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**ORISE**  
OAK RIDGE INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

707593

MEDICAL SCIENCES DIVISION

January 6, 1994

Mary Yarborough, M.D.  
Z1130 Cordell Hull Building  
Nashville, Tennessee 37247-4912

Dear Mary:

Wayne Hibbitts asked me to forward a copy of the documentation and correspondence related to the old Oak Ridge Hospital Records. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Donna L. Cragle*

Donna L. Cragle, Ph.D.  
Director  
Center for Epidemiologic Research

DLC:ss

Enclosures

- cc: Dr. G. Davis
- Dr. J. Drewry
- Dr. S. Fry
- W. Hibbitts
- ERF/Files

*101- Judy Stroud 1-13-94*

REPOSITORY OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS OFFICE  
 COLLECTION PUBLIC INFORMATION (M-4)  
ACTIVE RECORDS GATHERED FOR HUMAN  
 BOX No. RADIATION EXPERIMENTS PROJECT  
 FOLDER \_\_\_\_\_

1023924

P. O. BOX 117, OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37831-0117

OAK RIDGE  
ASSOCIATED  
UNIVERSITIES

MEMORANDUM

To Philip Kannan From Dr. Shirley Fry *FAA*

Date November 25, 1985 Copies to File \_\_\_\_\_

Subject STATUS OF OAK RIDGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL RECORDS AT ORAU/CER NOV. 1985

This concerns the status of medical records of members of the general public admitted to the Oak Ridge Hospital of the Methodist Church (ORHMC) that have been stored in DOE and ORAU facilities in Oak Ridge at least since 1975. I prepared this chronology for an opinion in response to your request for information following the November 13, 1985 allegations by R. Alvarez that epidemiologic records had been destroyed and that their destruction was detrimental to the on-going Health and Mortality Study of DOE workers.

1. Early to mid 1970s but before September 1975:
  - a. ORHMC needed additional storage space (this may have been related to the relocation of the hospital pharmacy), and
  - b. ORHMC requested assistance in storing some old medical records.
  - c. Space was identified in or near the Oak Ridge offices of the University of Pittsburgh (UP) project<sup>1</sup> then housed on the first floor of the Atomic Energy Commission's Vance Road Building, which also was occupied by ORAU's Medical and Health Sciences Division (MHSB).
  - d. An undocumented number of metal 5-drawer file cabinets containing an undocumented number of records covering an undocumented period of time, was moved (undocumented) from ORHMC to the Vance Road Building.
  - e. Sylvia Aliberti, former Records Librarian, ORHMC, told me (11/18/85) that the records moved from ORHMC to Vance Road were, and in her mind, remained ORHMC property. To Ms. Aliberti's knowledge, the records were not released to any other organization or individual, specifically they were not released to Dr. Mancuso.
  - f. Ms. Aliberti knew Viola Frost, then Dr. Mancuso's Oak Ridge Records Librarian, but was not aware of any plans Dr. Mancuso might have had for the ORHMC records. Ms. Frost left the UP project before September 1975.

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1. The study of the lifetime health and mortality experience of employees of AEC (ERDA) employees was conducted from 1964 to 1977 by the University of Pittsburgh under a contract with the AEC (ERDA).

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## 2. September 1975-October 1977

- a. Debbie Ringley joined Marcie Rice, data clerk (now deceased) on the UP project in September 1975.
- b. ORHMC records were in file cabinets in or near the Pathology Laboratory, MHSB when Ms. Ringley joined the project.
- c. Ms. Ringley recalled Ms. Rice saying that Dr. Mancuso would use the records someday but she (Ms. Ringley) knew of no specific plans to do so.
- d. Offices and records of the UP project probably were moved into ORAU's Tyrone Road Building (formerly the Abbott Building) sometime after Ms. Ringley joined the UP project at Vance Road in September 1975 and before Ms. Tompkins was hired by ORAU in May 1976.
- e. At about the same time as in 2d, cabinets with the ORHMC medical records were moved from the Vance Road Building to the Tyrone Road Building where they were stored along with the UP project records in the secured area at the west end of the building. There is no documentation of how many cabinets of ORHMC records were moved at this time, nor of the number of records in the cabinets.
- f. ORAU employees had no access to the secured area nor to any records in the Tyrone Road Building prior to the transfer of the contract from University of Pittsburgh to ORAU in August 1977.
- g. Current ORAU employees recall that prior to ORAU having access to the records in August 1977, there was some movement of cabinets of ORHMC records between the UP project records area in the Tyrone Road Building and the ORHMC. Cabinets of ORHMC records were taken from the Tyrone Road Building to the ORHMC where the records were removed and left at ORHMC, other ORHMC records were placed in the cabinets. The cabinets with the replacement records were moved back to the Tyrone Road Building where the records were processed in some way by UP project staff. There is no documentation of these activities nor of any product such as abstracted data, etc.

## 3. July 1977:

- a. Dr. Mancuso's final report July 1977 (No. 13) references "41 file cabinets containing Oak Ridge Hospital medical files dating from December 1952 through June 1961" and "2 file cabinets of alpha cards from Oak Ridge Hospital for patients whose files were destroyed in a fire at the hospital." These records do not appear to have been referenced in Dr. Mancuso's earlier annual reports (Nos. 1-12).

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- b. There is no record of any inventory or summary accounting of the contents of these 41 cabinets when they were transferred to ORAU in August 1977.

4. August 1977:

- a. ORAU epidemiology program had access to the UP project records.
- b. Edie Tompkins, ORAU, reportedly determined that the ORHMC records in the Tyrone Road Building represented medical records of persons from the Oak Ridge community at large and from the surrounding area who were admitted to or born in the hospital, and were not records of Oak Ridge plant workers only.
- c. Ms. Tompkins sought to have the ORHMC records removed from the Tyrone Road building on the grounds that ORAU could not accept responsibility for them (see attachment 2).
- d. ORAU requested ORHMC to remove their medical records from the Tyrone Road Building (see attachment 2, unsigned, undated memo to Sarah (Woods)). This memo is attributed to Ms. Tompkins who was at ORAU 5/18/76-9/29/78; therefore, the May 4 referred to most probably was May 4, 1978.
- e. ORHMC (Ms. Nell) reviewed records at the Tyrone Road Building; designated records for destruction (prefixes I, O, A, B, C, and D, and the two boxes of index cards referenced in Mancuso's July 1977 (No. 13) report and believed to refer to earlier records destroyed at a fire at ORHMC) and those that should be retained (prefixes F, G, H, and J). Figures in Ms. Tompkins' hand identified 41 (27 + 14) file cabinets containing these records (see attachments 3 and 3a, Vassar memo 10/21/77).
- f. These records were 16 or more years old in 1977; ORHMC has stated that it was legally required to keep original records for only 7 years.
- g. ORAU epidemiology group personnel were requested to assist ORHMC by shredding records designated for disposal (see attachment 3A, Godbold note 10/24/77).
- h. ORAU personnel proceeded to remove all metal staples, clips, etc. from records to be destroyed and to shred records as authorized. ORAU employees involved in the preparation of records for shredding recall that the work proceeded on a random basis, i.e., there was no systematic approach as to the order in which records were prepared for shredding. The shredding was done initially at the Tyrone Road Building but the volume of records being shredded soon overloaded and burned out the shredder. Prepared records were then boxed and transported to DOE/ORO where ORAU personnel continued the process. This work was done some time after October 24, 1977 (ref. Godbold note dated 10/24/77).

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- i. Since August 1977 ORHMC periodically has requested ORAU/MHSD personnel to locate and retrieve individual records from the file cabinets in the Tyrone Road and CER Buildings, and to return them to the ORHMC Records Librarian.
5. July 1978:
- a. Dr. A. Polednak joined the epidemiology group (6/27/78); he subsequently recommended the shredding be halted pending his evaluation of the records (it is not known if Dr. Polednak was aware of Ms. Tompkins' earlier opinions on this subject).
  - b. Dr. Polednak recalls he recommended that the shredding be halted pending an evaluation of the potential epidemiologic value of the records, particularly if they would be useful for a study of birth defects among workers' children (a special interest of Dr. Polednak's). He recalls he did not consider the shredding detrimental to the HMS, but preferred to retain records whenever possible. Being unaware of the history of how and why the records came to be at ORAU, he had assumed (as have CER staff hired after Ms. Tompkins' departure) that although they were not DOE records, they were part of the epidemiology group's records collection. Dr. Polednak left ORAU in December 1979 without evaluating the ORHMC records.
  - c. As best we have been able to establish to date, most records with prefixes A and B, both (2) boxes of index cards, and some records with prefixes ll, O, and C were shredded. Among the records found prepared for shredding but not shredded were some with prefixes O, A, B, C, D, E, F, and G.
  - d. The general shredding effort appears to have been halted in the C prefix series sometime between June 27, 1978 (date of Dr. Polednak's arrival at ORAU) and August 20, 1978 (see Crockett memo of that date). However, because we have found that a few records with subsequent prefix letters (D, E, F, and G) had been prepared for shredding, we cannot rule out that the shredding of some records with these later prefixes did not proceed concurrently with a more systematic effort; this evidence seems to support a conclusion that it did.
6. August 20, 1978:
- a. ORAU requested ORHMC to remove the remaining ORHMC medical records from the Tyrone Road Building (see attachment 4, Crockett memo 8/20/78). The Crockett memo refers to 11 cabinets of records not authorized for destruction; notes on Vassar's memo (10/21/77) had indicated there were 14 such cabinets. It is possible that some records had been consolidated into fewer file drawers in this interim.

