

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : K. E. Fields, General Manager

DATE: August 5, 1957

FROM : C. L. Dunham, M. D., Director
Division of Biology and Medicine

410679

SUBJECT: RADIATION LEVELS ON RONGELAP ISLAND

In our Staff Paper AEC 125/30, dated February 6, 1957 concerning the return of the Rongelapese to their home island, we predicted " - - It is difficult to extrapolate precisely far into the future, but the data suggest that the gamma doses on Rongelap Island would not greatly exceed (if at all) 0.5 roentgens for the first year of reoccupancy, with lesser doses in subsequent years. - - -"

On June 25, 1957, just prior to the actual return of the Rongelapese, a radiological survey was made of the gamma levels on Rongelap Island. These data were attached in the form of a memorandum with accompanying maps from Mr. Ernest Wynkoop to Dr. Gordon M. Dunning. You will note that the average gamma dose rate on the Island on June 25, 1957 was about 0.03 milliroentgens per hour (0.26 roentgens per year).

You may wish to transmit this information to Dr. Libby, since he has manifested keen interest in these matters.

Enclosures (2)

1. Memo to Gordon M. Dunning, OEM fr Ernest Wynkoop, Chf. Eniwetok Br., Test Div., EPG, dtd 6/27/57
sub: Gamma Radiological Survey of Rongelap and Aneaketok Islands
- 2 thru Maps

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7/18/88

INCOMPLETE DOCUMENT REFERENCE SHEET

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Pages missing _____

Enclosures missing ~~1 memo~~ to Downing fr. Wynkoop
dtd 6/27/57 - Maps _____

Attachments missing _____

Other _____

Dick Koogle
signature

2-17-89
date

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