

October 5, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Lawrence E. Kokajko, Section Chief
Risk Task Group
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Raeann M. Shane, Health Physicist
Risk Task Group
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT -- NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH AND ARMED
FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The purpose of the trip was to gain additional familiarity with the activities of both the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI). Visiting these facilities presented a unique opportunity to gain first hand knowledge of a variety of activities regulated by NMSS. The trip took place on September 26, 2000.

The following NRC headquarters staff members were in attendance: Lawrence Kokajko, Dennis Damon, James Danna, Candice Drummond, Patricia Rathbun, Raeann Shane, James Smith, and Albert Wong.

Summary:

The NIH portion of the trip consisted of a tour of the radiopharmacy, diagnostic imaging facilities, teletherapy units, and the accelerator facilities. While in the radiopharmacy the team heard a presentation on the safety aspects of radioisotope generators, the use of appropriate handling techniques for liquid sources, quality control checks for dose calibrators, and general laboratory radiation safety. The team was also able to observe diagnostic imaging equipment in use, and positioning of the teletherapy units for patient treatment was also demonstrated.

At AFRRI, the team was able to visit the TRIGA reactor, see a demonstration of a reactor pulse, and learn about the uses of the reactor for irradiating materials, and for conducting radiation experiments. The team also visited the cobalt-60 wet source-storage irradiator, which is used to conduct biological and material degradation studies. The team had discussions with the operator of the irradiator facility regarding the use of safety devices, and saw a demonstration of the sources being raised from the storage pool.

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Distribution:
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ADAMS ML003762139 Trip Report on NIH and Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute

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DATE	10/05/00		10/05/00						

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