

July 9, 1976
Utirik, Marshall Islands
Trust Territory of the Pacific

Mr. Roger Ray, AM/E&S
U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA)
Nevada Operations Office
P.O. Box 14100
Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Dear Mr. Ray:

This letter is from the chiefs and all of the people in Utirik Atoll. It has now been twenty-two years since the radioactive fall-out from the bomb, which has disturbed the peace and welfare from 1954 until the present.

The doctors from ERDA have told us that there were 14 rads in Utirik and 175 rads in Rongelap, therefore, we are very surprised, because in Utirik we have ten cases of thyroid nodules, three of which were malignant. But in Rongelap they have thirty cases of thyroid nodules, and also three cases of malignancy. Perhaps you can tell us if there is some explanation for the same number of malignant thyroid cases in Rongelap and Utirik, who received very different levels of radiation?

Additionally, we have many more things to ask, because at present we are not happy with the way things are:

1. Why is there not a control group in Utirik?
 - a) The people of Utirik are different from the people of Rongelap--they are a different gene pool and breeding population.
 - b) The people of Utirik were exposed to different levels of radiation than the people of Rongelap---Utirik had 14 rads, and Rongelap had 175 rads.
 - c) There were different return times for the Utirik people and the Rongelap people from Kwajalein (following their evacuation) in 1954---the people of Utirik returned to their atoll after three months, and the people of Rongelap returned to their atoll after three years.
 - d) Would it be correct to say that perhaps the Utirik people received more than only 14 rads in light of their quick return time to Utirik?
 - e) Would it be correct to say that we can expect many more cases of thyroid problems in the future?
2. How come the ERDA doctors told us that there was just a little bit of radiation in Utirik and a lot in Rongelap? That is, why are there the same number of malignant thyroid glands in Utirik as there are in Rongelap?
3. Why is it that the ERDA doctors do not examine the children of the exposed Utirik group?
4. Why is it that the ERDA doctors give different treatment to the people of Utirik than the people of Rongelap? They do not give full examinations to the people of Utirik every year, as they do in Rongelap. Why not?
5. The people of Utirik should be able to choose their own doctors.
 - a) The people of Utirik do not like Dr. Knudsen because he does not examine all of the Utirik people, and looks at the people of Utirik as if they are merely "guinea pigs in a scientific experiment," and further he does not provide a "click call" for the people.
 - b) The people of Utirik do not like Mr. Gerard because he lies to the people, and has not helped the people to understand the problems.

that they confront in regards to the radiation and its effects.

6. Some years ago, the ERDA doctors discovered that a number of the Utirik people had adult-onset diabetes, and said that 25% of the people had the disease.
 - a) Why haven't the ERDA doctors given medicine to the people who have the disease in Utirik (medicine: Diabinase)?
 - b) Dr. Konrad Kotrady had asked the Trust Territory Gov't. (in Urgo) for the medicine (Diabinase), and they refused to give him any for the people of Utirik, and therefore, the people with this disease have not been properly treated.
7. At present, the people of Utirik have much fear of the radiation that came from the bomb:
 - a) Therefore the people of Utirik feel the need to have someone come out and do a study of Utirik for possible lingering radiation.
 - b) The people of Utirik feel that their arrowroot has been damaged as a result of the radiation. At present the arrowroot stalks measure one foot, whereas before the radiation they measured five feet.

As you can see, the people of Utirik are very distressed and angry as a result of the radiation. The people feel that the ERDA Program is in need of vast changes.

Thank you very much,

Joanej Peter - Registrato

Ulijo Peter - Clerk

Apolis Peter - Clerk (Cont.)

cc: Robert A. Conard, M.D., ERDA
Rep. Charles Boninck, Congress of Micronesia
Rep. Ataiki Faloi, Congress of Micronesia
Sen. Alapata Saita, Congress of Micronesia
Dist. Ata Officer, U.S. Army
Red Cross, Utirik, Micronesia
The American Red Cross

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Dear Mr. Ray:

Jen Iroij ro Alap im kim ro otemjej armij in Utirik Atoll kimij je letter in am, einwut ke emotlok roñoul ruo iiñ kim, elkin wut an kur wutlik poison in bomb eo im poison im kokkure im kejorren ejimur im ainenñr im jokane am otemjelok jen iiñ 1954 mantak non iiñ in 1976.

Ekkar non an doctor ro an ERDA ba ke drettan eo ilo Utirik 14 rads in ilo Rongelap 175 rads, kin menin kim armij in Utirik elap am twilon kinke eor jofmol armij dri nañinmij ilo Utirik inem, jilu iair thyroid cancer dri jorren. Ak Rongelap eor jilñul armij dri nañinmij inem, jilu iair thyroid cancer dri jorren. Tuan, ta oktak eo ikotan armij in Utirik kab Rongelap?

