

Files

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UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

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While in Eniwetok I was informed by Ray Eason that his office had been collecting a file of references to AEC by Hawaii newspapers as they quoted Dr. Lawrence Snyder, President of the University to be adversely inclined to AEC and Dr. Hiatt as he attempted to offset some of Snyder's statements by his own favorable comment.

Since Dr. Snyder is a human geneticist of no little repute the net publicity effect is negative to the AEC. Dr. Snyder was Dean of the Graduate School and Professor of Zoology at the University of Oklahoma when I was one of the Zoology staff at Oklahoma A&M College. He was incoming President of the AAAS when I worked as a peon in their employ. Although we had met at least 6 times, he had not chosen to remember me in the past.

When he learned that I was coming he dredged up our past contacts but apparently had no idea or understanding of the AEC as an organization nor of its objectives. I spent about 40 minutes with him explaining our involvement and interest in Environmental Biology. I attempted to explain the AEC organization and objectives from the standpoint of the Pacific Ocean and how these objectives should require considerable research.

The University of Hawaii has been informed by the National Science Foundation that the University's request for about \$1 1/2 million to build a Geophysics Institute will probably be accepted early in FY 1961. Although the primary research emphasis is on Geology (volcanism) and Physics (space), they plan to utilize a research ship and Oceanography will be emphasized. I encouraged this aspect of their program from the standpoint of its application to the use of nuclear aircraft, nuclear missiles and nuclear satellites and the possible loss of operating reactors into the Pacific Ocean.

I felt that some progress was made at achieving a better understanding of the AEC and hope that Dr. Snyder can be lured to AEC headquarters during one of his trips to D.C. in the future.

cc: Dr. Shilling

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