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FROM: CJTF-7, ENI-WETOK, MI

TO : CSUSA DEPTAR WASH DC, CHAIRMAN AEC WASH DC (DEPTAR PASSES)

INFO: CJTF-7 (REAR) WASH DC, CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR TH

NR : UNNUMBERED

030017Z MAR 54

This is my H plus L8 hour advisory. This msg in 5 parts.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Part 1. Surface rad readings at 020630Z at Rongelap were reported 1.4 R/hr (Gamma only) average by 2 different type survey instruments (ANPDR-39 and NYOO scintaneter). Total of 5 instruments and 2 experienced monitors utilized in survey. No reports as to evacuation progress that atoll at this time.

Part 2. Weather Detachment, only population Rogerik Atoll, completely evacuated by 020600Z and taken to Kwajalein Atoll for decontamination. Maximum skin reading Beta and Gamma prior decontamination 250 MR/hr with average 44.5 MR/hr. Medical department reports no symptoms evident. Personnel will remain under observation. Ground station Rogerik began reading above 100 MR/hr at 010200Z. Film badges used by weather detachment have not yet been processed.

Part 3. Aerial survey of Utirik at approx 020500Z at low altitudes indicates 620 MR/hr extrapolated ground reading (Gamma only by NYOO scintaneter). Am continuing aerial and ground survey that area this date and will have forces at Utirik to begin evacuation that atoll on morning 4 Mar (Eniwetok date) if required.

Part 4. Above atolls are only ones of Marshall area that have indicated any significant rad readings. Am continuing surveys of entire area and will keep you advised.

Part 5. Will advise you if and when Utirik is evacuated. Suggest for your consideration, when evacuation problems have been resolved, a news release substantially as follows: "The 300 natives of Rongelap and Utirik Atolls of the Marshall Islands have been evacuated by navy vessel to Kwajalein as a precautionary measure in order to preclude the possibility of their exposure to any radiation hazard incident to the detonations of the current test series. Evacuation of atolls in the Pacific have been conducted before. Natives were taken permanently from Bikini for Operation CROSSROADS and from Eniwetok for Operation SANDSTONE. They were temporarily evacuated from Ujeland during Operation IVY. The natives will be returned to their homes when the danger of significant radiation has passed."

DA IN: 42164

~~RESTRICTED DATA~~

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