

November 1992

IN RE: ABRAMS

- 21 Clinical Problems in Aviation Medicine. Influence of the Aftereffects of Alcohol Combined with Hypoxia on Psychomotor Performance. J.R. Carroll, W.F. Ashe, and L.B. Roberts. *Aerospace Med.* 35, 990-993 (Oct. 1964).

In an effort to determine the aftereffects of alcohol (hangover) and altitude on human subjects a pursuit-type tracking task was devised with an additional time splitting visual task used in conjunction. The task involved two factors, one being the monitoring and control of a moving point source on an oscilloscope and the other being the monitoring and cancelling of lights displayed around the subject. This study indicated that there was no effect on performance by human subjects on the tasks provided for periods up to 15 minutes after having consumed up to 105 cc. of absolute alcohol in orange juice 10 hours prior to testing. The added variable of exposure to altitude up to 13,000 feet did not alter these findings. It was felt that the obvious weakness in this procedure was the short exposure time involved, and subsequent longer studies may be indicated. However, the authors are unable to find valid pharmacological or physiological evidence that a single rather severe "hangover" does in fact seriously affect performance in a well motivated otherwise normal subject.

-- Authors' abst.

- 22 "Whiplash" Injuries. J.J. Dowling. *Am. Assn. Ind. Nurses J.* 12, 12-15, 34-35 (May, 1964).

Various aspects of the mechanics of whiplash injury are discussed in the light of more recent information. Sites of injury in the neck and vertebral column are identified and discussed from a clinical point of view. Symptoms and specific effects in damaged areas are described. The significance of diagnosis by x-ray is stressed, and treatment by immobilization and rest recommended.

-- Aerospace Med. Absts.

- 23 Inguinal Herniorrhaphy: Immediate Return to Unrestricted Work. Surgical Techniques Using Local Anesthesia and Results in 5,903 Personal Cases. C.J. Bellis. *Ind. Med. & Surg.* 33, 721-725 (Oct. 1964).

A preponderance of successes in 5,903 cases of inguinal hernia has attended the routine use of local anesthesia, discharge from the hospital on the day of operation, and resumption of unrestricted physical work the same day or a day or two later. No indirect hernias recurred. In 4,432 inguinal herniorrhaphies using forms of Bassini's operation direct hernias later developed in 23 patients. In another group of 1,471 inguinal herniorrhaphies in which polyester mesh was employed to enforce the posterior canal wall without additional apposition techniques, direct hernias subsequently appeared in three cases. There are 33 references.

-- Author's summary

- 24 The Routine Use of Echoencephalography in the Diagnosis of Intracranial Masses. R.G. Lee and T.P. Morley. *Can. Med. Assn. J.* 91, 987-990 (Nov. 7, 1964).

Ultrasonic echoes can be detected from interfaces within the body. This principle has been applied to the examination of the cranial contents by the procedure of echoencephalography. The presence of a unilateral intracranial mass was correctly predicted by this technique in 30 out of 33 cases. The method of examination is simple, harmless, painless and rapid. Its general adoption as an aid in diagnosis of intracranial lesions, particularly in acute head injuries, is recommended.

-- Authors' abst.

- 25 A Trial of Oil-Adjuvant Influenza Vaccine in a Non-Epidemic Season. R.W. Howell and A.N.B. Stott. *Brit. J. Ind. Med.* 21, 259-264 (Oct. 1964).

In the autumn of 1963, 1,679 employees of two United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority establishments were inoculated with a single dose (0.25 ml.) of polyvalent oil-adjuvant influenza vaccine. In a non-epidemic winter, no significant improvement in certified sickness absence could be demonstrated in the vaccinated group when compared with a randomly selected uninoculated group. In particular, no real protection was shown in those vaccinated, against in-

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