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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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January 6, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN SEABORG
COMMISSIONER BUNTING
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PH

THROUGH GENERAL MANAGER *John V. Vinigrama* JAN 7 1965

SUBJECT: FURTHER INFORMATION ON THREE MARSHALLESE GIRLS OPERATED ON FOR REMOVAL OF THYROID NODULES (SEE ATTACHED COPY OF PREVIOUS MEMO, THIS SUBJECT).

Dr. Robert A. Conard, Medical Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, who has responsibility for conducting the clinical surveys, reports: "Sections of the nodules have been examined by a number of pathologists including Drs. S. Warren, G. H. Klink, H. A. Johnson and S. Lindsay. The consensus is that the nodules are benign, though with certain bizarre areas, and resemble iodine deficiency adenomata."

Dr. Lindsay noted that the nodules in the Rongelap cases are similar to ones he has seen in children following I¹³¹ therapy. This Division has a file of Dr. Lindsay's histological reports and a review paper by Lindsay and Chaikoff, Cancer Research, 24:1099, 1964.

The radiation dosages which these children's thyroids may have received are being re-evaluated by Dr. John Gefman's group, Lawrence Radiation Laboratory.

It should be added that nodules in the thyroid glands of young people frequently become malignant in the course of time. Therefore, while these which were removed promptly after discovery were not malignant, there is a chance that in time they might have assumed neoplastic characteristics. Dr. Conard's next clinical survey will take place in February 1965.

C. L. Dunham

C. L. Dunham, M.D.
Director
Division of Biology and Medicine

Attachment:
Copy of memo dated 10/2/64
from C. L. Dunham to Chairman Seaborg

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6