400188 File Dongelap

HSA: EPH

April 17, 1956

Las pravier Report - 18-4

Dr. Willis R. Boss, Assistant Chief **Biology Branch** Division of Biology and Medicine U. S. Atomic Energy Commission 1901 Constitution Avenue, N. W. Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Boss:

We are sending for your information, a copy of our Laboratory Report 56-4 entitled G. H. HAMADA "Rongelap Survey, October 1955 - Results of Analyses Performed at HASL". It is a summary of our analyses of samples received from the University of Washington, Applied Fisheries Laboratory.

Sincerely yours,

Edward P. Hardy, Jr., Chemist Analytical Branch Health and Safety Laboratory

CC: Dr. G. M. Dunning / Dr. L. R. Donaldson

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During November 1955, HASL received 12 soil, 12 seawater, 8 vegetation, 1 plankton, 2 algae, 6 fish, and 15 coconut samples collected by A. Seymour of the Applied Fisheries Laboratory, University of Washington. This particular set of samples was collected during October 21-23, 1955 on Rongelap, Kabelle, and Labaredj Islands of Rongelap Atoll and Mogiri Island of Alinginae Atoll.

Each sample was analyzed at HASL for total activity and Sr-90. Selected samples were analyzed for normal calcium by the oxalate-permanganate titration method, for reporting values in Sunshine Units. Values are reported as of February 27, 1956 and are presented in three sections:

- A summary of HASL results including a comparison with data obtained from University of Washington Report No. UWFL-43.
- 2. A complete tabulation of HASL data with pertinent information given for each sample.
- 3. Notes covering sources of information, analytical procedures, and standardization and counting techniques used at HASL in processing these samples.

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1. SUMMARY OF HASL DATA AND COMPARISON WITH AFT.

SOIL

Area		Total A d/m/g	Sr-90 d/m/g - wet		
<u>Collected</u>	<u>Depth</u>	HASL	AFL	HASL	AFL
Kabelle	0-3 "	6600 -150 00	16000–23000	200–510	N. R.
	3-6"	300- 620	420– 760	5– 23	N. R.
Labaredj	0-3"	5500 - 7500	9600-25000	190–260	N. R.
	3-6"	360- 620	230- 550	5- 7	N. R.
Rongelap	0-3"	3000- 5700	3700-45000	190–210	N. R.
	3-6"	410- 1000	800- 1500	12– 32	N. R.

Total Activity

top 0-3", 6-25 times higher that 3-6" layer (HASL)

<u>Sr-90</u>

top 0-3", 7-50 times higher than 3-6" layer (HASL) Average % Sr-90 in top soil - 3.9 (HASL) Average % Sr-90 in bottom soil - 2.3 (HASL)

% Total Activity in top 3"

	HASL	<u>AFL</u>
Kabelle	96	97
Labaredj	96	97
Rongelap	88	89

NOTE:

Average Sr-90 found in continental United States soil top 0-2", 0.2 d/m/g (HASL)

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SEAWATER

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Area	Total d/m/1	Activity Liter	Sr-90 d/m/liter			
Collected	HASL	AFL	HASL	AFL		
Kabelle	650	300-500	undet.	N. R.		
Labaredj	300	300-500	undet.	N. R.		
Rongelap	undet.	undet.	undet.	N. R.		
Mogiri	undet.	undet.	undet.	N. R.		

ALGAE

Rongelap Island

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	Total d/m/	Activity g - wet	Sr-90 d/m/g - wet			
Location	HASL	AFL	HASL	AFL		
Cistern	9410	8860-23600	undet.	N. R.		
Well	680	570- 1880	~5	N.R.		

PLANKTON

Kabelle-Rongelap

Tota	al Activity	Sr 90				
d/n	n/g – wet	d/m/g - wet				
HASL	AFL	HASL	AFL			
<u>1</u> ,1,	99-418	undet.	N. R.			

