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DEFENSE ATOMIC SUPPORT AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20305

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ADDRESS REPLY TO  
**J-5SP**

TEST	
AUTHORITY	
NAME	<i>H. J. Smith</i>
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AUTHORITY ADD	
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16 JUN 1971

*From NMB-P*

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
✓ CHAIRMAN, ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Final Report on the DOD-AEC Phase of the Bikini Atoll Cleanup

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

1. Reference is made to:

- a. DJSM-140-69 for Director, DASA dated 30 Jan 1969 which designates Director, DASA as DOD Project Manager for Bikini cleanup. (Att. only, Encl 1)
- b. Director, DASA Msg DTG 121150Z Oct 1969 for Secretary of Defense, Department of the Interior, and Atomic Energy Commission, which is the interim completion report of the DOD-AEC cleanup of Bikini Atoll. (Encl 2)
- c. Manager, Nevada Operations Office, AEC letter to Commander, Test Command, DASA dated 22 Sep 1969 which certifies the satisfactory completion of the general radiological cleanup of Bikini Atoll. (Encl 3)
- d. District Administrator's Representative, Marshalls memo for Commander, JTG 8.8 dated 8 Oct 1969 which states that the Bikini cleanup is satisfactory to the Trust Territory Government (TTG) and accepts responsibility for the management of Bikini Atoll. (Encl 4)

2. Reference a designates Director, DASA as the Project Manager for the joint DOD-AEC cleanup of Bikini Atoll. Reference b reported the removal of abandoned nuclear test facilities and the disposal of radioactive debris on the various islands comprising Bikini Atoll. Reference c reported the satisfactory completion of the general radiological cleanup of Bikini Atoll. Reference d accepts responsibility for the management of Bikini Atoll by the Trust Territory Government. This joint DOD-AEC cleanup of Bikini Atoll was successfully completed during 1969 as the initial step of the U. S. Government's six-year plan to rehabilitate the Atoll and return the Bikini natives to their ancestral home.

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DNA, CHIEF, ISTS WITH/WT EUCLS.

*att.*  
*Richard D. [Signature]*  
DATE: *12/18/94*

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16 JUN 1971

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SUBJECT: Final Report on the DOD-AEC Phase of the Bikini Atoll Cleanup

3. A final comprehensive report of the DOD-AEC phase of the rehabilitation of Bikini Atoll has been completed and will be retained in the historical files of Headquarters, DASA.

*Francis W. Nye*

FRANCIS W. NYE  
Major General, USAF  
Acting Director

Copy to:  
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INTERNATIONAL SECURITY / 117

6/9/94  
 6/15/94  
 NAME: *H.R. Schmidt*  
 NAME: *ms*

28 JAN 1969

In reply refer to:  
1-810/69

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Bikini Atoll, DOD Support in Clearing Operation

The President, on 12 August 1968, requested both the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, and the Secretary of Defense to work with the Secretary of the Interior and the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory in planning a comprehensive resettlement program for Bikini Atoll and to assist them in carrying it out.

Subsequently, the Department of the Interior requested the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and the Department of Defense (DOD) to jointly undertake the task, commencing in FY 1969, of removing vegetative overgrowth, debris, and structures or materials residual from the use of the Atoll for atomic testing which could pose radiation or accident hazards to the population or interfere with their reasonable use of the land. The Department of the Interior has agreed to the above delineation of the task; however, certain decisions as to the removal of noncontaminated structures and foliage remain unresolved at this time. Interior also requested the AEC and DOD to fund the cleanup costs that would be incurred in FY 1969, assuming commencement of work in the current fiscal year. Interior advised that it had requested an appropriation by Congress for the balance of funds needed to complete the cleanup task in FY 1970 and to pay for airlift; upon receipt, these funds will be made available to AEC/DOD or their designated agent for this project. Neither DOD nor AEC have budgeted any funds for this purpose in FY 1970. The Atoll, under DOD jurisdiction in accordance with an existing Use and Occupancy Agreement with the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory, has not yet been formally released to the Trust Territory Government.

