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See Distribution

January 5, 1951

T. L. Shipman, M. D., Health Division Leader

PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURES TO RADIATION AT SITE MERCURY

H-40

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A decision was reached on 4 January as to permissible exposures to radiation in conjunction with operations at and around Site Mercury. It was agreed that workers in this operation could receive exposures up to 3.0 r, which exposures could be spread out or acquired in a single dose. Any worker, after receiving such an exposure, will be required to 'cool off' and avoid further exposure until he has reached the point where his total dose has spread out and be no greater than 0.3 r/dk.

For workers who will subsequently go to Operation Greenhouse the permissible exposure of 3.0 r is reduced to 2.0 r so that these individuals may arrive at the forward area with a slate that is radiologically clean.

If it is anticipated that any procedures to be carried out will involve exposures greater than 0.6 r/dk, the matter should be discussed in advance with the rad-safe group.

In considering the possible contamination of populated areas in the path of the fall-out, it was agreed that no action leading toward evacuation should be taken unless calculations would indicate that the people concerned would receive doses of 25.0 r, or greater, within a period of four weeks. It was the feeling that this level might be increased to 50.0 r were it not for the fact that the people involved will presumably be subjected to the same treatment at some time in the future.

The above figures were discussed with Gen. Cooney and have his full concurrence.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
OR CHANGED TO.....
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/DPC
Shipman 2/1/55
DATE

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY THOMAS L. SHIPMAN

T. L. SHIPMAN, M. D.
Health Division Leader

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