

FUTURE RELEASE

PLEASE NOTE DATE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

408668

R

HOLD FOR RELEASE
UNTIL 12 NOON, EST
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1950

No. 248-50

RE 6700, Ext. 3201 - 3176

ARMY CONSTRUCTION FORCE DESIGNATED
FOR ENIWETOK PROVING GROUNDS

The Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission announced today that an Army construction force has been designated to assist in the construction program now in progress at the Eniwetok Proving Grounds in the Marshall Islands, Central Pacific.

The Atomic Energy Commission previously announced a contract with Holmes and Narver, Los Angeles engineering firm for work on various technical facilities including repairs, replacement of certain structures and utilities and the installation of more durable facilities at the proving grounds.

It is expected that elements of the construction force will embark within the immediate future. This force consists of the Headquarters of the 7th Engineer Brigade, the 79th Engineer Construction Battalion and supporting Quartermaster, Medical, Signal, Transportation and Finance units.

In conjunction with Holmes and Narver these troops will perform military construction consisting of communications facilities, quarters, mess halls, and utilities and the improvement of airbase facilities on Eniwetok Island.

Brigadier General Frederick B. Butler has been appointed commanding general of these troops. General Butler's force will be part of Joint Task Force THREE, which is commanded by Lieutenant General Elwood R. Quesada as previously announced.

Details of proving ground operations are subject to the security restrictions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1946.

END

REPOSITORY NARA/College Park
COLLECTION RG 326 46-51 Secretary
BOX No. 90 (ANN 3-326-93-007)
FOLDER 682 Eniwetok Atoll (12-1-47)

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

75
-
25
-
9-1-47