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UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

412030

REPOSITORY NAEA/Colony Park WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

COLLECTION R6 324 51-58 Secretary

BOX No. 182 (NNS-324-98-010)

FOLDER MRA 7 Hardtack, V2

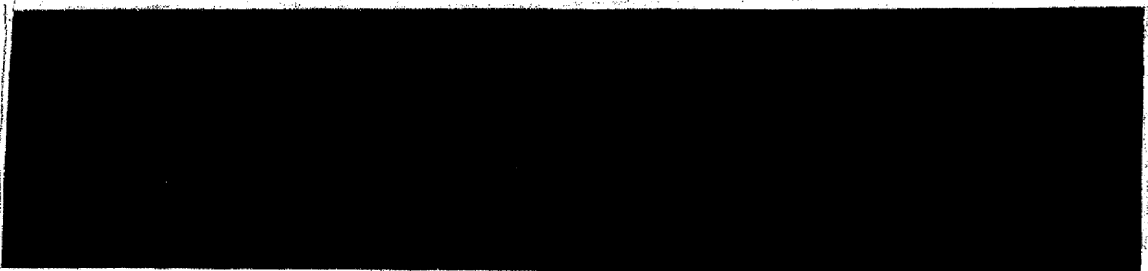
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January 29, 1958

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Dear Mr. President:

On November 23, 1957, I wrote to you concerning our plans for testing in Operation HARDTACK, the spring 1958 test series at the Eniwetok Proving Ground. In this letter, I stated that in January I would submit to you a listing of the shots planned, their individual objectives and the amounts of special nuclear materials concerned.



DoE  
6.1(a)

Since writing you, our plans for testing in HARDTACK have had to be revised somewhat. On December 12, 1957 we were informed by the Department of Defense that the development of the POLARIS missile system was being accelerated and were requested to accelerate the POLARIS warhead. In order to meet the new POLARIS schedule it has been necessary to revise the test program connected with development of this warhead. Two nuclear shots have been added to the one POLARIS shot earlier scheduled in the HARDTACK program. In addition, a third contingent shot will be readied to be fired only if the two scheduled shots do not give the necessary data to meet the early capability POLARIS requirement.

It has been necessary also to add to the program one other laboratory test.

However, it is now felt necessary to test this second device in order to obtain the required data.

DoE  
6.1(a)

DoE  
6.1(a)

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1ST REVIEW DATE: 03/04/82	DETERMINATION [CIRCLE NUMBER(S)]
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
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X-Com-12 President WITHOUT ENCL/ATTACHMENTS

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The President

- 2 -

One other test of the original program has been deferred to the underground test series of very low-yield devices planned for the fall 1958 at the Nevada Test Site which I described in my November 23 letter, and which will be conducted as a separate test series to be known as Operation MILLRACE.

In summary, the overall change to the HARDTACK program has been an increase of three scheduled shots, making a total of 20 scheduled laboratory and 5 scheduled DOD effects shots. In addition, there will be two contingent shots whose firing depends on the outcome of other shots in the series. Attached to this letter is a summarization of the scheduled and contingent nuclear shots in the HARDTACK and MILLRACE programs and their objectives. Calculations on the basis of this revised program, including latest laboratory estimates of the specific yields of the various shots, reveal that its contribution to world wide fallout is essentially the same as that of the program presented to you in my letter of November 23, 1957.

[REDACTED]

DOE  
G.1a

Earliest firing of two of the three is necessitated by the expedited POLARIS program.

For all shots in Operations HARDTACK and MILLRACE, and the safety tests mentioned above, it will be necessary to expend up to the following amounts of special nuclear materials:

[REDACTED]

DOE  
G.1(a)

We request your approval of the expenditure of the materials listed above.

Respectfully yours,

*Rowin Strauss*

Chairman

Attachment:  
HARDTACK Test Program

The President  
The White House

Approved in part as stated  
in Endorsement attached.

