

MESSAGES RE SHOT NO. 1:

1. Number: Unnumbered
Date: March 3, 1954
Time: 0017Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK, MI
To: CSUSA DEPTAR WASH DC, CHAIRMAN AEC WASH DC (DEPTAR PASSES)
Subject: H + 48 hour advisory. Surface readings at Rongelap; Weather detachment evacuation; skin readings; no symptoms evident. Rogerik reading; aerial survey of Utirik.
2. Number: Unnumbered
Date: March 3, 1954
Time: 0530Z
From: CTG-7.1, ENIWETOK, MI VIA LOS ALAMOS
To: Higher
Subject: Heavy fallout East of Bikini; 20 weather personnel evacuated - their film badge readings; some natives Rongelap and Utirik evacuated; estimated theoretical maximum infinity dose, Rongelap; actual doses to be estimated on completion of evacuation and information sent.
3. Number: Unnumbered
Date: March 3, 1954
Time: 1155Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK ATOLL, MI
To: CSUSA WASH DC, CHAIRMAN AEC WASH DC
Subject: H + 60 hour advisory. Evacuation of Rongelap; decontamination of natives; dosage estimates. Rongerik weather detachment dose estimates. Belief danger to Marshall Islands passed.

C 3726

4. Number: NR 51-S
Date: March 3, 1954
Time: 1420Z
From: Fry, USAEC, NYOO
To: Bugher
Subject: Quote from message 1: H-6 forecast trajectory
Quote from message 2: Correction of part 1 DTG 010752,
aerology trajectory forecast at 010830Z
5. Number: OUTGOING
Date: March 3, 1954
Time:
From: Bugher
To: CTG 7.1, ENIWETOK, MI VIA LOS ALAMOS
Subject: Requests measurement fission product excretion via urine in
addition to Haight's medical observation; specimens can be
examined NYOO if not RadSafe.
6. Number: OUTGOING (INTERNAL AEC)
Date: March 3, 1954
Time:
From: Bugher
To: General Fields, DMA
Subject: Meteorological data on first shot - 2/28/54 - 1845Z
7. Number: NR C-097
Date: March 4, 1954
Time: 0333Z
From: CTG 7.1, ENIWETOK, MI
To: USAEC WASH DC VIA LOS ALAMOS - FOR BUGHER
Subject: Evacuation of Rongelap completed; estimated doses. Sickness
reported. Water and soil collections will be made and turned
over to Breslin for shipment to NYOO if desired.

81. Number: OUTGOING
Date: March 4, 1954
Time:
From: Eisenbud
To: CTGF-7 PASS TO BRESLIN
Subject: Requests soil, water, excreta samples that will help evaluate fallout.
9. Number: NR S-094
Date: March 4, 1954
Time: 0350Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK
To: USAEC LAFC LOS ALAMOS PASS TO AEC WASH DC
Subject: H + 72 hour advisory. Evacuation of Rongelap and Ailinginae completed. Evacuation of Utirik will begin morning of March 4. RadSafe survey Bikini ground readings. Re-arrangement of shot order
10. Number: NYOO NR 86
NR S-110
Date: March 4, 1954
Time: 0410Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK ATOLL, MI (BRESLIN)
To: MGR NYOO VIA LOS ALAMOS FOR MERRIL EISENBUD
Subject: Hot soil samples to be collected. Requests information for sample collection for GABRIEL.
11. Number: NR C-101
Date: March 4, 1954
Time: 0600Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK, MI
To: USAEC LOS ALAMOS PASS TO FIELDS FROM CLARKSON
Subject: Release in Hawaii papers on first test hard to find. News rendere unsensational.

12. Number: S-31
Date: March 4, 1954
Time:
From: FIELDS. DMA

12-A: Number: JF 4563
Date: March 4, 1954
Time: 0001Z
From: CTG 7.1 ENIWETOK MI FROM PRUESS
To: CHIEF AFSWP WASH DE
Subject: Suggests possibility of sending medical research team to study exposed personnel.

14. Number: NR C-115
Date: March 4, 1954 (CODE P 050010Z)
Time: 0010Z
From: CTG 7.1, ENIWETOK (From Gordon Dunning)
To: USAEC WASH DC FOR BUGHER
Subject: 154 natives of Utirik evacuated H +78 hours. Estimated dose. Haight examination reports no present indication of illness. Will follow through Bugher request for urine samples.

