

July 9, 1976
 Utirik, Marshall Islands
 Trust Territory of the Pacific

Mr. Roger Ray, AM/E&S
 U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA)
 Nevada Operations Office
 P.O. Box 14100
 Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Dear Mr. Ray:

This letter is from the chiefs and all of the people in Utirik Atoll. It has now been twenty-two years since the radioactive fall-out from the bomb, which has disturbed the peace and welfare from 1954 until the present.

The doctors from ERDA have told us that there were 14 rads in Utirik and 175 rads in Rongelap, therefore, we are very surprized, because in Utirik we have ten cases of thyroid nodules, three of which were malignant. But in Rongelap they have thirty cases of thyroid nodules, and also three cases of malignancy. Perhaps you can tell us if there is some explanation for the same number of malignant thyroid cases in Rongelap and Utirik, who received very different levels of radiation?

Additionally, we have many more things to ask, because at present we are not happy with the way things are:

1. Why is there not a control group in Utirik?
 - a) The people of Utirik are different from the people of Rongelap--they are a different gene pool and breeding population.
 - b) The people of Utirik were exposed to different levels of radiation than the people of Rongelap---Utirik had 14 rads, and Rongelap had 175 rads.
 - c) There were different return times for the Utirik people and the Rongelap people from Kwajalein (following their evacuation) in 1954---the people of Utirik returned to their atoll after three months, and the people of Rongelap returned to their atoll after three years.
 - d) Would it be correct to say that perhaps the Utirik people received more than only 14 rads in light of their quick return time to Utirik?
 - e) Would it be correct to say that we can expect many more cases of thyroid problems in the future?
2. How come the ERDA doctors told us that there was just a little bit of radiatio in Utirik and a lot in Rongelap? That is, why are there the same number of malignant thyroid glands in Utirik as there are in Rongelap?
3. Why is it that the ERDA doctors do not examine the children of the exposed Utirik group?
4. Why is it that the ERDA doctors give different treatment to the people of Utirik than the people of Rongelap? They do not give full examinations to the people of Utirik every year, as they do in Rongelap. Why not?
5. The people of Utirik should be able to choose their own doctor:
 - a) The people of Utirik do not like Dr. Knudsen because he does not examine all of the Utirik people, and looks at the people of Utirik as if they are newly arrivals in a scientific experiment, and further he does not provide a "check call" for the people.
 - b) The people of Utirik do not like Dr. Conard because he lies to the people, and has not helped the people to understand the problems

that they confront in regards to the radiation and its effects.

6. Some years ago, the ERDA doctors discovered that a number of the Utirik people had adult-onset diabetes, and said that 25% of the people had the disease.
 - a) Why haven't the ERDA doctors given medicine to the people who have the disease in Utirik (medicine: Diabinase)?
 - b) Dr. Konrad Kotrady had asked the Trust Territory Gov't. (in Nijoro) for the medicine (Diabinase), and they refused to give him any for the people of Utirik, and therefore, the people with this disease have not been properly treated.

7. At present, the people of Utirik have much fear of the radiation that came from the bomb:
 - a) Therefore the people of Utirik feel the need to have someone come out and do a study of Utirik for possible lingering radiation.
 - b) The people of Utirik feel that their arrowroot has been damaged as a result of the radiation. At present the arrowroot stalks measure one foot, whereas before the radiation they measured five feet.

As you can see, the people of Utirik are very distressed and angry as a result of the radiation. The people feel that the ERDA Program is in need of vast changes.

Thank you very much,

Joanej Peter
Joanej Peter - Magistrate

Aljo Peter
Aljo Peter - Justice

Aljo Peter
Aljo Peter - Justice

cc: Robert A. Conard, R.O., ERDA
Rep. Charles DeWaldt, Congress of Micronesia
Rep. Ataji Kalon, Congress of Micronesia
Sen. Olympia Ochia, Congress of Micronesia
Dist. At. Ombudsman, Pohnpei
Fred Kater, District Attorney (U.S.)
U.S. District Court, Pohnpei

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Dear Mr. Ray:

Jen Iroij ro Alap im kim ro otemjej armij in Utirik Atoll kimij je letter in am, einwut ke emotlok roñoul ruo iis̄ kiis̄, elkin wut an kar wutlok poison in bomb eo im poison im kokkare im kejorren ejimur im ainear im jokane am otemjelok jen iis̄ 1954 mantak non iis̄ in 1976.

Ekkar non an doctor ro an ERDA ba ke drettan eo ilo Utirik 14 rads in ilo Rongelap 175 rads, kin menin kim armij in Utirik elap am bwilon kinke eor jomol armij dri nanimij ilo Utirik inem, jilu iair thyroid cancer dri jorren. Ik Rongelap eor jilnol armij dri nanimij inem, jilu iair thyroid cancer dri jorren. Inem, ta okta: eo ikotan armij in Utirik kab Rongelap?

