

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

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REPOSITORY NARA/College Park  
 COLLECTION RG 326 46-51 Security  
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 FOLDER 682 Eniwetok Atoll  
 (12-1-47)

Memorandum

To: Principal Staff  
 From: Captain James S. Russell, USN  
 AEC Test Director  
 Subject: Information Made Public Regarding the Eniwetok  
 Proving Ground

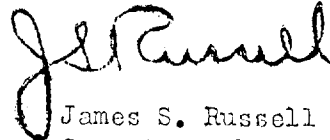
The following information has been made public regarding the Atomic Energy Commission Proving Ground at Eniwetok Atoll in the Marshall Islands, Western Pacific:

- a. Establishment of proving grounds in the Pacific for routine experiments and tests of atomic weapons. (Semi-annual Report to Congress July 22, 1947)
- b. Eniwetok is the site and construction by the Armed Forces, under Lt. General John E. Hull, has been started. Technical operations of proving ground will further peaceful as well as military application of atomic energy. Security restrictions will apply. Area to be closed. Eniwetok best site, involves removal of fewest natives. (Press Release, December 1, 1947)
- c. United Nations Security Council notified that the United States has closed Eniwetok Atoll. (State Department, December 2, 1947)
- d. Armed Forces will assist AEC in conducting tests. Joint Task Force organization with principal commander and staff officers announced. Scientific Director and staff, and Test Director and staff announced. Relations between Laboratory, AEC and Armed Forces discussed. (Press Release, December 22, 1947)
- e. Natives have been removed from Eniwetok to Ujelang. Choice made by natives who appear fully satisfied. (Navy Press Release, December 23, 1947)

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- f. Danger area 150 x 200 nautical miles established with Eniwetok at the center. (Press Release, December 30, 1947)



James S. Russell  
Captain, USN

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