DEFENSE NUCLEAR AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20305

4126-6

BA

[illegible] March 1981

Mr. Tommy F. McGraw
Environmental Programs
EV-30, Room F-237
Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Mr. ~~McGraw~~ Tommy:

Enclosed are copies of several pieces of correspondence concerning the relocation and resettlement of the inhabitants of Utirik Atoll after the 1954 CASTLE operation. I hope these may be helpful to you.

We have not found any other material pertaining to this. However, you will note that Bond and [illegible] were present and discussions with them might provide insight into where the decisions were made and who the participants were.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Enclosure
as

JOHN A. E. STILL, DVM
Assistant to the Director
(Biomedical Effects)

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

[illegible]
JOINT TASK FORCE SEVEN
APO 187 (Navy) [illegible]
San Francisco, California

J-3/111.2 1 May 1954

SUBJECT: Survey of Rongelap and Utirik Atolls

TO: Commander in Chief, Pacific
Navy Nos 128, c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

1. Forwarded herewith is the report of the survey party which visited Rongelap and Utirik Atolls during the period 21-23 April, in order to determine what additions are to be taken prior to return of the native people thereto [illegible].

2. In view of the recommendations submitted, I recommend that you designate [illegible] representative who will coordinate the activities of [illegible] for this project. I assure you that [illegible] of Joint Task Force SEVEN will be [illegible] available to [illegible] as long as elements of the Task Force [illegible] in the Pacific.

3. When [illegible] of the recommendations contained in this report, [illegible] will be reproduced here and forwarded to [illegible] for their use.

/s/ [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible], USA
[illegible]

1 Incl
Report of Survey of
Rongelap and Utirik
Atolls ([illegible])

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[redacted]

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UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] (TG), c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

30 April 1954

SUBJECT: [illegible]

THRU: [illegible]
[illegible] (TG), c/o [illegible]
San Francisco, California

TO: [illegible]
[illegible], c/o [illegible]
San Francisco, California

1. References:

a. [illegible] dated [illegible] April 1954, subject: "Return of [illegible] to their Home Atolls".

b. [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] April 1954.

c. [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] April 1954.

2. In accordance with the [illegible] of references a and b, a survey party of [illegible] Rongelap and [illegible] Atolls during the period 21-23 April 1954. The mission of the survey party was to determine what action must be taken [illegible] the return of native population to these atolls, from which they were evacuated [illegible] March 1954 as a consequence of the initial detonation of the CASTLE test series. The composition of the survey party is [illegible]. A narrative account of the activities of the survey party, [illegible] observations concerning the two atolls, is [illegible].

3. In [illegible], the [illegible] of the survey party confirmed the planning [illegible]. The natives of Utirik Atoll may be returned to their [illegible] after the last shot of the CASTLE series. On the other hand, the [illegible] of Rongelap Atoll can not be returned to their homes for [illegible]. 1 May 1955 is recommended as the [illegible] to Rongelap. The natives of Rongelap should be [illegible] their recovery from

[redacted]

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UNCLASSIFIED [redacted] 30 April 195[illegible]

SUBJECT: Survey of Bengelap and Utirik Atolls

the effects of [illegible] on Bengelap Atoll should be visited quarterly by [illegible] personnel to monitor the decay of the contamination there.

4. The survey party [illegible] the following specific recommendations:

a. UTIRIK

(1) Beginning [illegible] the last CASTLE shot, Utirik Atoll should be [illegible] by [illegible] personnel of JTF SEVEN or ASC to determine whether or not [illegible] contamination has occurred. If no increase in [illegible] and water contamination levels is noted, the return of the natives [illegible] undertaken without delay. The contamination levels previously [illegible] the two atolls are indicated in Inclosure [illegible]. Research analysis of the fruits and water collected is being made by [illegible].

(2) CINCPACFLT should designate a project officer to coordinate the [illegible] of the return of the Utirik natives.

(3) CINCPACFLT should designate and make available a ship which will [illegible] the Utirik natives and their belongings from Kwajalein back to [illegible]. In addition, [illegible] personal effects the natives have with them, the following items should be moved to Utirik. These items should be [illegible] by the CINCPACFLT project officer in coordination with the Chief Kwajalein [illegible] of TRUSTACOS, and the funds for [illegible] should be provided by JTF SEVEN:

(a) Used [illegible] currently made available by ComWarSta Kwajalein.

(b) Flour, [illegible] other staple items of food supplies adequate for six month.

(c) Limited [illegible] of milk, window glass, metal roofing and [illegible] as determined by CINCPACFLT project officer in coordination with Kwajalein representative of TRUSTACOS.

(d) 10,000 gallons of fresh water to flush and refill Utirik cisterns.

(e) Approximately [illegible] chickens, 120 pigs and small numbers of other [illegible] as determined by CINCPACFLT project officer, in coordination with TRUSTACOS rep-

[redacted]

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[illegible] if these animals are already [illegible] the ITPR-CIS representatives at Kwajalein.

(4) The survey party [illegible] noted that on a number of occasions LST [illegible] the [illegible]. The use of this type ship is recommended [illegible] CINCPAC [illegible] officer concur after investigation of the [illegible] channels.

(5) No [illegible] work by U.S. personnel is required, since [illegible] the buildings on Utirik has occurred since the [illegible].

(6) No [illegible] is required, except for the flushing [illegible] above.

b. [illegible]

(1) [illegible] Atoll should be relocated on an island of the [illegible] period of approximately one year. BIKEE Island [illegible] representatives at Kwajalein for this purpose. [illegible] of ITPR-CIS. CINCPACFLT [illegible] CNO [illegible] near NAVSTA Kwajalein is in accord with the [illegible] Officer of Project 4.1, who will [illegible] of the Rongelap natives [illegible].

(2) As in the [illegible] activities, CINCPACFLT should designate a [illegible] officer to [illegible] the activities of interested agencies during the [illegible] natives and during their [illegible].

(3) The [illegible] of this relocation should be given wide publicity [illegible] and U.S. news media, after the movement has been completed.

