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M USDOE NV ROGER RAY ASST FOR PACIFIC OPERATIONS LAS VEGAS NV

O RHEGGTN/USDOE T F MCCRAW WASH DC

UHGSAA/HON ADRIAN WINKEL RICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN

UHGSAA/OSCAR DEBRUM DISTAD MARSHALLS MAJURO

NFO RUKVAAA/USDOE W J STANELY DIR PASO HONOLULU

URPIPJ/USNS WHEELING TAGM-8

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UNCLASSIFIED/N O N W D/MARR. SECTION 1 OF 2

TAGM-8 FOR DOE PROJECT DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Q'S AND A'S RE NORTHERN MARSHALLS SURVEY.

REBULATED BELOW ARE SOME QUESTIONS EXPECTED TO BE  
ENCOUNTERED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH RESIDENTS OF ISLANDS  
IN THE NORTHERN MARSHALLS, TOGETHER WITH THE SENSE  
OF PROPOSED ANSWERS.

WE SHOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT WHEREAS THE QUESTIONS  
AND ANSWERS ARE PHRASED IN FAIRLY PRECISE AND STILTED  
LANGUAGE, IN PRACTICE IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO USE MORE  
SIMPLE TERMINOLOGY, ANALOGIES AND CONSTRUCTION.

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*Action  
The Crow*

PAGE 2 RHEGNV00030 UNCLASSIFIED/N O N W D/NARR.


SUGGESTIONS AND CRITICISM OF THE SENSE OF A RESPONSE WILL BE MOST WELCOME, AS WILL BE ANY ADDITIONAL POSTULATED Q'S AND A'S. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO REVIEW THESE Q'S AND A'S WITH OPA, OGC, OER AND DOTA, AND BY COPY OF THIS MESSAGE I INVITE COMMENT BY HICOM WINKEL AND DISTAD DE BRUM.

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLIES TO USDOE USNS WHEELING, WITH INFO AS ABOVE.

Q.1. WHY ARE YOU SURVEYING THIS (THESE) ISLAND(S)? WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO FIND? HOW MUCH - COMPARED TO U.S.?

A.1. SOME OF THE DEBRIS CLOUDS FROM THE TESTS PASSED OVER THESE ISLANDS. WE DO NOT EXPECT TO FIND ANY PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN AREAS OF SIGNIFICANT CONTAMINATION, BUT WE CONSIDER IT OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO VERIFY THE ABSENCE OF RADIOLOGICAL THREATS TO HEALTH. MOST OF THE ISLANDS ARE EXPECTED TO SHOW RADIATION LEVELS COMPARABLE TO (AND MOST LOWER THAN) MANY PLACES IN THE U.S.

Q.2. IS THERE SOME NEW INFORMATION WHICH LEADS YOU TO BELIEVE THAT SOME OF THESE ISLANDS WHICH HAVE

 5009406

PAGE 3 RHEGNV00030 UNCLASSIFIED//NOFORN D/NARR.

HERETOFORE BEEN CONSIDERED SAFE MAY IN FACT NOT BE SAFE?

A.2. NO. WE HAVE NO NEW REASON FOR CONCERN. WHAT WE DO HAVE ARE NEW EQUIPMENTS AND TECHNIQUES - HERETOFORE UNAVAILABLE - WHICH PERMIT US TO ACQUIRE A LARGE AMOUNT OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION OVER A VAST AREA IN A REASONABLY SHORT TIME.

Q.3. THE ATOMIC TESTS IN THE MARSHALLS WERE COMPLETED TWENTY YEARS AGO. WHY HAVE YOU WAITED SO LONG TO MAKE THIS SURVEY?

A.3. SURVEYS HAVE BEEN MADE IN MANY OF THESE AREAS FROM TIME TO TIME OVER THE YEARS SINCE THE EARLY TEST DAYS. ONLY IN THE LAST FEW YEARS HAVE WE HAD THE TECHNOLOGY UPON WHICH TO BASE THE CURRENTLY PLANNED SURVEY, AND IT HAS TAKEN MANY MONTHS TO PREPARE AND ASSEMBLE ALL OF THIS IN A SHIP-BASED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE. 150 PEOPLE WILL BE ABOARD THE SHIP PERFORMING VARIOUS TECHNICAL AND SUPPORT TASKS.

Q.4. WHEN WILL THE RESULTS OF THIS SURVEY BE KNOWN?

