411690

FEB 9 1973

Organization

Mr. Edward J. Bauser
Executive Director
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
Congress of the United States

Dear Mr. Bauser:

This letter provides information regarding current AEC activities on Eniwetok Atoll. These activities concern the surveys essential to the cleanup, rehabilitation, and resettlement of the atoll in connection with the announced return of Eniwetok to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI).

In April 1947 the United Nations formally designated the former Japanese Pacific Mandates (Eniwetok included) as Trust Territories to be administered by the United States. Upon written notification to the U.N., Eniwetok was designated a nuclear testing site in December 1947, with the first test series there, SANDSTONE, being conducted in the spring of 1948. Prior to SANDSTONE, the Eniwetok people, about 136 in number, were moved by the United States to Ujelang Atoll where they still reside, although their number has now increased to about 432. Additional test series were conducted in the atoll during the years 1951 (GREENHOUSE), 1952 (IVY), 1954 (CASTLE), 1956 (REDWING), and 1958 (HARDTACK - PHASE I). The last of 43 tests was in July 1958. All tests have been listed publicly.

Geographic location of the atoll is shown in Figure 1. Its remoteness suggests inherent costly operations to accomplish the necessary surveys and subsequent cleanup. Figure 2 identifies the islands of the atoll and general location of the nuclear tests conducted.

On April 18, 1972, High Commissioner Johnston and Ambassador Williams jointly announced the intention of the United States to return Eniwetok Atoll to the TTPI subject to retention of some minor residual rights. Subsequently, the Department of Interior (DOI), Department of Defense (DOD), and AEC determined that a comprehensive and coordinated program to survey and clean up Eniwetok Atoll must be undertaken to make Eniwetok habitable. The program was divided into three phases: (1) Precleanup Radiological and Engineering Survey, (2) Cleanup, and (3) Rehabilitation

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and Resettlement. As with Bikini Atoll, responsibility for cleanup and rehabilitation rests with the DOD and DOI respectively. AEC is responsible for conducting a radiological survey, assessing the results, and establishing criteria and constraints for cleanup and rehabitation, involving other agencies, as appropriate.

The AGMMA has the overall authority and responsibility within the AEC for coordinating matters related to the rehabilitation of the Eniwetok Atoll. Technical standards and requirements for the survey and cleanup operations will be provided by responsible divisions within AEC Headquarters, particularly the Divisions of Operational Safety and Biomedical and Environmental Research (DOS and DBER). AEC survey activities and supporting analytical efforts are shown in Figures 3 and 4.

After initial weather delays in October of last year, the AEC radiological survey has progressed quite satisfactorily with the field operation estimated to be completed in mid-February 1973 and the resulting analyses and reports being made available about August 1973. The Eniwetok Atoll provides a very complex radiological situation. As an example, contamination from eight tests on one island, Runit, is measurable today. The presence of a plutonium-bearing, sand layer outcropping, and of solid plutonium-bearing chunks, grains, and other particulates on the surface and near surface of this island has been confirmed. Data available to date indicate that radiological contamination while less severe on other islands is still sufficient to be of concern.

Present best estimate of the cost of the AEC precleanup radiological survey is about $1M. Costs of subsequent studies and radiological monitoring activities are estimated to be approximately $1M per year for FY 1974 and beyond.

We will continue to keep you informed of substantive developments in this matter.

Sincerely,

(signed)
Frank A. Camm

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

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Enclosures:
Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4

