

MEDDH

Project for ORC Research & Development Group

D/Log, GS, USA
 Attn: Chief, Research Br,
 R&D Group

Office of The Surg Gen
 Med Res & Dev Bd

7 Dec 1948
 Col Banner/ms/72847

Re Reference is made to attached Memo Routing Slip dated 3 December 1948, concerning the form in which the project on atomic casualties, requested by the 2901st Research Reserve Group, should be improved and re-submitted to the group.

2. The following is suggested:

PROJECT NO. _____

2901st Organized Reserve Research and Development Group, Washington, D.C.

DATE: _____

- I. TITLE: A STUDY OF THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MEDICAL ASPECTS OF HUMAN CASUALTIES SECONDARY TO THE USE OF RADIOLOGICAL WARFARE ON A LARGE POPULATION CENTER.
- II. SCOPE: This study to include:
- a. Acute and chronic tissue changes secondary to diffuse generalized body radiation.
 - b. Thermal burns and trauma complicated by variable sub-lethal amounts of radiation.
 - c. The hazards of epidemic disease in an urban area where normal standards of sanitation have been disrupted.
- III. OBJECTIVE: To organize and plan for the immediate and later effects of radiological warfare as it may be seen in an urban center, particularly from the aspect of the medical sciences.
- IV. COMMENT: From the hypo center of the bomb there is a predetermined radius within which sufficient radiation exists to be lethal to all human life. Beyond this area is a secondary radius in which the human population will receive variable amounts of sub-lethal radiation. In this same area there will be large numbers of casualties from a blast effect and/or thermal burns complicated by sub-lethal radiation injury. It is believed that a study and understanding of the treatment of these thermal burns and trauma from debris secondary to the blast constitutes the area which should receive the greatest study, inasmuch as it is here that the

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Box # 1

File Name: A Study of
 the Primary and Secondary
 Medical Aspects of
 Human Casualties Secondary
 to the Use of Radiological
 Warfare on a Large
 Population Area.

actual number of casualties may be effectively reduced by good medical treatment. The problems of disease will be secondary to any attack and for purposes of study, magnitude excepted, should not differ markedly from the problems that existed along this line during World War II in some of the large German cities which were objects of blanket type aerial bombing.

V. CLASSIFICATION OF PROJECT: Restricted.

FOR THE SURGEON GENERAL:

Incl:
MRS dtd 3 Dec 48 w/inclosed DF,
Comment #1 fr D/Log, GS, USA, 13 Nov 48,
and Comment #2 fr Med Res & Dev Bd,
19 Nov 48, Subj: Project for ORC
Research & Development Group

FRANK L. BAUER
Lt Col, Medical Corps
Chief, Research Branch
Medical Research and
Development Board