VEGETATION

<u>Rongelap</u>

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		Total A d/m/g <u>HASL</u>	ctivity - wet <u>AFL</u>	Sr-90 d/m/g - wet <u>HASL AFL</u>		
<u>Papaya</u>	pulp pulp and skin skin seeds	58 100 >20 64	17-137 37-503	0.4 1.0 0.8 >0.3	N. R. N. R. N. R. N. R.	
<u>Morinda</u>	entire	34	14- 73	1.0	N. R.	
<u>Arrowroot</u>	corm	102	78–193	3.0	N. R.	
<u>Squash</u>	flowers and leaves	25	20-120	5.0	N. R.	
<u>Pandanus</u>	entire	84	76-189	2.0	N. R.	
<u>Coconut</u>	outer husk inner shell meat milk	80 20 } 40	N. R. N. R. 23- 83 20-115	1.0 0.2 } 0.2	N. R. N. R. N. R. N. R.	
<u>% Sr-90</u>	HASL <u>1</u> – 4% AFL 2 – 5%	of total of total	activity activity	except coc	onuts	

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COCONUTS - (HASL)

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	Te	otal Acti i/m/g - we	vity at	Ċ	Sr-90 d/m/g - wet			
<u>Island</u>	Outer <u>husk</u>	Inner shell	Meat and <u>milk</u>	Outer <u>husk</u>	Inner <u>shell</u>	Meat and <u>milk</u>		
Kabelle	80	20	50	0.4	0.1	0.1		
Rongelap	80	20	40	1.0	0.2	0,2		
Labaredj	200	30	80	2.0	0.4	0.4		
<u>% Sr-90</u>	Outer	husk	~1%					
	Inner	shell	~1%					
<u>.</u> .	Meat a	and milk	~0.1%					
AFL -	report	ts 0 .1% ir	n meat and m	nilk				

COMMERCIAL COCONUTS

Total Activity

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Inner shell	2
Meat and milk	. 5

<u>FISH</u>

			Total A d/m/g	ctivity - wet	Sr-90 d/m/g - wet			
Kabelle	Tuna		HADL	AFL	<u>HADL</u>	AFL		
		bone muscle liver	31 24 186	N. R. 40 1070	\sim 0.2 undet. undet.	N. R. N. R. N. B.		
Labaredj	Bonito		200	1010				
Rongelan	Goatfish	muscle bone	56 227	102 N. R.	undet. undet.	N. R. N. R.		
	666.0110	muscle	21	18-37	undet.	N. R.		
<u>AFL</u> –	Sr-90 unde	tectable i	in marine	organism	ns			

Sr-90 undetectable in marine organisms

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2. COMPLETE HASL DATA

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	HASL No.	Spec.	Collection Date	Area Collected	Description	Depth	Beckm Surface	an MX-5 Read <u>2ª below</u>	ling <u>6" below</u>	Total Ac d/m/g <u>Wet</u>	stivity gram Dry	S r-9 0 d/n/gra	ma Dry	3 Ca Basad on Nat Saight	<u>3. C.</u>
	3102	A I	10-21-55	Kabelle Isiand	Open area - 200 yards from lageon near mid - island	0 - 3"	3.5/12		0.2 /0.9	15000-225	16300 ⁺ 244	506 ⁺ 4.7	548 [±] 5-1	27	552 [±] 7₊7
	3183	λ 2	10-21-55	Kabelle Island	Open area - 200 yards from lagoon near mid - island	3 - 6"	3.5/12		0.2 /0.9	617- 90	658+ 96	22.7-2.6	24.2-2.8		
	3184	¥ 3	10-21-55	Kabelle Island	Grass area - 20 feet from A 1 and A 2	0 - 3*	2/8		0.2 /0.5	6620 ⁺ 152	7950-182	200 ±3.3	240 * 4.0	29	314 [±] 5₊0
	3185	• •	10-21-55	Kabelle Island	Grass area - 20 feet from A 1 and A 2	3 - 6*	2/8		0.2 /0.5	302-104	329-113	4.7-0.67	5.1 [±] 0.73		
	3186	λ 5	10-21-55	labaradj Island	Open area - 100 yards from lagoon (high tide mark in 54 part of island)	0 - 3*	2/8	•	0.08/0.5	5470-147	5990- 161	188 -3.4	206 -3.7		
- 7	3187	x 6	10-21 -55	Labaredj Island	Open area - 100 yards from lagoon (high tide mark in SW part of island)	3 - 6*	2/8		0,08/0.5	623 - 88	678- 97	6.7-0.99	7.3+1.1	32	9.5=1.4
1	3168	▲ 7	10-21-55	iabaredj Island	Under a tree 15 feet from A 5 and A 6	0 - 3*	0.6/7.0	0.3/1.0	0.07/0.5	7480-129	9490 ⁺ 164	263 -4.5	334 -5.7	26	450 ±7.7
	3109	A 8	10-21-55	Labaredj Island	Under a tree 15 feet from A 5 and A 6	3 6"	0.6/7.0	0.3/1.0	0.07/0.5	356 [±] 70	395 ± 78	4.9 [±] 0.47	5.4 [±] 0.52		â
	3190	▲ 9	10-21-55	Rongelap Island	Grass near well (10 feet W of well)	0 - 3*	0,3/0,9	0.05/0.3	0.05/0.2	3000+ 74	4230-104	187 22.6	264 -3.7	30	213 ±3.9
	3191	A 10	10-22-55	Rongelap Island	Grass near well (10 feet W of well)	3 - 6"	0,3/0.9	0.05/0.3	0.05/0.2	406± 54	543 [±] 72	11.8-0.68	15.8-0.91	31	17.3-1.1
	3192	A 11	10-22-55	Rongelap Island	Papaya cluster (near school house) ~ rocky soll	0 - 3*	0.3/1.0	0.1/0.5	0.1 /0.4	5700 [±] 69	12300 ⁺ 149	212 -3.3	457 [±] 7.1	24	401 -4.3
	3193	A 12	10-22-55	Rongelap Island	Papaya cluster (near school house) rocky soil	3 - 6*	0.3/1.0	0.1/0.5	0.1 /0.4	1040 [±] 75	1410-101	32.3-1.0	· 43.6 ⁺ 1.4	29	50.4-1.5

