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RE SECRETARY SEATOR'S CALL TO CELEBRATE THE  
CENTENNIAL OF THE MARSHALLESE PEOPLE'S MEDICAL EVOLUTIONS

SYMBOL: BMA:NAS

Attached are copies of exchange of correspondence relative to the  
above subject.

The pertinent points seem to be as follows:

- (1) There is no medical examination of the Marshallese people planned for until approximately the spring of 1961; even then it will be subject to review and approval by the officials of the Trust Territory.
- (2) Dr. Robert Conrad of the Brookhaven National Laboratory and leader of the earlier examination team is presently visiting the islands but only for the purpose of conferring with medical officials there and with the approval of the Trust Territory.
- (3) It seems unfortunate that the Trust Territory officials consider the medical surveys as using the Kongsap people as "guinea pigs" in carrying out a scientific experiment, when in fact there is considerable importance to continuity in the observations of the people for the early detection of significant changes that may be related to radiation so that they can be treated as soon as possible. In this connection there has been a rise in the body burden of the Kongsap people since their return to Kongsap although this in itself is not necessarily of great significance.

In summary there <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ medical examinations or area surveys planned in the near future.

Attachments:  
cc of memo dtd 11/3/59  
cc of memo dtd 11/6/69  
cc of ltr dtd 11/6/59

*O/c Dept of Navy (Follow-ups)*

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