

DIVISION OF BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE

Preliminary Statement of an area of radiobiology study for Eniwetok.

1. Following the Crossroads tests at Bikini during 1946, studies were initiated to evaluate the distribution of the fission products in the biotic system of the area.
2. At the conclusion of the test program at Eniwetok in the Spring of 1948, studies following a pattern similar to the Bikini studies, were expanded to include Eniwetok.
3. The radiobiology studies followed in general three (3) main lines of effort:
 - a. Evaluation of the distribution of fission products geographically about the atolls.
 - b. The absorption of fission products by the plants and animals about the lagoon, reefs and islands.
 - c. The selective concentration of fission products by the various organs and tissues.
4. The effect of radiation contamination upon the plants and animals, has of necessity, been reserved for future studies in the field and in the state side laboratories
5. As a part of the continuity of the past studies, and to form a preliminary base of operations for studies following the contemplated testing program, it is proposed that a limited field party (six(6) men \pm) spend two or three weeks in the field at Eniwetok during August of 1950.
6. During the test program of 1951 it is proposed that two (2) radiation-biologists from the Applied Fisheries Laboratory, University of Washington, be in attendance to act as observers and aid in collecting data on the immediate effect of the detonations on the local fauna and flora. The data collected would be those of most practical use to the medical program.
7. Immediately following the "test program" the major programs of the radiation-biology group would be activated.
8. The immediate radiation absorption studies are of interest to the Commission to fill in gaps in the information provided by previous testing programs.
9. It is proposed that a group of specialists (12 \pm) be assigned the responsibility of carrying on this work.
10. To conduct the field work following the "tests" it would be essential to have available a small naval vessel, preferably the LSI (L) 1091.

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Bikini-
Eniwetok
1172

11. Follow up studies at yearly intervals are essential to measure the recovery rate of damaged areas and further distribution of floodplain products.
12. The active support of the I.R.C. and the Navy is essential to the execution of the program.

1173