

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS  
Office of the High Commissioner  
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

TO : High Commissioner  
DATE: 5/1/70

FROM : Chief of Community Development

SUBJECT: Record of Meetings with AEC Officials et al, Regarding Bikini Project

Preliminary meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 1970

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Frank Cluff, AEC, Nevada  
Dr. M.B. Biles, AEC, Washington  
N. Norman Gray, Jr., Director, Public Affairs  
Stark Tamm, Deputy Director, Public Affairs  
Knight Hoins, Special Consultant to the High Commissioner  
George Halandshi, District Agriculturist, Marshall  
Jack Tobin, Community Development Advisor, Marshall  
William Jackson, Community Development Staff  
Dr. William Peck, Director, Health Services  
Dr. Robert Hicking, Deputy Director, Health Services  
Gerald Czeddock, Assistant Chief, Community Development

Dr. Biles announced that since house construction would soon begin on Bikini, he thought it a good time to re-survey the two main islands to confirm their safety, particularly the sand and aggregate that might be used in construction. The survey, to take place starting around May 20, will also include water and air samples and the dioxin that were constructed last fall. The radiological levels on Eniw remain lower than Bikini, Biles said, so Eniw is AEC's primary concern although that should in no way affect the resettlement program plans. As an extra measure of safety he urged that we explore the possibility of shredding the bulldozer vegetative material so that new top soil will form as early as possible. He pointed out that any new ground cover will lessen radiation effects.

The remainder of the meeting concerned plans for shipping AEC staff and equipment to Bikini. Halandshi said that boat transportation, water, food, and shelter could be provided by the Marine team on Eniw. A reimbursement scheme would be worked out in future together with shipping arrangements. Biles hopes to get an air tower plan for removal of the survey team and equipment on Eniw.

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Mr. Craley requested Biles to check at AEC for photos and documents of Bikini which the Navy are alleged to have compiled before nuclear testing began. Biles said he would look into this and let us know.

Meeting with High Commissioner on Thursday, April 29, 1970.

PARTICIPANTS:	Johnston	Craley	Heine
	Coleman	Stanton	Jackson
	Biles	Tubbs	Craddock
	Cluff	Anderson	
	Nakanishi	Lambert	
	Tobin	Yema	

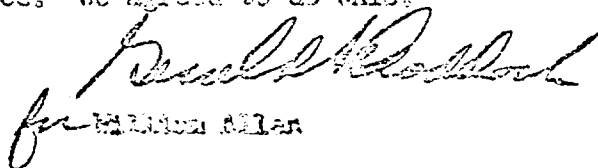
Dr. Biles reviewed purpose of his visit as stated in the April 23 meeting. Mr. Lambert inquired about the coconut crab. Biles doubted there was any problem but said they would be checked again. Cluff pointed out that the Eneu crabs had lower radiation levels than those on Bikini. Also, the Bikini crabs were far fewer in number. Biles said AEC will send recommendations on alternative ways to deal with crabs on Bikini without risk to the ecological system.

Biles was concerned about scrap metal being salvaged and said that it will be checked during survey. The High Commissioner said the Bikini people need a signed certificate of some kind that the atoll is safe. Biles said that AEC cannot issue such a certificate for any area since radioactivity exists at some measurable level in all areas of the world. He then quoted the ad hoc committee's statement that no significant threat existed to inhabitants of Bikini and Eneu islands. He agreed that a general statement in writing regarding the safety of Bikini could be issued by AEC and he agreed to supply this.

Biles said that samples removed from Bikini would be analyzed within five or six weeks. He said that meanwhile the plan for houses to be arranged along the beach is wise since radiation is less there than inland. Also, if sand and aggregate could be hauled from Eneu, less risk would be involved. Cluff interjected, however, that the upcoming survey results should be analyzed before any firm decision on this is made.

Regarding logistics preparations, Nakanishi said the AEC should add a jeep to their list of equipment being sent. All arrangements would be handled with the Marshalls District.

Dr. Biles suggested that AEC be kept informed on all new Bikini developments through the Honolulu IWO office. We agreed to do this.

  
for William Allen

cc: DI, Marshalls