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FOLLOWUP TASKS FOR BIKINI RESETTLEMENT

Since our telephone conversation, Friday, February 14 on Bikini resettlement, I have prepared the attached outline of suggested projects. The subject items are taken largely from the AD Hoc Committee report and are intended to carry out other of their recommendations that in my view are clearly separate from scrap removal and clearing operations. A meeting of pertinent AEC Headquarters staff plus other interested parties would be appropriate to discuss these followup actions and studies. A list of possible attendees is given.

Original signed by
T. F. McCraw

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Followup Studies and Actions
Bikini Resettlement

1. Coconut crab population reduction in Bikini Atoll
 - a. Collection of crabs, recording of data on size, weight, radionuclide content, island of collection.
 - b. Study on current crab diet, radionuclide retention half-time.
 - c. Disposal of crabs. Note: the intent is to achieve a significant reduction in number of crabs available for human consumption, not to remove the specie from the atoll.
2. Population diet study
 - a. Identification of items of the diet, quantity consumed, radionuclide content. Initial determinations to be made when natives first return. Re-sampling to occur periodically and particularly when locally produced food crops such as coconut and pandanus become available. Analysis to include determination of tritium intake.
 - b. Determination of potassium and calcium intake.
3. Determination of population body burdens
 - a. Yearly determinations of body content of biologically important radionuclides (identified in Gustafson's reports) as a function of age and sex. First measurements to be made at time of return of population (when first group of families return).
 - b. From data in a. above, determination of retention half-times for these radionuclides.
4. Poison fish study
 - a. A determination of fish of the reef and in the lagoon that may and may not safely be eaten. This study should be completed and results made available to the population prior to their return.
5. Medical studies
 - a. Physical examinations.
 - b. Study of radionuclide content of blood and urine.
6. Radiation surveys

- a. A survey of external gamma radiation levels should be made of the Bikini-Eneu complex every other year beginning one year after the population returns. Radiation levels for the village area and for each family residence must be determined. Values for other work areas and beach areas should be determined.

- b. In order to provide for an additional later determination of proper disposition of other islands in the atoll, another survey should be scheduled for these islands in five years following population return.

Suggested Attendees

Argonne - Gustafson

HASL - Harley

DMA - Gomes

NVCO - Cluff or Hendricks

U. of Wash. - Held

Brookhaven - Conard

Interior - Millner

DASA - Boyd

FRC - Tompkins or Palmiter

DEM - To be determined

DOS - To be determined