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STATUS VERIFIED UNCLASSIFIED
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Dennis W. Murphy, RM APO
DATE: *7/24/98*

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Lillenthal
Mr. Basher
Mr. Felt
Mr. Strauss
Mr. Wynn

Subject: Scientific Re-survey of Bikini.

The Navy Department with the approval of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is undertaking a scientific re-survey of Bikini Atoll, particularly with respect to Test Baker during the summer of 1947. The expedition expects to leave San Diego July 1 and begin operations at Bikini about July 15 to last approximately six weeks.

Admiral Parsons, Chairman of the Joint Overseas Committee, has requested the Commission, via the Military Liaison Committee, to approve Admiral Parsons' request for the requirements of the Joint Overseas Committee. Commander Revelle first approached General McCormack and stated the views contained in memorandum prepared by General McCormack. Commander Revelle was referred to the writer, and the memorandum of Admiral Parsons discussed was supported with names and requirements. On June 8, Mr. Wilson and the writer met with Dr. Stafford Warren to discuss the Bikini expedition. At that time, a conclusion was reached that the Commission should support the expedition by authorizing and underwriting a group from the University of Washington, Dr. Donaldson and about ten of his associates, at a cost of approximately \$25,000. It was not deemed advisable at that time to agree to the inclusion in the expedition of Drs. Overstreet and Jacobson, of the University of California, nor any other radio-chemists from California, Argonne, or Clinton since it was felt radio-chemical analyses could only be carried on adequately at home laboratories in the States. On 9 June, the writer explained the above position to Admiral Parsons who reiterated the need for Drs. Overstreet and Jacobson as essential to the expedition for the supervision of the collection of samples, determination of the locations to take samples, and evaluation of the sampling work done at Bikini. It was not felt necessary to have other radio-chemists join them. The writer reluctantly agreed that if Drs. Overstreet and Jacobson can agree to go, the Commission would probably approve. This opinion was checked with Mr. Strauss who indicated concurrence.

However, Admiral Parsons has now telephoned again, apparently after talking with Commander Revelle, and has requested additional radio-chemists to accompany Drs. Overstreet and Jacobson, namely Mr. Larsen and Lt. Col. Hirsch, of the University of California, the latter of whom is assigned to Special Weapons, and two other technicians from Clinton Laboratory who have apparently indicated they would like to go on the expedition.

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
OR CHANGED TO
BY AUTHORITY OF *DOZ*
BY *Spiegel* DATE *4/14/73*

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Dr. Norton strongly recommended again by telephone today against any radio-chemists going on the Bikini expedition because of their lack of value in interpreting anything of a substantive nature at Bikini. Dr. Norton pointed out that considerable work for radio-chemists was necessary this year to carry the Commission's program forward, such as analyzing samples from Alamogordo, Hanford, and samples being returned from Bikini.

It is recommended that the Commission approve the following with respect to the Bikini Scientific Re-survey for 1947:

a. Authorize and underwrite Dr. Donaldson's group from the University of Washington to study radio-biological studies of fish and other organisms.

b. If agreeable to the University of California and Drs. Overstreet and Jacobson, to authorize their participation in the Bikini expedition to supervise collection of samples.

J. A. Derry
Assistant to the General Manager

3 Incl.

Ltr 4 June in Parsons

w/let 1st in M.C.

memo 5 June in McCormack

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