15. Number: NR S-133
Date: March 5, 1954
Time: 1045Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK
To: CINCPAC
Subject: AEC-DOD desire to send biomedical research team to study natives exposed to radiation. If concur, please inform senior representat: to High Command Territory Pacific Islands.

16. Number: NR S-132
Date: March 5, 1954
Time: 1050Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK
To: CHIEF AFSWP WASH DC
Subject: Kwajalein has only small dispensary type facilities. Task Force cannot provide radiological instruments. Suggests medical team bring what is necessary. JTF-7 will notify High Commissioner Trust Territories.
17. Number: NR 54-S
Date: March 5, 1954
Time: 1545Z
From: EISENEUD, NYOO, AEC
To: USAEC WASH DC ATTN BUGHER
Subject: Relays quotes from Breslin message of March 5. Patterns executed. RadSafe estimates of exposures. Haight examination of natives reports no evidence radiation sickness at present.
18. Number: OUTGOING
Date: March 5, 1954
Time:
From: BUGHER
To: CLARKSON, CJTF-7
Subject: Dunham and LeRoy on medical team. Requests permission for both men to have as direct communication as possible with this office.
19. Number: OUTGOING
Date: March 5, 1954
Time:
From: BUGHER
To: GRAVES, CJTF-7
Subject: Need more exact information re number of people who vomited or were acutely sick before island evacuation; number people evacuated from each island; number chronically ill before 2/28; seasickness aboard ship;

20. Number: NR S-146
Date: March 6, 1954
Time: 0435Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK
To: USAEC VIA LOS ALAMOS FOR BUGHER
Subject: CJTF-7 agrees to direct communication by LeRoy and Dunham with Division of Biology and Medicine as long as information copies are furnished Headquarters.
21. Number: NR S-161
Date: March 6, 1954
Time: 0545Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK
To: CHIEF, AFSWP WASH DC
Subject: Project 4.1 study of humans exposed to high yield is approved. Some personnel evacuated from Rongelap believed to have received 130r. At least 3 Weather detachment personnel on Rongerik received 98r. Natives evacuated from Utirik received approximately 17r prior to leaving atoll. Requests JTF-7 at Travis to assist Cronkite for movement of personnel and equipment to Kwajalein. Requests clearance status of project personnel be forwarded.
22. Number: NR c-160
Date: March 6, 1954
Time: 0825Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK (Breslin)
To: MGR NYOO USAEC VIA LOS ALAMOS PASS TO WASH DE (for Eisenbud)
Subject: Expects to collect several hundred soil, water, urine and feces samples. Requests advice on limit of samples can be processed in NY.
23. Number: OUTGOING
Date: March 6, 1954
From: BUGHER
To: BRESLIN, CJTF-7, ENIWETOK WITH INFO COPY TO EISENBUD, NYOO

24. Number: OUTGOING LETTER
Date: March 6, 1954
From: BUGHER
To: Clarkson
Subject: Dunham to accompany special medical team as AEC medical liaison. Dunham has both military and AEC travel authorization.
25. Number: OUTGOING LETTER
Date: March 6, 1954
From: BUGHER
To: CLARKSON
Subject: Requested LeRoy to represent Bugher.
26. Number: NR-292
Date: March 7, 1954
Time: 1935Z
From: JTF-7, TRAVIS AFB CALIF
To: JTF-7 HICKAM AFB, ENIWETOK
Subject: Cronkite and party returned to Travis due to malfunction of navigation equipment. Scheduled to depart Travis 080055Z aboard trip 231/08.
27. Number: NR -293
Date: March 8, 1954
Time: 0240Z
From: JTF-7, TRAVIS AFB CALIF
To: JTF-7 HICKAM, ENIWETOK, AEC WASH
Subject: Cronkite and party departed Travis 080124Z. Assured of minimum delay at Hickam.
28. Number: SWPWT 77025 (WT-47975)
Date:
From: CHIEF, AFSWP, WASH DC
To: CG, JTF-7, CTG 7.1 ENIWETOK, CO TASK UNIT 13 FOR PREUSS

