



BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY
ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES, INC.

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Medical Department

November 1, 1977

Dr. Masao Kumangai
Director of Health Services
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

Dear Masao,

I was sorry I did not get to see you and Mr. Winkel in September.

We are in the process of getting new personnel in our program. Dr. Hugh Pratt, an internist at Birmingham, AL, a retired naval Captain will be hired as of January 15, 1978. He will eventually be my relief when I retire in a little over a year. We think we will be hiring Dr. William Grant, formerly with your group at Ebeye. I got Ezra's o.k. before I approached him about the job of relieving Dr. Knudsen as our Resident Physician. In addition, we have hired a Physician's Assistant, recently graduated from University of N.Y. at Stony Brook, named Richard Coppola. He will be arriving with his wife at Kwajalein November 16 to join Knudsen. Knudsen will leave about January 1. Will you take care of any T.T. licensing necessary for Grant and Coppola?

I would like for us to get together sometime to discuss a written agreement regarding responsibilities (T.T. and our own) for the Ebeye Hospital situation and perhaps spell out to a greater extent our agreement of last February at Kwajalein. I will be in further touch with you about this.

With regard to PL 5-52, I do not think the Congress of Micronesia is likely to do anything, particularly with the M.I. separationist movement. Perhaps DOE (formerly ERDA) should get together with DOI and T.T. about a new agreement with Ataji in on the act. I firmly believe that the new agreement should not involve any per diem (other than a small daily stipend) but have travel, housing, and subsistence furnished to the patient. The past system invites abuse because of the money-making aspects.

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Now that the Compensation Bill has been signed by the President, I hope that when the people are given the money, they will be given sage advice in how to save and invest it properly. Knudsen suggested that Jack Tobin would be a good man to do this if hired for this purpose. It would make me very unhappy if the law firm of Bakal is allowed to distribute the money to the Utirik people - as I've heard they requested.


We have been discussing the possibility of putting up a laboratory trailer next to the Ebeye Hospital. We have discussed this with Ezra and Masao Korean and they are agreeable to the suggestion. Would you have any objections? Dr. Grant and Mr. Coppola would be able to do certain lab procedures on the Rongelap and Utirik people there and I am sure would be glad to help out on other patients at the hospital.

We are beginning to firm up plans for the March-April annual survey and I will be touch with you later about personnel, etc.

With best regards,

Robert A. Conard, M.D.

RAC:gc Mr. Winkel
CC: Dr. Ezra Riklon

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