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- b. There is no record of ORHMC's response to this request but the ORHMC medical records remained at Tyrone Road Building until the building was vacated in November 1982 when all records were moved to ORAU/CER, Badger Road.

7. October 1981:

- a. ORAU/CER provided ORHMC Records Manager (Ms. Nell) with a summary listing of ORHMC medical records at the Tyrone Road Building.
- b. A listing by the chart number marked on each drawer was given (see attachment 4, Cragle memo 10/8/81). However, based on this present (November 1985) evaluation we have learned the number on the drawer did not necessarily correspond to the number of the first chart in the drawer. Also we must now doubt the accuracy of the 1981 assumption that all charts with numbers in between the first chart numbers (as marked on the drawers) are in the drawer.
- c. 91 "first chart" numbers were listed; these correspond to 91 drawers of records with prefixes C through J that are contained in 19 of the original metal 5-drawer cabinets and in 1 never 4-drawer cabinet that we now find (November 1985) also contains some records with prefixes ll and O.

8. November 1982 to present:

- a. All records in ORAU's Tyrone Road Building, including the ORHMC medical records, were moved to the ORAU/CER Building, Badger Road in November 1982 when the Tyrone Road Building was vacated prior to the development of the Oak Ridge Methodist Medical Center.
- b. As best we can determine the medical records' prefixes refer to the following time periods:

ll + 4 digits	12/12/46	through	6/30/49
O + 5 digits	7/1/49	through	6/30/52
A + 4 digits	7/1/52	through	6/30/53
B + 4 digits	7/1/53	through	6/30/54
C + 4 digits	7/1/54	through	6/30/55
D + 4 digits	7/1/55	through	6/30/56
E + 4 digits	7/1/56	through	6/30/57
F + 4 digits	7/1/57	through	6/30/58
G + 4 digits	7/1/58	through	6/30/59
H + 4 digits	7/1/59	through	7/30/60
J + 4 digits	7/1/60	through	6/30/61

The use of 4-digit sequential numbers 0001 through 9999 was feasible.

- c. We cannot determine whether all records with these pretixes were moved from the ORHMC to Vance Road and thence to the Tyrone Road Building because there are no inventories of the records transferred. ORHMC Records currently at CER having the pretix ll

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appear to be primarily for 1949; those with the prefix 0 are primarily for 1951; thus some records with these prefixes may have been shredded.

- d. The 41 file cabinets referred to by Dr. Mancuso, therefore, may also have contained some ORHMC records predating (i.e., prior to December 1952) those described in his final report (No. 13) but we cannot know this in the absence of any detailed inventory of the contents of the file cabinets in July 1977.
- e. We have learned that when persons were readmitted to ORHMC, their earlier charts were pulled for filing with their latest record which was given the most current prefix letter and next sequential number. Thus, we should not expect to find records for persons who were hospitalized between 1949 and 1962 and who were readmitted to ORHMC after July 1, 1961 (i.e., after the J series), among the ORHMC records at CER; nor is there any way for us to determine from this set of records who these persons may have been.
- f. ORHMC admissions' log books for 7/3/43-6/30/49 and Patient Register sheets from June 1949 - December 1954 were located among the records at the Tyrone Road Building; these books and sheets currently are in CER's records vaults.

9. Conclusions:

- a. Even with the logs and sheets described in paragraph 8f, it is now apparent that there is insufficient information to determine precisely how complete the records' collection was when it was transferred from the UP project to ORAU in 1977.
- b. We cannot determine which records now not accounted for in the 11-J series were:
  - 1. not included when the records were transferred to ORAU in 1977;
  - 2. pulled and returned to ORHMC for later admissions or other referral purposes; or
  - 3. shredded as authorized.
- c. As there is no record of how many cabinets or individual ORHMC records were moved from the ORHMC to the Vance Road Building originally, nor of the distribution of records among the drawers of the 41 file cabinets referenced by Dr. Mancuso, it is irrelevant to describe the number of cabinets now occupied by ORHMC records or the total number of individual records in cabinets as any measure or estimate of the original number of cabinets or records or of the 41 cabinets identified in 1977.
- d. These series of ORHMC records are not, and probably never were, sufficiently complete to be used in an epidemiologic study of Oak

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Ridge plant workers. It cannot be assumed that the ORHMC patient population is representative of all workers at the Oak Ridge plants, e.g., it is unlikely that all Oak Ridge plant workers hospitalized between 1952 and 1961 were hospitalized in the Oak Ridge Hospital; it is possible that the more seriously ill workers were treated in remote referral centers.

- e. Based on an evaluation of the demographics of the Oak Ridge area population over the years (Flanders et al 1985), it is our opinion that Dr. Mancuso's contention that Oak Ridge workers could be compared to the Oak Ridge general population is invalid, as the labor force in the Oak Ridge plants in the 1940s and 1950s was composed primarily of people who also lived in Oak Ridge so the workers would be compared with themselves. Also, the characteristics of Oak Ridge residents who did not work at the plant are likely to be quite different from those of plant employees.
- f. The records from which the HMS data base is derived are included in DOE's Systems of Records Nos. 33, 35, 36; the DOE Records Systems do not include ORHMC medical records.

SAF:jj

Attachments: As stated

1023931

Attachment 1.

COO-3428-H

See pg. 19.

STUDY OF THE LIFETIME HEALTH  
AND MORTALITY EXPERIENCE OF  
EMPLOYEES OF ERDA CONTRACTORS

July 31, 1977

FINAL REPORT (13)

Thomas F. Mancuso, M. D.

Department of Industrial Environmental  
Health Sciences  
Graduate School of Public Health  
University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15261

August 1, 1976 - July 31, 1977

Prepared for  
The United States Energy Research and  
Development Administration

Under Contract No. EY-76-S-02-3428.\*000

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DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE DATA

There are 10 file cabinets containing death envelopes with certificates that have been coded.

The death certificates on hand and coded include:

Oak Ridge	Approx.	15,000
Hanford	"	7,000
Mound	"	500
Mallinckrodt	"	400

1 Storage cabinet containing copies of all printouts that were mailed to the states requesting death certificates; and all code sheets for death certificates received.

1 File containing death cards in reverse social security number sequence for all death certificates received.

1 File containing death cards in alphabetical sequence for all deaths reported by Social Security Administration.

2 Boxes containing death cards for the Oak Ridge population reported by SSA for whom no death certificates have been received.

1 Box containing death cards of Mound, Hanford, National Lead and Mallinckrodt for whom no death certificates have been received.

2 Boxes of cards containing all county seats, in state order, with zip codes.

6 Boxes of cards containing hospital codes from a 1968 tape from the American Hospital Association.

2 Each of personnel printouts of Hanford and Oak Ridge employees, one in alphabetical sequence and one in numerical sequence.

2 File cabinets containing general correspondence regarding the study.

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7 File cabinets containing the following:  
Personnel data sheets prepared on site at the following  
installations:

- Mallinckrodt
- National Lead
- Mound Lab
- Sam Lab

Incomplete data sheets prepared from random sources for  
other installations of interest to the study.  
Material brought from Weldon Spring containing various  
daily work records concerning that operation.

41 File cabinets containing Oak Ridge Hospital medical  
files dating from December 1952 through June 1961.

22 File cabinets containing Mallinckrodt medical  
records and others related material from the ERDA (St. Louis)  
record center.

14 File cabinets containing DuPont (Hanford) Medical  
records and other related material, and twenty-one boxes  
of x-rays, from their Wilmington, Delaware Storage center.

16 File cabinets containing retired PSQ's from (ERDA)  
NYO and Washington Headquarters.

2 Printouts of early employees of the Manhattan  
Engineer District, compiled from ERDA files; one in alpha.  
sequence and one by Contractor.

