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Dr. Wright Langham, of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, was the biochemist who performed the Pu analyses of the excreta and other samples obtained from the first Pu-injected person, HP-12. Dr. Langham was at the Metallurgical Laboratory in Chicago at the time. Later he transferred to Los Alamos, and in the early days there received and analysed the samples obtained from the 11 HP series cases studied at Rochester. It was a joint effort and involved many people. Classification (prolonged) and the passage of many years before even classified publication of the findings led to his eventual responsibility for analysis and publication of the results. He is, I believe, distressed by this and other aspects of the study itself--particularly the fact that the injected people in the HP series were unaware that they were the subjects of an experiment. ( I am unsure of the circumstances surrounding the Berkeley and Chicago people, but at least two of the Berkeley cases were given some indication that they were being given some radioactive material.) Dr. Langham has been associated in the minds of many in the radiation protection field with only this one aspect of the subject, and the study itself has been associated with the Los Alamos Laboratory. I believe he grew very weary of attending meetings and conferences at which he was expected to discuss this material over and over again. I also believe that in retrospect he wishes that there had been some other way to obtain the needed relationships between Pu excretion and body burden.

I had a long telephone conversation with Dr. Langham after I returned from Rochester. He was very interested in what I had been able to find, and wants to have some fraction of any excretion samples that can be obtained now sent to the Los Alamos Laboratory for duplicate analysis and comparison with their results on accidentally exposed occupational workers. He said that if such material were available, the Los Alamos group would be interested in participating, but that they did not want to be directly responsible nor in direct contact with whom-ever was actually obtaining samples. He summed up his feelings as follows; "I'll be delighted to hold your coats while you other fellows fight."

Over the years since 1951 when the report of the original findings was issued as LA-1151, no one has suggested follow-up most likely because "that was Wright Langham's study". When I began looking at the excretion data from the individual cases, I wrote to him for help in clearing up some questionable details, and later telephoned him on several occasions. He always encouraged me to go after whatever information I could put together and indicated that he felt someone should undertake the effort. The information to be gained would be of great value, but he did not wish to be responsible for locating it. I think this sums up the matter, although my prose can hardly do justice to what are obviously deeply held doubts about the study itself and to my strong impression that he justifiably resents/<sup>the</sup> pervasive influence on his whole professional life of Pu in general and the human study in particular.

Patricia W. Durbin  
December 10, 1971

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