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BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY
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REFER:

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

October 21, 1969

Mr. William A. Bonnet
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
P. O. Box 580
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

REPOSITORY DOE/PASO
COLLECTION DOE/NV
BOX No. 1228, "ERDA # 3"
BIO-MED, DR. CONARD
FOLDER OF thru 12/1969

Dear Bill:

I have your letters explaining the method of per diem payment for the Marshallese, etc. I concur with the way you are handling this matter entirely and hope that we can institute this method since it will preclude any dissatisfaction on the part of the Rongelap people.

I am also pleased that you will be able to handle the travel and per diem for the 3-4 Trust Territory medical personnel to participate in our next survey.

In regard to the whole body counting facility for Bikini, Doug Clareus and I have been discussing the possibility of carrying out these counts on a ship. Hopefully we would be able to avoid the use of the heavy lead bricks since it is possible the shielding of the ship and the ocean might be adequate to reduce background radiation to acceptable levels. We are thinking of trying this out on the next survey on board the Militobi, perhaps at Rongelap. If this works it would solve our problems entirely about having to set up a facility entirely ashore. If not, we may have to consider the use of the Trust Territory dispensary.

Mr. Johnston, the High Commissioner is due to be in Washington next week and I have asked for a conference with him perhaps on the ^{1100 3} 27th. I hope that someone from AEC, DBM, and Military Applications can be present also. I propose to tell the HICOM that we will pay travel and per diem for 3-4 Trust Territory personnel to participate in the survey this year, which will leave the future somewhat open to their suggestions. I will also bring up the subject of payment of the Utirik people since I am afraid we will run into difficulties in carrying out our examinations on that island in the future. I hope that we can arrange a token payment for each exposed individual.

We are planning the survey for the first three weeks in March as things stand now. Will let you know more definitely soon.

Sincerely,

Bab

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