US DOE ARCHIVE'S COMMISSION

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UPTON, L. I., N. Y.

TEL. PATCHOGUE 2600

August 5, 1948

Dr. Shields Warren, Director Division of Biology and Medicine U. S. Atomic Energy Commission Washington 25, D. C.

DRM)

Dear Shields:

I have your letter of August 3. The Pressman story is rather a long one, and we are not yet ready to make any official proposals to the AEC. The talk I had with John Bowers was unfortunately quite brief, and the only suggestion I made was that he might drop a line to Pressman if your office thought it advisable.

Briefly, the situation is as follows: Pressman's work in using the methods of immunology to lead radioactive material in therapeutic doses to parts of the body which are otherwise nonspecific for the element involved, shows a good deal of promise. I think you are already familiar with his success in placing radioactive iodine in mouse kidney. However, both the space and personnel needed to pursue this work adequately are restricted at the Sloan-Kettering Institute, and Dr. Rhoads suggested to me some months ago that this project might be transferred to Brookhaven.

This seems a very good idea to me, for a number of rea-The work itself is fundamental in nature and is directed toward the use of radioactive materials in the treatment of malignancies; consequently, it appears entirely appropriate for AEC support. Secondly, plans for medical research at Brookhaven mature very slowly, and it would be a very good thing for us to have a worthwhile medical research project established here as soon as possible. Thirdly, we have a good building which could readily be adapted for Pressman's work - it is the dispensary building, which you remember as containing Dr. Sunderman's office originally. Finally, Dr. Rhoads has offered to assist in many ways, including the initial supply of biological materials, loan of equipment, and possibly even a continuance of financial arrangements between Sloan-Kettering and Pressman if that is necessary.

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A number of exploratory discussions have been held between Dr. Rhoads, Dr. Van Slyke (who is now Assistant Director for the Life Sciences at Brookhaven), and myself. We all agreed that it would be a good move. The next step was to talk with Pressman. He visited Brookhaven on July 21st and 22nd, and I explained the proposal to him. He had previously talked with Rhoads. Naturally, before making so important a move, he wanted a couple of weeks to think it over, and returned to the Jackson Foundation at Bar Harbor where he is spending the summer.

This is the story I told to John Bowers, and suggested that perhaps a letter from your office to Pressman would help him make up his mind.

As you perhaps know, we have practically no funds in our budget for this fiscal year for medical research. Consequently if Pressman should indicate a desire to come here, together with his assistants, we would then have to request additional funds from the AEC to fix up laboratories for him. This might amount to \$50,000 with costs as they are today. I am not sure whether any increase in the operating budget would be required, as we do have some margin on personnel which may not otherwise be absorbed.

I hope this gives you the information you wish. As you can see, the whole plan will fall through if Pressman should prefer not to come. However, we have felt that this project is so obviously worthy of AEC support that you would not hesitate to give us your backing, and if you think it appropriate to send Pressman a note supporting our proposal to him, it might influence his decision.

Best regards,

R. D. Conrad

RDC/ep