(4) The [illegible] Pacific Proving Grounds (Holmes and Narver, Inc.) should [illegible] necessary and supervise the construction of [illegible] school and church, a dispensary, and other [illegible] for the 82 Rongelap natives to be relocated [illegible] Atoll. Materials for this construction will [illegible] and delivered to the site of the new village [illegible] construction required are presented in [illegible].

(5) [illegible] labor for the reconstruction should be provided by the natives of Rongelap themselves [illegible] as much as possible. Holmes and Narver personnel will perform the more difficult tasks. Native labor should be paid [illegible] by JTF SEVEN [illegible] scale determined by the representatives of [illegible].

(6) Water and staple food supplies for one month should be provided [illegible] as in the case of the Utirik natives covered above. Likewise, children and infants [illegible] provided in numbers determined by representatives of [illegible] project officer. In addition, the Rongelap natives [illegible] should receive food supplies and other essentials [illegible] since they will have no income from sale of copra and since [illegible] island provides meager quantities of natural foods.

(7) Just prior to the [illegible] the Rongelap natives are moved from Kwajalein [illegible] which should be sent to Rongelap Island [illegible] other belongings (including two 30-foot [illegible]) [illegible] preparation of these items should be performed [illegible] by JTF SEVEN RadSafe personnel.

(8) [illegible] of the natives and RadSafe survey [illegible] should be [illegible] by qualified personnel operating out of Kwajalein. [illegible], AEC, stated that the difficulty [illegible] personnel to Kwajalein [illegible].

(9) [illegible] in the Pacific Proving Ground, [illegible] of DOE, AEC, should make periodic inspections of the Rongelap atoll to ascertain the rate of decay of the contamination. [illegible] of these inspections should be forwarded to [illegible] (CDRJTF-7, JTF SEVEN, [illegible] KWAJALEIN).

(10) [illegible] INCOMCEN, probably COMCWSTANAV, should monitor the [illegible] Rongelap natives during their temporary stay [illegible].

(11) [illegible], another survey party should visit the islands of Rongelap Atoll [illegible] natives in their temporary homes at Kwajalein Atoll to determine when the natives may be returned to their homes and what additions [illegible] taken prior to their movement from Kwajalein Atoll. The [illegible] should be represented on this later survey party [illegible] for this movement and the construction [illegible] Rongelap Island will be provided by JTF SEVEN.

[redacted]

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SUBJECT: Survey of Kwajalein and Wotje Atolls

5. All members of the survey party agree on the recommendations presented. [illegible] of Project 4.1 was not a member of the survey party, but [illegible] consulted several times. His views were considered by the survey party. All data from the testing of soil, water and food stuffs will be available and evaluated for some weeks.

6. Finally, the survey party [illegible] the importance of publicizing the [illegible] of the operation. It is possible that the natives who are content to [illegible] Kwajalein atoll after they live there a year, [illegible] of the U. S. Government, Mr. Neas, District Administrator of Kwajalein, [illegible] at a conference at Kwajalein on 27 April 1954. [illegible] to discourage concentration of Marshallese natives [illegible] commercially favorable locations and to discourage [illegible] of wealth by small groups of natives. [illegible] that the subsidy [illegible] be held to the essential minimum.

[illegible]

4 Incls:
1. Composition of Survey Party.
2. Narrative Account of Activities of Survey Party.
3. Radiological Surveys of Rongelap and Utirik Atolls.
4. Construction Requirements to Establish Rongelap Village For Displaced Natives.

[illegible] STAHLS, Jr.
[illegible] U. S. Army
Leader Member

[redacted]

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WHICH [illegible] APRIL 1954

Name	Organization	Function
	[illegible]	Senior Member
U.S. Army	[illegible]	
Dr. Thomas [illegible]	Advisor to CJTF 7.3 on Radiation Problems	RadSafe, health and decontamination
	Advisor on Public Health Problems to CJTF 7.3	RadSafe, health and decontamination
U.S. Army	Assist in safe advice and help to CJTF 7.3 from Army Chemical Center	RadSafe, health and decontamination
	Project Engineer, Holmes & Narver, Inc.	AEC contractor for repair and construction required
	Assist Mr. [illegible] Engr., Holmes & Narver, Inc.	"
	Assist Mr. [illegible] Engr., Holmes & Narver, Inc.	"
	Representative of District Administrator, TT, PACIS, at Majuro (Navy)	Represent HIGHMATH-PACIS and interests of the natives
U.S. Navy	Legal Officer, U.S. Naval Station Majuro (Navy)	Represent CINCPac TFLT
	Naval Unit 5, TU 7.3	Cameraman
	Naval Unit 5, TU 7.3	Photographer
U.S. Air Force		
U.S. Navy	Project 4.1, Naval Medical Research Institute	Collect samples of soil, water and food for test
	Nanjibej	Atoll Magistrate
	Nanjibej	Native
	Nanjibej	Native

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HAVOY ACT MATERIAL DISCOVER

Name	[redacted]	Function
	Utirik	Atoll Magistrate
	Utirik	Native
	Utirik	Native

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

[illegible]

10 April 1954

NARRATIVE [illegible] OF [illegible] TO RONGELAP
[illegible]

19 April - The members of the [illegible] party, who are normally based at [illegible] were transported to Kwajalein by C-47 aircraft.

20 April - The survey party [illegible] the office of RADM Clarke, [illegible] the survey party and ADM Clarke, Dr. [illegible] of Biology and Medicine of the AEC, [illegible] of TRIPHCIS, were present. [illegible] schedule of the trip. Mr. Tobin translated [illegible] The possibility of having to relocate the [illegible] were discussed briefly. The conference [illegible] the conference, Mr. Tobin and Mr. Wilm [illegible] that the natives were very glad to learn [illegible] to return them to their homes.

In the afternoon, members of the [illegible] party and Dr. Bugher visited the office of [illegible] work of that unit with the Project Officer, [illegible] Unit works directly across the street from [illegible] natives of Rongelap are collected. [illegible] of evacuated natives, and results of the work will be [illegible] to interested agencies.

