

JUN 26 1962

Honorable Chat Holifield, Chairman
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
Congress of the United States

Dear Mr. Holifield:

I am writing concerning the Hearings before the Joint Committee on January 18 during which there was a discussion about fallout on some of the peoples of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. I have asked Dr. C. L. Dunham, Director, Division of Biology and Medicine, to develop a brief statement on the subject which you may care to place in the record. Dr. Dunham's statement is attached.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Dwight A. Ink

Assistant
General Manager

From Box # 3108
J98# 7238

Enclosure
Statement by Dr. C.L. Dunham

cc: Cong Rel (3)
OGM
AGM/RD
BMA

Handwritten routing notes:
BMA [initials]
ADA [initials]
6/21/62

D/c Navy Dept

OFFICE ▶	BM DIRECTOR C.L.D.	CONG [initials]	AGM/RD [initials]	AGM [initials]	GM
SURNAME ▶	DUNHAM, RME				
DATE ▶	6/21/62		6/25/62	6/25	

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**STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD ON THE RESETTLEMENT OF AND FALLOUT ON
THE VARIOUS MARSHALLESE PEOPLES**

Supplement No. 2 of the Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, 1961, states:

"The first transfer of Marshallese people in connection with the tests took place in 1946 and it involved 167 people in Bikini Atoll, who are now settled on the island of Kili. The second group of 137 people transferred from Eniwetok in 1947 are now living on Ujae. The third transfer took place in 1954 when the people of Utirik and Rongelap were affected by radioactive fallout from the tests held during that year. Immediately following the incident, 154 people living on Utirik and 82 living on Rongelap were transferred to other islands. The Utirik people, who were less affected by radiation, were returned to their home island during 1954 itself after the Administration had declared that the island was safe from radioactive contamination. The people of Rongelap, who were more heavily exposed to radiation, returned to their home island in June 1957 from Ejit Island in the Majuro Atoll, where they were taken care of by the Administration from the time of their transfer till their return. Details concerning the transfer of these displaced groups, their resettlement, their health and other related problems are contained in the reports of the two previous Visiting Missions."

The Bikini people were removed from their Atoll in April 1946 prior to Operation Crossroads and transferred to Rongerik Atoll for a time following which they were removed to Eniwetok Atoll and eventually to Kili Island, where they have been ever since. The Eniwetok people were removed in 1948 prior to Operation Sandstone to Ujae Atoll where they have resided ever since. Neither of these peoples were subjected to unusual amounts of fallout at any time. The Rongelap people, however, did receive significant fallout from Bravo Shot, Operation Castle, March 1, 1954. The Utirik people received a lesser amount of fallout on the same occasion. At the same time on the non-populated Atoll of Rongerik, there were 31 military and weather personnel who received approximately 10r external gamma dose. The Rongelapese were on the Islands of Rongelap and Ailinginae on March 1, 1954. The 64 on Rongelap received approximately 173r external gamma dose; the 18 on Ailinginae received approximately 69r external gamma dose; and the 157 natives on the Atoll of Utirik received approximately 14r external gamma dose. To the best of my knowledge no other Marshallese have received any significant amount of fallout from weapons tests.

(more)

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Allingase Atoll is roughly 75 miles from Bikini, Rongelap Atoll is 100 miles, Rongerik Atoll is about 150 miles and Utirik Atoll is approximately 300 miles. All are in pretty much of an easterly direction from Bikini.

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