Kin menin ebar loñ menko ejab bobaruom kaki:

1. Etke ejelok control group ilo Utirik?
 - a) Ke einjuon nememein armij in Utirik jen armij in Rongelap.
 - b) Ke eoktok poison eo ilo Utirik jen eo ilo Rongelap---Utirik 14 rads, im Rongelap 175 rads.
 - c) Ke eoktok ien jeblak eo an dri Utirik im dri Rongelap jen Kwajalein (ilo 1954)---dri Utirik rar rol elkin jilu alliñ, im dri Rongelap rar rol elkin jilu iis̄.
 - d) Ejinawe ke ehablok poison eo Utirik jen 14 rads?
 - e) Ejinawe ke enaj elotlok dri jorren ilo iis̄ kane rej itok?
2. Etke doctor ro an ERDA rar ba "jidrik wut poison eo ion Utirik ak Rongelap elab? Inem, etke oran dri jorren ro (thyroid cancer) ilo Utirik einwut oran dri jorren ro ilo Rongelap?
3. Etke rejab lale im kōnadmōde ajri ro dri poison (melele in nejin dri poison ro---exposed group)?
4. Doctor ro an ERDA rejab ein air lelok kōnadmōde non dri Utirik wut dri Rongelap, inem, rejab etale armij in Utirik aoleb iis̄, ak ilo Rongelap rej etale ir ilo aoleb iis̄ Tauain?
5. Armij in Utirik rej pitij letal jelaib doctor:
 - a) Dri Utirik rejab Ithman dr. Frances kike ejab lale armij ro ilo Utirik, im rej wut ir elotlok eor, im ejab etale ir.
 - b) Dri Utirik rejab Ithman dr. Conrad kike elap an riab ilo an honono in jorral, im ejab kadikar in letalele ik armij itijen jorren in poison in bomb eo.
6. Elkin jet iis̄, doctor ro an ERDA rar lo eloñ armij rebok nanimij in toñal (adult-onset diabetes), im rar ba eor 25% jen aoleb armij in Utirik.
 - a) Tauain an doctor ro an ERDA jab lelok ono in toñal (diabetes) in

arnaij in Utirik.

b) Dr. Konrad Kotrady ear kajitok uno in toñal iben Trust Territory Gov't. (ilo Najuro), im rar jab lelok.

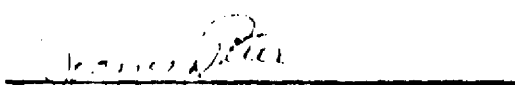
7. Kiñ, dri Utirik elab air mijak kin poison in bomb eo:

a) Ince, rej aikulji juon ri elale in lalo Utirik, kinke

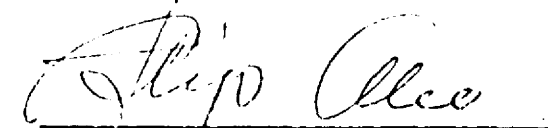
b) Hokmok eo elap an drik tarrin juon ne itokin kiñ, ak moktalok jen bomb eo ear wor tarrin lalim ne itokin.

Einwöt an lo im jela, bwe elap an rup buruom otemjej. Kin mehin kwon uköt Program eo an ERDA.

Komol tata,



Joanej Peter - Magistrate



Atijo Alee - Scribe



Aplós Kios - Iroi

- cc: Robert A. Conard, M.D., ERDA
- Rep. Charles Dominick, Congress of Micronesia
- Rep. Ataji Balos, Congress of Micronesia
- Sen. Olympio T. Korja, Congress of Micronesia
- Dist. Ad. Oscar DeFrum, Marshalls
- Fred Feder, Dept. of Interior (US)
- Sec. Trusteeship Council, United Nations
- Congress of Micronesia
- Judy and Ron Bakal, Attorneys at Law
- George Allan, Attorney at Law

Armij in Utirik:

Georgus L. L.
Georgus L. L.

Judez Bitten
Judez Bitten

Kajjo Peter
Kajjo Peter

Nelly D. Bloo
Nelly D. Bloo

Alben Jude
Alben Jude

Ernie Kel
Ernie Kel

Kirej Mema
Kirej Mema

Baki Mikal
Baki Mikal

Ernie Jude
Ernie Jude

Likwa Katien
Likwa Katien

John Juan San
John Juan San

Lobon Kaito
Lobon Kaito

Mitok Mema
Mitok Mema

Mama Mema
Mama Mema

Bona Alben
Bona Alben

Jokaj Mexico
Jokaj Mexico

Kirej Mema
Kirej Mema

Baki Mikal
Baki Mikal

Ernie Kaito
Ernie Kaito

Likwa Mema
Likwa Mema

Mikal Kaito
Mikal Kaito

Alisen L. Kaito
Alisen L. Kaito

Bank Mema
Bank Mema

Ernie Kaito
Ernie Kaito

Ernie Kel
Ernie Kel

Keraja Jokaj
Keraja Jokaj

Yosko Joreang
Yosko Joreang

Baki Mema
Baki Mema

Ernie J
Ernie J

Likwa Andy
Likwa Andy