

14 May 2012

Mr. Calin Georgescu,  
United Nations Special Rapporteur on the adverse effects of the movement  
and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the  
enjoyment of human rights  
OCHCR - Palais Wilson  
United Nations Office at Geneva  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

Dear Mr. Georgescu,

Enclosed are **four documents** which will contain my testimony re the advisability of permitting the United States to dispose of toxic radioactive waste in the already seriously polluted Republic of the Marshall Islands and among its already radiation damaged population.

My background as a Health Professional includes a Ph.D. in mathematics, minors in Biology and Biochemistry, and applications in the biomedical sciences. Since 1968, I have practiced as an Environmental Epidemiologist, with expertise in non-living toxic agents of disease, cancer and birth defect research. From 1987 until retiring in 2001, I served as President of the International Institute of Concern for Public Health (IICPH), Toronto, Canada. The **first enclosure** is my curriculum vitae.

The **second enclosure** consists of general comments written for the Human Rights Tribunal based on my personal experience with the People of the Marshall Islands and my opinion of the plans to move U.S. nuclear waste to a repository there. This is contained in the "Critique of Health Physics Special Issue Vol.1999, No. 2, August 2010", which issue, I understand, was meant to support the U.S. claim that the nuclear testing caused minimal effects on the health of people in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI).

The **third enclosure** is a copy of the information that I presented to the U.S. Congress in 1989. It contains the studies undertaken by the IICPH on behalf of the Marshall Island government by Drs. Lau and Caloyannis, and my observations over 10 years of experience there. I believe this is an important document for you to include in your Human Rights research.

I first became aware of the plight of the People of the Marshall Islands (under the Trusteeship of the United States) in 1978, and I have visited RMI several times since as President of the IICPH. The Institute sponsored Dr. Bernard Lau, a Canadian Physician, to work in the Hospital on Ebey in 1985, and Dr. Brenda Caloyannis, a second Canadian Physician, to conduct medical examinations of more than 500 surviving Rongelap People in January-February 1988. As a consulting member, for the Marshall Island government, of the Congressionally appointed task force asked to ascertain whether or not the 1985 second evacuation from Rongelap Atoll was justified, I was able to obtain, process (enter into computer) and analyze some the Brookhaven records of blood tests of the Marshallese control group used to establish a 'norm' against which the Rongelap People's health was judged. This analysis proves that the Brookhaven control group of RMI citizens was also exposed to the nuclear fallout at doses sufficiently high to cause changes in their blood counts.

A **fourth enclosure** is the only published paper I have submitted to a research journal touching on the Marshall Islands. I considered the information I had gained was personal and medical in nature and belonged to the Marshallese people. Therefore I chose to use it only to help them in their dealing with the U.S. government. They already knew what I have reported here.

I hope this will be of assistance to you in fulfilling your important task.

Sincerely,

Rosalie Bertell, Ph.D., G.N.S.H.

Motherhouse of the Grey Nuns  
1750 Quarry Rd.  
Yardley PA 19067-3910, USA