 5009407

PAGE 4 RHEGNV00030 UNCLASSIFIED//NOFORN

A.4. SOME PRELIMINARY RESULTS WILL BE KNOWN ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, BASED UPON MEASUREMENTS MADE FROM THE HELICOPTERS. BUT INTERPRETATION OF THESE RESULTS AND RELATING THEM TO THE LABORATORY WORK WHICH MUST FOLLOW THE FIELD EFFORTS WILL TAKE MUCH LONGER. A FINAL REPORT MAY TAKE AS MUCH AS TWO YEARS. HOWEVER, PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THE ISLANDS WHICH ARE INHABITED AND TO THOSE WHICH SHOW ANY INDICATIONS OF SIGNIFICANT LEVELS OF ACTIVITY IN THE AERIAL SURVEY RESULTS.

Q.5. HOW AND WHEN WILL THE RESULTS BE REPORTED TO THE PEOPLE?

A.5. RESULTS WILL BE REPORTED TO THE PEOPLE IN ALL CASES AS SOON AS THERE IS MEANINGFUL INFORMATION TO REPORT. WE SHALL TRY TO MAKE SOME REPORT BEFORE WE LEAVE EACH INHABITED LOCATION.

Q.6. ARE THERE ANY PRECAUTIONS WE SHOULD BE TAKING NOW WHILE WE AWAIT THE SURVEY RESULTS?

A.6. NO, WE HAVE NO REASON TO SUGGEST ANY NEW RESTRICTIONS OR PRECAUTIONS BEYOND THOSE WHICH HAVE ALREADY

5009408

PAGE 5 RHEGNV00030 UNCLASSIFIED/N O N W D/NARR.


BEEN COMMUNICATED TO THE RONGELAP, UTIRIK, AND BIKINI PEOPLE AND TO THE PEOPLE RETURNING TO ENEWETAK.

Q.7. WILL THE SURVEY PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT BIKINI WHICH MAY MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE PEOPLE TO GO BACK AND LIVE THERE?

A.7. THE SURVEY IS NOT EXPECTED TO REVEAL ANY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD PERMIT AN EARLY RETURN TO BIKINI. THAT MUST COME, IF AT ALL, FROM LONGER TERM STUDIES AND RESEARCH. WHAT WILL RESULT FROM THE CURRENT SURVEY AT BIKINI WILL BE ADDITIONAL CONFIRMATION OF STUDIES ALREADY MADE AT THAT ATOLL AND A GREAT DEAL OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT ISLANDS OTHER THAN BIKINI AND ENYU. THIS LATTER INFORMATION SHOULD BE HELPFUL IN FUTURE PLANNING FOR THE UTILIZATION OF BIKINI ATOLL SHOULD THE ATOLL AGAIN BE RELEASED FOR RESETTLEMENT.

Q.8. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AN INDEPENDENT SCIENTIFIC GROUP REVIEW THE SURVEY RESULTS. HAS THIS BEEN PROVIDED FOR?

A.8. THE SURVEY RESULTS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC AS SOON AS

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PAGE 6 RHEGNV00030 UNCLASSIFIED/N O N W D/NARR.


THEY ARE AVAILABLE IN MEANINGFUL FORM. THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY WILL ASSIST ANY LEGITIMATE REVIEW GROUP BY PROVIDING FULL ACCESS TO BOTH THE DATA AND THE METHODOLOGY.

Q. 9. FOR YEARS YOUR DOCTORS HAVE EXAMINED THE PEOPLE OF RONGELAP AND UTIRIK, AND RECENTLY THE PEOPLE OF BIKINI AS WELL. WILL THE DOCTORS NOW COME TO (ALINGANAE, WOTHO, LIKIEP, ETC.)?

A. 9. MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS OF THE RONGELAP AND UTIRIK PEOPLE WERE NECESSARY BECAUSE THE TEST ON MARCH 1 OF 1954 RESULTED IN MANY OF THE PEOPLE OF THOSE ATOLLS RECEIVING A RADIATION DOSE WHICH COULD CAUSE INJURY AND ILLNESS. THAT PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE AT RONGELAP AND UTIRIK. BECAUSE OUR SHIP WAS NEARBY BIKINI ON ITS QUARTERLY VISITS, AND BECAUSE THE PEOPLE ON BIKINI REQUESTED IT, WE HAVE RECENTLY EXTENDED SOME OF THE SURVEYS TO OFFER LIMITED GENERAL HEALTH CARE TO THE PEOPLE LIVING ON BIKINI ATOLL. WE HAVE NOT EXPECTED, NOR HAVE WE FOUND, ANY HEALTH EFFECTS WHICH COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE LOW LEVELS OF

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