

April 24, 1951

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*Mr. [unclear] 4/25/51*

Doctor I. S. Ravdin  
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania  
Department of Surgery  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Rav:

Thank you for your letter of April 17 concerning Doctor Oughterson's analysis of the problem of combined fractures and burns in the Hiroshima experience. I agree that at the last meeting of the Subcommittee this problem was considered perhaps much too hurriedly. It was, however, considered in great detail at the first meeting of the Subcommittee on 17 March 1949 during which Doctor Nicholson and the group talked about the whole thing for somewhat over an hour. I don't have at hand Nicholson's report but it is in the N.R.C. files.

Three problems come up in consideration of studies along these lines: The rarity of the combined injury in civilian experience; the difficulty of getting a really capable orthopedic investigator interested in the problem; and the difficulty of reproducing and studying the combined lesion in an experimental animal. I believe the dog is out for this work because of the natural bacterial inhabitants of the skin.

If you or your group have any ideas as to just how this problem can be tackled please write. I would like to help but frankly I haven't got any new ideas on the subject. That, too, seems to be the state of the rest of the committee.

Yours sincerely,



Everett Idris Evans, M. D.

*Dr. Oughterson*

EIE:jbg

CC: Doctor M. C. Winternitz, Chairman  
National Research Council

Colonel John R. Wood, Chairman  
Medical Research and Development Board

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