

The AEC's preliminary radiological survey has located a plutonium bearing sand layer outcropping on the ocean side of the Runit mid-island area and, similarly, the apparent existence of plutonium fragments and grains on the Island surface. The areas containing these surface plutonium contaminations are not yet clearly delineated but appear to be extensive. Further, contaminated scrap metal debris is located throughout the Island.

On May 17, Mr. Roger Ray, Assistant Manager for Operations, NV, arrived at Eniwetok with a group of Eniwetokese council members and their lawyer, being escorted by Trust Territory officials. The AEC survey team briefed Mr. Ray on their findings and their concern about the possibility of high alpha contamination on Runit Island. Mr. Ray then briefed a team of arriving workers from Scripps Institute and DNA's

*Copy filed  
M/S 3*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

326 U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION	
RG	
Collection	<del>68-70 Secretary</del> 70-72 Secretary
Box	7821
Folder	MHS 3 <sup>2</sup> <del>had</del> Contaminator Decommission

contaminated area and that trucks and other earthmoving equipment were transiting the contaminated areas and were being taken off Runit Island to other islands. His recommendation indicated the need for cessation of all operations and traffic to Runit Island until adequate survey and decontamination procedures could be established to prevent further aggravation through dispersion of contamination to other islands and/or shipping facilities.

The analysis of several fragments collected by the AEC survey team is now underway and should be available within the next week. Other environmental samples collected by the team will require several weeks for analysis.

The Micronesian visitors were not informed of this contamination problem.

DNA has advised AEC that the RACE work on Runit has been discontinued and the Island is under quarantine. General Carroll H. Dunn, Director, DNA, has indicated to General Giller that their immediate plans are to send a DNA radiological survey team to Runit Island, with appropriate AEC technical assistance, to conduct a detailed survey of the RACE work areas. The results of their survey will be used to determine the feasibility of conducting the RACE experiment as planned, or with appropriate precautions or the necessity of selecting another site.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
 MARTIN B. GILES  
 Martin B. Giles, Director  
 Division of Operational Safety

bcc: General Manager (2)  
 Maj. Gen. E. B. Giller, USAF, AGMMA  
 J. H. Rubin, AGMES  
 SECY (2) ✓

OS:NEES OS:ADP  
 REAllen:nr/cw L3Dea  
 6/1/72 6/1/72

Contact: L. Joe Deal xt. 4093

OFFICE ▶	OS:DIR	MA	AGMES	EACM	DGM	CM
SURNAME ▶	MBBiles	OR				
DATE ▶	6/1/72	6/1/72	6/1/72	6/1/72	6/1/72	6/1/72