

REPOSITORY LOS ALAMOS NAT LAB

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H FOLDER CASTLE NATIVES

April 23, 1954

Cmdr. L. H. Alford
USS RENSHAW (DDE499) PPO
Postmaster
San Francisco, California

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Dear Cmdr. Alford:

A somewhat weighty document reached my desk yesterday and among other things it contained your report of the activities of your officers and crew on and about 3 March 1954. Permit me to offer my warmest and most sincere congratulations to you for having produced such a document. I believe that I am in a fairly good position to judge in that I have had occasion in the past to submit my share of reports concerning test operations, and in addition I was aboard the USS NICHOLAS about three weeks later when we landed on another atoll. At Kwajalein, on three different occasions, I spent considerable time with some of your passengers and also those from the PHILIP. In writing my own reports I have never hesitated to inject a bit of humor if it happened to be lying around. I realize perfectly well that the operation in which you were engaged was a peculiar mixture of humor, grim hard work, danger, and pathos, together with a very warm admiration for some very unique people.

It is my own feeling that your narrative deserves wide publicity; until it can get this, please feel assured that you have won for yourself a very warm spot in the hearts of many of us here in Los Alamos who have read the story. It is one I wish I had been able to write myself.

Sincerely yours,