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TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS Office of the District Administrator,
Marshalls R

Community Development Office
Box 66, Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960

June 13, 1973

407898

Dr. N. F. Barr, Assistant Director
for Measurement and Evaluation
Division of Biomedical and
Environmental Research
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Dr. Barr:

I have found some errata in my letter to you of June 7 which contained agricultural and other data in re Enewetak. They are as follows:
Incorrect spelling: It should read Morinda citrifolia not Morinda citrafolia.
It should read Tacca leontopetaloides (one of the most common varieties of Tacca in the Marshalls) not Tacca penataloides. I should add that Mr. George Nakanishi, our District Agriculturist, has told me that the most prevalent and most edible and best variety in the Marshalls is Tacca hawaiiensis. It has the least amount of toxic material in it. This variety would, logically, be planted on Enewetak as part of the agricultural rehabilitation of the atoll.

I direct you to Mr. Nakanishi for any further specific information concerning agriculture, including animal husbandry. He is the expert and I am sure that he will be glad to cooperate with you in answering any questions that you and your colleagues may have.

The last part of the letter to which I referred should read "...packing in rolled form in strips of dried pandanus leaf..." and not "....breadfruit leaf...." as I wrote.

Some additional information that might be of interest is that the Enewetak People and the Bikini People chewed the tender young aerial roots of pandanus plants as a thirst quencher when other potable liquids were not available. These roots (shoots) are called liuk. The sweet young husks of the coconut were also chewed for this purpose. These are called kanowe.

As you are undoubtedly aware, the time of maturation and production of trees and plants, quality and quantity of crops produced may vary from island to island within a single atoll. This is due to differences in quality of soil, the amount of ground water present (water lens), and salt spray conditions.

Frank A. [unclear]


BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Barr

-2-

I hope that these data will be of use to you and your colleagues. If you have any further questions I will be glad to try to answer them for you.

Sincerely yours,



Jack A. Tobin
Community Development Advisor,
Marshall Islands District

cc Dr. Nervik
Dr. Ng
Dr. Wilson
Dr. Leachman
Dr. Seymour
File