

I'm sorry I was not at home when you visited my island. Instead, I have spent the past few months travelling to Japan and Fiji learning about treatment of atomic bomb victims and about attempts to end the nuclear threat in the Pacific.

Since leaving Rongelap on the peace ship Fri, I have learned a great deal and am writing to you to clarify some of my feelings regarding your continued use of us as research subjects.

MICRONESIAN
INDEPENDENT
Fri. Apr 25, 1975

The author of this letter,
is magistrate of

our problems. You have
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many new cases you'll
but I am very worried
again.

I'll never forget how
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seem to forget that it

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on questioning,
said that he personally would permit
the AEC continue its yearly examinations,
but that he wants to have a permanent,
full-time doctor stationed on Rongelap.
If this doctor is Japanese, as Nelson
indicates the case would be, then the
AEC will probably not kick in any money
for this service--or at least this was
the impression given when the subject
was discussed in Majuro with doctors
involved in a non-radiation related
study of diabetes among the Utrik-Rongelap
people.



I realize now that your entire career is based on our illness. We are far more valuable to you than you are to us. You have never really cared about us as people --only as a group of guinea pigs for your government's bomb research effort. For me and for the other people on Rongelap, it is life which matters most. For you it is facts and figures. There is no question about your technical competence, but we often wonder about your humanity. We don't need you and your technological machinery. We want our life and our health. We want to be free.

In all the years you've come to our island, you've never treated us (as) people. You've never sat down among us and really help us honestly about

[This letter was sent to Dr Robert Conard, head of the continuing radiological effect survey on the people of Rongelap and Utrik who were exposed to radiation in an incident in 1954]

On Saturday, April 19, in
had a meeting

with about 20 people from Utrik on the question of continued AEC yearly examinations. According to Nelson, everyone at the meeting has agreed with his position not to permit the AEC to examine the people anymore

you work for who much

As a result of my trip that I want you to know is that we do not want medical care from doctors about collecting information from our government's war makers.

We want a doctor entirely. We don't need convenient for you to see a doctor when we're trying to Americanize our cast-off textbooks. We want the kind of medical

We've never really to invite doctors from to examine us in a caring

We no longer want control. As a representative convinced us that America is our to help them. We want our neutrality and independence power.

There will be some you try to visit be people we first stood up to you motives. Now that people in the world no longer want you

RONGELAP

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our problems. You have told people
is over," then _____ died. I don't know how
many new cases you'll find during your current trip.
but I am very worried that we will suffer again and
again.

I'll never forget how you told a newspaper report-
er that it was our fault that _____ died because we
wouldn't let you examine us in early 1972. You
seem to forget that it is your country and the people

On Monday, April 21, a member
of the AEC team who participated in
the recent trip of the group to Rongelap said the Marshallese were friendly
and gave no indication that they were
unset about anything. "I just can't
understand it," said one. Apparently
no new abnormalities were detected as
yet as a result of the most recent
examination. Still, final results are
not in yet.



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As a result of my trip, I've made some decisions
that I want you to know about. The main decision
is that we do not want to see you again. We want
medical care from doctors who care about us, not
about collecting information for the U.S. Govern-
ment's war makers.

We want a doctor to live on our island perman-
ently. We don't need medical care only when its
convenient for you to visit. We want to be able to
see a doctor when we want to. America has been
trying to Americanize us by flying flags and using
cast-off textbooks. It's about time America gave us
the kind of medical care it provides its own citizens.

We've never really trusted you. So we're going
to invite doctors from hospitals in Hiroshima to ex-
amine us in a caring way.

We no longer want to be under American con-
trol. As a representative of the U.S., you've con-
vinced us that Americans are put to dominate others,
nor to help them. From now on, we will maintain
our neutrality and independence from American
power.

There will be some changes made. Next time
you try to visit be prepared. Ever since 1972 when
we first stood up to you, we've been aware of your
motives. Now that we know that there are other
people in the world who are willing to help us, we
no longer want you to come to Rongelap.

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THE
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HOLE