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28546

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 Folder MRA 7 Vol. 3 Oct. 1953 - Mar. 1954
 USAEC, WASHINGTON

PRIORITY

C/JTF-7 ENITWETOK, MI
 Q-90

MAR 15 1954

FOR CLARSON FROM FIELDS

WE HAVE INFORMATION VIA PRESS ITEMS THAT A CORPORAL DON WHITAKER, USMC, OF CINCINNATI HAS WRITTEN TWO LETTERS FROM KWAJALEIN, WHERE HE WAS STATIONED BRIEFLY, TO HIS MOTHER, DATED MARCH 3 AND 5, DESCRIBING BRAVO DETONATION.

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS BASED ON WHITAKER'S LETTERS.

QUOTE A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION IN LATE FEBRUARY AT ENITWETOK HAD SEARED NATIVES 75 MILES AWAY AND SHOCK BUILDING 300 MILES AWAY. UNQUOTE. QUOTE I WAS

WALKING BACK TO THE BARRACKS FROM CHOP AND IT WAS JUST GETTING DAYLIGHT

WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN THE SKY LIGHTED UP, A BRIGHT ORANGE, AND REMAINED

THAT WAY FOR WHAT SEEMED LIKE A COUPLE OF MINUTES. ABOUT 10 OR 15 MINUTES

LATER, BACK AT THE BARRACKS, WE HEARD A VERY LOUD RUMBLING THAT SOUNDED

LIKE THUNDER. THEN THE WHOLE BARRACKS BEGAN SHAKING AS IF THERE HAD BEEN

AN EARTHQUAKE. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A VERY HIGH WIND. UNQUOTE. QUOTE

THERE WAS TWO DESTROYERS THAT PULLED IN HERE TODAY BEARING NATIVES OF

ONE OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS THAT WAS WITHIN 75 MILES OF THE BLAST. THEY

WERE SUFFERING FROM VARIOUS BURNS AND RADIO ACTIVITY. UNQUOTE.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

BY AUTHORITY OF DAE 6650.2 II-12 (Admin)

MRA 1 Cont.
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Cdr Anderson/mbp
 Room 204
 Ext 657

BY Jace Diaz DATE 11/21/80
 BY William G. Garrison DATE 11/19/80

OFFICE ▶	MAT:WLGathrie	MA:JArmstrong	MA:VGHuston	MA:KEFields
SURNAME ▶	<i>W</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>W</i>
DATE ▶	<u>3-12-54</u>	<u>3-19</u>	<u>4/12/54</u>	<u>3-12-54</u>

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CLARKSON

QUERY: IS CORPORAL WHITAKER A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE? IF NOT WHERE IS HE STATIONED AND DID HE HAVE ANY INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING SECURITY NATURE OF MATERIAL IN HIS LETTERS. IS DISCIPLINARY ACTION ^{INDICATED} ~~BEING TAKEN~~.

Second query: What phenomena were experienced at Kwajalein. Was there ground shock or high wind velocities.

ABOVE MATTER RAISED BY COLE OF JCAE DURING REQUESTED BRIEFING MARCH 12.

END REF. MAT:GJA

K. E. Fields
 Brigadier General, USA
 Director of Military Application

- SO: TT Room
- cc: TG Reader
- cc: DMA Reader
- cc: DMA Files



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