At 1600 hours the survey party [illegible] the USS PHILLIP (ODE 128), which sailed [illegible]

21 April - The PHILLIP entered [illegible] of Rongelap Atoll at 0730 hours and anchored off the [illegible] Island. The entire party went ashore in [illegible] survey of the island. Chickens were seen [illegible] or domestic fowls were observed, [illegible] from Rongelap assisted the survey party [illegible] cleaning cisterns and wells, and answering questions. All [illegible] active in the collection of chickens [illegible] The Rongelap natives transported to the [illegible] other personal effects from the dwellings.

22 April - The survey party [illegible] two groups. One group returned to [illegible] the survey of the native village. The other group [illegible] to three islands of the Rongelap Atoll [illegible] The islands were Parem,

[redacted]

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Enjelo and Enjeter. Radiation levels were recorded on the three islands; the intensity decreased as the party moved northward, as was expected. Actual readings are presented in Appendix No. 3. On Enjelo Island, birds eggs were gathered for tests to see the natives include these in their diet.

Dr. White conducted an experiment on Runchap Island in which he used fire-fighting equipment from the PHILIP to wash down the thatch roof of one of the native buildings. After considerable drenching the intensity of the roof was reduced [illegible] percent, as some of the contamination was washed off the roof onto the ground.

Members of the flight surgery were [illegible] fishing in the afternoon and donated their catch to the collection of food samples which will be tested.

The survey of Rongelap was completed and the party returned to the PHILIP. Certain general observations were presented in regard to the current situation on Rongelap:

1. The present intensity of radiation on Rongelap Island is 15-20 milliroentgens per hour (mr/hr).

2. Little damage to buildings on Rongelap has occurred since the evacuation. The thatch roofs [illegible] however, heavy rains or storms during the period of time the natives will be absent will probably cause some further damage. An estimate of the repairs necessary for the return of the people [illegible] survey made just prior to this return.

3. The survey party was impressed with the primitiveness of the dwellings. The buildings were built with woven panels of scrap lumber and were invariably roofed with thatch. The natives sleep on mats which are laid on the wood floors or directly on the ground. No other furniture is present in the sleeping quarters except a few wood boxes for storing clothing in each room. The cooking fires are in adjacent buildings or outside. In consideration of the [illegible] of the household effects of the 82 Rongelap natives will not [illegible] problem.

4. The only building in the village which showed the work of skilled carpentry was the church. However, this building had burned shortly before 1 March.

5. The water supply is provided by rain. There are six concrete cisterns in the village. Each cistern is approximately boxes about five feet on a side. The rain falling on the [illegible] of the cisterns is collected by draining it through pipes into the cisterns. Four of the six cisterns contained water, of which samples were taken for testing.

[redacted]

6. A village can be constructed with little effort by Holmes & Narver at another location for the temporary residence of the Rongelap natives which will be at least as comfortable and sanitary as the present Rongelap village.

7. LSTs will have no difficulty in entering the Rongelap lagoon and beaching at the village.

8. The items collected at Rongelap and sent for testing included coconuts, papaya fruit, pumpkin, water (cistern and well), soil (surface and [illegible]), pandanus, eggs, fish, clams, [illegible] and [illegible]. These items afford a good cross section of the food on the Rongelap [illegible].

9. There was [illegible] food supplies at Rongelap. There was a small store, but its shelves were [illegible]. The [illegible] contained almost no food items.

23 April. Again the [illegible] group was divided into two parts. One group flew to Utirik Atoll, [illegible] the conditions there and returned to Rongelap [illegible] lagoon. The other group moved on the PHILIP to [illegible]. The [illegible] stood off the southern side of the [illegible] to Bikini and Enitiik Islands.

At Bikini [illegible] by members of Task Group 7.1 was [illegible]. Also, the [illegible] by the natives from Rongelap was inspected. Bikini will not be [illegible] as a site for the temporary relocation of the Rongelap [illegible]. The natives do not wish to go there; [illegible] facilities; and the current radiation level [illegible] 6 MV/HR. At Eniwetok Island the crew of the PHILIP assisted the [illegible] in moving the [illegible] sloop onto the beach. The PHILIP returned to Rongelap Atoll [illegible] and arrived just as the SH-16 returned from Utirik. The group [illegible] the SH-16 aircraft and the samples taken from Utirik were [illegible] the PHILIP, which sailed at 1900 hours for Kwajalein.

The other group of the survey party visited Utirik during the day. The eight members of the party who made the flight to Utirik were Colonel [illegible], Mr. [illegible], Native Magistrate [illegible] and [illegible]. An SH-16 aircraft from Eniwetok landed in the lagoon, took aboard the survey group, and took off for Utirik at [illegible].

The SH-16 landed at Utirik [illegible]. There are many coral heads in the lagoon [illegible] the surface of the water, but the pilot of the SH-16 was able to land without difficulty. The survey group moved to [illegible] from the beach by [illegible] rubber life raft from the aircraft.

The following [illegible] survey [illegible] concerning Utirik are submitted: Details of the current conditions, [illegible], are presented in Inclosure No. [illegible]

1. The village at Utirik [illegible] but larger than the village at Rongelap. Utirik is the [illegible] island in the atoll. The island is more productive than Rongelap, pandanus, and breadfruit grow abundantly. The houses and clothes were somewhat better than those on Rongelap.

2. Three pigs were taken for testing. Several wild dogs were seen but were not captured. [illegible] dogs are still alive when the natives return. The dogs have killed all the chickens released at the time of the evacuation.

3. According to the natives, [illegible] was learned at the village, despite narrow passage [illegible] the local heads there.

4. The following [illegible] were taken from Utirik for testing; coconuts, pandanus [illegible], three pigs, breadfruit, and [illegible].

The survey party returned to the [illegible] and departed from Utirik at 1515 hours. The group returned to the [illegible] of Rongelap and the destroyer got underway at [illegible] hours.

24 April - The [illegible] at [illegible] hours. The survey party, with the natives, [illegible] the Guest House where a conference was [illegible] District Anthropologist for TRUST, [illegible] present. The results of the survey trip were discussed and [illegible] were made.

The members of the survey party who [illegible] at Ebiwetok Atoll returned by [illegible] at 1115 hours, which concluded the trip.

