

JUL 2 1969

WDB 8/22

Mr. Peter T. Coleman
 Deputy High Commissioner
 United States Department of Interior
 Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
 Office of the High Commissioner
 Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Dear Mr. Coleman:

I am most pleased to have your letter of June 11, 1969, reporting the activities connected with the rehabilitation of Bikini Atoll. Everyone agrees that this is a particularly important project and your obvious personal interest in the resettlement will go far in assuring that it will be successful.

I understand that parts of the Atoll other than Bikini and Enyu are being decontaminated and resurveyed and that the "Oboe-Peter-Tara" complex is one of those. Based on current data, the external exposure to the Bikinians during cultivation and harvest of the coconuts on the "Oboe-Peter-Tara" complex might add a significant fraction to their total annual dose. On the other hand, use of the coconuts from the complex should contribute only a small amount of internal activity.

In agreement with your reasoning, it would seem to be in order to plant a grove on the complex at this time, especially since the equipment is at Bikini, but the final judgment of radiologic safety obviously has to be made on the basis of actual radiologic measurements of the terrain and food stuffs. If the current radiological data being obtained by the Joint Task Group 8.8, Bikini, on the land, food sources and lens water turn out to be comparable with those on Enyu and Bikini, it would certainly be in order to review the judgments of the 1967 Ad Hoc Evaluation Committee.

I can promise you an expeditious response upon receipt of the relevant data. Please accept my sincerest thanks for calling this matter to our attention.

Sincerely,

REPOSITORY DOE/PASO
 COLLECTION DOE/NV
 BOX No. 1227; "EROA # 2"
BIKINI SURVEY (P10-1150)
 FOLDER July, 1969

Chairman