

TO: J. S. Coe JOB: 942 -  
FROM: J. B. Babcock RE: Utirik Weather Station 405957  
DATE: 15 October 1957

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Departed Site Elmer on LSD-1 at 0715 hours, Monday, 14 October 1957, after leaving marine ramp at 0645 hours. Arrived Utirik at 0700 hours on Tuesday, 15 October 1957. The first T beat, the one with the equipment on it, tried to beach at 0915 but was unsuccessful. The second attempt was made at 1235. The first D-8 Tractor hit the beach at 1245, the last piece of equipment 1350. The second T beat hit the beach at 1258 and the first trailer at 1315. The last of seven trailers of equipment and construction materials was unloaded at 1430 hours. As soon as the first trailer hit the beach, crews were unloading it for back leading to return to the LSD for more materials. The unloaded equipment T beat headed back to the LSD at 1510 for another load.

At 1515, carpenter crews started removing old tent frames and the natives were given the old wood. The work day ended at 1715.

Lunch was had on our T beat. The T house beat went into the beach at 1800 hours.

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Work started at 0700 with many flies in area. By 0800 all old buildings were removed except the old water tower. Work on forms for distillation & power building started at 0810 as well as form work on the day room. All old panels and braker boxes from last operation were in good shape. The old mess hall slab looked like a five sack sand and a one sack cement mix about 1" to 1 1/2" thick.

Due to the number of palm trees and the enlarged size of the buildings, it is impossible to orient the buildings as shown on the plot plan. Some will be a little to the right or left, others will be back or forward. There will also be two anchor blocks and guy cables on the property other than ours.

There is a shortage of rock or stone for aggregate, so will not guarantee anything but will give the best we can.

Second T beat departed for LSD at 0800 for another load of materials. The T beat which left afternoon of 15 October 1957, departed the LSD this morning at 0835 and beached at this site at 0929 loaded with materials.

The mooring buoys asked for on our print is anchored in the lagoon from the last operation. When the duck gets here, an inspection will be made of it.

It started raining at 0950 and stopped at 1030. Work continued with out let-up during the rain.

At 1015 hours, started to unload the T beat.

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At 1030 hours, form work was completed on the power house, also grade work on sub base elevation. Started to place re-bars.

Plumbers started digging their trenches for their rough work in the day room. Cast iron pipe not yet on the beach but on T boat at the beach.

Fly spray not too effective on the beach in working area but okay on the house boat.

At 1110 hours started grading for Barracks No. 1 form work started at 1135 hours. Re-bar work on day room started at 1145 hours.

The last load of material from the LSD beached at 1215 after leaving the LSD at 1120 hours. One generator was damaged on the control panel end but is still usable as far as we can tell at this time. Rough handling on the LSD was the cause of the damage.

A location for the pier was found 3/4 of a mile to the left of our site N and E. It is believed that 150' or a little less will do. All other spots would require more than 150'. The mooring buoy is okay.

One coconut tree needs to be removed to make way for the mess hall. Magistrate gave approval and also asked removal of a seedling 20" high growing just in front of the old mess hall. The coconut tree to be removed is a non-bearing tree and it is now just about parallel with the ground. Believe it was one knocked over to make room for the mess hall tent last operation. Gero says they have all ready put a claim in for this tree.

Barracks No. 1 is ready for concrete.

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