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

Eniwetok Atoll, M.I.
30 April 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: [illegible]

SUBJECT: Radiological Survey of [illegible] and [illegible] Islands

Submitted herewith for your [illegible] a radiological survey of certain islands of the [illegible] and [illegible] Atolls conducted by the [illegible] during [illegible]. The contents of this report are [illegible] as follows:

I. [illegible]

1. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]
5. [illegible]
6. [illegible]

II. [illegible]

1. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]
5. [illegible]

[illegible] Thomas White
[illegible], Advisor to CTG 7.1

1 Attachment:
Report

[illegible] Darrell, Jr.
[illegible], Advisor to CTG 7.1

[illegible] X. [illegible]
[illegible], USN
[illegible] Center

ENCLOSURE NO. [illegible] [redacted]

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1. PRELIMINARY REMARKS: [illegible] conference at Kwajalein on 20 April, there was [illegible] representatives of the Survey Team and [illegible] and CDR Cronkite and other members of [illegible] the problem of supplying the Rongelap food and water supply and the [illegible] District anthropologist, supplied a detailed list of food [illegible] with the relative importance of each indicated. After considerable [illegible] sampling methods, it appeared to be generally agreed that [illegible] this complex problem might be postponed for the following reasons:

a. Unless the radiation dose rate [illegible] should be found to be far less than that [illegible] there would be no possibility of returning the people to their homes for [illegible] months.

b. Current [illegible] contamination of the food supply, although of considerable [illegible] would be of little use in predicting the state of the food supply [illegible] when the people might return.

It was therefore decided that the [illegible] in the Rongelap survey would be on external radiation measurements, [illegible] contamination problems; that although food, water and earth samples [illegible] be collected as permitted by other work, no effort should be made to obtain analyses of these samples as a basis for any conclusions [illegible]. At this time the services of Lt. [illegible], USN, were assigned by Project 4.1 for the collection of [illegible] samples [illegible] agencies.

2. METHODS: [illegible] except where otherwise specified, were made with [illegible] AN/PDR-27 [illegible] instruments at about three feet above ground level. Three such [illegible] were taken on the expedition, and they gave [illegible] good agreement with one another. Where contact readings are specified, the bottom of the instrument was placed in contact with the surface [illegible].

The results of the analysis of the [illegible] are only qualitative. The technique used in determining the radioactive content of the various food stuffs would be sensitive mainly to [illegible] contamination. Self absorption of beta activity was not evaluated. [illegible] measurements using more sensitive techniques will be made by [illegible] of NRL. The technique used should detect [illegible] activity levels [illegible] 80 MEV (4×10^{-5} [illegible]) on the surface of [illegible], however.

The specific activity of the water [illegible] was obtained by evaporating to dryness one [illegible] each of the [illegible] in a glass counting cup and determining the [illegible] using a GM tube and Berkeley scaler. [illegible] to convert CPM to microcuries per milliliter, the specific activity of the water samples from Rongelap indicate a level [illegible] greater than the tolerance of 10^{-7} uc/ml beta [illegible] by the National Bureau of Standards

I. RONGELAP AND ROJOLAP (CONTD)

Handbook 52 for [illegible] consumption [illegible] milk samples varied from 100 to 1000 times the [illegible] data indicate the necessity for thorough cleanup of the [illegible] milking for general consumption.

Existing [illegible] made [illegible] to attempt any assay for the plutonium activity, which may be of [illegible] in these samples.

3. DOSE RATES ON ROJOLAP [illegible] Sifo Island, 23 April, 6 mr/hr. All of the [illegible] heading pertains to Rongelap Atoll.

On Rongelap Island [illegible] established by Somerville, the reading [illegible] on 21 April was 17 mr/hr. This measurement, and those made on [illegible] March [illegible] 160t-3,576 r/day [illegible] in days after [illegible] shown [illegible].

On 2[illegible] April [illegible] other Rongelap Atoll Islands as follows

ISLAND	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	STAKE LOCATIONS
Eniaetok	32 mr/hr	[illegible] mr/hr	[illegible]	[illegible] stks-100 yds beach, just north at western peninsula
Busch	17 mr/hr	[illegible] mr/hr	[illegible]	[illegible] stk-50 yds beach, center of path in south grove
Eniaelo	[illegible] mr/hr	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] stk-south end of island

With reasonable [illegible], these [illegible] (for the [illegible] on Sifo Island) are related to [illegible] exponent.

4. DISTRIBUTION OF CONTAMINATION. [illegible] the status of Rongelap Island, it was [illegible] that the readings over grave areas (about [illegible] mr/hr) were [illegible] than over grassy areas (about 20 mr/hr). The [illegible] roofless church gave a contact reading of about [illegible] mr/hr, while [illegible] reading on the bordering gravel, about 18 mr/hr, was consistently higher [illegible] more distant gravel, about 15 mr/hr. [illegible] that landed on the concrete had been swept [illegible] (a similar phenomenon was noted on Parry [illegible] operation).

No exceptional contamination of the huts was noted, but this question was not [illegible]. It was noted, however, that in those huts that had [illegible], the contamination on the floor, both on mat and on dirt, was very [illegible] (0.[illegible] mr/hr).

Contamination of the [illegible] was noted, particularly on windward slopes, where the contact reading [illegible] instrument was as much as 100% in excess of that [illegible] when the [illegible] was held at the same height above ground at [illegible] from the [illegible]. However, since the excess reading and

began to appear [illegible] it seemed unlikely [illegible] would effect any substantial reduction of exposure [illegible]

A crude attempt [illegible] of penetration of radioactivity in a patch of soil [illegible] The place chosen was a bare patch of [illegible] layers of about one inch in thickness [illegible] in a separate bin, and then the radiation [illegible] the beach where the background was much [illegible] activity, the first layer had about [illegible] It is quite possible that all of the activity [illegible] from spillage during removal [illegible] to collect an even thinner layer [illegible] but the results indicated that [illegible] times greater in the thin layer than in the [illegible] that there was very little if any [illegible] the activity may be entirely superficial.

