

← JUL 27 1954

R

Dear Mr. McKiff:

I have received your personal letter of June 22, 1954, containing suggestions which might ameliorate conditions in the Trust Territory. The two questions that you raise are very interesting and I should like to comment on them from a personal point of view.

You have asked whether the Atomic Energy Commission would be willing to finance an inter-island communication system between Jaluit and Kili so that personnel could communicate regarding the weather, thus permitting small boats and canoes to put out from Kili and reach Jaluit safely and return. A project of this type, which would receive an immediate and favorable response from the islanders, has considerable merit and, I believe, warrants further investigation.

I understand that a Memorandum of Understanding between the Departments of Navy and Interior will be concluded in the near future, under the terms of which individual use and occupancy agreements will be entered into between the Navy Department and the Government of the Trust Territory. These use and occupancy agreements will provide for lump sum payments for each parcel of land used by Agencies of the United States Government. You may wish to investigate the possibility of using some of the funds to be paid under these agreements for the inter-island communication project. Should you consider it impractical to use funds from the above source, upon receipt of a formal request from you, I will be pleased to have the Commission staff investigate further the availability of Commission funds for this worthy project.

Your second suggestion referring to the possibility of establishing an experimental atomic energy plant at Eniwetok, I consider to be a very interesting idea from the standpoint of public relations and the problems that you face. However, I am

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

→ COPY FOR THE SECRETARIAT  
Cir. no. AEC 12544

REPOSITORY NASA College Park  
RG 226 Office of the Secretary  
COLLECTION 1951-1958 Correspondence  
BOX No. 186 (NW3-326-93-010)  
FOLDER MRZA 7 Proving Grounds Vol II

afraid that the suggestion is premature. In point of fact, the Commission does not as yet have a proposal of the type you have in mind.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

SL:ED

Approved

Howie H. Stinson

Chairman

The Honorable Frank C. McKiff  
High Commissioner  
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands  
Honolulu, Hawaii