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Dr. Robley E. Evans
 Physics Department
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Evans:

During the course of several conversations among Mr. Nathaniel Sage, Professor H. E. Frank, Dr. Etelda Warren, Dr. G. G. Harvey and myself, we discussed the possibility of Massachusetts Institute of Technology's undertaking a research contract for the Atomic Energy Commission for the purpose of extending "fall-out" studies beyond the present limits of our Project Gabriel. These conversations have indicated that you may be interested in heading such a study during the coming summer.

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We conceive this study to encompass an investigation of:

- (1) the long-range, widespread secondary hazards and effects which might result from the detonation of atomic bombs of all kinds;
- (2) the short-range hazards which might be attendant upon the explosion of a large number of atomic bombs in warfare;
- (3) other points of mutual interest and direct applicability to this problem, not specifically mentioned in this letter.

These studies should include cases of high and low air bursts, and surface and underground bursts, under various meteorological conditions. Such conditions would include clear weather, low and high clouds, thunder storms, snow storms, various fronts and inversions, etc. at various distances from the detonation point.

While we are not in a position to furnish a very large number of pertinent documents at the moment, we will be pleased to assist in any reasonable manner to enable you to obtain available information and reports, and perhaps to render assistance through the U. S. Weather Bureau with whom we have a research contract.

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Dr. Robley D. Evans

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It is our understanding that MIT is interested in undertaking this study, at a cost tentatively mentioned during our discussions as approximately \$25,000. If so, we would appreciate a proposal from you, which may be somewhat along the lines of the enclosed guide. It would be our wish to formalize this contract within the next few weeks if possible.

Yours very truly,

Walter D. Claus, Chief
Biophysics Branch
Division of Biology and Medicine

WLC:mc

CC: Program Analysis Branch
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