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DISCUSSIONS OF AEC MEDICAL SURVEY SUPPORT WITH PERSONNEL OF THE TRUST TERRITORY AT MAJURO

On my arrival at Majuro, July 15, I was met by Dr. Jack Tobin who introduced me to Mr. Dwight Heine, District Administrator, Marshall Island District. During the introductory conversation it was agreed I would meet with Mr. Heine in his office early the next morning. The balance of the afternoon was spent in discussion with Jack Tobin and Chuji Chaturu of the TT Community Development Department.

The next morning, I met with Mr. Heine, Mr. Robert McKay, Assistant District Administrator. The first item discussed was the status of the leases for small areas of land for AEC Medical Team use on the Islands of Rongelap and Utirik. Recognizing the previous leases between the TT and DOD had been terminated as of June 30, 1967, Mr. Heine and Mr. McKay indicated they were well acquainted with the current background of the proposed leases and the current attempts to get the leases updated. Mr. Heine advised the Utirik lease was almost consummated. The Trust Territory had arranged with the land owners to lease the area which the AEC Medical Team used for a sum of \$67.50 per year. The TT Headquarters were in the process of finalizing the lease with the land owners and the AEC could expect to receive a billing from TT in the near future.

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However, the lease for the area on Rongelap was much more complicated. Agreement with the TT and the land owners had not yet been reached and it appeared that considerable time would lapse before an agreement would be made. In particular the land owners involved with the land on Rongelap were also involved with the land lease problems on Kwajalein. The owners were reluctant to transfer any rights to their land by formal document and were also talking about increasing the costs of the land from approximately \$100.00 per acre to \$1,000.00 per acre. In view of this, I asked Mr. Heine and Mr. McKay if use of the land by AEC Survey Team on Rongelap would be jeopardized by the lack of a written lease arrangement. Both assured me that the absence of a formal agreement would not affect the use of the area, and the AEC Medical Survey Team would be able to continue to use the area on Rongelap, as they have done so in the past.

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The next item discussed was the two 25KW generators which the AEC had agreed to send for use on Utirik and Rongelap. I advised that they had been shipped ~~to~~ Honolulu and were now on Kwajalein and could be expected to be transhipped to the islands on the next surface transportation available. This would be verified when talking to Frank Granich on my way to Kwajalein and I told Mr. Heine that he would be advised of the outcome.

The next item discussed was the status of the four Marshallese patients which were scheduled to go to Brookhaven for medical treatment. Mr. Heine advised that two of the patients were scheduled to be picked up at Rongelap by ship and taken to Ebeye. One patient was on Majuro and one on Ebeye. As soon as the interpreter arrived at Kwajalein the group would be ready to leave for Brookhaven. (Later Granich advised they were scheduled to come to Honolulu on August 2, 1968).

Mr. McKay advised that an administration vessel, the James M. Cook will be assigned to the Marshalls. This vessel is not a copra freighter and can be scheduled for use for the next medical survey. The M.V. James Cook is an all-steel 178 ft. vessel and the survey team will not have to use the Ralik-Ratak.

Prior to the conclusion, Mr. Heine asked if we had any information on repatriation of the Marshallese from Kili to Bikini. When advised that I had no official information, he asked that if any became available that we pass it on to him. I replied that when such was released from Washington to us, we would be glad to pass it on to the responsible official within the Trust Territory.

While on Majuro, I took the opportunity to meet with personnel of the Marshall Island Import Export Company to inquire whether the AEC had any outstanding bills or any problems with MIECO. Mr. Bing, Vice President and Manager, assured me no monies were due them from AEC and that the relationships between MIECO and the AEC Medical Survey Team were good.

Upon departure from Majuro, I sent a wire to Frank Granich that I would like to meet him on a brief stop-over at Kwajalein. Frank Granich and Mr. Owaby the TI Representative met me at the terminal at Kwajalein and we discussed the movement of the medical patients to Brookhaven. Everything seemed to be taken care of on that end and Frank advised that the patients would be scheduled to leave the first

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part of August. I told Frank and Mr. Ownby that if they had any difficulty in getting the patients on MAC aircraft that the AEC was agreeable to schedule them on Air Micronesia. In all, I had about 40 minutes time on Kwajalein.

During my flight from Guam to Yap, I met Dr. Peck, Chief of the Medical Department at Saipan. He and I discussed the AEC medical surveys in the Marshall Islands and he stated that he appreciated the cooperation of the AEC with respect to the annual medical survey. Dr. Peck indicated that without this support, the TT Medical Department would be hard pressed to handle the medical surveys.

On my return to Honolulu on the Air Micronesia plane, I also had occasion to meet Mr. Les Arentzsen, Finance Director for the Trust Territory at Saipan who was on his way to the mainland on home leave. Mr. Arentzsen and I discussed the financial arrangements between the TT and AEC in connection with the medical surveys and he stated that the relationships were going along very well and he knew of no problems or items that had to be resolved.

Also on the return journey to Honolulu, I was again able to stop at Kwajalein for 30 minutes and met with Frank Granich who advised that the trip for the Marshallese patients ^{had been} scheduled and that they would depart Kwajalein August 2 on either MAC or Air Micronesia. Frank had contacted HAO and they were sending him revised MAC orders. He also mentioned that TT personnel had expressed some concern about shipping the 25KW generator to Utirik since the larger generator may consume more fuel than their fuel supply allowed in an isolated location like Utirik. I told Frank that I would get some fuel consumption information on the generators for him. In this connection, I advised Frank that the TT had purchased a 25KW generator for Utirik and that our generator was to be used as backup for the TT generator, so maybe the fuel consumption problem had been resolved. Frank stated he would be in contact with us on the medical patients and also the generators.

The above information was passed on to Dwight Heine at the airport during the short stop-over at Majuro on the way back to Honolulu.

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cc: Dr. R. A. Conard, Brookhaven Nat. Lab.,
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