

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY
ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES, INC.

UPTON, L.I., N. Y. 11973

TEL. AREA CODE 516 YAPHANK 4-6262

REFER:

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

July 19, 1966

PRIVACY ACT MATERIAL REMOVED

Honorable William R. Norwood
High Commissioner
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, Mariana Islands

REPOSITORY DOE/PASO
COLLECTION DOE/NV
BOX No. 1228, ERDA #3
BIO-MED Dr Conrad
FOLDER OL THRU 12/ 1966

Dear Mr. Norwood:

I would like to visit the Trust Territory the latter part of September for several reasons. First, I would like to have the opportunity to meet you and discuss the medical surveys of the people of Rongelap. Secondly, as you know, the development of thyroid nodules in these people has made it necessary to have more frequent checks for continued careful evaluation of the situation. There are four cases with nodules of the thyroid that particularly need to be checked at an early date to evaluate the results of thyroid therapy. I would like, therefore, to carry out a brief survey of the Rongelap exposed people at Ebeye, Majuro, and possibly Rongelap on this proposed visit. Dr. J. E. Rall, a thyroid expert from the National Institutes of Health who has been with me on past surveys, has agreed to join me for this brief check-up. My third purpose is to have a chance to discuss plans for the usual annual survey for March, 1967, with you and the Director of Medical Services there as well as other personnel at Saipan and Majuro. There is one other objective in this visit, and that is to accompany the patient who had cancer of the thyroid () to Tripler Hospital for follow-up examinations there.

If these plans meet with your approval, your concurrence and implementation of the following schedule is requested. The schedule is based on the latest information I have on your Trust Territory flights.

- (1) I would plan to arrive at Guam on Friday morning, September 23. Request reservation on Trust Territory Flight 500 to Saipan leaving Guam at 2 pm. Request room reservation at Saipan for Friday to Monday.
- (2) On Saturday, September 24 I would like to confer with you and medical personnel.
- (3) Request reservation to Guam on Flight 501 leaving Saipan at 10 am on Monday, September 26.
- (4) On Tuesday, September 27 request reservation on Flight 400A from Guam to Majuro leaving at 8 am. Also request reservation for Dr. J. E. Rall to pick up this flight at Kwajalein for Majuro, Wednesday, September 28.

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schedule changed

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(5) I will arrange return transportation with Global Associates at Kwajalein for Dr. Rall and myself leaving Majuro on September 30.

(6) If possible Dr. Rall and I would like to visit Rongelap for a period of 5 or 6 hours which would be time enough to carry out a thyroid check-up on the exposed people. This transportation is requested for October 1 your time. I realize that this is a difficult request and probably can only be accomplished by either:

(a) Allowing one of your SA-16 amphibious planes to fly us to Rongelap and bring us back the same day, or

(b) Arrange for charter of a ship from KITCO or MIECO, presumably on the same basis as we did last year. Allowing one full days sailing time for the ship to and from Rongelap, the total time from Kwajalein and return would be about 3 days. I believe we can arrange financial support for either of these plans through the AEC in Honolulu.

(7) Finally, it is requested that the necessary Trust Territory papers be issued to the Rongelap woman, for travel to Hawaii on the MAC flight of October 4. Dr. Rall and I will accompany her. Preliminary arrangements have been made at Tripler Hospital for these examinations. Arrangements to have one of the Marshallese students at the University of Hawaii available to act as interpreter for these examinations would be appreciated. AEC Honolulu will send fund citation information to you for the cost of the MAC flight and in addition will handle accommodations and expenses for her at Hawaii.

I hope that these plans meet with your approval. If the dates of this schedule are not agreeable, please suggest alternate dates. I will appreciate hearing from you at your earliest opportunity in order that I may complete arrangements from this end.

RAC:bb

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Conard, M.D.

RAC:bb

cc: ✓ Director, Office of Territories, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C.
 ✓ Chairman, Medical Department, BNL
 ✓ Director, Division of Biology and Medicine, AEC, Washington, D.C.
 Director of Medical Services, Saipan
 ✓ District Administrator, Marshall Islands
 District Director of Public Health, Majuro
 ✓ Trust Territory Representative, Kwajalein
 Manager, AEC Honolulu Area Office
 Commanding Officer, Kwajalein Test Site
 Resident Manager, Global Associates, Kwajalein

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