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MEDICAL RESEARCH
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February 17, 1969

Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg
Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission
Germantown, Maryland 19144

Dear Dr. Seaborg:

Mr. William R. Norwood, High Commissioner of the Marshall Islands, suggested that I write to you. We wish to obtain from the Bikini Atoll some samples of soil that have been subjected to radioactive treatment from the bombing tests.

Normally, for our studies of the microorganisms present in soil we try to obtain about one teaspoonful from each collecting site. Was enough collected for tests by the A.E.C. that such a quantity from each collection would still be available, and is it possible for us to have such? We would be happy with perhaps about twenty from different locations where the vegetation may have been different. If any of the samples were collected aseptically, representatives of these would be especially welcome.

With thanks for your consideration of our request, I am

Very truly yours,

John B. Routien
John B. Routien, Ph.D.
Mycologist

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