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SOIL

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SEAWATER

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HASL	No.	Spec. No.	Area Collected	Collection date	Total Activity d/m/l	Sr-90 d/m/1
3194	A	A-1	Kabelle Is.	10-21-55	290 ± 65	(0.75) [±] 10.6
	в	A-1	Kabelle Is.	10-21-55	750 ± 70	6.55 - 12.2
	С	A-1.	Kabelle Is.	10-21-55	850 ± 72	14.6 [±] 12.6
3195	A	A-2	Labaredj Is.	10-21-55	450 ± 66	(3.98) ± 11.9
	₿	. A-2	Labaredj Is.	10-21-55	300 ± 66	(2.90) - 10.7
	C	A-2	Labaredj Is.	10-21-55	190 ± 65	(-1.45) + 12.0
3196	A	A-3	Rongelap Is.	10-22-55	56 - 61	(1.25) + 12.1
	B.	A-3	Rongelap Is.	10-22-55	36 ± 64	5.48 ± 9.58
	C	A-3	Rongelap Is.	10-22 - 55	66 ± 64	(-2•25) + 10•7
3197	A	A-4	Mogiri Is.	10-23-55	· 56 ± 65	(-0.20) - 11.6
	В	A-4	Mogiri Is.	10 - 23 - 55	(-25) + 66	25.1 ± 12.4
	С	A4	Mogiri Is.	10-23 - 55	60 ± 66	12.7 - 11.1

