

MEDM-SP 700.2 1st Ind
 (30 March 1954) *Basic*

TSG, Department of the Army, Washington 25, D. C., 15 April 1954

TO: Chief, Armed Forces Special Weapons Project, P.O. Box 2610,
 Washington 13, D. C.

1. The request for blanket authorization to increase the maximum permissible exposure of military personnel to ionizing radiation from external sources is not favorably considered.

2. It is noted that the currently authorized cumulative dosage level of 3.9r for any one test series is already higher from the dose-rate aspect than the generally accepted 0.3 rep/wk (3.9 rep in 13 weeks). Additionally, the 3.9r figure refers only to measured gamma radiation.

3. Approval of the request in basic communication would permit administration of up to a year's cumulative dosage to each military person. Neglecting possible dose-rate effects and assuring adequate transmission and/or recording of such exposure information, personnel so exposed would be ineligible for duties involving radiation exposure for the remainder of a year.

4. It is felt that adequate pre-planning and constant attention to detailed requirements for presence of military personnel in radioactive fluxes can reduce exposures. Such pre-planning should include emergencies.

18-22 July 1994
 Washington Federal Record Center
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MEMOR-SP

1st Ind

15 April 1954

SUBJECT: Exposure Tolerance of Military Personnel to Nuclear Radiation during Atomic Test Series

5. On the other hand, it is realized that accidents or miscalculations can result in the possible loss of considerable time, effort, materiel, and funds, and that a risk of some overexposure must be balanced against salvage value of available information devices. It is felt that imposition of a rigid limit at this distance from operations is neither practicable nor wise, but that the military commander be authorized to exceed the 3.9r in individual cases on advice of the Sandia Command Surgeon in a manner similar to that now in effect in Joint Task Forces.

FOR THE SURGEON GENERAL:

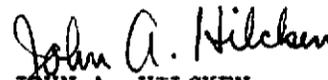
On Office Memorandum this office dated 8 April 1954,
*CONCURRENCES HAVE BEEN OBTAINED FROM:

R. G. PRENTISS, Jr.
Colonel, MC
Executive Officer

Acting Chief,
ARTHUR P. LONG
Preventive Medicine Division


JOHN R. WOOD
Colonel, MC
Chief, Research and Development Division

ELMER A. LODMELL,
Colonel, MC
Chief Radiological Consultant


JOHN A. HILCKEN
Major, MSC
Research and Development Division

*On the basis of telephonic communication w/Capt Tipton, BuMed, this is in general agreement with their reply and that of the Air Surgeon General (copies furnished BuMed and Air Surgeon)

RESUME: Ltr fm AFSWP reqstg. comments and recommendations in coordination w/BuMed and SG of the Air Force re consideration to the authorization of an increase in exposure level of military personnel to radiation during an atomic test series in ref to currently authorized cumulative dosage level of 3.9r for any one test series.

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1	NAME OR TITLE <i>Ex O, OTSG</i>	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
	ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE	COORDINATION
2	<i>Maj Hilchen Room 2536</i>		FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
REMARKS <i>For file in R & D Div.</i>			
FROM NAME OR TITLE <i>J. A. Hilchen</i>		DATE <i>14 Apr 54</i>	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION Major, MSC Special Projects Branch Research & Development Div.		TELEPHONE <i>61566</i>	

ATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 8 April 1954

ear Radiation during

the letter from Armed
Branch of Military Personnel
March 1954.

[Handwritten Signature]
RKG

DD FORM 94 1 FEB 50 REPLACES NME FORM 94, 1 FEB 49, WHICH MAY BE USED. 16-50303-2 GPO

concur - Edward A. Redmill, Col. MC.

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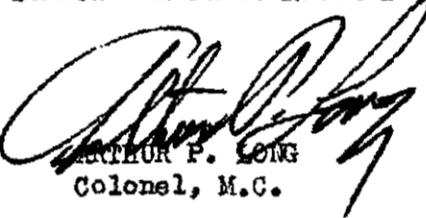
TO : Chief Radiological Consultant
: Chief, Research and Development Division
ATTN: Special Projects Branch
FROM : Acting Chief, Preventive Medicine Division

DATE: 8 April 1954

SUBJECT: Exposure Tolerance of Military Personnel to Nuclear Radiation during Atomic Test Series

Concurrence is given to the proposed indorsement to the letter from Armed Forces Special Weapons Project, subject: "Exposure Tolerance of Military Personnel to Nuclear Radiation during Atomic Test Series" dated 30 March 1954.

2 Incls
n/c


ARTHUR P. LONG
Colonel, M.C.

Concur - Edwin A. Redwell, Col. M.C.

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