5. DECONTAMINATION: [illegible] the state of [illegible] and the cisterns indicated that [illegible] the island, an attempt was made to find out [illegible] any natural decontamination. The [illegible] water-pump on the beach, connected [illegible] the thatched roof of the hut, and on a [illegible] reading on the roof of the hut was reduced [illegible] general background from the readings, [illegible] decontamination of the roof, but there was no [illegible] readings on the floor of the hut or on the [illegible] experiment cannot be regarded as [illegible] not be optimistic about the effect of future [illegible] Bikini Atoll experience on this subject [illegible] warehouse, the heavy rains just prior to [illegible] Bay Shot fall-out, but the rains that followed [illegible] Task Force appear to have been fairly effective. [illegible] had been consistent, the terrain surface [illegible] different that it would be unsafe to draw [illegible]

It was evident [illegible] decontamination would be difficult and very [illegible] of supporting the population elsewhere until [illegible] to an acceptable level. Decontamination [illegible] Bikini Atoll. Bulldozing and grading [illegible] the total destruction of all vegetation [illegible] the area covered. Any reasonable [illegible] would have to be a manual job.

[redacted]

I. RONGELAP AND [illegible] (CONTD)

6. FOOD AND WATER [illegible]

ITEM	DATE OF COLLECTION	ACTIVITY	DATE OF ANALYSIS
Drinking Water Cistern [illegible]	[illegible]	2.52X10-3 uc/ml	4-25-54
Drinking Water (clean) Cistern [illegible]	[illegible]	8.03X10-4 uc/ml	"
Drinking Water ([illegible]) Cistern [illegible]	[illegible]	1.80X10-3 uc/ml	"
Drinking Water Cistern [illegible]	[illegible]	1.19X10-3 uc/ml	"
Drinking Water Cistern [illegible]	[illegible]	None	"
Well Water ([illegible]) Well [illegible]	[illegible]	None	"
Jekru (Fresh) Collected on [illegible]	[illegible]	2.52X10-3 uc/ml	4-25-54
Coconut Milk	[illegible]	None	4-25-54
Meat from Pandanus	[illegible]	None	4-25-54
Green Papaya-Interior	[illegible]	None	4-25-54
Ripe Papaya-Interior	[illegible]	None	4-25-54
Arrow Root-Interior	[illegible]	None	4-25-54
Swipe-Exterior Arrow Root	[illegible]	974 DPM	4-25-54
Swipe-Exterior [illegible]	[illegible]	1640 DPM	4-25-54

* Refers to map of [illegible] Rongelap Island - Rongelap Atoll

[redacted]

1. PRELIMINARY [illegible]: At the planning [illegible] at Kwajalein on 22 April it was agreed that [illegible] levels at [illegible] might allow an early return of the natives. Accordingly, it was [illegible] a field study of food and water as well as [illegible] radiation [illegible] based on the pattern employed at Rongelap.

2. METHODS: For [illegible] gamma dose rate [illegible] measured with AN/PDR-39 and MX-5 survey instruments. These [illegible] readings in good agreement with each other. [illegible] exposure time closely checked dosimeter readings.

3. DOSE RATES [illegible]: Prior to [illegible] standard positions were established on [illegible]. A standard position was established on April 23 at 1100 hours. The [illegible] at this point [illegible] feet above the ground was 3.0 mr/hr. [illegible] reading in the [illegible] area of the island was 1.8 mr/h. The readings about the [illegible] which [illegible] prevalent averaged about 2.2 mr/hr. This data [illegible] formula: [illegible]

This formula [illegible] that a [illegible] would be reached in 75 to 80 days after [illegible] of the expected accumulated dosage from [illegible] purposes. This can be compared with the [illegible] established by the Atomic Energy Commission [illegible] populations. The integrated external gamma [illegible] would be somewhat but not significantly higher [illegible] to the conventional t-1.2 rate.

4. DISTRIBUTION [illegible]: The [illegible] was fairly uniformly distributed [illegible]. The [illegible] outside of doors at the 3 feet elevation was [illegible] mr/hr. There was some reduction in [illegible] substantially larger, 60 percent [illegible] compared with a small building like [illegible] (2.2 mr/hr) gave lower readings than [illegible] (2.5 mr/hr).

The sleeping [illegible] gamma [illegible] (0.8 - 1.2 mr/hr) about half the levels outdoors [illegible] plus gamma levels were somewhat higher [illegible] than [illegible] gamma readings. Contamination of the thatched roofs was [illegible] place the instrument close to (less than [illegible] feet) and parallel to the roof surface to consistently detect this effect with [illegible] measurements. The MX-5 picked up this increase [illegible] consistently when detecting both beta and gamma.

II. UTIRIK (CONT'D) [redacted]

5. FOOD AND WATER [illegible]

ITEM	DATE OF COLLECTION	ACTIVITY	DATE OF ANALYSIS
Drinking Water-[illegible] Church	[illegible]	3.01×10^{-4} uc/ml	4-25-54
Drinking Water-[illegible] settlement	[illegible]	3.00×10^{-4} uc/ml	4-25-54
Brackish Well Water-[illegible] of Church-[illegible]	[illegible]	5.1×10^{-5} uc/ml	4-25-54
Clear Well Water-[illegible] Church-corrugated [illegible]	[illegible]	7.3×10^{-5} uc/ml	4-25-54
Milk from Bread [illegible]	[illegible]	None	4-25-54
Solids from Bread [illegible]	[illegible]	None	4-25-54
Ripe Papaya-Interior	[illegible]	None	4-25-54
Green Papaya-Interior	[illegible]	None	4-25-54
Arrow Root-Interior	[illegible]	None	4-25-54

[redacted]

Eniwetok Atoll, M.I.
30 April 1954

CONSTRUCTION [illegible] TEMPORARY VILLAGE

We (Holmes & Narver, Inc.) are herewith [illegible] the following Bill of Material and cost [illegible] for construction of a temporary village on the island of Bikej in the Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands.

The cost estimate contained herein is based on the following:

1. Construction [illegible] on Bikej Island.

2. H&N will [illegible] with [illegible].

3. The Navy will transport the [illegible] to Bikej Island - (no cost included).

4. H&N will provide one (1) carpenter foreman, two (2) carpenters and one (1) [illegible] equipment operator.

5. The Navy [illegible] to provide the four (4) H&N men housing and transportation [illegible] Bikej - (no cost included for transportation).