2 File drawers of retired material from HASL, NYO,  
relating to plants of interest to the study.

2 File cabinets of alpha. cards from Oak Ridge Hospital  
for patients whose files were destroyed in a fire at the  
hospital.

IN DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. LUSHBAUGH, MAY 4, IT WAS AGREED THAT HE WOULD ASK JOHN CROCKETT TO PURSUE THE REMOVAL OF THE CURRENT HOSPITAL RECORDS WITH THE OAK RIDGE HOSPITAL. HE MAY NEED THESE MEMOS. \* . IF HE DOES ME ALSO, /ME SHOULD KNOW THAT I TOLD MRS. NELL IN Wx JANUARY THAT THEY COULD NOT CONTINUE TO BE STORED HERE BECAUSE WE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HOSPITAL RECORDS. SHE DIDN'T THINK THEY HAD ROOM TO STORE THEM. I MUMBLED SYMPATHY BUT STILL INDICATED THAT WE COULD NOT CONTINUE TO STORE THEM. SHE SAID SHE WOULD CHECK WITH HER BOSS AND CALL ME BACK. WE HAVE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THE REMOVAL OF THE CURRENT FILES ALTHOUGH PEOPLE FROM THE RECORD ROOM (I ASSUME) CONTINUE TO COME TO THE FILES AND TAKE OUT RECORDS.

*This is thought  
to be a memo  
from Mrs Tompkins  
to S Wood, year  
not known, GAF  
(probably 1978.)*

\* Attachments 3-4 were attached

MEMORANDUM

TO Mrs. Tompkins, Dr. Goldberg FROM Carolyn Yesser  
DATE October 21, 1977 COPIES TO Files  
SUBJECT DESTROYING HOSPITAL RECORDS

Mrs. Nell from the Oak Ridge Hospital examined ORAU files containing the Oak Ridge Hospital records. Approval was given for destroying hospital records as follows:

O C 21 5/  
11 D  
A E (1957)  
B Both cabinets of index cards - 2

The following records are to be retained:

F H 14  
G J

After the indicated records are destroyed, Mrs. Nell is to be contacted at 482-2441, ext. 127, at which time she will return and inspect the remaining records. Mrs. Nell requested that the remaining records be stored here by ORAU if at all possible.

Hand written  
Figures believed  
written by Ms. Tompkins  
27 + 14 = 41.  
mm

## MEMORANDUM

TO Mrs. Tompkins, Dr. Godbold FROM Carolyn Vassar  
 DATE October 21, 1977 COPIES TO Files  
 SUBJECT DESTROYING HOSPITAL RECORDS

Mrs. Nell from the Oak Ridge Hospital examined ORAU files containing the Oak Ridge Hospital records. Approval was given for destroying hospital records as follows:

O	C
11	D
A	E (1957)
B	Both cabinets of index cards

The following records are to be retained:

F	H
G	J

After the indicated records are destroyed, Mrs. Nell is to be contacted at 482-2441, ext. 127, at which time she will return and inspect the remaining records. Mrs. Nell requested that the remaining records be stored here by ORAU if at all possible.

10/24 Talked to John Crockett about destroying records. He said first to check & see if hospital incinerator was available; if not, use our personnel on our shredder to destroy them. On talking to Carolyn, she said Mrs. Nell said their previous experience indicated that unshredded records did not burn well. I talked to Rich B. <sup>Buttani</sup> in computer center about using their shredder. Carolyn is to estimate the magnitude of the job and then we will decide on the best means to shred them.

JG  
 Jim Godbold  
 ORAU

9/9

Oak Ridge  
Associated  
Universities

125 West Tennessee Avenue  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830  
Telephone: 615-383-8111

Medical and  
Health Sciences  
Division

August 10, 1978

Mr. Ralph Lillard  
Oak Ridge Hospital of the  
Methodist Church  
125 West Tennessee Avenue  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Mr. Lillard:

This is confirming our telephone conversation of August 10, 1978, requesting that the file cabinets containing Oak Ridge Hospital medical records be picked up from the Medical and Health Sciences Division, Tyrone Road building. There are 26 file cabinets of records, of which 11 cabinets contain records which we were previously told could not legally be destroyed. If we do not hear from you by August 24, 1978, we will proceed with the destruction of all of these records.

Sincerely yours,

John T. Crockett, Jr.  
Administrative Officer

JTC:sw

1023938

## Oak Ridge Associated Universities

## MEMORANDUM

TO Evelyn Hill, Oak Ridge Hospital FROM Donna L. Cragle, Ph.D., Epidemiologist  
 DATE 10/8/81 COPIES TO ERF/File  
 SUBJECT INVENTORY LIST OF FILES AT EPIDEMIOLOGIC RESEARCH CENTER

The following is an inventory list of the files found at the Center for Epidemiologic Research. We recorded the first chart number in each drawer and we assume that all charts in between are available. Please call me at 576-2866 if I can help you again.

C7249	F 518	H 498	
C7795	F1090	H1027	
C8342	F1601	H1511	
C8906	F2177	H1966	
	F2693	H2353	
D 345	F3166	H2755	
D 971	F3658	H3185	
D1594	F4242	H3745	
D2159	F4780	H4168	
D2771	F5244	H4594	
D3255	F5760	H5143	
D3793		H5599	
D4369	G 52	H6053	
D4895	G2308	H6587	
D5461	G2792	H7013	
D6505	G3346	H7399	
D6966	G3773	H7763	
D7500	G4016	H8228	
D8135	G4482	J 339	
D8698	G5062	J 375	
	G5599	J 851	J7028
E3204	G6114	J1372	J7479
E3655	G6554	J1864	J7859
E4201	G6973	J2345	
E4457	G7435	J2841	
E5079	G7926	J3749	
E5681	G8360	J4190	
E6199		J4643	
E6788		J5096	
E7324		J5551	
E7932		J6075	
E8373		J6522	

DC:jb

1023939



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TO: Lynda McLaren FROM: Dr. Donna Cragle *DLC*  
DATE: April 17, 1992 COPIES: Distribution, ERF,  
Files  
SUBJECT: HOSPITAL RECORDS FROM METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER IN OAK  
RIDGE (MMCOR)

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This memo is to follow on the previous documentation of this record set prepared by Dr. Shirley Fry (memo to Philip Kannan dated November 25, 1985).

Discussions regarding the MMCOR hospital records were resumed in January of 1990 when the Center for Epidemiologic Research (CER) was interested in accessing the medical records to see if charts for 6 persons known to have died from lung cancer were in the record set. MMCOR had reviewed and approved the lung cancer study protocol allowing CER personnel to access the medical records.

CER was still eager to return the medical records to MMCOR because storage space in our facility was becoming more scarce.

A decision was reached to allow CER personnel to microfilm the entire record set and provide the only copy of the microfilm to MMCOR. After the microfilm is verified legible, the cabinets of records are picked up by MMCOR contractors and destroyed. To date approximately 15 of the 18 file cabinets of records have been filmed. The procedure for microfilming is outlined on page 2 of the February 2, 1990, letter from Shirley Fry to Alta Whisnant (attached).

DLC:jth

Distribution: Dr. S. Fry  
D. Hagengruber  
T. Thomas

 Oak Ridge  
Associated Universities Post Office Box 117  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-0117

Medical  
Sciences  
Division

January 4, 1990

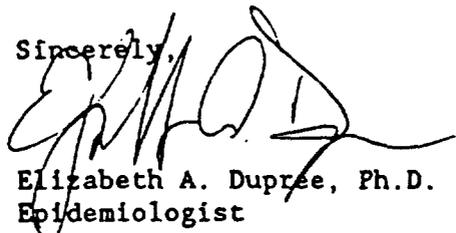
Ms. Alta Whisnant  
Director, Medical Records  
Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge  
990 Oak Ridge Turnpike  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Ms. Whisnant:

Following up on a conversation that you had with Susan Ball last week, I have enclosed the inventory of old Oak Ridge Hospital records for persons who were patients in your institution that are being stored in banded filing cabinets at Oak Ridge Associated Universities' Center for Epidemiologic Research. This inventory was done by noting the number on the first and last folder within each file drawer. No effort was made to identify the other folder numbers that are included in the drawer. As you can see from the miscellaneous comments that appear on the inventory, we cannot guarantee that all folders are present within the range of numbers listed for each drawer. The lack of a comment for a given drawer does not indicate that the records in that drawer are in better or worse order than those drawers for which there are comments.

