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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
Washington 25, D. C.

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Ser 0227P36  
for Chief (SCM/DNA) 2/26/85  
3 June 1957

From: Chief of Naval Operations  
To: Commander Joint Task Force SEVEN

Subj: Proposed Afloat Radiological Safety Support Center for Operation  
HARDTACK

Ref: (a) CTG 7.3 Conf ltr ser 072 of 6 May 1957  
(b) Conference held in AFSWP on 16 May 1957 with representatives of  
AFSWP, CNO, ONR, BUSHIPS, JTF-7 and CTG-7.3

Encl: (1) BUSHIPS ltr ser 348-039 of 16 Apr 1957

1. In enclosure (1), the Chief, Bureau of Ships forwarded to the Chief of Naval Operations a proposal, initiated by the USNRDL, for an afloat Radiological Safety Support project for the underwater test program for Operation HARDTACK. In reference (a), Commander Task Group 7.3 forwarded to Commander Joint Task Force 7 certain comments relative to the above proposal. Specifically, CTG-7.3 stated that each Task Group bears the responsibility for Radiological Safety of all personnel within the Group and in this instance, the Radiological Safety for personnel in Task Group 7.1 would be accomplished by Task Unit SEVEN. In addition, CTG 7.3 recommended that the use of existing RADSAFE facilities ashore at Parry Island would provide more centralized control, minimize duplication of effort, and obviate the requirement for elaborate installations afloat.

2. On 16 May 1957, a conference was held in Headquarters, AFSWP to review the USNRDL proposal and to examine the radiological requirements of the underwater test portion of Operation HARDTACK. Conference representation included:

- |         |                           |        |                        |
|---------|---------------------------|--------|------------------------|
| AFSWP   | - CDR C. Mendenhall, USN  | JTF-7  | - MAJ F. Ritchie, USAF |
| BUSHIPS | - Mr. V. Saitta           | TG-7.3 | - CDR W. Brown, USN    |
|         | Mr. J. J. Kearns          |        | LCDR O. Karge, USN     |
| CNO     | - CDR W.F.V. Bennett, USN | ONR    | - Dr. W. Thaler        |

3. Conference representatives were in mutual agreement on the following considerations and submitted the following recommendations:

- a. Radiological Safety of all personnel within the Task Group is a recognized Task Group Command responsibility. Specifically Task Unit SEVEN of Task Group 7.1 should provide radiological safety support for both scientific and military personnel of that group.
- b. An afloat radiological support unit is desirable in view of the water borne nature of this portion of the operation. However, this could be accomplished by stationing a personnel component of Task Unit SEVEN on board an LSD or an APA as provided.

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Op-363B/jm  
Ser 0227P36  
3 June 1957

c. The existing facilities of an LSD or an APA are considered appropriate for decontamination needs.

d. The technical and logistical support of this afloat unit would be a function of Task Unit SEVEN of Task Group 7.1.

4. The JTF 7 Radiological Officer, MAJ F. G. Ritchie, USAF, stated at this conference that advanced preparation has been made by the Task Force for the procurement of radiation detection instruments, aerosol samplers, film badges and protective clothing appropriate for the needs of personnel of CTG 7.1 and 7.3 engaged in the underwater test program. Accordingly, it is considered that this preparation is adequate to meet the logistic requirements of all target project and recovery personnel.

5. CDR W. C. Brown, USN, Operations officer, Commander Task Group 7.3 stated that personnel of TG 7.3 would provide the manpower for target decontamination with technical and logistic support furnished by Task Group 7.1 (TU-7).

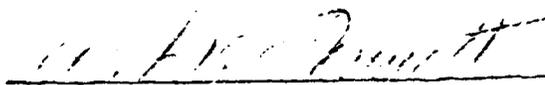
6. The Chief of Naval Operations does not approve the proposal as contained in enclosure (1) in view of the recognized responsibilities for radiological safety within the existing command structure of the Task Force. Much of the advance logistic requirement planning delineated in enclosure (1) has apparently already been executed by the Task Force as indicated by paragraph 4. above. However, the proposal does contain a general review of the logistic and personnel requirements which would be of assistance to cognizant personnel of the Task Force during this planning phase. Accordingly enclosure (1) is forwarded herewith.

7. The Chief of Naval Operations concurs in the recommendation advanced by the conference representatives. It is to be noted that the committee view of Radiological Safety responsibility is in consonance with the view expressed by CTG 7.3 in reference (a). However, the concept of an afloat Radiological Safety support unit as recommended by the committee would not represent facility duplication nor require the elaborate installation alterations as proposed by enclosure (1). It is recommended that this afloat support unit be organized as stated in the recommendation of paragraph 3 above. It is recognized, however, that this is a decision within the purview of Commander Joint Task Force SEVEN.

G. SERPELL PATRICK  
By direction

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Authenticated:

  
W.F.V. BENNETT, CDR, USN