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CUR
~~Dr. R. Benoit~~
Marsh. file

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C. W. Edington, Associate Director for
Research and Development Programs, DBER

KARYOTYPE STUDIES OF MARSHALLESE POPULATIONS

Your comments on the Eniwetok Radiological Survey Report outline raises the question of karyotype studies:

The Bikineans and then some years later the Eniwetokese (Populations of hundreds in both cases) will be returning to their native atolls and experiencing a relatively abrupt and well-defined doubling of population radiation exposure rate.

As you well know, a karyotype study of Marshallese populations would be logistically difficult, expensive and, perhaps, impossible for political reasons and lack of qualified personnel. I feel strongly, however, that we should have an evaluation of the potential scientific value of such a study and would urge that Biomedical Programs staff undertake a serious study of this matter and provide you with recommendations regarding the scientific merits.

Nat

Nathaniel F. Barr
Assistant Director for
Special Programs

~~Dr. Benoit~~ Tom, we should look at this problem, perhaps with telephone help from Benoit, and other to determine what is involved. Let's discuss first!

Charlie

Call Mary Jo X 3251