*DS.*

January 31, 1958

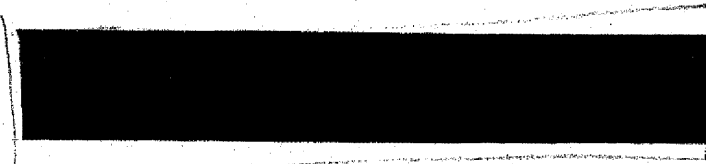
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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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ENDORSEMENT

With respect to the atomic testing program and the expenditure of nuclear materials described in the memorandum of the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, of January 29, 1958 on this subject, I approve the proposals with respect to the HARDTACK program and safety tests planned for spring 1958. Approval of the MILLRACE test program and safety tests subsequent to the spring of 1958 is withheld pending further consideration of the matter. I also approve the expenditure of such portion of the following amounts of fissionable material as pertain to the HARDTACK program and to the safety tests planned for the spring of 1958:



*DOE*  
*6.1(a)*

*Dwight D. Eisenhower*  
Dwight D. Eisenhower

January 31, 1958

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HARDTACK TEST PROGRAM

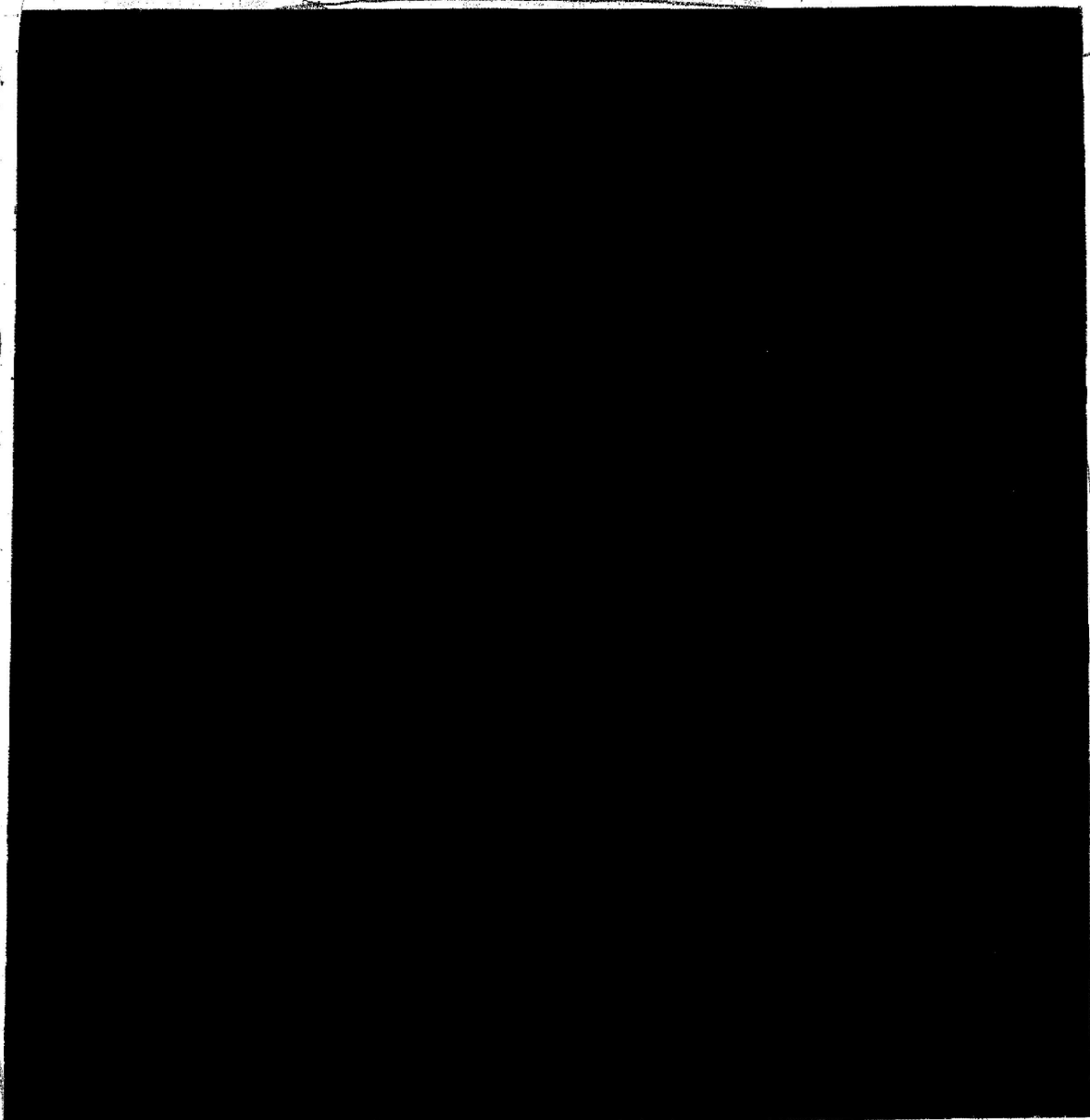
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DOD effects tests - The Department of Defense will fire five weapons effects shots. Three of these are high altitudes tests to determine detonation phenomena connected with missile and counter-missile design.

