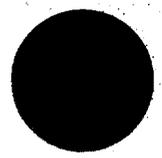


AEC

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Washington 25, D. C.



409047

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS IN CONTROL AREA ANNOUNCED

The U. S. Atomic Energy Commission today announced that the area established April 20, 1956 in the Pacific Ocean as a safety precaution for the 1956 series of nuclear tests at the Eniwetok Proving Grounds is no longer a warning area. Air and sea searches of the area, comprising about 375,000 nautical square miles, were conducted during the test series for the protection of ships and aircraft.

The Commission and the Department of Defense announced on July 23 that the final test shot of the series had been fired. A post-operation radiological survey has determined that there is no longer any need for the warning area. As in previous years, the land areas of Bikini and Eniwetok Atolls, the water areas of their lagoons, and the adjacent ocean areas within three miles to seaward of the atolls and the overlying airspace will remain closed to vessels and aircraft which do not have specific clearance.

Official notices to airmen and mariners are being published.

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11/15/56