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September 27, 1954

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Dr. Leonard Carmichael  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Carmichael:

Dr. D. L. Serventy's letter of inquiry to Dr. R. C. Murphy has been referred to the Biology Branch, as the radiobiological survey program at Eniwetok is under our supervision. I am enclosing a copy of my letter as you have requested.

You might be interested in my telephone conversation with D. H. Freedman of the National Museum concerning the migratory habits of the Short-tailed Shearwaters (*Puffinus tenuirostris*). He states that the migratory habits of this bird are quite diffuse or of a scattered pattern. In other words, these birds do not follow a narrow band in their migration common to many species. Further, these birds do not arrive at their breeding grounds until November, and the young do not fly before the middle of April. The only record of observing this bird in the Marshall Islands was made at Kinajon by the Japanese in 1942. If Dr. Freedman's observations are correct, and I have no reason to believe otherwise, it seems safe to assume there is little need to worry about the safety or possible extinction of the species due to our testing program. You are probably aware of the fact that most of the testing activities in the Pacific have been during that period when the birds are at their breeding grounds.

May I call your attention to a Model Atomic Power Reactor presently being exhibited in the front lobby of our West Building. The model will later be placed in the lobbies of T-3 and T-5.

Sincerely yours,

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

W. R. Boss  
Physiologist, Biology Branch  
Division of Biology and Medicine

Enclosure:

Cy ltr to Dr. Serventy

OFFICE ▶	EMB	EMB			
CC:	Chairman	Dep. Director	MEDICINE, HEALTH & SAFETY		
SURNAME ▶	Boss: <i>WRB</i>	<i>WRB</i>			
DATE ▶	9/27/54	<i>WRB</i>			