

DRAFT
Col. Barton:ft
27 June 1969

MEMO TO RECORDS

*Draft prepared
by Col. Barton in
Honolulu
This was re-penned
by another draft
when Col. Barton
returned to Albany.
WFB*

MEETING WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER, TRUST TERRITORY, PACIFIC ISLANDS

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A most informative and productive meeting was held at 10 o'clock on 27 June with Mr. Edward E. Johnston, High Commissioner, Trust Territory Pacific, and members of the Honolulu Area Office, Holmes & Narver, Inc., and Joint Task Force Eight. The first item discussed was the High Commissioner's schedule of events for the next few months. He will depart Honolulu Sunday, 29 June, via Johnston Island for Saipan ^{he plans to} ~~where he will remain~~ ^{in the Trust Territory} ~~for an indoctrination visit~~ until the end of September. Colonel McPhos, CJTG 8.6, Johnston Island, will be alerted to meet Commissioner Johnston and ^{extend him appropriate courtesies} ~~during the turn around period will attempt to give him an escorted tour of the facilities at the J.A. complex.~~

In reference to Admiral Mustin's request to meet with the High Commissioner on 18 August, Commissioner Johnston informed Mr. Bonnet that date appeared reasonable at this time and he desired to meet with the party at Kwajalein rather than Honolulu.

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The major part of the meeting began at 10:10 A.M. with Messrs. Bonnet and Hille and Colonel Schott of HAO; Jim Johnson of H&N; Colonel Barton of JTF-8; and High Commissioner Johnston of the Trust Territory Pacific present. Covered generally for Commissioner Johnston's information were the history and background of what ^{HAO} ~~DASA~~, JTF-8 and ~~AEC~~ are and what they do. Viewgraphs were shown of the management, functions, and locations of HAO (JTG 8.5) and their association with DASA, AEC, and JTF-8.

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BOX No. 1227; "ERDA # 2"
BIKINI SURVEY (B10-1157)
FOLDER July, 1969

In general, the area history, planning, deployment and present cleanup status of Bikini were given. Specifically addressed were the number of people involved, the logistic support and equipment needs. Commissioner Johnston queried the group as to any active problems that have arisen since their arrival. The answer was an unequivocal "no" with the exception of ~~additional money required to pay the natives' expenses.~~ Commissioner Johnston was provided an estimated date for completion of cleanup as 1 September with two additional weeks required for rollup procedures. He was also shown and provided appropriate copies of messages dealing with the problem of equipment retention and transfer.

The problem of a full time Trust Territory representative at Bikini was discussed and Commissioner Johnston agreed that one should be there on a full time basis and indicated he would examine the problem when he arrives at Saipan. He asked whether there was a complete list of equipment now on Bikini which he could review and from which he could pick equipment. The answer was "no" and it was recommended that a consolidated list be prepared of both ABC and BGD equipment.

The question of qualified equipment operators and maintenance people was also discussed. He said the Trust Territory did have qualified personnel to operate and maintain similar type equipment to that on Bikini. He agreed whole heartedly there was no sense in leaving any type equipment on Bikini that could not be operated and maintained. He suggested Mr. Dwight Heine, ~~(Director of Administration, Marshall Islands)~~ now employed by the Trust Territory was the best man to handle this situation. Commissioner Johnston said there were indications of native unrest within the Marshalls and Mr. Heine is the type of man who travels the islands in an attempt to settle the unrest.

Mr. Bonnet mentioned Dr. Robert Conrad of Brookhaven National Laboratory and his function of monitoring the health of the natives on Rongelap and Utirik and his

plan
attempt to set up a similar facility at Bikini to monitor the health of the natives in that area.

A question concerning the need for continuing support by H&M as a contractor was discussed and whether the use of this contractor was desired for agricultural planting and economic development of this island area; if so, advance notice would be required as soon as possible prior to the termination of the cleanup operation now under way. Jim Johnson of H&M advised that the magnitude of the job to be done in agriculture planting was frightening in view of the equipment with which the Trust Territory had to use. H&M through the AEC is quite willing to help train and assist in any way if approved.

Concerning the economic development of the Trust Territory, Commissioner Johnston mentioned that Dr. Cook of MIT is now studying all aspects of what had to be done including the money and logistics to complete such operations.

The continued use of the air strip on Enyu was discussed. Commissioner Johnston agreed that the present facilities maintained for air operation would be required. He had on hand a study by Major Henderson of the GDS on all types of air support and equipment required to support such economic development in the Pacific area. This is not for Bikini specifically, but for all Micronesia.

Jim Johnson of H&M addressed the fact that perhaps there might be an underrun in the budget of \$1.3 million for Bikini Cleanup and that perhaps some of this underrun could be used for further renovation or continued maintenance of the air strip at Enyu prior to departure. ~~The group decided that authority for use of this money for other than actual cleanup would have to come from the Department of Interior, after 1 July 1969, since the responsibility for this underrun would be that of the Department of the Interior after 1 July.~~

In summary there were three major areas discussed and agreed upon as being

continuing attention is needed! —

areas in which ~~immediate action would be required~~. They were:

1. The Bikini Cleanup effort within the present scope of work as defined in the Memo of Understanding between CJTC 8.8, the AEC Deputy, Joseph M. Merrill, and Dr. Jack Tobin of the Trust Territory would be the basis of fulfilling the AEC and DOD obligations unless we hear differently from the Trust Territory.
2. A Trust Territory representative ^{*should*} ^{*at Bikini*} will be present on a full time basis.
3. A ~~fully~~ comprehensive and complete list of equipment required will be resolved in the near future by representatives of the AEC, DOD and Trust Territory. The final resolution as to how this equipment will be transferred (at no cost, total reimbursement, or transportation or replacement items) is still pending at the Washington level.