



DEFENSE NUCLEAR AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20305

THIS PAPER COORDINATED WITH OSDGC
(Cifrino); MRA&L(Clifford); NAVY(CAPT
BUCKLEY); ISA (COL EIRICH 697-7757)
Internal: BA, GC, PAO, ISCM, OALG
3 October 1979

0062379

Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve
Director of Territorial Affairs
Department of Interior
Room 4320
18th & C Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mrs. Van Cleve,

At the May 16 interagency meeting in Washington, D.C., which you called at the request of the Government of the Marshall Islands, Mr. Anton DeBrum, Secretary of Foreign Affairs to the Government of the Marshall Islands, requested information concerning a U.S. Navy ship which visited Likiep Atoll in March 1954, shortly after the BRAVO shot of Operation CASTLE.

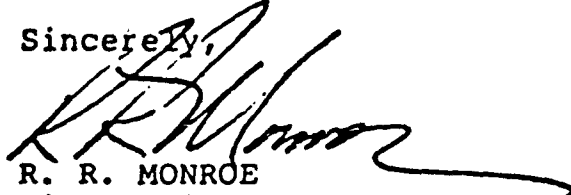
As the Department of Defense representative at the meeting, I accepted the responsibility for providing him with information on this event. Because of the differing nature of the responsibilities of our respective Departments with respect to the Government of the Marshall Islands, I am providing the information to you for submission to Mr. DeBrum.

Enclosed are copies of seven letters and memoranda relating to radiological surveys, evacuations, etc., in the Marshall Islands after the BRAVO shot. They contain, as enclosures, some 13 other documents, plus attachments, with the entire packet numbering about 100 pages. Included is the record of the visit of USS RENSHAW (DDE-449) to Likiep Atoll on 6 March 1954 (a few days after the detonation).

The Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA) is still at work retrieving the more extensive data Mr. DeBrum requested-- that dealing with radiological contamination of the Marshall

islands over the entire period of atmospheric testing, 1945-62. When that information is developed, we will also make it available to Mr. DeBrum through your office.

Sincerely,



R. R. MONROE
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy
Director

7 Enclosures

1. Ltr, HQ JTF Seven, 18 Mar 54, subj: Radiological Surveys of Several Marshall Island Atolls, w/3 Encls
2. Ltr, HQ JTF Seven, 9 Apr 54, subj: Reports on Evacuation of Natives and Surveys of Several Marshall Island Atolls, w/9 Encls
3. Memo for Record, HQ JTF Seven, 19 Apr 54, subj: Additional Ground and Air Radsafe Survey Data During Period BRAVO to BRAVO Plus 5 Days
4. Memo for Record, HQ JTF Seven, 1 May 54, subj: Black and White Contact Prints Relative to Surveys, Evacuation and Care of Rongelap and Utirik Natives
5. Ltr, HQ JTF Seven, 1 May 54, subj: Survey of Rongelap and Utirik Atolls, w/1 Encl
6. Ltr, CINCPACFLT, 17 Jun 54, subj: Survey of Rongelap and Utirik Atolls
7. Ltr, HQ JTF Seven, 6 Jul 54, subj: Responsibilities for Care and Disposition of Native Inhabitants of Rongelap and Utirik Atolls

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Asst Sec of Environment) *Dr. Washburn*
Dept. of State (Office of
Pacific Island Affairs) *Mr. W. Bodie*
High Commissioner, Trust Territory
of the Pacific Islands *Mr. Windell*