29. Number: NR C-203
Date: March 8, 1954
Time: 1330Z
From: CINCPAC
To: BUGHER
Subject:
30. Number: OUTGOING
Date: March 8, 1954
From: Bugher
To: Commander, JTF-7
Subject: LeRoy and Dunham enroute as personal representatives. Both will assist Graves and Clarkson as necessary. Requests they have opportunity to study and evaluate medical problem and utilize to the best advantage the medical team.
31. Number:
Date: March 10, 1954
Time: 0254Z
From: US NAV RAD DEF LAB SFRAN
To: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK AND CTU-13 (ATTN. CRONKITE)
Subject: USNRDL prepared to study and follow-up domestic animals if available from project 4.1 test area. Advise.
32. Number: NR S-234
Date: March 10, 1954
Time: 0603Z
From: CJTF-7, ENIWETOK
To: CHAIRMAN AEC WASH DC VIA LOS ALAMOS
Subject: Clarkson report to Fields and Bugher as of 101200. Dunning visit to Kwajalein: investigated health of natives. Original report about 20 natives sick first and second days based on their own statements, which are difficult to evaluate. No natives actually observed sick by medical personnel except 1 case of vomiting the first day aboard evacuee ship from Rongelap. Practically all Rongelap natives had

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32. Subject (continued): skin itch. Itch ceased when decontaminated. No skin symptoms or signs yet. Erythema difficult to detect on native skin. Highest gamma reading (from hair) 400 milliroentgens per hour about about H+56 hours. Repeated washings have reduced readings to 7 milliroentgs per hour. Washings will continue. No estimate of beta dose. Average initial white blood counts at H+55 to H+71 was 7700. Repeat counts at H+158 was 5300. Greatest variance in white blood counts from Rongelap 24300 about H+75 hours, to 3700 H+130 hours, to 6000 H+158 hours. Another 60-year-old native white blood count H+55 was 12600, at H+168 was 6400, and at H+192 was 2900. Prognosis of Rongelap group depend upon further studies. Greatest variance white blood counts weather personnel Rongerik 10000 about H+32 hours to 5800 H+114 hours.

Great efforts being made to keep natives comfortable on Kwajalein. They are contented. Utirik group will be sent to nearby island Ebeye when High Commissioner directs and studied intermittently. Rongelap group retained Kwajalein for intensive study by AEC/DOD research team. No decision as to time of return to home islands. Recommend wait until after series completed then re-check radiator levels again.

Estimated activity megacuries per square mile at time of fallout: Rongelap 3 at H+6 hours, Rongerik 2 at H+8 hours, Utirik 0.17 at H+16 hours. Soil and water samples being collected. One set water measurements at Rongelap showed concentration at D+3 days from 2 to 28 times above 5×10^{-3} . Team receiving excellent cooperation at Kwajalein.

33. Number: OUTGOING
Date: March 10, 1954
From: BUGHER
To: CJTF VIA LOS ALAMOS - FOR CRONKITE
Subject: Shipman at Los Alamos will do plutonium analysis urines. Selected 24 hour specimens highest exposure group preferable. Will give essential data ratio external internal hazards. Shipman also can furnish limited number additional personnel if needed.

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(Re. Berg 2 Copy read and abstracted)

34. Number: OUTGOING FROM NAVY

Date: March 10, 1954

Time: 1900Z

From: VAN C TIPTON CAPT MC DEPT OF NAVY WASH DE

To:

Subject: Suggest Cronkite be advised concerning MRDL desire to study possible internal effects in animals from forward area by dispatch to CDR JTF-7 c/o TU 13 Attn Cronkite Kwajalein.

35. Number:

Date: March 10, 1954

Time: 0649Z

From: NAVSTA KWAJALEIN (LeRoy)

To: USAEC WASH DC ATTN EUGHER

Subject: Cronkite team organized in JTF-7 as Project 4.1 of TU-13 of TG 7.1, Scientific group. It is set up in adequate quarters, well supported by local command. Natives are properly treated. Their morale is good. Tobin, anthropologist for High Commissioner is most helpful. There are 4 exposure groups. Rongelap group, 65 natives, estimated dose 125r. Rongerik group, 28 Americans, dose 85 to 95r. Alinginae group, 17 natives, dose 74r. Utirik group, 154 natives, dose 10 to 20r. Today only Rongelap group has signs of injury. There are no symptoms. Findings consist of just significant reduction of white count. Daily situation report will be filed by Cronkite with our concurrence.

