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29 December 1955

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William E. Ogle

Gordon L. Jacks

Rad-Safe Meeting at JTF-7 on 20 December, 1955

H-6-TU-7-24

55-16

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1. On 20 December, 1955, I attended a meeting of all Task Force Rad-Safe personnel at Headquarters, JTF-7. The purpose of the meeting was to establish certain policies with respect to Rad-Safe operations. This meeting was set up as a result of a request that I made in September, 1955.

2. Of primary importance in this meeting was the establishment of Rad-Safe responsibilities with respect to those people from other Task Groups that work for TG 7.1. Results of the meeting established the following:

a. For those people from Task Group 7.3 working for TG 7.1 (as an example, consider the YAG crews) the TG 7.1 project director will have rad-safe responsibility. Thus, the personnel will be badged, monitored, etc. thru normal TG 7.1 channels just as project personnel will be handled. The primary reason for this arrangement is the fact that TG 7.1 provides the most central control point for handling these people.

b. For those people from Task Group 7.4 working for TG 7.1 (as an example, consider the sampling aircraft crews) the TG 7.4 rad-safe personnel will have responsibility. In this case, TG 7.4 provides the most central control point for handling these people. Thus, I will issue badges and dosimeters in bulk to TG 7.4, to take care of these people. They in turn will issue the necessary dosage devices to the flight crews, etc.

3. With respect to the off-atoll monitoring program, I asked that JTF-7 assume rad-safe responsibility for Wothe and Ujelang. This responsibility had originally been placed on TG 7.1 project personnel (Sandia Corp. with 31.1). JTF-7 agreed to remove this responsibility from TG 7.1 project personnel.

4. Task Group 7.1 will provide the instruments for use by sample return monitors. We have ample, obsolete instruments on hand to take care of this. The details of returning these instruments to TG 7.5, where they belong, have yet to be worked out.

5. Training of sample return monitors will be the responsibility of Task Group 7.4.

6. A discussion of the MPE's listed in the draft of the JTF-7 operations order was held. I raised a strong objection to the statement "within any given 13 week period" as it places a terrific book-keeping problem on someone's shoulders. I flatly refused to keep books in that manner. As a result of the objections, it was agreed that project directors would be responsible for this particular book-keeping.

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I still don't like that particular set-up, but as of now, I can see no way of getting out of it. What I requested was 3.9 roentgens for the first 13 weeks, then start all over again with 3.9 for the next thirteen weeks. This does not agree with the philosophy put forth in NBS handbook 59, but it is a much more practical approach than that currently listed in the JTF-7 operations order. From what JTF-7 personnel have stated, DPM of AEC will never consent to removing the statement "within any given 13 week period".

7. At a preliminary meeting on 19 December, 1955, a discussion was held concerning the use and issue of film badges. After I had explained the method of badging (double badging for those personnel engaged in any activity in contaminated areas), issue of the badges was thoroughly covered. For issue of the permanent badges, regular channels of distribution (through TU Rad-Safe officers) will be used. All clerical work concerned with recording a given badge for a given individual will be done by the various Task Groups, and not by TU-7.

GORDON L. JACKS
Commander, TU-7

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