

# RECORD COPY S.G.O.

*Basic 11 Apr. 52*

MEDDH 700,2...

Soldier Participation in Tests of Survival Rations

The Quartermaster General  
ATTN: Chief, Research and  
Development Division

Medical Research and  
Development Board, SGO

9 May 1952

x 3

1. Information received from Major Ernest M. Parrott and Dr. Theodore E. Friedemann, Medical Nutrition Laboratory, Chicago, Illinois, indicates that concurrence by the Surgeon General on Dr. David Schwimmer's project was neither requested nor given at the Conference held in Chicago on 9 January 1952.

2. It is the opinion of this office that the project on survival rations to be conducted by Dr. Schwimmer, is purely a medical problem and should rightly come under the primary cognizance of the Office of the Surgeon General, in accordance with AR 40-250.

3. In view of the opinion expressed in paragraph 2 above, it is requested that another meeting be held between representatives of the Office of the Quartermaster General and the Office of the Surgeon General, concerning the conduct of this experiment.

FOR THE SURGEON GENERAL:

*Handwritten initials*

JOHN R. WOOD  
Colonel, Medical Corps  
Chairman, Medical Research  
and Development Board

cc: AGoff, G1

REC 12 2 2 PM 1952

Concurrence:

*C. J. K.*

C. J. KOEHL, Lt. Colonel, MSC  
Nutrition Branch, SGO

18-22 July 1994

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RG 112, Office of the Surgeon General  
Department of the Army

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File: 700.2 (Essays, Lectures) May 1952

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File No  
QMGR 400.112

Subject:  
Soldier Participation in Tests of Survival Rations

THRU: ACofS, G-4

FROM: OQMG

DATE: 11 April 1952

COMMENT NO. 1

TO: The Surgeon General

RPBenedict/54993

1. As part of a continuing project on Survival Rations, this Office is entering into a contract with Dr. David Schwimmer of the New York Medical College, Metropolitan Hospital Research Unit, Welfare Island, New York, New York, to investigate protein utilization in a low calorie diet. This program was discussed and concurred in by various representatives of your office in a conference held at the QM Food and Container Institute on 9 January 1952. Among those present were Major E. M. Parrott and Dr. T. E. Friedemann of Medical Nutritional Laboratories and Drs. John B. Youmans and Herbert Pollack.

2. The experiments will be conducted at three month intervals starting about 1 May 1952. For each experiment, ten subjects will be fed an adequate diet for 10-12 days, fed a 900 calorie experimental survival diet for 10-12 days, and then an adequate diet for a recovery period of 10-12 days. During the entire period, subjects will be under close medical observation and the following tests or examinations made: body weight, nitrogen balance, mineral balance, blood sugar, hemoglobin, hematocrit, and blood vitamin C level. Clinical examination of physical state would include basal metabolism, pulse rate, and electrocardiograph before and after exercise. A total of six experimental runs are planned. No subject will be used in more than one run.

3. Your concurrence is requested in the utilization of volunteer enlisted personnel as subjects in above experiments. It is planned that immediately following each experiment, the subjects will be given thirty day recuperation leave that would not be counted against their regular leave. In soliciting volunteers, the nature of the experiment and the recuperation leave will be explained. Volunteers will be solicited from personnel under the control of The Quartermaster General.

4. Request that reply be expedited.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

/s/ T. R. J. Hickey  
T. R. J. HICKEY  
Colonel, QMC  
Chief, Research and Development  
Division

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G4/F3 24391  
(11 Apr 52)

SUBJECT: Soldier Participation in Tests of Survival  
Rations

TO: The Surgeon General FROM ACofS, G4 DATE 21 April 1952 COMMENT NO. 2

Lt Col Lewis/53859/mw

1. For your comments and/or approval as requested in Comment No. 1.
2. In this instance direct communication with The Quartermaster General is authorized with an information copy to this Office.

FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G4:

/s/ W. S. Triplet, Colonel, GS  
Chief, Development Branch  
R&D Division

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