36. Number: S-02TA

Date: March 9, 1954

From: LASL SHIPMAN

To: EUGHER

Subject: Following is boiled down version of what LASL has received, with some of LASL's thoughts as to what it means. Party remaining on NAN noticed radiation level rising at H+20 minutes. We understand this level reached 40r per hour and possibly higher. Rapidity of arrival of activity would indicate some mechanism other than wind borne fallout. Party on NAN remained in building and were evacuated H+10. Helicopter survey at H+4 showed following levels in r per hr: From 25 foot altitude, Tare 0.4; Sugar 1.5; Oboe 3.5; Nan 10; from

36. Subject (continued):

100 feet altitude, George 50; Fox 3; Dog 1; from 200 foot altitude, Charlie 10; Party landed on Dog at H+11 finding level estimated 80r per hour. We understand that most of the ships experienced moderate fallout but have no numbers. We have no results to indicate rate of decay on atoll.

Fallout traveled on an approximate line from Bikini to Bikar Atolls and was reported approximately 200 miles south of Hawaii at H+56 with intensity of approximately 0.04 mr per hour between 12 and 29000 feet. Reading at Rongelap at H+36 reported as 1.4r per hour. It was assumed that fallout started at Rongelap at H+8 hours. Natives were evacuated by H+51. Three member USAF weather detachment Rongerik received estimated dose 98r on basis of one film badge; these people lived in tent. Four film badges representing remainder of personnel in metal barracks averaged 44r. Weather detachment evacuated H+36. Aerial survey of Utirik at approximately H+34 indicated ground reading of 0.6r per hour. Natives from Utirik evacuated by H+78 with estimated dose 17r.

It would appear that the weather played a dirty trick as we have seen it do in the past. We feel it quite important to do urine assays for plutonium on representatives of the groups receiving the higher exposures. This should give valuable data as to ratio between internal and external hazards. We would like to do some of these assays if we can be furnished 24 hour specimens. We can furnish limited number additional personnel if needed. I hope you will keep me advised as to any help we may offer.

37. Number:

Date: March 10, 1954

From: LASL SHIPMAN

To: BUGHER

Subject: Re making urine assays of exposed personnel. Requests, if Bugher approves proposal, that he advise Cronkite. Payne Harris and Shipman to leave for Kwaj at end of week.

38. Number: OUTGOING
Date: March 11, 1954
From: BUGHER
To: CJTF-7 ENIWETOK VIA LOS ALAMOS FOR CRONKITE
Subject: Shipman and Harris of LASL arriving soon for special urine samples. Will bring containers for consecutive 24 hour collections.

39. Number:
Date: March 11, 1954
Time: 2301Z
From: NAV STA KWAJALEIT SIGNED LEROY
To: CJTF-7 ENIWETOK (INFO TO BUGHER)
Subject: Cannot agree that psychological reasons should determine disposition of Rongerik group. Cannot agree with clinical judgment that these men return to duty. Earliest possible men should be studied by Project 4.1 to obtain maximum amount of information on FOX PETER metabolism and other aspects of radiation injury. Native groups are not satisfactory for metabolism and other studies because of taboos, language, and other diseases. Rongerik group essential for mission of Project 4.1. Request they be transferred to this station at once.

40. Number: NR C-256
Date: March 12, 1954
Time: 0514Z
From: CJTF-7 VIA LOS ALAMOS (BRESLER)
To: USAEC NY (INFO TO LOS ALAMOS)
Subject: 500 LB samples can be obtained subsequent next event from either Bikini or one of recently evacuated atolls. Bikini sample can be scheduled in regular recovery operations. Other will require special surface vessel trip. Is there a preference regarding location?
(~~Info for Eisenbud~~).

(For Eisenbud) Gummed ~~xx~~ film supplies never sent to Rongerik. Soil and water samples will arrive LaGuardia via Flyaway 23 scheduled depart forward area H-36. Suggest you contact JTF-7 rear for ETA New York. Accompanied by Graves, checked scintameter against several Bikini islands on March 8. Graveson prepared curve which includes much on previous available calibration data. Believe curve valid for expected altitudes.

