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Mr. Edward J. Bauser Executive Director Joint Committee on Atomic Energy Congress of the United States

Dear Mr. Bauser:

This is to inform the Joint Committee of the present status of the efforts of Dr. Robert A. Conard, Medical Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, to carry out the annual Medical Survey of the Marshallese Island people who were exposed to fallout from the "Bravo" test detonated on Bikini Atoll on March 1, 1954. Heretofore we have informed the Joint Committee of the medical team's findings shortly after their return each Spring. This year, however, many of the Marshallese did not volunteer for physical examinations and the routine clinical tests.

The enclosed Staff Report recounts briefly the events in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands which led to this situation and subsequent developments which seem to have reestablished the Medical Survey.

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The Division of Biomedical and Environmental Research (DBER) has cooperated closely with the Territorial Offices of the Department of Interior on this matter, exchanging information and messages. DBER therefore is able to provide much more detailed information should it be desired. If present arrangements are changed in any significant way DBER will promptly notify the Joint Committee.

Sincerely.

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