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Hail New X-Ray Machine to Fight Cancer

50 Million-Volt Device Developed

NEW YORK, Sept. 10 (UPI)—A new 50-million volt X-ray machine that may prove a powerful weapon in the fight against cancer was announced today.

The new machine is a "little brother" of the gigantic betatron, an atom-smashing machine developed by General Electric.

In disclosing the new, compact device, GE scientists said its rays will penetrate into the body more deeply and effectively than those of X-ray machines of lower voltage, thus making deep-seated cancers more susceptible to radiation.

No Tests Yet

Dr. Ernest E. Charlton, head of the X-ray section of the laboratory, said no medical experiments have yet been made with the 50-million-volt device and none are now planned.

"This is hardly our province," he said, "but we hope that properly qualified medical scientists will explore the possibilities of these radiations which are now available."

Dr. Charlton said the midget-sized betatron will be used in connection with a program to be conducted with the support of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission by the biology department of Union College, Schenectady. The project will study the effects of high-energy radiation on living organisms.

Weighs 8 Tons

The new machine weighs only eight tons, compared with the 135-ton, 100-million-volt betatron, which obviously could not be moved around in a hospital. The "little brother" can be mounted on rollers and its beam can be directed toward the patient at any desired angle.

The betatrons work on alternating current, in which the voltage starts at zero, builds up to maximum, returns to zero, reaches a maximum in the other direction and returns to zero. The cycle may be repeated 60 times a second.

As the electrons are whirled in a doughnut-shaped vacuum tube, they are speeded up. Eventually they smash into a tungsten target. Thus the high beam of high-voltage X-rays are generated.

Military Duties Bring Weary Woes to Willie

SCRANTON, Pa., Sept. 10 (UPI)—Willie Clayton, 25, Harrisburg Pa., has his miseries. Between the Army, the Navy, his draft board, and diapers for his colonel's baby, Willie is all mixed up.

Willie tells it this way. While in the Army in 1942, he deserted at Ft. Bragg after he was assigned as a domestic to his colonel's wife. Willie said washing soiled diapers didn't constitute military duties.

Then he joined the Navy under an assumed name.

HE RECEIVED a medical discharge and registered for the draft. His draft board said Willie failed to notify them of his change of address. Furthermore, he failed to report for induction.

Between a five-year sentence for desertion facing him at Ft. Bragg, and a year and one-day sentence given him yesterday by Federal Judge Albert L. Watson on the draft board charges, Willie is confused.

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