

Those listed below

April 14, 1954

Rodney L. Southwick, Acting Chief
Public Information Service

DRAFT RELEASE ON MILITARY VICTIMS OF FALL-OUT

SYMBOL: ISP:RLS

Attached for your review and comment needed by close of business Wednesday, April 16, 1954 is a copy of a draft announcement by the Department of Defense on hospitalization at Walter Reed of 30 members of the weather groups.

You may recall that AEC's original statement mentioned 28 weather personnel.

The Army Surgeon General's office recommends issuance to prevent speculative stories on the "hospitalization" of the men who probably will arrive in the U. S. on Thursday or Friday. Leakage of the story without an official statement having been issued might result in erroneous reports of the men being in such serious condition that they were flown to a U. S. hospital. This, in turn, might result in exaggerated speculation on the condition of the natives and add additional concern over the Jap fishermen.

Attachment:

Draft release by DOD

Addressees:

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