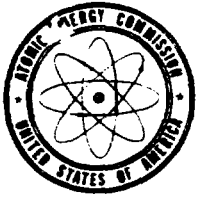


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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

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APR 26 1973

James L. Liverman, Director, BER

MATERIAL FOR THE 1973 U.N. TRUST TERRITORY COUNCIL MEETING

Enclosed is a copy of a portion of the Department of State's briefing book for the 1972 U.N. Trust Territory Council Meeting. You will note there are a number of references to the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission in this material.

The U.N. Trust Territory Council, which is made up by the United States, U.K., France, Australia, the USSR and Communist China, will meet in New York beginning on June 8, 1973. The Department of State has asked if we would review the enclosed material and up-date it. I would appreciate it if you could arrange for this to be done and have the updated material returned to me at an early date.

A. S. Friedman
A. S. Friedman, Director
Division of International Programs

Enclosure:
As stated

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3. Military Items Relating to the TTPI

A. General Military Utilization

Should the Soviet or PRC delegations criticize our use of the Trust Territory for military purposes, the Delegation may reply:

1. The United States makes no apology for maintaining in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands military installations necessary for international peace and security. The need to place the TTPI under special security arrangements and specifically under the jurisdiction of the Security Council was accepted by all members of the Security Council in approving the Trust Territory Agreement, which makes the Trust Territory a strategic area under Articles 82 and 83 of the Charter. Moreover, Article 5 of the Trusteeship Agreement specifically states that, in discharging its obligations under Article 76 (a) and Article 84 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Administering Authority (in this case the United States) shall ensure that the TTPI shall play its part in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, in the maintenance of international peace and security. Thus Article 5 of the Trusteeship Agreement specifically authorizes the Administering Authority:

(a) To establish naval, military, and air bases and to erect fortifications in the Trust Territory;

(b) To station and employ armed forces in the Territory; and

(c) To make use of volunteer forces, facilities, and assistance from the Trust Territory in carrying out the obligations toward the Security Council undertaken in this regard by the Administering Authority as well as for the local defense and the maintenance of law and order within the Trust Territory.

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Should the location or components of U.S. military installations be requested, the Delegations may reply that these data are essentially security matters and thus exempt from the reporting obligation under Article 13 of the Trusteeship Agreement.

B. Plans for Additional Facilities

There has been speculation that the United States is intending in the near future to establish a number of new installations on the Territory. Specific reference could be made to the Marianas with the charge that we are separating the Marianas from the rest of the TTPI for the purpose of establishing bases. The delegation may then want to refer to the Annex Part C, which deals with the Marianas and especially the latter part of that section.

The delegation should respond by saying that any decision to establish additional facilities in the Territory will have to be made in the overall context for U.S. policy and conditions in the Pacific.

The delegation should point out that Ambassador Williams said, after his Palau talks, that "the Micronesian Government would be fully and regularly consulted on defense and other security matters directly affecting Micronesia." The delegation may also wish to note that certain modest U.S. requirements for land for military purposes were specifically identified at the Hana talks, U.S. representatives stated that under any new relationship between Micronesia and the United States all public lands held in the Trust will revert to the new government of Micronesia. The military needs of the U.S. will be outlined prior to the change in status and will be recognized in the Compact.

Land presently in military use in the Trust Territory comprises only 3.8% of the total area of the TTPI. Over the years 21,140 acres of retention

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lands have been returned to the Trust Territory Government and the United States no longer holds any retention land in Ponape, Yap, Truk, or Palau Districts. (The military requirements are further detailed in pages 3 - 4 of the Hana transcript included in Tab D-1 of the Annex Briefing Book.)

The Delegation should emphasize that we cannot accept the contention that any bases that have been or which might be established in the Trust Territory would be against the interests of either the Micronesians or world peace and security.

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C. Bikini, Eniwetok (Ujelang Atoll) and Kwajalein (Ebeye and Mid-Corridor), Johnston Island

Bikini

The question of the return of the people of Bikini to their home island has been a matter of on-going concern of the Council for a number of years.

