Trip Report LCU Liktangur 1/5 - 1/15/77

Purpose: Visit of medical team to Rongelap and Bikini.
Support of Janakirom Naidu, BNL for a special mission of information and education of Rongelap people on problems related to radiation.

The trip should have started 1/4 but was delayed 1 day to wait for Dr. Peter and wife, and mr Kabua of Majuro. The Majuro team did not arrive, and Mrs Shimako and Mr Kalmen Bettere of Ebeye joined us instead.

(The cause of the 'no-show' was that the tickets, telegraphed from Honolulu did not reach Majuro in time. As a result of this mishap, the ERDA representative at Kwajalein now has authority to charge tickets on Air Micronesia)

The passage to Rongelap was uneventful. In addition to sick calks a complete PPD survey with chest x-ray of suspect cases was performed with the able assistance of Shimako and Kalmen.

Naidu was established ashore and furnished with supplies for a 4 week stay.

At the request of health aide one pregnant patient was given transportation to Ebeye on the LCU (name , one of the exposed Rongelapese)

1/11 the ship left Rongelap for Bikini and arrived next morning after an uneventful passage.

Sick calls on Bikini and collection of urine samples for Pu analysis.

Left Bikini 1/13; arrived Kwajalein 1/15.

The trip was uneventful and pleasant in every respect. It was shorter than desired due to a cramped ship schedule, and was further shortened by the delay.

Captain Bullock handled the ship skillfullym, and morale and spirits on board were a pleasant contrast to the previous trip. If in future positions he asks for references from ERDA he should be given high praise.

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