MA:TESTS	AGMMA	OCR
WFWolff/mag	FACamm	
2/1/73	2/ /73	2/ /78

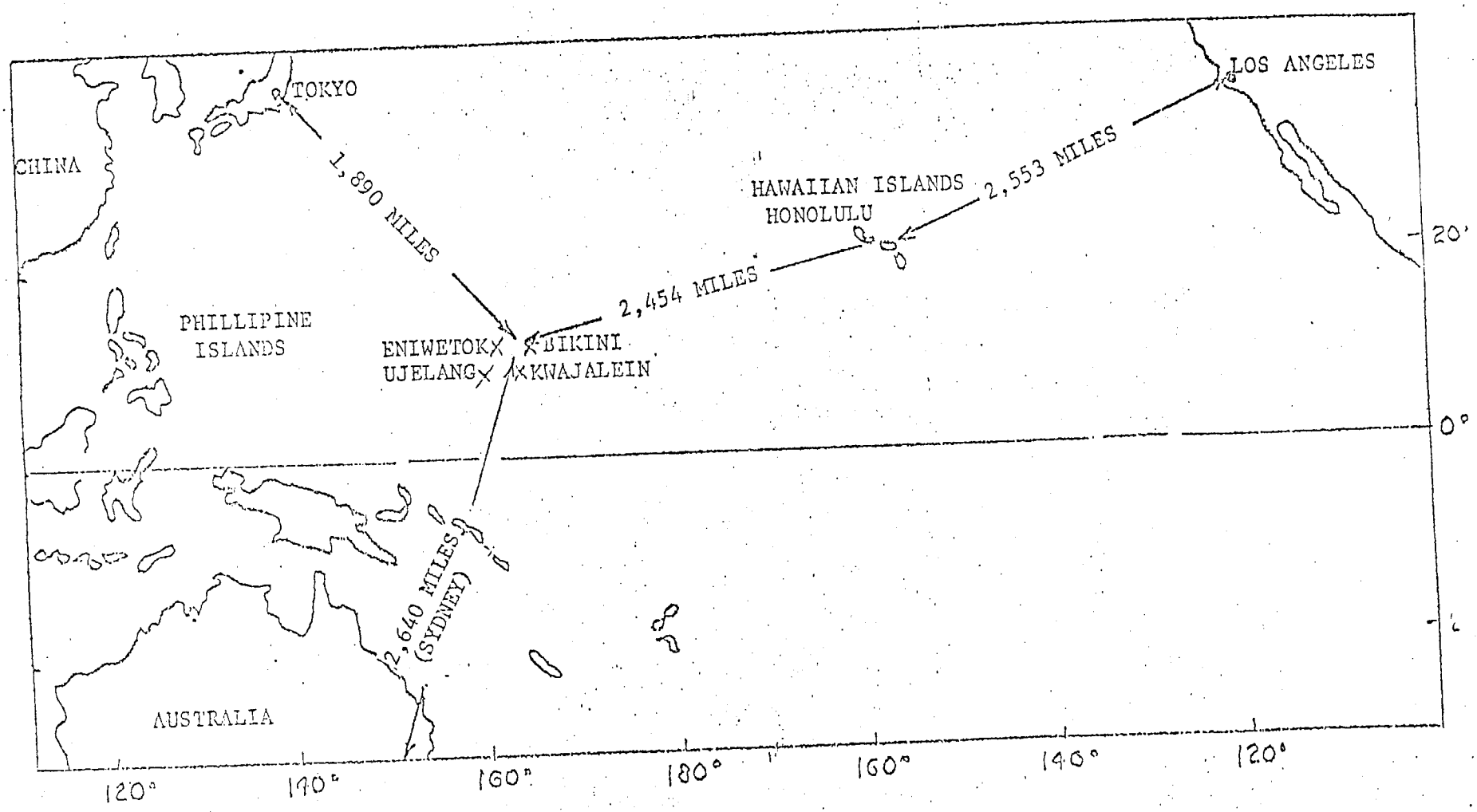
TOKYO
LOS ANGELES
CHINA
1,890 MILES
2,553 MILES
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS
HONOLULU
2,454 MILES
PHILLIPINE
ISLANDS
ENIWETOK
BIKINI
UJELANG
KWAJALEIN
2,640 MILES
(SYDNEY)
AUSTRALIA
20°
0°
120°
140°
160°
180°
160°
140°
120°

