

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : C. L. Dunham, M.D., Director,  
Division of Biology & Medicine

FROM : A. H. Seymour, Marine Biologist, Environmental  
Sciences Branch, Division of Biology & Medicine

SUBJECT: SHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR RONGELAP STUDIES

SYMBOL: BMES:AHS

DATE: July 14, 1958

NMBS

As a consequence of the meeting of July 10, there was an understanding that the medical group will make one annual visit to Rongelap and the ecology group will make two. The medical and ecology groups will join forces for a March visit and the ecology group will make a second visit in September.

For the March trip the Navy will be requested to provide a ship, an LST, as they have in the past. If because of the armed forces new policy of "industrial funding" the Division will be required to pay for the LST, then consideration will be given to use of a smaller or more available ship, such as the "Aloto", an LSM assigned to Holmes and Narver at Eniwetok.

For the September trip by the ecology group the consensus of group opinion was that the use of the "Aloto" for a 15 day trip, even though the cost is \$1250 per day, is most feasible. The total cost of the "Aloto" for 15 days is \$18,750.

July 15

Late yesterday afternoon word came from Held via a telephone call from Wolfe (Columbus O) that a trip had been laid on with the "Aloto" for August 12-24 and without charge. Request for the "Aloto" by DBM will be held up pending confirmation of this report.

If the ship is to be requested Stauwood has suggested that the proper channel is from Dunham thru Starbird to (Horton) Manager of the Albuquerque Operations Office. Letter should include reference to any existing correspondence relative to the matter, the reason for need, and that it should be placed at the disposal of the DoW. Also state conditions such as rate and length of use. Ask for proper fiscal procedure and state financial plan change which will be arranged.

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