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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : K. D. Nichols, General Manager 411807 DATE: July 12, 1954

FROM : John C. Bugher, M.D., Director
Division of Biology and Medicine *JCB*

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL IN CONNECTION WITH THE MARSHALL ISLANDERS' PETITION.

SYMBOL: BM:JCB

At the request of the State Department and with your approval I joined the American Delegation to the Trusteeship Council for the hearing of the report of the High Commissioner for the Trust Territories of the Pacific and for the consideration of the petition of the residents of the Marshall Islands.

On arrival last Tuesday afternoon, July 6, I had a conference with Mr. Mason Sears, United States Delegate, Mr. Frank E. Midkiff, High Commissioner, and members of the U. S. Delegation staff. It seemed reasonably clear that the Agenda of the following day would probably not deliberately involve the petition but would be concerned with the other aspects of the Trust Territories' report by Mr. Midkiff. Mr. Midkiff had a long prepared statement which specifically recognized that the matter of the petition should be heard first by the Committee on Petitions of the Trusteeship Council. However, it was anticipated that in the question period which would follow Mr. Midkiff's formal statement, matters relating to test activities might very well arise.

Mr. Midkiff's statement was given on Wednesday and in the question period which followed the representative from India in a prolonged question which was in fact a speech for the record asked for information about the permanent damage which had been done to the lands of the Marshall Islands and the hazards which had been established affecting the lives of the inhabitants. Mr. Midkiff replied that the information would be furnished a little later, and that night I prepared such a general statement, a copy of which is attached.

A bloc has been formed in the Trusteeship Council of countries antagonistic to the United States. These are led by the Indian representation and outstandingly comprised of the Soviet Union and Syria, with varying degrees of sympathy from the representation of small units such as Haiti. It is the obvious intent

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