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JUL 20 1958

Dr. James T. Hickey
 Executive Director
 Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
 Congress of the United States

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
 AUTHORITY: DOE-DPC
 BY R.G. BOGER DATE 3/21/86
 J. Diaz 2/17/87

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Dear Dr. Hickey:

We were informed on July 21 through our Ambassador in Tokyo that the Japanese ship TANYO MARU has reported that it received radiation above background on the 14th of July. The ship's reported position at that time was some 700 miles west of Bikini. This location is some 150 miles west of the western boundary of the Eniwetok Proving Ground Danger Area.

The ship sailed from that position to the Port of Rabaul. The ship reported that as of July 18, 10 crew members had blood counts of between 2,000 and 4,000 and that all of these counts had fallen from 30 to 40 percent below July 18 readings. Japanese Maritime Safety Board requested through the U.S. Ambassador to Tokyo that U.S. medical technicians and experts on decontamination be flown from Eniwetok to Rabaul.

The Commander of Joint Task Force STWAVE is preparing to dispatch an aircraft with requested team of medical and technical personnel from the Eniwetok Proving Ground to Rabaul.

Subsequent reports indicate that the situation aboard the TANYO MARU is not at all serious. A message from the Tokyo Embassy of July 22 read in part: Japanese radiation experts consider current count not serious but would feel safer if boats inspected by our (U.S.) experts and further decontamination undertaken if necessary. Experts also estimate crew members have received at maximum 100 MR and probably 20-30 MR.

We will keep you advised of further developments.

Distribution
 SO: Addee
 CC: Chairman
 CC: General Manager
 2 CC: Cong Liaison
 CC: OGC
 CC: DBM
 MA:GJ Keto MA:CB Stewart
 sincerely yours,
 Signed Paul F. Foster
 General Manager

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