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NOTES <i>64 " Proposed Navy Med-Unit</i>	
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December 30, 1955

Ref: BUMEN - 17  
23 Dec, 1955

Dr. Howard T. Karsner,  
Department of the Navy  
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery,  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Doctor Karsner:

Doctor Harper and I have received the memorandum pertaining to the organization of the projected Clinical Investigation Center at the U. S. Naval Hospital in Oakland and we appreciate the opportunity to review the ideas which you and Captain Yarbrough have therein expressed. It is our intention with the aid of your preliminary memorandum to formulate a similar document in a form which we hope will be acceptable to the Navy as well as to the University. Meanwhile, in response to your request for our comments, there are a few suggestions as well as questions we would like to propose at this time.

1. It seems important to define clearly the two areas of jurisdiction which necessarily exist in the cooperative arrangement that is envisioned. It is agreed that the Commanding Officer shall be primarily responsible for the operation of the Center and that in practice he will in all probability delegate immediate direction to a Naval Medical officer of his command. In addition, it is further stated that at least one other medical officer will be assigned to the Center. Thus two medical officer billets are to be created for the Center and these officers will constitute the military authority responsible for direction in all matters pertaining to the functions of command. Such would include supervision of the activities of all military personnel assigned to the Center and, very importantly, provide the essential liaison between the naval professional and administrative staff of the Hospital and the civilian professional staff of the Center. Furthermore, the obtaining of logistic support which is to be provided by the Hospital would be an immediate administrative responsibility of these officers. It is, of course understood that while these duties and responsibilities are their especial concern, it is expected that the Naval Medical Officers will actively participate in the scientific affairs of the Center to the full extent of their training and interests.

The other area of jurisdiction is concerned with the scientific mission of the Center. This mission is to be carried out under the supervision of the University as represented by two Responsible Investigators designated in the contract. Such matters as pertain to the accomplishment of the research tasks of the Center would be under the jurisdiction of the individuals operating in this area of authority. This would include authorization of expenditure of contract funds and the selection, employment, and retention of all civilian personnel authorized for the Center, except those now employed under Civil Service on the staff of the Metabolic Research Facility. Such personnel action would however be subject to the concurrence of the Naval Medical Officer in charge. Other phases of the scientific mission would obviously be concerned with the details of formulation and accomplishment of the research projects approved for the Center as well as their presentation at scientific meetings and for publication.

2. Rather than to place the employment of the various components of the civilian personnel authorized for the Center in a permissive status with re-

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spect to the Medical Officer in charge of the Center, we believe it would be preferable to list these positions as authorized and then to state that the activation of these positions and the nomination of suitable individuals to occupy them is primarily the responsibility of the University authorities subject to the concurrence of the Medical Officer in charge only with respect to the individual nominated. The reason for this suggestion is that it seems that these personnel matters relate directly to the accomplishment of the scientific mission which, as previously pointed out, is interpreted as a function of the University.

3. At various places in your memorandum the source of certain funds referred to is not clear. For example, in paragraph 3, provision is made for expenses which are necessary to provide equipment, supplies, or facilities not available from hospital sources and hence not provided as part of the logistic support previously authorized. This is, of course, a necessary provision. However, must consideration be given to these items in preparing the contract budget requested and to be expended by the University or are these funds to be appropriated to the Naval Hospital separately from the contract?

With respect to the employment of fellows when it is stated that their "salaries and similar expenses would be paid from University funds", does this refer to funds appropriated to the University by the terms of the contract? This question is asked because there is no provision in the University budget for the employment of fellows from University funds. All such individuals are supported by extra-mural grants. Furthermore since the employment of fellows will require budgetary implementation within the contract, it is believed that separate provision for maintenance at the Hospital is not necessary.

4. In reference to the Responsible Investigators will it be necessary to provide for their services within the budget of the contract or will they be carried as Consultants to the Naval Hospital as is now the case?

5. It is expected that academic titles will be recommended for the senior civilian personnel and appropriate Naval officer personnel of the Center as approved by the University.

The questions we have raised are designed to aid us in our efforts to draft a memorandum from the standpoint of the University. We hope that these and our comments may give you some idea as to the direction our memorandum may be expected to take and will act as a basis for your projected discussion of a contract with the Office of Naval Research.

With best wishes of the holiday season, I am

Sincerely yours,

/s/ E. L. Althausen, M. D.  
Professor of Medicine  
Chairman, Department of  
Medicine

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