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S MEETING WITH UJELANG LEADERS  
CONCERN THE RETURN OF THE PEOPLE OF ENIWETOK

The second meeting with the Ujelang group was held August 23, 1972, at 2:00 p.m. in the Headquarters Conference Room. Present were: Peter T. Coleman, Deputy High Commissioner; Oscar deBrum, District Administrator, Marshall Islands; Peter T. Wilson, Chief, Marine Resources; Maynard Neas, Land Cadaster Branch; Clarence E. Takeuchi, Assistant to Special Agent in Charge; T.R. Mitchell, Executive Director, Micronesian Legal Services Corp.; Hamlet J. Barry, III, Attorney, Micronesian Legal Services Corp.; Billy Sawej, Counselor, Micronesian Legal Services Corp.; Lorenji Jitiam, Iroij, Ujelang; Johannes Peter, Iroij, Ujelang; Gideon Smith, Magistrate, Ujelang Council; John Abraham, Councilman, Ujelang; and Russell W. Walker, District Attorney, Marshall Islands. Mr. Billy Sawej served as interpreter for the Marshallese group.

MITCHELL: Can an OEO lawyer in Washington attend the September 7, 1972 Washington meeting as an observer?

COLEMAN: We can send a request to Interior.

MITCHELL: Mr. Carpenter had said "no".

COLEMAN: The September 7 meeting is only to identify responsibilities for funding, etc. No details such as number of coconuts to be replanted. No funds will come out of the 60 million dollar TT budget. The DOD, Interior, and AEC will be represented. I'll be there.

Since the matter of the marine laboratory was raised yesterday, I thought it would be appropriate at this time, since you folks (Ujelang people) are here, for Peter Wilson, Chief, Marine Resources, to talk about the marine laboratory and answer any questions you might have on the marine laboratory in Eniwetok. As I understand it, the marine laboratory is more of a field laboratory and there is some consideration that it might be closed. So since Peter Wilson is here, we will let him explain it first and then answer any questions you folks might have.

MITCHELL: Yesterday's meeting left us with a rather narrow purpose for today and that is to try to inform you about the minimum requirements that these people have for their return to Japtan.

COLEMAN: Yes, I have that here. I have that slated for this meeting. This is the first part of it.

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- MITCHELL: The greatest concern to them is to return to Japtan and what we want to do is to settle this once and for all with all of you today. Just what is it that they need as a minimum in order to return there, from their point of view. It is clearly not two Cadillacs in very garage. They spent yesterday afternoon, yesterday evening, and again this morning talking among themselves about precisely what they need. The matter of the Eniwetok Marine Biological Laboratory could come down on the list on the agenda for today.
- COLEMAN: Well, we could call back Mr. Wilson, but I thought since he is here we could take advantage of his presence.
- MITCHELL: How long is this going to take?
- WILSON: I don't think it will take too long. I just came back from discussing the matter in Hawaii, at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology.
- BARRY: Part of the reason I think that Ted and I both are a little bit reluctant to discuss the whole thing is that I think it belongs in a larger picture of what facilities specifically will be retained. Do the people wish to retain in Eniwetok, for example, the Coast Guard Station, EMBL, Weather Station and other such things. Part of my hesitancy is that I think the Council at some point will need to discuss all of it. At the same time, we will get an overall view of it. I would like your reaction on that.
- COLEMAN: What I'm trying to do is to take advantage of an opportunity because Peter Wilson is not often available and since he is here and just got back from Hawaii, and you had raised the question yesterday, Ted, I thought why not let him explain about the marine laboratory. At least its just food for thought, with no commitments of any sort, and then later, when the question comes up, they would have had some background.
- MITCHELL: There are two things that I think are most important today. Of greatest importance are the Japtan return and related issues. What are the minimum requirements of the people and then we want to pass the information to Mr. Carpenter in Washington tomorrow or the next day so that he can get the necessary approval, and so that the people can return and work out any logistics and whatever else is needed. Secondly, I thought today we will talk about this planning council idea of yours which is very good. See if we can nail that down today too.
- COLEMAN: Well, I have all of that in mind. I want to get this over with and then we can get down to those that you mentioned.