*DOE  
6.1(a)*

[REDACTED] The two other tests of the five are low-yield, underwater tests to determine essential information concerning the effects of atomic depth charges.

*DOE  
6.1(a)*



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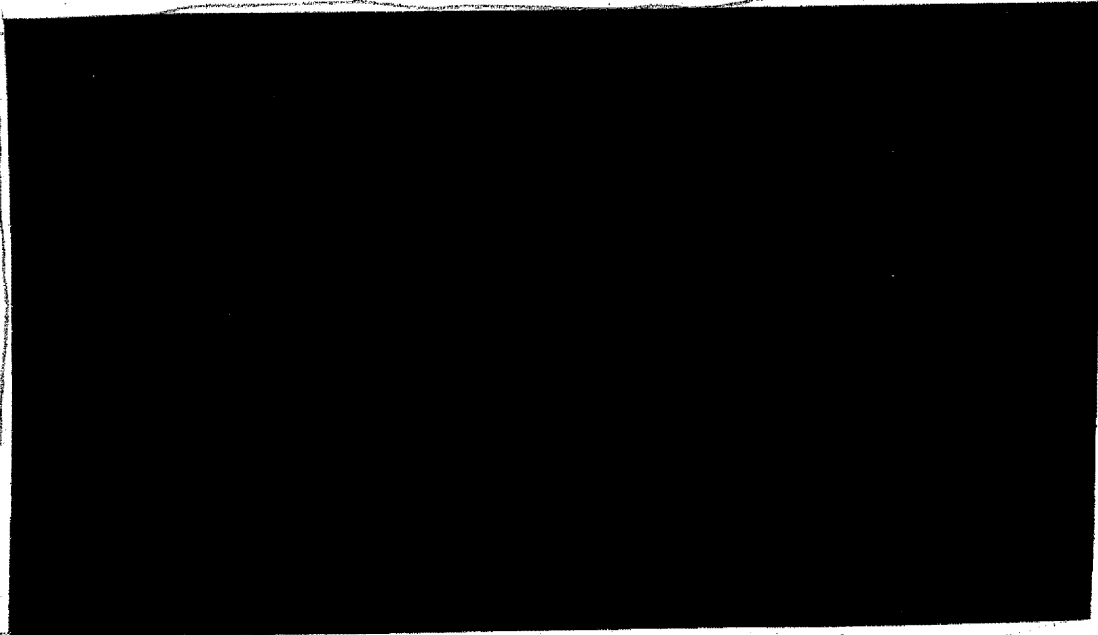
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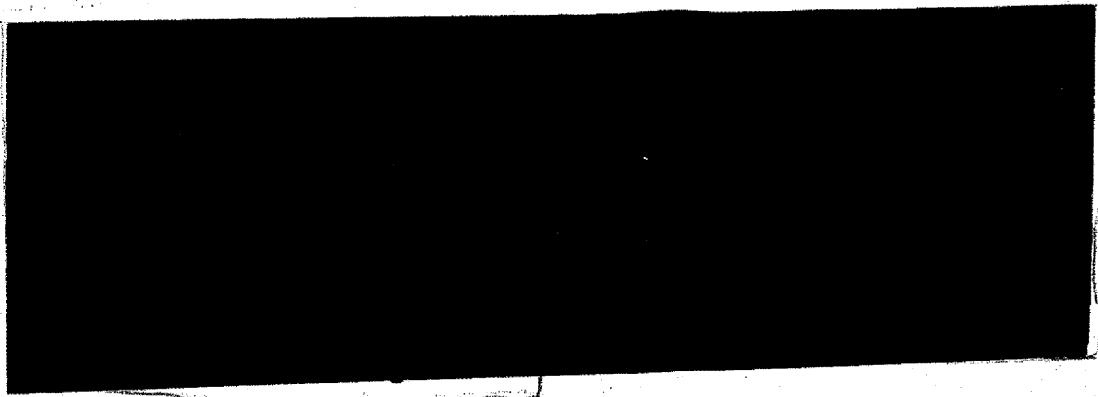
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DOE  
(6.1(a))

MILLRACE TEST PROGRAM



DOE  
(6.1(a))

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By 10/1/82 Date 7/2/82

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