

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

105449

# Memorandum

TO : A. R. Luedecke, General Manager  
THRU: E. J. Bloch, AGMO

DATE: JUN 11 1962

FROM : Nathan H. Woodruff, Director  
Division of Operational Safety

SUBJECT: CISTERN WATER CONTAMINATION - CENTRAL PACIFIC

OS:RADAC:REA

I have received preliminary information from the Division of Operational Safety liaison representative on Christmas Island that a cistern water sample from the island of Tongareva (about 800 miles south of Christmas Island) collected on May 13, 1962 contained fresh fission products. It is indicated that detailed analysis is not yet available, but preliminary data indicate significant quantities of iodine-131. JTF-8 personnel are conducting a detailed survey of this situation and will supply us with report as soon as analytical data are available.

This is the first reported contamination detected off the test exclusion area for Operation Dominic. From the preliminary data it appears that this occurrence has not created a significant hazard to people. No countermeasures have been planned by JTF-8 rad-safety personnel.

cc: Director, MA  
Director, BM  
Deputy Director, OS

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED  
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OC  
*Carl W. [unclear]* 1/20/82  
REVIEWED BY *J. Diaz* DATE 3/29/88

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