

REPOSITORY WARA - College Park
RC 326 Office of Secretary
COLLECTION 1951-58 Correspondence
BOX No. 186
FOLDER MR & A 7.1, Vol III.

COPY

408779

October 5, 1955

Honorable Delmas H. Nucker
Deputy High Commissioner
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
P.O. Box 542
Agana, Guam, M. I.

Dear Mr. Nucker:

This is in reply to your letter of August 25, 1955* requesting information relative to repatriation of the Rongelapese.

A more thorough analysis of the radiological data confirms our preliminary estimates. With the exception of one island (Naen), the external radiation levels for all islands should be below maximum permissible levels by December 1955. All islands should be at acceptable levels by late spring 1956. Whereas the activity found in fish is decreasing with time, extrapolation of presently known data would indicate that the earliest possible date that might be estimated for unrestricted consumption would be in the spring 1956.

An additional survey is now being planned for Rongelap Atoll and it is hoped that the data collected will be evaluated by December 1955 at which time we will be in a position again to make relevant recommendations. In view of this uncertainty it would appear advisable to defer any plans for repatriation at this time.

Sincerely yours,

K. E. Fields
General Manager

Thru: Director, Insular Affairs
Division, Office of Territories
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

cc: Gen Manager
Col. Greenberg - DMA
Col. Byars - JTF-7

Secretariat Note
** On file in Division of Biology & Medicine*
Gen. M. A. E. 125/26

10-5-55