BARRY: Will Mr. Wilson be available later in the afternoon today?

MITCHELL: How long will it take?

WILSON: I think we spent half of the time arguing on the point already. This is just primarily a quick review of where we stand on Eniwetok.

BARRY: When were you there and whom did you talk to?

WILSON: John Bardach and Phil Helfrich. We spent most of the day talking about what is the possibility of keeping the lab in Eniwetok.

During the course of our discussion, we felt that it will be very difficult to keep the laboratory; to keep it operational because of the difficulty in getting regular air transportation and shipping into the area on a steady basis.

In addition, they felt that the physical plant itself would need a significant amount of improvement; for instance, the generator, some of the buildings, water catchment, etc.

However, I told them that I was of the personal opinion that the people of Eniwetok would like to see the lab or perhaps an enlarged version of it kept in operation in Eniwetok so that it would help with their economy and their living.

However, as we talked, it seemed that in order to do this it would be necessary to build up the capability of the field station and turn it into a real laboratory which would then be opened to international marine scientists as well as for education and other purposes by local people.

We felt that if there was an interest on the part of the people of Eniwetok in seeing the lab continued that we should call them together with a group of qualified biologists in Hawaii, to discuss the full implication of what would be required, what would be the disadvantages, what would be the advantages, where the problems lie and then to identify just exactly what would have to be done. If the people want to move with a program of this sort, then we would go ahead and prepare a project proposal which would ensure that all of the problem areas would be resolved through adequate finance.

The financing has to be located from sources outside the Trust Territory. For instance, the National Science Foundation, the Atomic Energy Commission and some of the private foundations may be interested in supporting research of this sort. We feel that there is a real need for this sort of facility inasmuch as there is no other tropical research laboratory in existence today.

So in closing, let me say that if you are interested in the concept, then I would say Mr. Coleman should be informed, to hold a meeting in November, to take the subject up in greater detail and also some of the other problems.

- MITCHELL: I've met Bardach and Helfrich and talked to them at length. Isn't it a fact that the Trust Territory Government never had a damned thing to do with the Eniwetok Marine Biological Laboratory? That it is funded by the Atomic Energy Commission the the TT government never even cooperated with those people, and it is entirely possible that if anybody wants to continue the Marine Biological Laboratory there these people can talk to Helfrich and get Bardach and the rest of them to help them get foundation funding and go right on without your help at all? Isn't that a fact?
- WILSON: It is quite possible. Yes, but I am also representing these people too. Plus the fact that Bardach and Helfrich are not convinced that it is going to be possible to continue it without additional outside support.
- MITCHELL: But if I may say so, neither Bardach nor Helfrich are at all as pessimistic as you indicated today.
- WILSON: Well, I just finished a discussion with them and hope you are not refuting my word.
- COLEMAN: I think this argumentative approach, Ted, will not get us anywhere. We try to solve problems here.
- MITCHELL: I think we've disposed of the whole marine biological problem and I think we can settle that at another time.
- COLEMAN: We are finished with it, but, Ted, please stop being argumentative. You are not helping things.
- WILSON: In other words, I feel like I've just been called a liar here and I don't appreciate that one bit. Thank you very much.
- MITCHELL: I think, Chips, you had a chance to talk to these people about what their needs are to go back. Can you outline that?
- BARRY: As you know, we talked yesterday about the desire that everyone return as soon as possible to the atoll. Of all the islands presently available for any rehabilitation, the most practical is Japtan. The people at their own meeting in Ujelang said that after the Military decides it is all right, it would be a very good idea if they could all move back to Japtan.

So the object of our meeting this afternoon is to establish bare minimum requirements in the interest of speed so that everyone can return as quickly as possible; minimum requirements for moving a large number of people, or a few, back again to Japtan.

