

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
 AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
 KNOXVILLE 16

404995

REPLY TO

UT-AEC AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

P. O. BOX 142

OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE

December 30, 1954

US DOE ARCHIVES
 326 U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY
 COMMISSION

RG DOE Historian (PBM)
 Collection 1132
 Box 3365
 Folder 7

Mr. Joe B. Sanders
 U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
 Las Vegas Field Office
 P. O. Box 2088
 Las Vegas, Nevada

Dear Joe:

From the number of calls I have had from Paul Pearson I know you have been very anxious to have a report on the Stewart Brothers cattle. We think we have done a great deal with that material and related experimentally controlled animals but we have not completed the work by any means. Low level bone counting was brought to a complete stop at this laboratory when Dr. Comar left. Other arrangements had to be made. All ocular pathology is done by a specialist group at the Institute of Pathology. Although they are giving us a very high priority on this work it will not be completed in the near future according to my latest inquiry. This is due to several things such as the natural backlog of work at the Institute, a rotational change in personnel and preparations to move the Institute to a new location. Our own investigations have taken a year to complete. Although this may seem a long time to you it has certainly put pressure on us to do these things in addition to our programatic work.

I have started through channels a report on the cattle. It should be in your hands before long. In brief it states that we can find no reason to believe that ionizing radiation caused any damage (except beta-burns) to the Stewart Brothers' cattle.

Personally I hope you can find a way to compensate them for gathering and holding the cattle for examination. This expense should be more than the amount of compensation you thought due for eye injuries (\$80.00 as I remember). It would be very advantageous if we could follow up on that herd by getting complete vital statistics as well as periodic examinations. We can certainly anticipate a "chronic radiation" claim sooner or later from people near the Proving Ground and I think it behooves the Commission to anticipate it by having some control work. The good will of the Stewart Brothers and their vast herd as a control cannot be underestimated.

In a recent letter from Dr. Harris of the Utah group he urged that we do the irradiation phase of his experiment because he believes the Utah sheep raisers are not going to be satisfied without a demonstration involving total body radiation. We are in no position to help him at this time.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

43065

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FROM:

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
Trum

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CLASSIFICATION:

POST OFFICE

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Ltr. re ~~Stewart~~ Stewart Brothers Cattle

~~Pearson~~

1/3

PPD

~~BMB Files~~

3/1/55

~~Miss~~

2/1/57

ENCLOSURES:

Ltr. fm Trum to Las Vegas 12/30/54

REMARKS:

Livestock losses

C-76

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