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Staff, Division of Biology and Medicine

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SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ON TOXICITY OF RADIOISOTOPES OF STRONTIUM

Questions related to the radiotoxicity in man of radioisotopes of strontium under various conditions make it desirable to review the present state of our knowledge on this subject and to consider means by which gaps now existing may be reduced. For this purpose we plan a one-day conference of several persons interested in this field. In view of the fact that most of these persons will be in Washington January 14 and 15 for the Biology and Medicine Program Directors' Meeting, it appears that Wednesday, January 13, will be an appropriate date for this purpose.

The conference will be held in Dr. Bugher's Office at T-3 Building, 16th and Constitution Avenue, beginning at 9:30 A.M.

The principal questions proposed for discussion at the conference are:

- (1) What is the maximum permissible body burden of Sr<sup>89</sup> and Sr<sup>90</sup> in man for indefinite chronic exposure?
- (2) What is the maximum permissible body burden of Sr<sup>89</sup> and of Sr<sup>90</sup> from a single event; e.g., a nuclear disaster, for a person not otherwise exposed? This question may be broadened to include other bone-seeking fission products in combination with strontium.
- (3) Realizing that data for making estimates of the above quantities are inadequate, what are the practical means of reducing present uncertainties?

We hope that you will be able to attend, and to present such data and ideas as you may have available for general consideration. Please let me know if you will attend.

Yours very truly,

Walter D. Claus, Chief  
Biophysics Branch  
Division of Biology and Medicine

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