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**HEADQUARTERS
JOINT TASK FORCE SEVEN
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.**

AG 304 4 X 686

24 MAR 1953

SUBJECT: Use of Kwajalein as base for Air Task Group

US DOE ARCHIVES
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TO: Director of Military Application
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

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1. In light of recent changes in shot concepts for CASTLE, the Commander, Joint Task Force SEVEN is contemplating re-use of Kwajalein as a base for major elements of the Air Force Task Group.
2. Under former concepts calling for several shots at Eniwetok, certain operational advantages were gained by basing the Air Force Task Group at that atoll. However, the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory has indicated that for technical reasons five of the six shots scheduled for CASTLE will now take place at Bikini. Under this revised concept, and in view of the expenditures required to make Eniwetok suitable for large-scale air operations, the use of Eniwetok as major base for the Air Task Group is no longer considered advantageous.
3. It is expected that elimination of Eniwetok as the major airbase during CASTLE will result in substantial economy of AEC funds which would have been required for rehabilitation of airbase facilities. However, requirements for typhoon damage repair and new construction projects (other than airstrip improvements) previously submitted to the AEC remain unchanged.
4. For your information, CJTF 7 is consulting interested agencies and commands on the plan to use Kwajalein.

P. W. Clarkson

P. W. CLARKSON
Major General, U. S. Army
Commander

Copy furnished:
Manager, SFOO
Dr. A. C. Graves

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* LTR DNA Swisher to
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