411682

6/21/73

Mr. Dennis J. Doolin
Deputy Assistant Secretary (East
Asia and Pacific Affairs)
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20301

Mr. Stanley S. Carpenter
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Territorial Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to apprise you of our intentions relating to the AEC survey, data analysis, and report of the radiological conditions on Eniwetok Atoll. I would also like to advise you of a possible format for the forthcoming AEC recommendations concerning cleanup and rehabilitation of Eniwetok.

Enclosure 1 is the schedule of major AEC milestones. The Radiological Survey Report will be prepared in draft form on or before September 1, 1973, for use in developing AEC recommendations for cleanup and rehabilitation. These recommendations will be forwarded to the Commission for approval by November 1, 1973. We will transmit approved recommendations to you as soon as they are available.

The current status of the sample analysis data reduction program, which is part of the overall AEC radiological survey, is shown in graphical form in Enclosure 2. For Fiscal Year 1973, the AEC will expend approximately $1.3 million on this survey effort. The data reduction work will continue into Fiscal Year 1974 prior to publication of the survey report.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

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

A possible format for the AEC recommendations is shown in Enclosure 3. The structure of the format is not fixed at this time and, in fact, is quite likely to be altered before it is finally developed. Regardless, the recommendations will address:

1. Cleanup and disposal actions, including specific numerical guidance.

2. Rehabilitation of land and agriculture, land use, use of local foods, other dietary considerations, and housing construction (as these will modify the radiological situation and contribute to lower exposures).

3. The feasibility of making the radiation environment on Eniwetok Atoll safe for return of the native population, including areas immediately adjacent to islands that could be used for food production.

4. Follow-up requirements and plans.

In summary, we will continue to keep you informed of our activities and will inform you promptly of pertinent Commission decisions.

Sincerely,

Gilbert for

Frank A. Camm
Major General, USA
Assistant General Manager
for Military Application

Enclosures:
1. Paper--"Schedule of AEC Eniwetok Activities"
2. Graph--"USAEC Eniwetok Radiological Survey Sample Analysis Program"
3. Paper--"Possible Format for Recommendations for Cleanup and Rehabilitation of Eniwetok Atoll"