On August 12, 1968, the President announced that Bikini Atoll could again be inhabited by the people of the Marshall Islands who had been removed in 1946 to permit nuclear testing in the area. The announcement followed extensive studies by the Atomic Energy Commission, which concluded that the main islands of the Atoll (Bikini and Eneu) are now safe for habitation, and by the Defense Department which concluded that security requirements no longer precluded the return of the inhabitants. A Bikini resettlement program, announced by the Secretary of the Interior in January 1969, will cost approximately \$3 million over a six-year period.

The initial phase of the program--the cleanup of test-related debris, unusable structures and scrub vegetation over a period of about six months-- was the responsibility of the Defense Department. This was accomplished during the period February - September 1969, with funding to the extent of \$600,000 shared by the Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission. Funds to complete the cleanup, to begin replanting and to construct housing and village facilities, are being provided the Department of Interior by the U.S. Congress through the regular budgetary processes.

The Atomic Energy Commission is responsible for radiological safety, including the medical surveillance of the Bikini people after they return to their home atoll.

The Interior Department is responsible for replanting coconut trees, construction of housing and community facilities, and the actual resettlement of the Bikinians. Approximately 350 Bikinians currently live on Kili and an estimated 200 more people have land rights to Bikini.

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Is this true?

What happens if we find medical problems - who is responsible for medical treatment?

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In March 1970 the islands of the Bikini Atoll were officially returned to the Trust Territory Government. The formal agreement between the United States and the Trust Territory Government is the first step in the eventual transfer of the land to the people.

(FYI: The only remaining Department of Defense interest in Bikini is with respect to very small--less than one acre each--military retention areas on two small islets in the Bikini Atoll. These areas may in the future be used to accommodate radar reflectors to permit precise navigation in the area. The Department of Defense also retains the right to use the pier, air field, and boat landing area on Eneu Island.)

Eniwetok

The situation regarding the people of Eniwetok District now residing on the Island of Ujelang has been raised in previous years. In 1969 this situation was the subject of a petition. The Delegation may wish to note for the Trusteeship Council that Eniwetok will be returned to the Trust Territory at the end of 1973. (See copy of Article from Pacific Daily News at the end of Section on Military Items.) We are additionally mindful of the welfare of these people and have taken active steps to insure that current conditions on Ujelang are improved. An ex gratia agreement between the administering authority and representatives of the people was executed in August 1969 which provides for \$1,020,000 payment to the people administered through a trust fund. As trustee, the High Commissioner shall pay to or apply for the benefit of the people all net income from the trust. In addition, principal may also be paid out.

Kwajalein

The Delegation might receive questions both on the Mid-Corridor situation and on conditions in Ebeye in general. If asked about the desire of the former inhabitants (originally 158 people) of the Mid-Corridor of Kwajalein Atoll to return to their homes, the Delegation may wish to state that the possibility of returning the people has been examined in some detail. For reasons involving the safety of the people themselves, the United States is now and certainly has been concerned about the welfare of these people.

In December 1970 the Defense Department (Army) negotiated a new agreement for compensating the displaced people of the Mid-Corridor. It provides that the traditional leaders will receive an annual payment of \$420,000 to be distributed as appropriate to people having property rights in the Mid-Corridor

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(the previous agreement provided \$120,000 annually). It also provides, upon eventual resettlement of the Mid-Corridor, for land clearance and construction of dwellings at Army expense. In addition, those displaced from the Mid-Corridor currently are given rent-free use of quarters on Ebeye Island. The agreement is to be reviewed every five years for possible "changed conditions." The Delegation, if the Mid-Corridor subject is raised, should point out that this arrangement is generous in view of the relatively small number of people evacuated from the Mid-Corridor area.

The United States will continue to review the possibility of returning the people of the Mid-Corridor Islands to their homes. As soon as it is safe to do so, this will be done.

