

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

April 9, 1952

*JF*  
*9/13*

Memorandum for Mr. Tolson

Re the attached, we have talked to Colonel Sturges, Division of Military Application, Dr. Rughor, Division of Biology and Medicine, and Mr. Skallerup, General Counsel's office.

The first question raised by Mr. McDonald is whether the Kii people will ever be able to return to Bikini. Sturges talked to Rughor and advised that Bikini may be necessary in connection with future weapons tests, either because the 1952 tests at Bikini may result in its utilization, or the fall-out may be so bad that it would not be safe for so long that we would have to have another test site from a nearby island. Rughor advised that the radioactivity on Bikini Island itself is very, very low. This was shown by a survey by Rughor in 1949. None of the fish around the island have appreciable amounts of radioactivity in their bones, but while it is as possible here to the natives if they remained. It would be preferable to withhold any information on this island until it can be conveniently avoided, as there is some doubt as to the basis on which we would prevent the natives from returning.

The second question is whether we are prepared to deny these Kii natives to another island. The answer to this is that we have no available islands. If there are to be returned, it would seem more appropriate that the agency that will depend the lands should request them. We would be glad to testify to the effect that Bikini is not available to the Kii people.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
SINGLE REVIEW AUTHORIZED BY: <i>MAS</i>	DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER) 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
REVIEWER (ADD): <i>DC</i>	2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
NAME: <i>DC</i>	3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
DATE: <i>3-21-94</i>	4. COORDINATE WITH:
	5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
	6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED

*M. W. Tolson*  
*General Counsel*

- CC - Rughor
- CC - Skallerup
- CC - Sturges
- CC - Ketchum

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

MEDICINE, HEALTH & SAFETY

*Bikini*  
*Eniwetok*

From  
NMB-N

1150



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~  
UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
Washington 25, D. C.

April 9, 1952

MEMORANDUM For Mr. Dean

Re the attached, we have talked to Colonel Sturges, Division of Military Application, Dr. Dugher, Division of Biology and Medicine, and Mr. Skallerup, General Counsel's office.

The first question raised by Mr. McConnell is whether the Kili people can ever return to Bikini. We believe we should state that we can give no assurance at the present time or in the near future that the Kili people will ever be able to return to Bikini. Sturges talked to Graves who advised that Bikini may be necessary in connection with future weapons tests, either because the 1952 tests at Eniwetok may result in its elimination, or the fall-out may be so bad that we could not go back for so long that we would have to find another test site. From a health standpoint, Dugher advised that radioactivity on Bikini Island itself is very, very low. This was shown by a survey by Donaldson in 1949. Some of the fish around the island have appreciable amounts of radioactivity in their bones, but would be of no possible harm to the natives if they returned. It would be undesirable to volunteer any information on this latter point if it can be conveniently avoided, as there is some doubt as to the basis on which we would prevent the natives from returning.

The second question is whether we can provide any money to move these Kili natives to another atoll. The answer is that we have no available funds. If funds are to be requested, it would seem more appropriate that the agency that will expend the funds should request them. We would be glad to testify to the effect that Bikini is not available to the Kili people.

/s/ M. W. Boyer  
M. W. Boyer  
General Manager

Attachment:  
Memo dtd 4-7-52 from  
Davis to Dean

FROM  
NMB-N

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
SINGLE REVIEW AUTHORIZED BY: <i>W. S. Gussall 7-31-78</i>	DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER) 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: 3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO 4. COORDINATE WITH: 5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED 6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
REVIEWER (ADD): <i>D. G. ...</i>	
NAME: <i>D. G. ...</i>	
DATE: <i>7-31-78</i>	

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