

402086

Date: October 10, 1979

To: Addressees

From: Project Coordinator

Subject: TRIP REPORT - BNL MEDICAL

PASO ROUTING SLIP			
OCT 11 1979	A	I	SEE ME INIT
DIRECTOR			
Admin. Assistant			
PROJECT ENGINEER			
ADMINISTRATIVE OFF.			
PROG. MANAGER			
SEND COPY TO:			
21 Sep to 5 Oct 1979			
JA/SITE MGT. REP.			
EA/SITE MGT. REP.			
OTHER			

September 19 - Departed for Kwajalein on MAC approximately one-half hour late. Arrived Kwajalein 1200 Kwajalein time.

1300 - Met Keith, Jan and Monroe at terminal. Made appropriate visits with KMR and Global personnel (Holt, Roberts, Security, McAfee, KMR, RKL "C"). Visited marine department and located life rafts on Tarlang. Spoke to the port captain and port engineer and advised them that the rafts were DOE property. They both expressed surprise (fake) and advised that Les Taylor was not back from vacation. Taylor and I had a discussion about the rafts in January 1978 about leaving them on the LCU-26. They had been removed sometime after January 1979 and put on the Tarlang.

I made an agreement with the port captain that if the skipper of the Likatanur would agree to using a couple of Global life rafts for this trip then we would give GA/Army sufficient time to procure their own. Sent a message to Stanley/Brown to this effect and asked for any procurement data to support DOE ownership.

1730 - Dr. Pratt stopped by my room and really blew up regarding sending patients in from outer islands for exams at Ebeye or Majuro. Apparently the \$2,000 check sent from Honolulu to Majuro was sent to Guam first and Pratt had not received it by the time they left Majuro. The check was assigned to the Nitijela to pay for the one family that had come in for exam. Pratt was definitely upset that I hadn't brought any money to pay the four patients that had come down. He told me to go to Ebeye and pay three patients because they had no money. He was really hollering when he said quote, "I'm a doctor not a f_____ clerk." He then left and slammed the door on the way out. I then called Bill Stanley and told him what happened. I asked for \$600 to be sent out via cable the next day. I did not go to Ebeye that night.

September 20 - I went to Ebeye with the medical team at 0815 on the KMR water taxi. Dr. Pratt asked me if I had brought plenty of money with me. I failed to answer him because he was obviously needling me. When I arrived on Ebeye, Bill Scott and myself saw two outer island patients. I paid Mina Boas \$20 and Article \$30

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and told them I would return that afternoon with more money. After paying the patients I returned to Kwajalein and contacted Bob Woltz, H&N, after determining how much money these patients were entitled to. I asked him to have \$1,000 wired out that day. I then went to the Bank of Hawaii and talked to Betty Wolff and secured \$1,000 on a personal check that was to be returned after the \$1,000 was cabled to Kwajalein. I then returned to Ebeye about 1230 p.m. and with Bill Scott we paid the three patients per diem and travel expenses. After returning to Kwajalein I paid Joe Saul \$441 for per diem and travel money.

I then went to the ship and helped Keith and Jan find some of the BNL supplies in the warehouse. The x-ray chemicals were located in a box marked for LLL. It should be incumbent on Jim Watt to open all boxes when received from Honolulu and check contents. Several boxes contained items for more than one research group. The only critical items not received by the ship were the circuit breakers for the A/C units. Keith said they could probably rig something if a failure occurred. All medical supplies, gift food, provisions, movies and life preservers did arrive on time. The only other items not arriving were two blower fans to fit a 4-inch pipe. Sonny Teves has been working on these items before I departed.

September 21 - The ship departed Echo pier at 1303 as scheduled. We had been advised by KMR Range Safety that we would have to leave at that time to be out of the hazard area by 1900. At 1730 we were advised by KMR Range Safety office to pull into Roi-Namur reef and wait. A few minutes later we were informed that we were to return to Meck Island and wait for the all clear. This required us to sail back into the hazard area and steam in a circle. The shot occurred at approximately 2100 p.m. but we were not released until 2220 p.m. This seems ridiculous because had we been able to continue on our original course the ship would have been 10 to 12 miles outside the hazard area at 1900. Keith Coberly was very upset.

September 22 - We spotted Rongelap at 1400 and sailed into the lagoon at 1655. The whalers were off-loaded from the top of the trailers and put into the water. Dr. Pratt, Bill Scott and Willy (interpreter) went to Rongelap to pay respects to Jobwe and Nick. The crew put out the flotation beneath the steps and then Dr. Pratt and Bill Scott returned to the ship. There were no further contacts with the people of Rongelap that night.

September 23 - After a leisurely breakfast the medical crew loaded up the boats and went to Rongelap about 1000. They set up exam rooms in the new dispensary. The medical team returned to the ship at 1130 for lunch. They returned to shore around 1330 to

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resume physicals and fitting glasses. Approximately ten people came to ship for dental work. Two doctors spent most of the afternoon snorkeling. Bill Scott asked permission for three Marshallese to be fed lunch with us for helping with patients. I informed him it was okay and I told Keith and Larry (cook). I also talked to Keith about the Magistrate's family having dinner on ship and also about giving ship stores to people. Only gift food and privately traded items are authorized. No U. S. Government property is to be given away.

