1977 DEC -2 M 9: 33 PAAUZOVW RHEGCSA7681 336 1348-UUUU- RHEGWDC ZNR UUUUU ZOV RHEGCSAO400 REROUTE OF RUEHCAA7681 E P 020304Z DEC 77 € FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO RUHGSAA/HICOMTERPACIS PRIORITY €. INFO RUHGSAA/DISTAD MARSHALLS MAJURO MARSHAL IS PRIORITY RHEGWC/DOE/DBER WASHDC PRIORITY RUHHAGA/DOE/PASO HONO HI PRICRITY ВТ (UNCLAS STATE 287681 ¢ E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: OGEN, TQ • SUBJECT: LCU (DOTA NO. 499-TT HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED BY DR. R. CONARD THAT LCU USED BY DOE (ERDA) BROOKHAVEN MEDICAL TEAM HAS HAD SOME RECENT • DAMAGE WICH NECESITATES IMMEDIATE DRYDOCKING AND IT WILL NOT BE A VAIMABLE FOR SOME TIME. THIS PRECLUDES ITS USE FOR THE REGULAR QUARTERLY MEDICAL INSPECTION OF THE PEOPLE OF RONGELAP AND UTERI K. HIGHEST PRIORITY IS PLACED ON MAIN-TAINING REGULAR SCHEDULE OF THESE QUARTERLY VISITS AS YOU ŧ MON TIE PEOPLE OF UTERIK WERE NOT EXAMINED DURING THE

JUNE OR SEPTEMBER VISITS SINCE THEY HAD OBJECTED TO CERTAIN

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THEY CAPABLE THEIR OBJECTION AND ASKED SPECIFICALLY TO THEY USE INCLUDED AGAIN IN THE DECEMBER VISIT FOR THIS REASON ALSO WE CONCUR WITH DR. CONARD THAT DECEMBER VISIT SHOULD NOT BE POSTPONED. PRELIM. INVESTIGATION FROM KNAJALEIN INDICATES THAT DISTAD MARSHALLS DOES NOT HAVE CAPABLE ITY OF PROVIDING LOGISTIC SUPPORT FROM EXISTING FIELD TRIP VESSELS. ONLY AIR TRANSPORT WOULD BE CHARTER OF THE SMALL SEAPLANE AT MAJURO WHICH-COULD NOT CARRY

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ENOUGH STAFF OR EQUIPMENT. SUGGESTION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO POSSIGILITY OF CHARTERING THE NEW FIELD TRIP SHIP THE MICRO CHIEF, WHICH ME UNDERSTAND IS ENROUTE TO MARSHALLS FOR ASSIGNMENT THERE. REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE THREE TO FOUR DAYS AT RONGELAP AND THREE TO FOUR DAYS AT UTERIK PLUS TRAVEL TIME.

OF ATTORNEY GENERAL STAFF AND MAJURO SUPPORT STAFF MIGHT MELL UTILIZE THE SAME TRIP TO MAKE PRELIMINARY VISITS TO RONGETAP AND UTERIK WITH RESPECT TO THE RONGELAP AND UTERIK COMPENSATION PAYMENTS. HOWEVER, IMMEDIATE CONCERN IS WHETHER THE NEW SHIP WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR CHARTER IN DECEMBER OR AT VERY LATEST FIRST PART OF JANUARY FOR MEDICAL VISITS. IMMEDIATE ANSWER IS NEEDED SINCE PLANNING MUST START AT ONCE IF THE DECEMBER VISITS ARE TO BE MAINTAINED. APPRECIATE RESPONSE BY EARLIEST DISPATCH. DIRECTOR, OTA SENDS. VANCE

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