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**CABLEGRAM**

**FOREIGN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION**

**CABLEGRAM**

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION **[REDACTED]**

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SAE ✓  
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SENT TO — **TAIPKI USFOTO 52** 408049

DC/T

*De Sinigaglia*

**08344**

*HRS Schmitt*  
*10/24/96*

SUBJECT — **Radioactive Fish**

REFERENCE — **TOUSFO 42**

unclassified

*DO5 (Memo 940425)*

*2/8/96*

1. As requested, are furnishing following scientific statement to be used as basis for public release. Press statement based on following for your consideration now being prepared for early transmittal. Meanwhile basic facts as follows:

**BEST COPY AVAILABLE**

**QTR:** Opinion Atomic Energy Commission scientific staff based on long-term studies fish in presence radioactivity is that there is no hazard in consumption fish caught in Pacific Ocean outside immediate test areas subsequent to tests. No commercial fishing permitted within immediate test area for short time subsequent to test series. United States Government established monitoring service Pacific ports, and understand Japanese Government did same. However, both U. S. and Japanese governments have reduced monitoring activity to periodic spot checks because neither government has found activity in meat of edible fish. Traces radioactivity have been detected in gills and viscera of a few fish but at levels below maximum permissible levels set by U. S. Food and Drug Administration and Division of Biology and Medicine, AEC.

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AUTHORIZING OFFICER	DRAFTED BY	OFFICE	PHONE NO.	DATE
Frank L. Turner	FLTurner:sa	O/FE-China	2551	7/19/54

FOA AND OTHER CLEARANCES	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	FOA AND OTHER CLEARANCES
GSpiegel, S/AE (in draft)	<b>[REDACTED]</b>	Bugher, AEC

REPRODUCTION OF CLASSIFIED CABLEGRAMS IS PROHIBITED

Brown/Boss, AEC (in draft)	S/AE	Rhinehart, O/FE
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WCaldwell, M/FR (in draft)	AUG 3 1954	R. Tyson, S/Feed (draft)
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MILITARY RESEARCH & APPL *7-6* 22624

CONTINUATION  
OUTGOING CABLEGRAM

FOREIGN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

POST

TAIPEI USFOTO 52

NO.

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**QTE:** As to ocean currents—warm currents which flow from the Marshall Islands area Westward and Northward eventually joining Japan current move slowly (less than mile per hour). Any radioactivity collected in test area becomes harmless due to decay and dilution within a short time period.

**QTE:** Levels of contamination reported from Formosa are well below the maximum permissible levels set by the Food and Drug Administration and not sufficiently high to cause apprehension from the standpoint of human consumption.

**QTE:** Detailed scientific information has been furnished by AEC to Dr. L. C. Chiang, Radiology Professor, NTU, and to Dr. J. Heng Lieu, Head, Chinese Red Cross. Same information being furnished Embassy Taipei. UNQTE.

2. Believe no grounds apprehension exist Formosa per above statement. However, since techniques in monitoring contamination vary, AEC willing analyze specimens of fish reportedly contaminated. Therefore, if you desire, prepare specimens per following instructions and consign to FOA/W for transmittal to AEC. Believe desirable send specimens FOA/W rather than direct to AEC to prevent misunderstandings as to interest of AEC.

3. Mailing instructions follow: Take portions of fish including gills, piece of skin, slab of solid meat, liver and spleen, bone from vertebral column; fix in formaldehyde, diluting 1 to 10 with water. Soak specimens two days. Pack in cloth or plastic bags soaked in formaldehyde solution. Encase specimens in water-proof package. Label package with certificate signed by Mission Chief reading as follows: **QTE:** Certified as fish specimens for pathological examination of no commercial value. UNQTE.

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