A community meeting had been scheduled for 1830 hours. The meeting started at 1900. After receiving leis from Jobwe's wife, Dr. Pratt introduced all the medical team and myself. He told the people that I was the DOE representative. The first question I was asked was about the lease agreement for the land under the DOE trailer that the Boas family is living in. A copy of the letter of transmittal was shown to me that paid the lease until June 1980. The sum of \$160 for Rongelap and Utirik was sent to TTPI in Saipan. I advised the person to contact his Nitijela representative because the TTPI was sent the money.

Several questions were then asked relating to the per diem claims. One from Mena was for per diem for two people that went to Majuro in 1977 and have since passed away. Then Tima wanted to know about per diem for dental work done on Ebeye. I explained that per diem was not paid for dental or accident referrals. Another woman, Mona, asked where the money was kept for the per diem claims. I said the money is paid by the Government of the Marshall Islands and the money is in Majuro. Harry Boas asked about a law passed by U. S. Government to give the people of Rongelap \$100,000. He also said that Harry Brown mentioned it the last time he was out.

September 24 - Departed for Rongelap at 0830. Pratt was suffering from Majuro revenge and did not accompany the team. I waited at the clinic until 1130 when we all returned to the ship for lunch. No one came to see me about per diem claims. The doctors minus Pratt returned to shore for afternoon work and returned to the ship about 1530. The dentist treated 40 patients, the lab personnel analyzed two blood samples and took one x-ray. (Busy?) Most of the crew and medical team minus the doctors went to shore about 1830 for the movie (Circus World). Passed out oranges and Tab. Returned to the ship about 2230.

September 25 - Medical team went to shore about 0900 with Pratt. Returned to ship for 1130 lunch. Most medical team went snorkeling and fishing in afternoon. Peter, Sebio and Nick went fishing after

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an afternoon baseball game. Our side won 13 to 10. Heavy rain squall about 2130. One blood sample and one x-ray photo taken. Most of the medical team wants to leave for Utirik. Pratt seemed to agree if the dentist has seen everyone he need to.

September 26 - Pratt decided that we should leave tomorrow at 1300. The medical team started packing boxes in the afternoon and closing the dispensary. At 0930 Pratt asked me to meet him on shore. He advised that Nick had talked to him about a problem. Apparently, Keith and Larry had brought some booze (Vodka) to shore the previous evening and went to Freddy and Rosa's house. Rosa was complaining because her husband and a few others got drunk. I talked to her and Nick and then returned to the ship. Keith owned up to bringing the vodka over and said he was sorry he did. He also said that Larry wasn't guilty. I mentioned to him that it would be good to apologize to Nick and Rosa which he did. He also saw Pratt about it and hopefully Pratt won't make mention of it in his report. This type of thing Pratt would love to hang U. S. Oceanography with.

Movie on shore tonight (Kung Fu) after dinner. At 1830 a group of us went to Rongelap to show the movie. Just as Peter Heotis and Jan Kocian were loading the projector, someone started a green pickup truck and was racing the engine. He drove the truck right up to the table and the person jumped out of the truck and started screaming for Bill - where is Bill? He did not get an answer and he then backed the truck up and took aim at the projector table. Jan Kocian managed to pick up the projector and ran behind a tree. The man then drove the truck into the table and knocked it over. He then started driving around in circles very erractically, trying to hit one or any of the Americans. Nick finally stopped the driver and asked me to call Majuro for a policeman. The man was identified as Ebel Atti from Ebon Atoll.

Bill Scott had previously asked Atti's wife if he could borrow the truck to bring the projector and generator from the dispensary to the clear area to show the movies. She gave Bill the keys but did not inform her husband. He had been drinking and became incensed when he could not find the truck. That is when the above incident transpired. After the incident with the truck we dismantled the equipment and everyone went back to the ship. Jobwe and Nick came aboard several minutes later and the three of us talked about the incident. I asked Jobwe and Nick (1) if the man was drunk. Yes. (2) What was he drinking? Vodka. (3) Where did he get the vodka? He brought it with him on the last field trip ship. (4) Was this part of the vodka that Keith Coberly gave to Freddie last Night? No. (5) Are you sure? Yes. Ebel said he

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did not get the vodka from Freddie (6) Do you still want us to call Majuro for a policeman to come? (After some discussion in Marshallese) Yes, please call Majuro. (Dr. Pratt entered the conversation at this point and asked if they wanted to talk to the council first and give us an answer in the morning. No, please call them tonight.) At 1830 Nick and I went to Keith's cabin to call Keajalein. We could not get through but we did contact Chuck Otterman in Honolulu to relay the message. Apparently, Chuck was able to contact Majuro because Larry Edwards, Ebeye and Harry Brown, DOE, Enewetak contacted Keith the next morning for information. Nick and Jobwe both apologized profusely for the incident. I also apologized. All parted that night as friends.

what for?
September 27 - The technicians brought all the medical equipment back to the ship and closed the dispensary. They asked how much, but I could not answer. We departed Rongelap at 1300 and cleared the pass about 1345. The seas became very choppy because we were heading directly into the swells. Everytime we hit a big wave the crane would cause both ends of the ship to oscillate violently at times. We were due at the Utirik pass at 0800 the next morning.

