

Office of the Legislative Counsel  
 Congress of Micronesia  
 Capital Hill, Saipan  
 Mariana Islands District 96950

April 5, 1972

The Honorable Edward E. Johnston  
 High Commissioner  
 Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands  
 Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

REPOSITORY DOE History Division  
 COLLECTION RG 326, Tommy McCraw Job #1320  
 BOX No. 5  
 FOLDER Organization

Dear Mr. Johnston:

In view of the fact that House Bill No. 199, H.D. 1, has become Public Law 4C-33, this office has now begun to undertake the gathering of such general and specific background information as is pertinent to the Committee's work in order for it to complete an interim report by May 25, 1972 pursuant to said Public Law.

In addition to requiring information from the Trust Territory Government, it appears that, due to the limited resources of the Library of the Congress of Micronesia, we will also have to request information from certain agencies and departments of the United States Government. While it would be most expeditious for this office to write directly to the departments involved, Section 4, Part II of Secretarial Order No. 2918 indicates that such direct contact between the Government of the Trust Territory and the U.S. Government should be initiated by the Office of the High Commissioner. Consequently--unless you feel that the Congress would be within its prerogatives to seek such information as it deems necessary by direct correspondence with the parties involved --I would like to respectfully request that your office supply the office of the Legislative Counsel with the following information from the sources designated.

Office of the Attorney General of the Trust Territory:

1. Copies of all use agreements in English and Marshallese between and or involving the Departments of Defense and the Interior of the United States, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and the people and/or rightful owners of Bikini and Ekiwetok Atolls relative to the use of said atolls for the testing of atomic and nuclear devices from 1946 to 1958;

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

2. Certified copies of records of all direct and prorated payment of compensation in money or other consideration for the use of such lands from 1954 to the present;
3. Certified copies of the disposition of such funds that may be held in trust for the people of Bikini and Eniwetok from the time of their inception until the present;
4. Certified copies of any agreements in English and Marshallese made between any agencies or departments of the United States Government or the Trust Territory Government relative to compensation for pass and continuing physical injury suffered by those Marshallese irradiated during the March 1, 1954 thermonuclear test on Bikini;
5. Copies of all records of either direct or pro rata payment of any compensation for injuries as mentioned in No. 4 above and the disposition of any funds held in trust for this purpose from inception until the present;
6. Copies of any agreements in English and Marshallese relating to providing rehabilitation of the atolls of Bikini and Eniwetok with the intention of returning residents of said atolls to their homes;
7. Copies of any agreements in English and Marshallese between or involving any agencies, Departments or instrumentalities of the U. S. Government, the Trust Territory Government and the people of Bikini and Eniwetok Atolls relative to the costs of rehabilitation of said atolls; and
8. Such other agreements, papers, documents, transcriptions or interpretations of verbal agreements or understandings relative to all of the above.

From the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and the Department of Defense (DOD):

1. All information, including policy statements, and dates relative to when above-ground testing ceased in the continental United States; when it began in Pacific area; and when such testing ceased in the Pacific area. OIS
2. Information relating to payment for use of Bikini and Eniwetok Atolls, and payment of compensation for those people (Marshallese, American, and Japanese) irradiated by the March 1, 1954 test. OGE

3. Copies of all reports, surveys, and studies, (including cumulative radiation effects on ecology) related to radiation levels on Bikini and Eniwetok and feasibility of returning the people of Bikini and Eniwetok to their home islands.

OS

4. Copies of all pertinent agreements and information relating to the cost of AEC-DOD operations the Trust Territory of the Pacific, costs of medical and other surveys by the AEC and DOD, and the costs incurred by the AEC and DOD in providing rehabilitation for said atolls.

B&M

5. Specific dates of each nuclear or thermonuclear test, whether under, on or above ground or sea-level, kilo or megatonnage of each detonation and observed and observable damage or effects to reefs, lands and environment of the atolls of Bikini and Eniwetok.

TESTS  
DOD

6. Copies of weather charts, summaries and data relevant to the March 1, 1954 test.

DOD

7. Two copies each of all medical surveys and reports concerning the people who were irradiated as a result of the March 1, 1954 test conducted by the Atomic Energy Commission or entities under contract to the AEC.

B&M

8. Total explosive force released during tests conducted in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and studies and surveys related to cumulative, and residual background radiation levels in the Marshall Islands from the time testing began in 1946 until the present.

OS

9. Precautions taken and instructions, and information disseminated to U. S. personnel preparatory to the conduct of tests in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands from 1946 to 1954.

DOD

10. Precautions taken and instructions, and information disseminated to Micronesians residing in the test area during the period 1946 to 1954.

DOI

11. Precautions taken and instructions, and information disseminated to both of the groups mentioned in nos. 9 and 10 after March 1, 1954 until the cessation of such tests.

DOI

12. Precautions taken and instructions, and information disseminated to Marshallese citizens after the cessation of testing.

DOJ

13. A listing of dates, locations, number involved, and type of incidents involving the irradiation and/or destruction due to induction or persons, animals, crops, lands or structures in the United States as a result of tests, research, operations or manufacture of nuclear or thermonuclear devices or materials; claims resulting from such incidents; and amounts and forms of such compensation or consideration accorded by the U.S. Government or its agents to such claimants.

OS  
NV  
B&M

14. Copies of any reports, surveys, studies or papers done by or in behalf of any departments, agency, agent, or instrumentality of the U.S. Government--excluding those carried out by the Brookhaven National Laboratory -- relative to the conduct of nuclear and thermonuclear testing in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

DOD  
DOS  
B&M  
OGC

15. Are there now existent Department of Defense or AEC documents relating to testing in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands--excluding those related to the nature of the device themselves--which are at present classified?

DOD  
C

It would be appreciated if this office could receive carbon copies of all correspondence relating to these requests if you feel it is appropriate for your office to make such requests in behalf of the Congress. All materials should be sent via Air Mail.

Please know that we appreciate whatever assistance your office may be able to provide regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

Mamora Nakamura  
Acting Legislative Counsel

cc: President of the Senate  
Speaker of the House of Representatives