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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL SCIENCES Washington 25, D. C.

JOINT PANEL ON THE MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ATOMIC WARFARE

BAW 201/2

Agenda, 8th Meeting

ITEM 3 - Preparation of Statement on Biomedical Participation in Future Weapons Tests

Reference: Memorandum to Chairman, CMS, from the Chairman, CAE, dated 24 Feb. 1951, subject: Department of Defense Biomedical Participation in Future Atomic Weapons Tests

ATTACHED: BAN 201/1 (Draft 1) Statement - Biomedical Participation-in-Future Atomic Weapons Tests

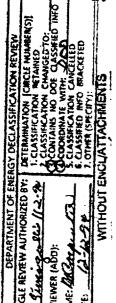
The referenced memorandum reads, in part, as follows:

"The Committee on Atomic Energy believes that in order to insure that the requirements for biomedical data to be obtained from each atomic weapons test are met, there should be available a statement of the essential information of this type which can be obtained only on the occasion of an atomic weapon detonation. Such information would be of considerable aid in test program planning, and would facilitate the establishment of a continuing program designed to take maximum advantage of actual tests which often are carried out on very short notice.

"It is therefore requested that the Joint Panel on Medical Aspects of Atomic Warfare be requested to submit for approval jointly by the Committee on Medical Sciences and the Committee on Atomic Energy, a statement of the medical and biomedical information they consider essential for the Department of Defense to obtain through participation in atomic weapons tests conducted in the future without regard to a specific type or location of test."

2. A questionnaire, requesting specific recommendations was sent to all members of the Joint Panel and the Committee on Medical Sciences, and to certain scientists in AEC and university laboratories. Response from the military representatives was reasonably good, but very few: THIS ITEM MAY BE DOWNGRADED TO RESTRICTED UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENT.

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civilians responded, in fact only one from the whole roster of Committee and Panel members.

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3. As a result, the attached draft utilizes predominantly the opinions of the military members, outside agencies, and the secretariat. It is offered not as a proposed statement, to be accepted after only minor revisions, but as a general guide to the type of paper which is expected of the Joint Panel. It is hoped that members will read the draft, think about it, and be prepared to offer constructive criticism at the meeting.