

File

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Report of Trip to Washington, D.C. 2 -- 11 December 1947.

1. During the period 3 - 10 December 1947, inclusive, various naval activities in and near Washington, D.C., were visited for the purpose of discussion of matters concerning the Radiation Laboratory. The agencies visited and matters discussed are outlined below. For ease of reference, items are grouped under common headings rather than chronologically.

2. Contacts. The following codes and activities were visited officially during the period in Washington:

- BuShips - Code 700 (Adm. Klein, Capt. Hains)
- Code 330 (Capt. Mills)
- Code 689 (Capt. Maxwell, Cdr. Hoffman)
- Code 505 (Capt. Forest)
- Code 765 (Cdr. Taylor)
- Code 780 (Mr. Peck, Mr. Cassidy)
- Code 762 (Mr. McCord, Mr. McCabe)
- Code 945 (Cdr. Hunter, Cdr. Peterson, Mr. Lovoff, Mr. Carpenter)
- Code 200 (Mr. Alford)
- BuMed - Code 74 (Capt. Behrens, Capt. Schneider, Lt. Cdr. King)
- BuY&D - Code D4 (Cdr. Crumm, Lt. Cdr. Rockefeller)
- BuAer - Code AE45 (Lt. Cdr. Bliss, Mr. Cutts)
- NMRI - (Capt. Mackenson, Capt. Draeger, Cdr. Lee)
- OIR - (Cdr. Bowles, Mr. Anders)
- NRL - (Dr. Friedman)
- CNO - Op 36 (Cdr. Rivero, Cdr. Sieden, Cdr. Klein)
- AEC Military Applications Division (Lt. Cdr. Dunford, Maj. Dauer, Mr. Paul McDaniel)
- Research Division (Dr. Fisk)

Declassified
 NND project # 22/30
 By HRM/RG/NARA date 1/31/02

were also made to contact Admiral Mills, Chief of BuShips and Capt. BuShips Coordinator of Nuclear Matters, but meetings could not be arranged.

nnel.

(a) Arrangements were made and authority granted for hiring of Dr. William H Sullivan as Technical Director of the Radiation Laboratory (Scientific Research Administrator P-8). Dr. Sullivan entered on duty at Washington on 8 December.

(b) Captain Hains (BuShips Code 701) inquired as to whether any ceiling difficulties were being experienced. He was advised that since receipt of the most recent letter stating that no ceiling existed for the Laboratory other than the normal Shipyard ceiling, no question or difficulty had arisen. Captain Hains stated, however, that he considered the Shipyard overhead should not be placed in a bad light by having to show as part of its overhead all the Radiation Laboratory

personnel. He indicated that a request for separate accounting for Radiation Laboratory personnel would be in order. He was advised that such a request had been included as a part of the letter requesting approval of additional professional positions in the Laboratory. Capt. Hains thereupon requested his personnel to produce the letter for his further study. Mr. McCord (BuShips Code 762) later indicated, however, that the Shipyard could account for the Radiation Laboratory personnel appropriate indication in "Statistics of Naval Shipyards".

) Inquiries were made in BuShips (Code 782) regarding approval of employment of a glass blower. The Bureau advised that the request had been approved on 20 November 1947 for employment at a maximum of \$1.84 per hour.

i) The need for establishment of special position designations for nuclear scientists in the Radiation Laboratory was discussed with OIR. OIR advised that the Technical Director and Assistant Technical Director positions be set up with special nomenclature and special examinations through the Regional Office of the Civil Service Commission. For other positions, (P-6 and below) however, it was recommended that special qualifications be handled by selective certification according to special qualifications written into position descriptions.

e) BuAer will assign a projects officer to the Laboratory as soon as a suitable candidate can be made available.

f) BuMed desires that at least two training billets be established for medical Science Corps officers in the Health Physics Division of the laboratory.

a) Advice was received from Code 639 that the decision to complete work on Bldg. 506 and 507 already obligated against Project Order 595/46 prior to the termination letter receipt was correct.

