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HEADQUARTERS
TASK GROUP 7.1
JOINT TASK FORCE SEVEN
P. O. BOX 1663
Los Alamos, New Mexico

404432

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September 21, 1954

Mr. Ralph P. Johnson, Assistant Manager
Engineering, Construction, and Test Operations
Santa Fe Operations Office
Post Office Box 5400
Albuquerque, New Mexico

REPOSITORY: LOS ALAMOS NAT LAB
COLLECTION: IR
BOX NO: IR 5752
FOLDER: Pacific Proving Ground
General

Dear Ralph:

The following comments apply to the preliminary drawings for the proposed 1000 man camp site, Nan, Bikini Atoll, which were enclosed in your letter ENO:TAH-5414 dated September 13, 1954.

Drawing 12010-2NA1. A portion of the EG&G antenna system previously used for the Task Group 7.1 net plus the entire Joint Task Force antenna array has been omitted from this drawing. We have sketched in the missing elements. The antenna towers for the Task Group 7.1 net are 75' high and the guys run down at an angle of 45°. The centerline of the runway is 100 yards from our nearest tower and 85 yards from our nearest guy anchor. We doubt that Task Group 7.4 will live with such an arrangement. Perhaps we can take over the area used for the Joint Task Force antenna farm during the past operation. This might not be too hard to sell since they weren't too happy about the small amount of space they had in Station 70 and will probably come up with some proposal for a more elaborate layout in the future.

Drawing 12500-3NA-1. There is an inconsistency in the drawing of the power house on this drawing and on Drawing 12000-1NA1 such that it is not clear whether an extension to the power house is intended. Station Nan-500 was sized to take care of Station 70 requirements in the past operation and separate generators were used to supply the small camp. Our policy in the past has been to separate the scientific supply from the camp system and we recommend that this policy be continued. Hence we recommend that an extension be planned and that it be sized to take care of the camp requirements.

The proposed layout makes no provision for a fenced and guarded tent and trailer area similar to that used at Enman for temporary laboratories and offices for the various projects. An area for such a compound should be selected with power, water, telephone and guard requirements in mind.

Drawing 12000-1NA1 shows an overflow tent space which would bring the total capacity to 1280. No latrines are shown for the overflow tent space. The maximum population may well exceed this number and plans should be made for additional overflow tent spaces and for latrines to service them.

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The messhall should be capable of expansion to the point where one half the maximum population could be seated at one time.

The movie should be expansible to seat about 1200 and suitable projectors, screen and sound system for such a capacity should be provided.

Task Group 7.1 will require office building space with an area of 60' X 24'. This could be an extension on building 15 or a separate building next door. Task Group 7.1 will plan the interior layout of this building.

Task Group 7.1 will require a 40' X 60' warehouse with concrete floor in the space occupied by Building 41 if that building is intended for our purposes or in the vicinity if Building 41 is to be used by the AEC or H&N. To the rear of our warehouse we will require approximately 40,000 square feet of stabilized storage area.

RadSafe personnel decontamination facilities (probably in the vicinity of the helicopter mat) and equipment decontamination facilities will be required, but it is too early yet to estimate what these requirements will amount to.

The LST ramp and mole are very close to the runway in an area that promises maximum vehicle congestion while the LST is being unloaded. If satisfactory hydrographic conditions for such a landing and mole can be found further north these facilities should be moved in that direction.

The existing LCM landing will be used extensively by LCM's and LCT's evacuating vehicles before each shot. A stabilized area should be provided in the vicinity of that landing to permit rapid handling and parking of these vehicles.

Several telephone buoys will be required in the anchorage off Enyu. Every effort should be made to move this anchorage in as close to shore as possible in order to avoid the dangerous boating conditions that prevailed during Castle. Wire-dragging between the area already wire-dragged and Enyu and blasting of coral heads if they are the cause of indicated shoal spots in this area should make it possible for ships to anchor in more protected waters than they have used in the past.

Drawing 12680-5NAL indicates a sewer outfall on the lagoon side at about the middle of the island. Swimming is the best form of recreation available in the Pacific Proving Ground; and in locating this outfall, every reasonable study and effort should be made to insure that pollution caused by sewage will not preclude swimming from Enyu Island. A satisfactory swimming beach is believed to exist in the vicinity of the LCM landing.

Drawing 12770-3NAL shows a very general plan of the proposed telephone layout, but does not indicate the size of the switchboard. Only one six (6) pair cable leading to tent area is indicated, and it is believed that at least two such cables will be required. When more details regarding the telephone layout are available, it is requested that they be submitted to Task Group 7.1 for comment.

Although the drawings do not indicate it, it is assumed that a beer garden with shaded tables will be provided near the refreshment building. There appears to be a shortage of latrine facilities in the entire area west of the tent camp. In the latrines, doors should be provided for stalls. Additional horseshoe courts should be provided adjacent to the tent camp. One grease rack is considered just adequate for H&N requirements and a second one should be provided to take care of the vehicles of other task groups.

In clearing areas for this construction H&N should be instructed to save as many trees as possible.

Attached is a copy of a memorandum dated September 21, 1954, which contains comments on the proposed infirmary layout which were prepared by Dr. T. L. Shipman, Health Division Leader. In view of the nature and extent of these comments it is recommended that a revised infirmary layout be prepared as soon as possible and submitted to Dr. Shipman for comment. I should like to receive a copy of the revised infirmary layout at the same time it is sent to Dr. Shipman.

Subject to the above preliminary comments, the proposed layout seems well planned and generally satisfactory. I should appreciate being informed of any significant proposed changes as they occur. I assume that the Eniwetok Field Office will continue to consult Task Group 7.1 regarding details and readiness dates of Task Group 7.1 buildings, stations and areas.

Sincerely,

Alvin C. Graves

Alvin C. Graves
J-Division Leader

ACG:DC:lc

Enclosure:

Comments on Proposed Infirmary Layout - Site Nan

Distribution:

Johnson - 2

Graves

Ogle

Curry

Shipman ←

Campbell

Kelly

CM&R - 2

VanGemert