

EXHIBIT J

CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL AGENT MEETING JUNE 14, 2006

On June 14, 2006, the Department of Defense (DoD) hosted an information exchange with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regarding veterans exposed to chemical and biological agents. While many subjects were discussed, the focal point was VA's Edgewood Arsenal veteran notification effort. The following document provides a summary of all discussion subjects.

PARTICIPANTS

DoD's Deployment Health Support Directorate (DHSD): Dee Dodson Morris and Roy Finno.

VA's Office of Policy: Joe Salvatore.

VA's Compensation and Pension Service: Dave Abbot.

DISCUSSION SUBJECTS

Accidents Cohort

Mr. Finno and Ms. Dodson Morris informed VA that DHSD's contractors had developed a cohort of several hundred individuals, mostly contractors/civilians, who were exposed to agents via accidents at fill sites or during demolition duties at Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Colorado. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] DoD's General Counsel is involved sorting out the issues.

Overall Database Issues

[REDACTED]

Data Transfers

In light of VA's recent data breach, VA and DHSD discussed the continued sharing of databases. VA noted that PKI would be utilized from this point forward.

[REDACTED]

Dugway Proving Ground Cohort

Mr. Finno and Ms. Dodson Morris noted that chemical testing records from testing at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah have been identified by their contractors. Additional details regarding the population and utilized agents were not available.

Edgewood Arsenal Data and Notification Effort

a. Notification Letter

[REDACTED]

b. Fact Sheet

Ms. Dodson Morris stated that DoD's Fact Sheet is in the end stages of concurrence.

c. Press Releases

Ms. Dodson Morris stated that DoD does not plan to issue any press releases regarding VA's notification effort.

d. Data Matches

Abbot noted that of the approximate 4,500 Edgewood Arsenal veteran names received from DoD, VA has associated an estimated 2,000 social security numbers and addresses.

e. Data

Mr. Finno and Ms. Dodson Morris discussed the following three issues: 1) DoD to provide VA with 817 new Edgewood Arsenal-tested names in the coming weeks, 2) by end of summer 2006, DoD to provide over 1,000 new names of veterans tested under Edgewood Arsenal's direction at other facilities, and 3) approximately 450 participants were present but never tested.

Of note, many of the 1,000 non-Edgewood Arsenal-tested veterans were exposed to lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) during performance tests (i.e., ability to disassemble a machine gun while under the influence). It was understood that this LSD-tested cohort was not exposed to MKULTRA's LSD compound known as EA 1729.

f. Post-Notification Briefings

Upon completion of the initial notification effort, Mr. Salvatore noted that both VA and DoD must advise Mr. Len Sisteck and other staffers from the House Veterans Affairs Committee (HVAC).

g. Coordination with Veterans Health Administration (VHA)

In regards to the Edgewood Arsenal notification effort, Ms. Dodson Morris requested that VBA coordinate efforts with VHA. Mr. Abbot mentioned that VHA was in the process of issuing field notifications.

h. Dioxin

Mr. Finno noted that some Edgewood Arsenal veterans were exposed to agents laced with dioxin. In support, Mr. Finno provided pages 248-253 of a National Academy of Sciences' report on the Edgewood Arsenal cohort.

Fort Detrick Cohort

DoD provided a glimpse of located records regarding chemical and biological agent testing programs at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

a. Cohort

According to Mr. Finno, the cohort contains those individuals involved in Operation Whitecoat (Seventh Day Adventists who opting chemical and biological exposure testing rather than a tour a duty in Vietnam), and those tested for medical purposes in subsequent programs.

For the post-Operation Whitecoat medical testing program, Ms. Dodson Morris noted that Fort Detrick went to great lengths to ensure that all testing was in compliance with the Nuremberg Code, above board, and legal. It was noted that servicemembers actually enlisted for Operation Whitecoat and the medical testing programs, but that proper consents forms were utilized for the latter program.

[REDACTED]

b. Data

Currently, DHSD estimates that their contractors have two spreadsheets containing several thousand names. DHSD did not want to quantify the precise number of records. Of the involved agents, tularemia was noted as the most non-benign substance. Per Ms. Dodson Morris, approximately 20 percent of all program participants were not tested.

Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report

An IOM researcher informed Mr. Finno that the Project 112/SHAD report is nearing completion. Ms. Dodson Morris requested that VA invite DHSD to the final IOM hearing.

MKULTRA Cohort

Ms. Dodson Morris noted receipt of VA's letter regarding the disclosure of all records related to MKULTRA and use of psychochemicals, including LSD testing. DHSD's response is in the concurrence process. As a related issue, please reference the Data section in the Edgewood Arsenal Data and Notification Effort narrative.

Mustard Gas Cohort

a. CHEMGAS database

Once again, Mr. Salvatore received DHSD's confirmation that they would provide a status on the "CHEM GAS database." In the original database created by the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), an Access table was created which identified individuals were exposed to assorted agents, but not in the master mustard gas database.

b. Non-Mustard Gas Records

[REDACTED]

c. Civilian Records

Upon direct questioning from Mr. Salvatore, Ms. Dodson Morris stated that she has not yet informed the Department of Labor of the civilian exposures in the mustard gas database.

d. DMDC Boxes

Ms. Dodson Morris noted that DHSD will soon be in receipt of five additional mustard gas-related boxes from DMDC.

Observed Issues

Mr. Finno and Ms. Dodson Morris noted the following issues:

Veterans seem to demand service connection for any type of exposure, especially based on the three-drop test and tear gas training

Joe Salvatore (008A)
June 14, 2006