

COPY

FROM: Fred A. Seaton, Secretary of Interior

November 3, 1959

TO: Hon. John McCone
Chairman
Atomic Energy Commission

For past few years medical and scientific groups of AEC have made periodic inspections and survey of island of Rongelap and its people following 1954 fallout. Frequency of inspection has resulted in keeping Rongelap people in state of confusion as to their health and condition of their land. High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands D. H. Nucker met with officials of your agency in Washington in June and agreement reached that there is no further need for inspection teams to visit Rongelap until 1961 except that local medical officers will make periodic blood tests and submit to AEC analysis. People of Rongelap have been assured by me that their arrangement would be carried out which has resulted in relieving the situation created earlier. I have been informed in past few days that in near future AEC technicians are planning further inspection on Rongelap. Will appreciate your investigation this matter and if report is true steps be taken to cancel ~~and~~ agreement entered into between High Commissioner Nucker, and your agency be carried out.

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