



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

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DEC 7 1976

Dear Mr. Maldonado:

This is to formalize discussions Miss Johnson of my staff has had with you and Dr. Weinstein concerning the request for two physicians from the U.S. Public Health Service to assist ERDA's medical team in providing medical examinations to the people of the Rongelap and Utirik Atolls in the Marshall Islands.

As you know, general medical care of Micronesians is the responsibility of the administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. However, for the past 20 years, AEC/ERDA had conducted a program of medical surveillance and treatment of the people of Rongelap and Utirik who were exposed to fall-out. It has been suggested that U.S. Public Health Service physicians might be assigned for a period of approximately six weeks to assist the ERDA medical team in this humanitarian effort. If such an assignment is agreeable to all concerned, Dr. Robert A. Conard, M.D., Medical Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, will contact Dr. Sheridan Weinstein concerning the kind of medical specialists desired in the forthcoming medical survey planned for March and April 1977.

We appreciate your willingness to cooperate in this mission.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd.) Fred M. Zeder II

Fred M. Zeder II  
Director of Territorial Affairs

Mr. Joseph P. Maldonado  
Regional Director  
Department of Health, Education,  
and Welfare  
50 Fulton Street  
San Francisco, California 94102

cc: Walter Weyzen, M.D.



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