



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
 WASHINGTON DC

6 Feb 95

MEMORANDUM FOR RADIATION EXPERIMENTS COMMAND CENTER
 6801 Telegraph Road
 Alexandria, VA 22310-3398

FROM: HQ AFMOA/SGPT
 170 LUKE AVENUE, SUITE 400
 Bolling AFB, DC 20332-5113

SUBJECT: **REFERENCE ACHRE REQUEST NO. 012895-A** - USAF FLASHBLINDNESS
 EXPERIMENTS

In reference to the subject ACHRE request, please note that we have sent several volumes of materials on flashblindness to the ACHRE. Some flashblindness information was provided in the Pre-1975 studies submitted to the committee; additionally, we have provided other flashblindness documents from various records searches. We submitted several hundred pages of flashblindness material to the ACHRE on 4 Jan 95. I have discussed this issue with Mr. Dan Guttman--he is aware of the material we have already forwarded, but would like any material related to the specific documents (memos) forwarded in the subject request. At this point, we are not aware of information sources which would provide additional data on the retinal exams mentioned in the 20 Mar 54 School of Aviation Medicine memo or on the human use issues mentioned in the 5 Mar 54 SWPSG Memo. I have forwarded these documents to our Ophthalmology Division at Brooks AFB as well as Mr. John Taschner at Los Alamos requesting any help they may be able to provide. As new information is obtained I will forward it to the ACHRE.

I remind the ACHRE that within the materials already forwarded there are numerous literature citations which seem to comprehensively cover the entire scope of research on flashblindness. It is possible that some of the information they seek might be available in the open literature.

If you have any questions please call me at (202) 767-5078.


 DANIEL R. BROWN, Lt Col, USAF, BSC
 Chief, Clinical Investigations and
 Life Sciences Division
 Air Force Medical Operations Agency
 Office of the Surgeon General

Attachment:
 ACHRE Request No. 012895-A, w/o Atchs



**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RADIATION EXPERIMENTS
1726 M STREET, N.W., SUITE 600
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036**

**TO: Col. Bailey
Col. Brown**

FROM: Dan Guttman *D*

DATE: January 28, 1995

RE: Document Request on USAF Flashblindness Experiments

ACHRE REQUEST 012895-A

Attached please find a document request to DOD and to the Air Force concerning data on Air Force flashblindness experiments. Staff asks that you provide a response by February 10, 1995.

The ACHRE staff has implemented a database to be used in tracking the status of agency requests. Each request is assigned a unique number so that the request may be tracked, monitored and managed. We would be appreciative if you refer to the ACHRE document request number in any response you make to this request, including all correspondence and documents that you provide to the Committee. This number for this request is provided above in boldface and on the attached document request.

It you have any questions or concerns please contact me at (202) 254-9795. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



ACHRE Request 012895-A, Data on Air Force Flashblindness Experiments

You have provided us a good deal of information on these experiments which, with expert medical assistance, we are now reviewing.

On our initial review, we have the following questions:

1. As recorded in the official reports, at least some retinal injury appears to have occurred in the experimentation. Were (a) any immediately injured individuals, or (b) all other subjects, made the subject of medical follow-up by the Air Force? If so, we would appreciate any documentation or other information on the followup procedures, and the results of followup.

2. As attached, a document provided by DNA indicates recognition that the flashblindness experiments at the bomb tests were subject to the 1953 Secretary of Defense code on experimentation. Is there documentation, or other information, showing that experiments performed following the February, 1953 directive followed the directive? To the extent that the 1953 directive itself was not followed, is there documentation or other information of specific disclosure and consent practices?

3. A 1954 memo located by ACHRE staff, also attached, indicates Air Force recognition that eye injury was occurring to "non-experimental" bomb test observers and/or participants. We attach a copy of this memo. The memo recommends further study and action. Is there any record or other information on studies or actions undertaken as a result of the memorandum?

As always, please let us know if the request needs amplification or clarification.

Deadline: 02/10/95

202-762-
5302

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RADIATION EXPERIMENTS

1726 M Street, N.W., Suite 600

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202-254-9795 (Phone)

202-254-9827 (Fax)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover): 12

TO: Col. Brown

FROM: Dan Gattman

DATE: 1/30

RE: _____

If there are any problems with the transmission of this fax, please call 202-254-9795.

MESSAGE:
