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31 MAR 1960

DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY

WEAPONS RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT

MINUTE PAPER

(This side only to be written on)

SUBJECT : [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I left Woomera for Coober Pedy on 28th March, 1960, and returned to Woomera 31st March, travelling by International 4 x 4 vehicle.

2. The object of this trip was to assist the South Australian Aborigines Department and a medical party to collect blood samples from as many Coober Pedy natives past puberty as possible. A similar recent survey of 250 natives at Yalata Lutheran Mission had revealed an alarmingly large proportion of venereal disease suspects.

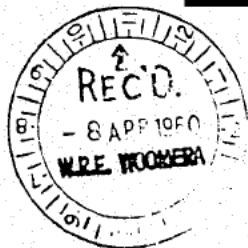
3. 64 Natives were examined at Coober Pedy and two natives refused to be examined. The results will not be available for a short period.

4. If there is more evidence of venereal disease, it is anticipated that large-scale remedial action against the disease will be taken among most of the native population in the northern part of the State.

5. My duties at Coober Pedy consisted of persuading natives to move from the "Eight Mile" into the Mission for the examination. I also arranged for their transport, wood and water supplies.

6. The personnel in the party were [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] April, 1960.



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