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September 27, 1948

Dr. Shields Warren, Director,
Division of Biology and Medicine
Dr. Paul C. Aebersold, Chief,
Isotopes Division, Oak Ridge
USE OF JACKSON MEMORIAL LABORATORY BY AEC OF CANADA AS
CONTROL STATION IN CANCER RESEARCH

REFER TO
SYMBOL: I:PCA

Enclosed is copy of a letter on subject which may be
of interest to you.

I have met Dr. Bittner at a number of conferences re-
cently, and he has shown considerable interest in the
use of radioactive isotopes and in the possible carcin-
ogenic and heredity effects of radioactivity and radia-
tions. This probably explains why he addressed his
remarks to me.

I am not familiar with the negotiations by the Atomic
Energy Commission of Canada to use the Jackson Memorial
Laboratory as their control station for mice subjected
in other laboratories to radioisotopes. I would be inter-
ested to learn more about any such program. I have thanked
Dr. Bittner for his recommendations, and told him that I
knew of no plans of the USAEC to make similar negotiations
with the Jackson Memorial Laboratory in connection with
the use of radioactive isotopes. If there are such plans,
I would appreciate receiving information about them.

I was glad to have had the opportunity to talk with you
recently in Washington, and hope that you will have an
opportunity to visit Oak Ridge before too long.

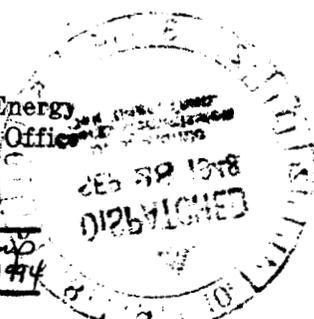
Paul C. Aebersold

Encl.:
Ltr. fm. Dr. Bittner, 9/21/48

CC: A.H. Holland, w/ encl. U.S. Department of Energy
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Aebersold/jhm

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C O P Y

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September 21, 1948

Department of Physiology
Division of Cancer Biology

Dr. Paul C. Aebersold
Isotopes Division
P.O.D., E
Atomic Energy Commission
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Dear Paul:

I have been delegated by our group to ask you to speak at the university while you are in Minneapolis next month. Any topic would be satisfactory. It could be as informal as you wish - a short discussion followed by questions, etc.

As a biologist I was amused by the report from Washington, issued about the 13th of this month, that the Atomic Energy Commission of Canada had completed negotiations to use the Jackson Memorial Laboratory as their control station for mice subjected in other laboratories to radioactive isotopes. It was stated that "the primary purpose in using these mice is to determine the effects of heredity in cancer".

There are several reports in the literature in which it has been demonstrated that the incidence of cancer, even in an inbred strain, may not be comparable when the mice are maintained in different laboratories. Also, the incidence may not remain constant for the same strain over a period of time in the same laboratory.

Within the various inbred strains different sublines have been isolated, as determined by genetic tests, which do not have the same incidences. In 1929-1930 Cloudman and I found evidence for sublines within one stock by transplanting tumors; later W. L. Russell (now at Oak Ridge), in checking the records, determined that no line went back by brother-to-sister matings beyond 1927. Mice of these sublines have different incidences of mammary cancer, probably also leukemia.

The article reported that the Atomic Energy Commission of this country might make the same arrangements. If you might be involved, to prevent future headaches, I would advise you to consult with men like Russell, Cloudman, Strong, etc., before the final plans are made.

We are looking forward to your visit and with kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,
/s/ John
John J. Bittner