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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Files

DATE: April 8, 1949

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FROM : Harry Stoeckle, M.D., Chief, Biology and Medicine Division

SUBJECT: NEPA ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RADIATION TOLERANCE OF MILITARY PERSONNEL  
APRIL 3, 1949, WASHINGTON, D. C. (U)

loc: B-13-4  
Unknown Ship  
Randall Beck

REFER TO  
SYMBOL: RMB:MS

The first order of business was to adopt the report entitled "Tabulation of Available Data Relative to Radiation Biology" with the exception of Section IX and with the proviso that dosage rates at Los Alamos were subject to revision. There was then considerable discussion of Section IX, especially as to its phraseology. The intent of this Section was not altered but there were some changes. This Section was then adopted.

Dr. Stone then gave his report of the Committee on Human Experimentation. After discussion, it was agreed that it would be better if this recommendation was printed so that each member would have the opportunity to read what he was recommending. The meeting was then adjourned for lunch.

After lunch there was some more discussion of Dr. Stone's report. The Committee then agreed to recommend to NEPA that human experiments be carried out and that NEPA request the Armed Services to arrange for it. The text, as corrected, of this recommendation is in the files. It should be noted that it was adopted unanimously.

The rest of the meeting was spent in discussing what type of studies the Committee considered desirable to have done in order to help solve NEPA's problem. During this discussion, it was pointed out many times:

That this was a human Engineering problem;

That the small number of people involved would not be likely to effect the genetics of the race although that of the individual may very well be;

That it was necessary to consider the costs of damage to the crew in relation to the importance of the mission;

That psychological factors should not be ignored; etc.

The Chairman pointed out that a detailed program was not the purpose of the discussion, such would be considered at a later meeting; that

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7/12/95  
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MEDICINE, HEALTH & SAFETY 44

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1ST REVIEW DATE: <u>8/7/95</u>	DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S))
AUTHORITY: <input type="checkbox"/> AOC <input type="checkbox"/> ADC <input type="checkbox"/> AOD	1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
NAME: <u>J. D. L...</u>	2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
2ND REVIEW DATE: <u>8/8/95</u>	3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
AUTHORITY: <u>ADP</u>	4. COORDINATE WITH:
NAME: <u>J. D. L...</u>	5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
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now it was desired to more or less set a priority for attacking the problems. The Chairman desired to refer these details to a smaller committee which would report later. This was agreeable to all.

Mr. Simmons of NEPA suggested that useful information could be gained on the effects of neutrons on the body by use of the Monte Carlo method by an approach similar to that used in their shielding problem;--Drs. Failla, Titus Evans, and Robley Evans were to meet with the NEPA people to discuss in greater detail the relation of N to r and related problems.

Dr. Stafford Warren asked if there was any mechanism or if any could be established to accept and assign proposals in order not to lose additional time. He was anxious to see the long-time study on dogs get underway. No conclusions were reached on this point.

In closing, Mr. Ward mentioned, among other things, that NEPA had no desire to repeat any work which was being done or which had been done. He felt that less was being done, in proportion, by AEC on its problems (ie. biological research) than might be done. NEPA's budget was in the millions while the AEC's was in the hundreds of millions. If problems were encountered which had to be done and which were not being done, NEPA was prepared to use its funds to try to solve these problems.

No mention was made on the status of NEPA at Oak Ridge or its overall status. Another meeting is to be called after the meeting of the program sub-committee.

*H. S.*  
Harry Stoeckle, M.D.

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