Ebeye

As for the situation in Ebeye, the Delegation may draw on the following:

Ebeye is a small island of about 76 acres three miles to the north of Kwajalein Island in Kwajalein Atoll. Virtually the entire Marshallese population of Kwajalein Atoll lives on Ebeye, as well as substantial number of Marshallese who have been attracted to Kwajalein by hopes of employment or through the excitement of living near the facility. The result has been that the population of Ebeye has increased drastically and the island is now highly congested. Ebeye's population (estimated to be between 4,000 and 4,500) is in excess of available housing under normal occupancy conditions. Efforts by the Trust Territory Administration to encourage voluntary resettlement have not been successful.

As a result of an Interior-Army agreement reached several years ago, the Army has constructed on Ebeye a total of 308 housing units, a salt water sewer system, an electrical power plant, public works warehouses and a water distribution system.

Current plans call for improved health, education, recreational and other services for the Ebeye people.

Johnston Island

If this subject is raised, the Delegation may point out that this Island is not part of the Trust Territory. Regarding the chemical munition of this Island, the Delegation should note the remoteness of the Island and state categorically that there is no hazard of any sort to the people of Micronesia or for that matter, to the people of Hawaii which is much closer to Johnston Island.

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Rongelap and Utirik

Congressman Ataji Balos (Congressman for the Rongelap people) will probably appear before the Council with his complaint that the U.S. "knowingly and consciously" allowed the people of Rongelap and Utirik to be exposed to nuclear fall out in 1954 and that they have not been properly compensated nor have they received proper medical care. The people of these Islands are regularly examined by doctors from the AEC for further evidence of radiation related illnesses. Evidence occurred in the Marshall Islands this part year that herald possible trouble ahead for the 1972 examinations. Marshallese Congressman Balos in talks and statements to the press stated that he believed the AEC medical team was withholding information about radiation effects in the exposed people. He believed that the team was only interested in scientific aspects of the examination and not treatment of the people; that the people were being used as guinea pigs; "that the compensation given the Rongelap people was much lower than that given to Japanese fishermen who were exposed on the Lucky Dragon (L.D. episode dealt with later).

In October 1971 an exchange of letters was published in the local press between Congressman Balos and Dr. R. Conard of AEC, in which a number of questions of Mr. Balos were answered by Dr. Conard regarding the examination of the people. Congressman Balos visited Japan and spoke to anti-bomb groups both in person and on radio discussing the "plight" of the Rongelap and Utirik people. He received a sympathetic response and invited a "medical team" to come to the Marshall Islands to check the health status and compensation aspect of the exposed people. The team consisted of one thyroid specialist, Dr. H. Ezaki, and a Japanese woman doctor active in bomb groups in Japan, plus some 8-10 Japanese reporters representing various newspapers in Japan. The team arrived in early December without prior consultation with the Trust Territory and was refused permission to go to Rongelap because of inadequate visas. The team had to return to Japan without accomplishing their mission. This angered the Micronesian Congressman and the Trust Territory was condemned for ousting the Japanese medical team and the charges concerning the AEC medical examinations were again voiced. Senator A. Kabua of the Marshalls stated that he would no longer cooperate with the AEC medical team. During the AEC's examination on March 6 at Ebeye Islands all the people were reluctant to report. They had apparently signed statements for Congressman Balos stating that they would not submit to the examinations. The AEC, however, obtained a radio dispatch from Congressman Balos urging the people to be examined by the AEC and stating that the results of the examination would be evaluated by the Congressman of Micronesia. After that statement the AEC's doctors examined about 50-70 people

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Ebeye. In the examinations at Ebeye, Dr. W. Peck, Director of Health Services of the Trust Territory and Dr. C. Hayakara arrived to join the group as well as Mr. Mike Malone, MNS reporter from Guam, both of whom had been invited by the Trust Territory to go along. Dr. Exaki failed to arrive, apparently due to pressure from a Mr. Uladong from Palau who had been there as Congressman Balos' emissary in Japan to attend "Bikini Day" at a anti-bomb meeting. The medical team departed for Rongelap on March 11 accompanied by Congressman C. Domnick of the Marshalls and the group was warmly received by Rongelap people. Congressman Domnick, however, advised the people that he had been in contact with Congressman Balos who now advised the people not to be examined. He used the explanation that Dr. Ezaki had not come along on the survey.

