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August 11, 1952

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Dr. Lauren R. Donaldson, Director
Applied Fisheries Laboratory
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington

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Dear Dr. Donaldson:

Your revised program for the biological monitoring of Eniwetok and Bikini was received on August 1 and turned over to Col. Cambell, DMA. It is going through the usual routine over there and will eventually be passed along to Los Alamos for evaluation.

Although at present we have no definite opinion as to what the Weapons Test group will decide, I have an oral suggestion which I am passing along to you. The present reaction appears to be that there is now less urgency about the Bikini survey than had been previously considered. There appears to be no likelihood that the natives will be returned before next December at least. Indeed, it may be necessary to retain Bikini indefinitely. It is felt that the survey of Bikini might well be postponed until these decisions are made.

It appears now very likely that your Eniwetok survey may be approved about as you have outlined it. Is there any possibility that the present laboratory building which I understand is located on Japtan Island, could be utilized?

The best information we can get indicates that your equipment is still being held for you in Honolulu. This will be checked through the Navy.

Have you had any further word from the Scripps group? Probably it would be better to drop this possibility in any case.

I will let you know as soon as definite information comes to us from DMA. We can then determine whether it will be desirable for you to come to Washington to make the final plans.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Sincerely yours,

Harold H. Plough
Assistant Chief, Biology Branch
Division of Biology and Medicine

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(Donaldson)

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