41. Number: NR 64-5
Date: March 12, 1954
Time: 2255Z
From: FRY USAEC NYO
To: USAEC WASH DC INFO CY FOR HUGHES ACTION CY TO CJTF-7 ENIWETOK
Subject: Pass to Breslin. Gunned paper from USS Merapi indicates a fallout equivalent to 4000 curies per sq. mi. on Bravo + 1 day. Course of vessel given. Total dose 3 feet above deck from D+1 to D+12 estimated less than 600MR on basis of gunned paper measurement. Vessel was headed for forward area. If available would like gamma measurement 3 feet off deck to check our estimate of lmr per hour at present time. From M. Eisenbud
42. Number:
Date: March 12, 1954
Time: 2330Z
From: NAVSTA KWAJALEIN
To: CJTF-7 ENIWETOK INFO AEC HUGHES
Subject: Rongerik group needed earliest possible for period of approximately 3 weeks at Kwajalein. From LeRoy
43. Number:
Date: March 12, 1954
Time: SVC 8787
From: CJTF-7 ENIWETOK
To: CHAIRMAN AEC, CHIEF OF STAFF ARMY, CINCPACFLT
Subject: Message shown on blue memo paper attached
44. Number: SVC 8792
Date: March 13, 1954
Time: 0220Z
From: CJTF-7 ENIWETOK
To: CHAIRMAN AEC AND CSUSA WASH DC
Subject: This is my ~~130200~~ 130200 Mike report on natives. Medical team reports no clinical illness describable to radiation injury. Mean leukocyte count of groups unchanged. Range of white counts wider +

44. Subject (continued): no leukocyte counts below 3000. No significant thrombopenia. Few tropical ulcers and swollen painful feet of long duration seen not due to radiation. Oral lesions of long duration seen and connected with poor oral hygiene.
45. Number: SVC 8798
Date: March 13, 1954
Time: 1457Z
From: CINCPACFLT
To: CNO INFO CONSERVPAC AND AEC (DMA)
Subject: Patapsco aog one assigned rest availability for radiological decontamination as result of radiological survey conducted on arrival Pearl to determine if contaminated by cloud fallout while enroute Eniwetok to Pearl. CJTF-7 advised northern part cloud fringe could have reached Patapsco by H+8 hours with ship moving away from main cloud path. Patapsco crew removed from ship during decontamination. In view possible public relations implications recommend AEC be advised.
46. Number: SVC 8822
Date: March ~~13~~ 14, 1954
Time: 0842Z
From: CJTF-7 ENIWETOK
To: CHAIRMAN AEC
Subject: This is report for 141200 Mike. CJTF-7 visited Kwaj today. LeRoy and Dunning enroute to Honolulu to talk to Bugher by phone. No sickness among natives. Natives still being observed and lab work continuing. Blood findings Rongelap natives are similar to those found in Japanese who had light radiation injury at distance of approximately 1 and 1/2 miles from ground zero. Utirik natives show no findings and none are expected.
47. Number: NR S-296/141055Z
Date: March 14, 1954
Time: 0900Z
From: BRESLIN
To: EISENEUD

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47. Subject (continued): For Eisenbud. Apparent local foul-up delivery gummed film supplies to JTF Weather Stations. Cassidy checking.

Program 4 medical team at Kwaj performing urine analyses. Most water samples 1 to 2 quarts volume. Soil samples approximately 1 sq. ft. surface to depth 1 inch each. Require activity per sq. ft. and decay.

Following gamma measurements on Merapi 1 inch from surfaces with Able, Nan/Peter Dog Roger 27 Easy at 091430 Mike; all topside steel decks 1mr per hour, steel rigging topside 2 to 3mr per hr, canvas hatch and gun covers 4 to 5mr per hr, Mamma lines piled by NR one cargo hatch 5 mr per hr, wooden deck gratings on open bridge 3mr per hr.

Romeo postponed until 17 March Mike. From Breslin

48. Number: SVC 8850
Date: March ⁵16, 1954
Time: 0401Z
From: ALLARDICE VIA NAVSTA KWAJALEIN
To: AEC WASH
Subject: Allardice and JCAE staff members report on visit to Pacific Area.
For full text of message, see translation.

