

For Dr. Nolan

BUILDING 2001
14th & Ferry St
Oakland Army Base
Oakland, California

19 April 1946

REPOSITORY

Los Alamos NATL LAB

COLLECTION

BOX No

TR 5787

FOLDER

Operation Crossroads

Dr. James Nolan
P.O. Box 1539
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear James:

As you no doubt have read in the newspapers, postponement of operations CROSSROADS was ordered by the President some weeks ago. Accordingly, schedules are having to be changed.

The continued discussions in newspapers and elsewhere on the subject of the bomb test are a good indication of the Nation's interest in it. The duties of the Radiological Safety Section, in which you are to participate as a working member, are vital to the safety in the performance of the test.

The hospital-ship Haven is the operating base and "home" for the whole Radiological Safety Section. She sails on May 29th and as many of our group as possible should sail on her so as to be included in the briefing and reviews which will take place during the trip. There will be a preliminary week of practice runs at the Bikini atoll. Each of you will be given working instructions, sample bottles, meters, etc, with detailed instructions. Thus, your duties will be outlined clearly. Each of you will have an important job to do.

At the present time, it appears that the first test will take place sometime during the period July 1 - 20; and the second test will take place sometime during the period July 29 - August 25.

Assembly of those going out by ship will occur at the Oakland Army Base on May 25 - 27 in order that equipment, last minute purchases, passes, etc, may be obtained before sailing early on May 29th. We are scheduled to dock at Pearl Harbor for two days, June 5 and 6. We are to leave Pearl on the morning of the 7th and arrive at Bikini the morning of the 14th.

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It is expected that the first air lift (for those preferring to go by air) will be on the 18th of June, plus or minus two days. This will allow a week for rehearsals and last minute indoctrination at Bikini and return by air July 27th, plus or minus two days. The air lift for the second test will occur on July 23rd, plus or minus two days; and the second return air lift will occur on September 1st, plus or minus two days. These return schedules will be earlier than indicated if the tests go off earlier than the last dates indicated. If the first test does not come off by July 20th because of bad weather, it will be cancelled and the second test may occur two weeks after date of cancellation, weather permitting, and not later than August 25th. If this should occur, those whose schedules demand it, can be returned on July 27th, plus or minus two days, without their having to wait until the second test is performed.

Transportation by ship can be obtained leaving Bikini around September 1 - 15, to arrive in San Francisco ten to twelve days later.

Your participation as a monitor is urgently needed. It is hoped that you can rearrange your plans to meet some part of the above schedule; particularly, that concerning the first test. Can I count on you for one or both tests?

Very truly yours,

Stafford L. Warren

STAFFORD L. WARREN
Col, MC

Chief, Radiological Safety Section

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