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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

REPORT ON WELFARE OF THE EX-ENIWETOK INHABITANTS -
LETTER FROM THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, PACIFIC

Note by the Secretary

1. Attached for Commission information are a letter of July 1, 1948, from Admiral D. C. Ramsey, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific, and the reply of July 14, 1948 by Captain Russell.

2. A copy of Admiral Ramsey's letter has been sent to the Department of State.

ROY B. SNAPP

Secretary

REPOSITORY NARA/College Park
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BOX No 90 (NNS-326-93-007)
FOLDER 682 Enclosed Atoll (12-1-47)

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U. S. S. ST. PAUL (CA 73)

July 1, 1948

Captain James S. Russell, U.S. Navy
The Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jim:

Pursuant to our last conversation about Ujelang, I visited there on June 29 with several members of my staff and was accompanied by Captain Vest and Commander Ferguson, from Kwajalein. I am glad to report to you that the general situation at Ujelang exceeded my expectations. I talked at length with both of the native chiefs who, as you may know, have divided the local resources and manifestly work together in the closest harmony. These two men, Abraham and Johannes, are in an equal standing of importance and are in my opinion very intelligent and forward looking Marshallese.

The community manifestly is a happy one, is well kept, and the people are healthy and industrious. The local resources are ample for their needs and they appear to be well equipped with all the necessities of life.

I feel sure that the foregoing will be of interest to the Atomic Energy Commission because of their decision to use Eniwetok as a permanent proving ground.

With very best wishes.

Faithfully,

/s/ Ramsey

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July 14, 1948

Admiral D. C. Ramsey, USN
Commander-in-Chief, Pacific
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

My dear Admiral Ramsey:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of the first of July in which the well-being of the ex-inhabitants of Eniwetok Atoll is described. I shall pass this information on to the Chairman and members of the Atomic Energy Commission whom I know will be most pleased that Ujelang has proven a pleasant place for these people and that the people are happy in their new surroundings.

May I thank you again in behalf of the Atomic Energy Commission for the splendid support and cooperation afforded by all elements of your command in carrying out the 1948 atomic weapon tests at Eniwetok. The Commission is most grateful, too, for your retention of the proving ground in stand-by status and the support given the current Donaldson Survey.

Very respectfully,

James S. Russell

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