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Office Memorandum ~~SECRET~~ SECURITY INFORMATION STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : John C. Bugher, M. D., Director  
Division of Biology and Medicine

DATE: July 31, 1953

FROM : Gordon M. Dunning, Biophysics Branch  
Division of Biology and Medicine *GMD*

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SUBJECT: SUGGESTIONS ON CJTF SEVEN OPERATION ORDER NO. 1-53

SYMBOL: BMBP:GMD

This material contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws of the U.S.C., Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

On July 27, 1953, Major Robert Chesney forwarded to you a copy of the Radiological Safety regulations for Operation CASTLE and requested your comments, suggestions and/or approval. The following are my comments that I will pass along to you:

1. Not clear in all places of the text when speaking of maximum permissible levels of contamination whether the measurements are gamma only or beta plus gamma.
2. On page I-I-3, "Fixed alpha contamination should not exceed 500 cpm (counts per minute) per 150 cm<sup>2</sup> of area," is too conservative. The standard level at ORNL of 500 counts per minute per 100 cm<sup>2</sup> is conservative itself, even for an indoor area. If the contamination be on the exterior surface of ships, etc., a higher level could be well allowed.
3. Page I-I-2 - "Special instances may arise after shot time such as in the case of an air-sea rescue within the atoll lagoon and inside the surface radex in which rescue operations will be carried out without regard to the radiological hazard." Agreed that the primary task at the moment is to save lives, it might be foolish to expose several rescue men to, say, 1000 r in order to save one life in the sea. This is an extreme example but in this or other situations, although the decision might be the same, I believe such decision should be based on a consideration of radiological hazard.
4. Page I-I-5. The parentheses following the maximum permissible concentration for water should read: "(at H / 3 days)."

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*copy 2A to Major Chesney - 8/1/53*

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