



UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

November 29, 1973

James L. Liverman, Director  
Division of Biomedical and  
Environmental Research

THE U. S.-SPANISH COOPERATIVE BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

Following the Palomares Incident, a cooperative biomedical program was initiated by the bilateral Otero-Hall Exchange. We have been providing \$25,000 a year and some expertise from the Los Alamos Laboratory as required. I have discussed continuation of the program with Martin Minthorn and we would recommend that it be continued for the present. There are several reasons for this. (1) The Spanish study should be a source of useful information regarding plutonium. To date, the research has not been especially productive; however, with some additional effort and guidance, particularly from the Los Alamos group, useful information should be forthcoming. (2) Within the past year, the Spanish have purchased from Los Alamos a new chest counter which has been sent to Spain and it is planned that Phil Dean will go over to advise the Spanish scientists on the use of the new instrumentation. (3) AEC funds have also been used in the past year to purchase an alpha spectrometer and other specialized instrumentation. In view of this, it does not appear that this would be a good time to interrupt the program.

John Harley and Chet Richmond have been contacted by Martin and have somewhat different views of the prospects for meaningful human studies; however, both agreed that in the environmental area useful information should be gained, particularly on the weathering of plutonium over time, resuspension and movement.

Discuss

Approve

Disapprove

*J. Liverman*  
*feels strongly differently*  
NOV 29 1973

*W. W. Burr, Jr.*



W. W. Burr, Jr., M. D.  
Deputy Director  
Division of Biomedical and  
Environmental Research

CONCURRENCES:

BER/BP HASL      BER/ADPC      BER/ADRDP      BER/ADSP  
MMinthorn JHarley      JCWhitnah      CEdington      NFBarr