

As stated in the December report basic rehabilitation has been accomplished. All the atolls within this area have sufficient food and in most cases sufficient native woods and fibers for housing and canoes. Maloelap and Mille Atolls are probably the farthest behind in reforestation of native trees. However progress is being made in this respect being currently at the mercy of the speed of nature in bringing new coconut, pandanus, and breadfruit trees to maturity. Cultural rehabilitation is making good progress in the expansion of educational program and the improvement of church picture. The all Marshallese Church Conference ending 5 January ordained five new pastors and reassigned several others to new pastorates. Church building improvement has been stressed in the past, and several villages now have fine native type structures. With the revival of the copra buying program in December it is felt that a good start has been made in economic rehabilitation. Improved shipping and flow of U.S.C.C. trade goods would add considerably more impetus to this work. There is no rehabilitation problem in returning people to their former homes or returning former land holdings to original inhabitants except at Dalap, Uliga, and Darritt Islands in Majuro Atoll. The islands are now in use by the Navy as N.A.F. Majuro. Arrangements have been made with the King of the Atoll to provide equivalent pieces of land for the displaced persons on Majuro Islands, Majuro Atoll. A complete report covering this action will be filed at a future date when all details are in. At present only the former residents of Dalap Islands have been taken care of. To date no claim has ever been presented by the Kings for compensation or restitution. The presence of the Navy on the aforementioned islands of course is covered by the Rules of Land Warfare under International Law.