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Dr. Welander,

April 5th, 1954

Applied Fisheries Laboratory
University of Washington

Dear Dr. Welander,

I am so glad that very hard to find out proper word in my poor English vocabulary to get your so kind and quick reply to my questions about radiobiological problems. I am sure your kind letter and valuable reprint of your work you kindly sent to me are one of the rare and valuable key to the solution of the problem I had in my ~~knowledge~~ mind.

I am very glad ~~that~~ to know the contents of your letter and of your paper was not so far from that I had ~~been~~ in my mind from just a common sense of biology and I have been talking it to the majority through radio, TV and news papers. I had to ~~do~~ it because the fear of people to any marine products was too big and wide, probably caused by exaggerated news and some bad-mind people.

About the food examination system, our officials got instruction from some other source of US authorities for both civil consumption and export to US, so they are doing very well. But, I will tell ~~the~~ your kind advice to them as an adviser.

We are now collecting various data about this accident brought back from our tuna fisherman. And, the data as far as human physiology concerned would be supplied by a group of Jap. physicians to ABCC (Atom Bomb Curing Center of US) now in here. However, as no US ~~fish~~ ichthyologist or oceanographer is included in ABCC, (though I am earnestly hoping it), I think I have to contact with you informing everything I could get here. (I am going to ask to either US embassy or some authority here to send you here for us --- if it does not bother you so much, and you wish it)--.

Any way I will write you later all the detail exact data we could get as far as fish and water concerned, because as our tuna boats were scattered near to the area the data ~~about~~ ^{from} them might add some knowledge to you for further monitoring and others.

The materials are coming in so busily ~~now~~ ^{that}, my laboratory activities has no room for any compilation and it seems to me to early to write the whole feature ~~to you~~.

You mentioned about LIFE MAGAZINE, but not yet we get it. I will answer you when I could see it. But, you should know that as far as this matter concerned news is sometimes incomplete or partly incorrect.

... these tuna boats were found to have radio activity

now there is no possitive evidence that these fishes obtained the contamination while they are living, be~~ca~~use more radio-activity was found in the integument than viscera. ~~These/boats~~ Some of these boats just passed the east of the area in the way back, and some operated the fishing near to the area at that time. And, all of these got the radio-active ash at the surface of the boat in various degree rather proportional to ~~the~~ ^{or dust} distance from the spot.

The reason why the caught fish kept in the fish hold has got the contamination is supposed to be ^{they} got it when the fish was on the deck to take out the viscera as almost all the tuna were usually treated like that. And some other fish might got it when took on the deck from the sea water. Especially, sharks, which usually caught by flag line mixed with tumas has rough skin ^{can} to collect the ash, and also "shark fin" for Chinese style soup is usually dried being spread out on the deck or roof of the cabin while the boat is cruising, so the fact this dried shark fin had strongest radio activity can be understa well ^{by it}. --- I don't know what sort of ~~radio-activity~~ autoradiograph is in LIFE, but it may be a dried ^{shark} fin ---

The several water samples were brought back from the tuna boat in the area near to the spot. But, until now there is no case to have possitive radio activity in them jsut like your report says about the cases in 1948 and 949.

So, at present moment there is no positive sign that the fish caught by Jap. flag line boats were contaminated while they are living, but we don't know what would happen in future.

The wide spreaded fear for all the marine products from the Pacific is apparently merely the psychological problem, as I was trying to convince the people, and also quite manufest from your ~~data~~ data in the cases of 1948, because eventhough the type of the bomb may differ there should be ~~some~~ ^{special} similarity about the matter.

I am quite sure that the Jap. boats would not go in the prohibited area and they would not fish the coral reef fish kinds as you tested before. So there would not be any anxiety for Japanese and US consume Only the chance of contamination for living tuans is that the radio active element would be transfered from these reef fishes to tunas when these feed them. Though the chances might be rare we think we better try an model experiment in the aquarium, and we are going to do it now. However, though the transmission of that elements might occur, it would happen in the viscera as you reported, which generally ~~is/it/it/it~~ being thrown off from the boat in the fishing ground and never brout back to the port, and might be very thin in the muscle, the only part of the body for human food, as you reported.

I wish to know your openion about what I am thinking, and if you have any idea or suggestions about the experiment we are now doing about the materials we have here, and also if I could do the experiment along the line you hope to be, please write to me. I am hoping to do anything I can if it can contribute to the welfare of the both countries.

Thank you again for your valuable informations,

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]