If you have any questions regarding the inventory or the hospital records to which it refers please contact me at 576-3528.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth A. Dupree, Ph.D.  
Epidemiologist

EAD:sp

Enclosure

1023941

INVENTORY OF HOSPITAL RECORDS  
LOCATED IN ROOMS 124 and 129  
NOVEMBER 1985

Drawer #	Years of Admission	First Folder #	Date	Last Folder #	Date	Miscellaneous Comments
1) C-7249	1955	C-7249	04/15/55	C-7788	05/06/55	
2) C-7795	1955	C-7795	05/06/55	C-8852	06/19/55	
3) C-8342	1955	C-8342	05/28/55	C-8903	06/21/55	
4) C-8906	1955	C-8906	06/21/55	D-343	07/18/55	
5) D-345	1955	D-345	07/18/55	D-968	08/12/55	
<hr/>						
1) D-971	1955	D-970	08/12/55	D-1591	09/09/55	
2) D-1594	1955	D-1599	09/09/55	D-2153	10/04/55	
3) D-2159	1955	D-2159	10/05/55	D-2768	10/30/55	
4) D-2771	1955	D-2771	10/30/55	D-3254	11/20/55	
5) D-3255	1955	D-3255	11/20/55	D-3727	12/10/55	
<hr/>						
1) D-3793	1955-56	D-4058	12/24/55	D-4367	01/05/56	
2) D-4369	1955-56	D-4369	01/05/56	D-4885	01/26/56	
3) D-4895	1955-56	D-4895	01/26/56	D-5458	02/17/56	
4) D-5461	1956	D-5961	02/17/56	D-5986	03/08/56	
NO LABEL		D-5989	03/08/56	D-6502	03/28/56	
<hr/>						
1) D-6505	1956	D-6507	03/28/56	D-6964	04/17/56	
2) D-6966	1956	D-6967	04/17/56	D-7493	05/08/56	
3) D-7500	1956	D-7500	05/08/56	D-8132	06/05/56	
4) D-8135	1956	D-8135	06/05/56	D-8694	06/28/56	
5) D-8698	1956	D-8698	06/28/56	E-554	07/22/56	
<hr/>						
1) E-3204	1956	E-3204	11/04/56	E-3651	11/23/56	
2) E-3655	1956	E-3655	11/23/56	E-4198	12/18/56	
3) E-4201	1956	E-4201	12/18/56	E-4456	12/31/56	
4) NO LABEL	---	---	---	---	---	3/4 + mixed forms log books, and loose register sheets
5) NO LABEL	---	---	---	---	---	
<hr/>						
1) E-4457	1957	E-4457	01/01/57	E-5076	01/25/57	
2) E-5079	1957	E-5079	01/25/57	E-5680	02/18/57	
3) E-5681	1957	E-5681	02/18/57	E-6197	03/08/57	
4) E-6199	1957	E-6199	03/08/57	E-6786	03/30/57	
5) E-6788	1957	E-6788	03/30/57	E-7321	04/22/57	
<hr/>						
1) E-7324	1957	E-7328	04/22/57	E-7931	05/17/57	
2) E-7932	1957	012180	04/15/51	012865	04/15/51	Out of sequence & wrong year
3) E-8373	1957	E-8495	06/10/57	E-8986	06/30/57	
4) NO LABEL	1957	F-1	07/01/57	F-518	07/23/57	Ex. of out of sequence/not 500 in drawer
5) F-518	1957	F-518	07/23/57	F-1089	08/14/57	

1023942

VENTORY OF HOSPITAL RECORDS  
LOCATED IN ROOMS 124 and 129  
NOVEMBER 1985

Drawer #	Years of Admission	First Folder #	Date	Last Folder #	Date	Miscellaneous Comments
1) F-1090	1957	F-1090	08/14/57	F-1600	09/05/57	
2) F-1601	1957	F-1601	09/05/57	F-2175	09/30/57	Not all in proper sequence
3) F-2177	1957	F-2177	09/30/57	F-2961	10/23/57	
4) F-2693	1957	F-2693	10/23/57	F-3165	11/11/57	
5) F-3166	1957	F-3652	11/11/57	F-3652	12/03/57	
<hr/>						
1) F-3658	1957	F-3658	12/04/57	F-4240	12/30/57	
2) F-4242	1957-58	F-4242	12/30/57	F-4773	01/21/58	Not all in sequence
3) F-4780	1958	F-4780	01/21/58	F-5243	02/10/58	
4) F-5244	1958	F-5244	02/10/58	F-5759	03/03/58	
5) F-5760	1958	F-5260	03/03/58	F-6240	03/24/58	
<hr/>						
1) G-52	1958	G-15	07/01/58	G-524	07/26/58	
2) G-2308	1958	G-2308	10/15/58	G-2786	11/07/58	
3) G-2792	1958	G-2792	11/07/58	G-3342	12/02/58	
4) G-3346	1958	G-3346	12/02/58	G-3771	12/22/58	
5) G-3773	1958	G-3928	12/29/58	G-4012	12/31/58	<1/2 drawer + 1/2 drawer missing
<hr/>						
1) G-4016	1959	G-4016	01/01/59	G-4478	01/20/59	
2) G-4482	1959	G-4481	01/20/59	G-5061	02/12/59	
3) G-5062	1959	G-5062	02/12/59	G-5595	03/04/59	
4) G-5599	1959	G-5598	03/04/59	G-6108	03/25/59	
5) G-6114	1959	G-6114	03/25/59	G-6553	04/11/59	
<hr/>						
1) G-6554	1958	F-6693	04/10/58	F-8685	07/30/58	All drawers are grossly mixed up (fewer than 20 folders) (considerable spread) Determined 1st and last folder No attempt to arrange folders "
2) G-6973	1958	F-6548	04/04/58	F-8547	06/24/58	
		G-1937	09/30/58	G-7624	05/29/59	
3) G-7435	1958	F-6625	04/07/58	G-6786	04/14/58	
		G-1593	09/14/58	G-7426	05/20/59	
4) G-7926	1959	F-8054	06/04/58	F-8531	06/23/58	
		G-1513	09/10/58	G-1841	09/25/58	
5) G-8360	1959	F-6788	04/14/58	F-8709	06/30/58	
		G-9	07/01/58	G-51	07/03/58	
<hr/>						
1) H-498	1959	H-498	07/21/59	H-1026	08/12/59	
2) H-1027	1959	H-1027	08/12/59	H-1501	08/31/59	
3) H-1511	1959	H-1511	08/31/59	H-1965	09/20/59	
4) H-1966	1959	H-1966	09/20/59	H-2350	10/06/59	
5) H-2353	1959	H-2353	10/06/59	H-2708	10/23/59	

1023943

INVENTORY OF HOSPITAL RECORDS  
 STORED IN ROOMS 124 and 129  
 NOVEMBER 1985

Drawer #	Years of Admission	First Folder #	Date	Last Folder #	Date	Miscellaneous Comments	
1)	H-2755	1959	H-2755	10/24/59	H-3175	11/10/59	
2)	H-3185	1959	H-3185	11/11/59	H-3741	12/05/59	
3)	H-3745	1959	H-3745	12/05/59	H-4167	12/26/59	
4)	H-4168	1959-60	H-4168	12/27/59	H-4593	01/14/60	
5)	H-4594	1960	H-4594	01/04/60	H-5141	02/06/60	
<hr/>							
1)	H-5143	1960	H-5143	02/06/60	H-5592	02/26/60	
2)	H-5599	1960	H-5599	02/27/60	H-6052	03/22/60	
3)	H-6053	1960	H-6053	03/22/60	H-6885	04/14/60	
4)	H-6587	1960	H-6583	04/13/60	H-7008	05/03/60	
5)	H-7013	1960	H-7013	05/03/60	H-7398	05/22/60	
<hr/>							
1)	H-7399	1960	H-7399	05/22/60	H-7761	06/07/60	
2)	H-7763	1960	H-7763	06/07/60	H-8225	06/29/60	
3)	H-8228	1960	H-8228	06/29/60	J-367	07/18/60	
4)	J-375	1960	J-375	07/19/60	J-849	08/10/60	Did not find J-3339
5)	J-851	1960	J-851	08/10/60	J-1365	09/04/60	
<hr/>							
1)	J-1372	1960	J-1372	09/05/60	J-1861	09/26/60	
2)	J-1864	1960	J-1864	09/26/60	J-2337	10/18/60	
3)	J-2345	1960	J-2343	10/18/60	J-2835	11/10/60	
4)	J-2841	1960	J-2841	11/11/60	J-3338	12/03/60	
5)	J-3739	1960	J-3339	12/03/60	J-3747	12/22/60	
<hr/>							
1)	J-3749	1960-61	J-3749	12/23/60	J-4185	01/13/61	
2)	J-4190	1960-61	J-4190	01/13/61	J-4642	01/30/61	
3)	J-4643	1960	J-4643	01/30/61	J-5095	02/18/61	
4)	J-5096	1961	J-5996	02/18/61	J-5547	03/13/61	
5)	J-5551	1961	J-5551	03/13/61	J-6068	04/05/61	
<hr/>							
1)	J-6075	1961	J-6073	04/05/61	J-6520	04/24/61	
2)	J-6522	1961	J-6522	04/24/61	J-7926	05/16/61	Out of sequence ??
3)	J-7028	1961	J-7028	05/16/61	J-7478	06/05/61	
4)	J-7479	1961	J-7485	06/05/61	J-7858	06/21/61	
5)	J-7859	1961	J-7859	06/21/61	J-8068	06/30/61	
<hr/>							
1)	NO LABEL	1951	018627	12/20/51	018831	12/30/51	
			119502	07/06/49	119597	07/14/49	
2)	NO LABEL	1951	018238	12/01/51	018626	12/20/51	
			119493	07/06/49	119500	07/06/49	
3)	NO LABEL	1951					1/2 drawer folders; other misc.
4)	NO LABEL	1951					Miscellaneous papers not in folders

