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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 31, 1994

MEMORANDUM TO PATSY THOMASSON

FROM: CHRISTINE VARNEY 

SUBJECT: Attached GAO Letter

After consultation with the Office of Legislative Affairs and the Counsel's office, we have determined that it is unnecessary to respond to the GAO letter on the human radiation investigation.

Legislative Affairs has discussed the matter with Senator Glenn, who requested the letter, and GAO will work with the agencies involved.

If you receive a follow-up letter, please let me know and we can determine the best way to proceed.

cc: Steve Neuwirth, Counsel's Office
Tracey Thornton, Legislative Affairs



United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

General Government Division

March 8, 1994

Ms. Patsy Thomasson
Director, Office of Administration
Executive Office of the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Ms. Thomasson:

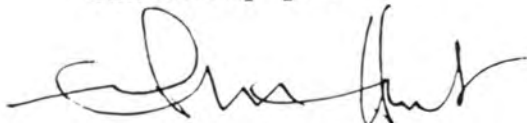
The General Accounting Office has been requested by the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs to examine federal plans and efforts for disclosing information concerning radiation-related experiments and releases that involved human subjects, primarily between 1944 and May 30, 1974. We are being asked to examine the details of these plans and efforts, including planned federal data gathering and data analyses efforts with respect to the radiation events.

We are aware that the President has established a Human Radiation Interagency Working Group to oversee the gathering of data concerning the radiation events and also established an Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments to analyze the gathered data. We will need to interview the coordinator for the Interagency Working Group and the Advisory Committee, Dr. Ruth Faden of the Advisory Committee, and others from the President's staff that are involved in the administration's effort to disclose the details of the radiation events. We would appreciate your notifying the appropriate officials about our review and designating the points of contact for our work.

The Energy and Science Group of our Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division will be conducting the review under assignment code 302113. We would like to schedule an entrance conference as soon as possible to further discuss our assignment. Your assistance in making cognizant officials and the necessary documentation available to complete this assignment will be greatly appreciated.

If you need additional information concerning our review, please contact Mr. Robert E. Allen, Jr., Assistant Director, or Mr. Jack Paul, Evaluator-in-Charge at (301) 903-3712. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William M. Hunt', with a stylized, cursive script.

William M. Hunt
Director, Federal Management
Issues