

TELEPHONE [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
DEPT. MELBOURNE.
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G.P.O. MELBOURNE.



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R 172.1
4 FEB 1958
(R94.008)
(R161.2)

In Reply Quote:-

6012/1/135

339 SWANSTON STREET.
MELBOURNE, C.I.

4th February, 1958

[REDACTED]

Subject: Maralinga - Requirement for Blood Counts
.....

At the Sixth Meeting of the Board of Management - Atomic Weapons Tests, held on 18th October, 1957, [REDACTED] Director of the Antler series of atomic trials at Maralinga, brought forward the question of blood counts for all entrants to the Range. After some discussion, the matter was deferred to enable [REDACTED] to raise it from a medico legal aspect upon his return to the U.K.

Recently [REDACTED] advised in the following terms :-

" After consultation with our Medical and Health Physics Divisions I now wish to continue to press for blood counts. The reasons are substantially those I gave at the Board meeting. The U.K. has a responsibility under the Agreement with Australia for radiological safety at the Range. In the first instance we wish to exclude people with existing pathological conditions from the Range. In the second, we wish to be able to demonstrate that this has been done in any case in which a claim for damage is made. In order to reduce the amount of work to a minimum I withdraw my previous suggestion of classification of personnel based on time spent at the Range by the following :-

(a) Blood counts required before arrival on site:-

All members of Services
All scientific staff
All other civilians who will be required to work in active areas.

N.F.A.
[REDACTED]

(b) Blood counts not required before arrival on site :-

Civilians whose duties do not require them to enter active areas.

In the case of civilians who enter the Range under (b) but are subsequently found to have a need to enter an active area a blood count would be required. Facilities should preferably exist for such examinations at Maralinga. In addition to blood counts, [REDACTED] would continue to be issued to all entrants to the Range.

[REDACTED]

I should be glad if you would raise this matter with the [REDACTED]. If it is agreed, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

...../2

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[REDACTED]

shall include a suitable paragraph in the
"Maritime Safety Regulations."

[REDACTED]

Referred for information.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]