It appeared to the AEC medical team that many of the Rongelap people were willing to be examined but were afraid to go against the advice of their Congressman. The SEC was, therefore, not able to carry out the examinations and headed back to Kwajalien.

The Lucky Dragon Issue

The exposure of the Japanese fishermen on the Lucky Dragon was previously referred to as being an issue of Congressman Balos. These Japanese fishermen were exposed to radiation and subsequently the USG paid the Japanese Government money for their compensation.

Misconceptions about the Lucky Dragon

The Marshallese and others seem to have a mistaken understanding about the compensation given the 23 Japanese fishermen aboard the Lucky Dragon that was in an area about 35 miles east of Bikini when the bomb test detonated. The men and the surface of the boat received a covering of the fallout material. Although the men began to suspect what the material might be, they knew nothing of decontamination procedures and were exposed for 14 days during the voyage back to Japan. Within two days after docking, news of their exposure became an international concern. The men were soon diagnosed as suffering from radiation sickness and hospitalized. One man died six months later of a complicating infectious hepatitis while the remainder were discharged. The radiation doses to the men could not be computed.

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On January 4, 1955, the United States tendered ex gratia the sum of \$2 million to the Government of Japan for purposes of compensation for injuries and damages sustained as a result of nuclear tests in the Marshall Islands in 1954. The Japanese Cabinet decided to earmark 75 per cent as compensation to all the components of the tuna industry; \$108,000 was allocated to the port city and the hospitals which had incurred costs in caring for the affected fishermen; and \$151,000 was divided between the owner and crew of the Lucky Dragon, the fishermen receiving an average of about \$5,500 each. Mr. Balos repeats a belief many Marshallese seem to have--that the entire \$2 million was divided among 23 Japanese fishermen, whereas, only \$0.9 million was divided among 82 people who are friends and wards of the United States and innocent victims.

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Advertiser Daily News

A Gannett Newspaper

PUBLISHED ON GUAM, WHERE AMERICANS DAY BEGINS

VOL. III NO. 76 AGANA, GUAM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1972 TEN CENTS

US To Return Eniwetok; They Can Go Home To Stay

CONFIRMED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED
AUTHORITY: DOE/SA-20

BY R.A. CARPENTER, DATE 6-11-94

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SAIPAN (MNS)—High Commissioner Edward P. Johnston and U.S. Ambassador Franklin Hayden Williams have issued a joint announcement, indicating that the U.S. Government is preparing to return Eniwetok Atoll to the Trust Territory at the end of 1973.

Eniwetok Atoll is one of the areas of the Marshall Islands District where the United States has been involved in defense research and development projects since 1946. The people of the Atoll were relocated to other islands in the Marshalls and have recently announced their intention to return to their home islands by the end of this year.

In the statement issued Tuesday, High Commissioner Johnston and Ambassador Williams said that future Micronesian land needs of the Department of Defense were set forth in the third round of status negotiations which took place in Hawaii last year. "There Ambassador Williams stated that in regard to . . . security-related land requirements in the Marshalls, the need for research and development activities at Kwajalein would not disappear in the foreseeable future." The statement added, however, that Ambassador Williams further noted that "if may someday become possible to consolidate our testing activities in the Pacific and concurrently reduce our land interests in the Marshalls."

