

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
SCHOOL OF FISHERIES
SEATTLE 5, WASHINGTON

405134

March 8, 1948

Mr. S. H. Cooke, Editor
Western Fisheries
818 Richards Street
Vancouver, Canada

Dear Mr. Cooke:

Your letter of March 4, 1948 has been received and read with interest. I do, however, find it difficult to reply to your inquiry on the effects of the Bikini Experiments upon marine life. The problem is so vast and the ramifications so numerous that a summary that can be transmitted by letter is extremely incomplete, at best.

During the Bikini tests of 1946 a number of marine biological problems were studied, specialists in nearly every line of marine research were in attendance before and during the test period. Again during the Bikini Scientific Resurvey during the summer of 1947 most fields of marine research were represented by specialists.

Biological problems at best are very complex and the very nature of the Bikini tests made are such that a period of time must elapse before conclusions can be reached.

After spending two summers at Bikini studying the problems, I think we are correct in saying that the radiation effects of the Bikini tests are to all practical purposes confined to Bikini Atoll and have had no significant effect upon populations of commercial fishes elsewhere.

If you wish to obtain the views of the Atomic Energy Commission, I suggest you write,

Dr. Shields Warren
Director, Division of Biology and Medicine
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Sincerely,



Lauren R. Donaldson
Director of Applied Fisheries

LRD:rf

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