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HEADQUARTERS
JOINT TASK FORCE SEVEN
Arlington Hall Station
Arlington 12, Virginia

18 December 1959

SUBJECT: Future Status and Utilization of Eniwetok Proving Grounds

TO: The Honorable Herbert B. Loper
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
(Atomic Energy)
Washington 25, D. C.

THRU: Chief
Defense Atomic Support Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

1. References:

- a. CJTF SEVEN letters to the Secretary of Defense (Atomic Energy), subject, "Future Status and Utilization of Eniwetok Proving Grounds", dated 1 October and 13 November 1959.
- b. Joint Chiefs of Staff Memorandum for Commander Joint Task Force SEVEN, subject, "Report of the Study Group for Future Test Operations", dated 27 November 1959.

2. Reference a reported previous progress made in phasing down the Eniwetok Proving Grounds to a maintenance standby status. This letter provides additional information on the phase down of DOD activities in EPG.

3. All DOD owned real, installed and personal properties accountable for by U. S. Army Task Group 7.2 were transferred to the Atomic Energy Commission on 1 December 1959. Title to DOD owned communication/electronic equipments was retained and these equipments will be accounted for by Joint Task Force SEVEN. All DOD excesses were declared through prescribed channels and disposition instructions have been issued on all items.

4. At the present time TG 7.2 is virtually phased out as all functions have been transferred either to the Atomic Energy Commission, Eniwetok Branch or Commander, 4951st Air Force Support Squadron.

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Orders have been issued by the Department of the Army on all TG 7.2 personnel. A small nucleus will remain for about 2 weeks after the bulk of TG 7.2 personnel have departed and will be available to handle any residual actions that may arise. TG 7.2 will be officially phased out of EPG upon departure of the last Army personnel and TG 7.2 Headquarters, less personnel and equipment, will be re-located to JTF SEVEN Arlington Hall Station, Arlington, Virginia on 31 January 1960.

5. The Air Force activities at Eniwetok Proving Grounds have been reduced to the level necessary to maintain the airfield and service two MATS flights per week. Only one L-20 aircraft has been retained and the bulk of excess Air Force personnel have been transferred. As previously reported, LtCol R. L. Lundin, USAF, Commanding Officer 4951st Support Squadron, the senior military officer present, has been designated as the representative of CJTF SEVEN in the EPG.

6. The previous target date for close out of TG 7.2 of 31 January 1960 was improved through the close cooperation of both CTG 7.2 and AEC Eniwetok. CTG 7.2 will submit his final report to this Headquarters prior to the official close out date. When this report has been reviewed and all actions completed, a final report will be submitted by CJTF SEVEN.

7. By reference b, Joint Task Force SEVEN was assigned as a subordinate command of the Defense Atomic Support Agency on 27 November 1959.

GEORGE T. DUNCAN
Brigadier General, USA
Commander