

July 9, 1976  
 Utirik, Marshall Islands  
 Trust Territory of the Pacific

Mr. Roger Ray, AM/E&S  
 U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA)  
 Nevada Operations Office  
 P.O. Box 14100  
 Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

**BEST COPY AVAILABLE**

Dear Mr. Ray:

This letter is from the chiefs and all of the people in Utirik Atoll. It has now been twenty-two years since the radioactive fall-out from the bomb, which has disturbed the peace and welfare from 1954 until the present.

The doctors from ERDA have told us that there were 14 rads in Utirik and 175 rads in Rongelap, therefore, we are very surprized, because in Utirik we have ten cases of thyroid nodules, three of which were malignant. But in Rongelap they have thirty cases of thyroid nodules, and also three cases of malignancy. Perhaps you can tell us if there is some explanation for the same number of malignant thyroid cases in Rongelap and Utirik, who received very different levels of radiation?

Additionally, we have many more things to ask, because at present we are not happy with the way things are:

1. Why is there not a control group in Utirik?
  - a) The people of Utirik are different from the people of Rongelap--they are a different gene pool and breeding population.
  - b) The people of Utirik were exposed to different levels of radiation than the people of Rongelap---Utirik had 14 rads, and Rongelap had 175 rads.
  - c) There were different return times for the Utirik people and the Rongelap people from Kwajalein (following their evacuation) in 1954---the people of Utirik returned to their atoll after three months, and the people of Rongelap returned to their atoll after three years.
  - d) Would it be correct to say that perhaps the Utirik people received more than only 14 rads in light of their quick return time to Utirik?
  - e) Would it be correct to say that we can expect many more cases of thyroid problems in the future?
2. How come the ERDA doctors told us that there was just a little bit of radiation in Utirik and a lot in Rongelap? That is, why are there the same number of malignant thyroid glands in Utirik as there are in Rongelap?
3. Why is it that the ERDA doctors do not examine the children of the exposed Utirik group?
4. Why is it that the ERDA doctors give different treatment to the people of Utirik than the people of Rongelap? They do not give full examinations to the people of Utirik every year, as they do in Rongelap. Why not?
5. The people of Utirik should be able to choose their own doctors:
  - a) The people of Utirik do not like Dr. Knudsen because he does not examine all of the Utirik people, and looks at the people of Utirik as if they are merely animals in a scientific experiment, and further he does not provide a "hot call" for the people.
  - b) The people of Utirik do not like Dr. Conard because he lies to the people, and has not helped the people to understand the problems

that they confront in regards to the radiation and its effects.

6. Some years ago, the ERDA doctors discovered that a number of the Utirik people had adult-onset diabetes, and said that 25% of the people had the disease.
  - a) Why haven't the ERDA doctors given medicine to the people who have the disease in Utirik (medicine: Diabinase)?
  - b) Dr. Konrad Kotrady had asked the Trust Territory Gov't. (in Majuro) for the medicine (Diabinase), and they refused to give him any for the people of Utirik, and therefore, the people with this disease have not been properly treated.
7. At present, the people of Utirik have much fear of the radiation that came from the bomb:
  - a) Therefore the people of Utirik feel the need to have someone come out and do a study of Utirik for possible lingering radiation.
  - b) The people of Utirik feel that their arrowroot has been damaged as a result of the radiation. At present the arrowroot stalks measure one foot, whereas before the radiation they measured five feet.

As you can see, the people of Utirik are very distressed and angry as a result of the radiation. The people feel that the ERDA Program is in need of vast changes.

Thank you very much,

Joanej Peter  
Joanej Peter - Magistrate

Magistrate  
Magistrate - Utirik

Magistrate  
Magistrate - Utirik (Chief)

cc: Robert A. Conard, M.D., ERDA  
Rep. Charles Boninck, Congress of Micronesia  
Rep. Ataji Kalon, Congress of Micronesia  
Sen. Angela Taha, Congress of Micronesia  
Dist. At. Omeru, Congress of Micronesia  
Fred Koster, M.D., ERDA (Chief)  
M.D. Omeru, Congress of Micronesia

July 9, 1976  
Utirik, Marshall Islands  
Trust Territory of the Pacific

Mr. Roger Ray, AM/EES  
U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA)  
Nevada Operations Office  
P.O. Box 14100  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

Dear Mr. Ray:

Jen Iroij ro Alap im kim ro otemjej armij in Utirik Atoll kinij je letter in an, einwot ke emotlok roñoul ruo iio kiio, elkin wot an kar wotlok poison in bomb eo im poison in kokkare im kejorren ejimur im aineser im jokane an otemjelok jen iio 1954 mantak non iio in 1976.

Ekkar non an doctor ro an ERDA ba ke drettan eo ilo Utirik 14 rads in ilo Rongelap 175 rads, kin menin kim armij in Utirik elap an bwilon kinke eor jomol armij dri nanimij ilo Utirik inem, jilu iair thyroid cancer dri jorren. Ak Rongelap eor jilmul armij dri nanimij inem, jilu iair thyroid cancer dri jorren. Inem, ta oktak eo ikotan armij in Utirik kab Rongelap?