In discussing with the Council this morning, minimum requirements appeared to be 48 houses. That's not to say that there are 48 families, but 48 extended families, some larger than others. I have a list of each one, number of adults and number of children. So we need 48 houses, and water catchment facilities sufficient for that number of people. They felt, and I concur, that they do not need to be all concrete cisterns. They envision two or three large concrete cisterns and the rest can be large galvanized cisterns like those you see in front of the Marshalls CAA.

Still on the subject of housing, in our mind, we envision the situation where we could get a minimum amount of additional material, primarily 2 x 4, 4 x 4; then utilize the surplus aluminum corrugated material from Parry. There will be other material needed when there is a general plan. That would be wood frame with corrugated metal, etc., and have a crew of men from Ujelang to construct the houses. They say as many as 50 men would be extremely interested in building the houses.

There would be a financial requirement. I don't have the expertise at the moment to prepare details. Fifty men working at the TT rate for, say, two months to complete housing; we are talking about enough money to pay at TT rate 20,000 man hours of work. Housing, they said, is not important at the present time; as for cook houses and benjos, each family will be able to construct their own when they arrive.

As we all know, there are some existing buildings in Eniwetok and on Japtan. And after we discussed that, it appears that the best view in their minds would be to use the three 100' x 24' buildings used as dormitories, I believe. They felt that two of those should be used for a school with four classrooms in it. One should be used for a dispensary and maybe a portion of that building for a council meeting room or something. The only thing we didn't discuss, and we don't have a solution to it anywhere, is a church; I'm sure that we can work on that problem.

What we want to do, Mr. Coleman, is today give you the preliminary figures. The Council is going to go back to Majuro and discuss this in more detail with Ismael who is part of the Council. And then a day or two after that, I hope they will get a letter to you and to Mr. Carpenter, outlining these needs and we hope that you will do what you can to try to help us out and see if we can get everybody back as soon as possible.

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I know there are other details that need to be worked out and there will be need for some technical assistance, probably a bulldozer at some point if we need it; some technical supervision; perhaps need for more information on what requirements there will be in shipping people and goods from Ujelang back to Eniwetok. Probably a need for an M-boat, as Oscar pointed out today. As I said, some of these things will take some time to solve but we hope we can start out on the way to a solution right away.

COLEMAN: As I see it, the desire is to first send 50 men in to work and live in those buildings that are there now on Japtan and with materials to build additional houses.

BARRY: I don't want to simplify the thing, but I think we need to keep our overall project in mind, build temporary housing in Japtan so that people can live there, help with the replanting, help with the clean-up. In that way we can avoid these chronic problems we've had with Bikini, with people at Kili and the district center in Majuro and the project in Bikini. The communication problem is very difficult. We can work this out before many other things begin. People will be ready to help.

COLEMAN: You said you are going back to Majuro and then come up with more concrete plans for further discussion.

BARRY: Yes. I think today's meeting will be helpful to get the ideas of all you people to help fill the gaps in the information which we will need that are empty at the moment.

School teachers are Marshallese and part of the group; health aides will move also with them. The only problem as I see it is medical care for the 50 men. Hopefully, again, this is something that we might have to get DOD permission for, but if any major problem came up, they would have help available from Eniwetok.

DE BRUM: This is very important because I have a letter from Eniwetok. They don't have health aides or a dispensary. They don't have a corpsman stationed there on Eniwetok, so we may have to station a health aide to take care of the workers.

BARRY: How many health aides do they have on Ujelang?

DE BRUM: One. Maybe we will have to find another one to station on Eniwetok if we get the program going. We'll find another one.

COLEMAN: We've never been able to get a correct figure for the number of people on Ujelang. We got the U.N. Report Census of 1970 as 285.

NEAS: 281 in 1970. I could not find the 1971.

BARRY: I have not added all of these up. But if we got an adding machine, we can see what we've got here.

