



Proclamation

On March 1, 1954, the United States tested a hydrogen bomb over Bikini Atoll, one of the Marshall Islands. The “Bravo” H-Bomb was one thousand times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima nine years earlier.

The resulting nuclear fallout caused the forced relocation of Bikinians and those on surrounding isles. After a massive cleanup program by the U.S. military, the residents were returned to their homes in 1967, only to be evacuated seven years later when high levels of radiation were found in their bodies.

In the Compact of Free Association, the United States accepted responsibility for compensating Marshall Islands citizens for loss or damage to person and property resulting from the nuclear program. Over the past seventeen years, Hawai‘i has given medical, educational and other supportive services to people from the Marshall Islands without compensation.

March 1 of this year will mark the fifty-third anniversary of the “Bravo” hydrogen bomb detonation over the Bikini Atoll. In 2006, the House of Representatives, Twenty-third Legislature, State of Hawai‘i, adopted House Concurrent Resolution 34, requesting that this date be declared a day of remembrance for the survivors of the nuclear testing conducted by the United States in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, and **I, JAMES R. “DUKE” AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor, do hereby proclaim **March 1, 2007**, as

BIKINI ATOLL SURVIVOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

in Hawai‘i, and urge our citizens to somberly reflect upon this significant day in history.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai‘i, this fifteenth day of February 2007.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai‘i

James R. “Duke” Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai‘i