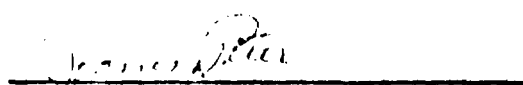
Kin menin ebar loñ menko ejab bobaruom kaki:

1. Etke ejelok control group ilo Utirik?
  - a) Ke einjuon nememoin armij in Utirik jen armij in Rongelap.
  - b) Ke eoktok poison eo ilo Utirik jen eo ilo Rongelap---Utirik 14 rads, im Rongelap 175 rads.
  - c) Ke eoktok ien jeblak eo an dri Utirik im dri Rongelap jen Kwajalein (ilo 1954)---dri Utirik rar rol elkin jilu allin, im dri Rongelap rar rol elkin jilu iio.
  - d) Ejimwe ke elablok poison eo Utirik jen 14 rads?
  - e) Ejimwe ke enaj elotlok dri jorren ilo iio kane rej itok?
2. Etke doctor ro an ERDA rar ba "jidrik wot poison eo ion Utirik ak Rongelap elab? Inem, etke oran dri jorren ro (thyroid cancer) ilo Utirik einwot oran dri jorren ro ilo Rongelap?
3. Etke rejab lale im komadmode ajri ro dri poison (melele in nejin dri poison ro--exposed group)?
4. Doctor ro an ERDA rejab ein air lelok komadmode non dri Utirik wot dri Rongelap, inem, rejab etale armij in Utirik aoleb iio, ak ilo Rongelap rej etale ir ilo aoleb iio? Tannin?
5. Armij in Utirik rej alimij letel letel doctor:
  - a) dri Utirik rejab letel letel doctor kinke elab late armij ro ilo Utirik, inem, letel letel letel letel letel, inem, rejab etale ir.
  - b) dri Utirik rejab letel letel doctor kinke elab an riab ilo an honoro in jorren, in ejab letel letel in letel letel letel letel letel jorren in poison in bomb eo.
6. Elkin jet iio, doctor ro an ERDA rar lo elon armij rebok nanimij in toñal (adult-onset diabetes), in rar ba eor 25% jen aoleb armij in Utirik.
  - a) Tannin an doctor ro an ERDA jab letel ruo in toñal (diabetes)?

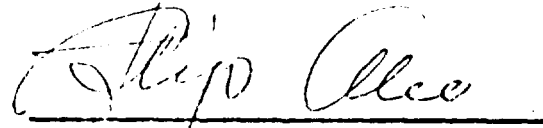
- armij in Utirik.
- b) Dr. Konrad Kotrady ear kajitok uno in toñal iben Trust Territory Gov't. (ilo Naajuro), im rar jab lellok.
7. Kiñ, dri Utirik elab air mijak kin poison in bomb eo:
- a) Inca, rej aikaiji juon ri elale in lalo Utirik, kinke
- b) Mokmok eo elap an drik tarrin juon ne itokin kiñ, ak moktalok jen bomb eo ear wor tarrin lalim ne itokin.

Einwöt an lo im jela, bwe elap an rup buruom otemjej. Kin mehin kwon uköt Program eo an ERDA.

Komol tata,



Joanej Peter - Magistrate



Atijo Alee - Scribe



Aplós Kios - Iroi

cc: Robert A. Conard, M.D., ERDA  
Rep. Charles Dominick, Congress of Micronesia  
Rep. Ataji Balos, Congress of Micronesia  
Sen. Olympio T. Korja, Congress of Micronesia  
Dist. Ad. Oscar DeBrau, Marshalls  
Fred Zeder, Dept. of Interior (US)  
Sec. Trusteeship Council, United Nations  
Congress of Micronesia  
Judy and Ron Bakal, Attorneys at Law  
George Allan, Attorney at Law

Amaj in Utirik:

Georgina L.  
Georgina Letpo

Juda Bitten  
Juda Bitten

Kajko Peter  
Kajko Peter

Nolly Dblo  
Nolly Dblo

John Judo  
John Judo

Ernie Kel  
Ernie Kel

Yosko Joreang  
Yosko Joreang

Bokur Jonran  
Bokur Jonran

Hor Jorout  
Hor Jorout

Likwa Andy  
Likwa Andy

John Judo  
John Judo

Lohan Kaito  
Lohan Kaito

Atok Mese  
Atok Mese

Yosko Joreang  
Yosko Joreang

Bona Aiben  
Bona Aiben

John Mexico  
John Mexico

Kirej Jorwa  
Kirej Jorwa

Atok Mese  
Atok Mese

Atok Mese  
Atok Mese

Atok Mese  
Atok Mese

Nikol Letpo  
Nikol Letpo

Alisen L. Kaito  
Alisen L. Kaito

Bank Meme  
Bank Meme

Niji Kaito  
Niji Kaito

Ento Kel  
Ento Kel

Konja Jorwa  
Konja Jorwa

Yosko Joreang  
Yosko Joreang

Bokur Jonran  
Bokur Jonran

Hor Jorout  
Hor Jorout

Likwa Andy  
Likwa Andy