

AUG 9 1957

410272

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. W. F. Libby

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 26, 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 Wykeop to Dr. Gordon H. Dunning. You will note that the average gamma dose rate on the island on June 26, 1957, was about 0.03 milliroentgens per hour (0.26 roentgens per year).

Since you have exhibited a manifest interest in this matter, the enclosed is forwarded for your information.

Signed - K. E. Fields

General Manager

Enclosures: (1)
Memo to G.Dunning from Wykeop,
dat 6/27/57, subj: GAMMA RADI-
OLOGICAL SURVEY OF RONGELAP IS-
LAND

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