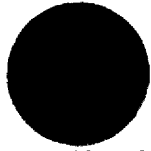


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March 20, 1959

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Major Kent T. Woodward, M. C.  
Division of Nuclear Medicine and Chemistry  
Walter Reed Army Institute of Research  
Washington 12, D. C.

Dear Kent:

I passed along your paper "The Determination of Internally Deposited Radioactive Isotopes in the Marshallese People by Excretion Analysis" to Dr. Dunham per your request. Did you wish us to do anything with the paper classification-wise?

There are two thoughts that might be of some use to you. I think the University of Washington people have developed more data on contamination in the Rongelap plants than perhaps you had knowledge of at the time of writing. Secondly, an ostensibly representative sample of a Rongelap meal was collected at the time of the 1958 visit. A summary of these data is enclosed. If you wish to use these data I would suggest giving due credits to Bob Conard et al for their collection and to HASL for their analyses. Unfortunately this is a single sample and further there is some question about its being representative and about the sample treatment before analyses. As you know the teams are out there now and we hope for more and better samples of diet. In any event, my estimates made about two years ago based on the limited data then available may be low compared to present day contamination in the food. Whereas, my estimates and the still limited data give a perspective to the potential hazard, they may not be precise enough for use in establishing relationships with the analyses results. Incidentally, the relationship expressed in the last sentence of the section on strontium-90 is not clear to me.

Sincerely yours,

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INFORMATION & PUBLICATIONS 6

Gordon M. Dunning, Chief  
Radiation Effects of Weapons Branch  
Division of Biology and Medicine

cc: Dr. Dunham  
Dr. Shilling  
Dr. Western

NO Enclosure to files  
Sample of Rongelap meal

OFFICE ▶	BMREW				
SURNAME ▶	GMDunning:em				
DATE ▶	3/20/59				