NEAS: Are these people residents of Ujelang or the total?

BARRY: Billy (Sawej) will you ask exactly what this list that they gave me this morning contains? This is presently all the people on Ujelang.

SAWEJ: Should be 45 families. The other three are on Majuro.

BARRY: Does this list encompass all the people that we are talking about moving to Japtan?

DE BRUM: I think we should say approximately so that we keep room for others.

BARRY: Yes, I agree. Maybe we could take this and add it up. Well, I asked them to add the number of adults in each family. Do they have a rough estimate of how many people we are talking about?

SAWEJ: 390.

BARRY: Should all of those figures on that paper add up to 390?

COLEMAN: About 390 according to the U.N. Report Census, I think. But we'll check it out. At least we need a working figure. We know more or less, but it is good to have some kind of working figure.

DE BRUM: Is that the figure you used in devising this plan?

BARRY: We used their list of families instead of going by number of people. We talked about in terms of how many houses and they said take it by family.

DE BRUM: Will all the families get the same size houses?

BARRY: No. Some houses are bigger than others. If we get there, they can decide exactly how they are going to do it.

We will be interested to hear from everyone about other things that we should talk about and work these things out.

COLEMAN: I see no problem with 50 men. This is sort of a working list right now and then we can move into the funding estimates. For instance, as soon as we can determine how many houses are

available on Japtan that can accommodate so many people, from there we can determine how many additional houses are needed.

- BARRY: They felt that there are only three houses. I considered two additional buildings, in fact, one we planned for. But I definitely remember one of them is not suitable for habitation. That's what they call a computer center or something but it is not in anything like the shape of the others. I don't think it is usable; it will not work. In terms of temporary use for the three 100' x 24' buildings, there will be a school occupying two of those, a dispensary, and maybe the Council occupying for a meeting house, the other.
- MITCHELL: Initially those could easily house 50 workers.
- BARRY: Initially, I think they could house 50 workers. They were originally, as you know, a dorm facility. In any case, I don't think the workmen are too concerned with their living facilities in the two months while they are living there.
- SAWEJ: They can use those three 100' x 24' buildings. I don't think there will be problems on housing, as you say.
- BARRY: Can you point out a little bit more about your perception of the funding problem?
- COLEMAN: Once they identify the Agency that is going to fund the rehab program, I think they are going to come to us and you people for input such as how many houses, what type of houses, they want. At first they may want some temporary houses. Then they can eventually relocate to some of the different islands as they become more habitable.
- BARRY: They are there to see exactly where they want to move. As you know, last year, two years ago, the High Commissioner borrowed \$200,000 from the Bikini rehab project for the starfish project. I would be very interested to know whether \$50,000 could be borrowed from that to be used for Eniwetok temporary rehab. We can repay from Eniwetok permanent rehab money when that is straightened out. I would imagine that \$50,000 would do it. It would buy the housing materials that cannot be obtained from salvage and pay the wages. That's just off the top of my head.
- COLEMAN: Well, we can later on feed this information to some of our Public Works people. As I see it now, they would need 48 temporary houses. We've got to get an idea of house sizes so that we can get a bill of materials. Then we could have our budget.

BARRY: The only point I really wanted to make was that my estimate may be off but we don't have any expertise. We are not talking about lots of money and we urge and hope that you can find money somewhere without having to go through all the regular channels. I think for this thing, money somewhere, temporary, can be found because we are not talking about a whole lot of money.

Obviously, I don't have inside knowledge about the TT budget but the Bikini rehab money just comes to my mind. I would imagine that the Bikini project would willingly lend that much if we ask. Incidentally, these figures came up to be 416 which is quite close. (Earlier work sheet was added up.)

What we need to know and I think what we need to discuss is whether you have any additional problems here. I'm going to put this into a written form and let your people go to work on it.

