

326 US ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

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RG Division of Biology and Medicine

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REVIEWED BY <u>W. B. Smith</u>	DATE <u>5/23/49</u>	CLASSIFIED BY <u>W. B. Smith</u>	DATE <u>5/23/49</u>
NAME		DATE	

Signed 4/8/49

Dear Dr. Gregg:

We have received and considered your interesting report on the meeting of the Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine which was held in Washington on February 12, 1949. The discussions between the Commission and the Committee were most helpful in a number of the aspects of our program.

As to the general problem at the University of Rochester, we feel that the reduction effected by Dr. Shields Warren is a wise one and that the program should be reviewed within the coming year for further decision as to the level of support. We recognize that the completion of the building for use in the training program may require some reorientation in the program at Rochester and in view of the responsibilities placed upon the Commission in this regard, we are anxious that full advantage be taken of the facilities which we are establishing there.

The Division of Biology and Medicine and the Division of Engineering are giving continuing attention to the particle problem. A recent report shows that the installation of the filters at Oak Ridge has produced satisfactory results on the problem arising from the pile stack.

Dr. Shields Warren and his staff in the Division of Biology and Medicine are presently engaged in drawing up plans for the biological and medical activities in future tests. A representative of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory is participating in the biological and medical discussions in the "J" Division at Los Alamos and discussions have been held by the Division with representatives of the Armed Forces in regard to their participation in the biological and medical testing. Steps have been taken to designate a scientific director for the biological and medical program.

We have noted the recommendation of the Advisory Committee concerning problems of civilian defense. We have requested the Director of the Division of Biology and Medicine to prepare a staff paper outlining the Commission's legitimate responsibilities in regard to civil

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Received in Office of Chairman
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OFFICE ▶	BIOL. & MED.	<i>Acting GM</i>			
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DATE ▶	<i>4/7/49</i>	<i>4/8/49</i>			

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(Dr. Alan Gregg)

defense against atomic weapons. This will include recommendations as to the organization which the Commission should develop to best discharge these responsibilities as your Committee recommended. The Director of the Division of Biology and Medicine will keep you fully informed as to developments in this regard. We would appreciate continuing consideration by the Advisory Committee of the Commission's role in Civil Defense.

It is anticipated that within the next few weeks the members of the Division of Biology and Medicine will meet with representatives of the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission for consideration of the level of support in the coming fiscal year. We recall that in previous meetings the Advisory Committee has discussed the feasibility of attaching this program more intimately to existing Japanese medical institutions. We would appreciate further comment from the Advisory Committee on this subject.

In regard to the semiannual report to Congress, the Division of Biology and Medicine has advised a number of its investigators of its desire for material for inclusion in this report. It is hoped that this will furnish a comprehensive document in the biological and medical field.

With regard to the recommendation made by your Committee for the declassification of N, necessary staff work has been completed on the problem and the whole subject will be considered by the Commission at an early date.

We look forward to a report on the meetings of the Advisory Committee at Breakhaven on April 8 and 9, 1949.

Sincerely yours,

UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Signed & Dispatched 4/8/49

David E. Lilienthal
Chairman

Dr. Alan Gregg
Room 5800, 49 West 40th Street
New York 20, New York

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