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*WJZ*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Joe B. Sanders, Director, Pacific Operations  
Division, ALO, Albuquerque, New Mexico

FROM : Ernest Wynkoop, Chief, Eniwetok Branch  
*Ernest Wynkoop*

DATE: DEC 24 1957

SUBJECT: "COTTER" THE CANINE-SCIENTIFIC SPECIMEN SHIPPED TO WALTER REED MEDICAL CENTER.

SYMBOL: TEE:EW:R-1352

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

On March 1, 1954, Radioactive Fallout occurred at Rongelap Atoll as a result of the Bravo Event:

Evacuation of the native population, together with chickens, pigs, and pets was effected on March 3. Unfortunately (perhaps most fortunately) "Cotter" the Canine, and "Suzie" the Sow were missed in the jungle.

Later, as Rad-Safe Survey teams made reconnaissance of Rongelap, they observed tracks indicating that dog(s), pig(s) were moving about but the animals were not sighted.

The story of recovery of "Suzie" has been reported separately. "Cotter" was recovered at the cost of a special amphibious flight to Rongelap on Friday the 13th, December 1957. "Tiger" Williams was our Envoy, as he was later to escort "Cotter" to COMUS and we felt the two should get acquainted.

Details respecting background information are limited. Mr. Maynard Neas first informed us that the dog was found, after the repatriation of the Rongelap people. We endeavored to obtain any available and pertinent facts. All that we learned was that the dog was male, and had been continuously at Rongelap from prior to the Fallout.

Arrangements for shipment were somewhat involved but movement proceeded according to plan successfully to destination.

A special vote of thanks goes to "Tiger" for his effort and care of this specimen throughout his assigned responsibility. Assistance from the Trust Territories, HMF, and others is acknowledged. Photos are enclosed as indicated.

RE: ATOMIC ENERGY  
COMMISSION **ALCOO**  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
CLASS: SECRET  
FORM: MHS FY-58

DOE/ALCO

MEDICINE, HEALTH & SAFETY 32028

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Joe B. Sanders cont'd

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Enclosure:  
As noted

cc: Director, DEM (w/encl)  
Col. Starnes, Walter Reed Med. Ctr. (w/encl)  
HICOMTERPACIS, Guam  
Neas, DISTAD Marshalls  
Holmes and Narver, LosA (2)  
Holmes and Narver, J/S  
"Tiger" Williams, c/o LVB (w/encl)  
Chrono  
Central

DOE/ALD

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