1023944





Oak Ridge  
Associated Universities Post Office Box 117  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-0117

Medical  
Sciences  
Division

February 2, 1990

Alta Whisnant  
Director, Medical Records  
Methodist Medical Center  
990 Oak Ridge Turnpike  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

RE: Methodist Medical Center (MMC) Patient Records Stored at Oak Ridge  
Associated Universities

Dear Ms. Whisnant:

This follows on the letter to you from Elizabeth Dupree dated January 4, 1990, on the above topic, and addresses two issues: (1) retrieval of diagnostic information for selected MMC patients for epidemiological research purposes from MMC's records stored at Oak Ridge Associated Universities' Center for Epidemiologic Research (CER), and (2) the disposition of the stored records.

As you have been informed previously, under its contract with Department of Energy (DOE), CER is conducting an epidemiologic study of lung cancer deaths among workers at the Oak Ridge Y-12 plant and two other DOE contractor facilities. This study requires access to medical record data so as to verify that the certified deaths identified as being due to lung cancer, involved the lung as the primary cancer site, and to identify where possible, the histologic cancer type. We understand that the medical records for six study participants may be contained among 5 of the 18 sealed file cabinets of MMC patient records currently stored in the CER vault. These records are inaccessible to MMC, or without MMC approval, to ORAU/CER. The cabinets also are occupying valuable space in the CER vault that we badly need to store our own records.

In order to resolve this impasse and to preserve the records in an efficient manner and an accessible form to meet MMC's and any future research needs, we propose that (ORAU/CER) be granted access to all 18 file cabinets for the purpose of microfilming all documents in each cabinet. The completed microfilm will be provided to MMC, at which time MMC will authorize removal of the files from the CER vault for disposition at MMC's discretion. With CER's present study protocol already accepted by MMC, MMC could provide the data needed by CER on the six study subjects from the original or microfilmed records.

Before beginning the microfilming, MMC and CER staff would agree to a written protocol to be used for this project. Since existing CER personnel will be used to complete this project, a projected completion date cannot be determined until the project is in progress. Suggested elements to be included in this protocol are the following:

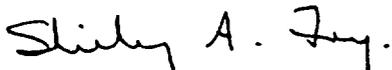
1023946

1. CER staff agrees to arrange all the medical records in the filing cabinets in sequential chart number order.
2. CER staff will maintain the continuity of each record during the microfilming process; e.g. film both sides of two sided pages, remove staples, and separate overlapping laboratory reports, etc.
3. ORAU/CER will bear the cost of microfilming the records including personnel, equipment, and materials costs.
4. The processed microfilm will be audited to assure that the film can be read, the records were properly positioned and focused, and correctly exposed; but NOT to complete a record-for-record comparison of the microfilmed records to the hard copy records.
5. CER will provide the sole copy of the microfilm to MMC upon project completion.
6. MMC will maintain the microfilm as a potential source of data for new studies of DOE workers that CER may propose, contingent on protocols that are acceptable to MMC.
7. CER and MMC will agree on the procedure to be used in the removal of MMC's hard copy medical records from CER upon satisfactory completion of microfilming.

It is our understanding that the remainder of this MMC medical record data set still exists in the same format as the above mentioned records and is in storage at your facility. If consideration is ever given to disposing of these records, we would like to be informed before any such decision is made, so that we could consider making a similar offer to microfilm the records prior to their disposition.

We look forward to working with you on this project and await your reply to our offer. If you have any questions, please contact me at 576-3115.

Sincerely,



Shirley A. Fry, M.B., B.Ch., M.P.H.  
Director  
Center for Epidemiologic Research

SAF:BAD:jtg

1023947



Oak Ridge  
Associated Universities Post Office Box 117  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-0117

Medical  
Sciences  
Division

June 4, 1990

Alta Whisnant  
Director, Medical Records  
Methodist Medical Center  
990 Oak Ridge Turnpike  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Ms. Whisnant:

RE: Methodist Medical Center (MMC) Patient Records Stored at Oak Ridge  
Associated Universities' Center for Epidemiologic Research (ORAU/CER)

As discussed in our recent phone conversation, the Epidemiology Support Section staff at Oak Ridge Associated Universities' Center for Epidemiologic Research are ready to begin the microfilm project of the old Oak Ridge Hospital medical records stored at CER. You will find enclosed a copy of a previous letter to you dated February 2, 1990 outlining the protocol to be used for this project as well as a copy of the instructions that will be followed by the CER staff to complete this project.

We will continue to work closely with you throughout this project. If you have any questions regarding the procedures for this project please contact me at 576-3521 or 576-3115.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan C. Ball".

Susan C. Ball, B.S., A.R.T., C.T.R.  
Research Associate

SCB:sp

Enclosures

cc: Dr. E. Dupree  
Dr. D. Cragle  
C. Murphy

1023948

April 9, 1990

Mr. George Matthews  
Administrator  
Methodist Medical Center  
990 Oak Ridge Turnpike  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Mr. Matthews:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 1990, in which you indicated The Methodist Medical Center's (MMC) acceptance of our proposal for management and retrieval of MMC patient medical records currently stored at the Center for Epidemiologic Research.

We will proceed with this work as previously described by us and specified in your letter referenced above. Requests by us to access the records for any future research purposes will be accompanied by a study-specific protocol.

We appreciate the MMC's collaboration in this effort which promises to be mutually beneficial and look forward to working with Ms. Alta Whisnant to develop the necessary working agreements.

Yours sincerely,



Shirley A. Fry, M.B., B.Ch., M.P.H.  
Director  
Center for Epidemiologic Research

SAF:jtg

cc: S. Ball, B.A., A.R.T., C.T.R.  
W. W. Burr, Jr., Ph.D., M.D.  
D. Cragle, Ph.D.  
E. A. Dupree, Ph.D.  
D. Hagengruber, Esq.  
B. Ryan

1023949

SEP 12 1990

received 9/11/90 SOS

cc: B. Dugan  
Dr. Fry ✓  
ERF  
files

METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER  
P.O. BOX 2529  
OAK RIDGE, TN 37830

JULY 25, 1990

✓  
file OR Hospital  
file

Susan Ball, B.S., A.R.T., C.T.R.  
Research Associates  
O.R. Associated Universities  
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-0117

Dear Mrs. Ball:

As discussed at the meeting Mr. Mathews and I attended at your business, the hospital will take the responsibility of destroying the medical records after you microfilm them.

We will have Coordinated Hospital Services (CHS) pick up the records and destroy them for us. They are the company we use to do our microfilming and to destroy our records. If you will notify me about two weeks before you are totally through with the records, I will schedule the pick up with CHS.

Also the hospital will take the green file cabinets back. Our maintenance department will pick those up after CHS removes the records.

If you have any more questions or if the hospital needs to address any other issues, please call me at 481-1127.

Sincerely,

*Alta Whisnant, RRA*

Alta Whisnant, RRA

1023950

# ORISE

AUG 27 1992

OAK RIDGE INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

---

To: Dr. Donna Cragle                      From: Carolyn Murphy <sup>CM</sup>  
Date: August 27, 1992                      Copies To: Dr. Elizabeth Dupree,  
ERF, Files  
Subject: MICROFILMING OF OAK RIDGE HOSPITAL RECORDS - ESTIMATED  
COMPLETION DATE

---

Several months ago, an agreement between CER and Oak Ridge Hospital originated regarding the Oak Ridge Hospital hard copy records located at CER. The plan was to microfilm these records and provide Oak Ridge Hospital with the microfilm and the cabinets filled with the hard copy records. Part of the records were picked up by the hospital as a result of that agreement.

