

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF, CHEMICAL CORPS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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2 May 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: Military Liaison Committee

SUBJECT: Panel to Investigate Safety of Civilian Populations
from Tests of Radiological Warfare Agents

1. Request that I be given authority to form a panel to make recommendations to me, as Chief of the Chemical Corps, on dangers to which civilian populations might be exposed as a result of carrying out proposed Chemical Corps RW field testing programs at specific field test sites. I believe that a committee of this sort is essential in order that I may have the best possible advice before undertaking any tests using dangerous materials. I must be assured that no injury will be caused to anyone outside of the Military Establishment by this work.

2. I propose the following persons as members of the panel. I have discussed the matter with Colonel Cooney and Dr. W. A. Noyes, and have their approval of these names.

- Dr. J Hamilton, University of California, Berkeley, Chairman
- Dr. G. Failla, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia U.
- Dr. K. Z. Morgan, Oak Ridge
- Dr. Harry Wexler, Director of Research, Weather Bureau
- Dr. Albert R. Olpin, President, University of Utah (for sites in Utah)

The membership of the committee should be acceptable to the chairman, and he could be permitted to make substitutions subject to concurrence by the MLC, the AEC and me.

3. The Chemical Corps will be glad to supply staff assistance to this panel. Dr. Marquand, Secretary of the Research Council of the Chemical Corps Advisory Board, has been proposed as secretary to the panel, and Mr. Milly of the Test Division, Technical Command, Chemical Corps, as adviser on the Chemical Corps field test program.

4. It is anticipated that the panel will first make a study of the general scope of the proposed Chemical Corps programs and then visit the proposed sites. The program will be broken down into two phases

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GROUP 4
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

334 Military Liaison Committee
801 Staff, Alden H. May
X470.6 Civilian Population
576.1

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The first involving small scale tests with tracer amounts and the second involving extensive tests using relatively large amounts of active material. As soon as possible after inspection of the test site, the panel will submit their report to me, and I shall transmit the report with my proposed action and recommendations to the MLC.

/s/ Alden H. Waitt

ALDEN H. WAITT
Major General
Chief, Chemical Corps

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