49. Number: SVC 8845
Date: March 15, 1954
Time: 2219Z
From: NAVSTA KWAJALEIN
To: AEC WASH ATTN BUGHER
Subject: Now beginning third week post-exposure. None of Americans from Rongerik available to Project 4.1 for study. See Project 4.1 report this date. From Dunham
50. Number: SVC 8860
Date: March 16, 1954
Time: 1044Z
From: CJTF-7 ~~XXXX~~
To: CHAIRMAN AEC
Subject: Nothing new on natives as of 1200 March 16. 3 U.S. Army personnel who were on Rongerik and received 98r will arrive Kwajalein March 17 to report to Cronkite. None of the above shows signs of radiation illness.
51. Number: SVC 8900
Date: March 18, 1954
Time: 180445Z
From: CJTF-7
To: CHAIRMAN USAEC
Subject: Report as of March 18, 1200M. On the 15 post-exposure day, epilation commencing on 2 adults and 8 children. No radiation burns on skin seen yet. Impetigo prevalent in children. Radiographic survey of chest partially completed. Some pulmonary disease observed. Mean leukocyte count Rongelap group 6270. 19 counts below 5000 and 6 counts below 4000. Of 19 below 5000 the trend has been progressively down since fourth exposure day.

52. Number: WAR SVC 8887
Date: March 17, 1954
Time: 1000Z
From: CJTF-7
To: CHAIRMAN AEC WASH DC AND COS USA WASH DC
Subject: This is report as of 171200M. Cronkite reports that a 3-year old girl epilated on the 14 day after exposure. Army and Air Force personnel exposed on Rongerik will arrive Kwaj today.
53. Number: NR S-336
Time: 1200M
Date: March 19, 1954
From: CJTF-7
To: CHAIRMAN USAEC WASHDC
Subject: Report as of 191200M. 24 Rongelap natives epilating. In areas of epilation unusual dry, pigmented, papular, scaling lesions, possibly due to irradiation, are developing. Similar lesions are appearing in folds of neck and extending outwards. All natives are feeling w appetite prodigious. Leukocyte count of 24 Air Force personnel RIG 450. Leukocyte count of 23 control Americans 8225. Platelet count of Air Force personnel 23000, control Americans 24600. Mean platelet 163000. Latter group comparable to Ailinginae exposure groups. Doctors Shipman and Harris, LASL, arrived Kwaj and 24-hour urine collection commenced on American personnel.
54. Number: SVC 8944
Date: March 19, 1954
Time: 1311Z
From: CJTF-7 ENIWETOK
To: COMNAVSTA KWAJ
Subject: Pass to Cronkite. Reference your 190130Z. Distribution of your reports are made daily to following agencies:
A. Chairman, AEC for Div. Biology & Medicine and DMA
B. Chief of Staff, US Army Executive Agent who distributes such reports to all interested DOD agencies, including AFSW P.
C. CINCPACFLT.
D. CJTF-7 (Rear) Washington, D. C.

55. Number: SVC 8945
Date: March 19, 1954
Time: 1204Z
From: CJTF-7
To: USAEC WASH DC FOR NICHOLS
Subject: See attached translation (Marked 55)

56. Number: SVC 8947
Date: March 19, 1954
Time: 1307Z

56a. Number: SVC 8970
Date: March 20, 1954
Time: 0414Z
From: CJTF-7
To: CHAIRMAN AEC
Subj: Report as of March 20, 0000Z. Leukocytes and platelets appear to be leveling off. No further drop of great magnitude in any individual patient. No new cases of epilation. Atypical skin lesions previously described now present in 28. Perioral and perianal lesions described yesterday unchanged. Condition aged diabetic admitted to hospital remains same. No epilation or other radiation lesions seen in the Ailinginae or Uterik groups.