Kin menin ebar loñ menko ejab bobaruom kaki:

1. Etke ejelok control group ilo Utirik?

- a) Ke einjuon nememein armij in Utirik jen armij in Rongelap.
- b) Ke eoktok poison eo ilo Utirik jen eo ilo Rongelap---Utirik 14 rads, im Rongelap 175 rads.
- c) Ke eoktok ien jeblak eo an dri Utirik im dri Rongelap jen Kwajalein (ilo 1954)---dri Utirik rar rol elkin jilu allin, im dri Rongelap rar rol elkin jilu idø.
- d) Ejimwe ke elablok poison eo Utirik jen 14 rads?
- e) Ejimwe ke enaj elomlok dri jorren ilo iiñ kane rej itok?

2. Etke doctor ro an ERDA rar ba "jidrik wut poison eo ion Utirik ak Rongelap elab? Inem, etke oran dri jorren ro (thyroid cancer) ilo Utirik einwut oran dri jorren ro ilo Rongelap?

3. Etke rejab lale im komadmode ajri ro dri poison (melele in nejin dri poison ro---exposed group)?

4. Doctor ro an ERDA rejab ein air lelok komadmode non dri Utirik wut dei Rongelap, inem, rejab etale armij in Utirik aoleb iiñ, ak ilo Rongelap rej etale ir ilo aoleb iiñ? Tuan?

5. Armij in Utirik rej aituij tetet jidrik doctor:

- a) dri Utirik rejab iññer dei Rongelap, kinke ejab lale armij ro ilo Utirik, la ej 1954 ir aoleb jorren one, ejab etale ir.
- b) dri Utirik rejab iññer dr. Conrad Kinde elap an riab ilo an komono in jerl. d, in ejab halikar in katele ik aolej ilijen jorren in poison in bomb eo.

6. Elkin jet iiñ, doctor ro an ERDA rar lo elon armij rebök nañinalij in toñal (adult-onset diabetes), in rar ba eor 255 jen aoleb armij in Utirik.
a) Tuanin an doctor ro an ERDA jab lelok uno in toñal (diabetes).

armij in Utirik.

b) Dr. Konrad Kotrady ear kajitok uno in toñal iben Trust Territory Gov't. (ilo Majuro), im rar jab lelok.

7. Kiñ, dri Utitik elab air mijak kin poison i bomb eo:

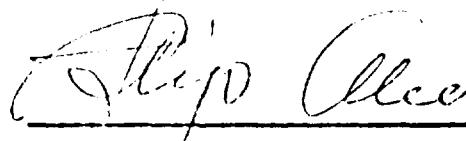
a) Inom, rej aikuiji juon ri stale in lalo Utirik, kinke
b) Noknok eo elap an drik tarrin juon ne itokin kiñ, sit moktalok jen
bomb eo ear wor tarrin lalim ne itokin.

Einwët am lo im jela, bwe elap an rup buruom otemjej. Kin ~~memin~~ kwon uköt Program eo an ERDA.

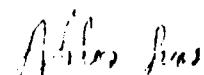
Komol tata,



Joanej Peter - Magistrate



Atijo Alee - Scribe



Aplas Kios - Kroij

cc: Robert A. Conard, M.D., ERDA
Rep. Charles Dominik, Congress of Micronesia
Rep. Ataji Balos, Congress of Micronesia
Sen. Olympio T. Porja, Congress of Micronesia
Dist. Ad. Oscar Dofrum, Marshalls
Fred Zeder, Dept. of Interior (US)
Sec. Trusteeship Council, United Nations
Congress of Micronesia
Judy and Ron Baital, Attorneys at Law
George Allan, Attorney at Law

Arwaj in Utirik:

Dejan Bittow
Dejan Bittow
Joko Bitten
Joko Bitten

Kajce Peter
Kajko Peter

Nelly Adeloo
Nelly Adeloo

Melinda Jado
Melinda Jado

Wijaya Kef
Wijaya Kef
Alce Kluwir
Alce Kluwir

Pipew Mikal
Pipew Mikal

Himmo gruk
Himmo gruk

Gien Kartiw
Gien Kartiw

Djoko Meman
Djoko Meman
Susan Kaito
Susan Kaito

Retika Cesa
Retika Cesa

Marmoko Meme
Marmoko Meme

Bona Alben
Bona Alben

Gejark Mexico
Gejark Mexico

Kirej Memar
Kirej Memar

Aita Mikel
Aita Mikel

Carmel Faife
Carmel Faife

Alki Memar
Alki Memar

Mihal Bittow
Mihal Bittow
Alisen L.Kaito
Alisen L.Kaito

Bank Memer
Bank Memer

Cymie Kaito
Cymie Kaito

Emito Kel
Emito Kel

Kenja Jokaj
Kenja Jokaj

Yosko Joreang
Yosko Joreang

Bekur Memar
Bekur Memar

Moor J
Moor J

Likwa Andy
Likwa Andy