SCHEDULE OF AEC ENIWETOK ACTIVITIES

I. AEC Radiological Survey

A. Field Work Completed on February 14, 1973.

B. Survey Report to be Completed by September 1, 1973.

C. Survey Report to be Published by October 1, 1973.

II. AEC Recommendations for Cleanup and Rehabilitation

A. To be developed by November 1, 1973, for Atomic Energy Commission approval.

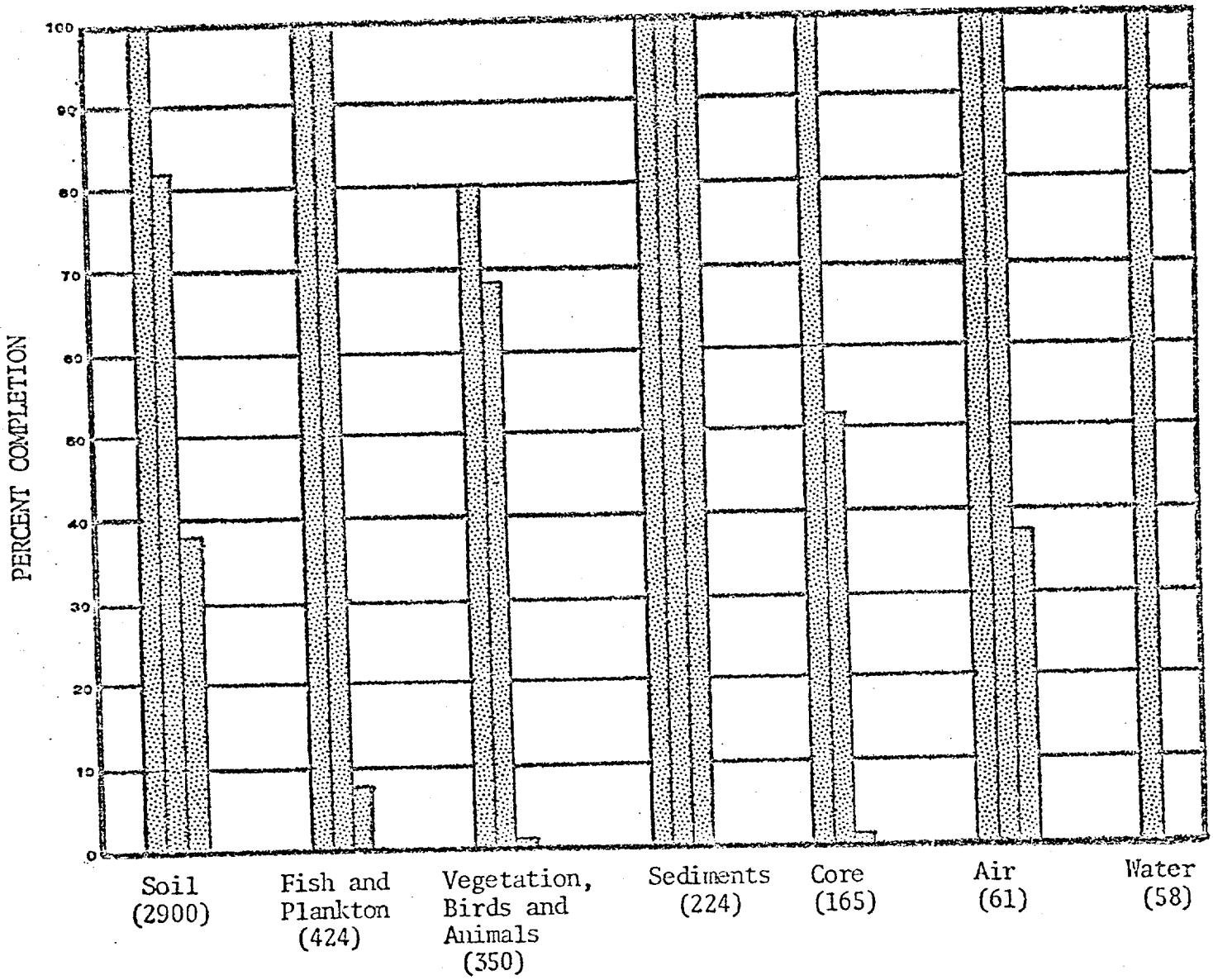
B. To be transmitted to DOI and DOD immediately upon Commission approval.

ENCLOSURE 1

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

ENIWETOK RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY

SAMPLE ANALYSIS PROGRAM



Sample Preparation

Gamma Counting and Digitizing

Chemical Analysis

Core ← Type of Sample

(165) ← Number of Samples Collected

ENCLOSURE 2

POSSIBLE FORMAT FOR

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CLEANUP AND REHABILITATION

OF ENIWETOK ATOLL

I. Introduction - Task Group charter and responsibilities

II. Summary - General statements on feasibility of cleanup and rehabilitation and health implications of return of natives

III. Radiological Findings - Summary of survey data for internal and external emitters

IV. Expected Lifestyle of Natives - Land use, dietary considerations

V. Analysis of Radiological Conditions and Exposure Estimates (for example only)

   A. Return of natives - no cleanup, no restrictions

   B. Return of natives - cleanup, no restrictions

   C. Return of natives - cleanup, restrictions on living habits

   D. Return of natives - actions for lowest practical exposures

   E. Delayed return - cleanup or partial cleanup

VI. Review of Existing FRC Guidance, NCRP Radiation Standards, and Remedial Actions

VII. Recommendations (for example only)

   A. No return - exposures are above acceptable levels even with reductions by feasible actions

   B. Return natives with exposure reduction and control measures by the following actions:

      1. Engineering construction measures

         a. Remove all scrap and debris

         b. Remove existing burial grounds

ENCLOSURE 3

c. Remove plutonium chunks and plutonium contaminated soils*

d. There be no land burial of contaminated debris

e. Rad-safe requirements for cleanup operations

2. Rehabilitation measures

a. Guidance on agricultural rehabilitation

b. Specific actions regarding dietary intake in foods

c. Restoration of village, location, considerations on housing and facility construction

d. Confirmation of effectiveness of exposure reduction and exposure control actions

3. Follow-up requirements (long term)

*Numerical criteria for soil cleanup will be specified. The level in current usage by AEC (for cleanup of on-continent sites) will be considered along with the estimates of exposures to the native population by all known pathways.