

H-4

January 22, 1960

Dr. M. Goldman
 School of Veterinary Medicine
 Agricultural Experiment Station
 University of California
 Davis, California

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Dear Dr. Goldman:

Your letter of January 13 is an extremely easy one to answer, since we have no specific information that would be of use to you. As you anticipated, Los Alamos has never been concerned with isotopes of strontium and with Ca-40.

We use hand counters, body monitors, and area monitoring instruments but they are usually for control of alpha emitters and not for the materials with which you are interested. I will, however, pass your letter on to Mr. Harry Schulte of our Industrial Hygiene Group with the request that he give it consideration. Dr. Morris Milligan of that group has recently participated in a World Health Organization conference on methods of determining strontium and other isotopes in biological materials. Perhaps he can give you a reference to this report or send you a copy of it. Mr. Schulte is acquainted with area monitoring procedures for some things and perhaps will be able to give you a little general information on the subject.

With regard to Sr-89 and Sr-90 (as well as radium), I think you would be particularly interested in having two or three of the latest models of beta-gamma monitoring instruments. I will ask Mr. Schulte to give you information on the latest portable instrument in use at this Laboratory, as well as information on its cost and where it can be obtained. I am not sure a hand and foot counter would be very useful to you in your program. Perhaps the best thing to do is to wear protective coveralls, canvas boots, and rubber gloves in the animal building. If such clothing can be worn and changed upon leaving the building,

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Dr. M. Goldman

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it should prevent offsite spread of contamination.

I am glad to hear you are proceeding with the project and have been able to obtain an iron shield from Arco. I was worried about their supply running out.

Sincerely yours,

Wright H. Langham
Group Leader
Biomedical Research

WHL:ES
CC:H. F. Schulte - H-5
enc. letter

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