



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ARMED FORCES EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BOARD
5109 LEESBURG PIKE
FALLS CHURCH VA 22041-3258



AFEB (15-1a) 00-7

03 August 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (HEALTH AFFAIRS)

SUBJECT: Armed Forces Epidemiology Board (AFEB) Comments and Recommendations Concerning the JCS BW Threat List for 2000.

1. On 31 May 2000, the AFEB met to review the JCS BW Threat List for 2000 on behalf of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (ASD) Health Affairs (HA). The Board received briefings on the new threat list, the status of the recommendations made after the 1999 review, an update on the medical biological defense research program, and an update on the Joint Vaccine Acquisition Program (JVAP). After considerable discussion, the Board agreed that:

NO NEW RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING BW COUNTERMEASURES WERE NEEDED WITH REGARDS TO THE NEW THREAT LIST.

2. However, there was considerable discussion on the follow-up actions taken on the recommendations from the 1999 BW threat list review. The following comments and recommendations were made:

a. **THE AFEB CONTINUES TO ENDORSE THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WERE FORWARDED ON 25 MAY 1999 (AFEB 99-5).**

- 1) **SPECIFICALLY, THE AFEB CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE LISTING OF POTENTIAL BW AGENTS PRESENTED AS TIER I, TIER II, AND TIER III AGENTS.**
- 2) **HOWEVER, THE AFEB IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE DELAYS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE "NEXT GENERATION" ANTHRAX VACCINE AND THE LACK OF ATTENTION BEING PAID TO STAPHYLOCOCCAL ENTEROTOXIN B VACCINE DEVELOPMENT.**

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- b. THE AFEB STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE DOD ACTIVITIES TO FURTHER PRIORITIZE BW THREATS USING MEDICAL RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY, AND MEMBERS OF THE AFEB WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS TO ACCOMPLISH THIS GOAL.

- d. THE AFEB WISHES TO REEMPHASIZE ITS SUPPORT OF THE RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF JOINT TRI-SERVICE SOFTWARE PROGRAMS CAPABLE OF RECORDING AND REPORTING ADMINISTRATION OF ANY DOSE OF VACCINE ADMINISTERED TO DOD PERSONNEL.

- e. WITH REGARDS TO THE UTILIZATION OF MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE AS A METHOD OF EARLY DETECTION OF BW USE, THE BOARD WAS TOLD THAT GEIS CONDUCTED A SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE WORKSHOP 23-25 MAY 2000. THE BOARD WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE RESULTS OF THE WORKSHOP AT THE NEXT MEETING TO REVIEW THE POSSIBLE MERITS OF THESE INITIATIVES.

- f. THE BOARD APPLAUDS THE EFFORTS OF THE MEDICAL PROGRAM SUBPANEL OF THE JOINT SERVICES INTEGRATION GROUP (JSIG) TO IMPLEMENT THE BOARD'S 1999 EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING IN JOINT OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENTS (JORDS) FOR BW VACCINES.

- g. THE BOARD CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE DOD ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (AVIP). (THE STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM THE AFEB MEETING, 28-29 FEBRUARY 2000 IS ENCLOSED.)

3. At the request of the ASD(HA), the AFEB reviewed antibiotic countermeasures and treatments against bacterial and rickettsial BW agents on 30 May 2000, and will forward their recommendations under separate cover to ASD(HA).

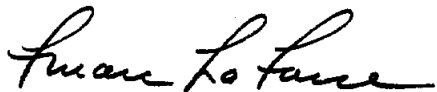
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4. The above comments and recommendations were unanimously approved by the Board.

FOR THE ARMED FORCES EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BOARD:



F. MARC LAFORCE, M.D.
AFEB President



BENEDICT M. DINIEGA
Colonel, USA, MC
AFEB Executive Secretary

2 Encls

1. Rec 99-5
2. Rec 00-1

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