

REPOSITORY DOE/PASO
 COLLECTION DOE/NV
 BOX No. 1228, ERDA #3
BIO-MED, DR. CONARD
 FOLDER 01 Thru 12/1967



HOA:NSR-2644

December 2, 1966

The Chief
 Defense Atomic Support Agency
 DASALG 600.1
 Department of Defense
 Washington, D. C. 20301

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Subject: MARSHALL ISLANDS PROPERTY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a billing from the Trust Territory of the Pacific for land rentals for sites on the Islands of Ujelang, Rongelap and Utirik. These sites are evidently held by DASA and the billing apparently was sent to this office in error. When this bill is paid, kindly send us a copy of the letter of transmittal.

Mr. Norwood, High Commissioner has requested our assistance in determining if Bikini could be returned to the natives who are now living on the Island of Kili. He also requested the salvage rights to vessels used in the tests and abandoned. In addition, the return of six weather/radsafe sites held by DASA is of concern to the Trust Territory government.

Although it is not within the purview of this office to act on Mr. Norwood's requests, the support and goodwill of the Trust Territory is very important to the success of our mission. They provide ships, planes, communications and medical teams in support of our surveys. A copy of a report we recently prepared is enclosed to describe the necessity for the cooperation of all elements involved in the program. Attachment #1 to this letter provides some background we have accumulated, which may assist in defining the areas of concern.

OFFICE ▶	ADM. <i>NSR</i>	ADM. <i>Blankenship</i>	MGR <i>Bio</i>
SURNAME ▶	NSRasmussen/idh	Blankenship	Bonn <i>NSR</i>
DATE ▶	12-2-66	12-2-66	12-2-66

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It would be appreciated if DASA would provide sufficient information to the extent it is available to respond to Mr. Norwood's requests either directly or through this office. If the response is direct to Mr. Norwood, please provide this office with a copy of the correspondence.

In a recent discussion with Mr. Norwood, we were informed that he may write to DOD concerning Bikini since he must locate a new home for the Marshallese on the Island of Kill in the near future.

If DASA is in a position to terminate all sites, the AEC would enter into an agreement with the Trust Territory for such sites as are required at Rongelap and Utirik for our medical program. If DASA is not in a position to terminate all sites (with the June 1961 Trust Territory-DASA agreement remaining unchanged), we request authority to use the Utirik site on which three buildings will be retained for use by our medical team.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM A. BONNET

William A. Bonnet
Manager

Enclosures:

- 1. Attachment #1
- 2. Billing Land Rental
- 3. Progress Report dtd 11/1/66

cc: J. E. Reeves, NV, w/Attach. #1
CJTF-8, NMex, w/Encls. 1 & 3

OFFICE ▶						
SURNAME ▶						
DATE ▶						