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ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING  
E.O. 12065, Section 9-118  
By WJD MARS, Date 7/17/92

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No. 2 of Series A

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August 6, 1947

14. General L. B. Brewster, Chairman  
Military Liaison Committee  
P. O. Box 1031  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Brewster:

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
DATE <u>6-14-73</u>
By The U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
<u>R. A. Jackson</u>
Headquarters of <u>Department</u>

The Commission has considered the request contained in the JCS memorandum dated 20 April 1947 on the subject of the declassification of CROSSROADS information, and agrees with the recommendation that declassification of this information take place within the Armed Forces is essential in the interests of the common defense and security. We have been of the opinion that the JCS proposal should be held abeyant pending the adoption of a joint Armed Forces-SEC security plan. In view of the time elapsed and the likelihood of even more delay in the adoption of an over-all security plan, the Commission is prepared to cooperate in a specific plan for the declassification of CROSSROADS information.

In accordance with the terms of the Atomic Energy Act, any information which pertains to the utilization of atomic weapons

Section 20(b)(1) is restricted data except that data which the Commission deem that to time declassifications may be published. If such data is of a classified nature and cannot be published, it is our present interpretation of the Act that it remain restricted data.

The objective of the Armed Forces is not the publication of the CROSSROADS data but the dissemination, usually in a classified category, throughout the Services. Thus it does not appear necessary to resort to removing information from the category of restricted data in order to bring about a result in keeping with the real objective of the Armed Forces.

It is believed that this result can be achieved under the terms of the Atomic Energy Act which charge the Commission with the declassification of restricted data in a manner to assure the common defense and security. Under this provision the Commission may, in the interest of common defense and security, authorize the declassification of restricted data within the Armed Forces.

The specific objective of the JCS memorandum, as we understand it, is to bring about the early declassification of information within the Armed Forces of all the so-called CROSSROADS information described

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*Handwritten:* Follow up on this memorandum by 5-18-51 Marshall, Clark to the Secretary  
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COPY FOR MR. *Handwritten:* Trivedi

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In that memorandum except that defined in paragraph 5a thereof. He should like to suggest one change in a portion of that paragraph; we believe paragraph 5a(h) should be modified to read as follows:

"Results of radio-chemical analysis of samples or other nuclear information from which the nuclear affidavency of the bomb might be derived."

With this modification in paragraph 5a(h), we are prepared to authorize dissemination by the Armed Forces of the CONFIDENTIAL information that would then be covered by paragraph 5b, but with the understanding that this action would not of itself affect the removal of any information from the category "restricted data." This authorization is also to be subject to the understanding that the information will be disseminated in accordance with the security standards and practices provided through the various applicable military classifications. We should like to be informed in advance of the military classifications placed upon the material and the Armed Forces' security standards and practices that will be applied.

It should also be understood that this authorization is being given as this time pending the adoption of a joint security plan because of the nature of the information and the urgent need for it within the Armed Services.

It is requested that you inform us if the Armed Forces consider the above proposal satisfactory; and, if so considered, it is requested that it be effected within the Armed Forces.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel T. Pines  
Acting Chairman

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