

3-13-173

8 November 1976

*Handwritten:* 635-1100, Starbuck, [Redacted]

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Dear Admiral B. Hall Banlon  
Commander, Joint Task Force Seven  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Admiral Banlon,

In forwarding Jerry's letter along to you, I should like to take the opportunity of adding a few comments. You are, I am sure, aware that a study of the feasibility of establishing a weather station on Taongi Island was made in June of 1955 as a consequence of the desire of your staff weather officer to locate an observation station there for Baiting. The study did not consider the use of Taongi Atoll as a firing site, though such a use had been suggested informally by Dr. John Isaacs and others during Castle. Some of the information from the 1955 study is, however, pertinent despite its limited scope.

Neither Bill Gyle nor I have discussed the contemplated use of Taongi with Jerry but we expect to do so before long. In the meantime, last week in Honolulu, I talked informally with Commander Palmer about a weather study for the Taongi site.

The establishment of firing capability at Taongi has several attractive features, and a study of the problem is certainly well justified. The actual use of Taongi will affect the utilization of the other HFC sites, and I believe the implications of its use must be thoroughly examined before a decision is made. Such considerations do not, of course, reduce the desirability of a feasibility study.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
SHELEN M. FELT  
Gaelan L. Felt  
Commander

Enc: Cy 1A of COPAA-307

*Handwritten:* 1A - B Hall Banlon w/ Enclosure - Res 153768  
cc: SA G. W. Johnson (w/o enc) Res 153769  
3A W. E. Gyle (w/cy 3A of COPAA-307)  
File (w/cy 2A of COPAA-307)  
586A W. E. Gyle (w/cy 2A of COPAA-307)

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OFFICIAL ACTION REVIEW  
1ST REVIEWER DATE: 9/17/94  
AUTHORITY: 10 CFR 201.10 (b)(1)  
NAME: R. R. Belmont  
2ND REVIEWER DATE: 6/17/94  
AUTHORITY: ADD  
NAME: C. Carpenter

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NO. 6 OF 6 PAGES, SERIAL A PER DGC REVIEW JAN. 1973

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