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Descripton Notes Alvin L. Young filed this item under "Vietnam Veterans Twin Study." Item includes cover note from Seth Eisen to Dr. Alvin Young and a Report of Contact describing Seth Eisen's call to Jim Hagans regarding internal issues affecting the progress of the VETS protocol.

Veterans Administration

REFERENCE SLIP

TO (Name or title–Mail routing symbol)	INITIALS–DATE
1. DR ALVIN Young	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

REASON FOR REFERENCE

- ☐ AS REQUESTED
- ☐ COMMENTS
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REMARKS

Alvin

And More ——— Sounds like They'll be a period of inactivity for a while,

FROM

DATE

TEL. EXT.

VA FORM MAY 1980 3230 EXISTING STOCKS OF VA FORM 3230, AUG 1976, WILL BE USED. ☆U.S. GPO: 1982—506-203

CONFIDENTIAL
REPORT OF CONTACT

CONTACTED: Dr. Jim Hagans, Chief, CSP (FTS 350 3669/366
DATE OF CONTACT: 6/6/84

Henderson suggested yesterday that I contact Hagans
answers to a series of questions which I had add
Henderson and which he could not answer.

I began by describing my reasons to Hagans for callin
recent complete reversal in attitude about the need f
review? what will the composition of the new review com
what is the timetable for review? etc).

Hagans began his answer by stating that he has no p
insight into activities in VACO relative to the
information he will give me represents his opinion and
given no greater validity than "reasonable hearsay". H
my questions were "reasonable". He doesn't know anyone
for me to call who knows the answers and would be willi
them to me.

Hagans said he really didn't know just what precipi
ferment about our proposal. In part, it could be due
retirement. The Acting CMD may have different attit
Custis, although Hagans does not know this to be the ca

He said that the original decision by the VA to see
review for our proposal was based on several motivati
was no uniformity of reasons, opinions, motivations,
among those involved. Some probably had political reaso
hoped to find a supportive group to review our
favorably, others felt that outside review would lo
etc. Hagans said that from a purely scientific aspe
could be criticisized as not being objective because m
members were also on the original planning comm
therefore would be reviewing a protocol they helpe
However, Hagans said that this is <u>not</u> likely to hav
important reason for seeking outside review.

Hagans said that he thought the VA is now involved i
decision process about the VETS. Whether Protocol II i
or not will not be based particularly on its merits. Th
decision on Protocol II is now an administrative

some who do not feel we have made much progress, he agree with them, nor does he understand what they a thinking. He believes our protocol will make a su contribution to knowledge. Since we have been associate CSP our protocol has progressed significantly. "I am supportive of the VETS.....Not that that matters much

Although Hagans supports the proposal, he feels he i position to function as an effective advocate in VAC because since our project is a CSP, his opinion interpreted as being biased. If his opinion is asked certainly give it clearly. However, his opinion has asked. Hagans feels that anything he might do to try to the decision process is likely to result in more harm t

In the past, Hagans has been successful in keeping pol of the CSP. This certainly hasn't been the case with Therefore, to a certain extent, the VETS may be doing disservice. However, he is certainly willing to co support our study.

Hagans said that it is clear that Greene has "placed a moratorium with regard to Protocol II". Hagans said own goals at present are to: a) Obtain firm funding fo I for FY' 85. b) Maintain the integrity of the investigators and support staff until a decision on P is made. Hagans said that he has "an unofficial unde with Greene that until there is a resolution, the pres will be maintained." If the protocol is rejected, Haga that we will be given 90 days from the day of notifi find alternate salary support.

Hagans said he has no good feeling for how long it will things to settle down". We might have an answer n However, Hagans believes the delay is much more lik several months. After all, "there are so many thin picture." Hagans mentioned that although Hobson and Sh been trying to encourage the approval of the VETS, he sometimes this has backfired and worked to the disad the project.

Hagans said that he was "delighted" to talk with me understood my feelings. Several times during our disc told Hagans how much we appreciate his advice and suppo

Our conversation lasted about 35 minutes.