6. That heavy equipment [illegible] (bulldozer, etc) is available at Kwajalein - (no cost included for equipment).

7. That [illegible] are available for [illegible] and carpenter assistants - (no wages [illegible] will be funded by JTF SEVEN).

8. That the H&N [illegible] will furnish an interpreter.

9. H&N will furnish portable generator and power saw.

10. Tools for [illegible] will be furnished by Navy Station Kwajalein.

MATERIAL [illegible]

Framing Lumber	44552 B.F.
Framing Nails (Galvanized)	9 Kegs
Nails for Plywood (Galvanized)	3 Kegs
Corrugated Aluminum Roofing	16944 Sq. Ft.
Aluminum Ridge Cap	744 Lin. Ft.
Aluminum Gutter	1636 Lin. Ft.
Plywood, 3/8"	727 Sheets
Plywood, 1/4"	410 Sheets
Wood Doors	44
Door Handles	48
Door Hinges	48 Pair
Seat Hinges	8 Pair
Shutter Hinges	152 Pair
Eye Bolts with Nuts	400

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

Paint	52 Gals.
Screening	256 Sq. Ft.
Nailing Strips [illegible]	350 Lin. Ft.
Screen Door	4
Mess Tables, [illegible]	11

MATERIAL [illegible]

		Labor	Material	
Lumber	44550 [illegible]		.10	4455
Rough Hardware [illegible]	12 [illegible]		12.00	145
Corrugated Metal [illegible]	16990 [illegible]		.22	3740
Aluminum Ridge Cap	74[illegible] [illegible]		.156	115
Aluminum Sheet [illegible]	1625 [illegible]		.20	325
3/8" Plywood	23284 [illegible]		.18	4190
1/2" Plywood	13140 [illegible]		.22	2885
Single Flush Doors	44 [illegible]		13.00	570
Door Handles	48 [illegible]		.20	10
Door Hinges	48 [illegible]		1.75	85
Seat Cover Hinges	8 [illegible]		.65	5
Shutter Hinges	152 [illegible]		.80	120
Eye Bolts & Hooks	400 [illegible]		.15	60
Screening	256 [illegible]		.15	40
Screen Door	4 [illegible]		10.00	40
1 x 1 Nailing Strips for Screening	350 [illegible]		.15	55
Paint	52 [illegible]		3.75	195
Mess Tables	11 [illegible]		11.50	130
H&N Carpenters & [illegible] 3 weeks = 54 Man Days		1510		
H&N Heavy Duty Men 1 Week = 7 Man Days		195		
	TOTAL [illegible]	1705.00		17,165.00

The above total of 17,165 includes [illegible] furnished by H&N.

The above bill of material is [illegible] the temporary village in accordance with the drawings number [illegible] and [illegible] showing the sizes and construction of the various buildings [illegible] as stated in memorandum letter dated April [illegible] from Mr. [illegible] Destad Rep. Ebeye - for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

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No provisions for cisterns are being made at this time for the temporary village at Bikej as there are available on the island (9) 15,000 gallon cisterns which only need cleaning and filling.

At the time the natives are returned to their island of Rongelap, there will be a need to construct new roofs and cisterns, the cost of which will have to be included in the cost of moving the natives from Bikej Island to Rongelap Island. This will also be the time to include cost of repair or replacement due to damage by storms during the interval the natives are away.

2 Attachments:
1. H&N drawing No. [illegible]
2. H&N drawing No. [illegible]

[redacted]

INCLOSURE NO. 4

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[redacted]

CINCPACFLT FILE
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A11
Ser 01339
17 JUN 1954

[redacted]

From: Commander [illegible]
To: Commander [illegible]

Subj: Survey of [illegible]

Ref: (a) CJTF [illegible]
(b) CINCPAC [illegible]
(c) CNO [illegible]
(d) CINCPAC [illegible]
(e) CINCPACFLT [illegible]
(f) CINCPACFLT [illegible]
(g) CJTF [illegible]
(h) CJTF [illegible]

1. Reference (a) [illegible] the survey party which visited Rongelap and Utirik Atolls during the period [illegible] April 1954 in order to determine requisite action for rehabilitation of these atolls prior to return of inhabitants who were evacuated subject to hazards resulting from the first test in the Pacific series. [illegible] concurred in the recommendations of the survey report and requested [illegible] of CINCPAC's approval of these recommendations.

2. Reference (b) [illegible] CNO [illegible] CJTF SEVEN's preliminary advice on the [illegible] was approved by CNO in reference (c) which further [illegible] that normal support should be expended without prior approval.

3. CINCPAC delegated responsibility for the subject matter to CINCPACFLT in reference (d) [illegible] report to CINCPACFLT for the tasks outlined.

4. In reference (e) and (f), CINCPACFLT requested guidance for the resolution of certain matters in connection with the rehabilitation of the Rongelap and Utirik natives.

5. CJTF SEVEN [illegible] of the detailed plans for native rehabilitation in references (g) and (h).

6. On the basis of the foregoing [illegible] CINCPACFLT considers that all basic questions pertinent to native rehabilitation have been resolved and that action is proceeding satisfactorily. As a matter of record, CINCPACFLT's action on the [illegible] is summarized below.

[redacted]

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[redacted]

following [illegible]. This survey will [illegible] the purpose of providing guidance [illegible] of people [illegible] until completion of the native rehabilitation project.

7. Comments on the specific recommendations of the survey party contained in paragraph 4 of enclosure (2) [illegible] (a) [illegible] listed after each recommendation which is quoted [illegible] information:

a. UTIRIK

(1) "[illegible] shot, Utirik Atoll should be inspected again by [illegible] or AEC to determine whether or not additional [illegible]. If no increase in external radiation and [illegible] is noted, the return of the natives [illegible]. The contamination levels now present at the [illegible] are [illegible] by Enclosure 1. Research analysis of the foods and water [illegible] by the NIH and [illegible]."

COMMENT: [illegible]

(2) "[illegible] should [illegible] a project officer to coordinate the activities of [illegible] of the Utirik natives."