FIGURE 1

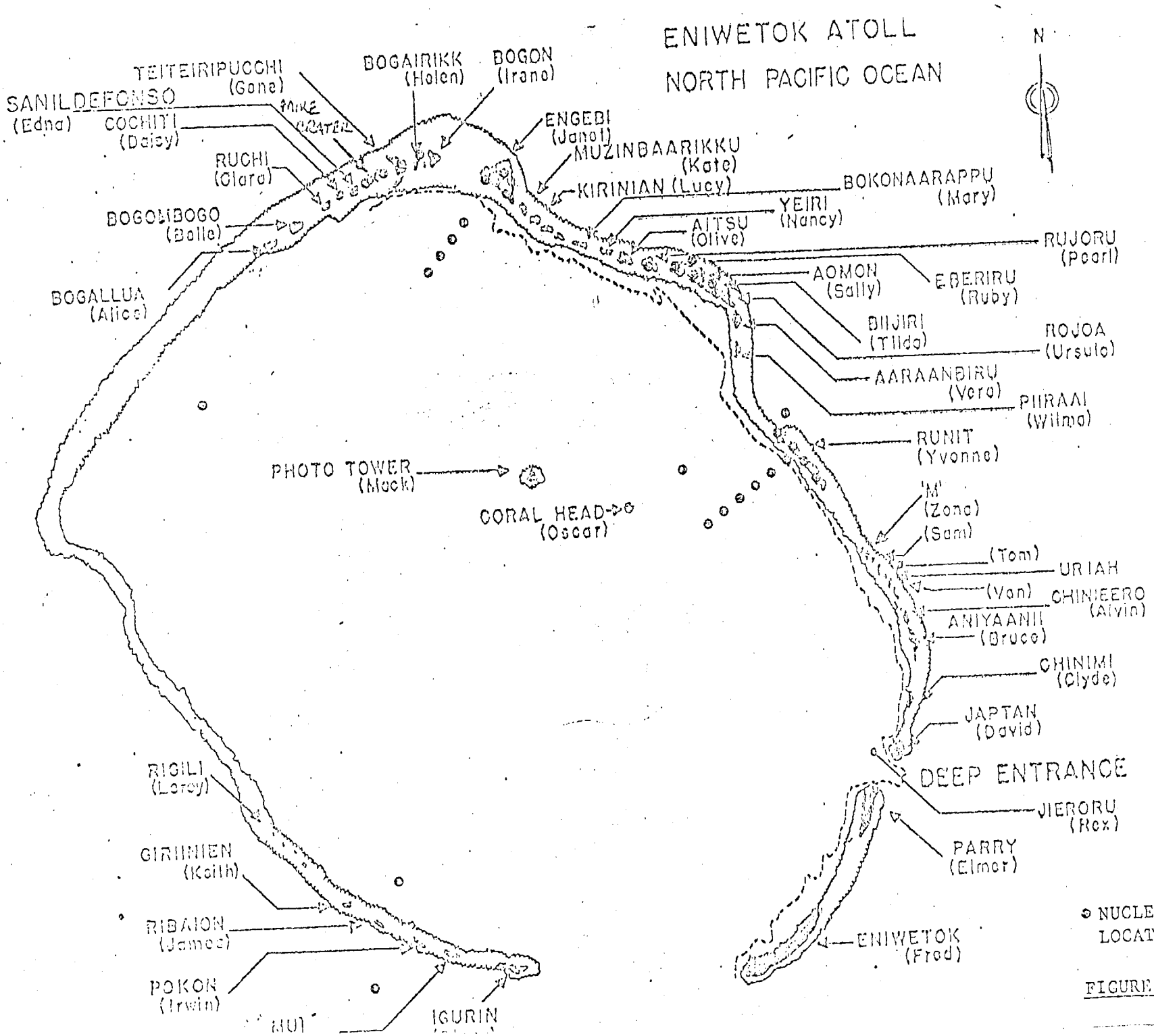
ENIWETOK ATOLL
NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN
N
TEITEIRIPUCCHI (Gene)
BOGAIRIKK (Helen)
BOGON (Irene)
SANILDEFONSO (Edna)
COCHITI (Daisy)
MIKE CRATER
ENGEBI (Janet)
MUZINBAARIKKU (Kate)
RUCHI (Clara)
KIRINIAN (Lucy)
BOKONAARAPPU (Mary)
YEIRI (Nancy)
BOGOMBOGO (Belle)
AITSU (Olive)
RUJORU (Pearl)
AOMON (Sally)
EBERIRU (Ruby)
BOGALLUA (Alice)
BIIJIRI (Tilda)
ROJOA (Ursula)
AARAANBIRU (Vera)
PIIRAAI (Wilma)
RUNIT (Yvonne)
PHOTO TOWER (Mack)
CORAL HEAD (Oscar)
'M' (Zona)
(Sam)
(Tom)
URIAH
(Van)
CHINIEERO (Alvin)
ANIYAANII (Bruce)
CHINIMI (Clyde)
JAPTAN (David)
DEEP ENTRANCE
RIGILI (Leroy)
JIERORU (Rex)
PARRY (Elmer)
GIRIINIEN (Keith)
RIBAION (James)
ENIWETOK (Fred)
POKON (Irwin)
IGURIN
NUI
NUCLEAR TEST LOCATIONS (APPRO

FIGURE 2

SURVEY DETAIL

EXTERNAL DOSE AND SOIL SURVEY (3000 SAMPLES)

- EXTERNAL GAMMA DOSE AND DOSE RATE
- SOIL SAMPLING -- CORES, SIDE WALL, AND SURFACE
- AERIAL MEASUREMENTS (QUICK LOOK AND PHOTO)

AIR, BIOTA, AND POTABLE WATER SURVEY (1000)

- AIR PARTICULATES
- COLLECTION OF FOOD PLANTS AND ANIMALS
- RAD CHEM ANALYSIS OF WATER

AQUATIC SURVEY (900 SAMPLES)

- BIOCHEMICAL BEHAVIOR OF TRANSURANIUM ELEMENTS
- SHALLOW WATER CORING, WATER SAMPLING, DREDGING, IN SITU DETECTION MEASUREMENTS
- MARINE SAMPLING -- DEEPER REGIONS OF LAGOON
- COLLECTION OF EDIBLE MARINE VERTEBRATES AND INVERTEBRATES

FIGURE 3

LABORATORY ANALYTICAL CAPABILITY

LABORATORY	KIND OF ANALYTICAL WORK
LLL	SAMPLE PREPARATION - SOIL AND BIOTA COMPLETE ANALYTICAL TREATMENT, SEA WATER GAMMA ANALYSIS, ALL TYPES OF SAMPLES, MARINE SURVEY
MCL	GAMMA ANALYSIS SOIL DISSOLUTION AND ANALYSIS FOR PU AND ^{90}SR ANALYSIS OF AIR FILTERS
UW	MARINE SURVEY ^{55}FE ANALYSIS ^{90}SR ANALYSIS
CONTRACT ANALYSES	GAMMA ANALYSIS SOIL DISSOLUTION AND ANALYSIS FOR PU AND ^{90}SR
NERC (EPA) LAS VEGAS	ANALYSIS FOR PU
LASL	PU HEALTH STUDIES

FIGURE 4