Microfilming of the Oak Ridge Hospital records contained in eleven file cabinets (all that remain at CER of those originally collected by Mancuso) has continued and is now reaching completion. The microfilming, processing of the microfilm, and quality checks of the microfilm will be completed by September 8, 1992. At that time, CER will have completed it's part of the agreement and Oak Ridge Hospital will be able to pick up the records and the microfilm.

CM:tn

1023951

ORISE copy

1UG 28 1992

**ORISE**  
OAK RIDGE INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

MEDICAL SCIENCES DIVISION

August 28, 1992

Ms. Alta Whisnant  
Director, Medical Records  
Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge  
990 Oak Ridge Turnpike  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

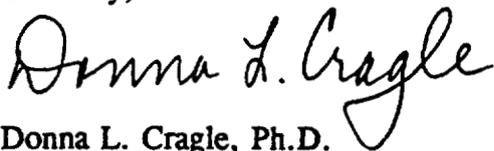
Dear Ms. Whisnant:

I have been informed that the project to microfilm the Oak Ridge Hospital medical records housed at the Center for Epidemiologic Research (CER) for many years will be completed in early September. We are eager to have the Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge (MMCOR) remove them from our facility as was discussed and agreed upon in writing in 1990 (5 letters enclosed).

Please make arrangements to remove these records from CER on or before October 14, 1992. We are in the process of rearranging our vault areas in anticipation of record storage needs for a medical surveillance program for beryllium workers and the space that is occupied by the MMCOR records is needed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I will expect to hear from you soon regarding the date and time you will remove these records from our facility.

Sincerely,



Donna L. Cragle, Ph.D.  
Director  
Center for Epidemiologic Research

DLC:jth  
Enclosures: As stated

cc: Dr. G. Davis  
Dr. J. Drewry  
Dr. B. Dupree  
Dr. S. Fry  
D. Hagengruber  
G. Matthews (MMCOR)  
B. Ryan

1023952

P. O. BOX 117, OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37831-0117

Managed and operated by Oak Ridge Associated Universities for the U.S. Department of Energy

**ORAU** Oak Ridge  
Associated Universities Post Office Box 117  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-0117

Medical  
Sciences  
Division

January 4, 1990

Ms. Alta Whisnant  
Director, Medical Records  
Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge  
990 Oak Ridge Turnpike  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Ms. Whisnant:

Following up on a conversation that you had with Susan Ball last week, I have enclosed the inventory of old Oak Ridge Hospital records for persons who were patients in your institution that are being stored in banded filing cabinets at Oak Ridge Associated Universities' Center for Epidemiologic Research. This inventory was done by noting the number on the first and last folder within each file drawer. No effort was made to identify the other folder numbers that are included in the drawer. As you can see from the miscellaneous comments that appear on the inventory, we cannot guarantee that all folders are present within the range of numbers listed for each drawer. The lack of a comment for a given drawer does not indicate that the records in that drawer are in better or worse order than those drawers for which there are comments.

If you have any questions regarding the inventory or the hospital records to which it refers please contact me at 576-3528.

Sincerely,  
  
Elizabeth A. Dupree, Ph.D.  
Epidemiologist

EAD:sp

Enclosure



Oak Ridge  
Associated Universities Post Office Box 117  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-0117

Medical  
Sciences  
Division

February 2, 1990

Alta Whisnant  
Director, Medical Records  
Methodist Medical Center  
990 Oak Ridge Turnpike  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

RE: Methodist Medical Center (MMC) Patient Records Stored at Oak Ridge  
Associated Universities

Dear Ms. Whisnant:

This follows on the letter to you from Elizabeth Dupree dated January 4, 1990, on the above topic, and addresses two issues: (1) retrieval of diagnostic information for selected MMC patients for epidemiological research purposes from MMC's records stored at Oak Ridge Associated Universities' Center for Epidemiologic Research (CER), and (2) the disposition of the stored records.

As you have been informed previously, under its contract with Department of Energy (DOE), CER is conducting an epidemiologic study of lung cancer deaths among workers at the Oak Ridge Y-12 plant and two other DOE contractor facilities. This study requires access to medical record data so as to verify that the certified deaths identified as being due to lung cancer, involved the lung as the primary cancer site, and to identify where possible, the histologic cancer type. We understand that the medical records for six study participants may be contained among 5 of the 18 sealed file cabinets of MMC patient records currently stored in the CER vault. These records are inaccessible to MMC, or without MMC approval, to ORAU/CER. The cabinets also are occupying valuable space in the CER vault that we badly need to store our own records.

In order to resolve this impasse and to preserve the records in an efficient manner and an accessible form to meet MMC's and any future research needs, we propose that (ORAU/CER) be granted access to all 18 file cabinets for the purpose of microfilming all documents in each cabinet. The completed microfilm will be provided to MMC, at which time MMC will authorize removal of the files from the CER vault for disposition at MMC's discretion. With CER's present study protocol already accepted by MMC, MMC could provide the data needed by CER on the six study subjects from the original or microfilmed records.

Before beginning the microfilming, MMC and CER staff would agree to a written protocol to be used for this project. Since existing CER personnel will be used to complete this project, a projected completion date cannot be determined until the project is in progress. Suggested elements to be included in this protocol are the following:

1023954

1. CER staff agrees to arrange all the medical records in the filing cabinets in sequential chart number order.
2. CER staff will maintain the continuity of each record during the microfilming process; e.g. film both sides of two sided pages, remove staples, and separate overlapping laboratory reports, etc.
3. ORAU/CER will bear the cost of microfilming the records including personnel, equipment, and materials costs.
4. The processed microfilm will be audited to assure that the film can be read, the records were properly positioned and focused, and correctly exposed; but NOT to complete a record-for-record comparison of the microfilmed records to the hard copy records.
5. CER will provide the sole copy of the microfilm to MMC upon project completion.
6. MMC will maintain the microfilm as a potential source of data for new studies of DOE workers that CER may propose, contingent on protocols that are acceptable to MMC.
7. CER and MMC will agree on the procedure to be used in the removal of MMC's hard copy medical records from CER upon satisfactory completion of microfilming.

It is our understanding that the remainder of this MMC medical record data set still exists in the same format as the above mentioned records and is in storage at your facility. If consideration is ever given to disposing of these records, we would like to be informed before any such decision is made, so that we could consider making a similar offer to microfilm the records prior to their disposition.

We look forward to working with you on this project and await your reply to our offer. If you have any questions, please contact me at 576-3115.

Sincerely,

*Shirley A. Fry.*

Shirley A. Fry, M.B., B.Ch., M.P.H.  
Director  
Center for Epidemiologic Research

SAF:BAD:jtg

1023955

APR 6 1990

Dupree / Bell

**METHODIST  
MEDICAL  
CENTER  
OF OAK RIDGE**

April 4, 1990

President  
Marshall Whisnant  
Executive Vice-President  
Ralph Lillard  
Vice-Presidents  
George Mathews  
Elizabeth Cantwell  
Richard Stooksbury

Shirley A. Fry, M.B., B.Ch., M.P.H.  
Director  
Center for Epidemiologic Research  
Oak Ridge Associated Universities  
Post Office Box 117  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-0117

Re: Methodist Medical Center Patient Records Storage at Oak Ridge  
Associated Universities.

Dear Dr. Fry:

The Methodist Medical Center accepts the proposal outlined in your letter of February 2, 1990 for management and retrieval of medical center patient medical records stored at the Center for Epidemiologic Research.

Specifically, we grant to your staff access to the records for the purpose of microfilming all documents in each cabinet. The completed microfilm, an index listing of the records filmed, and the original records will be returned to the medical center. The medical center will dispose of the original records, using the same protocol we use for other medical records which have been microfilmed.

The medical center will maintain the microfilm records in its active film storage facility.

Access to those records needed for your research purposes will be made available by having medical center participation in the study approved by our Institutional Review Committee.

Please have your staff work directly with Alta Whisnant to develop working agreements needed to make the information available and to satisfactorily complete this project.

Sincerely,



George Mathews  
Administrator

cc: Ralph Lillard  
Alta Whisnant

1023956

April 9, 1990

Mr. George Matthews  
Administrator  
Methodist Medical Center  
990 Oak Ridge Turnpike  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Mr. Matthews:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 1990, in which you indicated The Methodist Medical Center's (MMC) acceptance of our proposal for management and retrieval of MMC patient medical records currently stored at the Center for Epidemiologic Research.

We will proceed with this work as previously described by us and specified in your letter referenced above. Requests by us to access the records for any future research purposes will be accompanied by a study-specific protocol.

We appreciate the MMC's collaboration in this effort which promises to be mutually beneficial and look forward to working with Ms. Alta Whisnant to develop the necessary working agreements.

