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•		CHAIRMAN, INTERAGENCY GROUP BOR TUS NEGOTIATIONS	MICRONESIAN POLITICAL
	SUBJECT: Early Re	lease of Eniwetok (U)	R 411729
-		to Secretary of Defense letter, d lams concerning Department of Def le TTPI.	
	TIPI and specified	blished future U.S. Military land that, by 1975, Eniwetok Atoll (to the Marshallese.	
	release of Eniweto	our office, a review was conducted ak at an earlier date, with a view diating lever with the Micronesian lowing:	w toward using such a
	astated by nucle south have been Coconut palms, t vival and income Contamination, b islets is still All islets may r (primarily water cleanup of islet point (as was do	the northern half of the atoll have ar weapons tests, while some large leveled for base support and tech the primary vegetation necessary to a are either non-existent or scan both chemical and radiological, or considered hazardous for long-ter equire extensive and long-term ex- end food) to support human life is, both from a contamination and one at Bikini), will be required p clement of the atoll.	ger islets in the hnical facilities. for native sur- rce on all islets. n the northern rm habitation. xternal support . Extensive debris stand-
		Uses. The following future uses ad development and scientific test fied.	
	test program uses Enivetok	COFFEE (was SENICR GIRL), a sate by the Air Force Avionics Laboration is a staging base for its electric. The project has an expected du \mathcal{MLA} 7 =	tory, occas\$ionally ronically equipped
	continue to s vegetation.	cored Eniwetok Marine Biological 1 study local marine and terrestrial This effort is conducted by the 1 Il no doubt continue indefinitely	Laboratory will 1 anirals and University of
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- -- The Pacific Cratering Experiments (PACE) are a series of highexplosive tests planned for Enivetok. These tests are funded by the Defense Nuclear Agency and will be conducted by the Air Force Weapons Laboratory. The tests are expected to start shortly. PACE tests, as tentatively planned, will be completed by CY 1974. PACE will require the exclusive use of Sites FRED, IRENE, JANET, SALLY, TILDA, URSULA, FEARL, RUBY, and YVONNE.
- -- The Artificial Upwelling Program is a Department of Commercefunded study to be conducted at Enivetok by Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Under this study, drill holes will be made in the nuclear craters Cactus and LaCrosse on Site YVONNE to test the fertilizing effect of deep nutrient-rich sea water on marine organisms and to assess the merits of a drill hole for acquisition of that water. This study is proposed to start in 1972 and continue for 6 to 8 years.

There are no foreseeable DOD requirements beyond CY 1972. Subsequent to completion of the PACE tests and Project HAVE COFFEE, the return of the entire atoll appears feasible, subject to retention of some residual rights. Prior to that time a phased program of release, to hasten cleanup and rehabilitation of some islets, could begin. Sites ELMER, DAVID, and BRUCE have been identified as the best for this purpose. These sites are located relatively near Entwetok itself and are suitable in size for habitation.

It is believed the non-DOD scientific studies listed above could continue indefinitely if the proper initial arrangements and agreements are made with the Micronesians as a part of the overall status settlement. However, since the long-term benefit of these efforts will accrue primarily to the native population, it is believed the U.S. should attempt to retain use rights to the minimal land and facilities required on a non-reimbursable basis.

Prior to the return of any islands in the Enivetok Atoll, however, a survey to determine cleanup and fix-up requirements, followed by a rehabilitation program for each islet, is necessary to permit resettlement. The Defense Nuclear Agency and the Atomic Energy Commission should ensure that adequate decontamination measures have been accomplished before the former inhabitants are allowed to return.

With the exception of initiating and conducting safety surveys and possible resultant sanitization efforts, and agreement releasing Eniwetok Atoll, or selected sites thereof, must avoid obligating Defense for the responsibility of any additional mometary compensation - either for past use or future rights retained. DOD financial obligations to the Ujelangese have been adequately fulfilled in the negotiations pertaining to the current indefinite use rights. Any contemplated early release of Eniwetok should be considered an additional bonus dividend.



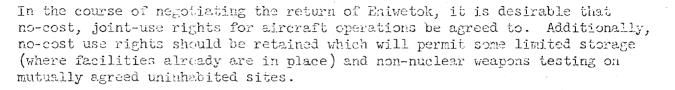
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. It is hoped the unexpected early release by DOD of some Enivetok islets and the CY 1974 return of the entire atoll, will prove a beneficial negotiating asset for you in your dealings with the Micronesians.

Aware of the negotiating benefits to be derived from proper timing regarding the subject, this office will await your suggestions before initiating any action in the way of requesting surveys to be conducted pertaining to rehabilitation in the area.

(Signed) G. Warren Nutter

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