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JUN 12 1952

Eckles & Harver, Inc.  
221 South Figueroa Street  
Los Angeles 17, California

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Mjgah rthg/13  
REVIEWED FDiaz 4/23/86

Subject: RECONNAISSANCE AND REPORT FOR FACILITIES ON BIKINI ATOLL

Gentlemen:

Confirming my preliminary discussions with your Messrs. D. Lee Harver, Bowen, and Van Ekin, it is requested that you undertake a preliminary reconnaissance and report for certain facilities on Bikini Atoll as outlined below. It is contemplated that the general tenor and scope of the report will be somewhat on the order of the initial preliminary report you prepared for facilities at Mercury, Nevada. It is further contemplated that the initial reconnaissance will involve perhaps two people from your organization, two from this office, and an official photographer. The reconnaissance will be made by FEN, and it is not expected that landings will be made except perhaps at Bikini Island itself. By the time you receive this letter the flight will probably have been set up through a request to Joint Task Force 13.

1. Construct a "port-of-entry" base camp to accommodate a total population of not more than 750 persons. An airstrip will be constructed in conjunction with this camp, of suitable length to accommodate airplanes of the C-45 and C-47 type, requiring not more than 1500 feet of total airstrip length. It is expected that the most plausible location for this camp will be on Bikini Atoll. Housing should be in tents, and any buildings constructed must be either blast resistant or capable of being easily dismantled before shot fire. It is proposed that the power house and attendant utilities, however, be blast and wave proof.

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2. Construct a shot island camp with a capacity of 500 persons. This camp must be constructed on a site that has sufficient total area within a group of islands to accommodate an experiment of the MKR type for Operation IVY. It is expected, from examination of the chart, that the Amoen group is the most likely possibility with a secondary possibility being that group of islands immediately east of Inirikku Island. Estimates should, however, be prepared for both of these sites, based on the possibility that there may be a later experiment. The camp facilities, including power and utilities, will be expendable, and no attempt should be made to have any facilities blast resistant. In general, the camp should be of a type similar to that now existing on Fefefiriyuochi at Eniwetok.
3. Liaison airstrips will be required on the shot islands. Minimum length for these should be 1200 feet.
4. Estimate the cost of the scientific stations necessary to perform a MKR type shot. Also estimate two 13-conductor signal cables and two 16-pair telephone cables from Bikini Atoll to the Amoen group and, for a possible subsequent experiment, from Bikini Atoll to the group east of Inirikku. The timing and communications system on the shot island group itself will be similar in scope to that being used for MKR at Eniwetok.
5. Suitable radio communications facilities between Bikini and Eniwetok must be provided.
6. Limited fueling facilities for liaison and transient aircraft should be provided on Bikini Island. It is anticipated that shuttle aircraft from Eniwetok would normally fuel for the round trip at Eniwetok. However, it is desirable to have sufficient fuel capacity so that such aircraft may be fueled at Bikini if the occasion arises.
7. Docking and beaching facilities suitable for LSV's and LSM's should be provided at the port-of-entry camp and the shot island camps.

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- 8. Estimate logistics requirements in the way of aircraft, ships, and landing craft to support the beachhead phase and also the construction phase. Figure that the construction phase will begin in January 1953. The beachhead phase, in which a limited number of persons will make a thorough reconnaissance and survey of the site, should begin in October 1952.
- 9. Estimate support services for this operation at Bikini, based on the same criteria as support services in your present contract for Eniwetok. This would include Jobs II, III, IV, and V.

As general criteria we contemplate that Eniwetok Atoll will be the supporting base for this MKK type operation at Bikini in the fall of calendar year 1953. The major portion of the people engaged on the Bikini experiment will be housed at the shot island. The camp on Bikini Island will serve as an aircraft turnaround and a receiving point to accommodate persons for a very short period before they proceed to the shot island camp for work. No permanent type warehousing will be used.

It is realized that the above outline is very sketchy in nature and that there are many items which have not been covered. I will, however, discuss additional criteria with you upon receipt of this letter, and it is anticipated that I will accompany the initial reconnaissance team to Bikini in the very near future.

We desire this report as expeditiously as possible. It is particularly important that you estimate the logistics requirements outlined in Item 8. above so that the Task Force may establish these requirements with the Department of Defense.

The method of reimbursement for the work contemplated herein will be discussed and negotiated with you during my forthcoming visit to your office on Jan. 13.

Very truly yours,

*Series B -  
1/1 B - copy made for E.C. SFOO  
P. W. Spain  
1/1/52*

ALCO

P. W. Spain, Field Manager  
Eniwetok Field Office

DEFEND

CC: A. C. Graves, LASH  
CJTF-132, Washington  
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Col. K. F. Hertford  
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