The Secretary of Defense has authorized the obligation of not in excess of \$300 thousand from the FY 1969 DOD Contingency Fund to cover the

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ENC 2 [ATTACHMENT TO  
DSSM-140-69]

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DOD share of FY 1969 cleanup costs, and the AEC will provide a like amount. It is anticipated that the DOD share will be turned over to the AEC in the near future; however, until this has been done, DOD funds will not be available for use.

You are requested to designate the Director, Defense Atomic Support Agency (DASA) as the DOD Project Manager for assisting, as authorized, in the Bikini cleanup. Based on informal discussions and understandings with concerned offices and agencies of the government, the following guidance pertains to this assignment:

a. The Project Manager (DASA) will act for both the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, and the Secretary of Defense in accomplishing this project. Additional considerations which are to govern the conduct of the project and relations with the AEC are contained in the attachment. An implementing agreement should be negotiated promptly between DASA and the AEC based on existing organizational relationships and use of civilian contract support. This agreement should be coordinated with my office prior to signing.

b. The Project Manager is authorized to conduct direct liaison with the AEC, the Trust Territory Government, the Department of the Interior, the military services, and other concerned offices and agencies of the government, keeping my office informed as appropriate.

c. Policy matters falling outside the premises contained in this memorandum and its attachment will be referred to my office for decision.



Ralph S. S. II  
Principal Deputy

Attachment.

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GUIDANCE FOR DOD PARTICIPATION IN THE  
CLEANUP OF BIKINI ATOLL

1. The DOD and AEC will jointly undertake the cleanup of Bikini Atoll. Cleanup is limited to the removal of vegetative overgrowth, debris, and structures or materials residual from the use of the Atoll for atomic testing, which could pose radiation or accident hazards to the population or interfere with their reasonable use of the land.

2. The total estimated cost of the clearance operation is about \$1.3 million of which \$600 thousand will be available for obligation in FY 1969. The AEC and DOD will jointly fund the FY 1969 costs on an equal-share basis to a ceiling of \$300 thousand for each party.

3. AEC FY 1969 funds will not be available for expenditure after 30 June 1969.

4. DOD FY 1969 funds will not be available for obligation after 30 June 1969; these funds will be made available to the AEC.

5. The AEC will be responsible for determining that radiological health and safety requirements for the scrap removal project at Bikini Atoll are met at the completion of the project. These requirements, as developed in program plans, will be subject to AEC approval prior to the beginning of field operations. AEC will follow the progress made and keep interested agencies informed.

6. The Director, Defense Atomic Support Agency (DASA), as Project Manager for the clearing operation described above, will act for both the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and the Secretary of Defense in accomplishing this project. FY 1969 funds for this purpose, as noted above, will be made available to DASA by the AEC.

7. It is recognized that use of certain equipment or other assets available to the AEC and DOD may be in the overall best interest of the U.S. Government. When available and if mutually agreed between the providing party and the Project Manager, the equipments or other assets will - to the extent possible - be made available to the Project Manager.

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[REDACTED]

8. In the event a decision is made to resume nuclear testing, any personnel or other assets of DASA or subordinate commands needed for this purpose and involved in the Bikini cleanup project will be released immediately.

9. The Bikini cleanup will not be permitted to significantly interfere with the preparation and conduct of planned readiness-to-test exercises or with maintenance of the readiness-to-test posture.

10. A civilian contractor will be available through the AEC to provide engineering support for field operations, to provide labor for cleanup and camp support operations, and to provide for the accomplishment of such other tasks as may be arranged by the Project Manager. Existing contractual arrangements made by the AEC, modified as necessary, will be made available to DASA.

11. The handling and removal of contaminated scrap will be conducted such that radiological exposure of personnel will be within the standards for workers established by the Federal Radiation Council. Former Bikini islanders or any other native residents of the Pacific Trust Territory may not be employed in collecting and removing scrap material except in the Bikini-Eneu complex and are not to work with contaminated scrap wherever it may be found.

12. The maximum contractor work force on the atoll is estimated to be about 50 people, and the cleanup operation (less preparation and wrapup times) is expected to take about six months. It is expected that a maximum of about 30 military personnel will be involved on the atoll at any time.

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