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VEGETATION

	H.3L 10.	Spectron /	Crganism	T-saue	Area Collected	Collection Date	Remarks	Total Ac d/m/g <u>Wet</u>	tivity man <u>Dry</u>	Sr~9 d/m/g <u>Wet</u>	0 1738 277	5 Ca Based on Net Neight	3. 3.
	3175	A '35-39	Рарауа	pulp	Rongelap Island	10-22-55	5 fruits - village area, skin and seeds removed: dried at 95°C	58.2 ⁺ 0.6	415 [±] 4-3	0.43±0.02	3.07-0.14	0,022	838 [±] 41
	3172	x 40-42	Рарауа	pulp and seed	Rongelap Island	10-22-55	Halves from 3 fruits, village area: seeds removed: dried at 95°C	105 ±1.0	740± 7.0	1.23-0.06	8.64-0.39	0.037	1511 - 74
1	3170	A 35-39	Papaya	skin	Rongelap Island	10-22-55	Feeled from 5 fruits, village area: dried at 95°C	21.0±0.5	146+ 1.5	0.86-0.07	5.96-0.48	0.070	559 ± 45
	3173	a 35-42	Papaya	seeds	Rongelap Island	10-22-55	8 fruits, village area; dried at 95°C	63.9-1.0	345 ⁺ 5.4	0.32-0.04	1.75-0.25	0.169	85.9 [±] 11
•	3177	a 62 - 64	Morinda	entire	Rongelap Island	10-22-55	3 fruits, village area: dried at 95°C	33.8-1.9	278- 7.5	1.12-0.08	9.22-0.67	0.065	783 = 56
9	3171	¥ 67-71	Arrowrost	COTT	Rongelap Island	10-22-55	Peeled tubers, skin removed, village area: ashed at 550°C	102 +1.1		3.61-0.32		0.030	5469 +485
1	3168	A 143	Squash	leaves and flow-	Rongelap Island	10-22 - 55	Village area, plant in blossom but no fruit: dried at 95°C	24 -1.0	307 ± 13	5.72 [±] 0.43	71.5 -4.27		
	3213 - 3217	x 45-49	Pandanus	ers entirs	Rongelap Island	10-22-55	Part of 5 fruits from 5 trees, village area	84.4-0.6		2.57-0.07		0.136	859 ± 23 _f

ALGAR

3164	A 109	Rongelap Island	10-22-55	From cistern in village, species undefined: dried at 95°C	9411 ±6 0	48440-425	9.73-9.35	70.0-67.3
3166	¥. 110	Rongelap Island	10-22-55	From well in village (taken from sides below water level) species undafined: dried at 95°C	683 - 13	2140- 72	6.90±2.14	37.7+11.7

H/SL	Specimen	Ares.	Collection Date	<u>Remarks</u>	<u>d/m/gram</u> Outer Husk	- wet Total A Inner Shell	ctivity. Meat and Milk	<u>d/m/r</u> Outer Husk	<u>Inner Shell</u>	0 Neat and Milk	<u>3 Ca</u> Outer Husk	Based on Wet Inner Shell	leight leat and 191k
10- 3198 3139 3200 3201 3202	λ 30 Α 31 Α 32 Α 33 Α 34	Kabelle Js. Kabelle Js. Kabelle Js. Kabelle Js. Kabelle Js.	10-21-55 10-21-55 10-21-55 10-21-55 10-21-55	nees Various Afeans of The Island	84.0 [±] 3.3 56.6 [±] 2.7 66.3 [±] 2.9 69.6 [±] 3.1 127 [±] 5.5	15.8 [±] 0.7 39.5 [±] 1.6 12.7 [±] 1.1 20.4 [±] .95 32.0 [±] 1.5	54.5 [±] 2.3 60.3 [±] 2.6 37.1 [±] 1.6 45.5 [±] 1.9 55.2 [±] 2.4	1.2 ±0.34 0.11±0.31 0.09±0.06 0.12±0.05 0.66±0.25	0.60 [±] 0.19 0.07 [±] 0.04 (-0.03 [±] 0.08 0.03 [±] 0.06 0.14 [±] 0.08	0.05 [±] 0.33 (-0.21) [±] 0.18 (-0.07 [±] 0.14 (-0.07) [±] 0.14 0.28 [±] 0.23	0.038	0.058	0.013
3203 3204 3205 1 3206 2 3206	A 35 A 36 A 37 A 38 A 39	Labaredj Is. Labaredj Is. Labaredj Is. Labaredj Is. Labaredj Is.	'10-21-55 10-21-55 10-21-55 10-21-55 10-21-55	RACH OF FIVE (5) T Hordfieth Red of Leland	141 ± 6.0 318 ±13 182 ± 7.6 220 ± 9.2 143 ± 6.2	20.9 [±] 0.9 26.1 [±] 1.1 31.1 [±] 1.3 41.2 [±] 1.7 23.4 [±] 1.1	59.2 [±] 2.5 177 [±] 7.1 61.3 [±] 2.6 63.1 [±] 2.7 54.0 [±] 2.3	1.3 ±0.14 4.8 ±0.30 1.3 ±0.16 1.0 ±0.29 1.5 ±0.14	0.28 [±] 0.11 0.89 [±] 0.16 0.17 [±] 0.07 0.19 [±] 0.12 0.33 [±] 0.11	(0.3) ² 0.32 0.10 ² 0.34 0.10 ² 0.18 0.56 ² 0.22 0.32 ² 0.30	0.062 2 <i>1</i>	0.019	0.011 (J
I 3203 3210 3211 3212	A 40 A 41 A 42 A 43 A 44	Rongelap Is. Rongelap Is. Rongelap Is. Rongelap Is. Rongelap Is.	10-22-55 10-22-55 10-22-55 10-22-55 10-22-55	ONE COCOUNT FROM	254 ¹ 11 49.4 [±] 2.2 87.4 [±] 3.9 73.2 [±] 3.3 84.3 [±] 3.5	46.3 [±] 1.9 4.0 [±] 0.2 34.6 [±] 1.4 9.5 [±] 0.5 5.3 [±] 0.3	81.2 ^{±3} .3 55.2 [±] 2.2 24.0 [±] 1.0 33.3 [±] 1.5 20.3 [±] 1.0	3.5 ±0.24 0.39±0.10 (0.19)±0.20 0.70±0.21 0.75±0.17	0.51 [±] 0.13 0.05 [±] 0.07 0.21 [±] 0.09 0.51 [±] 0.13 0.07 [±] 0.10	0.22 [±] 0.20 (0.07) [±] 0.10 0.44 [±] 0.21 0.57 [±] 0.42 0.09 [±] 0.23	0.053	0.078	0.007 E
3311 3312 3313		Puerto Rico Puerto Rico Puerto Rico	February 1956 February 1956 February 1956	5 5		<u>COMMERCIAL CO</u> 1.2 [±] 0.2 8.0 [±] 0.2 1.9 [±] 0.2	5.1 [±] 1.0 5.3 [±] 1.0 5.8 [±] 1.0			•			

