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February 4, 1959

Gordon M. Dunning, Chief, Radiation Effects of Weapons Branch  
Division of Biology and Medicine

RONGELAP DATA

SYMBOL: BMREW: GMD

On February 3, 1959 a meeting was held to discuss:

- a. the current data on the Rongelapese and their food supply, and
- b. the program for collecting and analysis of future samples.

We were handicapped by the absence of a representative from the University of Washington, but there were discussions of the currently known information. Dr. Conard left a copy of the draft of his report on the 1958 survey.

It was agreed that during the Spring 1959 survey -

- a. from 8 to 10 representative meals would be collected as well as additional samples of pandanus,
- b. further information would be sought on actual eating habits of the Rongelapese,
- c. careful records would be kept concerning the manner of collecting and handling the samples, and
- d. Dr. Conard would continue his studies along the lines of his efforts in 1958. In the absence of a representative from the University of Washington it was not possible to discuss their proposed resurvey.

There was a brief discussion on the desirability of establishing a central file into which data would be transmitted and from which information might be sought by those concerned with environmental contamination in the Pacific.

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Those in attendance were:

Dr. C. L. Dunham, Chairman	DBM
Dr. Robert A. Conard	BNL
Dr. Stanton Cohn	BNL
→ Dr. John Harley	NYOO
Dr. Gordon M. Dunning	DBM
Dr. I. E. Wallen	DBM
Dr. James Haggerty	DBM
Dr. W. E. Lotz	DBM
Dr. C. D. Van Cleave	DBM
Mr. G. T. Anton	DBM
Mr. H. Hollister	DBM
Mr. A. W. Klement, Jr.	DBM
Colonel S. W. Josephson	DMA