COLEMAN: I'd like to say that when you get back to Majuro, see if you can get a bill of materials and a design of some sort so that the Public Works construction men can look at it. How many square feet; how many 2 x 4's, etc.

BARRY: I agree with you. For example, we have Howard Scheuss, a Peace Corps Architect working for Community Development. I can go to them when I get back.

Oscar, do you know anything about the availability of an M-boat? I see that's a possible problem and I would like to get ideas on that.

DE BRUM: We need to ask Cmdr. Pendleton through Mr. Coleman.

BARRY: I'm sure we can have them available from Vietnam if we cut red tape. Is that right?

COLEMAN: We are getting an LCVP but I think what you need is an M-boat. The LCVP is a small personnel carrier like the one they have up on Bikini. But we can certainly try to get you an M-boat.

BARRY: Maybe an LCVP will be enough. I don't know.

TAKEUCHI: What construction skills are available among the people of Ujelang?

SAWEJ: (from Council) They are building a house now on Ujelang but need technical assistance (for Eniwetok). A chief carpenter will do.

COLEMAN: Maybe Marshalls District can help?

DE BRUM: Happy to help.

BARRY: Can construction start by November or December?

COLEMAN: If DOD gives clearance, I see no problem.

MITCHELL: Lead time is needed to prepare the site and a budget.

DE BRUM: An advance party can go ahead, use a bulldozer, lay out sites, etc.

COLEMAN: Meanwhile, materials can be ordered.

BARRY: I see no problem with DOD on-going programs. Do you see any?

COLEMAN: The problem I see is the danger of contaminated islands if the people go there. The DOD may introduce this.

BARRY: I see no problem. The people can be told. What's the condition of the wharf at Japtan?

DE BRUM: The captain of the M/V Militobi tried but couldn't make it. There was a problem with currents.

WALKER: The wharf is in good shape. (consensus: "good shape".)

BARRY: I'm not entirely sure but at least nobody raised any objection so I think it's all possible in November, December; we can get those people back.

COLEMAN: If DOD would say that they have no objections and with the type of house the people say they want, it's possible. It really doesn't need any elaborate planning.

BARRY: We can assume, can we not, that you will support with DOD?

COLEMAN: Yes. Both Interior Department, as Mr. Carpenter has said, and the TT support in full the principle that they want these people to move back as soon as possible.

MITCHELL: Does DOD have, as I guess you said several times, sort of absolute power over Eniwetok today?

COLEMAN: Well at the present time the turnover has not taken place. That's the reason why it's important that we work with DOD because, for example, they have some equipment over there, and if we can use a bulldozer or equipment like that in the site preparation, it'll save a lot of time. In other words, if DOD gives it's full support, they can expedite the move.

- NEAS: Mr. Coleman, in December, 1947, Eniwetok was declared a closed area under terms of the Trusteeship Agreement. Has that ever been modified? It hasn't been to my knowledge.
- COLEMAN: I don't think so. It is a matter of DOD recognizing our own strong interest in wanting the people back.
- NEAS: They can let them in if they want to, but right now they are still under the same order that closed it under the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement in December, 1947. I've never seen any indication of the release.
- MITCHELL: Have you seen that 1947 order?
- NEAS: I have seen reference to it but I haven't seen the order itself. When the Eniwetok people were to move from the island at the same time that the U.S. moved to close the atoll, we've got the reference to the order and it could be found I'm sure, and I know personally it has been enforced. I've seen boats towed out of the area physically.
- COLEMAN: Anyway we will go ahead with this plan as we first planned and we can supplement it later by other plans such as a planting program with the people fully participating. Your committee can decide on that and on who is going to supervise the project. It is important to get a particular person.
- BARRY: We can find somebody in the Marshalls who is willing and able to help supervise. A Chief Carpenter or something like that.
- DE BRUM: We will do our best to help out.
- COLEMAN: Shall we go into the discussion now of your planning committee?
- MITCHELL: If the timing works out that way, it may be a very good idea to finalize all these details and get them off to Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Coleman prior to that September 7 meeting, so that if it should come up there, maybe somebody from Defense who is in a position to say whether this would be permitted or not will be able to say "well, the details have been essentially worked out". It is a real question whether the Defense Department can make a decision. It seems to me there is enough time between now and then so that you will be prepared on this when you get there.
- BARRY: We are, of course, hopeful that you will urge that, if there is any question about asking any of these people.
- COLEMAN: Any opportunity I have in Washington on this trip, I'll push the idea. I will seek the opportunity.

