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Mrs. Elizabeth P. Farrington
Director, Office of Territories
U.S. Department of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Enclosed is a xerox copy of a letter from Mr. William A. Bonnet, Manager, Atomic Energy Commission Honolulu Area Office, to the District Administrator, Marshalls.

We enclose a copy of the letter because it has some relative views to the subject of funding and payment for the Rongelap medical surveys mentioned in paragraph 2 of your letter dated September 2, 1969.

During the past years, the cost of travel and per diem for our Micronesian personnel who participate in these Rongelap annual surveys has always been borne by the Trust Territory Government. When this was known by Congress of Micronesia, they wish the funding be deleted claiming that AEC should absorb all these costs and not the Trust Territory Government. Since the amount of money involved is estimated at around \$3,000 per survey, it is felt that Atomic Energy Commission could take care of this as a part of a symbolic gesture to the Trust Territory and the people involved.

Our proposal then which we think would meet with the wishes of Congress of Micronesia would be that, if acceptable to the AEC, we will continue to furnish necessary assistance to the AEC medical survey teams and go along the procedure and understanding mentioned in Mr. Bonnet's letter that all these survey support costs, travel of personnel or other, incurred by the Trust Territory be reimbursed by the Atomic Energy Commission.

It would simplify matters if Dr. Robert A. Conard could visit Saipan before the next Rongelap survey in March so we could discuss these matters more in detail with him including medical problems and the proposed dispensary requirements.

Sincerely yours,

Peter J. Coleman
Deputy High Commissioner

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

cc: R. A. Conard, M.D., Brookhaven National Laboratory

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