COMMENT: [illegible] (2) [illegible] to COMSTA KWAJALEIN to coordinate the project [illegible] CINCPACFLT in the discharge of [illegible] in connection with the subject project. It further provides for [illegible] a project officer at his disposal.

(3) "[illegible] should [illegible] available a ship which will transport the Utirik [illegible] from Kwajalein back to Utirik. In addition to the [illegible] the natives have with them, the following [illegible] should be [illegible]. These items should be assembled by the CINCPACFLT project officer [illegible] with the local Kwajalein representative of [illegible] which the necessary purchases should be made [illegible]."

(a) Dental [illegible] available by CinCPacFlt Kwajalein.

(b) [illegible] adequate for one month.

(c) [illegible] of [illegible], window glass, metal roofing and [illegible] supplies [illegible] by CINCPACFLT project officer [illegible] representative of [illegible].

[redacted]

(d) 30,000 gallons of fresh water to flush and refill Utirik cistern.

(e) Appropriately [illegible] and small numbers of other supplies as deemed [illegible] by CINCPACFLT project officer, in coordination with the [illegible] representative. Some of these items have already been [illegible] by the TTRPACIS representative at Majuro.

COMMENT: [illegible] provided for in references (e), (g) and (h). Reference (f) indicates that a [illegible] of certain supplies by CINCNAVSTA [illegible] CINCPACFLT has no project officer for determination of [illegible] to be provided. This determination and delivery [illegible] are considered to be HIGCOMTENTH responsibilities.

(4) "The [illegible] number of occasions LST's have [illegible] Utirik lagoon. [illegible] this type ship is recommended, if the CINCPACFLT project officer [illegible] of the lagoon channel."

COMMENT: Comments subject to [illegible] navigation as determined by the LST navigating officer.

(5) "No rehabilitation [illegible] personnel is required, since little damage [illegible] the lagoon has occurred since the evacuation."

COMMENT: [illegible] CINCPACFLT [illegible] of the fact that CJTF SEVEN is most [illegible] and has concurred with this recommendation.

(6) "No [illegible] except for the flushing and cleaning of cisterns [illegible]."

COMMENT: Comments subject to the [illegible] in subparagraph 7.b.(5) above.

b. RONGELAP

(1) "The [illegible] should be relocated on an island of the Kwajalein Atoll for the [illegible] approximately one year. ENIWETOK Island has been [illegible] by [illegible] as Rongelap for this purpose. [illegible] concurs in this selection. The [illegible] Rongelap is in accord with the recommendation of the Rongelap Office of project [illegible], and will shortly conclude the [illegible] of the Rongelap people at Rongelap.

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[redacted]

COMMENT: [illegible] has been [illegible] on the site for temporary relocation of the [illegible] pending [illegible] of HIGOMTBRACKS for reasons of [illegible], [illegible] in reference (e).

(2) [illegible] CINCPACFLT should designate a project officer to coordinate the activities of interested agencies during the [illegible] of [illegible] natives and during their ultimate return to their homes."

COMMENT: [illegible] (1) provide [illegible] CONTRACTOR FACILITIES to coordinate movement of the [illegible] natives to Majuro. Responsibility for their welfare during [illegible] rests with HIGOMTBRACKS, CINCPACFLT [illegible] in connection with their ultimate return [illegible].

(3) The [illegible] of the relocation should be given wide publicity through the [illegible] and U.S. news media, after the movement has been completed."

COMMENT: [illegible] It is [illegible] that matter should be and is being handled [illegible] by the Atomic Energy Commission, Department of Defense, [illegible] and other interested government agencies. It is [illegible] that [illegible] will provide for appropriate publicity [illegible].

(4) "The [illegible] contractor [illegible] Proving Grounds (Holmes and Narver, Inc.) [illegible] prefabricated [illegible] and supervise the construction of small [illegible] dwellings, [illegible] school and church, a dispensary, and other buildings and [illegible] for Rongelap natives to be relocated temporarily [illegible]. Materials for this construction will be provided from [illegible] and [illegible] to the site of the new village by JTF SEVEN. [illegible] of the [illegible] are presented in Inclosure 4."

COMMENT: [illegible] of Majuro vice Kwajalein as the temporary relocation site.

(5) "Manpower for the [illegible] should be provided by the natives of [illegible]. Holmes and Narver personnel will [illegible]. Native labor should be paid wages by [illegible] and [illegible] by the representatives of TERRAUTH."

COMMENT: [illegible]

(6) "A [illegible] stage [illegible] for one month should be provided initially, [illegible] the [illegible] covered above. Likewise, chickens [illegible] should be provided. [illegible] determined by [illegible] representatives of [illegible]. In addition, the Rongelap [illegible] provide [illegible] supplies and other essentials [illegible] from sale of copra [illegible]

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[redacted]

since BIKINI Island provides [illegible] of natural foods."

COMMENT: [illegible] objection to [illegible] makes previously expressed in references (b) and (c). [illegible] for determination of numbers [illegible] to be provided. This determination and necessary [illegible] to be [illegible] responsibility.

(7) "[illegible] for the [illegible] are moved from Kwajalein Island to [illegible] should be sent to Rongelap Island to pick up the [illegible] (including two 30-foot sloops) of the [illegible] where items should be performed at Kwajalein [illegible] Radsafe personnel."

COMMENT: [illegible] natives boats and personal effects [illegible] by COMNAVSTA KWAJALEIN.

(8) "[illegible] and Radsafe surveys of the atolls should [illegible] personnel operating out of Nav-Sta Kwajalein. [illegible] this office would periodically send groups [illegible] Kwajalein for this purpose."

COMMENT: [illegible]

(9) "[illegible] the Pacific Proving Grounds in conjunction with [illegible], should make periodic inspections [illegible] to ascertain the rate of decay of the [illegible] should be forwarded to interested agencies, [illegible], COMNAVSTA KWAJALEIN.

COMMENT: [illegible]

(10) "[illegible], probably COMNAVSTAKWAJ, should monitor the general [illegible] during their temporary stay at Kwajalein [illegible]."

COMMENT: Monitoring and [illegible] of natives, wherever located, is a continuing [illegible].

