

HEADQUARTERS TASK UNIT 13
Task Group 7.1
APO 187-HON, P.O. Box 8
c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

407566

TU-13-54-318

8 March 1954

SUBJECT: Letter of Instruction to CDR EUGENE P. CRONKITE, USN

TO: CDR Eugene P. Cronkite, USN
U. S. Naval Station
Navy No. 824, c/o FPO
San Francisco, California

1. At the request of The Chief, AFSWP, concurred in by the Commander, Joint Task Force SEVEN, Program 4 - Bio-medical studies, has been added to the Weapons Effects Program, Operation CASTLE. Program 4 will include one project, 4.1, titled: "Study of Response of Human Beings Exposed to Significant Beta and Gamma Radiation due to Fall-out from High Yield Weapons". The objective of this project is to study the response of human beings in the Marshall Islands who have received significant doses due to the fall-out from first detonation of Operation CASTLE.
2. You are designated Project Officer, Project 4.1. As project officer, you are responsible to Commander, Task Unit 13, Task Group 7.1, for the technical direction of this project.
3. Normal station support will be provided you by the Commander, Naval Station, Kwajalein, MI. All requests for support beyond that locally available will be directed to Commander, Task Group 7.1, ATTN: Commander, Task Unit 13.
4. It is estimated that this project will require \$10,000 of Extra-military monies and \$40,000 of Research & Development monies. Your requirements for funds will be directed to The Commander, Task Group 7.1, ATTN: Commander, Task Unit 13.
5. It is understood that your project will require approximately twenty (20) professional and technical personnel drawn from the Atomic Energy Commission and from the armed forces. Each of these personnel must be cleared for a minimum of SECRET defense information. You will instruct all personnel participating in Project 4.1 that the project is classified SECRET RESTRICTED DATA. Due to possible adverse public reaction, you will specifically instruct all personnel in this project to be particularly careful not to discuss the purpose of this project and its background or its findings with any except those who have a specific "need to know".

STATUS VERIFIED UNCLASSIFIED


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6. In keeping with standard procedures of Task Unit 13 and Commanding General, Field Command, AFSWP, a Preliminary Report on this project will be required shortly after the close of the operational phase and a Final Report when findings warrant. Additional instructions in the preparation of reports will be furnished you by Commander, Task Unit 13.

7. In order that the Commander, Joint Task Force SEVEN may be full informed, you will report daily by electrical means prior to 0900 significant findings as of the close of work the previous day.

H. K. GILBERT
Colonel, USAF
Commander, Task Unit 13