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21 April 1954

From: Project #11000, Project #1.1
To: Commanding, Joint Task Force Seven

407576

Subject: Care and disposition of Nagasaki railway; recommendations for

1. Since the skin lesions of the Nagasaki natives are regressing without apparent complications, the heretofore picture is apparently improving, and the incidence of various illnesses is comparable to normal railway responsibilities and recommendations for the long term care and immediate action of the Nagasaki natives become pertinent and recommendations are herewith forwarded.

2. In the formulation of specific recommendations for long term care and disposition the following factors were considered:

- a. The medical status of the natives as a group.
- b. Long term values of the group.
- c. Value of the group for long term scientific study.
- d. Established reference bases for normal individuals.
- e. Internal effects of residual external radiation plus sublethal internal deposition.

3. The following specific recommendations are proposed:

- a. The group should be exposed to no further radiation external or internal with the exception of essential diagnostic and therapeutic x-ray for at least 12 years. If allowance is made for unknown effects of surface dose and internal deposition there probably should be no exposure for rest of natural lives.
- b. They should be located where medical care is easily and quickly available and satisfactory communications exist.
- c. Hematology, bacteriology, platelets, skin, and eyes should be studied quarterly for the first year and annually thereafter.
- d. Anthropometric and dental studies of the exposed and a control comparable group should be instituted by a competent group.
- e. At 2-4 week intervals urine should be collected for the study of excretion of fission products in men by both ITO and ICL which laboratories desire to follow excretion rates individually.
- f. Newborn should be observed for anomalies.

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4. It is appreciated that the above recommendations virtually prohibits the return of this group to their home atoll. However, it is probable that returning these people, who have already received excessively large exposure, would subject them to radiation levels above the United States AEC peace time maximum permissible doses for both external and internal radiation. This is particularly true since the northern islands of the atoll which are used as farm islands and a source of food supply for the Rongelap people received up to ten times the fall-out that occurred on Rongelap. These people may live for a month or so per year on the northern islands.

5. Since the acute phase is now passed and subsequent studies will be on a lifetime basis it is recommended that Project 4.1 personnel be returned to the states in orderly fashion that is being submitted separately and that the continued study be turned over to the responsible agency that may be designated.

6. The foregoing has been considered by Project 4.1 and all concur.

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