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MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

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 DONALD C. WOODWORTH

Walter W. Marsh

CENTRAL OFFICE
 P.O. BOX 41
 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96808
 TELEPHONE 534-1111

PAKAL OFFICE
 P.O. BOX 100
 KOROBUK
 WESTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS 96942
 TELEPHONE 470

MARSHALLS OFFICE
 P.O. BOX 100
 MAJURO
 MARSHALL ISLANDS 96960
 TELEPHONE 227

TRUK OFFICE
 P.O. BOX 100
 MOEN TRUK
 EASTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS 96942
 TELEPHONE 597

PONAPE OFFICE
 P.O. BOX 100
 RONGELAP
 EASTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS 96944
 TELEPHONE 404

MARANAS OFFICE
 P.O. BOX 100
 SARAI
 MARSHALL ISLANDS 96945
 TELEPHONE 6242

TAH OFFICE
 P.O. BOX 100
 COLONIA TAH
 WESTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS 96943
 TELEPHONE 243

KONRAE OFFICE
 P.O. BOX 100
 KONRAE
 EASTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS 96944

WASHINGTON OFFICE
 1424 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W.
 SUITE 301
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20031
 TELEPHONE (202) 232-5071

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

PLEASE REPLY TO Washington Office
 August 3, 1979

Mr. Milton Jordan
 Director
 Division of FOI and Privacy
 Acts Activities
 Department of Energy
 GB-145 Forrestal Building
 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Jordan:

This request is made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.

Under date of May 15, 1979, the Assistant Secretary of Environment sent a letter to the Honorable James A. Joseph, Under Secretary of the Interior, having to do with Bikini atoll, Marshall Islands. Attached to the letter is a document entitled "Radiological Implications for Resettlement of Eneu Island." This request relates to that letter and its attachment.

Hereby requested are all documents, records and materials related to the following:

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

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1. On page 1 of the attachment, the following statement appears:

"Based upon previous experience and past practices, however, it is doubtful whether imported food will be a significant part of the daily diet."

Please provide any and all records, materials and documentation for this assertion.

2. On the same page the following statement is made:

"It can also be questioned whether or not access to Bikini Island can be controlled."

Please provide any and all records, documents, reports and materials which form the basis of this assertion.

3. On page 2 the assertion is made that in August, 1978, the Bikinians "left their Atoll because measurements of radiocesium made in April 1978 showed accumulations in the bodies of 13 out of 101 people such that if this level were maintained for one year, it would result in an annual radiation dose equal to or greater than the 500 mrem/yr federal radiation protection criteria for exposure of individuals." Please provide any and all records, reports, documents or other materials which form the basis of the factual assertions contained in that statement concerning (a) the degree of volition in the departure of the people of Bikini from their atoll, and (b) the measurements of radiocesium in the Bikinians.

4. On page 2 of the attachment appears the following statement:

"In early 1979, new information was obtained so that dose predictions for residence on Eneu Island could, for the first time, be based upon data from analysis of actual food items of the

diet grown on the island rather than on theoretical predictions derived from soil concentrations."

Please provide a copy of all records, reports, or studies or other documents or materials which form the factual basis for this assertion.

5. Regarding the text on page 6 of the attachment which appears at footnote 10, please provide a copy of any study, report or other document which forms the basis of the decision to employ the federal radiation guidance which is taken from the Enewetak Clean-up Environmental Impact Statement of April, 1975. There is no need to provide any materials which are contained in the Environmental Impact Statement. This request is for any additional or other materials.
6. Please provide a copy of the publication relied upon for the calculated dose estimates which is cited at footnote 14 of the attachment, "An Updated Radiological Dose Assessment of Eneu Island at Bikini Atoll," Robison, W.L. and Phillips, W.A., UCRL-52775, 1979.
7. Beginning at the foot of page 7, the following statement is found:

"The diets are based on the recent experience and observations of the scientific teams who have been working on Bikini Atoll."

No support is provided in the text or in the footnote for this statement. Please provide any and all records, reports, studies or other documents or materials which describe the "recent experience and observations" and which provide the names of the members of the "scientific teams" referred to in the quoted statement.
8. With respect to the predicted doses presented on page 8 of the attachment, please provide a copy of any and all studies, reports or other documents

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August 3, 1979
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or materials which show the number of fatal cancer cases and the number of genetic malformations to be expected from a dose of 170 millirem per year, and the expected increase in the frequency of such cancer cases and genetic malformations, to be expected for the predicted dose rates presented on page 8 of the attachment. In other words, what is the expected frequency of fatal cancer cases at an average dose rate for the population of 170 millirem per year, compared with, for the whole body, a dose rate of 210 millirem per year, 240 millirem per year, and 260 millirem per year? For another example, what is the expected increase in leukemia cases at 170 millirem per year compared with 190 millirem per year, 260 millirem per year, 280 millirem per year, and 300 millirem per year?

What is the expected frequency of genetic anomalies at an average whole body dose rate of 5000 millirem per 30 years compared with 2700 millirem, 3200 millirem, 4700 millirem, 5200 millirem and 5700 millirem?

9. Please provide any records, documents and materials which would explain why the attachment and the letter of May 15 did not contain any discussion of the biological risks associated with the predicted doses. If no such documents exist, please so state, and explain why such a discussion was not included in the advice provided to the Department of Interior.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Theodore K. Mitchell

xc: Ruth C. Clusen
Bruce Wachholz

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