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DECONTAMINATION PROCEDURES AT KWIWETOK

REFERENCE: LAB-2

I have recently had a ^{formal} discussion with Harry Whipple, Tom White and Simon Shlaer concerning the problems to be encountered in starting decontamination efforts in the Kwiwetok area. In this discussion certain very definite doubts were expressed as to whether or not it would be possible to decontaminate the areas which are still hot so completely that men could work in and around these areas in such safety that future monitoring would be unnecessary. It will certainly be possible to reduce greatly the present levels of radiation. A very definite question exists in our minds, however, as to how complete this process will be. The possibility should be kept in mind, therefore, that it may be necessary to continue monitoring certain areas, and other areas should perhaps be fenced off.

These points are by no means stated as definite predictions but we do not wish to place ourselves in the position of assuring you certain results which may not be forthcoming. The experience gained in the Trinity area during the next few weeks will undoubtedly be of immense value in helping us to plot the future course of our activities.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY THOMAS L. SHIPMAN, M. D.

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

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cc: J. Manley

File CL1

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COLLECTION CL-1
BOX No 11331-1
FOLDER Operation Greenhouse General

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by authority of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission,
Per William W. Hirsch 12/8/52
(Date)
By Julius W. Emery 1/25/55
(Signature of person making the change and date)

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