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% Ca Based On Sat Height d/m/gram Total Activity Wet Dry d/m/gram Wet Area Collected Collection HASL Specimen Sr-90 . No. Organism Tissue Date Remarks Dry No. Dog-tooth Tuna () 85 - 55 0.17 ±0.07 0.42 20.20 31 +35 3176 A 165 bone Kabelle-10-21-55 Caught half-way between Kabelle 11.3 and Labared I Islands in Rongelap Lagoon. Total weight: 44 lbs. Bone includes some connective tis-sue. Not possible to remove all Labaredj tissue. (0.01)±0.04 (-0.05)=0.18 Dried at 9500 - shared with U of 24.4 1.0 111 = 4.5 Dog-tooth . Kabelle-10-21-55 0.0017 3179 A 165 muscle 1/ Tune Labaredj W: NYOO samples pladed into 5 bags. 1483 220 0.104-0.41 3167 ± 165 Dog-tooth Tuna Kabelle-10-21-55 Dried at 95°G + shared with U of W. 186 ± 2.5 0.83 -3.3 0.0048 11ver Labaredj 10-21-55 1 fish dried at 95°C. 56.3[±] 1.0 269 + 4.8 0.019[±]0.11 0.089=0.53 0.043 3174 1 64 nascle Labaredj Bonito Island 3165 269 ±87 227 778 (+0.25)=0.90 (-0.33)=1.06 1 64 Bonito vone Labaredj 10-21-55 Baakhone boiled to remove meat. 18.0 Wet weight given is that after boil-Island I. ing. -89.6 7.7 0.062-0.12 21.1- 1.8 0.35 ±0.51 3169 A 112-116 Goatfish musale Rongelap 10-22-55 Part sample of 5 fight dried at 95°C. Island 522 , 037 . FLANETON -

FISH

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Kabelle-10-21,22-55 Rongelap

A 2-5, pooled after removing samples for U. of W. - AFL - Sample A 2 and A 3 off Kabelle Island, 10-21-55; and A 4 and A 5 off Rongelap Island, 10-24-55. ~ 20 gms wet weight in pooled sample, of which ~ 80% is from samples A 4 and A 5.

