402035

## BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES, INC . UPTON, L. I., N. Y. 11973 TEL. AREA CODE 516 YAPHANK 4-6262

REFER:

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

April 20, 1966

Mr. W. A. Bonnet U. S. Atomic Energy Commission P.O. Box 580 Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

REPOSITORY -COLLECTION -FOLDER

Dear Mr. Bonnet:

One matter I forgot to bring up with you which I discussed briefly with Neil Rasmussen while I was at Kwajalein is as follows. There are several buildings on Utirik Island which served as a weather station for the Joint Task Force and which are owned by the A.E.C., I believe. It is my understanding that the A.E.C. is paying a small annual land rental for these buildings, not only at Utirik but perhaps at some other islands in the Marshalls. We have used some of these buildings in carrying out our surveys at Utirik every 3-4 years. We would like to continue using three of these buildings, but it occurred to me that two other buildings plus a generator shed and another type of shed are not needed by us, and the material from these buildings could well be used by the Utirik people. As a matter of fact, at the village meeting I told the people that I would try and obtain permission to use the materials (lumber, siding, and roofing) in the village. They certainly could use a new council house. As you know, these people did not receive any compensation money, though they were all involved in the fallout, simply because the dose they received was too low and they had no medical effects. They were very disappointed about this, and giving them these buildings which are just sitting there slowly going to ruin would be a nice gesture. I spoke to Mr. Dwight Heine, the District Administrator of the Marshall Islands about this, and if we obtain permission to give them these extra buildings, Mr. Heine would be the one that would be responsible for distributing the materials fairly to the people. I therefore request your help in obtaining the necessary permission for turning these extra buildings over to the Trust Territory (Mr. Heine) to be given to the people. I designated to the Magistrate and the Trust Territory at Utirik the three buildings that we wish to continue to use for survey purposes. I would imagine these buildings are still under the jurisdiction of the Joint Task Force. Would you please convey this permission directly to Mr. Heine at Majuro with a copy to me. By the way, there were a 100 or so rusting barrels of oil by these buildings. Since the barrels were deteriorating and the oil was being wasted, I told

a c

the people to use the oil. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Conard, M.D.

RAC:bb