

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : H. C. Brown, Jr., Assistant Director for Administration, Division of Biology and Medicine DATE: August 27, 1956

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

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON "CLARIFICATION OF POLICY REGARDING REPORTING OF ACCIDENTS"

SYMBOL: BMBP:WDC

The subject memo simply attempts to clarify policy on news releases related to radiation incidents. The matter of prompt reporting to Washington operating divisions and IBM is adequately covered in our proposed Chapter 0523 for the AEC Manual, and I think need not be mentioned in the public relations policy.

On page 2, O'Neill calls attention to the need for a statement about accidental deaths.

The present item (4) might be more suitably stated in the language we propose for accident reports in our draft Chapter 0523, to wit:

"Any single radiation incident which results in (or, pending confirmation, is suspected to have resulted in) the exposure of AEC or AEC-contractor personnel, or other persons, whether on or off site, to a dose of ionizing radiation in excess of:

- (1) a whole-body (or major organ) dose of 3 rem of gamma, neutron or corpuscular radiation.
- (2) the total dose (to the critical tissue, organ or region of interest, as a result of inhalation, ingestion, cuts or abrasions or other means) equivalent to that which would be received should the person be exposed for a continuous 10-week period to official permissible concentrations in air or water."

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 AUTHORITY: DOE-DPC  
 BY E. B. BARNER, DATE:  
 E. B. Barner 4/18/86