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To: J.ROBERTSON (DOE1217)
To: E.ALPEN (DOE1246)
From: E.ALPEN (DOE1246) Posted: Fri 10-Aug-84 16:07 EDT Sys 64 (15)
Subject: DR. GOODMAN

Dr. Robertson:

Under LBL personnel policy -- as approved by DOE -- Dr. Goodman, as a Senior Scientist, must be given one year notice before layoff, and receive severance pay. Required cost, both direct and indirect, for meeting this obligation is \$138K for FY85. Reduction of current FY85 funding below 100K will increase amount we have to absorb to a level that is completely unmanageable in a tight budget year. Other projects will inevitably be impacted. I must emphasize that payments for Goodman are obligatory and enforceable through arbitration or legal action.

Thomas L. Hayes
Lawrence Berkeley Lab

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Disposition: d

To: J.ROBERTSON (DOE1217)
From: C.LUSHBAUGH (DOE1258) Posted: Mon 13-Aug-84 14:41 EDT Sys 64 (92)

Subject: MY LETTER OF AUGUST 10 TO DR. BRUCE WACHHOLZ

Dear Bruce:

I regret the two-week delay in getting this letter off to you about our need for financial support for our continuing study of the Juarez, Mexico radiation accident.

The enclosed newspaper clipping (7-30-84) which you may have seen, describes the present situation more succinctly and dramatically than I can. The major points that it makes are that almost 200 Mexican citizens (all ages and both sexes) and about 60 Mexican male workers were exposed in January and February of this year to gamma radiation from a multicurie cobalt-60 source that somehow was broken open and spilled its radioactive components in a junkyard (where the workers were exposed) and in a truck that was parked on a public street for 8 weeks where about 200 local inhabitants were exposed.

Our REAC/TS team physician (Hubner) and cytogeneticist (Littlefield) were involved in the early part of the investigation through our IAEA/WHO role as the PAHO accident-response team for the Western Hemisphere. We have been able to show so far that extensive radiation cytogenetic damage occurred in 10 selected persons. We are acutely short of funds at this time to extend these observations and to continue to collaborate with the Mexican public health officials who agree that this irradiated population --More--

should be studied as extensively as possible for humanitarian as well as scientific reasons. The Mexican government (Federal, State, and City) have provided health physicists, public health officers and physicians to identify the exposees and assess their degree of injury.

I attended a workshop planning session in Juarez on July 10 to help set in motion a collaborative Mexico-U.S. study of the people concerned. While the meeting was largely about obtaining Mexican funds with which to

carry out the study, it also addressed some of the epidemiologic and health surveillance problems and the need for our kind of expertise in radiation epidemiology. While the Mexican physicians and scientists could carry out such a study on their own, we all agreed that our collaboration would be beneficial and gratefully received. In addition, I believe that by virtue of our day-to-day collaboration, we would become privy much faster and more completely than otherwise to the important needed information such a study promises to generate; namely, what are the remote results of 100 to 500 R(!) total-body exposures over 8 weeks to normal men, women, and children (many unborn)?

The punch line is, of course, that we need financial support as soon as possible to carry out our part of this investigation. I thought the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) could do this but my best information is that only initial support to investigate the problem can be
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supplied and it has. I am sure though that there are many U.S. Departments and Agencies that would encourage our carrying out such a study, and I am in the process of finding out whether any agency can share in it financially.

As you know, DOE/OHER is deeply committed to many on-going epidemiologic studies and in addition faces such an austere FY 1985 budget that the likelihood of significant support from that source is quite uncertain at this point. Obviously NRC, DOD, DOE/DNP, EPA, NIH (Child and Maternal Health) need to be approached. Equally obvious, if not more so, is NCI as a potential source of support; either or both from low-level radiation branch and radiation epidemiology.

What I need to know from you as soon as possible is how you think I should proceed to formalize such a request. I appreciate your agreeing to make some inquiries along these lines for us. We need immediate funds to enable several of us to travel to El Paso/Juarez to become working partners with the Juarez Public Health investigator (Dr. Rauda) and to carry out cytogenetic studies on persons who self-select as untoward signs of radiation damage develop. The story suggests that there is a great potential for some undesirable maternal/neonatal occurrences during October, November, and December 1984 that could either be undetected or distorted without an objective, vigorous surveillance and data collection
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program in place. We have a young, well-trained epidemiologist whom we can make immediately available on a part-time basis while his DOE data management problems are being resolved. Dr. Steve Blum comes highly recommended by Dr. Robert Goldsmith, OHER, and may be known to you. Dr. Blum is most interested in this project and will be leading the epidemiologic aspects of this study if I can get it funded.

Dr. Blum and I are in the initial phase of attempting to get together an NIH reseearch grant request for the November 1, 1984 deadline, but should our effort here be successful, we would see at least 14 months of observations and our present "insider" status lost before such funds arrive.

I appreciate your help.

Yours sincerely,

C. C. Lushbaugh, M.D.

Note: Please given a copy of this
to Dr. Robert Goldsmith.

cc: Me
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