering neutron doses to certain areas of phantoms. Such a report probably does not need review by the Human Subjects Committee and hence would elicit neither approval nor disapproval. With this equipment and techniques for delivering a dose, and with additional techniques for measuring delivered doses to humans Dr. Paulsen is able to plan an irradiation experiment. The authors feel that the human dose measurement techniques need not be part of the document and if they are included they complicate their legal position by changing the document from a technique and calibration report to a recommendation for a human irradiation experiment.

Without the additional human dose measurement recommendations the authors feel that the standard disclaimer in the front of all documents sufficiently indicates that the work cannot assure the correctness of subsequent work. If statements were included as to the applicability of the report to human irradiations, then the authors would probably want a page of qualifiers. The authors feel that if the document should be one which includes recommendations as to the conduct of the experiment that they are not qualified -- that such recommendations must come from

someone with greater experience and stature such as W. C.Roesch or H. M. Parker. Such greater participation does not seem to be desired by the experts mentioned nor BNW-Legal. Under these circumstances we felt and still feel that the document should be issued in its present form, with any further participation constituting a new phase with participants appropriate to the new work to be done.

JMN:flb