

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Those Listed Below

DATE: April 26, 1954

FROM : Morse Salisbury, Director
Division of Information Services

SUBJECT: DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT ON WEATHER SERVICE RETURNEES

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The Department of Defense has notified us that it has adopted the modifications suggested in the text of a statement on the transfer of weather service personnel to Tripler General Hospital, Honolulu, from the Joint Task Force.

Defense has authorized the Army at Honolulu to announce the arrival of the 31 weather service men after they have reported at Tripler. The most recent message from JTF-7 states they will arrive at Honolulu April 29. The names of the men also will be made public, Defense reports.

The announcement will read as follows, as noted in our memo of April 23 to the Office of Public Information, Department of Defense:

"Thirty-one enlisted men of the Army, Navy and Air Force who were exposed to moderate amounts of radiation during the H-bomb experiments at Eniwetok on March 1 have been returned to Tripler General Hospital, Honolulu, T.H., for medical processing prior to reassignment. Despite the fact there is nothing apparently wrong with the men, they are being given complete medical examinations prior to return to full military duty.

"Although none of the group has experienced any symptoms of radiation illness, they have been under close observation ever since their exposure last month.

"The 236 native residents of the islands nearby the Pacific Proving Ground area are remaining on Kwajalein for further observation until they can be returned to their homes after the tests. No permanent harm to any of them is expected as a result of their exposure.

"Names of the 31 men are:"

Addressees:

- Lewis L. Strauss, Chairman
- Henry D. Smyth, Commissioner
- Thomas E. Murray, Commissioner
- Eugene M. Zuckert, Commissioner
- Joseph Campbell, Commissioner
- K. D. Nichols, General Manager

- CC: Gen. Fields
- Dr. Bugher
- J. Hall
- M. Salisbury

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