September 28 - About 0400 Keith had to slow the ship to about four knots due to the adverse sea conditions. We also encountered 20k to 30k headwind. Our projected 0800 arrival now looked like 1900. We made up some time when Keith changed course by 15 deg. to try and get into the lee of Taka Atoll. We sailed north around Taka and entered Utirik pass at 1700. Pulling into the lagoon was certainly welcomed by everyone. It was a rough voyage. Some of the doctors and medical personnel looked a little "green" when they finally emerged from the forward hold. The Acting Magistrate Harris Kel and Andy came aboard to talk to Dr. Pratt and myself. He asked how long we were going to stay and what we wanted to do. Pratt explained the program. He then invited Harris and Andy to join us for dinner which they did and it included Harris' boat driver.

September 29 - It is Sabbath Day in Marshalls. Most of the BNL team made appearance at church.

"Day of Rest." Town meeting at 1900. There were many questions regarding the dentist and whether he would be doing fillings or just extractions. Pratt said that the dentist could possibly do some fillings if time permitted.

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(Untrue - Andy K. who was not at the meeting because of a leg infection did not have the necessary equipment aboard to do fillings.) The questions asked of me where the amount paid to a patient in the hospital. I replied \$2 a day. I also advised those at the meeting that I would be in the dispensary Monday and Tuesday to answer questions on compensation and take claims. Menji also asked Pratt about getting a card for her son Winton. Pratt said it would take a special request to the government for Winton. (Winton Kel has been operated on twice and is still suffering from cancer. He was born 1 - 2 years after his mother and father were exposed.) Sebio was the translator and did a very good job. The meeting adjourned around 2015.

September 30 - The medical team went to Utirik about 0800 to set up in the dispensary. I went over at 0900 to answer any questions. I saw three people who either filed claims inquiries or asked about previous ones taken by Harry Brown. The dispensary looked busy with a lot of children being examined and a number of people in for sick call. Andy, the dentist was screening people under the shade tree outside the dispensary. I returned to the ship at noon. The afternoon was slow for the team, but nine bloods were drawn and Andy saw about 50 people.

A number of us went to shore about 1900 to show a movie. The projector kept fouling up and finally blew a projection bulb after the second reel. The replacement bulbs were defective so we returned to the ship about 2100 after apologizing to the people.

October 1 - Rained until about 1500. Pratt and a couple of others went over and ended up in the dispensary during the rain. Harris came over about 1800 to invite everyone over to the first birthday party for the grandson of one of the Alabs. The team returned about 2100.

October 2 - Rained most of morning. Medical team went to Utirik about 1030. I went to island about 1400 with Sebio Shoniber. Talked to one lady, Nerok Attair, about payment for daughter and her. Daughter needed skin graft on arm but wasn't on exposed list; mother is on list. Also talked to Andy Mor and talked about Butler Buildings. Copied documents they had issued to them by C. L. Roberts, H&N, in 1956 regarding usage of buildings. Had Jan Kocian take pictures of all the buildings. Andy and Alab want me to talk to Alab's grandmother about this tomorrow.

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Also talked to them about lease agreements. They want to know the status of the \$80 yearly payment. I said it was sent in June of each year to office of High Commissioner in Saipan. We don't have control of the money when it reaches there. Promised them that we would look into it and try to provide an answer by January medical trip. Dr. Pratt mentioned that he may be interested in using one or more of the buildings for future medical trips. (Why?)

Andy Krotoski and the Marshall's attendant worked after 2030 and saw over 40 dental patients.

October 3 - Saw one man in morning on ship with reference to per diem claim. However, his child was not on exposed list and therefore no per diem money was authorized. He said Harry Brown paid other claims where the attendant was exposed but the patient (usually a child) was not. I asked him for names and he gave me two.

Went to Utirik in afternoon and met with Irojirik, Alap and council about Butler Buildings. Told them we were trying to get as much information as possible and we should have answer by January. They were also concerned that they had not received any lease payment since 1965. I told them that the lease payments went to Saipan and we didn't know where they went after that. We are going to look into that also. Came back to ship about 1500.

October 4 - Pratt made an unscheduled trip to island at 0815 to pick up some handicraft. He became angry with the crew because he skinned his knee getting into the whaler at Utirik. Jan Kocian had notified everyone that they would be removing the barges early in the morning, but Pratt did not give any advanced warning of his trip. The crew removed the barrels from one barge because they were rusted out and put the platform on the ship to return to Kwajalein.

The ship got underway at 0900. The ship bumped the bottom going out the Utirik pass due to extremely low tide. Monroe and Jan put on scuba gear after leaving the pass and checked the hull. There was no damage. The ship docked at Kwajalein at 0900 October 5.

TM:nn

Addressees: Director, USDOE/PASO
General Manager, H&N/PTD

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BATE NUMBER

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INADVERTENTLY SKIPPED