Yours sincerely,



Shirley A. Fry, M.B., B.Ch., M.P.H.  
Director  
Center for Epidemiologic Research

SAF:jtg

cc: S. Ball, B.A., A.R.T., C.T.R.  
W. W. Burr, Jr., Ph.D., M.D.  
D. Cragle, Ph.D.  
E. A. Dupree, Ph.D.  
D. Hagenruber, Esq.  
B. Ryan

1023957

received 9/11/90 SOB

cc: B. Dugan  
Dr. Fry  
ERF  
files

METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER  
P.O. BOX 2529  
OAK RIDGE, TN 37830

JULY 25, 1990

Susan Ball, B.S., A.R.T., C.T.R.  
Research Associates  
O.R. Associated Universities  
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-0117

Dear Mrs. Ball:

As discussed at the meeting Mr. Mathews and I attended at your business, the hospital will take the responsibility of destroying the medical records after you microfilm them.

We will have Coordinated Hospital Services (CHS) pick up the records and destroy them for us. They are the company we use to do our microfilming and to destroy our records. If you will notify me about two weeks before you are totally through with the records, I will schedule the pick up with CHS.

Also the hospital will take the green file cabinets back. Our maintenance department will pick those up after CHS removes the records.

If you have any more questions or if the hospital needs to address any other issues, please call me at 481-1127.

Sincerely,

*Alta Whisnant, RRA*

Alta Whisnant, RRA

1023958





Firefighters and investigators examine the debris of a Highland Avenue house which was gutted in an early morning blaze.

11/20/85

large home, caused minor damage to an Oak Ridge business and led to a 500-square-foot patch greenbelt.

A fire which began under a carport at the residence of Carmichael, 128 Highland Ave., gutted the house and injured Ms. Carmichael.

Firefighters know that the fire was intense enough at 3:25 a.m. to cut off power to the residence; they could only speculate when the fire started.

Oak Ridge police officers Davis, David Beams and Tim Beams, patrolling in a police car passed the home at 3:58 a.m. and saw flames, which had engulfed

(Continued on Page 7 No. 3)

# Says 'Mancuso Project' records intact

By COOKIE SPILLERS

The data base for a continuing series of epidemiological studies of Oak Ridge Associated Universities employees has not been violated in any way, officials of the agency in charge said Tuesday.

Dr. Shirley Fry, director of the Center for Epidemiologic Research at Oak Ridge Associated Universities, said Tuesday that all records related to the "Mancuso Project" are intact and none have been destroyed.

The project, contracted to Dr. Thomas Mancuso by DOE in the 1960s, was designed to study the long-term health effects of low-level radiation exposure of DOE workers. Charges of record destruction were made at a congressional hearing last Wednesday, sending officials of ORAU and Methodist Hospital Center of Oak Ridge (formerly called the Oak Ridge Hospital) into a flurry of investigations.

Conflicting statements from both ORAU and hospital officials and what Dr. Fry called an "apparently erroneous" newspaper story, filed in Washington and published in the Knoxville News-Sentinel Thursday, have added to the five-day tangle of information.

Dr. Fry, says much of the confusion has been caused because there are two sets of records, both of which are housed at the ORAU Center for Epidemiology Research.

She answers the charges this way:

Oak Ridge Hospital ran out of storage space in the mid 1960s and asked ORAU, their neighbor at the time, to house general public patient records for July 1, 1952 through 1961 at ORAU's Tyrone Road offices. These are records that were — and are — owned by Oak Ridge Hospital.

Mancuso, a researcher from the University of Pittsburgh was hired in 1964 to do an epidemiological

study of DOE workers nationwide.

For Mancuso's study, Union Carbide Corporation, DOE's contractor for the three local plants prior to Martin Marietta Energy Systems, computerized plant patient records, which were — and are — owned by DOE.

In spite of a story in the Knoxville News-Sentinel to the contrary, Dr. Fry says Mancuso never used any Oak Ridge Hospital records for his study. He only used DOE records generated in the medical divisions of the three plants.

If Mancuso got any records from the Oak Ridge Hospital, "We can't document it," Dr. Fry says.

Efforts to reach Mancuso have been unsuccessful.

The termination of Mancuso's contract with DOE in 1977 was controversial. DOE claimed Mancuso was slow in publishing his study results. Mancuso charged that DOE feared his study would show unfavourable

(Continued on Page 7 No. 2)



DR. FRY

college study — speaking and listening, math, reasoning, and studying. Students may take DS and college-

the developmental studies teachers. They are very helpful."

at none these cla to class ready at equipme need to Kirkpat. The c do not but they being e they do the stu and suc

"I'm progra a 'win-

"The they're need wins course strong better feelin are a and t the de

• Number 2

## — Health records —

— From Page One

avorable results.

When ORAU was subsequently awarded the contract to continue the study, it also fell heir to the DOE records Mancuso was using.

After gaining the contract, ORAU's epidemiology group grew. Space became tight, and ORAU saw the area occupied by the Oak Ridge Hospital records as a solution to their space problem.

ORAU, says Dr. Fry, went to hospital officials with the space problem. The hospital's response was to destroy some of their older records, a practice that was common at other hospitals at this time.

The hospital identified the 1952-56 records for shredding.

Because the records were at ORAU, the hospital asked ORAU to destroy them. ORAU obliged.

Describing the shredding procedure as "dusty and time-consuming," Dr. Fry says much of the work was done on the weekends.

About this same time, Dr. Fry continues, ORAU hired a new epidemiologist — Anthony Polednik.

"He was a data junkie, as are most epidemiologists," Dr. Fry says and Polednik asked that the shredding be halted as the records might have future research value. The shredding was stopped.

Today, what's left of the hospital's records — part of 1953-1961 — are still housed at ORAU under tight security, as are all of the other ORAU epidemiology records, Dr. Fry says.

"They are still the hospital's records," Dr. Fry says. "They are just stored here. We have looked at them but we have never used them."

These are the records which apparently stirred the interest of legislators and local union officials who were told that information relating to the study was being eradicated with the inference that the data was being destroyed because it was unfavorable to DOE.

But Dr. Fry reiterates that the hospital records are apart and separate from the DOE records Mancuso was using.

When asked about a "coverup" charge made by union officials representing many of the workers involved in the long-term study, Dr. Fry says, "No. I don't know how else to answer that. There was no coverup. The Oak Ridge Hospital records are not the Mancuso records."

According to Dr. Fry and Donna Cragle, ORAU's lead epidemiologist, the data base for the long-term health and mortality study which Mancuso initiated contains information for individual workers beginning the day that the plants opened in 1942.

The information, which has been computerized, contains name, birthdate, sex, race, social security number, hiring date and termination date, exposure history and medical history.

That the information existed in a data base and was undergoing analysis came as a surprise to Atomic Trades and Labor Council members who say they were never notified of the studies.

According to Bob Keil, president of ATLC, one of ATLC's members, Sam Fife, read about the studies in an area newspaper.

Fife was in Washington last week to testify at a House subcommittee concerning the project.

Representing some 4,400 workers, Fife asked the subcommittee to shift control of the studies from DOE to the Department of Health and Human Services, a more objective overseer, Fife says.

In the meantime, Fife has met with ORAU epidemiologists on several occasions, Dr. Fry says. "We're willing to work with the ATLC. We have already."

An upcoming study of chemical operators at the three local plants is being conducted with aid from the ATLC, she says.

A conservative estimate of when the study's results will be ready is "sometime in 1987."

Dr. Fry says that the Epidemiological Center has held briefings with the ATLC and provided them with copies of all of the center's plant-related studies.

1023961

BACKGROUND. Robert Alvarez, Environmental Policy Institute, testified in Washington that he had been given information (unidentified source) indicating that Oak Ridge Hospital records used in the Mancuso study had been destroyed. The Oak Ridger says a charge is being made (by Alvarez?) that 25 percent of the records documenting illnesses from 1952 to 1961 and collected from area hospitals in the late 1970's by Dr. Thomas Mancuso have been destroyed.

SPECIFIC PARAPHRASED QUESTIONS (CUMULATIVE).

The Oak Ridger asks:

1. Are the Oak Ridge Hospital records [used in the Mancuso study] intact?
2. If not, how and why were they destroyed?
3. Did the Oak Ridge Hospital records include data on more than just those who had worked at facilities covered by the Mancuso study?
4. How did ORAU get the records in the first place? And was there a listing by ORAU of what records it had received?

SUGGESTED POINTS TO COMMUNICATE

1. The records which DOE received from Dr. Mancuso and turned over to ORAU are still intact in ORAU files. However, by definition the Mancuso records do not include the Oak Ridge Hospital files in question; to our knowledge Dr. Mancuso never had access to these records nor collected such data from area hospitals.
1023962. The Oak Ridge Hospital records in question were not part of the Mancuso study, have not been, and are not being used for any study. However, they have historical data that one day might prove useful. The files were originally stored by ORAU as a favor to the Oak Ridge Hospital

while it was having space problems. ORAU's Medical Division and the hospital cooperate in a number of programs so the safe storage in a secured area was a favor ORAU provided in its CER facilities when located on Tyrone Road across from the hospital.

