

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY
ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES, INC.
UPTON, L. I., N. Y.
TEL. YAPHANK 4-6262

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*Assistant of Medical Bureau
of the Territory*

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July 15, 1958

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& others*

Dr. H. David Bruner,
Division of Biology and Medicine
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dave:

The following plans and requirements are submitted for the proposed fifth year post exposure medical survey of the Marshallese, beginning about 1 March 1959. The anticipated schedule of medical examinations is as follows.

About two weeks will be spent at Rongelap where the exposed and unexposed comparison populations will be examined. About 200 people are involved. During this period complete histories and physical examinations will be done and laboratory examinations including two complete blood studies similar to those carried out last year. In addition whole body gamma spectroscopy will be carried out.

On completion of these examinations at Rongelap, it is planned to proceed to Utirik Island for the purposes of re-examining the children for growth and development studies, and carrying out a limited number of whole body gamma counts on a sample of the population. It is anticipated that these examinations at Utirik would be accomplished in about 3 days, after which the majority of the team would return to Kwajalein and the United States. A few should proceed to Majuro to re-examine the Rita Village children. This should require only about 2 days and would complete the mission. These latter plans are tentative at this time.

Selection of personnel for participation is not complete. However, it seems likely that about an 18 man team will be required (as last year) plus the assistance of 3 - 4 Marshallese medical aides in the field. This is in addition to the University of Washington group of 6 - 8 men. Personnel lists will be submitted when completed. Budget estimates are also being worked on and will be submitted separately.

In order that Navy participation and assistance may be requested at an early date, the following help from the Navy is considered necessary in carrying out the mission:

REPOSITORY Washington National Records Center
COLLECTION 32681-6 Superior (Justice)
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July 15, 1958

1. It is requested that an LST be made available at Eniwetok sometime between 15 February and 1 March 1959. (The reasons for the use of the LST are the same that were presented last year.) Certain minor construction (a shower facility and wooden room 10 x 10 x 7 feet) in conjunction with the use of the steel room will be necessary on the LST prior to departure from Eniwetok. The cost of such construction will be borne by the Atomic Energy Commission. A 21 ton steel room and about 4 tons of medical equipment will be placed on board in the tank deck at Eniwetok. The ship should be available for transporting, berthing and messing a 30-man medical team to Rongelap for a period of about 2 weeks and then to Utirik for a period of about 1 week before returning the team and equipment to Eniwetok.

(2. In addition to an LST, a boat (such as an LCM) will be required for taking lagoon bottom samples ~~and samples outside the reef~~ to be tested for radioactivity. *If an LCM Commit*)

3. Request MATS transportation authorization, Class 2 priority, for 26 members of the medical team San Francisco to Eniwetok and return. Names of members of the team will be submitted in the near future. Also request MATS transportation for about 4 tons of equipment (3 tons from the New York area and 1 ton from Seattle, Washington) to Eniwetok and return.

4. Request air transportation between Rongelap, Kwajalein and Majuro to transport personnel as necessary to carry out the mission.

5. Request participation of about 4 medical Naval personnel from the Naval Medical Center if agreeable with local commands. A list of these people will be submitted later.

6. Request authorization of all Naval Commands en route to provide assistance to the medical team as required.

This ends requests of the Navy.

There are certain requirements dependent on Trust Territory assistance (Department of the Interior.)

1. Use of one medical practitioner and two interpreters for a period of 3 weeks to accompany the team to Rongelap and Utirik.

2. Use of limited hospital facilities at Majuro to examine about 20 children over a period of 2 to 3 days.

3. Messing and housing of 3 to 4 members of the medical team for a period of about 3 to 4 days at Majuro in March, 1959.

Please see Dr. Dunham about whether or not an AFSWP representative is to participate. Please let me know when this decision is made and, if affirmative, who the officer is.

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Dr. H. David Bruner

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July 15, 1958

At this time I am seriously considering omitting the eye examinations this next survey and, if so, would not require the services of Col. Lowery in this survey. Will let you know more definitely about this later.

The only other letter I can think of that is necessary is notification of the State Department.

If further information or clarification of these plans is needed, please let me know. As you know early planning is necessary in order to get proper organization.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Conard, M. D.

RAC/hib

cc: Dr. G. L. Dunham
Dr. E. L. Feld
Dr. Allyn Seymour
Cmdr. I. V. King

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