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January 24, 1968

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for Radiological Physics, NRC, WJ

REPORTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RADIATION MEASUREMENTS MADE IN MAY 1967

Reference is made to your memorandum of January 11, 1968, subject as above, in which you ask for counsel concerning presentation of the paper by Jack, Bennett, and McCraw, "External Radiation Survey of Bikini Atoll - May 1967," at the meeting of the Health Physics Society in June 1968, in Denver.

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I discussed this proposition with Arnold Joseph and Tom McCraw. Each of them expressed the feeling that it would be premature to present this material publicly at this time even though no effort was made to discuss the significance of the data. Arnold Joseph suggested that Dr. Biles, Director of the Division of Operational Safety, who is responsible for the direction of the re-examination at Bikini, convene a meeting of the principals, along with one or more radiobiological consultants, to review (1) the NASL report on external radiation levels, (2) the NASL report on soils and other materials analyzed for radionuclides, (3) the report of the agricultural expert of the Trust Territory, and (4) the report of the anthropologist of the Trust Territory. After a 3-4 day meeting of the group of principals, hopefully the group would reach a decision and make a recommendation to Dr. Biles with regard to the primary laser, reoccupancy.

In view of the anticipated developments outlined above, I think I urge you to postpone presentation of this material in any public meeting.

cc: Martin B. Biles, OS
Tommy P. McCraw, OS

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