REPOSITORY DOE/RASO

COLLECTION DOE/NV

BOX NO. 1228, ERDA # 3

BIO-MED, DR. COMARD

FOLDER OI THRU 12/1967

PRIORITY 17 13 °66



MINNVV HAA 267CRYH 995ZCTRB 6J7

PP RUHAOL

DE RUVENV 022 3150023

ZNR UUUUU

P 11002 NOV 66

ACTION NOV 1 4 1966

MANAGER SECURITY:

SECURITY:

FM JANES E REEVES HWOR NVCO USAEC LAS VEGAS NE

TO RUMACL MILLIAM A BONNET AREA MNGR USAEC NONO MAMAII —
INFO RUMPUJ/MYRL SMITH DIR OSAPO C/O JTF-8 SANDIA BASE ALBUQ MMEX
RUEPKG/G M DUMNING DEP DIR DOS USAEC WASHDC

Ruepag/Charles winter dma usaec washdc

aec

BEST COPY AVAILA

BT

Unclas in Response to your tax requesting information for high commissioner v. R. Norwood, we have contacted a number of people in the AEC and other government agencies. A summary of perturent facts and opinions relative to your questions are as follows:

1. ON JUNE 50, 1960, THE AEC TRANSFERRED POSSESSION OF THE PACIFIC PROVING GROUNDS, INCLUDING BIKIMI ATOLL, TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MAY.

LATER THE HAVY RELENQUISHED CONTROL OF PPG TO THE AIR FORCE AS PART OF THE WESTERN TEST RANGE. CURRENTLY THE AIR FORCE IS CONDUCTING CLASSIFIED ACTIVITIES IN THAT AREA. IF YOU DESIRE DETAILS AS TO THE NATURE OF THE ACTIVITIES, YOU SHOULD DIRECT INQUIRIES TO THE AIR FORCE MAISON OFFICER FOR THE WESTERN TEST RANGE WHO IS STATIONED IN HONOLULE.

THOUGH A NUMBER OF RADIOLOGICAL SURVEYS AND BIOENVIRONMENTAL SUBJEST.

PAGE 2 RUPPAV 022 UNCLAS

HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED AT BIKINI SINCE THE LAST TEST THERE, NONE WERE SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED TOWARD DETERMINING WHEN THE ISLANDS COULD BE REINHABITED. IT IS THE OPINION OF DR. GORDON DUBNING, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DOS. HQ, AND OTHERS THAT, AT PRESENT, THERE SIMPLY IS NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION ABOUT ALL FACETS OF THE HADIOLOGICAL PROBLEMS AT BIKINI TO ALLOW AUTHORITIES IN THE AEC TO CONSIDER REINHABITATION OF THE ISLANDS ON A COMPLETELY UNRESTRICTED BASIS.

- 2. IT IS THE OPINION OF MR. THOMAS FLEMING, CHIEF COUNSEL, NVOO, THAT AUTHORITY TO DISPOSE OF THE ABANDONED VESSELS MUST BE DELEGATED BY DOD. AT THE PRESENT TIME, THE LEVEL OF RADIOACTIVITY, IF ANY, CONTAINED IN THE ABANDONED VESSELS IS NOT KNOWN.
- 5. MAJOR GENERAL A. V. OBERBECK, COMMANDER, JTF-S, HAS RECENTLY SENT A LETTER TO DASA STATING JTF-8 HAD NO FURTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE VEATHER RAD SAFE LEASE SITES ON THE ISLANDS HENTIONED IN YOUR TWX. IT IS NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME WHAT FURTHER NEED DASA HAY NAVE. FURTHER INQUIRY CONCERNING THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MEADQUARTERS, DASA. END REF OAOS:FDC-26.

BT