

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20545

IN REPLY REFER TO:

DIS:MS

November 12, 1954

MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. Frank Dennis
Acting Deputy Assistant Director
for Policy and Programs
United States Information Agency
Room 823
1778 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington 25, D.C.

FROM : Morse Salisbury, Director
Division of Information Services

SUBJECT: STATEMENTS ON THE MARSHALLESE AND THE RADIOBIOLOGY
CONFERENCE IN JAPAN FOR INCLUSION IN SEVENTEENTH
SEMIANNUAL REPORT OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
TO CONGRESS

Attached for your concurrence and/or comment are statements by
the Commission's Division of Biology and Medicine on the first
medical follow-up study on the Marshallese exposed to the March
1 detonation, and on the radiobiology conference in Japan.

We would appreciate your concurrence and/or comment at your
earliest convenience.

cc: Mr. Richard Hirsch,
Operations Coordinating Board

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Vertical handwritten note on the right side of the page: '10/14/54'.

Handwritten initials 'F.L.' and 'S.M.' with a date '10/14/54'.

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RADIATION PROTECTION



The effort to reduce hazard to man with wide dissemination of exposure to radiation encompasses a wide range of activities. The medicine program of the Commission on Human Biology and Health is to be projected toward studies of the effects of radiation on man, understanding the mechanisms by which these effects are produced, and the controls and methods of protection against a variety of hazards.

Current progress is reported in this report. A series of reports of this program at both on-site and off-site research in biological and medical developments are described in the literature. The program is also active in defense activities.

Inhabitants of Marshall Islands

The first medical follow-up study of the Marshallese (Ujae, Eniwetok, Pongelap and Utrik) exposed to fallout from the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, September, 1945, was completed in 1954. A team from the technical staff of the Naval Medical Research and Development Laboratory and the Naval Medical Research Institute and the Naval Medical Research and Development Command appeared well. Blood counts and other laboratory tests were within normal limits and a regrowth of hair occurred. The clinical picture was essentially normal.

Radiobiology Conference in Japan

A scientific conference on radiobiology, sponsored by the Japanese and the United States was held November 1954 in Tokyo, Japan. Participants from the United States, Japan, and other countries participated in this conference. Representatives from the Commission on Human Biology and Health were invited to attend.

The agenda covered such topics as: the effects of radiation on man; decontamination of radioactive substances; absorption of radionuclides and uptake by plants and animals; and the application of radionuclides as isotopes in agricultural and biological research.

The meeting, an outgrowth of friendly relations between the United States and Japanese scientists early this year, resulted in excellent cooperation and mutual exchange of technical data and scientific information, cooperation and exchange of information on the subject of radiation protection.

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