BARRY: Let's move on to the formation of the Committee.

COLEMAN: Well as far as Headquarters is concerned, I would like to encourage the formation of a planning committee because this is important for the list of inputs that will be needed as we go along. I thought this committee can make decisions on what action should be taken on certain parts of the planning and in implementing it. I think it is a matter for you in the district, with the District Administrator, to take advantage of the experience of others. We went through Bikini with something new up there. We've learned a lot at Bikini.

I still feel that the agriculture program on Bikini is very successful, that in time it will be a great benefit to the people. George Nakanishi can be helpful as far as coconut replanting program is concerned, by this experience.

Oscar, do you have anything to add to that?

DE BRUM: I agree with Mr. Coleman that the Eniwetok planning committee be localized in the district and only ask help up here (Headquarters) when we need help. In other words, it's made up of you folks and the Council members, and some members of my staff, keeping in mind Mr. Coleman said our aim would be to transfer the desires of the Council into action. We can plan things on the district level and shoot them up here to Headquarters.

BARRY: I have a couple of suggestions along this line. What I would like to see is an Eniwetok temporary housing planning committee. It could be formed by the Council, by the Eniwetok people. That is, they decide, they make their planning committee, and they are the committee, and then have them designate, with our help, an advisor, not necessarily having the adviser see the committee because I don't want to turn the power of making decisions over to the adviser. I think the power of decision should remain with the people themselves. I would assume that we've got legal **advisers** but we need many others. Hopefully we could get it all in the district.

MITCHELL: This is something you could finalize when you all get back. You need to talk to Ishmael and Dennis and see if you guys can leave all of us Saipan people out of it.

DE BRUM: But we will probably need your help.

COLEMAN: We can give you technical assistance when you request it.

BARRY: I know that we ought to try to keep you Saipan people out as much as we can. Right, Oscar?

COLEMAN: You know that time is of the essence, too, and Ujelang is about 640 miles from Majuro.

BARRY: That's why I'm so concerned about this temporary housing.

DE BRUM: There are lots of advantages in Japtan which we don't have on Bikini.

BARRY: In addition there is that very good airstrip on Eniwetok which will affect planning for employment and medical emergency. Japtan can be a better place than Ujelang. That is why we are, Ted and I, eager to do this, get as much help as we can, and do it as quickly as possible.

MITCHELL: Some of the people in the Department of Defense I've met there are human after all. Some of the people in the Defense Nuclear Agency were very hostile. I am hopeful. It seems to me that even Assistant Secretary Whittaker who is overall in charge of the PACE project may be very receptive about this project.

COLEMAN: I am optimistic about this whole thing. I think we can convince them on this thing. Of course, we are talking to people who deal with elaborate planning. Whenever they think of people moving they think in terms of concrete houses, driveways, garages, sewer, water. If we can eliminate their feeling of concern, it might work out.

BARRY: I know they are going to think in terms of Kwajalein.

MITCHELL: There are lawyers that will probably want something in writing, waiving all liability or release of liability for anything that might happen to these people when they are on Japtan. When that comes up we can say at this point, certainly in general terms, that you agree in any such document that leaves them with the responsibility for themselves there. If a rocket does arrive, that is something else.

COLEMAN: I think if presented right, we can eliminate the feeling of concern, but they don't know what we are thinking. Actually it can be done because Japtan, as we all know, is ready.

BARRY: It doesn't have concrete all over it or buildings all over it.

