

NAT:NDG

NOV 17 1954

**Commander
Joint Task Force SEVEN
12th and Constitution Avenue, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.**

Attention: Commander A. P. Boileau, Comptroller

Dear Sir:

There is attached a letter from Mr. Midkiff, former High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, with which he forwarded a request from the Trust Territory Finance Officer for Joint Task Force advance of funds to cover the cost of maintaining the Rongelap inhabitants, presently located on Ejit. Inasmuch as Mr. Midkiff no longer occupies an official position with the Trust Territory Government, we have informally advised the Department of Interior of the misrouting of this correspondence so that they may take any action they consider appropriate.

It is suggested that in your reply to the Trust Territory Government you may wish to point out that future correspondence on this matter should be forwarded directly to Joint Task Force SEVEN without reference to the Atomic Energy Commission. This would be in accord with General Clarkson's commitment to fund for maintaining the displaced Rongelapians until they are returned to Rongelap. Current information indicates that the Rongelap inhabitants will be reinstalled in their native habitat not later than 1 May 1955.

This letter confirms informal discussion of this matter between Commander Boileau of your headquarters and Lt. Colonel Greenberg of this division.

Sincerely yours,

**Jack L. Armstrong
Colonel, USAF
Assistant Director
Division of Military Application**

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CONFIRMED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED
AUTHORITY: DOE-DPC
BY LP-SH/STAN. DATE: 2/20/01/04

MILITARY RESEARCH & APPL

Enclosures:

1. 2 cys Ltr 11-3-54 Midkiff to Strause
2. Cy Ltr 10-19-54 Griffin to Midkiff
3. 6 cys Form 1090

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