

JUN 1 1959

Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN
 Chief of Naval Operations
 Department of the Navy
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Admiral Burke:

It is a pleasure to report that the sixth follow-up medical examination of the Marshallese Islanders has been successfully completed and the personnel of the team are preparing their data for publication.

Preliminary analyses of their data indicate that no untoward clinical effects have occurred in the population although there has been a slight increase in the body burden of certain radioactive nuclides.

Dr. Robert A. Conrad, Leader of the team, has written that Lt. U. E. Lassiter USN, Commanding Officer of the USN HVAL GUNNY (LST 758), and the officers and crew of the ship cooperated in every way possible and contributed greatly to the success of the expedition.

Dr. Conrad has also asked me to note the outstanding assistance rendered the team by several other Navy personnel. Commander I. V. King (MC) USN served as a most effective Navy Liaison Officer in the Washington area. Captain C. F. Van der Aar USN, Commanding Officer of the Naval Medical Research Institute, supported the mission to the Solomons and at Honi, Captain Harry Fifer (MC) USN was a most efficient Liaison Officer to the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet. At Saipan the Commanding Officer, Captain Alfred L. Gage USN, cooperated in every possible way and particularly in arranging for air support of the Operation Hanganap. Commander J. E. Hager (MC) USN, the senior medical officer at Hanganap, was also extremely helpful.

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Admiral Arthur A. Deter, USN

- 2 -

It is quite evident that we and the team are greatly in your debt and all the more so because we are unable to express our appreciation to all of the Navy personnel whose splendid support all down the line was essential for the successful completion of the mission.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED, A. R. LUEDECKE

General Manager

cc: CENCOMFLT

Commander, JF-7

Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Chief, Bureau of Ships

CO, USN

CO, USN

14. Capt. I. V. King, USN

Dr. Robert A. Gurnea

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