

The AEC's preliminary radiological survey has located a plutonium bearing sand layer outcropping on the ocean side of the Runit mid-island area and, similarly, the apparent existence of plutonium fragments and grains on the Island surface. The areas containing these surface plutonium contaminations are not yet clearly delineated but appear to be extensive. Further, contaminated scrap metal debris is located throughout the Island.

On May 17, Mr. Roger Ray, Assistant Manager for Operations, NV, arrived at Eniwetok with a group of Eniwetokese council members and their lawyer, being escorted by Trust Territory officials. The AEC survey team briefed Mr. Ray on their findings and their concern about the possibility of high alpha contamination on Runit Island. Mr. Ray then briefed a team of arriving workers from Scripps Institute and DNA's

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terminated area and that trucks and other earthmoving equipment were transiting the contaminated areas and were being taken off Runit Island to other islands. His recommendation indicated the need for cessation of all operations and traffic to Runit Island until adequate survey and decontamination procedures could be established to prevent further aggravation through dispersion of contamination to other islands and/or shipping facilities.

The analysis of several fragments collected by the AEC survey team is now underway at BNL and should be available within the next week. Other environmental samples collected by the team will require several weeks for analysis.

The Micronesian visitors were not informed of this contamination problem.

BNA has advised AEC that the FACE work on Runit has been discontinued and the Island is under quarantine. General Carroll H. Dunn, Director, BNA, has indicated to General Giller that their immediate plans are to send a BNA radiological survey team to Runit Island, with appropriate AEC technical assistance, to conduct a detailed survey of the FACE work areas. The results of their survey will be used to determine the feasibility of conducting the FACE experiment as planned, or with appropriate precautions or the necessity of selecting another site.

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