

041-55

SUBJECT: Additional Use of Volunteers in Chemical Warfare Research.

FROM: TSG

DATE: 12 June 53

COMMENT NO. 2

Cm10

TSG

12 June 53

1. The proposed plan attached to Comment No. 1 has been very carefully reviewed. Concurrently, a review was made of reference 1a. and 1b. to Comment No. 1.

2. Review of a Chemical Corps proposed plan for research by The Surgeon General can accomplish one or both of the following objectives:

a. Provide basis for comment required by paragraph 8 of CS:385, OC/S, 30 June 1953, subject: "Uses of Volunteers on Research" or

b. Provide independent critical review of a research proposal in order to reduce the chance for reactions reflecting discredit on the Army and its research effort.

3. From Comment No. 1, it is not possible to determine the purpose to be served by the review of the attached proposal. Reference 1b., of Comment No. 1 is open to the interpretation that the Chemical Corps now has authorization to continue human volunteer studies on Nerve gases. If the opposing interpretation of reference 1b. is applied, and it is considered that a new written authorization by the Secretary of the Army is necessary, then The Surgeon General would propose that reasonable safeguards be instituted similar to those currently in use in the volunteer program with BW agents. That modus operandi entails the submission of a specific protocol for each new series or phase of experimental study entailing the use of volunteers, submission of each protocol to critical review by The Surgeon General in order to insure beyond the question that it meets the guidance provided in CS:385; and provisions for a continued review of the experimental results from each protocol before proceeding to the next phase, or particularly to more critical phases, of experimentation.

4. Critical review or constructive comments on the proposed research cannot be made on the basis of the information provided in the subject proposal. It is recognized that the proposal, as written, does meet the minimum requirements under CS:385, but is inadequate to permit The Surgeon General to express concurrence or disapproval.

5. Since human studies on "V" Agents are a logical extension of "nerve gas" studies previously approved by the Secretary of the Army; the same responsible medical doctor is in charge; and the investigation will adhere to the provision of CS:385, it is believed that no new authorization is required.

6. Review by The Surgeon General of the protocol for the proposed research, although not required, would provide improved safeguards for the proper conduct and continuance of this essential experimentation. At the same time, it is believed that such a review and comment would be an improvement in meeting the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Army, Chief Chemical Officer and The Surgeon General in implementing the intent of CS:385.

[REDACTED]

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Proposed CM10 Plan

/s/

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