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exposure it would not have resulted in a total dose sufficient to produce even the minimum symptons of radiation sickness. (Calculations made by the Japanese as reported in a previous wire from the American Embassy, Tokyo, of a maximum of 100 milliroentgens exposure to the crew may be somewhat high but not an impossible value. An exposure of 100 milliroentgents is about equivalent to that received each year from natural sources.)

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The medical examinations showed no evidence of radiation injury. The lowest white blood count of 3,350 is below average but is not considered serious and counts in this range are occasionally seen under normal circumstances. The specific cause for this low count has not been determined, but it could be either (a) a normal count for this individual, or (b) the result of one or more of several causes. Other blood elements (red cells and hemoglobin) measured were all within normal ranges in all instances.

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Sincerely yours,

/s/ Paul F. Foster

General Manager

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON

August 14, 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR:

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Admiral Paul F. Foster, General Manager, Atomic Energy Commission.

Subject: Exposure to Radiation of the Takuyo Maru and Satsuma Maru.

It gives me great pleasure to bring to your attention the attached telegram from Ambassador MacArthur concerning the conclusion of the recent "exposure" incident involving the Takuyo Maru and Satsuma Maru.

On behalf of the Department I should like to express appreciation for the expeditious handling of the matter by the Atomic Energy Commission. The many individuals involved in rendering the assistance referred to by Ambassador MacArthur are to be commended.

/s/

Philip J. Farley

Attachment:

AmEmbassy Tokyo's telegram dated August 13.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AUGUST 13, 1958

FROM: TOKYO

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TO: Secretary of State

CURRENT PHASE OF INCIDENT INVOLVING EXPOSURE TO RADIATION OF TWO MSB SHIPS TAKUYO AND SATSUMA SEEMS ABOUT CONCLUDED. NOTEWORTHY HAS BEEN VERY RESPONSIBLE MANNER WITH WHICH GOJ HAS HANDLED QUESTION OF POSSIBLE RADIATION SICKNESS AMONG CREW MEMBERS, IN FACT TREMENDOUS PRESSURES FROM PRESS AND OPPOSITION TO BUILD UP THIS INCIDENT INTO ANOTHER FUKURYU MARU CASE AND CREATE MAJOR CONTROVERSY WITH US. JAPANESE GOVT HAS LENT WEIGHT OF ITS PRESTIGE AND INFLUENCE TO QUIET PUELIC ANXIETY ABOUT CREW AND ESTABLISH THAT NO RADIATION EFFECTS WERE SUFFERED (EMBTEL 293). AS RESULT, EFFORTS BY PRESS AND LEFTISTS TO BUILD UP ATMOSPHERE OF HYSTERIA AND THEREBY DRAMATIZE JAPANESE DEMANDS FOR NUCLEAR TEST SUSPENSION HAVE FALLEN FLAT.

JAPANESE GOVT MAINTAINED ITS POISE THROUGHOUT THIS SITUATION AND THUS SUCCEEDED IN FRUSTRATING LEFTIST PLANS TO USE THIS INCIDENT TO CREATE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN US AND JAPAN. HOWEVER, AS RESPONSIBLE JAPANESE OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US, THEIR EFFORTS WOULD NOT RPT NOT HAVE SUCCEEDED WERE IT NOT RPT NOT FOR FULL AND EXPEDITIOUS COOPERATION OF US GOVT. PLEASE CONVEY MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION PANTICULARLY TO AEC AND ADMIRAL BURKE AND HIS PEOPLE FOR THEIR EXPEDITIOUS AND POSITIVE ASSISTANCE IN HANDLING THIS POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE INCIDENT.

MAC ARTHUR