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Op. Greenhouse

DATE December 31, 1948

TO: T. L. Shipman, M.D.  
H Division  
FROM: Alvin C. Graves

404517

SUBJECT: DECONTAMINATION PROCEDURES AT ENIWETOK

Reference: Memorandum from Shipman to Graves, same subject, dated 28 December 1948

The thoughts expressed in the reference memorandum as to whether or not it will be possible to completely decontaminate the contaminated islands at Eniwetok are clearly something which we must keep in mind. It seems to me that this is a purpose for asking a group as highly qualified as that which we have selected to go to Eniwetok and watch the process of decontamination. If anyone is capable of deciding this point, a group consisting of Cooney, Whipple, Morgan, and Parker should be able to do so. I personally will feel no hesitation in authorizing work on these islands without a monitor if this group so recommends. I agree that we may not be successful in our attempts to decontaminate the islands completely and that we must bear in mind the possibility that we may need a monitor in this area from February until after the 1951 tests are completed. We would appreciate your recommendation as to how we can obtain such a monitor. The following possibilities occur to me:

1. We ask a group of monitors from this Laboratory to accept this responsibility on a rotating basis.
2. We make use of the military monitor already available in the area.

I hope that we will not be required to find someone at Los Alamos willing to spend the next two years at Eniwetok.

*Alvin C. Graves*  
Alvin C. Graves  
Leader, J-Division

ACG:mm

cc: J. Manley  
Colonel Cooney

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*By R. D. Becher*

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