

REPOSITORY *DOE/NASO*
COLLECTION *DOE/NV*
BOX No. *1228, ERDA #3*
FOLDER *BIO-MED, DR. CONARD*
01 thru 12/1967

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DRAFT
NSR/idh
12-5-66

Honorable William R. Norwood
High Commissioner
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, Mariana Islands

Dear Mr. Norwood:

I am sorry I was out of the office when you telephoned during your recent visit in Honolulu. I was looking forward to meeting you and discussing topics of mutual interest. Mr. Blankenship and Mr. Rasmussen informed me you may return in February and perhaps have an opportunity to come into our office for a visit at that time. I will be looking forward to the pleasure of meeting with you.

I was also informed there was some urgency in resolving the question of reinhabitation of Bikini since you are faced with the necessity of relocating the people presently on the Island of Kili. We have made inquiries through various AEC and DOD channels and have received some responses. Although our information has not been conclusive, the reports from the AEC do not indicate the prospects of reoccupation of Bikini in the near future would be practical. We have been informed that the most recent data for Bikini Atoll were obtained in August, 1964. A 350 page report, much of which is pertinent to discussions regarding the repopulation of Bikini Atoll, is in reproduction and will be completed next month. We may be able to obtain more information from that report. As to the possibility of the DOD releasing control of the Atoll, we are not in a position to act for that Agency. However, we will inform you of any additional information we may be able to obtain.

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Dr. Conard previously requested that we obtain permission to give two out of five buildings on Utirik to the people for building materials.

Since DASA, in a letter to the Trust Territory Government dated August 16, 1963, transferred the buildings on the six weather/rad-safe sites to the Trust Territory, it appears this request should be directed to your office. However, it is requested that the other three buildings be retained for the use of the AEC Medical survey team. If DASA releases the leases on all of the sites, this office is prepared to continue the rental payments on the site occupied by the three buildings on Utirik.

Your cooperation in returning the Marshallese patient to her home on Rongelap is very much appreciated. As soon as Mr. Heine has notified Dr. Conard of a firm sailing date for a ship to Rongelap in February, we will probably be requesting your assistance in obtaining an SA-16 about February 28, 1967 and again about March 14 for the Medical survey team.

Again your interest and cooperation is very much appreciated and we assure you we will continue to maintain an active interest in the welfare of the Marshallese people and the Trust Territory as a whole.

Very truly yours,

William A. Bonnet
Manager

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