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Mr. John T. Conroy
 Executive Director
 Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
 Congress of the United States

Dear Mr. Conroy:

The following represents the most recent information on the occurrence of thyroid nodules among the people of Rongelap Island who were exposed to fallout on March 1, 1954. Dr. Robert A. Clark of the Medical Department of the Brookhaven National Laboratory has returned from the Marshall Islands where he and his team continued the latest of the continuing series of medical examinations of these people.

The last letter on this subject, dated May 12, 1956, reported a cumulative total of 16 Marshallians and their family to have thyroid nodules. Dr. C. L. Bushner also provided the Joint Committee additional comments regarding this problem at the time of the FY 1956 authorization hearings.

The recent survey disclosed one new case with a thyroid nodule. This additional case was in a 17-year old boy who had been away on an outlying atoll and, consequently, had not been examined for several years. This brings to 17 the number of diagnosed cases of nodular thyroids among the 69 survivors of the original exposed group.

During the latter part of May 1956, five patients were brought from Rongelap to the Brookhaven Medical Department. After thorough examination they were transferred to the New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston for subtotal thyroidectomy. All did well and were returned in June 1956 to Rongelap.

Also, 11 of the 17 individuals with thyroid nodules have been treated surgically. There are nine children and two adults,

5-12-57

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Sincerely yours,

S. G. English

S. G. English
Assistant General Manager for
Research and Development

cc: Cong. Rel. (2)

~~cc: Cong. Rel. (2)~~

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Cong. Rel.

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