

[REDACTED]

SECURITY INFORMATION
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ARMED FORCES SPECIAL WEAPONS PROJECT
P. O. BOX 2816
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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FORM 8-52
E CHIEF, ARMED FORCES
SPECIAL WEAPONS PROJECT

10 December 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, WEAPONS DEFENSE DIVISION

SUBJECT: VA Letter to General Loper of 2 December 1952 on
Armed Forces Film Badge Requirements

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 9 December on the same subject, and to the attached subject correspondence.
2. In accordance with our discussions, I talked with Dr. George Lyon on 9 December 1952, for the purpose of discussion of the letter from the Administrator of the Veterans Affairs to General Loper regarding the VA need for complete dosimetry records. The following information was obtained:
 - a. The VA does approve of the policy of the Armed Forces in keeping detailed statistical records of radiological exposures during laboratory operations or atomic tests.
 - b. The VA feels that a continuation of this procedure for "combat conditions" would be desirable in the adjudication of veteran claims for damage attributed to ionizing radiation exposure, but they propose (as indicated in the second page of General Gray's letter) that there will be a conference between representatives of the AFSWP and the VA before this requirement is laid before the Services.
3. Accordingly, it is recommended that action to implement the discussions of 1b supra be withheld until after the Joint Panel on the Medical Aspects of Atomic Warfare meeting on 7, 8, and 9 January, and the concurrent meeting of the Failla Panel on 7 and 8 January. The Failla Panel will be informed of the status of the negotiations between the AFSWP and the VA on this matter. Discussion of this subject is to be presented before the JPMAN and comments of this panel will be invited. After these panel meetings the AFSWP should invite the Administrator of Veterans Affairs to participate in preliminary discussions on the subject "Veterans Administration Requirement for Maintenance of Detailed Radiation Exposure Records for Military Personnel in Wartime Operations".

*The subject "refers to dosimetry within the Armed Forces with no specific reference to the VA or negotiations between [REDACTED] SECURITY INFORMATION 15TS

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8 August 1952



The Administrator
Veterans Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Dr. George M. Lyon

Dear Sir:

This activity has received information that the Army Field Forces is proposing to eliminate the requirement for maintaining detailed statistical records of radiological exposures received by Army personnel.

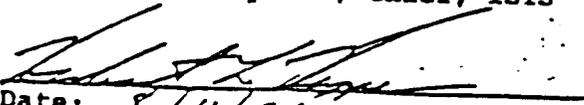
This requirement was originally conceived as being necessary to protect the government's interest in case any large number of veterans should attempt to bring suit against the government based on a real or imagined exposure to nuclear radiations during an atomic war. Although the Army Field Forces is the only organization which is now proposing to eliminate this requirement, it is possible that the Navy and Air Force may propose similar action in the future.

It is not intended that this will change the present policy as regards health protection measures presently in use at isotope laboratories, atomic tests, etc.

The Armed Forces Special Weapons Project, in its capacity as a coordinating agency in matters pertaining to atomic warfare, requests that the Administrator, Veterans Administration state his policy as regards the need for the keeping of such records, in order that the three Armed Services may be advised.

/s/ HERBERT B. LOPER
Major General, USA
Chief, AFSWP

Declassified by DNA, Chief, ISTS


Date: 8/16/94

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