(11) "[illegible] survey party should visit the islands of [illegible] their temporary homes at Kwajalein Atoll [illegible] may be returned to their homes and [illegible] prior to their movement from Kwajalein Atoll. [illegible] represented on this later survey party [illegible] to this movement and the construction [illegible] will be provided by JTF SEVEN."

[redacted]

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[redacted]

COMMENT: [illegible] as the site of [illegible] of the [illegible] exercises.

8. CJTF SEVEN is prepared to confirm that the ADC will undertake participation indicated in paragraph 7.b.(5) and 7.b.(9).

9. By copy of this letter, HICOMTERPACIS is requested to advise as to whether he concurs in the actions indicated in this letter, and specifically to confirm the [illegible] to [illegible] which HICOMTERPACIS assumes as indicated in the [illegible] to paragraphs 7.a.(4), 7.a.(6), 7.b.(1), 7.b.(6), 7.b.(10).

10. CJTF SEVEN is requested to provide copies of reference (a) to all information addressees listed for distribution in this letter. Further distribution of reference (a) by the [illegible] CJTF SEVEN is authorized, provided a copy of this letter is bound with each copy of reference (a) so distributed.

[illegible]
[illegible]

Copy to:
CNO (5 copies)
CINCPAC
COMHAWSEAFRON
CO NAVSTA [illegible]
HICOMTERPACIS

AUTHENTICATED

/s/ A. R. Olsen
A. R. OLSEN
Flag Sec[illegible]

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[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

J-3/729.3 6 July 1954

SUBJECT: Responsibilities for Care and Disposition of Native Inhabitants of Rongelap and Utirik Atolls

TO: Manager
Santa Fe Operations Office
P. O. Box [illegible]
Albuquerque, New Mexico

1. Mr. James [illegible] of your agency telephoned this headquarters 16 June and discussed with Colonel [illegible], [illegible] Division, Headquarters JTF SEVEN, the status of Mr. Charles [illegible] as representative of General Clarkson on matters concerning the care and disposition of evacuated natives. The question of providing [illegible] assumed on 2 June full responsibility for [illegible] Pacific Proving Grounds.

2. On 14 [illegible] 1954, CINCPAC [illegible] JTF SEVEN to advise that agency of the [illegible] of the person to be assigned to represent JTF SEVEN in the Forward Area. [illegible] JTF SEVEN returned to Washington. In [illegible] avoid the [illegible] of leaving indefinitely at Eniwetok a staff officer of this headquarters, JTF SEVEN designated Mr. Hardison as representative [illegible] in connection with the disposition of native inhabitants of Rongelap [illegible]. Mr. Hardison visited Kwajalein and [illegible] was eminently well-qualified to act as representative of JTF [illegible] matter.

3. As you know, the native inhabitants of Utirik Atoll have been returned from Kwajalein to their home [illegible]. The native inhabitants of Rongelap Atoll have been temporarily [illegible] for a period of about one year on Ejit Island of Majuro Atoll, [illegible] the radioactive contamination of Rongelap do [illegible] not now contemplate that extensive cons[illegible] on Rongelap Island with the inhabitants of that atoll [illegible] their home. Consequently, it is doubtful that [illegible] and the JTF Resident Engineer at Eniwetok will be called upon to [illegible] in regard to the care and disposition of the native [illegible] Hardison is, therefore, [illegible] of any responsibility [illegible] JTF SEVEN [illegible] in this matter.

4. The responsibilities of Atomic Energy Commission for the continued care and disposition of the natives of Rongelap and Utirik Atolls [illegible] delineated for your information [illegible].

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UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

J-3/
SUBJECT: Responsibilities for Care and Maintenance of Native Residents of Rongelap and Utirik Atolls

a. CINCPAC has overall responsibility under the Department of Defense for the preparation of the program for the restoration of atolls, with JEC assistance, and for the care of the residents. CINCPAC delegated to CINCPACFLT the responsibility for this operation. CINCPACFLT instructed COMMISTRAM to assign a high ranking representative in the discharge of CINCPACFLT responsibilities in connection with the displaced natives. COMMISTRAM designated Rear Admiral [illegible] as the Project Officer to represent CINCPACFLT [illegible].

b. [illegible] of all Marshall Island natives are continuing responsibilities of the High Commissioner, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, as agent for the Department of the Interior.

c. The Medical Division of Public Health, JEC, will continue to monitor the physical condition of the people of the atolls of Rongelap and Utirik. Medical personnel will be dispatched to the atolls for medical and monetary personnel and [illegible] Biology and Medicine, [illegible], will visit the atolls and the people will be seen periodically in order to observe the medical progress of the people and to assure in the earliest possible time for the return of the [illegible] to their homes. The first visit to the [illegible] group of atolls for August or September of this year. Representatives of the [illegible] will accompany the JEC party.

d. [illegible] naturally have a continuing interest in this matter. JTF SEVEN has [illegible] medical expenses for the natives while at Kwajalein, for the procurement of livestock to replace that lost as a result of the contamination, for the construction of a temporary village at Majuro Atoll, for the purchase of food and clothing supplies, and for other purposes. [illegible] to provide funds for the provision of food for the Rongelap natives while they are at Majuro and will pay for initial [illegible] return to their homes. CTG 7.2 will represent the [illegible] in connection with the disposition of Utirik and Rongelap natives and the [illegible] problem which can and must be handled at the Territorial Trust Fund Channels.

e. Santa Fe (Quonset Point, R.I.) is [illegible] responsibilities for the continued care and disposition of these natives. The operation of the temporary village at Majuro with the supervision of Mr. Hendison and [illegible]

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[redacted]

J-3/
SUBJECT: Responsibilities for [illegible] and Disposition of Nuclear Inventories at [illegible]

formed with [illegible] according to [illegible] requirements here, the [illegible] provided by [illegible] is [illegible] appropriate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

/s/ E. McGinley
E. McGINLEY
Major General, U.S. Army
Chief of Staff

Copy furnished:
Mr. T. [illegible]
USAEC, [illegible]

CTG 7.2, [illegible]

AEC/DMA, [illegible]
Cheyenne

[redacted]