43.1 1.0

663 [±]17

0.19 ±0.89

2.97 -13.7

3. <u>NOTES</u>

SOIL

- 1. Spec. No., Collection date, Area collected, Description, Depth, Backman readings - information supplied by A. Seymour.
- 2: Beckman readings in mr/hr taken 1" above ground shield closed/shield open. Background - 0.05 mr/hr.
- 3. "Wet" refers to weight of soil as received at HASL.
- 4. "Dry" refers to soil aliquot dried at 100°C for eight hours.
- 5. Procedure:
 - a. Soil aliquot ashed at 550°C for 8 hours, then dissolved in HNO3. Solution aliquot plated directly on glass planchet for beta counting. Standardized against 0.2 gram K2CO3, mounted in similar manner.
 - b. Self-absorption correction applied in each case: based on self-absorption of activity in two top soils.
- 6. Sr-90 suitable aliquot taken from solution of dissolved soil.
- 7. Error term associated with each result is one Poisson standard deviation.

SEAWATER

- Spec. No., Area collected, Collection date information supplied by A. Seymour.
- 2. All islands in Rongelap Atoll except Mogiri, which is part of Alinginae Atoll.
- 3. All water collections made in lagoons except Mogiri, where collection was made from ancherage.
- 4. The total activity result was obtained by precipitating carbonate from a 200 ml aliquot, mounting on 2" plastic disc and

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beta counting under 2" tube.

- a. Standardized with K-40 (3 gms K2CO3 mounted in similar manner) where 3 gms K2CO3 ≡ 2955 d/m.
- b. A self-absorption factor of 2 was applied to each result (See fig. 6 Troll Report).
- c. Assumptions:
 - 1. 18 month old pile produced f.p.'s simulate these conditions.

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- 2. Ca content of these waters and those sampled on Troll - constant.
- 5. Sr-90 analyses performed on 400 ml aliquot.
- 6. Error term associated with each result one Poisson standard deviation.

VEGETATION

- 1. Spec. No., Organism, Tissue, Area collected, Remarks, information supplied by A. Seymour.
- 2. "Wet" refers to wet weight given by A. Seymour, except in case of Pandanus, which was received in wet state at HASL.
- 3. Samples dried at 95°C by A. Seymour wherever a result is given, except for Algae, which were dried at HASL.
- 4. In all cases except Arrowroot, sample wet ashed at HASL.
- 5. Total activity results: based on direct plating of aliquot in glass planchet and beta counting. Standardized against 0.2 g K₂CO₃, mounted in similar manner.

Self-absorption correction factor applied in each case: based on self-absorption of activity in Papaya pulp and Cistern algae.

- 6. Aliquot taken for Sr-90: represented 10-20 gms wet material.
- 7. Error term associated with each result is one Poisson standard deviation.

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		COCONUTS
	1. S t	Spec. No., Area collected, Tissue, Remarks, - information supplied by A. Seymour.
	2. * c	Wet" refers to weight as received at HASL. Samples were not dried but ashed at 550°C for 8 hours.
	3. F c K	For total activity measurement a 0.2 gm aliquot of ash was beta counted in a plastic planchet and standardized against 0.2 gms X_2CO_3 , similarly prepared.
	4. N	No self-absorption correction applied.
	_ 5. , A	liquot of dissolved ash analyzed for Sr-90.
		Fish
	l. S R	pec. No., Organism, Tissue, Area collected, Collection date, Memarks - information supplied by A. Seymour.
	2. "	Wet" refers to wet weight given by A. Seymour.
	3. S P	Samples were dried at 95°C by A. Seymour except in case of Plankton, which was received in formalin.
	4. I W	in all cases except bone, sample was wet ashed at HASL. Bone was ashed at 550°C then dissolved.
	5. F c m b b	for total activity - aliquot plated on glass planchet and beta counted. Standardized against 0.2 gms K2CO3 mounted in similar manner. Self-absorption correction factor applied in each case: based on self-absorption of activity in tuna muscle and bonito bone.
	6. A	liquot taken for Sr-90: represented 10-20 gms wet material.
		The special assistance received from J. Alercio, A.
	Rodri	guez, E. French and I. Whitney was invaluable in the prepara-
	tion	and analysis of these samples.
		- 14 -