

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Harry S. Traynor, Assistant General Manager DATE: November 7, 1956

FROM : Morse Salisbury, Director *M.A.*
Division of Information Services

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF DOCUMENT "MEDICAL SURVEY OF MARSHALLESE TWO YEARS
AFTER EXPOSURE TO FALLOUT RADIATION"

CHECK 13.12

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

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The above document which reports the data from a follow-up medical survey of the Marshallese citizens exposed on March 1, 1954, to radiation from the fallout of a test explosion was prepared by Brookhaven National Laboratory as contractor to the AEC, Division of Biology & Medicine. The text of it was sent in to the Division of Biology & Medicine some time during the summer. It was sent to the Division of Information Services on September 7. On September 18, I sent a memo back to Dr. Dunham pointing out some changes that seemed to be needed in the interest of accuracy and avoiding misunderstanding of the obscure subject matter of the report and saying that this Division had no objection to the issuance of the report in case these comments were taken into account. The correspondence is attached.

At that time we had instruction to proceed at any time after July 1 with distribution of the larger document, "Some Effects of Ionizing Radiation on Human Beings", reporting the medical history of the Marshallese in the first year after exposure. This book was in the final stages of publication at the Government Printing Office, having been delayed by changes by the authors after the report had reached the pageproof stage.

Since the two year survey of the effects on the Marshallese brought the history up to date and showed the encouraging progress of recovery, we all felt that its publication would be very helpful to the medical profession and public understanding generally.

In the meantime there has been delay in the issuance of the first and larger volume but preparation of the smaller one has proceeded. The Brookhaven National Laboratory reproduced 950 copies last week.

Of these, 250 copies were sent to the TISE at Oak Ridge to supply the AEC depository libraries and to hold as a reserve to supply future demand within the project. Of these 250, 55 have been dispatched to AEC depository libraries in the United States; 55 to AEC depository libraries in foreign countries; 19 to institutions in foreign countries with which we have exchange agreements on medical subject matter; and 13 to institutions in the United States with which we have exchange agreements on medical subject matter. There remain 108 copies at TISE, Oak Ridge. No further distribution of them will be made.

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200 copies were supplied to the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce for public sale as is the case with all unclassified reports of general interest to science or industry. These have just arrived at the OTS. OTS has been asked to defer placing them on sale for a couple of weeks and agreed to do so.

152 copies were to go on Standard Distribution to all of the laboratories, plants, and contract study groups within the AEC and the DOD interested in the subject matter. This distribution was not started, and the Division of Biology & Medicine has instructed Brookhaven National Laboratory not to proceed with it.

Thus there are in hand at TISE, Oak Ridge; OTS, Department of Commerce; and Brookhaven National Laboratory, 708 copies of the 950 printed.

We hope that the larger volume on the effects of radiation on human beings will be ready to distribute soon, as it is referenced in the smaller volume and there will be inquiries for it from those who receive the smaller volume.

DOE ARCHIVES

ATTACHMENT:

memo to Dr. Dunham dtd 9/18/56