

BIOLOGICAL MONITORING

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The study was conducted in the Marshall Islands, which were the only islands in the Pacific Ocean to be visited by the atomic bombing aircraft on November 23, 1946. The study was conducted in 1954 and 1955. The results of the study are presented in this report.

In 1954, a survey was carried out on Bikini. One of the four islands in Bikini Atoll was visited. The visits to Bikini and Aebe were designed to determine the presence of people there following an "unexposed" population. Current data indicate that this population might in fact have had a higher than ambient radiation exposure.

The inhabitants of all islands other than Rongelap, Rongerik, and Rongerik have been exposed to radiation. The extent of exposure has not been determined. The purpose of this study was to determine the extent of radiation exposure in the Marshall Islands. The study was conducted in 1954 and 1955. The results of the study are presented in this report.

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... to be conducted in the context of a health care system, the medical program will be expected to be self-sustaining in the sense that it will be able to attract and retain its own staff. The program will be expected to be able to attract and retain its own staff, to be able to attract and retain its own staff, to be able to attract and retain its own staff. The program will be expected to be able to attract and retain its own staff, to be able to attract and retain its own staff, to be able to attract and retain its own staff.

7. Health Care Needs - The health care needs of the Marshall Islands are complex. The health care needs of the Marshall Islands are complex. The health care needs of the Marshall Islands are complex. The health care needs of the Marshall Islands are complex. The health care needs of the Marshall Islands are complex.

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8. Staffing - For the last 24 years the staffing of this program has consisted of 11 medical officers and 2 full-time technicians. Over the last 5 years there have been intermittent resident physicians based in the Marshall Islands, however those visits have, with one notable exception, have frequently provided more problems that help to the PI.

In addition, the program will be expected to include the following elements which would increase the staff population as follows:

- 1. Doctor - 1.00
- 2. Nurse - 1.00
- 3. Technician - 2.00
- 4. Health Aide - 1.00
- 5. Hospital Attendant - 1.00
- 6. Hospital Cook - 1.00
- 7. Hospital Janitor - 1.00

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8. Staffing - over the last year there have been major changes in the scope and responsibility of the Brookhaven National Laboratory medical program. For the last 2 years there has been an increasing perception of the critical role that occupational health and radiation education plays in the delicate interface between the Marshallese and the US representatives. Within the last six months, concurrent with the establishment of a new Marshall Islands government there has been a concerted effort by all parties concerned to develop a highly integrated and cooperative effort to serve the medical needs of the Marshallese people. In line with this effort, and considering the projected increase in the study population, a position paper was developed by Brookhaven National Laboratory for US - Department of Energy in December 1978. Since that time, recent developments have necessitated a re-evaluation of personnel needs. The program has been without a resident physician in the island for six months and it is anticipated that a functional replacement will not be available for another six months. The annual surveys have been re-designed