Date: March 21, 1954
Time: 0840Z
From: CJTF-7
To: CHAIRMAN USAEC WASH DC
Subject: Report as of 210001Z: Part 1: No new developments on natives. No progression of lesions. Part 2: 3 Navy enlisted men who according film badges received 96r, 95r and 85r respectively have reported Cronkite at Kwaj. Show no outward evidence of radiation injury. P. Rongerik group of Americans changes limited to blood. Part 4: Mr. Chairman

5001100

59. Number: SVC 9000
Date: March 21, 1954
Time: 0540Z
From: CJTF-7 ENIWETOK
To: DMA AEC WASH DC

Subject: After receiving advice from my staff surgeon, radiological safety advisors and scientific director, I have authorized a maximum permissible exposure (radiation) to a limit of 7.8r (gamma only) which may be acquired at any time during the 13 week period of the operation for a limited number of critical Naval personnel. My radiological safety regulations which have been approved by the Departments of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and by the AEC contain the provision "the MPES and MPLS are subject to revision by waiver from the Task Force Commander in individually designated cases when circumstances indicate the need and justification therefore". The same regulation referred above contains authority for MPE of 20r (gamma only) for the operation period for crew members of sampling aircraft.

The personnel for whom the MPE has been increased to 7.8r includes the following: 30 helicopter pilots and plane captains; 120 boat operation personnel of boat pool; 75 flight deck crewmen of USS Bairoko, and 263 crew members of USS Phillips (DDE498).

I propose additionally to increase to the same limit a small number of individuals not members of critical groups listed above who already have received more than 3.5r but less than 7.8r and who will be so employed as to minimize probability of further exposure.

It is planned that in the future the Phillips will not be in the vicinity of the shot atoll except in emergency.

Every effort will be made to assign personnel with dosages of 3.9r or more to activities requiring minimum or no exposure. In the interest of efficiency and continued progress and cost involved, coupled with the relative insignificance of any doses in the region of 7.8r, plan to continue using these personnel.

60. Number: SVC 9001
Date: March 21, 1954
Time: 2359
From: NAVSTA HWAJ
To: AEC WASH DC

Subject: Received from Kaupin. Dick Johnston all set. Receiver on Bairoko. Might fail to receive if Bairoko has to move out to large distance or if delay cause battery failure. Dunham sends.

5001101

61. Number: SVC 9006
Date: March 22, 1954
Time: 0832Z
From: CJTF-7
To: CHAIRMAN AEC
Subject: Report as of 220001Z. No progression of lesions and no new lesions of active regeneration of blood yet observed.
62. Number: SVC 9050
Date: March 23, 1954
Time: 1305Z
From: CJTF-7
To: CHAIRMAN AEC
Subject: Report as of March 23, 1200Z. Skin lesions appeared on neck of one of Ailinginae group. No further progression in Rongelap group. Five women in Rongelap group and 4 in Utirik group expecting to deliver in near future, no ~~major~~ complications so far. One aged male of Utirik group in precarious state from senility and chronic cardiovascular renal disease completely unrelated to radiation.
63. Number: SVC 9064
Date: March 24, 1954
Time: 0835Z
From: NAVSTA KWAJ
To: USAEC WASH DC
Subject: If newspaper reports concerning Japanese fishermen meaningful, urgently request Dunham, Cronkite or Conard be authorized to go to Japan and see fishermen or someone from ABLE BAKER CHARLIE CHARLIE should come here. Unanimous opinion here that competent American physician should see both Marshallese and Japanese at this time.
From Dunham

DEFINED IN AIR AND MARINE NAVIGATIONAL PUBLICATIONS. DANGER AREAS ARE RECOGNIZED IN CONNECTION WITH CONVENTIONAL TARGET RANGES AT SEA AND ON LAND AND NUMBERS OF THEM ARE CHARTED BY OUR GOVERNMENT AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS. SHIPPING WAS WARNED AGAINST ENTRANCE INTO THIS AREA PRECISELY BECAUSE IT IS ATTENDED WITH RISK. IRRESPECTIVE OF THE NOTICES, HOWEVER, OUR TASK FORCE ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE HAS CONDUCTED AN ELABORATE AND CONTINUOUS SURVEY OF THE AREA BY AIR. SUCH A VISUAL AND RADAR SEARCH WAS CONDUCTED IN THIS INSTANCE AND IF THE VESSEL WAS IN THE AREA IT WAS NOT FOUND IN THE COURSE OF THE INTENSIFIED SURVEY BEFORE THE SHOT. I AM INFORMED THAT AFTER THE SHOT A SPECIAL SEARCH IN THE PATH OF THE CLOUD AND EXTENDING WELL BEYOND THE AREA AND ANY SIGNIFICANT FALLOUT DID NOT FIND ANY SHIPPING.

THE TESTS ARE CONTINUING AS PLANNED.

5001103