3. The Oak Ridge Hospital did in fact request that ORAU pull older files from some of the storage cabinets. But this was in no way related to the Mancuso study. The files are labeled A-Z, with letters corresponding with periods of time. It appears that some older records were destroyed (files A-C) since there was no legal reason to maintain them (seven years storage is required). Later ORAU suggested they might prove useful in a mortality study, so they have been retained with the Oak Ridge Hospital's approval.

MEMORANDUM

TO Mrs. Tompkins, Dr. Godbold FROM Carolyn Vassar *CV*  
DATE October 21, 1977 COPIES TO Files  
SUBJECT DESTROYING HOSPITAL RECORDS

Mrs. Nell from the Oak Ridge Hospital examined ORAU files containing the Oak Ridge Hospital records. Approval was given for destroying hospital records as follows:

O C 27 5)  
11 D  
A E (1957)  
B Both cabinets of index cards - 2

The following records are to be retained:

F H 14  
G J

After the indicated records are destroyed, Mrs. Nell is to be contacted at 482-2441, ext. 127, at which time she will return and inspect the remaining records. Mrs. Nell requested that the remaining records be stored here by ORAU if at all possible.

*hard written figures are thought to be in Mrs. Tompkins' hand. SMF*

*Files O, 11, A, B - some records in C were destroyed. Destruction was halted in C file (see Craple memo 10/8/81 of files/records on hand at CER then - currently)*

*SMF*

1023964

MEMORANDUM

TO Mrs. Tompkins, Dr. Godbold FROM Carolyn Vassar  
DATE October 21, 1977 COPIES TO Files  
SUBJECT DESTROYING HOSPITAL RECORDS

Mrs. Nell from the Oak Ridge Hospital examined ORAU files containing the Oak Ridge Hospital records. Approval was given for destroying hospital records as follows:

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- G J

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*10/24 Talked to John Crockett about destroying records. He said first to check & see if hospital incinerator was available; if not, use our personnel on our shredder to destroy them. On talking to Carolyn, she said Mrs. Nell said their previous experience indicated that unshredded records did not burn well. I talked to Rich B. in computer center about using their shredder. Carolyn is to estimate the magnitude of the job and then we will decide on the best means to shred them.*

*CV*

*1/9*

1023965

SARAH:

*Year?*

IN DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. LUDWIG MAY 4, IT WAS AGREED THAT HE WOULD ASK JOHN CROCKETT TO PURSUE THE REMOVAL OF THE CURRENT HOSPITAL RECORDS WITH THE OAK RIDGE HOSPITAL. HE MAY NEED THESE MEMOS. ALSO, <sup>IF HE DOES MR</sup> HE SHOULD KNOW THAT I TOLD MRS. NELL IN ~~Wx~~ JANUARY THAT THEY COULD NOT CONTINUE TO BE STORED HERE BECAUSE WE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HOSPITAL RECORDS. SHE DIDN'T THINK THEY HAD ROOM TO ~~xxxx~~ STORE THEM. I MUNCLED SYMPATHY BUT STILL INDICATED THAT WE COULD NOT CONTINUE TO STORE THEM. SHE SAID SHE WOULD CHECK WITH HER BOSS AND CALL ME BACK. WE HAVE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THE REMOVAL OF THE CURRENT FILES ALTHOUGH PEOPLE FROM THE RECORD ROOM (I ASSUME) CONTINUE TO COME TO THE FILES AND ~~xxxx~~ TAKE OUT RECORDS.

*This is thought  
to be a memo  
from Miss Tompkins  
to S. Wood, year  
not known. GAF*

1023966

Oak Ridge  
Associated  
Universities

Post Office Box 117  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830  
Telephone 615-483-8411

Medical and  
Health Sciences  
Division

August 10, 1978

Mr. Ralph Lillard  
Oak Ridge Hospital of the  
Methodist Church  
125 West Tennessee Avenue  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Mr. Lillard:

This is confirming our telephone conversation of August 10, 1978, requesting that the file cabinets containing Oak Ridge Hospital medical records be picked up from the Medical and Health Sciences Division, Tyrone Road building. There are 26 file cabinets of records, of which 11 cabinets contain records which we were previously told could not legally be destroyed. If we do not hear from you by August 24, 1978, we will proceed with the destruction of all of these records.

Sincerely yours,

John T. Crockett, Jr.  
Administrative Officer

JTC:sw

1023967

## MEMORANDUM

TO File FROM Sarah *is*

DATE October 31, 1977 COPIES TO \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT DISPOSAL OF HOSPITAL RECORDS

*These are ORAU Hospital records*

Mr. Crockett called today to say that the records will be shredded at ORO. He has talked to Bill Bibb who says to have Bill Perry get in touch with Chief Peter White when we have 15-20 boxes ready to shred. Chief White's phone No. is 8-3-4188. Bill Perry is to park at the back door and Chief White will meet him there. All metal is to be removed from the folders prior to boxing.

*11-21*  
*Later: Mr. Perry called Chief White. Bill Bibb is said not talked to him, and he said he cannot not do that. As of 11-21, the problem is back with Mr. Crockett. We have 20 boxes ready to go.*

*Sarah*

1023968

## MEMORANDUM

TO Evelyn Hill, Oak Ridge Hospital FROM Donna L. Cragle, Ph.D., Epidemiologist  
 DATE 10/8/81 COPIES TO ERF/File  
 SUBJECT INVENTORY LIST OF FILES AT EPIDEMIOLOGIC RESEARCH CENTER

The following is an inventory list of the files found at the Center for Epidemiologic Research. We recorded the first chart number in each drawer and we assume that all charts in between are available. Please call me at 576-2866 if I can help you again.

C7249	4/15/55	F 518	H 498
C7795		F1090	H1027
C8342		F1601	H1511
C8906		F2177	H1966
		F2693	H2353
D 345		F3166	H2755
D 971		F3658	H3185
D1594		F4242	H3745
D2159		F4780	H4168
D2771		F5244	H4594
D3255		F5760	H5143
D3793			H5599
D4369		G 52	H6053
D4895		G2308	H6587
D5461		G2792	H7013
D6505		G3346	H7399
D6966		G3773	H7763
D7500		G4016	H8228
D8135		G4482	J 339
D8698		G5062	J 375
		G5599	J 851
E3204		G6114	J1372
E3655		G6554	J1864
E4201		G6973	J2345
E4457		G7435	J2841
E5079		G7926	J3749
E5681		G8360	J4190
E6199			J4643
E6788			J5096
E7324			J5551
E7932			J6075
E8373			J6522
			J7028
			J7479
			J7859 - J8068
			7/1/81.

DC:jb

1023969

Lack 1970's hospital  
disposal of records

When (1977) OPAU - 41 cabinets  
cabinets of hospital - values - non workers  
Tompkins at that time she determined  
were not useful for epidemiological

Hospital said to OPAU to destroy all  
of which ones to destroy

(52)(53)(54)  
O II ABCD E &  
with cabinets of index files

FGH(I retained (ref. to years)

Shredding proceeded - but not all - stopped in  
middle of C  
Lynchbaugh  
add 65 bp

MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO: Jim

YOU WERE CALLED BY -  YOU WERE VISITED BY -

John Haffey  
OF (Organization)

PLEASE PHONE ►  FTS  AUTOVON

WILL CALL AGAIN -  IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL  WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

*He got one last call from  
the Oak Ridge and they're  
right on ~~schedule~~  
deadline*

RECEIVED BY	DATE	TIME
<i>Debbie</i>	<i>11/18</i>	<i>12:00</i>

63-110 NSN 7540-00-634-4018 STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-81)  
Prescribed by GSA  
\* U.S.G.P.O.: 1984-421-529/411 FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

1023971

6-3150

24

4

---

Edith Tankin  
AE

483-4086 - S Skup

Albani - present  
Hospital records

Pavelson ① Name gotten?  
② What cover  
③ Gen BG - of records

We have

41 files were community wide

21 files left

of 41 but uncertain about  
any consolidation

outgoing records listed them as his  
source documents

1023973

Therrien -

~~Shua~~ ~~Aliherti~~ *former AP Hospital clerk*  
483-5009

Sam Sharp - former AEC/PRO Bio & Med. Branch chief

Mancuso Closeout recalls list  
~~from~~ hayfeel works as "source data"

11/22/85

John Haffey - Bolone

Stored in DAE Room when first  
transferred to Project