COLEMAN: It has the size for the people.

DE BRUM: How big is Japtan in acreage?

BARRY: 1.1 square miles.

COLEMAN: About 73 acres. About the size of Ebeye.

BARRY: I believe it is smaller than the total land area of Ujelang. But is it smaller than the total usable land area in Ujelang? How much land are they using in Ujelang?

SAWEJ: Less than Japtan.

BARRY: Less than Japtan. Meaning in terms of just housing?

SAWEJ: Yes.

MITCHELL: One thing that concerns me is that they are eager to return. We satisfied ourselves that they appreciate the realities of all these problems too. I am satisfied that with all their eagerness to return, they have not forgotten the reality. That to me is a fundamental consideration.

DE BRUM: I think we are all thinking the same. We should also make sure that once they get there they be in good health and all of that. This becomes our responsibility also.

MITCHELL: Let's take field trips. Is there a problem with field trip schedules for 50 people; that supplies could go to Eniwetok just for the 50 and then for additional number?

DE BRUM: No.

MITCHELL: Let me explain so you understand the thinking they have done here on this question of the biological laboratory. Some of the history of this may be important to relate to you. The PACE project draft statement sited not Dr. John Bardach, but Dr. Helfrich and others at the University of Hawaii. The Air Force primarily just had general bull sessions with some of these same people who were affiliated with the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. That is our first point.

In connection with our work on that PACE project, we contacted those same scientists to determine whether the statement conclusions attributed to them on the draft statement, the Air Force statement, were really that reliable.

Through correspondence and through personal conversation with the same people, Dr. Helfrich is one of them, we learned that those doctors never really said what the Air Force said they said. There were discussions about the continuation of that Eniwetok Marine Biological Laboratory.

Our advice to these Ujelangese people is that continuation of the Marine Biological Laboratory is simply part of the full rehabilitation and repatriation, and the question of what Eniwetok will be from here on out. Then it is really for them to decide, along with everything else, what is to happen there in the future.

I was particularly surprised to hear the comments made at this table today because I've been told by everybody in the Hawaii Institute of the Marine Biology that the Marine Resources Division of the Trust Territory Government had indeed rebuffed previous offers by Dr. Helfrich and others to assist Micronesians in the development of Marine Resources.

At the proper time, the planning committee, the Council of Eniwetok, should address themselves to continuing that project which seems to be very important, with potentially great importance not only to Eniwetok but for all the rest of Micronesia, but to be under the auspices of the Council of Eniwetok with funding from foundation sources or even continued funding from AEC but not from TT. That's something that in the proper time can be considered along with everything else.

DE BRUM: I don't think there was ever any doubt in the minds of myself, my staff, or the whole Council, on what Mr. Coleman stated clearly in a meeting we had in Majuro and Eniwetok, that whatever planning, whatever program that may be decided for Eniwetok would have to be with the approval, consent, and full participation of the Council. Because of the eagerness of some who are interested in helping it, maybe we will see some who might be making suggestions or independently trying to get help. I think the basic fact was established when Mr. Coleman said, "The final authority rests with the people". I never had any questions on that. I didn't know there were some talks concerning the Marine Biology program going on outside. I wasn't aware of that. I'm sure if they are to materialize, they would have to have the approval of the Council. The final say so will have to rest with the people.

MITCHELL: I see you understand a little bit about my reaction. I wonder how I can say this without offending anyone, but if one wants to go get money from available sources for the Marine Biological Laboratory, one should have Dr. Helfrich do it or to have someone else do it, but we should not have the TT Marine Resources Division do it.

DE BRUM: It's up to the people.

MITCHELL: Those people like Dr. Helfrich are really amazing, understanding scientists, very highly reputed, capable of getting money from foundations and government sources.

COLEMAN: Another important point that we should remember is that the Trust Territory Government, or eventually, the Government of Micronesia will be responsible for the services to the people. I think it is important that there always is a good relationship.