

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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VERBATIM TEXT

SENT TO: Embassy, TOKYO 2348

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1. Re Paragraph 4, your 2543, there follows text statement re omnipresence background radiation, prepared by AEC's Division Biology and Medicine:

QUOTE Not all of radiation which one ordinarily observes with Geiger counter comes from atomic bombs. There is natural background radiation everywhere. It varies from place to place, and even from time to time, resulting in 30-300 counts per minute on counter. BEST COPY AVAILABLE

QUOTE Everywhere on earth's surface, in air, and even in human and animal bodies and in plants, there is natural radioactivity due presence of uranium, radium, radiopotassium and other active elements in earth, radon and thoron in air, and cosmic ray particles from outer space. Altogether, these radiations result in doses to human beings of 80 to 800 milliroentgens per year. Depending somewhat upon particular counter used, these doses correspond to 30-300 counts per minute. Dose levels this amount harmless to human beings. In fact, dose rates as high as

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
SINGLE REVIEW AUTHORIZED BY <i>Benjamin 7/3/94</i>	DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER) 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: 3. CONTAINS NO E.O. 13526 INFORMATION 4. COORDINATE WITH: 5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED 6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
REVIEWER NAME <i>Benjamin</i>	DATE <i>7/3/94</i>

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300 Milliroentgens per week, corresponding to rate of about 5500 counts per minute, have been agreed by international authorities to be safe for human beings.

QUOTE All measurements radiation intensities or contaminations should be expressed as over and above background intensity of 30-50 counts per minute. END QUOTE

Reprint section AEC's 13th Semiannual Report devoted problem weapons tests, fall-out, and public safety being pouched Embassy today.

2. Re Paragraph 5, your 2543, AEC definitely and primarily interested in recovery FM patients. Any useful medical data which might be derived from their injuries simply represents information of importance health interests both nations. Urine samples alone unaccompanied by complete data requested Department telegram 2179 offer very incomplete picture from medical standpoint. Continued urine samples this basis limited value from medical point of view. Unless Japanese regard analytical service as valuable and useful service to them, AEC recommends discontinuance.

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