


 DEFENSE ATOMIC SUPPORT AGENCY  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20305

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ADDRESS REPLY TO  
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1 JUL 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
 THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR  
 CHAIRMAN, ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Second Status Report, Cleanup of Bikini Atoll

1. Reference is made to Director, DASA memorandum of 2 May 1969 to Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Interior and Chairman, AEC, subject: "Status Report, Cleanup of Bikini Atoll," which was the initial status report on the joint DOD-AEC cleanup of Bikini Atoll, covering the situation through end-April. This report covers the status as of 30 June.
2. As of 30 June the island work force has increased to 74 men, including 11 Bikini natives who arrived in early June. Funds for continuing the Bikini project into FY 1970 have been provided under the Joint Congressional Continuing Resolution. Fund estimates above the \$600,000 provided by DOD and AEC in FY 1969 continue to be \$700,000.
3. Cleanup work continues to progress satisfactorily, and is estimated to be approximately 50% completed. A significant part of the task consists of control measures for the heavy vegetation which has overgrown prospective agricultural areas. Bulldozers are crushing parallel swaths, normal to the direction of the tradewinds, throughout the overgrown areas, to permit coconut and crop planting while providing protection against wind and storm erosion of the topsoil. (The agricultural plantings are not part of the cleanup task and will be done under supervision of the Department of Interior and the Trust Territory Government.) Originally planned only for the islands of Bikini and Enyu, extension to certain smaller islands is being considered. Work on the windrows on Bikini Island has been completed.

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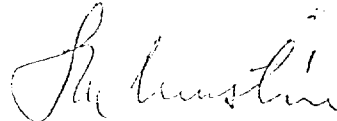
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4. On 19 May USS COLONIAL (LSD-18) delivered three LCMS and one picket boat to the Bikini Task Group. With the addition of these craft the boat group now totals 5 LCMS, 1 LCU, and a picket boat; this increase will facilitate both interisland access for cleanup work, and dumping at sea debris which requires this disposition.

5. The AEC-DOD cleanup phase, including both on-island work and withdrawal of the Task Group, should be completed by 15 October 1969. Progress to date indicates that early actions will be needed in certain critical areas. These include establishment of specific written criteria for determination that cleanup work has been completed to the agreed satisfaction of all concerned; arrangements for the support of the remaining work force when the DASA Task Group is withdrawn; and certification by the AEC that all islands are radiologically safe. Each of these will be the subject of separate correspondence with the appropriate agency.



L. M. MUSTIN  
Vice Admiral, USN  
Director

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