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BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY  
ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES, INC.

UPTON, L.I., N. Y.  
TEL. YAPHANK 4-6262

REFER:

June 26, 1962

Dr. H. D. Bruner  
Assistant Director  
Medical and Health Research  
Division of Biology and Medicine  
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dave:

Your suggestion to count children of 18-24 months of age is a good one. We will see if we can round up some children of this age. Unfortunately, this age is about the most difficult to count technically, judging from my experience with my own children. These children just won't lie still that long.

To date we have had no indication of  $I^{131}$  in the thyroids of the pregnant women in our study. Over the past six weeks we have counted 12 women in their last trimester, for a total of 70 thirty-minute counts. We have not seen any trace of  $I^{131}$  in any of these women or in 12 women controls who were counted over the same time period. The few offspring that we counted also showed no indication of  $I^{131}$ . This study is almost finished as there are only two women who haven't delivered yet.

It seems that Long Island, at least, has been relatively free of fallout. We have checked a few milk samples from the hospital kitchen and they were also negative for  $I^{131}$ . The BNL Health Physics group, however, has found levels of 20-40 pc/l in locally-produced milk, but this is not much above the limit of detection.

I would be most interested in learning whether any of the other people counting pregnant women have seen any  $I^{131}$  to date.

Sincerely yours,

*Stan*

Stanton H. Cohn, Ph.D.  
Medical Physics Division  
Medical Department

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