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February 27, 1951

Dr. Alvin C. Graves Director of J Division Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory P. 0. Box 1663 Los Alamos, New Mexico

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Dear Dr. Graves:

I have been intending to telephone you for the past several days, but have not had a chance to do so.

One of the items I had in mind to discuss with you is the AEC's participation in the testing of instruments under Project 5.1. As you know, the necessity for testing AEC-developed instruments at "Greenhouse" became evident during the early part of 1950. It was felt that tests on instruments being developed by the aEC which had possible civil defense application - particularly dosage-rate meters and dosimeters - required actual field tests. Further, a field evaluation of the AEC Emergency Monitoring Team kits was felt necessary in order to determine the adequacy of the instruments and equipment in these kits. This, it seems to me, is especially important in light of the fact that the country's civil defense organization is not yet ready to stand on its own feet and the AEC's Emergency Monitoring Teams are, perhaps, the only organized units that presently can be called upon in time of emergency. It is essential that we have some first-hand knowledge of the adequacy of the equipment they are using.

Thirdly, we hope to gain from "Greenhouse" needed information on the serviceability and maintenance experience of health physics monitoring instruments.

You are probably aware that Bob Sutenhoff, Chief of the AEC's Radiation Instruments Branch in the Division of Biology and Medicine, is to be the AEC's sole representative in this Project. Consequently, we are counting rather heavily on him to return with information to guide us in our future AEC instrumentation program.

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Now, Mr. Butenhoff assures me that adequate arrangements have been made with Lieutenant Colonel Mitchell; however, in looking over the plans for this Project, it appears to me that there are organizational road blocks between Mr. Butenhoff and the job we expect him to do. I am concerned, therefore, that he may find it somewhat awkward effectively to discharge the responsibilities we are placing upon him. It seems to me that, if he is going to give proper attention and supervision to the projects in which the AEC is interested, he must have a freer hand than is indicated in the present organization. How this can be achieved is something which you, of course, are better able to determine than I. However, it occurs to me that Mr. Butenhoff would have a better opportunity to exercise the requisite amount of initiative and judgment, and at the same time render greater service to your staff, if he were to be given a post as, for example, Special Assistant to Lieutenant Commander Delano. Under such an arrangement I would, of course, want Mr. Butenhoff to render every possible assistance to Mr. Delano and Colonel Mitchell, but at the same time I would feel in a better position than under the present arrangement to hold Mr. Butenhoff accountable for the information the AEC hopes to obtain from these tests.

I will very much appreciate any assistance you may be able to give us in this matter.

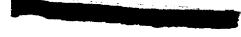
With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Shields Warren, M. D. Director. Division of Biology and Medicine

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