

November 27, 1985

TO: E. Huberman  
FROM: R. A. Schlenker *RAS*  
SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act Request

We have been unable to locate the memo from Rowland to Schultz dated December 21, 1972 which you requested about 5:15 p.m. yesterday following the receipt of a letter from D. T. Goldman to A. Schriesheim concerning this matter. As today is the last business day before the deadline, December 2, further search is not possible without missing the deadline. Locating this memo is complicated by the fact that Rowland retired about two years ago and Schultz is dead.

Other intra-laboratory memos on the 18 plutonium research subjects referred to in the Goldman letter, mention them by name and give personal information about them. The release of such documents would be a violation of the patients' privacy and the right-to-privacy is protected by law. It would also constitute a violation of normal ethical practice in the handling of patient medical records.

The subjects referred to have been studied by several organizations since the mid 1940s. Non-personal information can be found in the scientific literature. A good review and guide to the literature up to the time of its publication can be found in Patricia W. Durbin, "Plutonium in Man: A New Look at the Old Data," pp.469-530, Radiobiology of Plutonium, Edited by Betsy J. Stover and Webster S.S. Jee, Published by the J. W. Press, Department of Anatomy, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, 1972.

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