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Mr. John T. Conway
 Executive Director
 Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
 Washington of the United States

Dear Mr. Conway:

The following represents the most recent information on the occurrence of thyroid nodules among the people of Rongelap Island who were exposed to fallout on March 1, 1954. Dr. Robert A. Church of the Medical Department of the Brookhaven National Laboratory has returned from the Marshall Islands where he and his team conducted the latest of the continuing series of medical examinations of these people.

The last letter on this subject, dated May 12, 1965, reported a cumulative total of 16 Marshall Islanders had been found to have thyroid nodules. Dr. C. L. Dunham also presented the Joint Committee with medical comments regarding this problem at the time of the FY 1966 authorization hearings.

The recent survey disclosed one new case with a thyroid nodule. This additional case was in a 17-year old boy who had been away on an sailing stool and, consequently, had not been examined for several years. This brings to 17 the number of diagnosed cases of nodular thyroids among the 67 survivors of the original exposed group.

During the latter part of May 1966, five patients were brought from Rongelap to the Brookhaven Medical Department. After thorough examination they were transferred to the New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston for subtotal thyroidectomies. All did well and were returned in June 1966 to Rongelap.

Also this, 11 of the 17 individuals with thyroid nodules have been treated surgically. These 11, nine children and two adults,

5-12-67

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Sincerely yours,

S. G. English

S. G. English
Assistant General Manager for
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