

9 March 1954

DNAI 940906.144

SWPEF-1 319.2

MEMORANDUM THRU: Chief, Weapons Effects Division
Deputy Chief of Staff, Technical Services

FOR: CHIEF OF STAFF *S. J.*

SUBJECT: Trip to New York City (Major J. d'H. Hord)

1. In compliance with Travel Order SWP-67 the undersigned visited New York City on 8 March 1954.

2. a. Dr. G. Failla was visited in the morning and discussions were held concerning certain of the projects at Operation TEAPOT. Mr. Ungar of the Evans Signal Laboratory was also present during these discussions. It was decided that there was not too much to be gained by the scintillation spectrometer method of investigating the gamma spectrum in the residual field. Final decision on this matter, however, will be made at a meeting to be held in Headquarters AFSWP in the near future.

b. At an earlier visit Dr. Failla had suggested that some of his people could make investigations concerning the skin beta hazard. Upon being queried as to his results Dr. Failla admitted that he had no results at present and furthermore did not believe that the results that he could obtain would be too meaningful unless fairly fresh fission products were used. This means that the work should be done at some locality where fission products can be prepared, probably Oak Ridge. The undersigned will investigate this possibility.

c. Dr. Failla agreed with the undersigned as to the importance of the work proposed by the Naval Medical Research Institute regarding the depth dose in a phantom with special reference to skin dose. He was also in agreement as regards disapproval of four of the five subproposals made by this laboratory (approving only the phantom measurements).

d. Dr. Failla agreed to attend a meeting on the overall beta and soft gamma problem to be held at Headquarters AFSWP. It was agreed that some time during the third week in April would be a good date for this meeting.

Declassified by DNA, Chief, ISTS

Julius J. [Signature]
Date: 9/27/94

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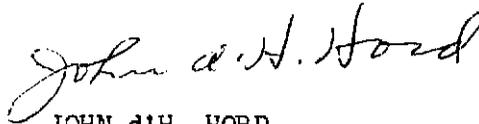
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3. The undersigned visited Dr. Henry Koch (MD) and Dr. Harry Bane (PHD - physics) at the New York Memorial Hospital, 444 East 68th Street, as regards the work they have been doing concerning the use of copro porphyrin concentration in the urine as an index of radiation exposure. Up to the present the results of this investigation are based on about ten clinical cases, some of which received whole body radiation and others localized radiation. There seems to be a tendency toward an accumulation of this substance in both the urine and the feces of the patients so treated and the concentration has been noted in some cases as early as two hours after the administration of the radiation. Presently available data, however, show considerable scatter, both as regards amount versus time after radiation and also between different subjects. This method is far from being anything resembling a reliable dosimetric method at present. It is interesting to note, however, that in the case of the Argonne National Laboratory "accident" samples were sent to Drs. Koch and Bane and in these four cases these men were able to determine the radiation dosage with considerable accuracy.



JOHN d'H. HORD
Major, USAF
Radiation Branch



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