

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

K. F. Hertford, Manager
Albuquerque Operations

MAR 4 1957

Brig. Gen. Alfred D. Starbird, USA
Director of Military Application

AUTHORITY TO PROCEED WITH RONGELAP REPATRIATION

Symbol: MAT:KIS

NMB 186

Reference is made to my memorandum dated November 8, 1956, which approved the Rongelap construction plans but withheld authority to proceed with work on the Rongelap rehabilitation project pending decision by the Commission that the Rongelap people can be safely returned.

The Commission has determined that the Rongelap people may now be safely returned to their home atoll as soon as rehabilitation measures on Rongelap are completed, with the advice that land crabs not be eaten at this time.

Accordingly, my message of February 27, 1957, authorizing you to implement the plans for the return of the Rongelapese to their former home, within the limit of operating funds available, is hereby confirmed. Specifically, you are authorized to proceed with the approved Rongelap construction as modified by the requirements of the AEC Division of Biology and Medicine pertaining to the Dispensary and Council House, and to provide radio equipment and a generator at Rongelap for emergency communication, this equipment to conform to the specifications of the Trust Territories Government and to cost approximately \$1500.

You are also requested to consult with the Trust Territories Government to determine a mutually satisfactory fair reimbursement value of the buildings at the temporary camp now occupied by the Rongelap people at Ejit Island, Majuro Atoll, which are to be turned over to the Trust Territories for their use. This memorandum may be declassified after public release.

Carey L. O'Brien, Jr., the espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation for and in the absence of information to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

- SO&CC: Addee
- ~~CG-DEM~~
- CC: Test Subj (retained)
- CC: Test Rdr
- CC: Reader
- CC: Locator
- CC: DMA
- CC: Budget

Alfred D. Starbird
Brigadier General, USA
Director of Military Application

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

1. CLASSIFICATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S))

2. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED TO:

3. CONTAINS NO INFO CLASSIFIED INFO

4. COORDINATE WITH:

5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED

1957 REVIEWER: DATE: 6/1/79

AUTHORITY: 48 CFR 1.101

NAME: [Signature]

2ND REVIEWER: DATE: 4/11/78

AUTHORITY: ADD

NAME: [Signature]

MILITARY RESEARCH & APPL

2475

OFFICE ▶	TEST	BUDGET	MA:GISE	MA:O'BRYAN	MA:STARBIRD
SURNAME ▶	SAM Schnittke/kj	Riss	Gise	[Signature]	[Signature]
DATE ▶	2-27-57	2-28-57	3-1-57	3-1-57	2- -57