(b) Information was also received that separate projects were being issued to cover costs of inspection and care of ex-Crossroads Ships and radiological research. It was desired that work proceed on the DENTUDA and that an appropriate transfer of funds be made upon receipt of the project.

(c) BuYED stated that an additional \$20,000 is being granted the Laboratory for use in the general contamination-decontamination studies.

(d) The matter of travel funds was investigated with BuShips Codes 209 and 762. It was revealed that no transfer of funds from research to travel incident to research could be made. Mr. McCord, (BuShips Code 762) advised that the 3rd quarter 1948 basic civilian travel allotment would be \$5,708.74. This he agreed to attempt to raise to \$7000 to aid somewhat in enabling the Shipyard to support badly needed travel of its scientists. He advised, however, that no separate allotment for the Radiation Laboratory would be established, and appropriate

Declassified

NND project #

22/30

By HRM/RG/NARA date 7/3/02

arrangements must be made under the jurisdiction of the Shipyard Commander. Mr. McCord cautioned against overexpenditure of 3rd quarter travel funds except in cases of emergency because of the general shortage of these funds. He advised that important travel rendered impossible by lack of funds should be referred to the Bureau with a request showing the amount required and the purpose of the trip.

(e) The status of funds for Bldg. 351 is relatively unchanged. The amount requested (\$633,000) may become available in January 1948 from over estimates on drydock rehabilitation at Boston or from BuY&D 1948 contingency fund. If neither of the above yields the necessary amounts, the matter will await the 1949 budget. At the present time the only remaining step prior to incorporation of the necessary funds in the 1949 budget is certification by RDB as to the non-duplication of existing Federal facilities by the Radiation Laboratory. This matter is in hand, and the remaining activity to certify as to non-duplication at the conclusion of the subject trip was AEC. The AEC representatives had concurred verbally in the non-duplication, but had not reduced the certification to writing.

5. Facilities

(a) After some discussion with Code 765, a letter was prepared for signature in BuShips authorizing equipping of rooms 35 and 35A in the northeast wing of Bldg. 506 as "hot" labs for the contamination-decontamination study at an estimated cost of \$25,000. It was estimated that a period of one week would be required to secure final approval.

(b) BuShips Code 765 confirmed again the fact that authority for initial equipment installations in Bldgs. 506, 507 and 510 was contained in BuShips conf. ltr. NY9-1 of 18 November with costs chargeable to BuShips Project Order 595/46.

(c) As a matter of general policy it was determined that additional equipment installations costing in excess of \$5,000 should be made the subject of letter requests to the Bureau of Ships breaking down the estimates into costs of equipment, cost of labor for installation, and costs of material for installation.

(d) BuShips Code 689 advised that items of equipment listed in the enclosure to the shore facility request for the Radiation Laboratory may be procured directly without further authority. Code 689 also advised that BuSandA had stated in a dispatch approval to the Shipyard on purchase of an "airmat" that items costing less than \$2,000 are no longer to be referred to BuSandA for purchase approval.

(e) BuShips Code 689 advised that it was desired that planning work on Bldg. 351 proceed as soon as practicable in order that lost time in letting contracts after allocation of funds might be reduced to a minimum. The Bureau was advised in this matter that a considerable amount of study should be made along these lines prior to settling final details in order that the laboratory arrangements would not be of an inferior nature because of insufficient knowledge. BuShips Code 765 was

Declassified
NND project # 22/30
By HRM/RG/NARA date 7/31/02

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

advised, however, that it would be extremely desirable to obtain funds for the collateral in Bldg. 351 in order that purchase of standard laboratory furniture might be initiated at an early date to cut down expected delays in delivery.