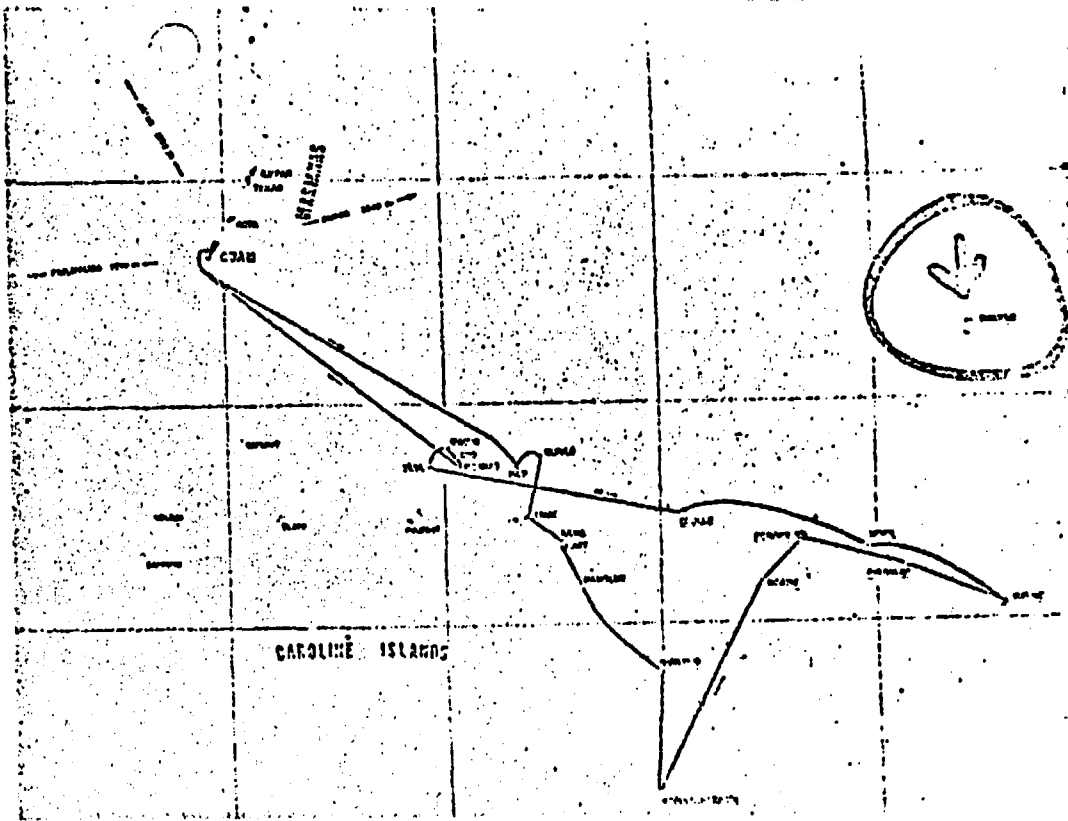
The announcement said that "the status of Eniwetok Atoll has been under study by the various departments and agencies in the U.S. Government ever since the possibility of returning Bikini Atoll was first considered. Over the years, the Department of Defense has been striving to bring its work on Eniwetok to a close. (Now) the

United States Government has, in fact, been able to structure its research plans and programs in such a way to permit an early return of the atoll to the people of Eniwetok."

High Commissioner Johnston telephoned Marshalls District Administrator, Oscar DeDrum, late Tuesday afternoon to announce the return of the atoll, and indicated that the U.S. Government and the Trust Territory Administration will begin immediately to work with the people of Eniwetok on a timetable and other plans for a rehabilitation program.

In this regard, the Hicom noted that Deputy High Commissioner Peter T. Coleman will accompany Ambassador Williams on his trip through the eastern districts this week, ending in Majuro where he will begin meetings with Eniwetokese at the District Center.

The Hicom said that at some future date the leaders of Eniwetok will be invited to Bikini to observe the rehabilitation program there in action. He said further that the people of Eniwetok will be consulted at every step along the way in the rehabilitation program.



LOCATED 1,100 miles southeast from Guam, Eniwetok was used for 12 years as a nuclear test site. The people were moved to Ujilang, an uninhabited atoll 180 miles southwest of Eniwetok. The people were asked to leave their home "for a short while" in 1947. Now in 1972 they have been promised that at the end of '73 they can go home again to Eniwetok. (U.S. Navy photo)

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