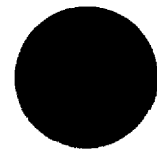


FRENCH POWER BUREAU



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CABLE ADDRESS: "FRANCENERG"
TELEFAX: GBN

DUPONT CIRCLE BUILDING
1346 CONNECTICUT AVE., N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO: 28878

TELEPHONE: DE. 2-2388

July 27, 1966

Mr. M.B. Kratzen, Director
Division of International Affairs
Atomic Energy Commission
Germantown, Maryland

RE: Annual Report to Congress TID 5358

Dear Mr. Kratzen:

Dr. Delpla, who is the head of the Radioprotection Department of Electricité de France would be grateful to receive further information on the following excerpts quoted from the Annual Report to Congress for 1965 TID 5358:

a/ Annual Report to Congress for 1965 of the USAEC, p.114: "... nodules were detected in the thyroid glands of 11 of the Rongelap people in the group of 82 who received the highest exposures...microscopic examination... from an adult woman confirmed the presence of cancer of the thyroid with local metastases."

b/ TID 5358 (July 1956), p.74: "... the integrated dose to the thyroid from I¹³¹ and other shorter-lived iodine isotopes was calculated by the USNRDL to be about 100 rep. The LASL has estimated that this dose was about 150 rep for Rongelap group..."

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Mr. Kratzen

Dr. Delpla is surprised that such small doses could have resulted in such heavy damage. He is wondering if the doses have not been greatly underestimated; he indicates that people subject to radiation have lived without precaution and for almost 48 hours in a very heavily contaminated atmosphere (1 R/h at one meter above ground level when first aid arrived). He is asking if those people are not subject historically and spontaneously to nodules in the thyroid.

Dr. Delpla would like to know also what did happen to the Japanese fishermen after they were subject to similar fall-out.

Very Sincerely Yours,



D.C. LEFEBVRE

DCL: sb

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