6. Research Program

(a) The research program of the Radiation Laboratory was discussed in some detail with interested representatives of BuShips, BuMed, BuAer, BuY&D, and NMRI. Dr. Sullivan, the Technical Director of the Laboratory, who was present during the latter part of the visit joined with the writer in explaining the new twelvemonth division of problem assignments and the general emphasis being placed on the various phases. An expression of particular interests from the participating agencies was received. The general consensus indicated the desirability of "pinpointing" the program: i.e., selecting specific items of maximum interest, concentrating on these items and conducting research as indicated by the investigations to produce the solutions to immediate problems.

(b) The desire was generally expressed, also, with regard to the results of the Laboratory studies to establish policies as soon as possible based on current information. This is desired even though it is recognized that much revision of the first policies adopted will be required in the near future. The logical sequence established is to define a policy based on best immediate information, to continue studies in directions where weak points are indicated, and to revise policies continuously as new data indicate the necessity.

(c) With respect to instrument research, it is desired that the Laboratory investigate the field of available portable survey instruments as thoroughly as possible having in mind the evaluation of the instruments from the standpoint of use by the armed forces. BuShips Code 945 is to be advised continuously of the nature and extent of these investigations in order to permit exercise of necessary overall coordination. Code 945 will, in turn, advise the Laboratory continuously as to information obtained by the Bureau on existing instruments or new developments. For special laboratory type counters, the Radiation Laboratory will be considered a basic development activity. Code 945 will confirm the type of investigation desired for coordination with the overall instrument development program. BuShips and NRL will provide the Radiation Laboratory with the new types of counter tubes and survey instruments for evaluation whenever they become available. It is desired, however, that the Laboratory procure directly for evaluation any new types of instruments which become available through local contacts.

7. Relations with AEC

(a) The matter of establishing workable arrangements for transfer of information and documents between AEC and the Radiation Laboratory was discussed at some length with representatives of BuShips, BuMed, CNC and AEC. A general policy for implementing the program was agreed to by all concerned and was made the subject of a letter from BuShips to

Declassified

NND project #

22/30

By HRM/RG/NARA date

1/31/02

C-C-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

AEC. Acceptance and promulgation of this policy will permit the Laboratory to deal expeditiously and efficiently with the Berkeley Area AEC representatives in most matters and will avoid the time and labor consuming process of channeling all requests through the Washington offices.

(b) Latest information was obtained regarding AEC clearance status of all Radiation Laboratory personnel. The handling of requests for these clearances has been most expeditious and will serve greatly to accelerate progress.

8. Miscellaneous

(a) Arrangements were made for procurement of 150 new type Victoreen pocket dosimeters for use in the Laboratory.

(b) Change of the name of the Laboratory to "Atomic Defense Laboratory" to avoid confusion with the Berkeley Radiation Laboratory and Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) was recommended. BuShips will investigate the feasibility of effecting the change.

(c) It is desired that when Lt. Laughlin CEC reports as BuYED Projects Officer he be sent to Radiological Safety School at Treasure Island as soon as practicable.

(d) It was jointly agreed by BuShips and BuMed that a Health Physics Division be set up in the Laboratory under the Technical Director to include all operational phases and research in health physics. This would include monitoring, safety inspections, film badge service and training. The establishment of tolerances and standards, conduct of all clinical and physical examinations and treatment of all cases of overexposure or casualties would be the responsibility of the BuMed Projects Officer and his staff, however. Reports of all inspections and exposure records would be submitted by the Health Physics Division to the BuMed Projects Officer for approval. The detailed plan for this organization and the functions and responsibilities of each group is to be submitted to BuShips and BuMed for approval.


J. J. FEE
Comdr., USN
Officer-in-Charge

cc:

- BuShips Code 689
- BuMed Code 74
- BuYED Code D4
- BuAer Code AE45
- SFNS - Code 100
- Code 200
- Code 300
- Code 350
- Code 400
- Code 800

BY HRM/RG/NARA date 7/31/02
22130 # NND Project #
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Dr. Sullivan
All Div. Hds. & Sect. Ldrs.