



UNITED STATES
 ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
 NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE
 P. O. BOX 14100
 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89114

MAR 5 1973

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Mahlon E. Gates
 Manager

AEC PROGRAM OF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS OF EXPOSED MARSHALLESE

For the past nineteen years, the AEC has been conducting annual medical examinations of the Marshallese people who were accidentally exposed to fallout radiation in 1954. The medical examinations are conducted by a group of doctors and technicians, headed by Dr. R. A. Conard of Brookhaven National Laboratory, at the various island locations where the exposed Marshallese are now living. The group examines exposed personnel at Hawaii, Ebeye, Rongelap, Utirik and Majuro. NV has been assigned the responsibility by Headquarters to provide logistic support for these medical surveys. DBER funds are furnished to NV to PASO/H&N. Annual funding level for one survey per year and other support has been \$20,000. The logistic support funding covers the costs of: transportation for BNL personnel and medical equipment, miscellaneous services, supplies and non-medical equipment, travel and per diem for Trust Territory personnel directly participating in the surveys, and travel, lodging and expenses for the exposed Marshallese patients who are brought to the United States for further medical treatment.

In connection with the future program requirements, Dr. Conard has advised Bill Streenan that, based upon recent discussions with DBER, BNL will be conducting two surveys per year in the Marshall Islands rather than one. The surveys will continue to cover the exposed Rongelapese and Utirikese and also start base line studies at Bikini in preparation of the natives returning to Bikini. Dr. Conard also advised Streenan that the Congress of Micronesia Bill No. 89 (copy attached) was a subject of discussion at Headquarters. You will note that this bill is quite unusual, but it does give one a little insight as to the present political trends in Micronesia. It is possible this bill may result in increased costs to the AEC because of the additional medical care

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to be given to the people of Rongelap and Utirik by the Trust Territory and reimbursed by the AEC. If this program is put into operation, Dr. Conard recommended to DBER that the funds for this medical care be passed to NV for handling in the same manner as the existing logistic support services funding. I concur in this, particularly in view of the good working relationships already established between NV-PASO and the Trust Territory.

The above is primarily background information, however, your concurrence is requested that the NV FY 1974 and FY 1975 budget submissions include 06-02-01 funding levels to support Dr. Conard's increased medical survey programs. Our estimate to provide logistic support services for the expanded program for medical examinations of exposed Marshallese during FY 1974 is:

a. September 1973 Survey - Two Weeks Period

- (1) Transportation Personnel - 6 BNL Personnel
 - (a) Air (Honolulu to Kwajalein to Honolulu) \$ 1,500
 - (b) Surface (Ship Charter - Kwajalein to Rongelap to Kwajalein) 3,000
 - (2) Freight (Medical Equipment)
 - Air (Honolulu to Kwajalein to New York) 2,000
 - (3) Materials, Supplies and Services 2,500
 - (4) Travel and Per Diem (3) Trust Territory Personnel 1,000
- \$10,000

b. March 1974 Survey - Four Weeks Period

- (1) Transportation Personnel - 8 BNL Personnel
 - (a) Air (Honolulu to Kwajalein to Majuro to Honolulu) \$ 3,000
 - (b) Surface (Ship Charter - Kwajalein to Utirik and Rongelap to Kwajalein) 5,000

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(2) Freight (Medical Equipment)	
Air (Honolulu to Kwajalein to New York)	\$ 2,000
(3) Materials, Supplies and Services	3,500
(4) Travel and Per Diem (4) Trust Territory Personnel	<u>1,500</u>
	\$15,000
c. Support of BNL Physician on Kwajalein	
(1) Housing and Tuition	\$ 2,500
(2) Travel and Expenses to Other Islands - Rongelap, Utirik, Majuro, Ebeye	<u>2,500</u>
	\$ 5,000
d. Travel and Expenses of Patients to U.S. for Medical Treatment	\$ 2,500
e. Replacement of Minor Support Equipment at Examining Facilities	<u>2,500</u>
	\$ 5,000
Total FY 1974 Estimate	<u>\$35,000</u>

Our estimate for FY 1975 is the same as the above estimate for FY 1974.

It should be noted that the estimates for FY 1974 and FY 1975 do not include any funding which may be required as a result of the above mentioned Congress of Micronesia Bill No. 89 relating to additional medical care for the people of Rongelap and Utirik.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
WILLIAM D. SMITH, JR.

William D. Smith, Jr.
Assistant Manager for
Engineering & Logistics

EAA:WKS-114

Enclosure
Congress of Micronesia Bill No. 89

Mahlon E. Gates

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cc w/o encl:

J. L. Liverman, DBER

W. R. Cooper, AEC/NV

W. B. Hills, AEC/PASO ←

R. A. Conard, M.D., BNL

W. K. Streenan, AEC/NV

*Harbert/Lamb - 3/7/73
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